

# Downtown Herald

Volume 15 Issue 1

November 2016

## The Corner Chair

### *Friends,*

This issue marks the 15th year of the Downtown Herald newsletter! Downtown Williamston has seen many improvements over those years. Williamston Downtown Inc. will continue to work hard on economic development, design improvements, and family friendly promotions downtown.

As you are Christmas shopping this year, remember to support downtown businesses. Why do all your shopping at chain stores and get the same gifts as everyone else? Visit the small businesses downtown for your holiday shopping needs.

If you are looking for a one of a kind gift for that special person on your list, look no further than the Martin County Arts Council. Their Christmas Market opens on Nov. 25th and features beautiful art and handcrafted gifts. The opening reception for the Christmas Market will be held on Thurs. Dec. 1st from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.

Also occurring on Thurs. Dec. 1st is the annual Christmas Parade! The parade will begin in front of EJ Hayes School at 4:00 pm and will end at the Courthouse on Main Street. There are going to be some great floats this year. Bring the whole family! You can enjoy the parade, grab a bite to eat at a downtown restaurant, then head over to the Martin County Arts Council for the reception.

You are probably familiar with the commercial portion of downtown, but did you know that Downtown Williamston also has a National Register Historic Residential District? Back by popular demand, the Williamston Woman's Club will be offering a Tour of

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## Main Street News

**Economic Development.** There are still buildings available downtown in prime locations on Main Street. Renovation grant funds are available for qualifying new businesses. Grant amounts are based on new full time job creation. The Planning Department is available to assist potential businesses with the grant process.

**Promotions.** Applications are still being accepted for participation in the 2016 Williamston Christmas Parade. The parade will be held on Dec. 1, 2016 at 4:00 pm. There will be a contest for the best homemade float by a non-profit organization with a \$100 prize for first place! Please contact Christina Craft, Town Clerk, at (252)792-5142 or [christinacraft@townofwilliamston.com](mailto:christinacraft@townofwilliamston.com) for more information.

**Memberships.** We would like to invite you to join Williamston Downtown Inc. Membership rates are as low as \$25 for individuals and \$50 for businesses. Your membership is a donation that is tax deductible! Membership forms can be obtained at [www.facebook.com/WilliamstonDowntown](http://www.facebook.com/WilliamstonDowntown), in person at Town Hall, or mailed at your request.

**In the Park.** We are beginning to plan our 2017 In the Park events and could use some ideas, volunteers, and sponsors. If you are able to help, email us or call Jamie at Town Hall.

Contact us at [williamstondowntown@yahoo.com](mailto:williamstondowntown@yahoo.com)



A big crowd gathered at Barnes Plaza for the Fall Y'all Festival on October 27th. There were lots of cute costumes and all the children had a great time. We hope you can join us for next year's Fall Y'all Festival!

**Williamston Downtown Inc.  
Board Meeting**

**November 8th 7:00 am @  
Red Heron Café  
118 Harrison Street**

Call to order	7:00
Invocation	7:01
Minutes of last meeting	7:05
Financial Report	7:10
Committee Reports	7:15
Economic Development	
Design Subcommittee	
Promotions	
Arts Council	7:25
E.J. Hayes Alumni Association	7:30
Martin Community College	7:35
Tourism	7:40
Woman's Club	7:45
Discussion	7:50
Adjourn	8:00

**Seen on Main Drag...** Sparky the Fire Dog posing for pictures with kids in costumes, Christina Craft entering Quality Shoes, Ila Parker entering Town Hall, pedestrians on Skewarkee Trail...

Williamston Downtown, Inc.  
Chairperson: Wilbur Edwards  
Vice Chair: A. R. Chesson  
Secretary: Jean Stevens  
Treasurer: John Spilman  
Newsletter Editor: Brent Kanipe

**Corner Chair continued...** Homes on Sat. Dec. 10th from 1:00 - 5:00 pm. Tickets are only \$10 and can be purchased the day of at the Old Courthouse or in advance at Corey's Etc.

When you get your tickets for the Tour of Homes, you can also purchase the annual Christmas ornament from Friends of the Old Courthouse. This year's ornament is "The Wharf" Early 20th Century Roanoke River - Williamston, NC. The ornaments are \$25 and all proceeds go toward restoration of the Old Courthouse. You can purchase an ornament on other dates by calling Friends of the Old Courthouse at (252)792-5243.

The Fall Y'all Festival was a big success. There were so many cute costumes and all the children had a great time playing games, getting their faces painted and visiting with Sparky the Fire Dog. Check out some pictures on Williamston Downtown's Facebook page!

**Jamie**

**Remember, "When you support small business, you're supporting a dream."  
-Author Unknown**

The annual Williamston Christmas Parade will be held on Thurs. Dec. 1st at 4:00 pm and starts in front of EJ Hayes School. We hope to see you and your family there!

**Upcoming Events**

**November 5th**  
Small Business Saturday @ Downtown Williamston  
**November 11th - 12th**  
Martin Community College's "2016 Stampede In the Park Rodeo" @ Sen. Bob Martin Eastern Ag. Center  
**November 15th @ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm**  
Lego Club @ Martin Memorial Library  
**November 17th @ 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm**  
Color Your Stress Away @ Martin Memorial Library  
**November 18th - 20th**  
NBHA Coastal Run Super Show @ Sen. Bob Martin Eastern Ag. Center  
**December 1st @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm**  
Christmas Parade @ Downtown Williamston  
**December 1st @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
Christmas Market Opening Reception @ Martin County Arts Council  
**December 3rd**  
Small Business Saturday @ Downtown Williamston  
**December 3rd - 4th**  
EHA & NCHJA "C" Horse Show @ Sen. Bob Martin Eastern Ag. Center  
**December 10th @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**  
Williamston Woman's Club Tour of Homes @ Williamston Historic Residential District  
**Now thru December**  
Martin County Geocaching Trail participant guide @ [www.visitmartincounty.com](http://www.visitmartincounty.com)  
**Now thru December**  
Downtown Williamston Scavenger Hunt participant guide @ [www.Facebook.com/WilliamstonDowntown](http://www.Facebook.com/WilliamstonDowntown)

**Check out these and other events @**  
[www.visitmartincounty.com](http://www.visitmartincounty.com) or  
[www.townofwilliamston.com](http://www.townofwilliamston.com)



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