

THE *Town* Mess@ge

WINTER 2021

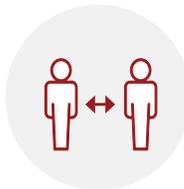
COVID-19 UPDATE

The impacts of COVID-19 have been deeply felt in Davidson. While the community has done tremendous work to support local businesses during the pandemic and adhere to public health guidance to best protect residents and visitors alike, we know it has been a struggle. We are so grateful to all in the Town of Davidson for working hard to minimize the impact of COVID-19 in our community.

“We all can agree 2020 was a tough year,” said Davidson Mayor Rusty Knox. “Some of us have lost friends and loved ones to COVID-19. Some of us have lost our jobs and have struggled over the past several months to cover bills and put food on the table. All of us have had to adjust our routines and our way of life to adhere to public health guidance and do what we can to keep ourselves and our families safe.

**IT’S BEEN A LONG BATTLE, BUT WE’VE BEEN FIGHTING IT TOGETHER
HERE IN DAVIDSON, AND I’M SO PROUD OF OUR TOWN.”**

Unfortunately, the work is not over. We continue to encourage residents to follow all recommendations coming from the Centers for Disease Control, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, and Mecklenburg County Public Health. All residents need to follow the three Ws and wear a face covering, wait six feet apart when you can’t socially distance, and wash your hands. It really does make a difference!



It’s important to stay up to date on COVID-19. For the latest local, county, and state information about the pandemic, visit

[townofdavidson.org/covid19](https://www.townofdavidson.org/covid19)

WHATEVER
YOUR REASON,



GET BEHIND
THE MASK!

DAVIDSON WELCOMES FIRST HOUSING AND EQUITY DIRECTOR

Last fall, Davidson welcomed Eugene L. Bradley as the town's first Housing and Equity Director. In this key position, Eugene is leading the town's affordable housing and racial equity programs. This role is responsible for developing and implementing affordable housing strategies as well as a racial equity action plan. In addition to developing overall strategies for affordable housing and racial equity, Eugene is responsible for working with and providing information to individuals who wish to rent or purchase affordable homes, organizations that support affordable housing, and developers who build affordable housing.

The new Housing and Equity Director position was identified by the Davidson Board of Commissioners and the town's management team at the board retreat

in early 2020 as a crucial component to Davidson's strategic plan and the much-needed work in the areas of equity, inclusion, and affordable housing. Town Manager Jamie Justice remarks, "We were so excited to welcome Eugene to the team last fall and are looking forward to the work he will tackle together with the community in 2021. We know that he will help us to build upon the critical work we've been doing in the affordable housing space and help us create the kind of racial equity programming and racial equity plan that will move Davidson forward."

You can read more about Eugene's extensive experience in the "New Faces in Town" section on Page 5.

Eugene may be reached at ebradley@townofdavidson.org.



PARKS AND RECREATION

OFFERS NEW PROGRAMMING, BI-MONTHLY BULLETIN, AND TREE PLANTINGS IN TOWN

WINTER/SPRING PROGRAM REGISTRATION OPENED ON DECEMBER 1, 2020, however, please stay tuned for our complete Spring 2021 programming line-up which will be live on March 1, 2021. Our department will have some new and exciting programs and events for you and your family. Also, we regularly update our virtual recreation center which you can find on the town's parks and recreation webpage.

DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY PARKS WE HAVE IN DAVIDSON AND WHERE THEY ARE ALL LOCATED? To learn the answer and more about our department, sign-up for our bi-monthly bulletin! In the bulletin, we highlight projects, events and programs, parks spotlights, and unique educational information as well. To sign-up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/davidsonparksandrec>.

THE DAVIDSON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DAVIDSON LANDS CONSERVANCY/TREESDAVIDSON/DAVIDSON GARDEN CLUB, HOSTED SOME TREE PLANTINGS IN THE LATE FALL.

One of the plantings was held at Fisher Farm and was done to not only improve the quality of our environment, but to also provide shade trees to the parking lot and top portion of the paved trail. The second tree planting was held in the Bailey Springs Neighborhood and provides street trees in front of the houses on Bradford Park Drive. We will offer similar tree plantings and volunteer opportunities in the spring. For more information, sign up for the bi-monthly bulletin at <https://tinyurl.com/davidsonparksandrec> and stay tuned to the town's social media platforms.



