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**Talk of the Town—Learn the Facts -
 Come to a Town Council Meeting**

The latest town emails, Facebook messages, local conversations, and phone calls are focused on three topics now. The rezoning request for the Potter House property, the Development Ordinance (with zoning) adopted in July 2009, and the proposed renovation (and funding) of the Jamestown Golf Course are creating the liveliest, most emotional conversations observed in Jamestown in some time. We sincerely appreciate that this is all part of the public process and urge citizens to attend the town public meetings, ask questions, and be well informed. Staff members as well as the Town Manager are good resources for information and available to talk and assist when requested.

Another special Council meeting advertised for April 8 at 6:30pm in the Ragsdale Civic Center will focus on the needed repairs and proposed renovation of the golf course facility located on the Jamestown Park property. The Council has provided several opportunities for the public to learn about the Business Renovation Plan as well as the need for the project and the efforts that staff, community members, consultants, and Council members have made over the last few years to study the needs of this park property. The Mayor will conduct the meeting in the Civic Center to allow for adequate seating for interested citizens.

Kathryn "Cookie" Billings
 Town Manager

Special points of interest:

- April 2 Town Hall closed for Good Friday
- April 8 Special Council Meeting—Open to the Public
- April 20 Town Council
- May 18 Town Council—Public Hearing on rezoning
- May 31 Town Hall closed for Memorial Day

Ragsdale Family Donation

The family of Thomas C. Ragsdale, Sr. has donated a portrait of the former mayor to the Town. Ragsdale was on the first mayor of Jamestown. He served as mayor from 1947 until 1975. The portrait will hang in the Town Civic Center which is named in Mr. Ragsdale's honor. Pictured are Mayor Keith Volz accepting the portrait from Emily Ragsdale on behalf of the family.





EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT— MARIO VELASQUEZ WATER DEPARTMENT

Margarito “Mario” Velasquez is one of the newest employees with the Town. Although he began as a “temp” on the garbage truck, Mario became a full time employee in August of 2009. Mario moved to the United States from El Salvador in November of 1985. Most of Mario’s family immigrated to the United States as well. They live in Virginia, New York and Texas. His mother still lives in El Salvador but comes to visit

Mario when she is able.

Shortly after arriving in the United States, Mario met his future wife. After dating for about a year, they married. They have been married for 23 years and have four daughters and two granddaughters. In 1999, they bought a house in Thomasville.

Mario has worked several jobs since coming to North Carolina doing a variety of things including carpentry and working on

loading docks.

He has quite a sense of humor and enjoys telling jokes to his co-workers. One day he told his supervisor he had seen a sign for gas for \$2.20 a gallon. Everyone wanted to know where. Mario pointed at Peanut’s old station across the street and laughed.

When asked what was his least favorite part of his job, Mario replied, “Nothing! I like everything and everyone.”

Be sure you are following the proper guidelines on yard waste.

PROPOSED GOLF COURSE RENOVATION

Proposing a renovation of this park facility is a very challenging effort, especially in these economic times. It is painful to propose spending money for a project, yet a very good time to bid a project. Jamestown Park & GolfCourse is a large economic asset to our community. This facility hosted 31,321 rounds of golf last year. This is a very good indication that the community desires the facility. Research demonstrates the value green space and parklands provide to surrounding property owners and the value of this golf course extends to the entirety of the municipal limits of Jamestown, but the town cannot and will not proceed with this project without the support of its citizens. We encourage our community to be involved in the process and well informed about the property and proposals.



The funding of this proposed project (not the need or the method) seemed to be of most interest to the 50+ citizens who attended the Council’s last meeting on March 16. As reported to Jamestown citizens in attendance, the proposed construction project is estimated to take 9 to 10 months to complete. As proposed timing indicates, the construction would affect two fiscal years. These years would bear the heaviest financial burden in the process. After the initial construction, revenues are projected to increase, expenses projected to decrease, and the course budget able to support most of a debt payment needed to finance the project. Staff continues to investigate and search for any methods outside of general revenues to fund our obligations, but realistically, some general fund money would be needed initially to support the project.

