

The

TOWN

Kirkman Municipal Building
PO Box 307
4920 Alliance Church Road
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313



*"Remembering the Past,
While Moving Towards the Future"*

August 2012

SQUARE

Phone: 336-674-3002
Fax: 336-674-0923
Email: Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net
Website: www.pleasantgarden.net

Town of Pleasant Garden, NC

TOWN OFFICIALS

Carla Strickland.....Mayor
Nancy Jo Smith.....Mayor Pro Tem
Bill Greene.....Councilmember
Alan Marshall.....Councilmember
Ron Surgeon.....Councilmember

TOWN STAFF

Sandy Carmany....Administrator/Clerk
Kim Vazquez.....Assistant Clerk

TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday...9:00AM - 5:00PM
(We often close at 1:00PM on Fridays as needed to avoid overtime hours.)

TOWN MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Kirkman Municipal Building/Town Hall located at 4920 Alliance Church Road and are open to the public. All citizens are invited and encouraged to attend.

Agendas for all Town Council and board meetings are available by email in advance of the meeting. To receive meeting agendas, send an email to Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net

Town Council

First Tuesday of each month

Zoning Board

Third Monday of each month

Long-Range Planning Board

Third Tuesday of each month

Recreation Board

Fourth Tuesday of each month

All regular meetings begin at 7:00PM.

Special meetings may be called as needed. 48-hours public notice will be given for such meetings.



Blood Drive/Health Fair

Please join us Saturday, October 6th from 9:00am until 2:00pm for the Pleasant Garden Blood Drive and Health Fair at Town Hall. The Town of Pleasant Garden is partnering with the Pleasant Garden Lions Club, the Pleasant Garden Drugstore, Pleasant Garden Fire Department, WalMart Vision Center, and the American Red Cross to provide these services.

Our goal this year is 40 pints! To donate blood, contact Town Hall for an appointment at 674-3002 or visit our website at www.pleasantgarden.net to register online. Walk-in donors are also welcome. All donors should bring a photo ID when they come on the 6th.

Here are some of the **FREE** services and information that will be available at the Health Fair:

- A prescription drug drop-box to dispose of expired or unwanted prescription drugs
- Eyeglass adjustments
- Diabetes testing
- Blood pressure screenings



Pleasant Garden Family Medical Practice will provide flu vaccines for \$25, payable by cash or check. Bring your medical insurance information for filing of claims.

Pleasant Garden Pet Day



Rabies vaccines and microchips will be offered at Town Hall on Saturday, September 29 from 9:00am-1:00pm. Animal rescue organizations and pet product vendors will also be there. One-year vaccines cost \$5 and 3-year vaccines are \$10. All pets must be controlled with a leash or be in a cage. Please come and protect your pets from rabies!

Town News and Updates

Message from the Mayor

The last few months have been very busy for your Town Council. By state law, each city/municipality must pass a budget by July 1 every year. This is, in many cases, a long and arduous process which involves many evening meetings. However, the Council worked together to pass a budget by the deadline without much controversy. Last year's budget resulted in a net income over expenses of approximately \$30,000. Next year's budget was balanced with a fund balance allocation of approximately \$26,000. Each year, we allocate funds from the general fund reserve in order to balance the budget. With this down economy, we may have to use this allocation for the fiscal year 2012-2013.

Other projects that your Council has been working on include the following:

- Awarding the contract for the construction of the picnic shelter restrooms;
- Approval of placing a well at the athletic field complex and begin the process of seeking bids;
- Discussion of various above-ground irrigation systems for the athletic field complex;
- Discussion of giving preference to local businesses in awarding of contracts;
- Continued discussions concerning a PARTF grant project and application process;
- Adding a privilege license requirement to the Town Ordinance for video sweepstakes businesses that may come into Pleasant Garden;
- Approved a once-a-month craft fair during the months of October and November at the picnic shelter;

In addition, the Recreation Board proposed and the Town Council approved a name for the athletic field complex. It will now be known as "**Volunteer Park**" with the tagline "Dedicated to community service."

