



THE *Town* Mess@ge

JANUARY 2013



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The Town of
Davidson

216 South Main Street
Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
704-892-7591

www.townofdavidson.org

Mayor's Musings

AS WE ENTER THE NEW YEAR, I like to contemplate what makes our community the special place it is. In my sixty-plus years experience with our community, one characteristic that stands out prominently is our residents' focus on service.

Davidson citizens have long been very active in community charitable service. Davidson College has set the "corporate example" of citizen involvement; its faculty and staff can be found in all the records of community building efforts.

Indeed, since the formation of the Davidson-Cornelius Child Development Center (DCCDC) in the late 1960s, citizen-led groups have defined community needs and organized efforts to meet those needs. In the 1970s citizens created Our Towns Habitat for Humanity, the first regional approach to the common need for affordable housing. Take a look at the 1990s formation of the Ada Jenkins Center, the Davidson Housing Coalition, and the Davidson Lands Conservancy and you will see citizens – many of whom are still involved with these groups – heavily involved in community building.

Sometimes, it takes a challenge to test our mettle, and today's economy is a considerable challenge. The MI-Connection board is comprised of dedicated citizens exercising their business acumen to bring success to this community commitment. The DCCDC nearly fell to the economic crisis, but volunteers stepped forward, reorganizing the center's business model to include infant care, and populating the board with professionals who brought financial acumen to a group very dedicated to nurturing all children.

The recent threat to our entire library system brought new citizen-volunteers to the forefront. These citizens answered the community's call for help and organized incredible fundraising and volunteer recruitment efforts. Their work provided funds for the entire Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library System, added volunteers to expand operating hours, and created a lovely new engraved brick patio that graces the Village Green.

In recent years, I have enjoyed seeing our community's young people getting involved and responding beyond themselves for the betterment of our community and the world. Who can forget Meg Houck, then a sixth grader at Bailey Middle, bravely teaching adults about treating people fairly; or Brooke Phillips, eighth grader at Woodlawn School, organizing an annual fundraiser for Project Halo, a pet rescue agency. Ally Miller, Bailey Middle, and Christiana Brueggemann, Alexander I.B., have established "Think Pink" a breast cancer awareness fundraiser on the Village Green. Kate Roberts, then a Davidson Day School fourth grader, sounded the community alarm when the closing of our library first became a real possibility. Daniel Wyatt, Ben Wyatt, and Alex Lee, Cannon School students, organized a significant effort to help poverty-stricken children in Costa Rica through their common medium of soccer.

In 2012, we were challenged to expand our commitment to being a healthy community in the face of unprecedented mental health issues. Citizens gathered and formed Davidson LifeLine, a suicide prevention effort with support for citizens of all ages.

As we honor community service in Davidson, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve our community and to wish you and your family a happy 2013!



Mayor John Woods

Manager's Report

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's been a long time since we've communicated to our citizens via newsletter. We decided to re-institute our Town Message as one way to ensure we reach each of you with news and information about the Town of Davidson.



Town Manager
Leamon Brice

We've had a lot of change internally, and I'm pleased to report that we have an excellent team assembled to help the mayor and board of commissioners implement their goals.

Here are some highlights of the past year:

- MI-Connection (the cable and telecommunications system owned by Davidson and Mooresville) is showing excellent growth and year-end results, and is launching new products for its customers. They recently upgraded internet speeds for all customers at no extra charge. A change in the interlocal agreement lowered the town's subsidy this fiscal year from \$2 million to \$1 million. If you are not currently a customer, we encourage you to check out their services at www.mi-connection.com.
- Announcement that MSC Industrial Direct Co. Inc. is moving its co-headquarters to Davidson (you can see the construction of their first building



- on Harbour Place Drive next to Homewood Suites – it should be ready in August).
- Announcement of the construction of Carolinas HealthCare Systems behavioral health facility on Route 73 – they will break ground soon.
- Results of the 2012 National Citizen Survey show that citizens are pleased with town services and rate Davidson #1 in “sense of community.”
- Distribution of new black trash and red recycling carts to all in-town residents.

