

## From The Mayor

As of this newsletter deadline date, Covid-19 cases in Rowan County have risen to over 250, with 16 people hospitalized, and 12 deaths. Unlike the flu, there is no vaccine to protect us and there is no formal, universal treatment to help our immune system fight this silent killer.

There are some things you can do to help keep you, your family and your neighbors safe -- stay at home, practice social distancing when you're out, wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds, wipe down hard surfaces with disinfectant, wear a mask in public, and do not congregate in groups of more than 10 people at a time. While these instructions seem simple, they are effective.

I cannot stress the importance of heeding these guidelines. We must protect our families, our most vulnerable community members, first responders, health care providers, police and fire personnel and essential employees who serve our daily needs. Hopefully, we're approaching the virus' peak in our community, depending on our commitment to follow the guidelines stated earlier.

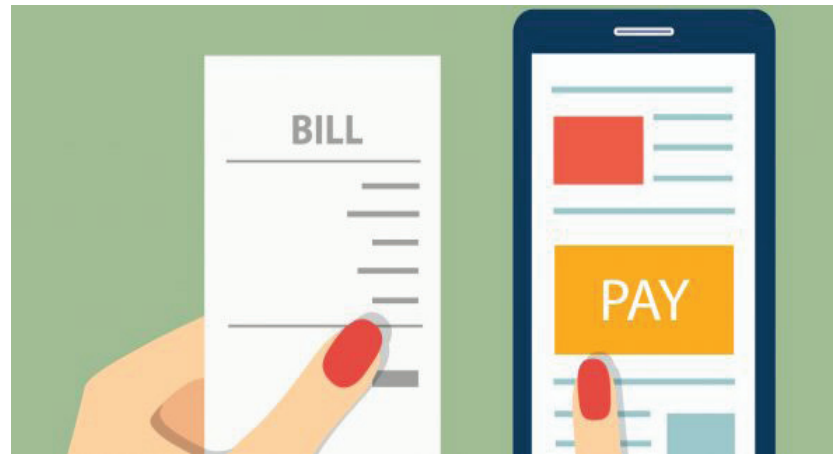
Thank you for joining me in creating a more resilient community, ready to meet the challenge and have victory over this Covid-19 crisis. We are in this together!

*Sincerely, Mayor Karen Alexander*

## City Council

Mayor Karen Alexander  
Mayor Pro Tem Al Heggins  
Council Member David Post  
Council Member Brian Miller  
Council Member Tamara Sheffield

City Manager W. Lane Bailey



## Alternative Ways To Pay Bills

Computer, tablet, smartphone, telephone and even text message. The Salisbury Customer Service Center (CSC) offers a number of electronic ways to pay utility bills since this period of social distancing has forced the closure of the CSC lobby and in-person payments. With limited face-to-face interactions, now is a perfect opportunity to embrace the different types of technology available today.

The following methods are free, secure, quick and easy, allowing residents to make payments from the comfort of their home:

### Pay Online

– Create an account and pay online at [salisburync.gov/pay](https://salisburync.gov/pay).

### One-Time Payments (Online)

– Make a one-time payment online at [salisburync.gov/pay](https://salisburync.gov/pay). No registration required – Must have 14-digit account number including the dash.

### Pay-By-Text

– Register at [salisburync.gov/pay](https://salisburync.gov/pay) and receive monthly statement via text and pay instantly.

### Auto Pay

– Register at [salisburync.gov/pay](https://salisburync.gov/pay) with debit, credit cards or checking information.