Our community must seriously consider the need to establish additional capital reserves to provide for future general fund capital needs, not just the park facility. Making repairs in emergency situations is always more expensive than a planned renovation or replacement process. The fact is that it takes citizen strength and vision to look far into the future and protect the Town’s investments.

Kathryn “Cookie” Billings
Town Manager



Log removed while replacing drain line on driving range.

Guilford County Sheriff Office

Spring is on its way to Jamestown and hopefully will be here to stay before too long. We have had plenty of snow this winter, and we are all ready for a beautiful new season. Soon, you and your neighbors will be out and about, mowing the lawn and working in the flower beds. One of the best things about the Jamestown area is the beauty of the neighborhoods, and it is always a pleasure, for the Deputies of the Guilford County Sheriff's Office, to meet members of the community out in the sunshine, as we go about our duties.

Springtime gardening is clearly a passion for many of your neighbors, and maybe it is for you too. Unfortunately, this is also the season when criminals begin to look for an easy way to steal lawn equipment that has been left unattended. For all of those who will be out and about caring for your lawn and garden, here are a few helpful tips to deter crime in our neighborhoods:

Never leave lawn care equipment, especially lawn mowers, weed eaters, hedge trimmers or leaf blowers, out in your yard unattended. Remember, thieves can disappear with your equipment in the time it takes you to run inside and grab a glass of water.

Keep garage doors closed and keep lawn care items secured in a locked building. Thieves can easily steal equipment from an open garage even if you are at home at the time. Remember, many thieves are only looking to steal things that they can grab easily.

Write down the make, model and serial number, along with a description, of all your lawn care equipment. Having this information makes it much more likely that the Sheriff's Office can locate a stolen item, return it to you, and arrest the thief. The Guilford County Sheriff's Office website provides a useful form to aid you in recording your property's information. This form can be downloaded at www.guilfordsheriff.com. Just click on the documents and then forms subheadings and access the document entitled "Home Inventory".

Call 911 immediately if you meet someone trying to sell used lawn equipment in a parking lot, door to door, or any other unusual spot. Thieves will use this trick to sell off stolen property.

Watch out for your neighbors and call 911 whenever you see suspicious persons, vehicles or activity. Be on the look out for people walking or driving around neighborhoods who may be looking for unattended lawn equipment. It is impossible to tell how much crime has been prevented by the simple act of neighbors looking out for one another.

These simple precautions can make Jamestown less attractive to criminals while all of you are creating your beautiful gardens and lawns this spring. Please mention these tips to your neighbors as well, believe me, they will thank you.

The Guilford County Sheriff's Office would also like to draw attention to the parking situation on East Fork Rd. The shoulder of the road on East Fork Rd has, in the past, been used for parking by those visiting the Greenway and Jamestown Park. Unfortunately, several pedestrians have come very close to being hit by oncoming traffic on East Fork Rd, because of the lack of visibility caused by the presence of parked vehicles. Because of these safety concerns, "No Parking" signs have been placed along the shoulder of East Fork Rd. Please, park at the Jamestown Park when visiting the Park or the Greenway. Vehicles parked along the shoulder of East Fork Rd are a danger to those visiting the area and all vehicles parked in these locations will be subject to being towed.

As always, the Guilford County Sheriff's Office continues to work with community and neighborhood groups to raise awareness and improve the security and safety of Jamestown. If you have a meeting or group where you would like for a Deputy to come speak, please contact Lieutenant Piner at (336) 845-6691. He will be happy to arrange for a Deputy to speak to your group.



- Never leave lawn equipment in yard
- Lock your cars
- Keep garage doors shut
- Keep a home inventory
- Call 911 about suspicious activities



IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS PLANNED, BUT BE PATIENT

The Town has a unique opportunity to benefit from three major improvements and save money while coordinating with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). For several months, the Town has been working with NCDOT to have stamped crosswalks constructed at the intersections listed. The time has come for construction to begin, however a slight delay may save the Town thousands of dollars, expedite a planned water main replacement project, and enable Guilford Road to be resurfaced by NCDOT from Main Street to Guilford College Road.