- We have seen an increase in recycling town-wide.
- Presentation of the Jack Burney Community Service Award to Sterling Martin, Jr. and Jean Jackson.
 - Implementation of successful town events such as April is for Arts, Town Day, Concerts on the Green and Christmas in Davidson.
 - Dedication of the town's second public art installation – the book garden – downtown.

Want To Hear From Us?

Sign up for our “eCrier” e-newsletter at www.townofdavidson.org/eCrier

Sign up for our Connect CTY Phone Notification System at www.townofdavidson.org/NewsAlerts

“Like” us on Facebook.com:
The Town of Davidson, NC – Town Hall

Follow us on Twitter:
Town of Davidson, NC

Davidson Design For Life (DD4L):

THE WAY A COMMUNITY IS DESIGNED AND PLANNED can have immense effects on the health of its residents. Streets with sidewalks, bike lanes, bus routes, shade trees, buildings with limited setbacks from the sidewalk, and on-street parking can encourage active forms of transportation and improve safety and accessibility for all users. Neighborhoods with a range of housing types and affordable units add to the diversity of the neighborhood and allow residents to “age in place” as they get older. Mixed land uses and a good balance of housing and employment opportunities give people the option to work in the same community in which they live and spend

less time in their cars and more time with family or friends. These examples create an environment where it is easier for people to access their basic needs and be physically active, socially involved, and mentally well.

Davidson Design for Life (DD4L) is an innovative town initiative dedicated to helping Davidson become an even healthier community. In September of 2011, Davidson received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Healthy Community Design Initiative in order to conduct health impact assessments (HIAs) and promote

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Left: Book garden with Jennifer and Amelie Coleman and Ruthie Reddick.

Above: MSC Industrial Direct Co. Inc. will employ over 400 people.

- Parks and Recreation Staffers Harold Voelker, Colleen Whalen and Leslie Willis were given the Rotary Club of North Mecklenburg County's "Employees of the Year" Award.

If you'd like to receive my monthly Manager's Report, please sign up for it on our eCrier page at

www.townofdavidson.org/eCrier.

We feel privileged to work for the Town of Davidson and to serve you all. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 704-892-7591 or

lbrice@townofdavidson.org.

A Message From The Fire Chief

Five Easy Steps To Keep Your Family And Home Safe In The Event Of An Emergency:

1. Be sure that you have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Change batteries twice a year when you change your clocks for daylight savings time and have any hardwired and/or monitored systems serviced annually. All detectors have a finite life span. We recommend replacing smoke detectors every ten years and carbon monoxide detectors or combination detectors every five years or to follow manufacturer recommendations for replacement. The date of manufacture will be on the actual detector (usually on the back). The Fire Department can assist in checking your systems as well as providing smoke and CO detectors for your residence. Contact the fire station at 704-940-9623 to schedule an appointment.

2. "Have Two Ways Out" – Review with your family a plan for leaving your house in the event of a fire emergency and discuss at least two ways out of your residence. Have a meeting place established away from your residence – a landmark across the street or a neighbor's house works well – where your family will gather should you have to evacuate your residence. Arriving fire personnel will want to know that all of your loved ones are accounted for.

3. Confirm that your house numbers are clearly marked and visible from the street day and night. Our goal is to reach an emergency as quickly as possible; searching for a poorly or unmarked residence wastes valuable minutes.

4. Consider participating in the Vial of Life program. A Vial of Life contains accurate and current medical information about the participant that will assist both the emergency responders and the emergency department staff at the hospital in the event of a medical emergency. Links are provided through the Police and Fire Department sections of the town website at www.townofdavidson.org/VialOfLife.

5. Service your heating systems annually and clean and inspect any wood burning chimneys annually.

An Innovative Town Initiative

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healthy community design decisions. HIA is a process that examines the positive and negative health implications (often unintended) of a decision typically being made outside of the health sector. For example, this year DD4L did an HIA on the Red Line Regional Rail to estimate what health impacts the conversion of the rail line to offer commuter rail service and accommodate additional freight would have on the region. This addressed air quality and safety concerns, looked at ways to increase accessibility, health equity, and opportunities for physical activity through additional transportation options, and

the health implications of the expected economic growth.

