



# THE LAMPLIGHTER

City of Salisbury Newsletter

MAY 2021 EDITION

## City of Salisbury & Partners Aim To Boost Minority and Women-Owned Businesses

Salisbury recently partnered with multiple service organizations to provide increased financial opportunities for small, minority, and women-owned businesses in the community. The Kiva and 1MBB programs each provide funding for business start-ups, and in some cases, already established companies in Salisbury.



Self-Help Credit Union offers the Kiva program which expands safe and affordable loan options for small business borrowers who may not have access to traditional resources. Through a partnership between Salisbury, Self-Help, the city of Statesville and Livingstone College, Kiva Piedmont North Carolina is a creative new way for businesses owned by women and people of color to finance loans up to \$15,000. Interested borrowers should apply at [kiva.com/borrow](http://kiva.com/borrow). If approved, Salisbury residents can benefit from matching dollar-for-dollar grants from City Council.



The One Million Black Business (1MBB) Initiative focuses efforts on development and support of a million Black-owned businesses through 2030 in an attempt to close the wealth gap between white and Black citizens. Rowan County organizations such as the

Salisbury-Rowan NAACP, Rowan Economic Development Corporation, Rowan County Chamber of Commerce, Livingstone College and First Horizon Bank, support the initiative which provides business plan development, business coaching, ecommerce platforms and marketing and public relations support for business owners.

For more information on the 1MBB initiative, visit <https://operationhope.org/1mbb/>.



## LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

With the 2021 Cheerwine Festival just around the corner, Salisbury Parks and Recreation is seeking volunteer groups to assist with the daylong festivities on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Civic and service organizations are encouraged to volunteer in groups of 10 people or more on Saturday, Sept. 18, for at least one, three-hour period. The festival hours are noon to 10 p.m. Duties will

include vendor load-in assistance, managing parking lots, serving in the information booths and serving as a Cheerwine Festival street ambassador. Volunteer registration will open on Tuesday, June 1st.

For more on how organizations can benefit as a Festival volunteer group, please contact Vivian Koontz at (704) 638-5294 or [vkoon@salisburync.gov](mailto:vkoon@salisburync.gov).

### EVENT CALENDAR: MAY

#### Electronic City Council Meetings

Watch the live broadcast of city council meetings via social media or the website. (Meeting format subject to change.)

**Tuesday, May 4 and 18** - starts at 6 p.m.  
[facebook.com/CitySalisburyNC](https://www.facebook.com/CitySalisburyNC)  
[@CitySalisburyNC](https://twitter.com/CitySalisburyNC)



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

City Council:

Mayor Karen Alexander, Mayor Pro Tem Al Heggins, Council Member Brian Miller, Council Member David Post, Council Member Tamara Sheffield and City Manager W. Lane Bailey



# Bike Safety Tips



## For Cyclists:

Riding a bike is fun, healthy and an environmentally friendly form of transportation. As we celebrate National Bike Month, the Pedal Factory and Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department share some tips for safe and happy riding:



1) Wear a helmet! It should fit properly; with little movement and sit level on the forehead. Helmets are legally required for all riders 16 and under.



2) Be visible! Bright clothing, lights and reflectors can help increase your visibility on the road. Use front and rear blinking lights anytime you're riding - whether day or night.



3) Remember the ABC Quick Check each time you ride: Air in your tires / Make sure Brakes are working/ Check the Chain & Cassette for wear / Be sure Quick Releases are tightened.



4) Stay alert! Watch for parked cars, opening doors, and hazards on the road. Be aware of your surroundings by listening and looking.



5) Be predictable! Use hand signals to announce your turns to traffic. Say "On your left" as you pass pedestrians and other cyclists.

## For Drivers:

Be a safe and friendly driver! Take these tips from the Pedal Factory and Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department to help keep our roads safe for everyone.



1) People on bikes have the same legal rights and responsibilities to use the road.



2) Change lanes when you are passing a bike. Wait until it is clear to safely pass giving at least 3-6 feet of space.



3) Look in your mirror or over your shoulder before opening your door when parallel parking. Doors can become a fatal hazard for cyclists.



4) Take your time. Crashes involving cars and bikes often leave cyclists with serious injuries or death. It is not worth destroying a life to save a few seconds.



# BLOCKWORK

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS ONE BLOCK AT A TIME

## Nominate A Neighborhood For BlockWork by June 11, 2021

Now's the chance to submit a Salisbury neighborhood for BlockWork, a grass-roots program developed in 2010 to beautify Salisbury neighborhoods. BlockWork neighborhood applications within City of Salisbury limits will be accepted through Friday, June 11, by the Community Appearance Commission and Housing Advocacy Commission.

The 2021 BlockWork event has been set for Saturday, October 23, on, "National Make a Difference Day." The event strives to bring residents and community volunteers together to build cleaner and safer neighborhoods, one block at a time. Projects include carpentry, painting, landscaping and general clean-up in a one-block area. Long-term maintenance responsibility is assumed by block property owners, residents, and neighborhood participants.

To nominate your neighborhood or to view guidelines, visit: [www.salisburync.gov/Blockwork](http://www.salisburync.gov/Blockwork). Applications can be submitted by postal mail, email, or accepted in person with Alyssa Nelson at the City Office Building, 132 N. Main Street, Salisbury NC, 28144. For further information, please call 704-638-5235 or email [BlockWork@salisburync.gov](mailto:BlockWork@salisburync.gov).

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



## Sonja Basinger, Environmental Services Manager

Sonja Basinger is the environmental services manager for Salisbury-Rowan Utilities (SRU). In her role, Sonja serves as the department's compliance officer. She performs internal audits for the department and provides technical assistance to divisions to ensure compliance with environmental permits. She also manages the water and wastewater labs, industrial pretreatment and FOG programs,

and coordinates and instructs state approved Wastewater Operator Schools for SRU staff.

"I enjoy developing and training our staff to better prepare them as utility professionals. I am thankful to be part of a team that works together, trusts each other and depends upon each other to accomplish goals and to overcome challenges that arise."



## STAY CONNECTED - CITY OF SALISBURY

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