

The

# TOWN

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



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

FALL/WINTER 2010

# SQUARE

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Fax: 336-674-0923  
Email: [Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net](mailto:Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net)  
Website: [www.pleasantgarden.net](http://www.pleasantgarden.net)

## Town of Pleasant Garden, NC

### TOWN OFFICIALS

Bill Greene.....Mayor  
Nancy Jo Smith.....Mayor Pro Tem  
Chris Johnson.....Councilmember  
Carla Strickland.....Councilmember  
Bob Wyrick.....Councilmember

### TOWN STAFF

Sandy Carmany....Administrator/Clerk  
Linda Baker.....Assistant Clerk

### TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday-Thursday.....9:00am-4:00pm  
Friday.....9:00am-1:00pm

### 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.

## Santa Claus is Coming to Town on Sunday, December 5

Pleasant Garden's annual Christmas parade will be held at 2:00pm on Sunday, December 5 on Pleasant Garden Road between Nesbitt Road and East Sheraton Park Road.



The Greensboro Grasshoppers mascots are the Grand Marshals, and music provided by the Southeast High School band will get everyone into the holiday spirit. The Shriners Club NasCarts and Scooter Patrol will be a fun addition to the parade. Ms. North Carolina Senior America 2010 (*Pleasant Garden's own Sarah Daffron*) will be there along with plenty of local dignitaries, floats and cars. The winners of the Snowball King and Queen essay contest will be recognized, and trophies will be awarded for the best float and the best performance as well as the Chairman's Trophy. Santa Claus will arrive and greet all the good little girls and boys.

The town's Christmas banners will soon be installed along Pleasant Garden Road, adding to the festive atmosphere. Join us at the parade and help ring in the holiday season. The rain date is Saturday, December 11 at 10:00am.

\* \* \* Please note the change in day and time! \* \* \*

## Thank You to Town Board Members

On November 4 the Town Council honored the citizens who served on the town's Long-Range Planning Board, Recreation Board, and Zoning Board in 2010 with a dinner, certificate, and calendar that contained several scenes from Pleasant Garden. These volunteers shared their time, energy and expertise this past year to advise the Town Council on development issues, plan and carry out numerous events, make town improvements, and help plan for the future. If you are interested in serving on a town board, please



submit an application. They are available at Town Hall and on the town website at <http://www.pleasantgarden.net/Board%20Application.htm> The Town Council will be appointing members of the boards at their December 7 meeting – we hope YOU will be one of them!

# Talk of the Town

## Veterans Honored

The special focus of the Town of Pleasant Garden's 12<sup>th</sup> annual Veterans Appreciation Day event at the Pleasant Garden Fire Department on Sunday, November 8 was our Korean War veterans. Approximately 150 people attended the moving ceremony to honor our servicemen and women. The event was planned by the Recreation Board and committee chair Mary Ann Yow. Members of the Pleasant Garden Lions Club provided the refreshments.

Cadets of the Southeast High School Junior NJROTC presented the colors and honored all the branches of the military.



The lovely wreath was on display at the Veterans Memorial at Town Hall the week following the event.

## Jordan Lake Could Affect Town Taxes

Jordan Lake is located many miles away in Chatham County, but if you are east of the railroad tracks along Pleasant Garden Road, you are in the Jordan Lake watershed. This means your property is subject to the regulations adopted to improve the lake's water quality such as the stream buffer protection ordinance that requires a 50-foot undisturbed area on both sides of a stream.

If certain goals are not met by 2017, local governments in the watershed – including Pleasant Garden – will be forced to implement new measures to reduce the pollutants. These could be very expensive and will require the spending of YOUR tax dollars. Here are some things you can do now at no cost that might eliminate the need for the town to spend your tax money to fix this in the future:

- ➔ Limit the amount of fertilizer and pesticides you use.
- ➔ Never dump things down storm drains or in streams.
- ➔ Check your car for leaks and recycle used motor oil.
- ➔ Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly.

## Voluntary Agricultural Districts



Owners of 20 contiguous acres or more of qualified farm land may apply to become a Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) which encourages voluntary preservation and protection of farmland from non-farm development. A VAD member is subject to a non-binding agreement that prohibits non-farm use of development of the land for at least ten years except for three subdivision lots. Participation in a VAD provides recognition, increased protection from nuisance suits, waivers of water and sewer assessments, and eligibility for preservation funds. Participants may revoke the agreement with a written notice at any time.

Guilford County administers the VAD in Pleasant Garden through a contract approved by the Town Council and the County Commissioners. For more information call 641-3334 or visit the county website at <http://www.co.guilford.nc.us/planning/cms/soil.html>

## Development Ordinance Update

The subcommittee reviewing the proposed revisions to the Pleasant Garden Development Ordinance has been meeting weekly. Once this committee completes its work, the Zoning Board will review the proposed changes and make a recommendation to the Town Council. The council will then consider the revisions and hold a public hearing before voting on final approval. Citizens are encouraged to share their input and opinions with both the Zoning Board and Town Council.

## First Community Concert Held

Approximately 50 people enjoyed the music provided by Rodie Ray at the Town of Pleasant Garden's first Community Concert on Sunday, October 24 on the town soccer fields. This fun event was planned and sponsored by the Recreation Board.

Recreation Board members and liaison Councilwoman Carla Strickland joined Rodie Ray for a group photo after the concert.



## Hagan Stone Park Master Plan

A master plan for Hagan Stone Park was developed after a series of public meetings to gather citizen input. Interested citizens are encouraged to review and vote on their top five proposed improvements at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/672C73CB-8561-4B7A-8CF0-9E3F8A16992A/0/HAGANSTONEMASTERPLANvotinglist.pdf>.

