

NOVEMBER /  
DECEMBER 2011

TOWN OF ABERDEEN NEWSLETTER

# BON ACCORD

## MESSAGE FROM TOWN MANAGER, BILL ZELL

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On November 19th, the 3rd annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event will be held at the Pinecrest High School parking lot off of Voit Gilmore Lane. It will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and it's free!! There will also be a paper shredding service available at this site.

Examples of items to be collected are: paint and paint thinners, furniture strippers and finishing products, solvents and degreasers, wood preservatives, polishes, aerosols, fluorescent light tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, NiCad batteries, alkaline batteries, lithium batteries, propane cylinders, swimming pool chemicals, used motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline, hydraulic, transmission and brake fluid.

Commercial waste and electronic waste will not be collected at this event; however you may now dispose of E-Waste at any of the seven Moore County Collection Centers.

Pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and insecticides will be accepted but MUST be in its original container for identification purposes.

This event is sponsored by: Moore County Cooperative Extension Service, Keep Moore County Beautiful, County of Moore, Village of Pinehurst, Village of Whispering Pines, Sustainable Sandhills, NC Department of Agriculture, Town of Aberdeen, and the Town of Southern Pines. For more information call the Aberdeen Town Hall at 944-1115.

The following information is provided by the Moore County District Attorney's Office:

Protect your identity by deterring, detecting and defending all fraud, suspicious activity in an effort to safeguard your personal information. Identity theft is a serious crime. It occurs when your personal information is stolen or used without your knowledge to commit fraud and other crimes. Identity theft can cost you time and money. It can destroy your credit and ruin your good name. Your identity is a valuable asset that should

be vigilantly protected.

Deter identity thieves by safeguarding your personal information.

Shred financial documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them. Protect your Social Security number. Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet or write it on a check. In most cases you can use some other identifier. Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the internet unless you know who you are dealing with. Never click on links sent in unsolicited emails; instead type in a web address you know. Use firewalls, anti-spyware, and anti-virus software to protect your home computer and keep them up-to-date. Place a security freeze on your credit report. This can prevent criminals from accessing your credit information. Keep your personal information in a safe place at home, especially if you have roommates, employ outside help, or are having work done in your house.

Detect suspicious activity by routinely monitoring your financial records and billing statements. Be suspicious of these symptoms:

- Bills that do not arrive as expected. A late bill may seem like an extra-long "grace period". In reality, your mail may have been diverted to disguise illegal activity.
- Unexpected credit cards or account statements, and denials of credit for no apparent reason.
- Calls or letters about purchases you did not make. Inspect your financial statements and credit reports; credit reports contain information about you, including what accounts you have and your bill paying history. You are entitled to a free copy of your credit report from the major nationwide reporting companies Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Call 1-877-322-8228 or visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com). Review your financial statements regularly for charges you did not make.

Defend against fraud as soon as you suspect it.

Place a fraud alert on your credit reports and review the reports carefully. The three nationwide consumer reporting companies have toll-free numbers for placing an initial 90-day fraud alert; a call to one company is sufficient. Equifax: 800-525-6285; Experian: 888-397-3742; and TransUnion: 800-680-7289.

Placing a fraud alert entitles you to free copies of your credit report. Look for inquiries from companies you haven't contacted, accounts you didn't open, and debts on your accounts that you can't explain.



Be wary of closed accounts that have been tampered with or established fraudulently. Call the security/fraud department of each company to inform them that the account was opened or changed and then follow up the call in writing. Keep copies of all documentation and make notes of conversations about the theft.

Visit [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft) for ID theft affidavit and to report your theft to the Federal Trade Commission and file a police report.

### ROAD CLOSURES

The Annual Reindeer Fun Run will be held in Aberdeen on Saturday, December 3rd. There will be several areas in Aberdeen that the 10k and 5k courses will be ran. The areas affected are Downtown, Poplar St. to Peach St., Midway Community, Saunders Blvd., Bethesda Farm Area, NC 211, and Main Street. There will be altered traffic patterns for this event during the morning hours.

