



## Notices

The Town of Benson's annual water quality report is available online to view at your discretion. [http://townofbenison.com/documents/Annual\\_Drinking\\_Water\\_Quality\\_Report.pdf](http://townofbenison.com/documents/Annual_Drinking_Water_Quality_Report.pdf). If you have any questions please contact town

## Community Calendar

Comm. Watch Mtg. (Hedges Apts)	6/20
State Singing Convention	6/21-6/23
Town Commissioners Mtg.	6/27
Fri. Night Hoops	6/28
July 4th Holiday (Offices Closed)	7/4
Town Commissioners Mtg.	7/9

## Mayor's Message

I was recently speaking to some local residents about a newer business that we had to open downtown. I ask if they had been in the store and the answer was "no". One of the things I hear a lot is the lack of stores and businesses in Benson. But for local business to survive, we have to think "local". The more successful our businesses are the more that will follow.

William

## Shop Local This Summer

The summertime for retailers in Benson can be troubling as many customers make their way to their favorite vacation destinations. This is why supporting your local retailers this summer is that much more important.

Did you know that nearly **68% of dollars spent in a local independently owned business will come back to the community compared to only 43% when those same dollars are spent in a national chain?** These are staggering numbers when you begin to consider how many small locally owned businesses there are in our community. **These locally owned business are normally the ones that sponsor little league baseball teams and other community programs. They support us and in turn we need to support them.**

The 3/50 Project was established in 2009 to bring more attention to locally owned independent businesses. The **project asks that you pick three locally owned businesses and spend \$50 dollars between them each month.** This program seeks to strengthen the "mom and pop" stores and small towns everywhere. This program has the best effect



Main Street Downtown Benson

when an entire community joins together to make an effort to support locally owned businesses. The 3/50 program not only helps reinforce shopping local and supporting locally owned businesses but also tries to change the buying habits of customers. **Before you drive out of town ask yourself, can I get this in Benson? Shopping local does make a difference.**

If you are looking for great items they can be found in Benson. Whether it is clothing, accessories, appliances, arts and crafts, antiques, furniture, there is more in Benson than meets the eye. **This summer do yourself, your town and your neighbor (local merchant) a favor and shop local. Together we can make a difference and keep Benson in business.**

## Police Corner



### Safety Scene

The Benson Police Department would like to thank all of those who came out for Benson Community Day 2013. We would also like to thank WPYB and all of the other vendors that made the event so great! **We estimated the attendance at approximately 1200.**

During this time of year as you get out and about more with the warmer weather, we urge you to **exercise safety in everything you do.** Make sure to lock your doors and windows. **Attend your area community watch meetings for more on safety.**



**For more on community watch meetings and dates or nuisance questions or concerns, contact COPS Officer Jeff Young at 919-894-2091.**

## Hurricane Season Opens June 1st



### Energy Edge

June 1st marks the beginning of Hurricane season. Nobody wants to see a hurricane but rest assured your public power agency is well prepared. Here are a few tips to help you prepare as well.

**Gather emergency supplies.** Before the storm hits make sure you have enough flashlights, batteries, radios, food and water.

**Unplug appliance.** Unplug electrical appliances. This will help ensure they are not damaged by a power surge.

**Stay in an interior room.** Find a room or hallway to stay in. Avoid rooms with windows.

**Do not connect your generator directly to your home's electrical system.**

**Avoid down power lines.** Assume all power lines are live even if power is out in your area.

These are just a few tips to help you keep safe this hurricane season.



**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

## July 4th Celebration Scheduled



Please join us for Benson's annual 4th of July celebration. Opening ceremonies will be held at 3pm on Thursday, July 4th in the Benson Singing Grove and will feature local civic leaders. Entertainment will feature dancing from Benson's own Cross County Scuffers, Paige

Johnson, Jordan Hines, Sydney Wheelless & Friends and closing out the days events will be the MO-JO Soul Band. What would 4th of July be without food? Cool off with snow-cones, ice cream and fill up with hotdogs and hamburgers. There will also be Sybil the Clown and plenty of games and activities for the young and young at heart. As always the day will conclude with our spectacular fireworks display, which will take place off of Hwy 301/Wall St. Bring your blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the show with family and friends!

## Schedule of Events

### Movie Night in The Grove

June 7th - Rise of The Guardians  
July 19th - Here Comes the Boom  
(In the Benson Singing Grove)

### Summer Reading Program

Held at the Benson Civic Center on Fridays.  
June 14, 21, and 28 from 11am – noon.

### Adult Softball Signups

BPRD is now taking signups for adult softball. The cost for teams is \$425 per team. You can sign up your team at the BPRD office or call 919-894-5117.

### Pop Warner Football Signups

Reg. for football will be from 9am-12pm  
June 22 at Barbour's Gove Park in Four Oaks.

### Line Dancers In Motion

Join instructor Lisa Smith for line dancing classes on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. Registration is \$10-res. and \$15-non-res. New classes begin June 19th.

### Please Donate

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

## Short Stop Opens With New Look



**Business Booster** If you haven't made it over the bridge lately you are missing out. **The Short Stop, formerly the BP gas station, has opened with a new look.** The larger more energy efficient store now can offer customers a larger variety of convenience goods. **"We are carrying more products and a greater variety of products. Customers will be able to get warm food and much more,"** said store manager Tammy Moody.

Why the change from BP gas to the Short Stop? "It's all about our customers. By being an unbranded gas station we are able to provide gasoline to our customers at a rate lower than if we had kept the BP name," Moody Said.

The newly renovated Short Stop building opened their doors in early May and has been serving customers in their new building ever since. The entire project from demolition of the former building to the construction of their new building only took two and a half months. **The opening of the new store also saw the hiring of four new employees.**

**The store's spacious layout and easily accessible**



From left to right: Brittany Massey, Sandy Faircloth, Tammy Moody and Shawntoyia Dinkins

**location is the epitome of convenience.** Customers will find all the traditional convenience store items and more at the Short Stop. **"The store is built around our customer's needs. We strive to keep everything quick, clean and convenient. Our customers are our number one priority,"** said Moody.

So, whether you are needing to fill up your gas tank or just looking for a snack, drive on over to the new Short Stop.

### Short Stop

Sun.- Sat. 5:30am-Midnight  
904 E. Main St.  
919-894-5843

[www.shortstopfoodmarts.com](http://www.shortstopfoodmarts.com)