In 2013, DD4L will conduct three additional HIAs on the topics of: increasing accessibility to fresh and affordable healthy food options; framing Davidson's parks, recreation, and public spaces master plan to improve healthy lifestyle choices; and incorporating universal design into the town's planning ordinance. For more information on DD4L and its projects, please go to the initiative's new-and-improved website at www.townofdavidson.org/DD4L or contact Katherine Hebert, Davidson Design for Life Coordinator at khebert@townofdavidson.org.



Community And Economic Development Update

New Business Openings In 2012:

- Pretty, A beauty boutique
- Davidson Beverage Company
- Elements 4 Life
- The Herald Weekly
- Perfect Form Fast Pitch Training Center
- Live 2 Build Brick Studio
- Davidson College Store
- Hatcher Law Group
- Shoe Zoo
- Legacy Supply Company
- Courtyard Massage & Wellness of Davidson
- Smooth Reflections Med Spa
- Quoin
- PC Tuner Repair Service
- Charlotte Shoe Company
- Bodywork Therapeutic Massage
- Bookman Bright
- Integrated Bookkeeping & Tax Services
- The Screen Studio
- Carrburritos (January 2013)

Non-Profit Marketing Meeting Scheduled For January 29

The Community & Economic Development Department will hold a marketing meeting on Tuesday, January 29 for all Davidson non-profit groups from 9-11am in the town hall board room. The purpose of the meeting is to help non-profits with their marketing efforts in planning events that take place in Davidson.

Home-Based Business Meeting Scheduled For February 8

The Community & Economic Development Department will host the second home-based business networking meeting on Friday, February 8 at 9am in the town hall board room. All home-based business owners are encouraged to attend.

Business Retention Survey Distributed During January

The Town of Davidson values all of our local businesses. An annual business retention survey is one way that we can receive valuable feedback from our businesses. The first business retention survey will be distributed to our local

A Message From The Police Chief

CITIZENS OF DAVIDSON: WE NEED YOUR HELP! In 2012, the Davidson Police Department took a total of 310 crime reports. Of these reports, 58 were thefts from motor vehicles. Only a few involved forced entry into the vehicle. All other thefts from vehicles occurred to unlocked vehicles in residential driveways or on a residential street. Three vehicles were stolen because keys were left in the (unlocked) vehicle. These 58 thefts represent almost one fifth of our total reported crimes. The Davidson PD arrested an individual that was responsible for most of these thefts and has filed charges against him. Help us reduce crime by removing all valuables from your vehicle and locking it. If you park your car in your garage, your vehicle is safer, and you can get into it without being exposed to weather extremes. Did you know that in the United States 82% of homes have a two car garage or larger, but only 15% use the garage to park their vehicles? http://household-tips.thefuntimesguide.com/2007/02/garages_filled_with_stuff.php

The Davidson Police Department is developing a pedestrian and bicycle safety program that includes both education and enforcement. We are requesting citizen input into this program's development. If you are interested, please email police@townofdavidson.org.

Parking left wheels to curb is illegal. The Town of Davidson ordinance, 70-86 states: *Unless otherwise indicated, no vehicle shall be parked with its left side to the curb in the town. In the North Carolina Driver's Manual: The law requires you to drive on the right side of the road. Driving on the left side is legal only in some cases, such as on one-way streets and while passing.* The manual also states: *Always park on the right side of the road, except on one-way streets.* If you park your vehicle with the left side (driver's side) next to the curb, you may be ticketed.

The Davidson Police Department is encouraging neighborhoods to be organized. Knowing your neighbors, developing a sense of ownership and interest beyond the limits of your backyard is important in contributing to the safety of our entire community. Neighborhood Watch is a perfect vehicle to accomplish this. If you and your neighbors would like to develop a Neighborhood Watch, please contact the Davidson Police Department at 704-892-5131, x242. It's easy, it's fun, and it requires minimal commitment.

The Davidson Police Department's Home Security Check has been very successful. However, if you have a house sitter, or are leaving your pet "loose" in your home, please make sure you give us this information when you sign up for the service. You can sign up via the town's website at www.townofdavidson.org/HomeSecurityCheck. You can also call the police department during business hours at 704-892-5131.

