

The

TOWN

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



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

Spring 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
Alan Marshall.....Councilmember
Bill Greene.....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.



Town of Pleasant Garden's Independence Day Celebration Saturday - June 30, 2012



Our annual Independence Day Celebration event begins at 6:00PM on Saturday, June 30 at the Pleasant Garden Community Center located at 5024 Alliance Church Road. Children can play on inflatables, participate in games and get a free balloon sculpture. The Groovin' Band will entertain with family-friendly music. Come check out the beautifully-restored cars in the Classic Car Show on the upper ball field from 5:00-8:00PM. Our spectacular fireworks show shoots off around 9:30PM and promises to be the highlight of a fun evening. This is a free event planned and provided by the hard-working members of your Recreation Board. The rain date is Sunday, July 1.

Join the fun and help us celebrate America's birthday!

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Veterans Information Fair May 18, 2012

Former and current military and their family members who have questions or need assistance with VA benefits are encouraged to attend the Veterans Information Fair to be offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs on Friday, May 18 from 1:00-6:00PM at Town Hall. The W.G. Hefner VA Medical Center's Rural Health Program will provide health care education and registration and the Winston-Salem VA Regional Office will answer claims questions and provide benefits information. Counseling and support services for combat veterans will be available in the VA's Mobile Vet Center.

Former men and women of the military who are not currently enrolled for VA health care benefits or who would like to file a claim must bring copies of their DD Form 214 and Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. VA personnel will assist in completing enrollment applications and claims.

For more information, contact the Rural Health Program office at 1-800-469-8262 or online at www.salisbury.va.gov.

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Need town information? Check our website at www.pleasantgarden.net!

TOWN NEWS AND UPDATES

Message from the Mayor

During the first quarter of this year, your Town Council has been extremely busy with projects of benefit to your town. Please allow me to expound on a few of these projects:

- ✓ The Council has approved the addition of a Voluntary Agricultural District provision to the Pleasant Garden Town Ordinances.
- ✓ The Council renewed the contract for Blackboard Connect. This is the “telephone tree” service that we use to alert residents to meetings and events held by the Town. If you do not wish to receive these alerts, please call Town Hall and ask that your number be removed from the list.
- ✓ The Council hosted a Business Focus Group luncheon to ask what we, as a Town, can do to promote their businesses.
- ✓ The Council approved adding links to the Town website specifically to educate our senior population on events that may be of interest to them.
- ✓ The Council approved the “thinning” of the loblolly pines behind Town Hall. The proceeds from this thinning will be used for future development of this area.
- ✓ The Council approved moving forward with the construction of restroom facilities for the Farmer’s Market, the picnic areas and any other future events that may occur.
- ✓ In February, the Town hosted the North Carolina Department of Transportation for residents to ask questions and receive answers pertaining to the 421/Neelley Road development.
- ✓ The Council approved a Solid Waste Ordinance at the April meeting.

You may have read an article in the Sunday, February 19 edition of the *Greensboro News & Record* about the “stimulus money” that Pleasant Garden received totaling \$3 million dollars. Just for clarification purposes, \$2,994,071.00 was awarded to the North Carolina Department of Transportation to “repave US 421 in Guilford County from the Randolph County line to north of SR 3485 (Harmont Drive) to improve road conditions.” Because the project is within the 27313 zip code, it was reported that Pleasant Garden received the funds although the road is not within the town limits.

If you would like more in-depth information pertaining to the above projects, please call Town Hall at 674-3002 and leave me a message. You are most welcome to visit me in Town Hall on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-11:00AM to share your ideas and concerns.

Mayor Carla Strickland

Preparation of the 2012-13 Town Budget



The Town Council has begun work on the town budget for the next fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2012. The new budget must be adopted no later than June 30. The next budget work session is scheduled for Thursday, April 26 at 7:00PM and citizens are encouraged to attend. A time to receive citizens’ comments and suggestions on the budget is provided at the beginning of each regular monthly meeting – your next opportunity to address the council on this issue is on April 30 at 7:00PM.

Solid Waste Ordinance Adopted

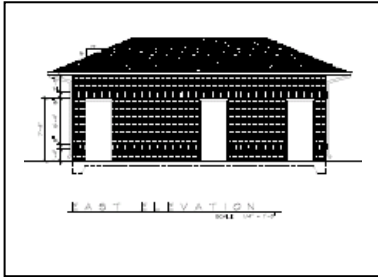


At the April meeting, the Town Council adopted Guilford County’s solid waste ordinance after learning the ordinance was not already in place. This action continues the town’s ability to take action on public nuisances such as dumping of combustible items, garbage, tires, furniture or white goods, and demolition debris in open areas. It also regulates the open burning of solid wastes, yard trash, and land-clearing debris. For additional details, go online to Chapter 15.5 at <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=12052>.

TOWN NEWS AND UPDATES

Picnic Shelter Restrooms

The Town Council voted at its April 3 meeting to proceed with the construction of restroom facilities to service the Picnic Shelter area of the Town Hall property. Citizens using the Picnic Shelter, gazebo and walking trails will benefit from this new amenity as well as the vendors and customers attending the summer Farmers' Market. The funds for the design and construction of this new building will



be taken from the Capital Reserve Fund, money which has been accumulated over the past 15 years for capital projects such as this.