CRITICAL HOME REPAIR PROGRAM OFFERS MUCH NEEDED RELIEF

Our Critical Home Repair (CHR) program, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, provides comprehensive repairs designed to eradicate problems and extend the functional life of the home. In addition, it allows the owners to age in place in the safety and security of their own home.



WHAT CHR ADDRESSES

Critical Home Repair addresses repairs where the owner's health and safety may be at risk. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Unsafe roofing or flooring
- Lack of heat
- Electrical hazards
- Plumbing hazards



WHAT CHR DOES NOT ADDRESS

- Painting and aesthetic updates
- Replacing carpeting or flooring (unless for structural reasons)
- Window replacement (unless current windows are rotted or contain lead)
- Bathroom or kitchen renovations or remodels (unless for accessibility issues or as needed following plumbing repairs)

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to request an application, visit www.townofdavidson.org/criticalhomerepair.

You may also call 704.716.5639 to request an application.

MENTAL HEALTH COMES INTO FOCUS FOR DAVIDSON

At the September 8, 2020 town board meeting, the Davidson Board of Commissioners highlighted the importance of the Davidson community's mental health and tasked Leslie Willis, Davidson Parks and Recreation Director, and Penny Dunn, Davidson Police Chief, with forming a Mental Health Committee. The committee is composed of residents, organizations, and professionals who have a passion for mental health. The committee was

charged with looking at the mental health within town and formulating a plan to assist with creating a resilient community. The committee initiated a social media campaign to help bring awareness, educate, and breakdown the stigma associated with mental illness and suicide. Stay tuned for some interactive social media posts and please provide feedback, join in, and start conversations with friends and family about mental health.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on other mental health initiatives, contact Leslie Willis, lwillis@townofdavidson.org or 704-892-3349.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES IN DAVIDSON

Please welcome two new businesses to town- **MASALA MASTEE** and **YOUR MOM'S BAZAAR** – both located at 107 N. Main Street. Masala Mastee, located in the space previously occupied by Bonjour Y'all, provides Indian street food. Across the hall from them, you will find Your Mom's Bazaar which features homemade donuts from Your Mom's Donuts as well as other grab n' go food items. You can enjoy items from both of these new businesses on the front porch and in the courtyard seating area of the building.

Please also welcome to Main Street **DAVIDSON PROVISION COMPANY**, affectionately known as Dav Pro Co, located at 116 S. Main Street. Matt Santos, a Davidson resident and running aficionado, opened the store on December 4, 2020. Davidson Provision Company offers outdoor equipment, clothing, gifts and branded apparel. Matt's wife Cailin owns MVMT Pilates Studio also located in town. They can be found running across Main Street between their two businesses. For more information, please visit www.davproco.com.

The Town of Davidson launched a virtual marketplace on Small Business Saturday in an effort to help support our business community. Please follow this link www.christmasindavidson.com/marketplace to buy gift cards from participating Davidson businesses. Our businesses appreciate all of the support that they receive from the community. Purchasing gift cards is a way to continue to support them, especially if you are unable to get out in person.

Christmas in Davidson offered another opportunity to support our amazing shops and restaurants. While the 12 Days of Christmas in Davidson looked very different this year, we were happy to be able to offer COVID compliant activities.



CARES ACT FUNDING SUPPORTED DAVIDSON PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

The Town of Davidson was awarded \$270,000 of Federal CARES Act funds to assist with expenditures related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. These funds were required to be spent by December 30, 2020. The town focused the expenditure of these funds on two major areas:

1. PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
2. PUBLIC FACILITIES REOPENING NEEDS

The town spent about \$150,000 on providing safe outdoor seating for dining and meeting, public hand sanitizer stations, public health messaging, non-profit agency projects, and pandemic economic development training. Additionally, CARES Act funding was used to act as the 25% match required for our FEMA Public Assistance Grant.

