

The

# TOWN

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



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

October 2014

# SQUARE

Phone: 336-674-3002  
Fax: 336-674-0923  
Email: [Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net](mailto:Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net)  
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## Town of Pleasant Garden, NC

### TOWN OFFICIALS

Carla Strickland.....Mayor  
Alan Marshall.....Mayor Pro Tem  
Steve Brandt.....Councilmember  
Ron Surgeon.....Councilmember  
Rick Wallace.....Councilmember

### TOWN STAFF

Sandy Carmany....Administrator/Clerk  
Kathleen Hennebury...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](mailto: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.



## Veterans Appreciation Day 2:00PM on Sunday, November 9, 2014 Pleasant Garden Elementary School

Pleasant Garden's 16<sup>th</sup> annual Veterans Appreciation Day event will be held at 2:00PM on Sunday, November 9 in the auditorium at Pleasant Garden Elementary School. The town hosts this event to thank the many men and women in our community who have served our nation with pride, courage, and valor.

This year's featured speaker is NC Representative John Faircloth. The program will include a new short film tailored to honor our local veterans. Program highlights will include memorial displays, recognition of the branches of the military and a flag-folding ceremony by the Southeast Guilford High School NJROTC. Please stay after the program and enjoy light refreshments provided by the Pleasant Garden Lions Club.

Veterans may receive a free flu shot provided by Dr. Wilson Elkins of Pleasant Garden Family Practice from 12:00-4:00PM. Please bring your Veterans ID card or a copy of your DD-214 form to receive your free shot.

### Military Memorabilia Request

Anyone with military memorabilia to share for display as part of the program can be drop off items at Town Hall during business hours or bring it to the school on November 9 starting at 11:30AM. Be sure to provide your contact information so we can safely return your items to you. If you have any questions, please contact town staff at 674-3002.

## Public Hearing on the Pleasant Garden Community Center Proposal

7:00PM on December 2, 2014 at Town Hall

In this and previous editions of the newsletter, Mayor Strickland has provided details on the request by the Pleasant Garden Community Center Board of Directors for the town to acquire and manage the facility. The fact-finding committee appointed by the Town Council presented its findings at a public informational meeting on September 25 and listened to many positive comments from the approximately 30 citizens who attended.

The Town Council has asked the committee to give another presentation at the December 2 Town Council meeting after which a formal public hearing will be held to receive additional input from citizens. It is the Town Council's intent to make a decision on this proposal at the January 6, 2015 council meeting. If you have comments, opinions, concerns or suggestions, now is the time to share them with the council members. Council members want to know what the citizens of Pleasant Garden prefer for them to do.



# Town News and Events

## Message from the Mayor

On September 25, a meeting concerning the town's acquisition of the Pleasant Garden Community Center was advertised and held at Town Hall. There were approximately 30 residents in the audience in addition to the committee members. The purpose of the meeting was to receive residents' comments and answer questions about the potential acquisition. Those council members present, including myself, were there to present and/or receive only the findings of the committee. Eventually, the ultimate decision will come to the Town Council for a vote, tentatively on January 6, 2015.

The meeting began with Ms. Joanne Davis relaying the start-up of the Community Center and how the residents came together to raise funds and construct the facilities. According to the Greensboro Daily News on Friday, April 16, 1965, *"there will be a big attraction other than the horses when the annual Pleasant Garden Horse and Pony Show begins this Saturday. A 5,880-square-foot community center has been erected on the show grounds. Not only does it add a well-planned recreation center for the Pleasant Garden area, but it is sure to become the focal point of activities for the entire community in future years."* The original officers of the center were Dr. F.B. Nowlan, Wayne Davis, Mrs. Richard Fields and Vernon Williams. Those original founders had a vision for the future.

Next, there was a power-point presentation which stated the facts of the committee's findings. If you want to receive a copy of the presentation, please email me at [carlastrickland29@gmail.com](mailto:carlastrickland29@gmail.com), call Town Hall, or go to the town website.

Pleasant Garden resident Terry Lee stated that he was the Community Center board president 25 years ago when the center was on the verge of bankruptcy; he worked with many others to save it and raised money through turkey shoots and matching funds. He continued by saying volunteer burn-out was a problem; a great coach might be a lousy businessman. Mr. Lee stated that the current council was showing vision in planning for sidewalks, trails, etc. and urged the council to make the community center first class and not be afraid to spend money on it. He further said he believed government had done a good job if it increased property values. He said many kids had benefitted from community center programs over the years and this was an opportunity for the Town Council to lead, not follow; the need has been here for a quarter of a century.

