

March 2017

IN THIS EDITION



Spring Eggstravaganza set for April 8; new egg hunt times this year. See page 3.



Final show of the season at GPAC April 8. See page 3.

TOWN HALL CALENDAR

March 21: Town Council regular meeting (7 p.m.)

March 28: Town Council work session (6 p.m.)

April 3: Town Council regular meeting (7 p.m.)

April 10: Planning Commission meeting (7 p.m.)

Town Council meetings are held in the training room in the police station at 912 7th Ave. The Town Council's regular meetings are recorded and broadcast (not live) on GTV11 (Time Warner 11, AT&T U-verse 99). They can be watched on demand at garnernc.gov.



/townofgarner

GARNER UPDATE

Vol. 96, No. 102

DOWNTOWN GARNER

14 Local FOOD TRUCKS

3 Local CRAFT BREWERIES

APRIL FOODS DAY

Food Truck Rodeo

04.02.17
SUNDAY NOON-5PM

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING

GARNER 1905

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GRA to Hold Spring Food Truck Rodeo on April 2

There's a brand-new event in downtown Garner—the April Foods Day Food Truck Rodeo! It'll be on **Sunday, April 2** from noon to 5 p.m. on Main Street from Griffin to Purvis streets.

There will be 14 local food trucks: American Meltdown, Oak City Fish and Chips, The Humble Pig, Ty's All Natural, Route Bistro, Chick-N-Que, Baguettaboutit, Not Just Icing, Hibachi Xpress, Sarge's Chef on Wheels, Bam Pow Chow, Fuzzy's Empanadas, JAM Ice Cream and Rare Earth-The Farm with a Food Truck.

There will also be three local craft brewers: Brice's Brewing (recently opened in Garner at 1822 Garner

Station Blvd.), Brueprint Brewing and Deep River Brewing.

The event will also feature live entertainment by My Cousin Skinny and The Gifted Arts as well as a host of local craft vendors and a kids activities zone. There is free parking and admission.

For more information about this event and other upcoming events in Garner's historic downtown, please visit downtowngarner.com.

This special event is organized and sponsored by the Garner Revitalization Association, with additional sponsorships from HomeTowne Realty, Planet Fitness and the Town of Garner.



You can follow Downtown Garner on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



A Message from the Mayor

Spring is on the way (even if it hasn't felt like it the past few days), and that means there's plenty going on around town.



The always-popular **Spring Egg-stravaganza** is planned for **Saturday, April 8** at Lake Benson Park. Please read the article

about this great family event on the next page and note the changes to the schedule for the egg hunts.

The Garner Revitalization Association has added a new special event on the downtown calendar. It's a **food truck rodeo**—they're calling it April Foods Day. It will be on **Sunday, April 2** from noon to 5 p.m. on Main Street. To learn more, you can read the article on page one and also visit

downtowngarner.com.

And let's not forget about the shows coming up at Garner Performing Arts Center. There's more about those, too, in this newsletter and at garnerperformingartscenter.com.

Is this a great place to be or what?

Ronnie S. Williams

Ronnie S. Williams



The mayor's 2017 State of the Town address can be found at youtube.com/townofgarner.

Town Wins Budget Award for Fourth Straight Year

The Town of Garner's budget team has earned the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the fourth consecutive year and for the 19th time overall. The award was for the [FY 2016-17 budget document](#).



Finance Director Pam Wortham.

The award reflects the Town of Garner's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting, the GFOA said in a statement. The winning 2016 budget team consisted of Budget and Special Projects Manager Michael Gammon, Town Manager Rodney Dickerson, Assistant Town Manager-Development Services John Hodges and

In order to receive the budget award, an entity has to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines that assess how well the budget document serves as a policy document, as a financial plan, as an operations guide and as a communications device. Budget documents must be rated as proficient in all four of those areas.

'87' Tells the Story of Trojans' Title Run

"87: One Town, One School, One Team, One Championship" is a musical about a group of young men who captured the imagination of a small town and won the state varsity football championship. Garner had a population of about 12,000 but had close to 10,000 fans in Charlotte for the title game against a team from the biggest city in the state. The country bumpkins, the Garner grits, took on the city slickers and changed a community in the process.

Show times at Garner Performing Arts Center are **March 30 and 31** at 7:30 p.m. and **April 1** at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15-\$20 and can be purchased at garnerperformingartscenter.com.

Garner PD Holding Public Meetings on Body Cameras

The Garner Police Department will hold two community meetings to discuss body-worn cameras on **Wednesday, March 22** at noon and at 6 p.m. at the police station at 912 7th Ave. The purpose of the open-forum meetings is to get feedback on the department's

body-worn camera program.

The Police Department hopes to identify citizen concerns about the program so that the department can address those concerns as best as possible as it plans for implementation.