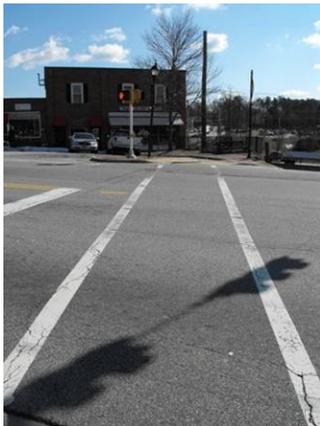
Public Services staff is diligently working to gain approval from NCDOT and the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR), Division of Public Water Supply to allow for construction of a water main in Guilford Road. Construction of this water main prior to the paving of Guilford Road has the potential of saving the Town in excess of eighty thousand dollars. The Town would have been required by NCDOT to re-pave at least a portion of Guilford Road without this coordinated effort.



Stamped sidewalks



New pedestrian signals at Oakdale Road



Another positive result of the paving of Guilford Road will be a seamless transition of stamped crosswalks and newly paved roadway. Had the crosswalks been installed prior to the resurfacing project, a difference in asphalt height may have resulted creating a slight bump-up when vehicles negotiated the intersections.

One phase of the crosswalk improvement project is almost completed. All intersections except the Guilford Road and Main Street. intersections have had new pedestrian signals installed. One of these signals is shown in the photograph taken at Oakdale Rd. New sidewalk is to be constructed at this intersection and at the Guilford Road and Main Street intersection.

This synchronized effort with two major state agencies and one small town is indicative of the determination town staff has in improving town infrastructure, while saving tax payer dollars (both statewide and local). A few more gray hairs are worth making such a worthwhile endeavor happen.

Stamped Asphalt Crosswalks planned at these intersections:

- Guilford Rd. and Main St.
- Guilford Rd. and East Fork Rd.
- Main St. and Oakdale Rd.
- Main St. and Ragsdale Rd.

Signs, Signs, Everywhere Signs!!

This is the time of year we begin seeing political signs and real estate signs. In an effort to familiarize the public with the Town of Jamestown sign regulations, we want property owners to know they do have the right to remove a political sign, yard sale sign or real estate sign from their yard if you did not give permission for the sign to be placed on your property. You may leave it up if you like, remove it or call the name on the sign and request they remove it from your property. Other regulations apply; call Town Hall, 336-454-1138 if you have questions regarding signage.



Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire Department



The Pinecroft-Sedgefield Fire Department will begin their semi-annual fire hydrant testing on April 1st and will continue this operation throughout the month, finishing on May 1st. All hydrants in the Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District will be tested to ensure that they are operating properly and able to produce the required water pressure when needed. This testing also includes all hydrants in the Town of Jamestown.



The Fire Department will carry out the operation, which can take approximately one month to complete. Because this testing must be done during normal operating hours, it will be impossible to know in advance just when or where the testing will take place in any specific area. Opening hydrants can sometimes cause a temporary discoloration of water in nearby homes. The discoloration is not harmful in any way and can be cleared up by running the water for a few minutes.

This kind of testing not only ensures the protection of citizens; it also is an evaluation indicator used by the Insurance Services Office, which rates the fire district according to the fire protection they offer.

Hot Dog Fund Raiser

The Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire Fighters and Ladies Auxiliary are hosting a Hot Dog Fundraiser for the "VIP for a VIP" program. The sale will be Saturday April 10th from 10am until 2pm at Station 46 (301B E Main St—behind Town Hall). The cost is \$5 for 2 hot dogs, a bag of chips and a soda. All orders will be take out. Drive up, place your order and drive away with your food!



HELLO FROM THE CLERK'S CORNER



Happy Spring from the Clerk's Corner!

The snow is gone and we have lovely sunshine and flowers blooming in Jamestown. Our little Town is looking lovely and we want to keep it that way. Please join us for the annual spring 2010 Litter Sweep. The date is Saturday April 24, 2010 at 9:00 am. Volunteers from the Ragsdale High School Key Club will gather in the Food Lion Parking lot to pick up litter from our streets. We will clean up along Main Street, Gannaway Street, Ragsdale Road and Jamestown Park.

This year we also have a group of volunteers from Martin Marietta Jamestown Rock Quarry that will participate in Litter Sweep. We are delighted to have these new participants. Volunteers are vital to our local government.