The remaining \$120,000 was allocated to ensuring our public facilities were

as safe as possible for our residents and employees. Town facilities were equipped with air filtration systems designed to eliminate the virus from indoor areas. At town hall, the board room meeting space received technology upgrades to enhance the remote meeting capabilities and spacing. The board room also acts as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), so the upgrades will also assist the police and fire departments in staying safe as

they respond to public emergency events. Additional technology enhancements were made to allow town staff to continue to offer virtual services to town residents as COVID-19 restrictions are in effect. These funds not only assist the town in providing a comprehensive response to the pandemic but also continue conducting critical town business and provide full services to the Davidson community.

NEW FACES IN TOWN

EUGENE BRADLEY HOUSING AND EQUITY DIRECTOR

Eugene comes to the Town of Davidson after most recently serving as the City of Charlotte's Aviation Department Community Affairs Manager. Eugene has over 16 years of public sector planning and implementation experience. Since 2008, Eugene has worked with the City of Charlotte – including 12 years with the Charlotte Department of Housing & Neighborhood Services as a Community Engagement Manager with a focus on community engagement, housing and plan implementation. Read more about Eugene on Page 2.

CASTON BROWN-BUTLER FIREFIGHTER

Caston started with the Town of Davidson as a part-time firefighter in September 2020. Caston brings 16 years of valuable experience to us. He has been with the Charlotte Fire Department (CFD) 11 years and prior to CFD, he was a paramedic for 5 years. Caston loves his career and spending time with his wife and 2 children. His hobbies include listening to music, fishing, and working out.

GINA CARMON PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

Gina has over 12 years of progressive experience working in a variety of recreational settings including campus recreation and municipal parks and recreation. She brings compassion, empathy and creativity to recreation leadership. Most recently, she was a Recreation Center Supervisor with the City of Greensboro. Gina credits her upbringing as a "military brat" and the opportunity to experience and grow up around a variety of different cultures which allows her to always see the big picture in anything that she encounters.

GEORGE LONG MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

George, also known as Skip, joined our Public Works team last October. He comes to us with over 12 years of experience in various areas from landscape to installations and construction. He is well-versed in many areas and will be a great asset to our team. Skip enjoys spending time with his family and loves doing anything outdoors.

DAVID SHOWALTER PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

David is the newest member of our hardworking Public Works Department. He comes to us with over 24 years of landscaping experience! He loves working outside and has fun fishing and hunting. He also collects lawn and garden tractors. David really loves spending time with his family.

JUSTIN WACKERLY FIREFIGHTER

Justin started with the town as a part-time firefighter in September 2020. Justin brings with him 17 years of fire service experience from the Midway Fire and Rescue Department in Pawley's Island, South Carolina. Justin works fulltime as a Construction Project Manager and is passionate about his work in construction and as a public servant. Justin enjoys travel, kayaking and listening to live music with his family. He also looks forward to being able to attend football and basketball games with his wife and daughter.

WHAT'S THE LATEST ON THAT PROJECT?

PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS

Included in the 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Plan, the town has allocated \$150,000 each year to be spent on pedestrian improvements across town. These projects are intended to be smaller scale, like accessibility improvements, enhanced crosswalk markings, additional crosswalks, improved signage, accessible signal pushbuttons, etc. Projects are selected from the Mobility Plan or from requests from residents and neighborhoods and then reviewed by both the Livability Board and Planning Board. The 2020 projects include:

- Enhanced crosswalk markings at multiple intersections
- Improved concrete ramps at multiple intersections
- A crosswalk at Griffith Street and Spinnaker Cove Drive
- A mid-block crosswalk on Main Street between Concord Road and Chairman Blake Lane

If you have any ideas or requests for potential pedestrian projects that could be implemented with this funding, let us know! Please email Project Manager Doug Wright at dwright@townofdavidson.org.

FISHER FARM RESTROOMS

The Capital Improvement Plan includes \$300,000 allocated for design and construction of restrooms at Fisher Farm Park in 2021. The restrooms will be located in the vicinity of the parking lot. We are looking for a design which is consistent with the rural character of the site, and we are considering sustainable, energy-efficient options for the building. Design will be completed in March 2021.

LAKE PROJECTS:

ARMOUR STREET PIER The town has submitted a plan for a pier, located at the end of Armour Street, to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for review. Any public structures located on Lake Norman – Lake Davidson is considered part of Lake Norman – fall under FERC's jurisdiction. The review process can take up to one year. The Armour Street pier will be a "viewing" pier and will not have provisions for kayak launches. Additionally, as part of the Davidson Bay Master Plan, the developer is required to dedicate a walking path along Lake Davidson near the shoreline. We are working with the developer to create this walking path but it has not been completed yet.