Sgt. Scott Misenheimer has retired after 24 years of service with the Davidson Police Department. We are grateful for his service; he will be missed.



The Davidson Police and Fire Angel Tree, partnering with Davidson St. Alban's Episcopal Church, served sixty families with gifts and ten families with Christmas dinner this year. Thank you to all who participated and gave so generously.

businesses at the end of January. Results will help us craft future policies and programs to continue to make Davidson a thriving local economy. We encourage citizens to shop locally.

Business License Reminder

All businesses located in the Town of Davidson, including home-based businesses, are required to procure a business license. The license has a one-time fee of \$40. Business licenses can

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Citizen Survey: Overall Quality Of Life In Davidson Is Excellent!

LAST APRIL, 412 DAVIDSON HOUSEHOLDS PARTICIPATED IN A SURVEY BY THE NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER (NRC) asking their opinions about town services and characteristics. The NRC conducted a similar survey in Davidson in 2007, giving us a baseline from which to measure. The 2007 survey results were very helpful to the board of commissioners and staff, helping to identify challenges, plan improvements, and set goals.

Participants in this year's survey rated a variety of quality of life characteristics including safety, social and recreational opportunities, and neighborliness. Most residents (96%) reported that "overall quality of life in Davidson" was excellent or good. 97% rated Davidson excellent or good as "a place to raise children." 73% believe that "the overall direction that Davidson is taking" is excellent or good, up from 57% in 2007.

In 2007, Davidson was rated relatively low on "shopping opportunities" and "employment opportunities." Thus, the board of commissioners' goals have focused on economic development; the 2012 survey shows those benchmarks shifting. In 2007, 21% rated Davidson's shopping opportunities as excellent or good; that was up to 43% in 2012. Similarly, 31% of respondents rated employment opportunities excellent or good, up from 21% in 2007.

Interestingly, in 2007, 7% of Davidson citizens were victims of a crime, but only 65% of those citizens actually reported the crime to police. In 2012, fewer citizens (3%) were crime victims, but more victims (96%) reported them. Generally, citizens feel very safe in town: "Safety from property crimes," "safety from violent crime," "safety in your neighborhood,"



and "safety downtown" all improved since 2007 and are in the high 90th percentile.

Four questions were customized for Davidson; the remainder were standardized questions used in each of the 500 communities that employ the National Citizen Survey. Two of the custom questions asked about support for improvements. Pedestrian amenities and park facilities received the greatest support

at 96% each. Asked about transportation improvements, the greatest support was for the commuter rail line at 59%.

There is a wealth of information on the town's website about the survey, including demographic crosstabs and a benchmark report that compares Davidson to the other 500 communities that use the survey. Go to: www.townofdavidson.org/citizensurvey.

Characteristics And Services Rated "Excellent" Or "Good"

	2007	2012
Shopping opportunities	21%	43%
Overall direction town is taking	57%	73%
Traffic enforcement	69%	79%
Land use, planning and zoning	49%	75%
Street repair	34%	62%
Employment opportunities	21%	31%
Recreational opportunities	56%	73%
Overall quality of new development	62%	82%
Availability of affordable, quality housing	40%	51%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	87%	93%
Services provided by the Town of Davidson	79%	90%

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be accessed online at our website www.townofdavidson.org/BusinessLicense.

Upcoming Events:

This year's April is for Arts celebration will kick off with a Gallery Crawl on Friday,

April 12 at 6pm. Artists will display their work at local businesses, while a trolley transports visitors between locations. The month-long celebration continues with Art on the Green, a multi-artist event held on the Davidson Village Green including artist's exhibits, demonstrations, food

and live music, held on April 20 and 21. Artist applications will be available Feb. 1. For more information please visit www.townofdavidson.org/April.

Affordable Housing Update

“Healthy communities are demographically diverse, and ensure that regardless of age, income, or ability, housing options are available and dispersed throughout the community. Market forces will create a supply of homes for upper income earners, but government intervention is usually required to incentivize more affordable housing.”