The warmer weather is getting all Jamestown organizations eager to have outdoor events. The Jamestown Business Association (JBA) has big plans for this summer. In lieu of the annual Jamestown Day Festival, JBA will sponsor *Jamestown Days*...

This will consist of a Summer Concert Series the first 3 Sundays in June; June 3rd, 13th & 20th. Each Sunday there will be a different band performing in front of the Jamestown Public Library; 200 W. Main St. Tickets will

be \$5.00 ea. Please mark these dates and join the JBA for Summer Concerts by the Fountain. Bring your lawn chairs and picnic baskets.

JBA will continue sponsoring *Jamestown Days*... events throughout the year. Events will be posted on their new website. See article below.



JBA has even more exciting news. The Association is undergoing an update of their website. Soon you will be able to visit the JBA website which will be filled with information and events from its members. The Town of Jamestown will have a link on its homepage to the new and improved JBA website. Please keep watch for this new Website.

The Jamestown Public Library 200 W. Main St. is hosting a big event this spring. They are sponsoring a Readers & Writers Festival on Saturday April 24, 2010 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Please join the Library for conversation and book signing of 30 North Carolina authors from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm. A favorite activity at this festival is Jack Tales and Mountain Yarns by Appalachian storyteller, Orville Hicks. (Door prizes given



throughout the day.)

Don't forget to visit the Mary Perry Ragsdale YMCA; 900 Bonner Drive April 17, 2010 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm for the second annual Adam Gerken Swim 4 Smiles. The resignation fee is \$11.00 which includes a T-shirt. All proceeds go to the Ragsdale YMCA We Build People Campaign. Please bring a donation for the Guilford County Animal Shelter, which will be given in Adam's name.

The We Build People campaign provides scholarships to youth, teens, adults, families and seniors within our community.

Other Ragsdale YMCA events coming up include:

Sunday April 25th Healthy Kids Day @ Grasshopper's Stadium

Tuesday May 11th Active Older Adults hosting Magnolia Tea - \$7.00 per person

Thursday May 13 – Garden Party luncheon hosted at home of Jenny Ragsdale - \$30.00 per person

Call the Ragsdale YMCA 336-882-9622 for more information

Martha S. Wolfe, CMC
Town Clerk

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Sharen Apple, Editor



Walking with History!

TOWN DIRECTORY

Town Hall (Utility billing, Planning, Finance)
(336) 454-1138

Water and Sewer Emergency
(336) 454-1218

Jamestown Park
(336) 454-4912

Fire Department
(336) 454-3473

Sheriff's Department (non-emergency) (336)845-6691

Gibson Park
(336) 454-0259

Upcoming Events

- April 2 Town Hall closed for Good Friday—NO GARBAGE
- April 8 6:30pm Special Town Council Meeting
- April 20 7:00pm Town Council Meeting
- May 10 6:30pm Planning Board Meeting
- May 18 7:00pm Town Council Meeting—Public Hearing on rezoning
- May 31 Town Hall closed for Memorial Day

JAMESTOWN PARK GOLF COURSE

With spring golf season taking hold and the Master's Golf Tournament just around the corner the golf calendar has many important dates upcoming...

Men's and Ladies Golf Associations- Lady Play-Days each Wednesday starting at 9am.

Men's Association next tournament - April 18th.

Several fundraiser golf tournaments -

April 24th - Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser 9 am shotgun

April 30th - Jamestown Youth League Tournament 1pm shotgun

May 1 - JGA - Pine Knolls Golf Challenge 9 am shotgun

May 6 - Piedmont Triad Transportation Assoc. 1 pm shotgun

May 7- Professional Construction Estimators Assoc. 1pm shotgun

May 8 - Friendly Ave Church of Christ 9 am shotgun

May 15- 16 - Jamestown Civitans Annual Golf tournament Tee times 8 am - 2pm

May 22 - SW fundraiser 9 am shotgun

June 5 - Ronnie Smith Memorial Golf Tournament 8 am and 2pm shotgun

Please refer to our calendar on our website for contact information

[Events Calendar](#)

Junior golfer and Lady golf clinic dates will be starting soon. Please contact the golf shop in May for dates and sign up information.



New Jamestown Park sign at East Fork and Guilford Road