NATURE PRESERVE PIER AND KAYAK LAUNCH The town will be installing a kayak launch at the Nature Preserve property located off Jetton Street. This project has the same permitting and review requirements as the Armour Street pier and has been submitted to FERC for review.

PARHAM PARK KAYAK LAUNCH This project was included in the Capital Improvement Plan and will include an accessible kayak launch at Parham Park. Parham Park is located off Davidson Gateway Drive on Lake Cornelius. Lake Cornelius is also considered part of Lake Norman, and this project will have to go through federal review as well.

SIDEWALK PROJECTS:

GREY ROAD The town has been through an extensive design process managing the storm water runoff and property impacts for this project. We are in the last phase of design and will begin construction soon.

BEATY STREET We are conducting survey and design for sidewalk for a portion of Beaty Street, from Oakhill Apartments north to Highway 115. This sidewalk will be installed on the Oakhill Apartments side of Beaty Street. The project footprint includes a railroad crossing and will account for any potential property impacts.



PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACONS:

Also included in the 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Plan is a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (HAWK signal) installation at the Griffith Street roundabouts. HAWK signals consist of a mast arm supporting a traffic signal. The signal does not have a green light – it is dark until a pedestrian pushes the button. When activated, the signal first displays a yellow light, then a red light for the crossing duration. Once the crossing duration is complete, the signal goes dark again. HAWK signals are appropriate in high volume vehicle and pedestrian locations like the Griffith Street roundabouts. They will be replacing the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons, which will be repurposed at other to-be-determined locations. The town will have the design for the HAWK signals completed by March 2021.

DAVIDSON WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN PHASE III – EXTENSION TO NC 115

This Charlotte Water (CLTWater) project includes the planning, design, and installation of a new transmission main in Davidson. The route will generally be along the west side of NC Highway 115, beginning from the intersection at Main and Walnut streets and ending near the Davidson town limits along NC 115. This new larger diameter water main will improve pressure reliability, system hydraulics, and enhance fire protection for existing customers in the Town of Davidson. Construction began in November 2020 and is anticipated to be complete by Summer 2022. More information can be found at charlottewater.org. Click Projects, then Construction.

TOWN LAUNCHES NEW PUBLIC SAFETY INITIATIVES

Last fall, the Davidson Fire Department launched Community Connect, a regional effort to enhance the safety of town residents and their property. Community Connect is a free, secure, and easy to use platform which allows people to share critical information about their households which will aid first responders and emergency response personnel when responding to an emergency call.

How does Community Connect work? Those interested in participating create a secure online account and enter the information which is most critical to them. Information can include property details, specifics with respect to individuals (how to locate occupants, who to contact, or special needs of certain individuals, for example), or pet details. Homeowners keep that information updated, and the fire department will always have access to the most current data.

"Community Connect is an awesome tool for our fire department," says Interim Fire Chief Ryan Monteith who is spearheading the effort on behalf of the Davidson Fire Department.

"IT'S SUCH A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR FOLKS TO BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE TO US HERE IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT EVERYTHING THEY WOULD WANT US TO KNOW IN AN EMERGENCY WELL IN-ADVANCE OF ANYTHING EVER HAPPENING."

"That means, if anything ever should occur, we can respond quickly and carefully to best serve YOUR family and YOUR home or business right here in town."

Residents and business owners can go to www.townofdavidson.org/communityconnect to learn more and register.



The Safe Outcomes program was launched in partnership with the Davidson Police Department, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD), and Huntersville Police Department. The program, identified by CMPD and integrated with police dispatching by CMPD, provides information to officers in the field when encountering an individual with disabilities, illness or special conditions that impact their lives.

"THIS IS A PROGRAM LONG SOUGHT AFTER FOR OUR REGION TO CONNECT FAMILY MEMBERS AND PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST-RESPONDERS WITH INFORMATION ON A LOVED ONE LIVING IN THEIR JURISDICTION," SAYS DAVIDSON CHIEF OF POLICE PENNY DUNN.

