



## Notices

As folks begin their spring cleaning it is a great time to check the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Make sure these devices are working properly. A little work now might save you and your family later.

## Community Calendar

Business Watch Mtg.  
Held at BFD 4/18

Town Commissioners  
Mtg. 4/25

Community Cleanup  
Day 4/27

Movie Night In The  
Grove 5/03

Benson Com. Day 5/11

Town Commissioners  
Mtg. 5/14

## Mayor's Message

I saw the movie Lincoln recently. There were many who did not want him to address the issue of slavery. It was controversial, divisive and ugly. That is the case with many issues we have to address in our world. The problem is in thinking that they take care of themselves. History judges us by the complex issues we are willing to address and fix.

William

## Benson Booming and Blooming

Benson has seen a substantial amount of activity recently. **Within the past year national, regional and local chains have built new buildings or renovated existing structures here in town.** However, business is not the only improvement that has occurred in Benson lately.

The recently dedicated P.K. Vyas Community Park has seen some major improvements as well. Visitors to the park can take advantage of the **recently installed walking track** and various other amenities in the park. The Benson Public Works along with the Benson Parks and Recreation Department also **recently planted 86 trees in the park.** "This was the initial landscaping for the



park. We are looking forward to really seeing this park bloom," said Matt Smith Parks and Recreation Director.

Improvements did not stop there. All throughout the **town sidewalk repairs have been made.** Several sidewalks were ripped up and re-poured and handicap accesses were installed.

**An electronic marquee was added to Benton Square.** Now passersby can read multiple messages as they pass the square.

There is a lot going on in Benson, Everywhere you turn around there is something new or improved!

## Police Corner



### Safety Scene

The Benson Police Department would like to extend an invitation to all local business owners and vendors to set up a booth at Benson Community Day 2013. This exciting event will be held at PK Vyas Park in Benson on Saturday, May 11, 2013 from 10am - 3pm. We also would like to invite everyone in the community to participate or volunteer at the 2nd season of Friday Night Hoops for our youth. Finally, we want to remind everyone that spring is around the corner and our Nuisance Abatement Officer will be checking properties frequently to ensure that they are not in violation of the ordinance on high grass, trash and debris. Please contact COPS and Nuisance Abatement Officer Jeff Young at 919-894-2091 for sign up info on Community Day, Friday Night Hoops and to inquire about our town ordinances.



## Spring Time Energy Saving Ideas



### Energy Edge

With warmer months approaching it is not too early to begin thinking about how you can reduce your energy costs. Here are a few ideas you can use around your home or business:

**Keep your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher.** You can save an additional 6-7% on your cooling cost for every degree above 78.

**Close your blinds and shades.** Keeping the sun out will help keep your space nice and cool.

**Use counter top appliance to cook with instead of the oven or stove.**

**Dry your clothes outside.** Using a close line will help reduce your energy cost and the heat produced by your dryer.

These are just a few tips on how you might be able to avoid those high energy bills this spring and summer.



**TOWN DIRECTORY**

**William W. Massengill**  
Mayor  
464-3960

**Frederick D. Nelson, Jr.**  
Mayor Pro-Tem

**Douglas V. Oglesby**  
Commissioner

**Dr. R. Max Raynor Jr.**  
Commissioner

**Casandra P. Stack**  
Commissioner

**Will T. Chandler**  
Commissioner

**John R. Bonner**  
Commissioner  
464-9743

**Matt Zapp**  
Town Manager  
894-1606

**Connie Sorrell**  
Town Clerk

**Braston Newton**  
Planner/Zoning  
Administrator

**Joseph B. Stallings**  
Economic Development  
and Media Coordinator

**Ashley Heath**  
Financial Director  
894-3553

**Matt Smith**  
Parks and Recreation  
Director  
894-5117

**Chief Kenneth Edwards**  
Police Chief  
894-2091

**Chief Alan Johnson**  
Fire Chief  
894-8990

**Terry Hobgood**  
Cultural Arts Director  
894-1266

The Town of Benson  
303 East Church Street  
PO Box 69  
Benson, NC 27504

Phone: 919-894-3553  
Fax: 919-894-1283

# Parks and Recreation: News and Information

## Benson Community Day



The second annual Benson Community Day is right around the corner. Make sure to **mark your calendars for May 11th**. This great family oriented event will be held from **10 am - 3 pm in the P.K. Vyas Park located on Lee St.** There will be games, vendors, music and more for the entire family. The Hero's Classic Softball Tournament will also be underway that day. This coed softball tournament is made of teams of local public service organizations. You won't want to miss the opportunity to come out and cheer those folks on who give so much to our community. **If you are interested in becoming a vendor, sponsor of the event or would just like more information on the event please contact Officer Jeff Young at the Benson Police Department at 919-894-2091 or by email at jayoung@bensonpd.org. We will see you on May 11th!**

## Schedule of Events

**Movie Night in The Grove**  
May 3rd - Hotel Transylvania  
**(In the Benson Civic Center)**

**Keep Benson Beautiful - Clean-up Day**  
March 27th 8 am - 1 pm  
Meet at Lee St. Gym at 8am.  
Breakfast and Lunch will be served.

**Senior Shuffleboard League**  
Must be 55 of older. Registration is April 15-19. Pre-registration is required. League will begin play May 1st. Registration fee is \$5-res. and \$6 non-res.

**Yoga Classes**  
Yoga classes are held on Thursday mornings from 9 am -10 am The registration fee is \$45-res/\$50-non-res.

**Line Dancers In Motion**  
Join instructor, Lisa Smith, for line dancing classes on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm.  
Registration is \$10-res. and \$15-non-res.

**Please Donate**  
Please donate to our local food pantry and the clothing closet located at BPRD.

## The Formal Exchange



**Business Booster** Are you looking for that special dress for your wedding or prom? Are you tired of only finding over priced dresses that no one can afford? Then you are in luck! **Benson residents can now take advantage of the great prices at The Formal Exchange.**

The Formal Exchange was started by Benson business woman, Kristie Lee. **"I have a teenage daughter and know how expensive prom and wedding dresses can be. I saw a need in Benson for affordable dresses and started The Formal Exchange,"** said Lee. Lee's first hand experience in weddings, proms and pageants has helped her to get The Formal Exchange off to a great start.

**The Formal Exchange carries a full line of prom and wedding dresses as well as pageant attire for all ages.** You can also find dresses for the mother of the bride and flower girls. There are 100's of both new and used dresses to choose from at The Formal Exchange. **"We have a dress to fit every budget,"** Lee said. **Shoppers can also take advantage of the great prices**



Customer at The Formal Exchange

**es on jewelry, shoes and other accessories.**

If you are looking for a special occasion and you don't want to purchase your own don't worry. **The Formal Exchange will let you rent one of theirs.** They also take items on consignment.

So, if you are looking for that perfect dress look no further than downtown Benson. Feel free to stop by the store anytime however, appointments are appreciated. Make sure to like us on facebook.

### The Formal Exchange

102 N. Market St.  
919-625-2490

Tues- Fri 2 pm - 6pm  
Sat. 11am - 6pm