

Christmas Tree Disposal

There are a couple of ways to dispose of live Christmas trees. The Town will pick all live trees that are placed at the curb. All business owners need to make sure to not leave discarded Christmas trees behind their business.

Keep Moore County Beautiful is sponsoring a Christmas tree recycling program to run through January 9th. Citizens can take their Christmas tree Monday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. to the following locations:

- Moore County Landfill
456 Turning Leaf Way,
Aberdeen, off HWY 5
(910) 295-4202
- Carthage Collection Site
5361 US HWY 15-501 S.,
Carthage
(910) 947-2704

Winterize Your Irrigation System

If you have an RPZ valve installed on your water line, it is your responsibility to make sure that it is properly insulated for extreme low temperatures.

If your valve is tied off of your water line to your house to serve an irrigation system, swimming pool, or other non-sewered service then you should cut the valve off and properly drain it for the winter. A new law became effective July 1, 2010 that all homes are required to have separate water meter if you have in-ground irrigation or swimming pool.

On the Calendar

January & February

• Zumba

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Class is for ages 16 and up. Fees for each session (8 classes) are \$25 for residents and \$38 for non-residents. January session is Jan. 5 - 28 and the registration deadline is January 5. (910) 944-7275.

• Senior Fit

Every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Cost per session is \$15 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. January session is Jan. 5 – 26. (910) 944-7275.

• Step Aerobics

Every Monday 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. January session is Jan. 4 - 25. Cost is \$25 for residents and \$38 for non-residents. (910) 944-7275.

• Tai Chi

Every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. January session is Jan. 5 – 26. Cost is \$21 for residents and \$32 for non-residents. (910) 944-7275.

• Youth Kickball

Registration deadline is March 18th. The league is for boys and girls ages 4 -15. Cost is \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Practices will begin April 4th. (910) 944-7275.

• Senior Chair Exercises

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at the Recreation Center. Cost is \$2 per month for residents and \$5 per month for non-residents. Classes will be held January 5 - 28. (910) 944-7275.

• Petit Picasso

Wednesday, starting January 20, at 10:30 a.m. at the Recreation Center. This program is for homeschool and preschool age children. Cost is \$8 for residents and \$17 for non-residents. Supplies are covered in the cost of the program.

• Coffee & Crafting

Wednesday, starting January 20, from 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Cost is \$18 for residents and \$27 for non-residents. Supplies and unlimited coffee are included in the cost of the program.

• Open Art Studio

Wednesday, starting January 20, at 6:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. This program is for ages 10 – 14. Cost is \$18 for residents and \$27 for non-residents. Supplies are included in the cost of the program.

• Water Bills

\$5 or 5% late fee added for those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on January 20. Accounts with outstanding balance will have a \$25 fee added for those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on February 5 and disconnected February 8.

For a full listing of community events, visit www.townofaberdeen.net/calendar.aspx.



Bon Accord

ISSUE January & February 2016



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Car Break-Ins on Poplar Street

Over the past month, there have been purses and wallets taken from vehicles in the Poplar Street area of Aberdeen. In each incident vehicle windows were broken, or vehicles were left unlocked with purses or wallets left in plain view. This type of crime is preventable; keep purses and valuables out of plain view! Please contact the Aberdeen Police Department if any suspicious activity or individuals are observed. You can reach the Aberdeen Police Department by calling 911.

Below are 5 tips for preventing car break-ins:

1) **Don't give them anything to steal.** When valuables are in plain sight, you're giving thieves incentive to break into your car. Even if it's inconvenient, take your valuables with you when you get out.

2) **Make use of the trunk.** If you have to leave something in the car, put it in the trunk. It's much more secured than the armrest or glove compartment and it keeps valuables out of plain sight.

3) **Don't leave a crack in your window.** Rolling down the window just a smidge might help air out your car on hot days. But it's also an easy way for someone to force open the window to unlock the car. Even an inch is enough for a thief to stick their fingers in, rock the window back and forth to get it off the track, push it down, and reach their arm in to unlock the door.

4) **Park in your garage with the door shut.** Thieves go for the path of least resistance. Parking in your garage with the door shut is a harder target than a car that's easy to access.