# Talk of the Town



## Situational Awareness and Good Common Sense: The Keys to Holiday Safety

The holiday season is a time filled with joy. From gatherings of friends and family to participation in religious and community activities, the months of November and December can be hectic. Hectic schedules can cause us to lose sight of our personal safety as we dash to stores or rush to attend social events -- a recipe for disaster. The fact is, the holidays can also be an unfortunate time – a time when criminals are intent on crashing holiday spirits.

Situational awareness is a concept used in law enforcement in which you are aware of your surroundings and whom and what could be of help to you if a problem were to arise. It helps law enforcement officers survive each and every day. When put into practice, situational awareness and good common sense are key roles in your personal safety. Here are some crime prevention suggestions that you may find helpful in increasing your own situational awareness.

- **Lock your residential and car doors and keep your windows secure.** A majority of reported offenses involve unlocked doors or unsecured windows. Thieves are cowards and do not want to draw attention to their actions. Unlocked doors and windows help them enter and exit quietly.
- **Always be aware of your surroundings -- around your home, shopping centers or parking lots.** If something doesn't look right or seems out of place, your natural instincts are probably correct. Report all suspicious activity to the appropriate law enforcement agency by dialing 911.
- **Shop BEFORE dark if at all possible.** Coordinate your shopping trips with at least one other person. NEVER park in an unlit lot or area. Thieves are cowards and do not want to be seen committing a criminal act.
- **Do NOT leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car and create a temptation for thieves.** If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- **Locate your keys before going to your car.** Trying to find your keys after getting to your car diverts your attention away from your surroundings and provides a window of opportunity for you to become a victim.
- **Do NOT overload yourself with packages and bags.** It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- **Carry your cell phone with you during shopping trips.** Most phones have a GPS feature that can be activated when 911 is dialed. Communicators can send help to a general location based on your phone's GPS signal.
- **Take valuables inside with you or at least keep them out of sight.** GPS systems, MP3 players, purses, laptop computers, wallets and money are popular items for thieves. Thieves will be less likely to break into a secured vehicle if they can't see anything of value to steal.
- **Park your cars in well-lit areas and keep parking areas at your home free of visual obstructions such as high bushes or trees.** You should be able to see your car from inside your home.
- **Help keep your community safe and call 911 to report any type of suspicious person, vehicle or activity, as soon as you see it.** Please do not assume some type of activity or action may be justified. It's your neighborhood and it's your business. Become involved. It is impossible to calculate the number of crimes which are detected and then prevented as a result of neighbors looking out for one another.
- **Never, never, never invite strangers into your home.** Inviting strangers into your home is an invitation for trouble. Like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. We teach our children to keep a safe distance, walk with others and call or yell for help should it become appropriate. There are some people who we come into contact with who would gladly take advantage of a situation and make you the victim of a crime. Follow your gut feeling or intuition. If something or someone doesn't look right or seems out of place, then chances are your suspicions are correct. It turns out our parents were actually right when it came to strangers!

The Guilford County Sheriff's Office is committed to working with communities and neighborhood groups to raise awareness about crime prevention. Please do not hesitate to contact the Guilford County Sheriff's Office if you have questions or concerns about crime prevention or neighborhood watch programs. You can visit our website to learn more about other crime prevention topics at [www.guilfordcountysheriff.com](http://www.guilfordcountysheriff.com) or contact us at (336) 845-6691. Remember, the crime prevention process starts with YOU!

*Detective J.E. Cuddeback, Guilford County Sheriff's Office, District 3/Criminal Investigations Division*



**Town of Pleasant Garden**  
 PO Box 307  
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# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Dates to Remember

### Christmas Parade

**Sunday, December 5 @2:00pm**  
 Pleasant Garden Road



### Town Hall Holiday Closings

Christmas: December 23 and 24  
 New Years: December 31  
 Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 17

### Urban Archery Season

**January 8 – February 12, 2011**  
 Areas inside the Pleasant Garden town limits except for the Town Hall property and any posted land; must have permission from the owner to hunt on any property



### Spring Soccer

**Onsite sign ups at Town Hall, 9am-2pm**

Saturday, February 19  
 Saturday, February 26  
 Saturday, March 5



**Season dates: April 9 – June 4**

no games on Easter weekend (April 23) or Memorial Day weekend (May 28)

### Senior Luncheon

**December 21:** Special holiday event at Cracker Barrel  
**January 18 February 15 March 15**  
 10:00am – 1:00pm at Pleasant Garden UMC



Sponsored by the Town of Pleasant Garden for adults 60-years old and older. Lots of food, fun, and activities! Call 674-3002 for reservations no later than the Friday before each event.

## PART Route 15 Southeast Guilford Express

Did you know you can catch a bus in the Town Hall or Food Lion parking lot six times a day that will take you to the Greensboro Depot for a one-way fare of \$2 or only \$1 if you are a senior citizen, student or disabled? Once at the Depot, you can transfer to GTA, HEAT and other PART buses that can take you to numerous locations in and around Greensboro -- UNC-G, Four Seasons Mall, Moses Cone Hospital, and the airport, for example – or even to High Point, Winston-Salem or Mount Airy.

The bus departs from Town Hall at the following times:

6:00am 3:15pm  
 7:10am 4:35pm  
 8:20am 5:45pm  
 10:40am

Please cut out and use these passes provided by PART and try this new service for free!





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