One project that is at a stalemate is the thinning of the loblolly pines behind Town Hall. We have been seeking bids to do this work without success. We will advertise the timber sale again for any interest. If you have walked the trails recently, they are in poor shape. The Long-Range Planning Board proposed and the Town Council approved to thin the pines and then use the proceeds for improvement in the same area. We are hoping to have a more positive outcome next spring.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please call Town Hall at 674-3002 and leave a message for me to call you.

Mayor Carla Strickland

Recreation News and Updates

- The recreational areas of town property have been named "Volunteer Park" to honor all the volunteers who make town activities and events possible.
- 430 players ages four to seventeen are registered for the fall soccer season. There are several openings for coaches. Give us a call at 674-3002 if you are willing to volunteer.
- The firm of Wright & Wray will begin construction of the picnic shelter restrooms as soon as required permits are obtained. Construction will take approximately 60 days.
- The town has issued a request for bids to drill a well at the athletic fields to provide water for irrigation and a possible restroom facility in the future.
- Town facilities (*the athletic fields and picnic shelter*) are open only from dawn to dusk. Once the appropriate signs are in place, "no trespassing" will be enforced by sheriff deputies when these facilities are closed unless a special event has been authorized by a town official.

YOUR Input Needed!

A special town committee is working on the application for a PARTF grant from the state that would match the town's investments dollar-for-dollar up to \$500,000 for projects to provide recreational opportunities in Pleasant Garden. Getting citizen input and ideas is a major part of the planning process, the first step of which is to conduct a survey of residents and park users to find out what projects and activities are of interest to you and your family. A copy of that survey is enclosed in this newsletter and lists possible projects included in the *Town Hall Site Plan* along with space for you to list your own ideas and suggestions. Your participation is needed and wanted!

**Please complete the Recreational Activity Survey
and return it to Town Hall no later than
Friday, September 21.**

Talk of the Town

Privilege License Tax Proposed for Video Sweepstakes Businesses

A public hearing will be held at the regular Town Council meeting on Tuesday, September 4 at 7:00PM at Town Hall to receive comments on proposed amendments to the Town Ordinance and the Development Ordinance to impose an annual privilege license tax on electronic gaming/video sweepstakes businesses in the Town of Pleasant Garden and an annual excise on each gaming/video machine in the business. The proposed amendments are available for review at Town Hall and on the town website.

Implementation of Jordan Lake Rules for New Development Delayed

Approximately half of the Town of Pleasant Garden is within the Jordan Lake watershed and is subject to the regulations aimed at reducing the amount of nitrogen and phosphorous pollution flowing into the lake from stormwater and other sources. Rules already in effect include the *Stage I Adaptive Management Plan* which provides for a public education program and the *Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance* that restricts development near streams to help minimize runoff.

The Town Council adopted the *Stormwater Program for New Development* at the June 5, 2012 meeting which applied to new development only. After the governor signed legislation that allowed the implementation of these new regulations to be delayed until August 2014, the council voted to delay enforcement of the new requirements until that time.



Fall Craft Fairs

The Town Council approved the request from one of the arts and crafts vendors at the Farmers' Market to allow a one-a-month craft fair in the picnic shelter at Town Hall in October and November. This will let local artisans display their handmade creations to shoppers searching for that perfect Christmas gift. Details about the dates and times will be publicized once plans are finalized. Please contact Town Hall if you are interested in participating as a vendor.

Supporting Local Businesses

The business development committee has met with local business owners twice in the past several months to learn about their needs and how the town might assist in attracting new businesses to our town and supporting those that are already here. Suggestions that have been discussed include establishing a brand/image for the town's business district, improving lighting, sprucing up building facades, and enhancing landscaping in the Pleasant Garden Road area. The committee and Recreation Board are planning an event to offer entertainment and highlight Pleasant Garden businesses in the spring. Stay tuned for details!