Safe Outcomes works by integrating personal data into the Computer-Aided-Dispatch (CAD) system for the Davidson, Huntersville and Charlotte departments. Officers will be sent a CAD message with a link providing a person's data by their address and given information such as: type of disability (brain injury, seizure disorder, intellectual delay, autism, dementia, etc.), preferred language, communication type, approach suggestions, noted behaviors, and special considerations (touch sensitive, light or noise sensitive, fear of dogs, paranoia, tendency to run, etc.). This is valuable information to police officers and families of individuals who, due to a medical condition, may wander from home or be uncooperative, frightened or belligerent when someone encounters them.

"Adding the Safe Outcomes program helps our officers to better serve the Davidson community, especially those individuals and families who would benefit from such a specialized approach," adds Chief Dunn. "I really encourage as many people as possible to create an account and participate, as this tool will greatly enhance the department's abilities to meaningfully engage with each and every resident."

For more information and to sign up, see www.townofdavidson.org/safeoutcomes.

Using these digital tools will enhance the ability for Town of Davidson's public safety departments to proactively and effectively serve the community.

WE HOPE YOU WILL PARTICIPATE!

PLANNING UPDATES

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE WORKS

Below are several active development projects currently underway. For the most up-to-date additional information, please visit www.townofdavidson.org/privatedevelopmentprojects.

DAVIDSON COTTAGES CONDITIONAL MASTER PLAN 209 DAVIDSON GATEWAY DR.

The developer, Saussy-Burbank Homes, submitted a conditional master plan application in Fall 2019. The proposal, located just south of Woodies Automotive, includes 30 single-family detached homes and two duplexes fronting Davidson Gateway Dr. with publicly-accessible internal courtyards (34 units total). The duplexes include four on-site affordable housing units. After a positive recommendation by the planning board in September 2020, and approval by the board of commissioners in October 2020, it must complete additional technical reviews for final master plan approval by Town of Davidson and Mecklenburg County staff. The project will then proceed to the Board of Adjustment for approval through the Built-Up Area Averaging process.



HOKE MASTER PLAN 347 JETTON ST

The developer, Alliance Group in partnership with Taylor Morrison Homes, submitted a master plan application in March 2020. The proposal includes 81 townhomes fronting Jetton St. and Catawba Ave. as well as internal public spaces. Additionally, the plan proposes a new street connecting Jetton St. and Catawba Ave. along with alleys, two parks, and walkways throughout the development. In October, the developer hosted and staff facilitated a virtual Public Input Session meeting via Zoom; copies of the comments received and the presentation are available on the project website. A substantial number of comments were received on a variety of topics including transportation impacts, infrastructure improvements, and park/open space design. However, the majority of comments pertained to on-site affordable housing, with many stakeholders requesting that several units be included in the plan. Since the October meeting, the developer has met with the planning board as well as residents and stakeholders multiple times to review the plans, improve the park/open space design and accessibility, and work towards the inclusion of on-site affordable housing. The master plan requires review and approval by Town of Davidson and Mecklenburg County staff. Afterwards, the project will then proceed to the Board of Adjustment for approval through the Built-Up Area Averaging process.

LAKE FOREST CHURCH CONDITIONAL MASTER PLAN 480 & 496 S. MAIN ST

In September, the board of commissioners approved the Lake Forest Church Conditional Master Plan. The approved plan allows for a three-story commercial building fronting South Main St. (20,000-30,000 square feet) and a two-story church facility (20,000 square feet minimum) toward the rear of the project site. The plan also preserves the existing single-family home located at 496 South Main St. Additionally, pedestrian improvements are shown along the project site frontage on South Main St., as well as a sidewalk connecting the site to the existing sidewalk at the corner of South Main St. and South Village Ln. The approval also includes a mutually agreed upon PILOT agreement (payment in-lieu of taxes). Next steps include site construction document review by the town and Mecklenburg County and Design Review Board review of the church and commercial building architecture.

CHANGES TO THE DAVIDSON PLANNING ORDINANCE

Below is a list of the recently adopted or proposed text amendments to the Davidson Planning Ordinance (DPO). Please visit our map and text amendments webpage for more information: <http://www.townofdavidson.org/textamendments>.