Public feedback will help shape the Police Department's final body-worn camera policy.

For more information, please contact Capt. Joe Binns at jbinns@garnernc.gov.



Get Ready for Spring Eggstravaganza

It's almost time for Garner's Spring Eggstravaganza at Lake Benson Park (921 Buffalo Road). Join us on **Saturday, April 8** at 10 a.m. for more candy and new egg hunt times. Each age group will start hunting for eggs and candy at a different time, so it is important to arrive early.

Ages 2 and under begin at 10:30 a.m.; ages 3-5 start at 11 a.m.; ages 6-8 begin at 11:30 a.m., and ages 9-12 will be at noon.

In addition to the egg hunts, there will be entertainment, games, crafts, food vendors and more. Be sure to bring your camera to this free family event and get your picture with the Easter Bunny.

In case of inclement weather, Spring Eggstravaganza will be rescheduled for Sunday, April 9 from 1-3 p.m.



This year's egg hunts will start at different times—the first one of four occurring at 10:30 a.m.

No pets are allowed during this event. Volunteering and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more

information, please contact Kendrick Mayes at kmayes@garnernc.gov or call (919) 773-4441.



Getting the VIP Tour

Assistant Town Engineer Jonathan Ham (right) gives Council Member Ken Marshburn (left) a tour of the new Town Hall under construction at 900 7th Ave. For updates on that building and other bond projects, visit garnerbonds.com.

Final Broadway Voices Show of Season Comes to GPAC on April 8

Hugh Panaro is back by popular demand after receiving numerous standing ovations during his sold-out Broadway Voices performance last January. He'll be in concert at Garner Performing Arts Center on **Saturday, April 8** at 7:30 p.m.



Panaro's long list of credentials includes "The Phantom of the Opera," "Les Miserables" and "Sweeney Todd." A recipient of the prestigious Edwin Forrest Award, he led "The Phantom of the Opera"'s historic 25th anniversary performance at Broadway's Majestic Theatre. Tickets for this show are \$35 and can be purchased at garnperformingartscenter.com.



Follow GPAC on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Boathouse Opening March 17

The Lake Benson boathouse (975 Buffalo Road) opens for the season on Friday, March 17. Visitors can rent jon boats (with or without motor and battery), canoes and kayaks. They can also enjoy free fishing from the dock when the boathouse is open. Boathouse hours are Fridays noon-7 p.m., Saturdays 7 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sundays noon-7 p.m. (Friday operations are suspended in July and August.)

Spring Yard Waste Pickup Set for Weeks in March, April

The Town of Garner's annual spring unprepared trash and yard waste collection kicks off **March 27** and runs through mid-April. Household items and yard waste to be collected can be placed behind the curb up to one week prior to the designated Monday for your route.

Here is the pickup schedule:

- Monday (red and gray) and Wednesday (orange and white) routes: **Monday, March 27**
- Thursday (purple and yellow) and Friday (brown only) routes: **Monday, April 3**
- Tuesday (green, gold and tan) and Friday (blue only) routes: **Monday, April 10**

During this special collection, residents can place trash, some bulky waste items and up to four rimless tires behind the curb for collection. Televisions and computer equipment are among the items that will be accepted.

No household appliances or hazardous wastes will be collected, nor will any waste produced by a commercial tree service or other commercial activity/paid services.

Residents are asked to create separate piles for yard waste, bulky wastes and other trash.

For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at (919) 772-7600 or visit garnernc.gov.

GPD Offering BikeSafe Classes

BikeSafe-NC and the Garner Police Department invite motorcyclists to participate in a Rider Skills Day event that will offer an assessment of present driving skills and advice to help make motorcyclists' experience safer and more enjoyable.

There are two upcoming courses: **March 18** and **April 22**. The classes will start promptly at 8:45 a.m. at the police station at 912 7th Ave. Please register at bikesafenc.com.

To participate, riders must bring their properly registered street-legal

motorcycle, legal helmet and eye protection along with current driver's license or motorcycle learner's permit and proof of insurance.

To go along with professional riding techniques, topics covered include the system of motorcycle control, collision causation factors and security. The course is taught by highly qualified police motorcyclists who will pass on their wealth of knowledge and experience in a friendly and informal manner. The day will include both classroom-based advice and on-road ride-outs.

Cops on Top Slated for March 30-31

The Garner Police Department is teaming up with Chick-fil-A at Garner Towne Square (2720 Timber Drive) for a Cops on Top fundraising event on **Thursday-Friday, March 30-31** to benefit Special Olympics North Carolina.

Hours on March 30 are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. There will be family and kids activities including face painting, Ident-A-Kid and more from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. that day. The fundraising will continue March 31 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.



You can follow Garner PD on Twitter (@GarnerPolice).