5) **Park with in well-lit, visible areas.** If you don't have a garage, make sure you have the right security lights to keep the area around your car well lit. For crowded parking areas like apartment buildings, complexes and carports, park in high traffic spots with lights overhead.

Message from Town Manager, Bill Zell

As we look across the Aberdeen landscape there are many indicators that we're growing. Indicators like all that traffic, the many new housing starts or even a new hotel being built, but the indicator I want to talk about in this article is the recent elections and especially this past November's.

Municipal elections come every other year, always in the odd numbered years. For Aberdeen the mayor's position is required to run every two years, while the five commissioner terms are staggered with two commissioners running in one cycle and three commissioners running in the next cycle. So the mayor serves a two year term and the commissioners all serve four year terms with a two year overlap.

Historically if you wanted a commissioner's spot on the board you went to Carthage and paid your \$5 filing fee and got your name on the ballot. If we were electing two or three seats that year, that's all there was to vote for either two or three candidates. That hasn't happen in the last couple of election cycles. Historically in the mayor's race the candidate has run unopposed. In fact in the seven election cycles that I've participated in only twice has anyone challenged the sitting mayor.

Another thing about municipal elections coming in the odd years is that usually there's nothing

else to vote for. We don't usually have any referendums, US Senators, US House of Representatives, State Legislators, President or anything else to bring out the voters, so usually voter turnout is in the area of 5% of registered voters or less. Not this year though where we had 566 votes for the two mayoral candidates combined, and that is over 12.5 percent of the 4518 registered voters in Aberdeen.

In the 2015 election we had seven (7) candidates running for the three commissioners seats available and two for the mayor's seat. I believe this may be an indication of things to come that to get elected in Aberdeen will take a lot more than just paying the filing fee.

In this year's election all the incumbents won their seats back except for one and that was because Pat Ann McMurray decided not to run again. Pat Ann was initially appointed to the 1993 Board of Commissioners to fill an unexpired term of one of its members. She then ran for reelection and won in the 1995, 1999, 2003, 2007 and 2011 elections. She served faithfully for 22 years as an Aberdeen Commissioner representing the Town in many different committees across Moore County and the State.

We want to thank Pat Ann for her tireless and selfless love for the Town of Aberdeen and for all those many years of service. Her mantra was "Aberdeen, we're open for business".

Community Informational Series

Starting in January, there will be a monthly informational session held by Angela Jackson free to the community. During the first session, learn the difference between Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Needs, and the services offered by these types of facilities. What is needed prior to finding placement and the steps you will need to take before choosing a facility. Does your insurance cover these types of services? This lecture is designed to assist in gaining a basic understanding of Assisted Living Facilities and Skilled Facilities and the services available. The first lecture will be held on Wednesday, January 13th and 6:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

Youth Kickball

Come join Aberdeen's Spring Youth Kickball league. This activity is available for boys and girls ages 4-15, as of August 31st. Practices and games are held at Colonial Heights Park on Tuesday Thursday evenings. Practices will begin April 4th. Registration will run through March 18th. Registration forms can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Center. A copy of the child's birth certificate and payment are due at registration. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Individuals must reside within the city limits of Aberdeen to qualify for resident rates.

Volunteer coaches and sponsors are needed for all athletic leagues! If interested, please call Joseph Keel at (910) 944-4572.



Chair Exercise

Increase your muscle strength, circulation, range of motion, and get on the right track to a healthier lifestyle. By getting up in the morning and exercising you have just boosted your metabolism, alertness, and energy levels. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Registration fees are \$2 for residents and \$5 for non-residents for eight sessions.

Senior Fit

Instructor Gloria Megyas will help you improve balance, improve mobility, and increase blood flow throughout the body. Join us on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. for four sessions, beginning Jan. 5. Registration fees are \$15 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Tai Chi

Join Master Lee Holbrook as he teaches the fundamentals of tai chi and helps alleviate stress and anxiety and improves mood and joint pain. Classes are held on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. starting Jan 5, with registration fees of \$21 for residents, \$32 for non-

residents.

Zumba

Enjoy Zumba classes at the Recreation Center Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m with instructor Sarah Calleja. Registration is \$25 for residents and \$38 for non-residents for eight classes.

Step Aerobics

Step your way into shape with instructor Grace Dumayas every Monday at 6:00 p.m. Registration for four sessions is \$25 for residents and \$38 for non-residents.