We did not receive negative feedback from any of the attendees but I know there must be some negativity out there. The biggest question I have heard through the grapevine is, "Will my taxes go up?" Although this did not come up at the meeting, committee member Alan Marshall addressed the issue head-on. According to the minutes of the meeting, *"Alan Marshall pointed out the Nowlan Building could serve as the multi-purpose building contained in the Town Hall Site Plan. Additional recreational activities could be added that would broaden programming for southeastern Guilford County. He foresaw the use of user fees to broaden the funding base. The town could pursue grants, using the tax value of the property to offset the required match. The baseball/softball program would continue to be offered by the current volunteers; a rental fee would be paid for use of the fields to cover the maintenance, etc. He said the volunteers should only have to concentrate on the program."*

At this point in time, the buildings are in okay shape. That is, no major repairs are required. A new septic tank was installed two years ago and a new heating/cooling system was installed five years ago in the main building. The concession stand and the community center are currently "grandfathered" under building code standards but current requirements will kick-in when improvements are made. When updates are proposed, these could be budgeted for and paid through the capital improvements fund and not the general fund.

I've tried to provide explanations and address possible concerns but I'd like to hear from you. Please use my personal email above to provide your thoughts. If you don't have access to email, please call Town Hall at 674-3002 and express your concerns to either Sandy or Kathleen who will relay your message to me.

*Mayor Carla Strickland*



## 2014 Christmas Parade

December 7, 2014 @ 3:00PM



Get your holiday season off to a great start at the town's annual Christmas parade on Sunday, December 7. Grand Marshal Cindy Farmer of WGHP Fox8 will be joined by local dignitaries, marching bands, performing groups, floats, the Shriners and antique cars for a family-friendly afternoon of Christmas fun. Stake out your favorite spot along Pleasant Garden Road anywhere between Nesbit Road and the elementary school and enjoy this great event.

**Want to participate?** Call Town Hall at 674-3002 or visit [www.pleasantgarden.net](http://www.pleasantgarden.net) for an entry form. Forms must be returned no later than November 17. The registration fee is \$5.

# TALK OF THE TOWN



## Speeding Problems

Many citizens are complaining about frequent speeding on town roads and in their neighborhoods where children often play near the street. In response to these complaints, the town has asked the Sheriff's Department to step up speed enforcement efforts and stop these speeders. Please be a thoughtful driver and slow down for everyone's sake!

In addition, the Long-Range Planning Board has suggested that the speed limit on subdivision streets throughout the town be lowered to 25MPH. This would not apply to main roads that carry more traffic. Before considering those changes, the Town Council wants to know what you, the citizens, think about the idea. **Please contact members of the Town Council or town staff and let them know how you feel about this – would you support the 25MPH speed limit for your subdivision?**

## Project Updates

➤ **Greenway Connector:** NCDOT has approved construction funding for the greenway between Town Hall and the athletic fields. Bids will be advertised once a firm has been hired to provide construction engineering and inspection services for the project. Depending on scheduling and the weather, construction could begin in early 2015.

➤ **PARTF Grant:** Minor updates are needed to the *2009 Town Hall Site Plan and Recreation Master Plan* as part of the process to revise and resubmit the town's application for a grant in 2015. A public hearing must be held before the application is submitted prior to the February 2, 2015 deadline.

➤ **Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan:** After receiving public input at the September 23 design workshop, consultant Jesse Day plans to have the final draft of the plan completed by early November for review by the Long-Range Planning Board and Town Council. NCDOT must review and approve the plan before the council can officially adopt it.

➤ **Athletic fields restrooms and concessions building:** Construction is complete and the building is in use with a few corrections to be addressed. The final Certificate of Occupancy will be issued once grass is growing well where the soil was disturbed -- please keep out the areas that are roped off!

➤ **Timber logging/nature trails:** The town is awaiting final payment for the trees harvested behind Town Hall. Wildland Forestry is preparing plans for re-establishing the trails and removing any remaining debris. The poison ivy will be sprayed next spring.