APPEAL AND VARIANCE 160D ALIGNMENT

In 2019, the North Carolina General Assembly adopted a complete reorganization of the state's planning and development regulations creating a new statute chapter "160D." The purpose of the new Chapter 160D is to consolidate county and city regulations into one unified chapter and to reorganize development regulation statutes into a more logical, coherent structure. Towns must make ordinance changes to align with the provisions by July 1, 2021.

Some of the proposed 160D changes were approved by the board of commissioners in December 2020. These changes bring DPO Section 14.18, "Appeals and Variances," in alignment with the new Chapter 160D. These changes primarily consist of replacing references to the old legislation with references to the new legislation as well as removing all language that is in conflict with state statute. Additionally, these changes include a more substantial reference to the four findings of fact under which variance requests are reviewed, the inclusion of disability accommodation protected under the Federal Fair Housing Act as grounds for a variance, and several small formatting improvements.



TARGETED CONDITIONAL/ GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Last year, the Davidson Board of Commissioners directed staff to explore growth management tools. Over the last 12 months, staff received feedback from the board on the "targeted conditional" growth management tool. Briefly, targeted conditional would establish specific thresholds in various planning areas based upon acreage and/or unit count. Should development proposals exceed these thresholds, conditional approval would be required by the board of commissioners. The planning department held two virtual Public Input Sessions (PIS) on the proposed targeted conditional growth management tool last fall. Broadly, the feedback received at these events was non-supportive (see: Consolidated PIS Report on the planning department's "Map & Text Amendments" website). Accordingly, the board instructed staff to slow down the process. Additionally, the board directed forming a planning board committee to explore other viable growth management tools and to reevaluate targeted conditional. This committee began meeting in October. All updates and background information on targeted conditional can be found on the "Map & Text Amendments" page on the planning department website. Once there, click the "Text Amendments" menu bar.

TOWN MOVES STEP CLOSER TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

In November, the town released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for development of a town-wide historic preservation plan. The historic preservation plan will serve as a guide for proactive preservation decision-making over the next 10-15 years, synthesizing the town's existing preservation efforts with the desires expressed by the community during the planning process. The plan will also recommend actions for integrating historic preservation into town policies and regulatory activities.

Historic preservation has long been a priority for the Town of Davidson, and this was reinforced when the board of commissioners adopted the 2020-2021 Strategic Plan to include historic preservation as a guiding tenet: "The Town of Davidson will preserve our historic properties that contribute to our vibrant and unique community and honor the history of the lived experiences of our residents."

Town staff views a historic preservation plan as a direct result of the community-input-driven Comprehensive Plan and the 2020-2021 Strategic Plan. Increasing designation efforts, working with trusted partners, developing updated guidelines, and solidifying a lasting commitment to historic preservation are all expected outcomes of the plan. In short, the historic preservation plan will be Davidson's roadmap to developing an overall strategy and vision for historic preservation in town. Ideally, the project will commence in Spring 2021 and be completed within a nine- to twelve- month period, with adoption by the board of commissioners targeted for Winter/Spring 2022. Be on the lookout for opportunities for public input in the coming months.

For more information, please see: www.townofdavidson.org/historicpreservationplan.



PICTURED: John and Missy Kuykendall, 2019 Burney Award Recipients

JACK BURNEY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD EXTENDS DEADLINE

The Town of Davidson's Jack Burney Community Service Award Committee is extending its nomination deadline through February 28, 2021. Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions and how they impact the size of indoor gatherings, the town wants to be sure that the recipient is honored with the same dignity as in years past.

Mayor Rusty Knox noted that "this award, and the significance of earning it, goes way beyond convenience. I want the award recipient to know that Davidson residents sincerely appreciate the impact the winner has had on the town and those who live here." An alternate ceremony will be held sometime in the spring of 2021 when it is safer for family, friends, and others to gather.

The award honors G. Jackson Burney and those who improve the Davidson community through unselfish service over a lifetime. The annual award is typically presented in late November or early December.

More information and nominations forms are available on our website at www.townofdavidson.org/burneyaward.

The deadline for submissions is February 28, 2021, at which time all nominees, those submitted in the fall and those submitted through the extended deadline, will be considered by the committee.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

Due to the pandemic, the board of commissioners and staff will continue to hold virtual meetings on the Zoom platform and stream them via YouTube. You can check the town's website, social media sites, or e-Crier emails for public access to these meetings. If you have additional questions, please email Town Manager Jamie Justice at jjjustice@townofdavidson.org or Town Clerk Betsy Shores at bshores@townofdavidson.org. Meeting agendas can be viewed at www.townofdavidson.org/agenda.