Petit Picasso

Art program open to preschoolers and homeschoolers ages 4-7 on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Registration fees are \$8 for residents and \$17 for non-residents. Costs cover supplies.

Coffee & Crafting

Grab a friend or meet some new ones and get your creativity brewing over at the Recreation Center on Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Registration fees are \$18 for residents and \$27

News Programs from Parks & Rec

Lots of new & exciting programs will be offered for all ages!

For non-residents. Prices cover supplies and unlimited coffee.

Open Art Studio

Kids ages 10-14 are welcome to get their creativity on with guided art projects or free range self-expression with instructor Nicole Torres. Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Registration fees are \$18 for residents and \$27 for non-residents. Costs cover supplies.

Self-Defense Classes

The Parks and Recreation Department is working to get some self-defense classes going on Wednesday nights. For more information please call the Recreation Center at (910) 944-7275.

The Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is looking for staff and volunteers for our upcoming events as well as our Spring Break and Summer Camps. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please contact Kayla Hillman at (910) 944-7275 or khillman@townofaberdeen.net.



Downtown Associate Community Program

The next public meeting related to the Town's Downtown Associate Community program will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at Town Hall (115 N. Poplar Street). The presentation will run from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Program representatives, Sherry Adams and Liz Parham will be leading the exhibition and will be discussing the initial data collection and explaining how it can be used to aid in the downtown development efforts.

2016 Spring Spree

This recent weather stint has us feeling like Spring time is here already! Nevertheless, the 2016 Spring Spree event is quickly approaching. This year's event

will take place on May 21st, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in downtown Aberdeen on Main Street and Sycamore Street. Please stay connected with the Town's website as we will be posting the "Call to Vendors" notice in the near future!

Reindeer Fun Run

Once again the Reindeer Fun Run event was a huge success! The participation level hit an all-time high, with more than 2,600 runners involved! The Town would like to thank all who were involved in making this another great event, not least of which are the Town's Police, Fire, Public Works, Planning, and the Parks and Recreation Depts. More importantly, we would like to thank the wonderful Reindeer Fun Run

staff and volunteers for their efforts and for allowing us to host this race in downtown Aberdeen!

Façade Improvement Grant Program

Part of what makes Aberdeen stand out amongst our neighboring communities, is the historic downtown charm. In line with the recent downtown development efforts, the Town is kicking off a Façade Improvement Grant Program. If you lease or own commercial property in downtown Aberdeen and are looking to do some alterations, there are resources available to help! Contact Daniel Martin, Community / Downtown Development Planner, at (910) 944-4506 for more information.

News from Parks & Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department has just completed all of the holiday events, highlighted by the Christmas Tree Lighting, Supper with Santa, Christmas Parade, and an Old Fashioned Christmas at the Malcolm Blue Farm. As staff is already looking at ways to build and improve on these events for next year, and as our winter programs progress, including over 220 children participating in youth basketball and cheerleading, we now turn our attention to planning for the spring and summer.

As we add new programs, such as our Zumba, tai chi, and step aerobics classes, art programs, and self-defense, we are continually looking for more opportunities to offer our citizens. We are constantly looking for people who have a skill or talent they would like to teach or offer. We are also

looking for staff for Spring Break and Summer Camps. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in becoming an instructor or counselor, we encourage you to reach out to the Parks and Recreation Department. We are eager to grow, and diversify, the offerings we have to share.

Also, if you have any questions regarding the parks or park rentals, or you are interested in participating in the many programs we have to offer, please feel free to contact us. The Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department can be reached at (910) 944-7275, emailed at aprd@townofaberdeen.net, or you can also follow us on Facebook! You can also now look to our new sign on US-1 for updates on programs and special events!

Your Government

Board of Commissioners
Work Session

2nd Monday | 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Conference Room

January 11th & February 8th

Board of Commissioners
Meeting

4th Monday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

January 25th & February 22nd

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Thursday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

January 21st & February 18th

Have agendas delivered directly to your inbox. Sign up for E-news at:
www.townofaberdeen.net.

Town Hall Closing

- In observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed January 18, 2016.

There will be no garbage/recycle pick-up on January 18th; the make-up day will be Wednesday, January 20, 2016.