PARTF Grant Committee Appointed

Pam Lemieux and Dean Maddox, members of the Long-Range Planning Board, and Ellen Maddox and Tina Chilton Lee, members of the Recreation Board, have been appointed to research potential recreational projects and make a recommendation to the Town Council to consider in a state PARTF grant application. They will be reviewing ideas from the 2008 Town Hall Site Plan along with more recent suggestions from citizens and councilmembers. The deadline for submitting the grant application is January 2013.

Spring 2012 Soccer Season Underway

There are 546 soccer players on 36 teams with 30 paid sponsors this season. The first games were played on Saturday, March 31 and the last games and award ceremonies are scheduled for May 19. Most games are being played on the town fields, but some are being held on Pleasant Garden Elementary School's Idol Field. Game schedules are posted on the town website. Many thanks go to volunteer Brent Lewis and his team of volunteer coaches – without their dedicated service, there would not be a Pleasant Garden soccer program.



Informational Meeting on Pleasant Garden Road Groundwater Problem

The Guilford County Health Department found elevated levels of PCE (*perchloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene*) in the groundwater in the 4700 block of Pleasant Garden Road during routine sampling earlier this year. These chemicals are typically used as a dry cleaning solvent and for parts cleaning and are perhaps from a dry cleaner that once operated in this area. EPA and the Health Department have taken additional water samples from the wells of affected property owners and have advised them not to drink the water. The fix for this contamination is the addition of a filter on the well.

EPA and Health Department officials have scheduled an informational meeting at Town Hall on Thursday, May 10 at 7:00PM. They will update interested citizens on their findings, answer questions and receive requests for additional sampling from any concerned citizens.

Supporting Our Local Businesses



Local businesses are the lifeblood of any community, providing goods and services for its citizens. Members of the Town Council and Long-Range Planning Board recently held a meeting with five local business owners to learn about their challenges, how the town might be able to promote local businesses, and suggestions for attracting new businesses to our town. Additional Business Forums will be scheduled to continue this important conversation. Other business owners are encouraged to join in and share ideas and concerns.

The main key to success is loyal customer support from local residents. We encourage everyone to shop in our local businesses and spend your money with them. **We need our local businesses and they need us – please buy local!**

Programs for Senior Citizens

Residents who are age 60 or older are encouraged to attend the free Senior Luncheon sponsored by the town on the third Tuesday of each month at Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church. Tracie Keaton and Bruce Fletcher of Senior Resources of Guilford provide fun activities, entertainment and/or informational speakers beginning at 10:00AM followed by a nutritious lunch.

The Recreation Board is exploring the possibility of enhancing these programs or providing other activities for the town's senior citizens. Stay tuned for updates!



Town of Pleasant Garden
 PO Box 307
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UPCOMING EVENTS



Dates to Remember



Spring 2012 Soccer Games

March 31 – May 19, 2012

Soccer fields at 4920 Alliance Church Road

Election Day

Tuesday - May 8, 2012

Polling places are open from 6:30AM – 7:30PM. Democrat, Republican and Libertarian primaries for various offices and a constitutional amendment

EPA Meeting on water problem

Thursday – May 10, 2012 @7:00PM at Town Hall

Officials from the EPA and Guilford County Health Department will provide information on the ground-water contamination problem in the 4700 block of Pleasant Garden Road



Veteran's Information Fair

Friday - May 18, 2012

1:00-6:00PM at Town Hall

Independence Day Celebration

Saturday - June 30th at 6:00PM

Fireworks begin at 9:30PM

Town of Pleasant Garden event at the Pleasant Garden Community Center
 5024 Alliance Church Road



Senior Luncheon

June 19 July 17 August 21

10:00AM – 1:00PM

Held at Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church

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

Summer Farmers' Market Opens on June 16



Local fresh produce and crafts will be available at the 2012 Pleasant Garden Farmers' Market beginning on Saturday, June 16 and running until September 8.

The market will be open for business on Saturday mornings from 7:00AM-noon and on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-7:00PM in the picnic shelter located behind Town Hall at 4920 Alliance Church Road. Come buy your fresh veggies, chat with friends and neighbors, and have a fun time at the Pleasant Garden Farmers' Market!

Call 674-3002 for details if you are interested in selling crafts or produce at the Pleasant Garden Farmers' Market.

New State Requirements Regarding Fertilizer Application in the Jordan Lake Watershed

By August 2012, the application of fertilizer to land in the Jordan watershed [*property located east of the railroad tracks in Pleasant Garden*] must be done either by applicators who have completed nutrient management training offered by the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service, or, pursuant to a nutrient management plan that is approved by a certified technical specialist. Requirements apply not only to applicators but also to property owners who are responsible for ensuring that anyone applying fertilizers to their land has met the requirements. The rule does not apply to the use of fertilizer by homeowners on their own residential property. Animal waste application in compliance with a permitted waste utilization plan is considered to be compliant with this rule [*Rule 15A NCAC 02B .0272*]. More information on this new requirement can be found at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/jordanlake/fertilizer-management>.