



Community Calendar

APRIL 6

Keep Benson Beautiful 2019
8:30am - 12pm

APRIL 7-13

Library Week



APRIL 8

Pajama Story Time at Library
6pm

APRIL 9

Town Board
7pm

APRIL 10

Preschool Story Time at Library
10am

APRIL 12-13

Classic Antique Farm Heritage
Days at Chamber Park
8am



APRIL 13

Easter Eggstravaganza at
Benson Civic Center
2pm



APRIL 19

Good Friday
All Town Facilities CLOSED

APRIL 24

Preschool Story Time at Library
10am

APRIL 25

Town Board
7pm

MAY 3

Benson Chamber
Sip & Shop
Downtown Benson



Mayor's Message: Let's Keep Benson Beautiful

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) has established April 13th through April 27th as cleanup time for our communities.

The mayors of Johnston County decided to have Saturday, April 13th, as cleanup day in Johnston County. Benson had already established Saturday, April 6th, as Spring Cleanup Day — Keep Benson Beautiful — so we plan to keep it that way and look forward to seeing all the volunteers helping to clean up the Town of Benson.

The Saturday in Benson begins at 8:30am at Benson Conference Center (303 E. Church Street). Breakfast will be served and groups will be assigned work areas. At 9am, work will start around town — from I-95 to our residential districts, Main Street, parks, public grounds, and much more.

Lunch will be served from 12pm to 1pm back at the Conference Center for all volunteers that helped with Keep Benson Beautiful.

For additional information about our spring cleanup call Town Hall at (919) 894-3553. We invite everyone in the community — civic clubs, faith-based organizations, merchants, students, clubs, elected officials, town employees, everyone! LET'S KEEP BENSON BEAUTIFUL!

Jerry M. Medlin
Mayor of Benson

KEEP BENSON BEAUTIFUL SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

CIVIC GROUPS, FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS, MERCHANTS, STUDENTS, CLUBS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND TOWN EMPLOYEES.

HELP CLEAN UP BENSON!

FROM I-95 TO OUR RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS - MAIN STREET, PARKS, PUBLIC GROUNDS, AND MUCH MORE!

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

8:30AM - 9:00AM
BREAKFAST ORIENTATION FOR VOLUNTEERS
9:00AM - 12:00PM
WORK PROJECTS TO BE COMPLETED
12:00PM - 1:00PM
LUNCH AT CONFERENCE CENTER



MEET AT THE BENSON
CONFERENCE CENTER
303 E. CHURCH ST.
BENSON, NC 27504

CONTACT THE TOWN OF BENSON AT
(919) 894-3553 FOR MORE INFO



www.townofbenson.com



April 7-13 is National Library Week!

We celebrate **National Library Week** in April! Just another reason to stop by the Mary Duncan Public Library and grab a book to read!

From Pajama Story Time in the evenings to Preschool Story Time in the mornings, there's always something going on at the Library in Benson — just look at the Community Calendar in this newsletter! *We'll see you at the library!*



The Cat in the Hat at Pajama Story Time!



Celebrating the Very Hungry Caterpillar's 50th birthday with crafts!

Town Directory

Jerry M. Medlin
Mayor
919-894-3511

Cassandra P. Stack
Mayor Pro-Tem
919-820-0909

Dean McLamb
Commissioner
919-820-4646

Dr. R. Max Raynor Jr.
Commissioner
919-894-3753

Maxine Holley
Commissioner
919-894-2832

Jim Johnson
Commissioner
919-868-6902

William Neighbors
Commissioner
919-701-2854

Matt Zapp
Town Manager
919-894-3553

Terry Hobgood
Town Clerk/Cultural Arts
919-894-3553

Kim Pickett
Finance Director
919-894-3553

Matt Smith
Parks and Recreation Director
919-894-5117

Chief Kenneth Edwards
Police Chief
919-894-2091

Chief Alan Johnson
Fire Chief
919-894-8990

The Town of Benson
303 East Church Street
PO Box 69 Benson, NC 27504
Phone: 919-894-3553
Fax: 919-894-1283

BENSON'S NEW FIRE ENGINE

A THANK YOU TO THE GOLDEN LEAF FOUNDATION

During Hurricane Matthew in 2016, the Benson Fire Department responded to 62 emergency calls.