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS



Remember to turn back your clocks on Sunday, November 6th!

## SENIOR ACTIVITIES

### Chair Exercises

Days: Tuesday and Thursday  
 Time: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
 Cost: \$2/month Residents &  
 \$5/month Non-Residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

### Art Classes

Day: Wednesday  
 Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Cost: \$2/month Residents &  
 \$5/month Non-Residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

This is a great opportunity to meet and share creative ideas with others. Participants must supply own materials.

### Bingo

Dates: November 3rd and  
 December 1st  
 Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
 Cost: \$1 Residents &  
 \$2 Non-Residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

This is a great opportunity for seniors in the community to gather and have some fun. Refreshments will be provided. Participants should bring a wrapped prize or prizes of \$5.00 or less to each session.

### Senior Holiday Luncheon

Date: December 15th  
 Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 Cost: Free  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station  
 RSVP Deadline: December 8th

We will be providing plates, drinks, silverware, and meat. Other dishes are encouraged!!

### Master Gardener Series

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department and Master Gardeners of Moore County have partnered for an informative series on gardening in Moore County. Snacks will be provided. Pre-registration is required by the listed deadlines.

Day: Tuesdays  
 Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Cost: \$5 Residents/class  
 \$7 Non-Residents/class  
 \$12 Residents/3 classes  
 \$18 Non-Residents/3 classes  
 \$27 Residents/6 classes  
 \$39 Non-Residents/6 classes  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

### Sessions

Shutting Down the Garden in the Fall  
 Date: November 8, 2011  
 Registration Deadline: November 1, 2011

Propagation of House Plants  
 Date: January 17, 2012  
 Registration Deadline: January 10, 2012

Back Yard Vegetable Gardening  
 Date: February 21, 2012  
 Registration Deadline: February 14, 2012

Organic Gardening  
 Date: March 20, 2012  
 Registration Deadline: March 13, 2012

Summer Annuals for Containers and the Garden  
 Date: April 17, 2012  
 Registration Deadline: April 10, 2012

### All Occasion Wreath Making

Learn to decorate a wreath that can be used all year long. Change ornaments, bows, floral and natural items as the seasons change. ECA instructor Kay Simpson will be on hand to give you step by step instructions on how to make your wreath. All supplies are included in the registration fee. Pre-register by November 7, 2011

Date: November 14, 2011  
 Time: 1:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.  
 Cost: \$20 Residents & \$25 Non-Residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

### Cooking for One or Two - Downsizing

Join FCS Agent Agnes Evans for cooking tips on cooking for a small household. This class will cover basic information, practical advice on utensils, and techniques on shopping, cooking, and storage. Pre-register by November 7, 2011.

Date: November 14, 2011  
 Time: 1:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.  
 Cost: \$8 Residents & \$14 Non-Residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

### The "Spirit of Christmas" Creative Holiday Ideas

Join Kay Simpson and Agnes Evans for the "Spirit of Christmas" Creative Holiday Ideas Class. Make simple holiday craft decorations; see creative gift ideas, and sample holiday fare foods. Learn how to express the "Spirit" of the holidays. Pre-register by December 9, 2011.

Date: December 16, 2011  
 Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Cost: \$8 Residents & \$14 Non-residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

### Family Care Giving Workshops

If you are caring for a loved one at home, we can help! American Red Cross is offering the last workshop in an eight series of Family Care Giving Workshops. The series focuses on the needs of those providing care as well as the needs to those requiring care. Snacks will be provided at each workshop. Space is limited to 30 participants, so register now.

Session 8: Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 Cost: \$5 Residents & \$7 Non-Residents  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station  
 Registration Deadline: November 2, 2011

### Senior Holiday Cookie Swap

Bring 2 dozen of your favorite holiday cookies (1 dozen to trade and 1 dozen to eat) and the recipe to the Aberdeen Recreation Station for a Holiday Cookie Swap. Coffee and hot chocolate will be available while you try other cookies.