– Ryan & Williams, Small Town Fit, 2011, Charlotte, UNCC College of Arts and Architecture

The affordable housing program began in Davidson in 2001 with the adoption of the Affordable Housing Ordinance. The ordinance requires developers to set aside 12.5% of the homes in their development as affordable to low- and moderate-income households.

The goal of the program is to make available homes in Davidson for anyone who wants to live here. Rapid growth in the mid and late 1990s caused the escalation of land value and home prices. The economic diversity of our citizens that is so distinctive to the town was disappearing. Lower income residents, many who choose to serve the community as teachers, nurses, and fire-fighters, were increasingly unable to afford to live in Davidson.

A total of 53 homes have been built in eight neighborhoods - Bradford, Summers Walk, Davidson Springs, Davidson Bay, Little Gate, Harbour Place, South Main Square and Walnut Grove. Summers Walk is the largest development with 30 affordable homes. The majority of the affordable homes were sold in the \$70,000 to \$140,000 range.

Developers are occasionally allowed to make a payment in lieu of constructing some of the units. The town will consider a payment in lieu on a case-by-case basis. A payment in lieu was made by the developers at Harbour Place, the Woodlands, and River Run. The payments must be used for the affordable housing program.

Recently, the town worked with a national non-profit housing provider, Community Housing Partners (CHP), to maintain the Oak Hill Apartments on Beaty Street as affordable. They were purchased by CHP in 2008 and completely renovated in 2011. The 73 units are restricted to very low- to moderate- income renters. Oak Hill is a vibrant community of updated, clean, healthy apartments, with a pool, laundry facilities, basketball court and lots of happy children riding bikes and scooters.

Often the only obstacle standing between homeownership and renting are the funds necessary for a down payment. With a \$50,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 2012, the town started a down payment assistance program. Families who make less than 80% of the area median income can qualify for up to \$10,000 of assistance. The 2013 area median income for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region as published by HUD is \$64,100. A family of four with an income of less than \$52,100 could apply for down payment assistance. The home must be in Davidson and cost less than \$147,000.

“Living in this home has made so much difference in my life. My kids love their new home and enjoy bringing friends over. They can even walk to school. I could not have afforded this house in Davidson without participating in the affordable housing program.”

– Michelle Phillips, affordable homeowner since 2011.

If you have questions about the Affordable Housing Program, please contact Cindy Reid at 704-940-9605 or creid@townofdavidson.org.

Boards And Commissions

DAVIDSON IS FORTUNATE to have residents willing to volunteer their time on advisory boards and commissions. These citizens are an integral part of Davidson's governing process and we appreciate their engagement and energy.

The **Design Review Board** is a legislative body which interprets and enforces the design regulations contained in the Davidson Planning Ordinance. The board reviews and approves the design of all new construction in Davidson except single-family homes. The members are: Bob Lauer, Chair, Jennifer Arens, Bruce Barteldt, John Burgess, Celeste Colcord, Heather Faulkner, Tom Goodwin, Stewart Gray, Linda Griffeth, Mike Kessler, and Stephen Mills.

The **Planning Board** serves as an advisory body to the board of commissioners on all matters of planning and zoning. The members are: John Chesser, Chair, David Batty, George Berger, Beth Cashion, Susan Dailey, Michael Higgs, Martha Jenkins, John Kennedy, Mike Minett, Mickey Pettus, and Brunson Russum.

The **Livability Board** provides advice and recommendations to staff and the board of commissioners on any and all questions concerning parks, recreation, healthy living initiatives, trees and natural assets, greenways and trails, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and policies. The members are: Sterling Martin, Chair, Molly Elton, Billy Hackenson, Thomas Hazel, Bruce Henderson, Barbara Markham, Martin Metzker, Ron Powell, Derek Titus, Ann Todd, Mike Van Hecke, and Loretta Wertheimer.

The **Economic Development Board** advises and assists staff and advocates to the board of commissioners on economic development policies. The members are: Margo Williams, Chair, Sally Ashworth, Ed Kania, Roger Layman, Craig Lewis, Bruce McMillen, Kathleen Rose, Joey Schnople, and David Stewart.

