



TALK OF THE TOWN

Town of Hillsborough Newsletter: January 2022

Center Named for Longtime Community Member

The former police substation in the Fairview neighborhood is now officially a community center. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in November for the Dorothy N. Johnson Community Center. Johnson (deceased) was a longtime Fairview Community Watch member and an advocate for her community.

“It is truly momentous to have Ms. Johnson’s dream and vision of a community center in Fairview finally realized,” said Hillsborough Mayor Jenn Weaver. “To have her love and dedication to her neighborhood recognized by naming the center after her is a fitting way to honor Mama Dot’s legacy.”

The town is leasing the building to the Fairview Community Watch. The Hillsborough Police Department now occupies the former town hall annex next door to its main building on Churton Street.



Town Service Milestones

The town will recognize employees who reached a five-year service milestone last year at the Jan. 10 Board of Commissioners meeting. Recipients receive a certificate, a coin signifying their years of service and a \$75 bonus to celebrate. This year’s service milestone recipients are:

- 5 years of service — Police Sgt. William Felts, Utility Mechanic I David Labby, Police Officer 1st Class Nicole Senter, Utility Maintenance Technician II Zimmerlist Torain and Police Cpl. Chad Wilson
- 10 years of service — Police Sgt. Scott Chestnut, Meter Services Supervisor Tyrone Hodge, Crew Leader and Equipment Operator III Brian Tatum and Customer Service Representative Veronica Wright
- 15 years of service — Public Works Manager Dustin Hill, Town Clerk and Human Resources Technician Sarah Kimrey, Wastewater Plant Superintendent Jeff Mahagan, Utility Mechanic III Scott Smith, Police Lt. Davis Trimmer, Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood and Communications Manager Catherine Wright
- 25 years of service — Utility Maintenance Technician II Bryant Bailey
- 30 years of service — Assistant Town Manager and Community Services Director Margaret Hauth and Commissioner Evelyn Lloyd

Residents, Please Complete Survey

All in-town residents should have received a survey in mid- to late December. Please share your feedback with elected officials and town staff by completing the survey before it closes this month.



Survey questions ask residents about their level of satisfaction and priorities for a wide range of community services, including public safety, parks and recreation, code enforcement, public works, communication and customer service.

Results influence town priorities and affect budget decisions. They will be shared at a board meeting and posted on the town’s website.

To complete the survey in English, please fill out the paper form mailed to you or complete it online at hillsboroughsurvey.org. To complete the survey in Spanish, please call 844-811-0411. Please use the flyer mailed with this newsletter as a reminder.

Connectivity, Multimodal Transportation to Be Discussed



Join the Parks and Recreation Board meeting at 7 p.m. Jan. 18 for a discussion about connectivity and multimodal transportation.

Consultants working on the Comprehensive Sustainability Plan will give a general overview of the plan and current status. This will be followed by discussion about how the town’s connectivity plan can be improved to better convey the town’s priorities.

For more information about the meeting, see the news release or contact Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood at stephanie.trueblood@hillsboroughnc.gov.

More information about the Comprehensive Sustainability Plan’s process and timeline is on the plan page on the town website.

Water Assistance Program Needs Donations



The Water Assistance Program needs donations to help those who are unable to pay their water or sewer bills. The program is funded by donations and administered by a nonprofit agency.

To make a donation, visit the town’s website or contact town staff at 919-296-9450 or by email at customerservice@hillsboroughnc.gov.

What Is This?

If you’ve wondered about the conical-shaped cement objects along Riverwalk, they are manholes just like those under the circular metal lids on streets. Sanitary sewer manholes provide access to the underground network of sanitary sewer pipes. Manholes provide access to sewer pipes for cleaning, monitoring flow and assessing conditions with cameras. They also serve as relief points if the sewer system becomes clogged.



Manholes are much higher than ground level when located in or near a floodplain. The town has more than 2,100 manholes, covering almost 100 miles of sewer system. They range from 3 feet to more than 30 feet deep!

The town has experienced professionals who work tirelessly to prevent blockages that would cause wastewater to come out of manholes. Keep fats, oils, grease, rags, diapers or other trash out of the drains because they cause blockages. Call the Utilities Department at 919-296-9630 to report open manholes, tampering or something coming out of a manhole.

Other Reminders

Holiday — Town offices will be closed Jan. 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Monday garbage routes will be collected Tuesday, Jan. 18.

Volunteer for Town Projects — Consider making plans before Jan. 17 for a Martin Luther King Jr. Day service project. If you would like to pick up litter, work with a group that is removing invasive plants or have another idea for improving a public space, email Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood to volunteer: stephanie.trueblood@hillsboroughnc.gov.

Thank You for the Toy Donations — The Hillsborough Police Department and Orange Rural Fire Department appreciate the many people who donated toys for the Holiday Wonderland drive-through family event.



Christmas Tree Safety and Disposal

For fire prevention, trees should be taken outdoors, away from buildings, when they become dry.

In town — Trees can be placed curbside for brush collection. The stand, lights and all decorations must be removed.



Out of town — Trees can be disposed of with brush and yard waste at most Orange County waste and recycling centers, including the Walnut Grove Church Road and Eubanks Road locations. They must be free from lights, stand and decorations.

Loose Leaves

Vacuuming — January is the last month the town operates the vacuum truck to pick up loose leaves. February through October, leaves can be placed in paper bags for brush collection.



No sticks — Please keep branches and sticks out of leaf piles because they can damage the vacuum system. Please share this information with anyone you may hire to tidy your yard.



Delivery — Bulk leaves for composting or mulching are available through January. If interested, call 919-296-9600.

Irrigation — Spray irrigation can occur between 8 p.m. and 9 a.m. and is limited to three applications per week totaling no more than 1 inch. Systems must have rain or moisture sensors. See www.hillsboroughnc.gov/lawn-irrigation.



Winter weather operations — If we are expecting snow this winter, please avoid parking on the streets to allow for snow plows. The town plows town roads. Some roads in town are state owned. For more information, see the Hillsborough Winter Weather Operations video on the town’s YouTube channel.