JANUARY 12

at 6:00 p.m. work session

JANUARY 26

at 6:00 p.m. regular meeting

FEBRUARY 9

at 6:00 p.m. work session

FEBRUARY 23

at 6:00 p.m. regular meeting

MARCH 9

at 6:00 p.m. work session

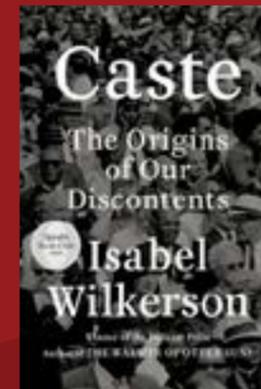
MARCH 23

at 6:00 p.m. regular meeting

READ DAVIDSON ANNOUNCES TOWN-WIDE READS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

ReadDavidson is an annual initiative that encourages everyone in the Davidson community to join together and read a common book. Avid readers from the Town of Davidson, Main Street Books, and the Davidson Public Library work together to solicit nominations from residents in town, select an appropriate title, and plan some great programs and events around the book. In 2021, for the first time ever, we're selecting FOUR books so that readers of all ages can get involved! It's our goal that this shared town-wide experience will encourage some good conversations, and we hope you will be able to join us for many of the virtual events we're working to put together!

THE DAVIDSON TOWN-WIDE READS FOR THIS YEAR ARE:



ADULT NON-FICTION

CASTE: THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS by Isabel Wilkerson

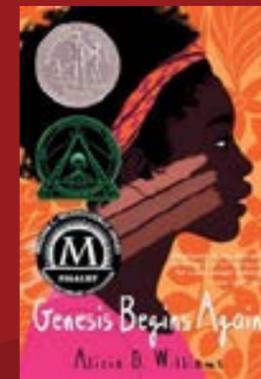
PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE | ISBN: 9780593230251



YA/ ADULT FICTION (AGES 14+; GRADES 9+)

LEGENDBORN by Tracy Deonn

ISBN: 9781534441606

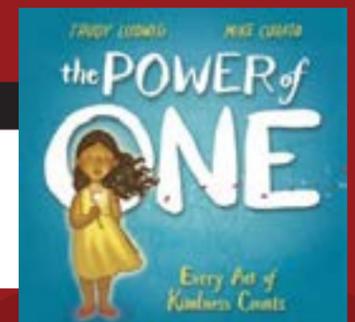


MIDDLE GRADES (AGES 9-13, GRADES 4-8)

GENESIS BEGINS AGAIN

by Alicia D. Williams

ISBN: 9781481465809



CHILDREN'S BOOK (AGES 4-8, GRADES P-3):

THE POWER OF ONE: EVERY ACT OF KINDNESS COUNTS by Trudy Ludwig, illustrated by Mike Curato

ISBN: 9781524771584

For more information about ReadDavidson, including book purchase or loans, ReadDavidson grants for free books, and up-to-date details about virtual events, please visit the ReadDavidson website at www.townofdavidson.org/readdavidson.



CIVICS 101 NEXT STEPS

Civics 101 is the Town of Davidson's annual "citizen academy" where residents and business owners from Davidson come together to get to know their community better. In this ten-week program, participants 18 or older who live or work in Davidson learn about our local government, meet town staff and our elected officials, and build relationships with their classmates.

As we continue to respond and adapt to ongoing COVID-19 concerns, it has become clear that planning an in-person 2021 Civics class is not possible. Because one of the wonderful outcomes of the in-person class is that residents get to know

each other and form new friendships, we do not see how to accomplish that in quite the same way with a purely virtual format. In addition, our 2020 classes were only able to complete half of their scheduled sessions before we had to close town hall to the public. After much consideration and conversation with town staff, we have decided to virtually conclude those sessions that the 2020 class did not finish, rather than begin with a new group of participants.

**PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR MORE
UPDATES REGARDING CIVICS
101 IN THE COMING MONTHS.**



The Town of
Davidson

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

www.townofdavidson.org

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The Town Of Davidson

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