### Pay by Phone

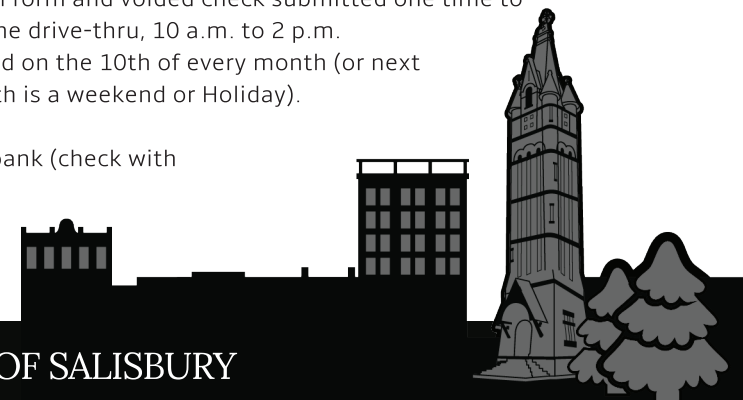
– at (704) 638-5300, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.  
– Check, debit, credit cards are accepted.  
– Press Option 1 to make a payment.  
– Routing number and bank account information needed for check payments.

### Sign up for EFT (Direct Debit)

– Requires authorization form and voided check submitted one time to Customer Service via the drive-thru, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
– Payment will be drafted on the 10th of every month (or next Business Day if the 10th is a weekend or Holiday).

### Utilize Bill Pay

– Bill pay through your bank (check with your bank for details).



## STAY CONNECTED - CITY OF SALISBURY

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# THE LAMPLIGHTER

City of Salisbury Newsletter

MAY 2020 EDITION

## Cheerwine FESTIVAL

SALISBURY, NC  
VIRTUAL  
MAY 16, 2020

After careful consideration and guidance from state and federal agencies, Cheerwine and the City of Salisbury, N.C., cancelled the 2020 Cheerwine Festival, originally scheduled for Saturday, May 16.

Instead, a virtual Cheerwine Festival will be held on the same date for fans to enjoy from the comfort of home. The online event will feature live, virtual performances from the originally-scheduled 2020 Cheerwine Festival bands. Additional details will be announced in coming weeks at [cheerwinefest.com](https://cheerwinefest.com), including how fans can join in and support our vendors and businesses.

Cheerwine is still debuting its 2020 Festival t-shirt as a way to raise funds for Rowan County United Way. All profits from the sale of the shirts will go to the organization's Covid-19 Relief Fund. The winning t-shirt design is available at <https://store.cheerwine.com/clothing.html> for preorders.

[www.cheerwinefest.com](https://www.cheerwinefest.com)

## CLOSINGS & COVID-19

For the latest information on City closings and the City's response to COVID-19, visit: [salisburync.gov/covid-19](https://salisburync.gov/covid-19)

For community closings, visit: [salisburypost.com](https://salisburypost.com)



Para la traducción al español, visite [www.salisburync.gov/NoticiasEspañol](https://www.salisburync.gov/NoticiasEspañol)

## From The City Manager's Desk

As I write this article, I can only think that few Americans have ever experienced a pandemic the likes of COVID-19. By now we should all be well-versed in staying at home, social distancing, hand washing and disinfecting. From the changes we've made, and things we've experienced recently, we can all conclude life as we knew it has changed drastically.

Maintaining the service levels from our city departments is important to us because they are important to our residents. Garbage collection, the delivery of clean water, communication with our residents, and public safety responses should still be seamless by our essential workers. Granted, some of our departments like Salisbury Transit have had to reduce its operating hours, but we are still dedicated to "business as usual" as best we can.

City staff can still be reached by telephone and email, however their response may be delayed as many employees are working remotely. Potential business owners can still schedule meetings with the planning development staff by calling in advance.

Code Enforcement continues to document code violations, and customer service representatives are available to assist residents with establishing water service and signing up for online bill pay.

Residents can stay up to date on our response by visiting the City's official social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter, and on the website, [salisburync.gov/covid-19](https://salisburync.gov/covid-19).

We're in this together, and together we will come out more resilient than before.

Sincerely,

*W. Lane Bailey, City Manager.*



## Inside This Edition:

Parks & Rec Helps You Play At Home - P. 2  
BlockWork Will Return This Fall - P. 3  
Employee Spotlight - P. 3  
A Word From The Mayor - P. 4  
Alternative Ways To Pay Bills - P. 4



# Parks and Rec Helps You Play At Home

# PLAY at HOME

**“We have adapted some programming to reach our residents virtually.” Nick Aceves, Parks & Rec Director**

As people around the world continue to adapt in response to COVID-19, Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department adapts by focusing on social media to cultivate positive health and wellness for Salisbury residents.