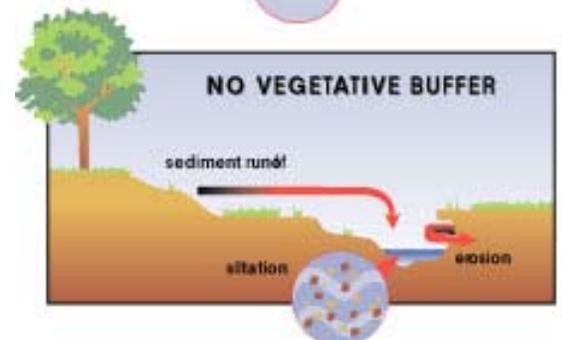
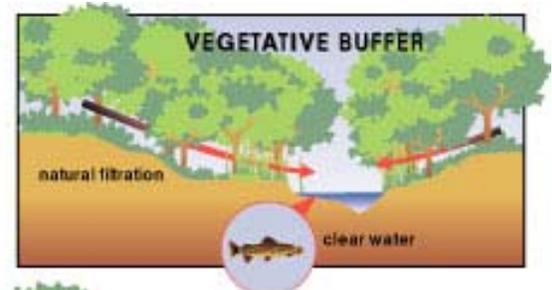
The Town Council is considering an amendment to the Finance Policy to give preference to local businesses when awarding town contracts for services and/or goods if their bids are within 5% of the lowest bid received.

Please join us in supporting our local businesses!

Stream Buffer Regulations

How Pleasant Garden residents maintain their property has a big impact on the amount of pollution that washes into our streams, lakes and ponds when it rains. Vegetation provides a natural filter to clean pollutants out of the run-off. Here are the current restrictions that apply to the buffers around those waterways.

- ✓ No new clearing, grading or development may be performed or building permits issued within a 50-foot buffer beginning at the top of the stream bank. Any existing clearing or structures that were in place before the ordinance was adopted can remain.
- ✓ Vegetation within the first 30 feet from the top of the stream bank should not be disturbed or removed.
- ✓ Vegetation within the second 20 feet from the stream bank can be managed (*mowed or trimmed*) but not removed.





Town of Pleasant Garden
 PO Box 307
 Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

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TOWN EVENTS



Dates to Remember

Farmers' Market

June 16 – September 8
Saturdays, 7:00am-noon
Wednesdays, 4:00-7:00pm
 Picnic shelter behind Town Hall
 Fresh produce and local crafts



Pet Day

Saturday, September 29
9:00AM-1:00PM
 Rabies vaccinations

Blood Drive/Health Fair

Saturday, October 6:
9:00AM-2:00pm
 Town Hall



Fall 2012 Soccer

September 8 – October 20
 Saturdays at Volunteer Park
 4920 Alliance Church Road

Early Voting at Pleasant Garden Town Hall

Thursday & Friday, October 18-19:
 10:00AM-6:30PM
Saturday, October 20: 10:00AM-3:00PM
Sunday, October 21: 12:00PM-4:00PM
Monday-Friday, October 22-26:
 10:00AM-6:30PM
Saturday, October 27: 10:00AM-3:00PM
Sunday, October 28: 12:00PM-4:00PM
Monday-Friday, October 29-November 3:
 10:00AM-6:30PM
Saturday, November 3: 10:00AM-5:00PM



Election Day

Tuesday, November 6, 2012
 Polling places open 6:30AM-7:30PM



Senior Luncheon

September 18 October 16 November 20
10:00AM – 1:00PM

Sponsored by the Town of Pleasant Garden and held at Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church
 Free and open to citizens 60-years-old and older. Please call 674-3002 no later than the Friday before each event to make your reservation.

Veterans Appreciation Ceremony

Sunday, November 11, 2012 at 2:00PM

Pleasant Garden Fire Department
 4814 Pleasant Garden Road

(Sponsored by the Town of Pleasant Garden)



Christmas Parade

Planning is already underway for the town's annual Christmas parade to be held on Sunday, December 2. The entry fee is \$5 and registration forms will be mailed to past participants in September. If your band, dance troupe, club, business, scout troop, church or school group is interested in participating, please contact Town Hall at 674-3002 for a registration form. Family-friendly groups are invited to participate and help the town celebrate the holiday season!