



Community Calendar	
10:00 AM Museum Coffee Hour - Summer Reading Program Special Event at BPRD -senior Independence Day Picnic	7/7
Summer Reading Program at the Library Week 5	7/10
Town Board, 7PM	7/11
Sundown in Downtown— <i>Liquid Pleasure</i>	7/13
Friday Night Hoops 8:00 PM-11:00 PM	7/14
Summer Reading Program at the Library Week 6	
Museum Board	7/17
Community Watch @ N Honeycutt Street, 7PM	7/20
Movie Night at the Grove— <i>Finding Dory</i>	7/21
Summer Reading Program at the Library Week 7	7/24
Town Board	7/27
<i>Into the Woods, Jr.— W. J. Barefoot Auditorium</i>	Friday Night Hoops
	7/28
<i>Into the Woods, Jr.— W. J. Barefoot Auditorium</i>	
	7/29
<i>Into the Woods, Jr.— W. J. Barefoot Auditorium</i>	
	7/30

## Broadslab Distillery Receives Industry Appreciation Award



The Johnston County Commissioners and the Johnston County Economic Development Advisory Board recognized Jeremy Norris and Broadslab Distillery by honoring North Carolina's FIRST farm distillery with the County's "Industry Appreciation" award. This award is presented quarterly to Johnston County Industries.

There are many speculations as to how the flat, pine-forested region of southeastern Johnston County, North Carolina, known as "Broadslab," got its name. Some say it was the flat terrain of the area southeast of Benson, supposedly formed by a glancing meteorite strike eons ago. Others argue it was because of a broad road leading toward the coast that was constructed from pine slabs laid on the soggy flat land to keep wagons from miring down. But, no one argues about how the area got its reputation as the "Moonshine Capital" of North Carolina.

Today Broadslab Distillery and the Broadslab Legacy line of products have captured, not only the true heritage of the region's famed moonshine, but has also preserved the craft, skills, and techniques of over five generations. Tours showcasing the distillery are available to the public. For more information about Broadslab Distillery, they are located at 4834 NC Hwy 50 South, Benson. You can also contact them at 919-207-1366 or visit their website at [Broadslabdistillery.com](http://Broadslabdistillery.com)

## Mayor's Message

School is out and learning continues. Parents, take advantage of the resources at our Mary Duncan Public Library. We want to see all of our Benson children do their best and excel in life. Let's make this a "Summer of Reading".

-William

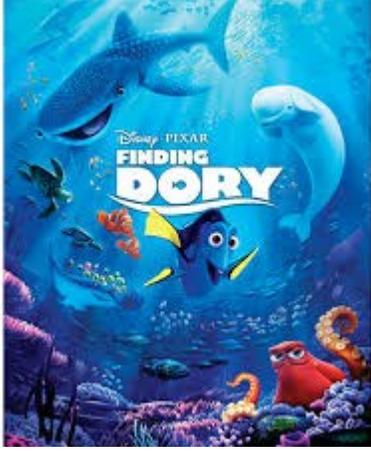
## "Caught Ya' Doing Good!" Award



When Don Robbins moved to Benson in 2001 he had no idea how much he would come to love this little town. "There is no other place that can compete with the people, hometown atmosphere, and closeness of Benson." Don has recently returned from the 30th Annual National Senior games, where he competed in five separate swim events. Don came home with two 4th place finishes, one 5th place finish and two 6th place finishes! Don has qualified for the swimming part of the National Senior Games for the past 9 consecutive games. He has placed 1st or 2nd in the NC finals for 19 consecutive years.

Don started swimming after a severe heart attack in 1993 as a way to stay healthy and active. He chose the Senior Games as a way to incentivize his swimming everyday, giving him something to train for. Since then he has dominated North Carolina for his age group and hasn't looked back since. "I encourage kids to turn to swimming so they can enjoy a sport for a lifetime, and not just a childhood." Don's passion outside of swimming is his photography. Don has been all over the country capturing the gorgeous views that our country has to offer, estimating that he has easily taken over 60,000 pictures in his lifetime. Don plans to continue competing in the National Senior Games as long as he can, and to continue calling Benson his home forever.

## Parks & Rec Events...



\* **Friday July 21**, bring the whole family to the **Singing Grove** to watch **Finding Dory**\*



**Sundown in Downtown  
2017 Concerts**

*Thursday, July 13th – Liquid Pleasure*

Don't miss out on our next Summer Camps! Boys and Girls Basketball Camp will be from July 17th– July 20th and Girls Volleyball will be July 31st– August 3rd. The cost is \$20 per camp. To register for Summer Camps go by the Benson Park and Recreation Department building Monday-Thursday 6AM-9PM, Friday 6AM-5PM, or Saturdays 9AM-Noon.



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 July 14th at 7:00 PM and Friday July 28th at 7:00 PM. Call Benson Parks and Recreation at 919-894-5117 for more info about Friday Night Hoops!

Fall Sports Registration will begin in August! Be on the lookout for more information and updates!

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

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## 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 sprint 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.

**The Summer Reading Program is in full swing! To find out more about it give us a call at 919-894-3724**



## Magnificent Museum...

**Museum Coffee Hour** 1st Friday of every month (July 7th and August 4th) at 10am.

And don't forget, the Museum's Digital photo and yearbook collection can be found on Digital NC at:

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/benson-museum-of-local-history/>



## 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!

- July 7th
- August 4th
- September 1st

## Online Billing Coming Soon!

The Town of Benson will soon implement 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! The new system is anticipated to arrive in early July! If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Department at 919-894-3553





TOWN DIRECTORY

**William W. Massengill**

Mayor  
919-464-3960

**Frederick D. Nelson, Jr.**

Mayor Pro-Tem  
919-264-2616

**Jerry M. Medlin**

Commissioner  
919-894-3511

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

Commissioner  
919-894-3753

**Cassandra P. Stack**

Commissioner  
919-820-0909

**Will T. Chandler**

Commissioner  
919-894-2660

**Dean McLamb**

Commissioner  
919-820-4646

**Matt Zapp**

Town Manager  
919-894-1606

**Terry Hobgood**

Town Clerk/Cultural Arts  
919-894-3724

**Braston Newton**

Assistant Town Manager  
919-894-3553

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Finance Director  
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**Matt Smith**

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Director  
919-894-5117

**Chief Kenneth Edwards**

Police Chief  
919-894-2091

**Chief Alan Johnson**

Fire Chief  
919-894-8990

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

# New JoCo Emergency Broadcast System



Starting in early July, Johnston County will be replacing 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](http://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](mailto:em@johnstonnc.com) or 919.989.5050 (Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

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## Johnston County EMS Subscription service

Johnston County Emergency Medical Services is offering a subscription service for EMERGENCY ambulance rides. The average emergency transport often exceeds \$540 + \$9 per mile for transport to hospital. You can offset these cost with an annual subscription fee of \$60 that covers the direct cost of ambulance services not paid by your insurance. This is a one-time annual fee that is good from July 1st through June 30th of the following year and covers UNLIMITED emergency calls for anyone living in your household during that time.

For information on how to sign up for this service please contact Johnston County EMS by phone at 919-934-7559



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