The **Public Art Commission** makes aesthetic and financial decisions regarding public art, in accordance with the Plan for Public Art adopted in 2007, and guided by the town's mission, vision, and values. Members are: Karen Donnelly, Chair, Jane Avinger, Matt Churchill, Sherry Malushizky, Greg McDonald,



Downtown Davidson Recycles!

RECYCLING IS AVAILABLE IN DOWNTOWN DAVIDSON. The Davidson Public Works Department installed eleven new duo recycling/trash bins in downtown Davidson. Each receptacle has two clearly-labeled bins, one for trash and one for recyclable materials.

Recycling is one of the best ways to have a positive impact on the environment. Recycling is not only an important part of Davidson's green initiatives, but is now more convenient than ever with single-stream recycling. Items that can be recycled include:

- ALL plastic containers, except #6 styrofoam/clamshells
- Rigid plastics, including toys
- Empty aerosol cans
- Milk cartons and juice boxes
- Glass bottles and jars
- Cardboard, cut and flattened into small sizes
- Paper, except for shredded paper

This project was funded in part by a generous award from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

Rob Richardson, Cort Savage, Margo Williams, and Alyssa Wood.

The **Non-Profit Grant Committee** annually advises the board of commissioners on funding for service agencies. The members are David Boraks, Garfield Carr, Dave Martin, Bruce McMillen, Leland Park, Ralph Quackenbush, and Margo Williams.

Finance Department Update

AT THEIR DECEMBER 11, 2012 BOARD MEETING, the commissioners approved the FY 2013-2017 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). The CIP represents a \$6.3 million plan to address the capital improvement needs of the town. Capital expenditures are driven by the types and levels of service the town chooses to provide to its citizens. Our projections of revenues and expenditures indicate the town is in a position to fund the CIP as presented with no increase required in the town's current tax rate and little impact to the town's fund balance.

Highlights of the five-year plan include:

- Upgrading and adding lighting at all three McEver ball fields.
- Renovation of the pumphouse on South Street for parks and recreation offices, a classroom, and public restrooms, eliminating the rental expense at their current location.
- Funding of Potts-Sloan connection and Beaty-Griffith improvements to take advantage of federal funds available for street improvements.
- Funding of the first phase of a plan for improvements and expansion of the public works facility.
- Renovation of fire station #1 to add sleeping quarters to house on-duty firefighters, phasing out off-site apartment rentals.
- Development of a plan for park improvements on 600+ acres of land with available project funds.

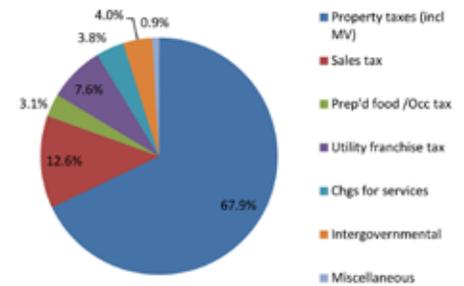
To fund the CIP, the town projected revenues through the five-year planning period based on historical trends and future growth expectations. Property taxes constitute approximately 65% of the town's general fund revenues. Sales tax distributions make up approximately 12% of the revenues. Combined, these two

Additionally, two Davidson citizens – Cissi Lyles and Dianna Merrifield – are board members of Visit Lake Norman, an organization whose mission is to market regional resources to potential visitors for maximum economic benefits to the Lake Norman community.

Thank you for all you do for Davidson!

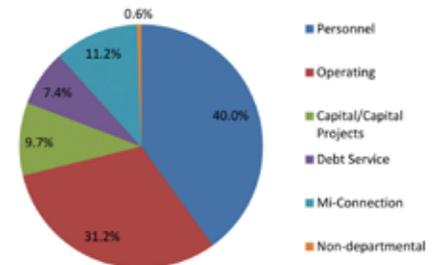
sources provide 77 cents of every dollar received by the general fund. The following chart provides a breakdown of budgeted revenues by source.

Budgeted General Fund Revenues FY 12-13



The FY 2013 budget maintains funding for routine maintenance and equipment replacement, two categories that had been deferred during the two prior fiscal years. The following chart provides a breakdown of budgeted expenditures by categories.

