



“Caught Ya’ Doing Good!” Award

Community Calendar

Town Board—7PM
8/8

Sundown in Downtown—*Jim Quick and Coastline*
8/10

Friday Night Hoops 8:00 PM—
11:00 PM
8/11

Junior Miss Benson Pageant—
W.J. Barefoot Auditorium
BPRD Back to School Drive
8/12

Movie Night at The Grove—
Secret Life of Pets
8/18

Museum Board— 6:00 PM
8/21

Town Board—7:00PM
8/24

Friday Night Hoops 8:00PM—
11:00 PM
8/25

Museum Coffee Hour—
10:00AM
BPRD Senior Appreciation
Lunch
9/1

ALL TOWN FACILITIES CLOSED
FOR LABOR DAY
9/2—9/4

BPRD Board—6:00PM
Planning Board—7:00PM
9/5

The recipient of the August 2017 “Caught Ya’ Doing Good!” award is Joe Parker, owner and founder of JP’s Pastry! Joe’s passion for baking, supplying Gluten-Free pastries for his customers, and his desire to make a positive difference in his hometown make him a perfect recipient for this award.

When asked why he decided to open his business in downtown Benson, Joe stated,

“The ability to be able to run a business of this size in my own hometown is a wonderful thing. Most towns that are size of Benson do not have access to major interstates, while keeping that small-town family feeling. That is what helps make Benson such a great place to do business.”

Joe’s decision to focus exclusively on manufacturing Gluten-Free pastries resulted from his difficulty finding high quality, Gluten-Free pastries while dealing with a Gluten allergy. Joe’s mission is to provide a delicious, 100% Gluten-Free product. Joe believes that anyone who struggles with a Gluten Allergy should be able to find a delicious, high quality product, right here in downtown Benson. JP’s Pastry bakes almost anything you would expect a bakery to provide, completely Gluten-Free: bread, cakes, cupcakes, muffins, cookies, brownies, and so much more!

JP’s has already found success across North Carolina and the southeast. Whole Foods, Weaver Street Market, and coffee shops throughout the Triangle carry his pastries. For those in Benson, JP’s also offers local pickup at their 111 S. Railroad St. location. Joe has recently expanded his selection of walk-in items, and you can always place an order online at jpspastry.com or call 919-894-5000! JP’s is open Week Days from 8:00 AM— 4:00 PM and Saturdays 9:00 AM— 3:00 PM.



Mayor’s Message

I think the most important thing that we can collectively do as a town is to use our collective tax money, our resources and our energy to invest in our future. For better or worse we are all in this together. One of the ways I am most proud of how we as town government, private businesses, nonprofits and individuals are investing is in the way we are pouring into our children with programs like Friday Night Hoops, Mary Duncan Library Summer Reading Program, Science in the Summer Program, BFA Summer Theater Camp, Parks and Rec sports and camps, Lunch on the Lawn, Community Court and many more.

You spend your money on what you love. And in Benson we love our children. Maybe that is because we grew up feeling that love. We invest in our future when we invest in children.

-William

To nominate someone for the “Caught Ya’ Doing Good!” award send a message to the Town of Benson Facebook Page or send an email to kcutler@townofbensons.com.

Parks & Rec Events...



* **Friday August 18th**, bring the whole family to the **Singing Grove** to watch *The Secret Life of Pets**



Sundown in Downtown

2017 Concerts

Thursday, August 10th—Jim Quick & Coastline

The next summer camp will be Boys and Girls Soccer for ages 9-14 from August 14th through the 17th. The cost is \$20 per camp. To register for Summer Camps stop by the Benson Park and Recreation Department building Monday-Thursday 6AM-9PM, Friday 6AM-5PM, or Saturdays 9AM-Noon located at 1204 N Johnson Street.



Join the Benson Police Department for Friday Night Hoops this summer! Friday Night Hoops is held every other Friday . The next sessions will be Friday August 11th at 7:00 PM and the final one will be Friday, August 25th at 7:00 PM. Call Benson Parks and Recreation at 919-894-5117 for more info about Friday Night Hoops!

Fall Sports Registration is now OPEN! Registration will remain open until August 25th

Questions? Give us a call at 919-894-5117

The Library Corner...



The **Mary Duncan Public Library** has two hotspots that can be checked out by anyone with a Johnston County library card. The checkout period is 7 days, and they can be renewed twice.

The hotspots allow patrons to access the Verizon cellular network from anywhere using their laptop, tablet, etc. If you have any questions call the library at 919-894-3724 or email **Terry Hobgood** (thobgood@townofbenson.com) for more information.

Magnificent Museum...

Museum Coffee Hour 1st Friday of every month (September 1st and October 6th) at 10am.

And don't forget, the Museum's Digital photo and yearbook collection can be found on Digital NC. Over 100 new Photos and the 1967 Benson High Yearbook were just added!

[http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/benson-museum-of-local-](http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/benson-museum-of-local)



News and Information...



Don't forget about...**First Fridays!!**

Checkout Downtown Benson the first Friday of every month for great deals, Food Trucks and so much more! Shops will be open late from 6-9pm!

- September 1st
- October 6th
- November 3rd

Benson to implement final Economic Development Plan

Over the past several months the Town of Benson staff, Board, and citizens have come together with a North Carolina State University Team to develop and establish an economic development plan for Benson. This economic development strategic plan (EDSP) was developed to address the concerns of the Town of Benson, NC on the future of its economic growth.

The EDSP committee established four primary goals for the plan: Develop the infrastructure necessary to grow the community, manage the availability of property and land use regulation, enhance opportunities for employment and workforce development, and effectively market and brand the town.

To read the full report, please follow this link: <https://goo.gl/Uaj9aX>





TOWN DIRECTORY

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Parks and Recreation
Director
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Chief Kenneth Edwards
Police Chief
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New JoCo Emergency Broadcast System



Johnston County has replaced the old CodeRED system with the new JoCoAlerts system. JOCOAlerts will become Johnston County's primary emergency notification system that provides critical time-sensitive information for emergency incidents. Those registered in the system will be alerted to possible health and safety hazards, such as, severe weather notifications, hazardous

materials incidents, public health events, and disruptions in water service. Guidance will be shared on how to stay safe during these hazardous events, such as, evacuations, sheltering in place (remain in a safe secure location), and other actions to take. Once registered, you will receive messages wherever you specify, such as your home, mobile or business phones, email address, text messages and more. You pick where, you pick how.

JOCOAlerts includes the option for multiple addresses to include not only your home, but work and school locations as well. This system can be expanded to suit your needs and ensure our community in Johnston County to stays informed. To sign up for the JOCO alerts please visit Johnstonnc.com and click on the JOCOAlerts logo to take you to the user sign up portal.

If you have questions or need assistance, you can contact Johnston County Emergency Services at em@johnstonnc.com or 919.989.5050 (Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Online Billing is Here!!!

The Town of Benson has implemented a secure, convenient and user-friendly online payment system for our utility customers. The new interface provides countless benefits to customers, enabling them to pay their bills faster, easier, and with greater security.

Some of the key new features include:

1. A "Pay Now" feature: This allows for quick payments without having to register an account
2. A Customer Portal: Where individuals can register their utility accounts and allow users to view and pay multiple accounts at once. You will also be able to view payment history and consumption information.
3. Finally, you will have the option to securely save your payment method and the opportunity to schedule automatic payments from your credit card!



Sign up for paperless billing with email reminders and no longer fill your mailbox with envelopes from the Town of Benson! If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Department at 919-894-3553



Receive a FREE I Love Benson vehicle decal! Decals are available at Town Hall or the Chamber of Commerce