



Lake Park Villager



The official village newsletter of Lake Park, North Carolina

Population 3,482

Volume 10, Issue 12

December 2013

GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

Village government meetings and elections are held at the Community Center and are open to the public.

- December 24-27** Village Office Closed – Christmas
 - January 1** Village Office Closed – New Year's Day
 - January 14** 7:00 PM Public Hearing & Council Meeting
 - January 16** 6:30 PM Economic Development Commission
 - January 21** 6:45 PM Planning Board Meeting
 - January 27** 6:30 PM Parks & Recreation Commission
- EDC and P&R Commissions do not meet in December.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LAKE PARK PUBLIC PARKS OPEN DAWN TO DUSK YEAR ROUND

LAKE PARK TENNIS COURTS LIMIT USE TO 1 HOUR – ALL USERS
PAUL WOLFCALE RECREATION COMPLEX

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
DEC 24 – 7:00 PM FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR PICKUP NORMAL WASTE COLLECTION
DEC 26 – 7:00 AM NEXT YARD DEBRIS PICK UP JAN 9
JAN 2 – 7:00 AM BARE CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP: ANY THURS

LAKE PARK SINGLES AGES 45+
JAN 2 – 7:00 PM LAKE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

MISS DEEDEE'S AFTER SCHOOL 2014 SUMMER CAMP
JAN 6 BEGINS SIGN UP FOR SUMMER CAMP 882-9386

SAGES LAKE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
JAN 6 – 1:00 PM GAMES 882-2005
JAN 10 – 1:00 PM BINGO 882-6906
JAN 20 – 11:15 AM GOING TO LUNCH 882-6906

VILLAGER NEWSLETTER IN HOME MAILBOX TUBES BY JAN 27
JAN 17 ITEMS DEADLINE E-MAIL OR PHONE ITEMS TO SANDY COUGHLIN

GARDEN CLUB MEETING SPEAKER J. BARNES: ENGLISH GARDENS
JANUARY 20 – 7:00 PM LAKE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

LAKE PARK HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 27 – 6:30 SIGN IN CENTRAL ACADEMY AT LAKE PARK
7:00 MEETING

Holiday Safety

- Keep the tree watered and in a secure stand.
- Lock doors and keep gifts out of window view.
- Protect our outdoor decorations: report any suspicious activity at parks or home areas to 911.

Holiday Appreciation

Christmas Home visitors braved rain and wind December 8 to tour decorative wonders, thanks to the Elliott, King, LeClair, Recard and Workman households who prepared and opened their homes. Garden Club docents greeted and guided 37 ticketed home visitors. Volunteers arranged refreshments at the Community Center. Doyle and Jo Waybright trimmed the Community Center foyer tree. To these and to everyone who has arranged decorations in your windows or outside your homes, you have each added to the festive celebration of a hometown village Christmas. Thank you all!

Light Shows till New Years

The 8th annual animated Christmas light display at 4019 Lake Charles Way is synchronized to holiday tunes. From 6:00 pm, a 20-minute show repeats every half hour till 9:00pm. Last show on Fridays and Saturdays begins at 9:30 PM. Last show of the season will be 8:30 pm New Year's Eve. The Brown family gives all viewer donations to the Union County Christmas Bureau. More information at www.lakeparklights.com.

Council Oaths & Roles

Mayor Kendall Spence and Councilpersons David Cleveland, Sandy Coughlin and Fabian Szarko took oaths of public office at the December Council meeting. Mayor Spence announced council responsibilities:

Kendall Spence: Security/Sheriff Liaison, and Powell Bill Management/Roads-Sidewalks, NCDOT issues/Monroe Bypass. Sandy Coughlin: Economic Development Chairperson, Waste Collection and *Villager* newsletter.

David Cleveland: Parks and Recreation Commission Chairperson, Landscaping and Ponds. John Barnes: Public Lighting, Clocktower and Waterfowl.

Mark Phillips: Planning Board, Webmaster, IT support.

Fabian Szarko: Parks and Recreation Commission and Community Events.

Council re-elected David Cleveland as Mayor Pro Tem. Council also appointed resident volunteer Christopher Yeager to the Economic Development Commission.