“The Salisbury Parks and Recreation Team remains committed to serving our community even during COVID-19 and because of that we have adapted some programming to reach our residents virtually,” said Salisbury Parks and Recreation Director Nick Aceves. “It was for the safety

of our residents that we closed playgrounds, but still provided an option for parks, greenways and trails as an option for recreation use. Our team wanted to offer another option for everyone at home and that’s when we decided on an online option. We hope that these short videos provide activity ideas, exercise options, and just plain fun until we get through this pandemic.”

The first video was Abstract Doodling, posted on March 31st. Check out more virtual engagement recreation activities for all ages at [salisburync.gov/PlayAtHome](https://salisburync.gov/PlayAtHome).

## [salisburync.gov/PlayAtHome](https://salisburync.gov/PlayAtHome)

A few of our virtual engagement videos:

- ABC Fitness**  
*Keep you and your family moving with the ABC’s of fitness.*
- Abstract Doodling**  
*Be creative and doodle your way to something amazing.*
- Flower Science**  
*Follow a simple experiment to show how plants uptake water.*
- Read Anywhere**  
*Pick up a book while at home.*

## Summer Camps

- Our June camps are tentatively scheduled:*
- Cooking & Nutrition Camp
  - Baseball Camp
  - Softball Camp
  - Pitch Almost Perfect Voice Camp
- To register visit [salisburync.gov/Play](https://salisburync.gov/Play), then select Activities, then search for camps.



## BlockWork Will Return This Fall

The Salisbury Community Appearance Commission and Salisbury Housing Advocacy Commission will be accepting BlockWork applications from Salisbury city neighborhoods beginning now through Friday, June 12. The 2020 BlockWork event has been set for Saturday, Oct. 24, on “National Make a Difference Day.”

BlockWork is a grass-roots neighborhood improvement project that strives to bring residents and community volunteers together to build cleaner and safer neighborhoods, one block at a time. On Make a Difference Day each year the City of Salisbury barricades one to two blocks in the City for BlockWork. The day is made to be an intense workday by volunteers which includes urban improvements, carpentry, landscaping, painting, other exterior home improvements, and general clean up in a one-block area. Long-term maintenance responsibility is assumed by block property owners, residents, and neighborhood participants. Citizens of Salisbury may apply for any block or blocks within the city limits. Block applications are evaluated based on demonstrated need, neighborhood willingness to participate, and potential

impact on the surrounding community. BlockWork was developed in 2010 by the Community Appearance Commission’s Neighborhood Leaders Alliance (NLA). Eight successful BlockWork events have been held since its founding, including the initial event on S. Shaver St., which earned a National Make a Difference Day award and a \$10,000 prize. Last year, volunteers worked in the 900 block of North Main Street in partnership with the Salisbury Community Development Corporation and the Historic Salisbury Foundation.

For the BlockWork application, additional information, photographs and videos please visit [salisburync.gov/blockwork](https://salisburync.gov/blockwork). For questions, please call Alyssa Nelson at 704-638-5235.

Applications can be submitted by postal mail to:  
Attn: Alyssa Nelson  
BlockWork  
P O Box 479  
Salisbury, NC 28145  
Or by email at [blockwork@salisburync.gov](mailto:blockwork@salisburync.gov)



## Keep Calm & Flush On

**Buildings that are closed still need the pipes flushed twice a week. Run faucets for 2-3 minutes and flush toilets to keep water clean.**

### EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



## Scott Ludwick, Recreation Specialist

Scott Ludwick is a recreation specialist for Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department. In his role, Scott oversees rental requests for park shelters, serves as the assistant to the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and assists with the department’s marketing efforts.

“Being an extrovert I enjoy talking to people. I enjoy sharing and learning how our department helps residents in our community whether it’s face-to-face, via social media or over the phone. Nothing is better than someone saying, ‘we appreciate you letting us know what is going on in Salisbury.’ I am glad to be a part of the great things we have done in my two years here with the city and with parks and recreation.”