Budgeted General Fund Expenditures FY 12-13



Also at the December 11 meeting, independent auditors Tinsley & Terry, CPAs presented the fiscal year 2011-2012 audit report with an unqualified opinion that the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the town's funds as of June 30, 2012.

To see more details of the CIP and our monthly financial dashboards, please visit our website, www.townofdavidson.org/finance.

Register For Parks And Recreation Programs

Visit www.townofdavidson.org/ParksandRecPrograms or call 704-892-3349 for more information.

Parks And Recreation Department Update

THE BIG NEWS IS THAT WE'LL BE LEAVING OUR SPACE ON ARMOUR STREET to move into the soon-to-be-renovated pumphouse on South Street sometime this year.

For the past 13 months, the staff has been studying the potential of relocating the town's Parks & Recreation Department to the town-owned pumphouse, adjacent to the Kincaid trailhead, Davidson Elementary School and The Pines – an excellent location from which to serve our citizens. We estimate the final cost of the project to be \$250,000, which includes utilities. The Town currently pays approximately \$50,000 annually in rent for P&R space, located at 416 Armour Street, so we'll now be utilizing a town-owned building that has been sitting dormant. The staff believes the pumphouse is an appropriately-sized facility for current programming and for the foreseeable future. In addition, the location adjacent to the greenway and near athletic fields presents the opportunity for expanded outdoor programming, consistent with the town's healthy living initiative.

As always, we offer a wide-range of engaging programs for citizens young and old. Please visit our website to register at www.townofdavidson.org/ParksandRecPrograms or call us at 704-892-3349. Right now we're promoting our exciting St. Patty's Day-themed Mystery Dinner Theater:

Mystery Dinner Theater comes to Davidson! Are you looking for a good time that requires a bit of investigative inquiry and an appetite? Then join the Town of Davidson Parks and Recreation department, About Town Tours, and Armin's Catering as they put on Mystery Dinner Theater "Murder Most Green" at historic Beaver Dam. Enjoy delicious appetizers, dinner buffet and dessert, while being entertained.

This special St. Patrick's Day murder mystery takes place in the City of Blarney. You are invited to a party to honor Patrick Flaherty, owner of Flaherty's True Green Plant Nursery. Flaherty died the night after a get-together that celebrated the nursery's centennial year. Instead of having a party, you will be attending his wake. You're invited to become an investigator and help the Detective figure out "WHODUNIT!"

Menu includes: *Delicious hors d'oeuvres, corned beef, parsley potatoes, green beans and dessert. Cash bar available.*

Day: Saturday

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Date: March 16

Fee: \$68 per person -- fee includes: dinner theater, dinner, and gratuity

Non-Resident Fee: \$73 per person -- fee includes: dinner theater, dinner, and gratuity

Registration deadline: March 1

Location: Historic Beaver Dam, 19600 Davidson Concord Road

Public Works Accomplishments

- Renewal of solid waste contract enabling us to offer new 96-gallon black trash and red recycling carts to all in-town residents. *Reminder:* trash is collected once a week and recycling is collected bi-weekly. The schedule is posted at www.townofdavidson.org/GarbageSchedule.
- McEver Fields were renovated and Beaty Dam was repaired this past summer and fall, respectively.
- Selected roads were resurfaced in 2012.
- A new sidewalk was installed on Lorimer Road between Pine Road and South Thompson Street.
- Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation provided a \$25,000 grant for a new bridge for Roosevelt Wilson Park, part of a five-year maintenance and enhancement plan. Special thanks to Lowe's for their support.

Upcoming Town Events

Gallery Crawl: April 12, 6-9pm

Art on the Green: April 20, 10-5pm,
April 21, 12-4pm

Town Day: May 4

First Concert on the Green:

The Davidson College Symphony and Jazz Ensemble, April 21, 6pm

Concerts on the Green: 1st and 3rd Sundays
from May-September, 6pm

See what's going on in town or add your Davidson-based events to our Davidson Community Calendar at www.townofdavidson.org/CommunityCalendar.