Date: December 14, 2011  
 Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Cost: Free  
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station  
 Registration Deadline: December 7, 2011

### Holiday Memories

Decorate Christmas Ornaments, provided by Colors-N-Clay, for the Holiday Season. Once all ornaments are painted, they will be taken to the Colors-N-Clay office to be fired.

Date: December 7, 2011  
 Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Cost: \$7 Residents & \$10 Non-Residents  
 Registration Deadline: November 28, 2011

## TOWN PLANS BIKE RACKS

The Town has been diligent in pursuing a bicycle and pedestrian plan, and now it is time to get serious and put the infrastructure on the ground. Plans are in the works to order bicycle racks for our residents and visitors. It has come to staff's attention that apartments and businesses in the community may also be interested in ordering racks for their establishments to increase the presence of racks around town. Staff will be pursuing potential savings in discounts and shipping fees for volume orders of bike racks. If you would like to purchase a rack specifically for your place of business and are interested in seeing if a discount is possible, please contact Kathy Liles in Planning at 944-7024.

## GRAND MARSHAL FOR CHRISTMAS PARADE

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is seeking nominations for the Grand Marshal of the Aberdeen Christmas Parade on December 10th. Aberdeen citizens or local businesses can nominate a candidate that has made outstanding contributions to improving the quality of living, working, and playing in Aberdeen. The winning nominee will serve as the Grand Marshal and start the Annual Aberdeen Christmas Parade.

Nominations will be accepted through November 10th. For additional information or a Nomination Form, please contact Leigh Baggs, Parks and Recreation Director, at 944-7275 or at lbaggs@townofaberdeen.net.

## REMINDERS FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

### REMINDER FOR UTILITY PAYMENTS

Please remember that there is a \$5.00 or 5% late fee added to all bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the 21st of November. The late fee will be applied on Tuesday, November 22nd. Those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the 5th of December will be disconnected on Tuesday, December 6th and a \$25.00 fee added.

### LEAVES, PINE NEEDLES, & LIMBS

The leaves and pine needles are beginning to fall. Leaves and pine needles can be put in piles on your curb for yard debris pick-up. However, separating yard debris is important. Leaves, pine needles, pine cones, yard trimmings, sticks and limbs need to be in separate piles for pick-up.

### CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

After Christmas, place all Christmas trees at the curb for pick-up. All ornaments and stands must be removed prior to pick-up. Businesses, please do not leave discarded Christmas trees behind your business.



## COMPREHENSIVE PARKS MASTER PLAN

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is preparing a Comprehensive System Wide Parks Master Plan. As part of this process, citizens are invited to meetings and encouraged to express their interests about existing facilities and programs and future needs through their comments at meetings, surveys, phone calls and emails. This community input is vital to the success of this process and document!

The first meeting of this process is scheduled for Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. This meeting is to begin the planning guide of focusing on the future of parks and recreation in Aberdeen. This meeting and the ultimate Comprehensive Master Plan will examine the following areas:

- Existing community resources
- Parks, recreation, open space criteria
- Needs concerning parks, recreation, greenways, bike paths, and conservation lands
- Town objectives with an action plan for implementation

Additional meetings will be held in December 2011 and January 2012. The final document will be ready for adoption in the spring of 2012. For additional information about this meeting or the process, please contact Leigh Baggs at 944-PARK or at lbaggs@townofaberdeen.net.

## TURKEY FRYER SAFETY

As the holiday season approaches, the members of the Aberdeen Fire Rescue Department would like to give you some safety reminders to help you and your family stay safe while you celebrate during the holiday season. Be sure to have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home. Test them monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times. Know when and how to call for help. Also, remember to practice your home escape plan! We wish you and your family a safe and wonderful holiday season!

- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors a safe distance from buildings and any other material that can burn.
- Never use turkey fryers on wooden decks or in garages.
- Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended. Most units do not have thermostat controls. If you don't watch the fryer carefully, the oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.
- Never let children or pets near the fryer when in use. Even after use, never allow children or pets near the turkey fryer. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot even hours after use.
- To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water don't mix, and water causes oil to spill over, causing a fire or even an explosion hazard.
- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire. If the fire increases, immediately call 9-1-1 for help.



The National Turkey Federation recommends refrigerator thawing and to allow approximately 24 hours for every five pounds of bird thawed in the refrigerator.

## CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Annual Christmas Parade will be held on December 10th at 3:00 p.m. in Historic Downtown Aberdeen. The Parade is part of Christmas in Aberdeen: A Hometown Holiday Tradition and will include floats, bands, clowns, antique cars, Beauty Queens, scouts, and Santa.

The Parks and Recreation Department is looking for individuals, civic groups, bands, scouts, and sports teams that are interested in participating in the parade. There is no registration fee but an entry form must be filled out by Dec. 1st. Please contact Leigh Baggs at 944-PARK for an application.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### Cheerleading

Girls ages 6 to 11 can show their *SPIRIT* for Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department's basketball league this winter. Girls will learn basic cheers, moves and jumps. The cost is \$25 for residents and \$35 for non-residents. Registration is currently being held and the deadline is November 10th. Space is limited so sign up now! For more information contact Program Coordinator Ryan Gordon at rgordon@townofaberdeen.net. or 944-PARK.

### Volunteer coaches are needed!

### Monthly Movie Night

Monthly Movie Night is a great way for kids to take a break from a long week at school and enjoy a fun evening with other kids their age. We will have snacks, a movie, and other activities planned for the kids while they are at Monthly Movie Night. Parents can use this time to run errands or go out while their kids enjoy a great evening. Pre-registration is required.

Date: November 4, 2011

Registration Deadline: November 1, 2011

Date: December 5, 2011

Registration Deadline: December 5, 2011

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$2 Residents & \$4 Non-Residents

Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

### American Red Cross Babysitter Course

The American Red Cross Moore County Chapter will be offering a 7 hour babysitter training course which will be held at the Aberdeen Recreation Station for children ages 11–15. This class will cover information on the supervision of children and infants, basic child-care skills, discipline issues, how to identify safety hazards and prevent injuries, cover emergency situations, and more. Each participant will receive a certification card, training handbook, emergency reference guide, and CD-Rom. Registration forms are available at the Aberdeen Recreation Station.

Date: November 5, 2011

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2011

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$50.00

### Holidays and Clay (Ages 6 - 10)

Put a special touch on your very own Christmas ornament this Holiday Season with the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department and Colors-N-Clay. Kids can paint their own design on their ornament and Colors-N-Clay will take the ornaments back to the Colors-N-Clay office to be fired. Once all the ornaments have been finished, all participants will be contacted to pick up their ornaments at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. Registration forms are available at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. Space is limited, so please sign up today!

Date: December 3, 2011

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

Cost: \$7 Residents & \$10 Non-Residents

Registration Deadline: November 21, 2011

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holiday season is a time for family gatherings and fellowship with the ones we love. It is also the time when unscrupulous people take advantage of those who are unsuspecting and trusting. Historically the crime rate always goes up around the holidays because there are so many potential "victims" to choose from. Being a victim of a crime is a major tragedy in your life. The Aberdeen Police Department would like to offer you some tips to protect yourself:

1. Do your holiday shopping with a credit or debit card and avoid carrying cash. Cards are traceable and if someone makes unauthorized purchases you can only be held responsible for a small portion of the amount. Cash on the other hand is gone for good.
2. Park your vehicle in well lighted areas and shop with a friend. This allows one person to act as a lookout for potential trouble while the other loads the car. If you are alone, be aware of your surroundings while shopping and while loading your car.
3. DO NOT leave purchases in your car while it is parked; lock them in the trunk out of sight of persons walking in the parking lot.
4. DO NOT place your purse or wallet in the shopping cart. This makes it easy for anyone to grab it and run.
5. If you are going to be out of town for the holidays, notify the post office to hold your mail and have a neighbor pick up your paper. Put your lights on a timer and do not leave presents in front of uncovered windows. If you contact the police department, we will have an officer check your house while you are away.
6. Be aware of your surroundings and people around you. Distraction scams are popular during the holidays. One individual will approach you and engage you in conversation while the other one takes your wallet. Be very wary of strangers who approach you.
7. Be very careful of people who have "hard luck" stories. If approached by someone who says they need twenty dollars for gas to get home or something similar, offer to call the police to assist them. If they are legitimate they will be grateful, if not they will move on. Generous people are often taken advantage of during the holidays.

Practice these tips during the holidays and you will reduce your chances of becoming a victim this holiday season. The Aberdeen Police Department wants to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

## REDESIGNED TOWN WEBSITE

The Town of Aberdeen's website has recently been redesigned to include many user-friendly services. Citizens can now "Report A Concern" through the website and receive prompt feedback from Town staff on those concerns reported. The public can also sign up for e-news and choose which categories to be notified of such as employment, agendas for Board Meetings, news and events, etc. Board Minutes have all been indexed so that they can now be searched for convenience. Links to social media sites Facebook and Twitter have also been added and as news and events are added to our website, they instantly feed out to the social media sites. If you are a Facebook or Twitter user, be sure to "like" us on our page, so that you receive instant news and events from the Town of Aberdeen.

## YOUTH BASKETBALL



Come join Aberdeen's Winter Basketball League. This program emphasizes the fundamentals of basketball and having fun! This league is for children ages 5-12. Practices will begin December. Fees are \$12 Residents and \$25 Non-Residents. The registration deadline is November 10th. Games and practices will be held at Southern Middle School and Aberdeen Elementary School. If anyone is interested in coaching, please contact Athletic Coordinator Joseph Keel at 944-PARK.

### Coaches Needed!

Volunteer coaches needed for all activities! If interested, please call Athletic Coordinator Joseph Keel at 944-PARK.

## SUPPER WITH SANTA

Join the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department for a Spaghetti Dinner provided by Mac's Breakfast Anytime on Friday, December 2, 2011. There will be plenty of fun for everyone including holiday crafts and the reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas". Each child can visit with Santa and receive a treat. Tickets are available for purchase until November 22, 2011. There is a limited number of tickets so purchase soon. For more information, contact Ryan Gordon at 944-PARK.



## TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Come join us in a traditional small-town holiday celebration on Thursday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the Depot in Historic Downtown Aberdeen. There will be Christmas Carols performed by a local Church Choir, reading of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, the lighting of the Christmas Trees, refreshments of hot chocolate and cookies, and the arrival of Santa Claus via the Fire Truck. For additional information, please call Leigh Baggs at Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department at (910) 944-7275 or email Leigh at lbaggs@townofaberdeen.net.



## TOWN CLOSINGS

The Aberdeen Town Hall will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

### Veterans Day

Friday, November 11th



### Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 24th

Friday, November 25th

*(Recycle will not be picked up on November 25th, the make up day will be Wednesday, November 23rd.)*

### Christmas

Friday, December 23rd

*(Recycle will not be picked up on December 23rd, the make up day will be Wednesday, December 21st.)*

Monday, December 26th

*(Recycle will not be picked up on December 26th, the make up day will be Wednesday, December 28th.)*

### New Years Day

Monday, January 2nd

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Town Board Work Session  
Thursday, November 3rd at 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting  
Monday, November 14th at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting  
Thursday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m.
- Town Board Work Session  
Thursday, December 1st at 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting  
Monday, December 12th at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting  
Thursday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m.

## RECYCLE DATES

<u>Monday Recycle Dates:</u>	<u>Friday Recycle Dates:</u>
November 14	November 9 - (Wed.)
November 28	November 23 - (Wed.)
December 12	December 9
December 28 - (Wed.)	December 21