Public Hearing January 14 Unified Development Ordinance Update

Recent North Carolina state revisions affect local planning boards so Lake Park's Planning Board has

Lake Park Village Government Call List

Website: www.lakeparknc.gov

Kendall Spence - Mayor

(704) 882-6649

kendall.spence@lakeparknc.gov

David Cleveland- Council, Mayor ProTem

(704) 882-6834

david.cleveland@lakeparknc.gov

John Barnes - Council

(704) 882-9628

john.barnes@lakeparknc.gov

Sandra Coughlin – Council

(704) 882-9692

sandy.coughlin@lakeparknc.gov

Mark Phillips - Council

(704) 882-9006

mark.phillips@lakeparknc.gov

Fabian Szarko - Council

(704) 778-1850 (cell)

fabian.szarko@lakeparknc.gov

Cheri Clark – Clerk/Tax Collector

(704) 882-8657

cheri.clark@lakeparknc.gov

Cheryl Bennett, Finance Officer

(704) 882-8657

cheryl.bennett@lakeparknc.gov

Deputy Richard Haywood

Call 911 to report emergency or any suspicious behavior.

For non-emergency: (704) 289-1591

officer@lakeparknc.gov

Economic Development

◆**Chris Yeager's** appointment to the EDC followed Kendall Spence's December announcement that a career change disallowed his serving a new term on the Commission. Chris offers the EDC a business background with organizational and sales development skill and has a keen interest in Lake Park's development.

◆Miss Dee's After School and Summer Camp includes active children's outings on the summer schedule. Check www.msdeedeesafterschool.com for rates and registration or call 882-9386. Signup begins Mon Jan 6.

Parks & Recreation

◆**Tree Review – To Trim or Remove?** Due to overgrowth, trees that obstruct public lighting are being marked for pruning or removal to improve street and sidewalk visibility at night. Once identified, the Union County Urban Forester will be asked to review the list and offer advice before Parks & Rec seeks quotes for the work. If an obstructing tree is on private property, the owner will be advised in advance and work on that tree will be arranged and paid for by the Villager.

Lucas Landscaping Recommended: Parks & Recreation recommended that Council consider extending the Lucas contract for two years. The current contract would expire February 28, 2014 The Commission is satisfied and pleased with Lucas' fulfillment to date. A final recommendation will depend upon Lucas quoting for the extension at rates the Commission can justify.

reviewed our UDO with Benchmark and completed the necessary updates. Proposed revisions are now at the www.lakeparknc.gov site and the Clerk's office in the Community Center. All citizens are welcome to participate in the 7 pm public hearing January 14.

HOA Decorations Awards

The selections for the 2013 decorated homes awards took place the weekend before Christmas. Winning homes will receive an award sign near at their display. Winners will be announced in the January *Villager*.

Illegal Parking

Immobilization devices, or boots, are in use by many municipalities to change the behavior of those who would accumulate a multitude of parking citations without paying fines and without correcting their parking habits. Lake Park has a very few repeat offenders and is researching the cost and value of implementing such devices, and any related new wording to the public ordinance before making a decision.

Holiday Events December 8

Lake Park's 2013 Hometown Heroes, Greg and Lisa Crosby were undeterred by rain, wind or cold and led the 6:00 pm ceremonial lighting of Lake Parks Community Christmas Tree. Singers from Faith United Methodist Church and the Salvation Army Band performed at the Town Center Gazebo. The event followed the Garden Club Home Tours and craft making at Skeeter's Bakery. HOA provided carriage rides, cookies, hot cocoa and hot apple cider to warm everyone who came. Lake Park's holiday lighting will be lighted through New Year's Day.

Street Food Truck Vendors

The Planning Board reviewed a request to waive or alter the UDO limitations on street food truck vendors and concluded that the current limitations are in the best interests of the community. *No ice cream trucks?*

Pond Restoration Bids Due

Invitations to bid for the restoration of Russell Park Pond were made to prospective contractors in December with a bid deadline of January 17, 2014. Parks & Recreation engaged Eagle Engineering to review and complete the invitation specifications.

Sound System Trial

Shaun Lauther tested types of amplification equipment in the Community Center chamber room in November and December. Once selected and installed, Council hopes that community meeting visitors will be better able to hear the meeting discussions.

HOA Annual Meeting Jan 27

Four openings are available on the 2014 HOA board for interested homeowner volunteers. Any homeowner who cannot attend the meeting is asked to send their proxy to Braesael property management or give to any current board member. Watch your mailbox for details.