## New Restrictions on Tethering of Dogs

At their March 2014 meeting, the Town Council adopted amendments to the animal control ordinance the Guilford County Commissioners previously approved in November 2013. Unattended

tethering or chaining of a dog with a chain, cable, wire or other device to a tree, post or other object is no longer allowed. The owner must be present any time the dog is being restrained. The chart explains how and when the regulations are being enforced. If you need help to build an enclosure for your pet, have questions, or need more information, please contact Guilford County Animal Control at 336-641-5990 or visit their website at

<http://www.co.guilford.nc.us/gheh/cms/animal%20control/downloads/Educational%20BROCHURE%20March%202014.pdf>

**MARCH 2014 –  
MARCH 2015**  
One full year of  
extensive community  
outreach and education.  
No citations, no civil  
penalties

\*\*\*  
**MARCH 2015 –  
SEPTEMBER 2015**  
Written warnings issued,  
no civil penalties

\*\*\*  
**SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**  
Full enforcement,  
citations issued



## Successful Town Events

**Pet Day:** People and their pets had a great time at the September 27<sup>th</sup> event. The Guilford County Health Department and Southwoods Animal administered a total of 254 rabies vaccines and 15 microchips. Several cats were adopted into new homes and pet supply vendors were very pleased with the turnout and participation.

**Blood Drive/Health Fair:** Due to the community's generous response, the Red Cross met its goal and collected 25 pints of blood at the event held at Town Hall on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Seventeen people received free sight and hearing screenings in the vision van hosted by the Pleasant Garden Lions Club and Michael Johnson of the Pleasant Garden Drug Store gave approximately 12 flu shots. Students from the health careers class at Southeast High School performed blood pressure checks and Cone Health provided diabetes screening.



*A big "thank you" to all who worked these events!*



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

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 Greensboro, NC  
 Permit # 717

# TOWN EVENTS

## Dates to Remember



### Senior Luncheon

**October 21**      **November 18**  
**10:00AM – 1:00PM**



**Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church fellowship hall**



**December 16** – Christmas party; time and location to be announced later

This monthly program is free and open to citizens 60 years and older. Please call 674-3002 no later than the Friday before each event to make your reservation.

### 2014 Election

**Tuesday, November 4, 2014**

Polls open from 6:30AM to 7:30PM

County commissioners, school board, sheriff, state representatives and senators, US representatives and senator, judges and Clerk of Court



### Town Council meetings

**Thursday, November 6 @ 7:00PM**

Changed because of the schedule conflict with the November 4 election



**Tuesday, December 2, 2014 @ 7:00PM**

Public hearing on proposed town acquisition of the Pleasant Garden Community Center

### Veterans Appreciation Day

**Sunday, November 9, 2014 @ 2:00PM**

Pleasant Garden Elementary School  
 4833 Pleasant Garden Road



### Christmas Parade

**Sunday, December 7 at 3:00PM**

Pleasant Garden Road from Nesbit Road to East Sheraton Park Road



Family-friendly fun with floats, bands, cars and of course, Santa; local favorite Cindy Farmer of WGHP Fox 8 is the Grand Marshal. Join us for holiday fun!

## Searching for Town Board Members

The Town Council will make appointments to the three town boards for 2015-16 at the December 2 council meeting. If you want to be more involved in planning events and making decisions that affect your town, this is your chance to serve. Contact Town Hall for an application to be considered for appointment to one of these boards:



- **Long-Range Planning Board:** The primary charge of the Long-Range Planning Board is to make recommendations on overall planning of town government and community development to the Town Council. This board meets at 7:00pm on the third Tuesday of each month.
- **Zoning Board:** The Zoning Board is charged with receiving and acting upon all requests for changes and other matters involving the town zoning ordinance. The Zoning Board also oversees enforcement of the zoning ordinance and reviews the ordinance and zoning map at least every five years. This board meets at 7:00pm on the third Monday of each month.
- **Recreation Board:** The primary charge of the Recreation Board is to provide a variety of recreational and educational activities for residents of the Pleasant Garden community. This hard-working board plans the Independence Day celebration, Pet Day, Veterans Appreciation Day, and the Christmas parade. The Recreation Board meets at 7:00pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

## Protecting our Water Supply

Everything that hits the ground eventually ends up in our water supply – leaves, fertilizers, trash, pet waste, oils, etc. Stormwater run-off is the #1 water pollutant in NC. Drop off used oil, paint, unneeded chemicals and other hazardous materials at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center, 2750 Patterson Street in Greensboro Wednesday-Fridays from 10AM-6PM or on Saturdays from 8AM-2PM. Help keep our water clean and safe!