Large portions of Benson flooded quickly in the heavy rainfall making more than half of those emergency calls water rescues.

"We have never experienced something like that — that I'm aware of — in my 22 years of being in the Fire Department," said Benson Fire Chief Alan Johnson during an interview in mid-March.

It was on one of those water rescues, near the Carlie C's IGA grocery store, that Benson firefighters submerged Engine 2 — a 1996 Freightliner.

"It wasn't much good after that," said Chief Johnson.

During Benson's recovery efforts, applications to the Golden LEAF Foundation were sent for various repairs — among them the funds to pay for a brand new Engine 2.

Golden LEAF is a nonprofit based in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Founded in 1999, the foundation receives half of the funds coming to North Carolina from the master settlement agreement with cigarette manufacturers.

Benson was awarded just over \$422,000 to completely payoff the order on a new truck.

In February of 2018, Benson received its new Spartan Custom Cab fire engine. It carries 1,000 gallons of water, sits six inside the cab, and has more safety features like airbags.

"Financially we weren't prepared to buy a new truck at that point," explained Chief Johnson. "It was very humbling to get that kind of money for one project. We were very appreciative — that obviously saved the taxpayers money here in town. We are very thankful to Golden LEAF for that."



Above, Benson's new Spartan Custom Cab Engine 2 — purchased with funds received from the Golden LEAF Foundation. Watch a video featuring the truck and Chief Alan Johnson on the Town of Benson's Facebook page.

EASTER APRIL 13, 2019
EGGSTRAVAGANZA
BENSON CIVIC CENTER 1204 N. JOHNSON ST.

2PM – 3PM FUN & GAMES!

FREE CHOCOLATE BUNNY*

FREE PIZZA & BEVERAGE*

FACE PAINTING BY SYBIL THE CLOWN

EGG HUNT @ 3PM BRING YOUR OWN BASKET

*WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

**COME VISIT THE
EASTER BUNNY
AND GET A SWEET TREAT!**

BENSON • LITTLE THEATRE Presents

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Directed by and Choreographed by Hayden Tyler
Music Directed by Stephen Pfeiffer

April 26 7:30 PM
April 27 7:30 PM
April 28 3:00 PM

AT THE W.J. BAREFOOT AUDITORIUM

Admission \$12.00 | For Info & Tickets 919-894-3825
www.thebensonarts.com

**BOOK AND LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN
MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN**

Little Shop of Horrors is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

This program is supported by:
The North Carolina Arts Council • The Benson Foundation for the Arts
Johnston County Arts Council

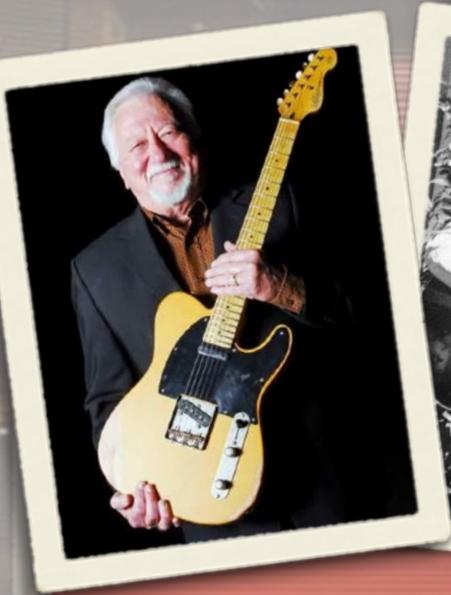
bfa **em** **North Carolina Arts Council** **Benson Arts Council**

BENSON CARD CO. BENSON, N.C.

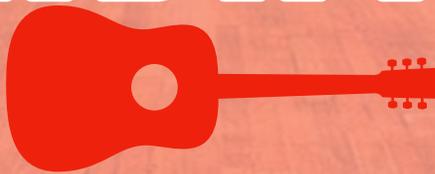
THE JIMMY CAPPS CELEBRATION



IN BENSON, NC MAY 11



SATURDAY MAY 11



2PM TWO EVENTS AT CROSSROADS CHURCH 301 S. WALTON DR.
7PM FEATURING **THE MALPASS BROTHERS**

TICKETS ARE FREE!
(DONATIONS ACCEPTED)

VISIT THE BENSON CHAMBER AT 122 E. MAIN ST. TO SECURE YOURS TODAY!