



THE LAMPLIGHTER

City of Salisbury Newsletter

June 2023 EDITION

EVENT CALENDAR: JUNE

City Council Meetings

The public is invited to attend meetings in-person, or watch the live broadcast via social media or the city website.

Tuesday, June 6 and 20 - starts at 6 p.m.
facebook.com/CitySalisburyNC
WSRG-TV (Hotwire 394/Spectrum 16)

Juneteenth

Celebrate Juneteenth with music, vendors, children's activities, and more. This event is sponsored by: Salisbury Parks and Recreation, Novant Health, and Salisbury-Rowan NAACP.

Saturday, June 17 - from noon to 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 18 - from 3 to 6 p.m..
Bell Tower Green

West End Community Meeting

As part of the West End Salisbury Transformed Empowered Neighborhood Development (WEST END) Grant, monthly meetings will be held with the community to provide updates about the project.

Thursday, June 8 - starts at 6:30 p.m.
Miller Recreation Center

Kesler Mill Community Input

The City of Salisbury is conducting a survey and hosting public input sessions to learn what the community's interests are for the redevelopment of the Kesler Mill site.

The Kesler Mill site is located at the intersection of N. MLK Jr. Ave. and Park Ave., and is a key focus of city leadership due to its proximity to downtown and Innes Street.

Thursday, June 15, in-person - starts at 6 p.m.
Park Avenue Community Center
Tuesday, June 20, virtual - starts at 6 p.m.
Visit salisburync.gov/KeslerMill for details.

Splash into Summer at the Pool!

It's time for some fun in the sun at the Fred M. Evans pool! For information about pool hours and block times, visit salisburync.gov/Pool. Here is a reminder of pool etiquette for the summer:

- Time blocks are first-come, first-served. Once capacity is met, wait times may be long. Arrive before your desired time block.
- One time block per person, per day in order to allow maximum pool time opportunity to all in the community.
- Admission is \$1 per child under 18 and \$2 per adult. Cash is accepted.
- Bring something to drink and stay hydrated!
- To keep ants away, please remember no outside food is allowed on the pool deck. However, you can enjoy your meal/snacks on the picnic tables by the pool entrance or at our playground outside of the pool.
- Check your pool bags, and make sure you do not have any glass! This includes bottles, food jars, etc.
- All attendees under the age of 12 must be accompanied by someone over 18 at all times.
- If we are at capacity and someone leaves, their spot cannot be held.
- Fred M. Evans Pool is an alcohol, drug and smoke-free facility. This includes vapes and all tobacco use.
- Have fun, and wear your sunscreen!

Locals Honored with EDK Awards

The Salisbury Human Relations Commission (HRC) announced the 2023 Elizabeth Duncan Koontz (EDK) Humanitarian Award recipients. This year's recipients, Bishop Ronald Hash, Nicolas "Nick" Means, and Dr. Martha Starks, were honored at a special program on Thursday, May 11.



Bishop Ronald Hash

Dr. Hash is a bishop in the Church of God Apostolic, Inc. and serves as the District Overseer of the North Western and South Eastern Districts (NC, SC, Va. and W.Va). He has pastored three different churches and presently is the founder and pastor emeritus of Love Christian Center in East Spencer.



Nicholas Means

Means currently works for F&M Bank where he is the assistant vice president and training and development officer. He is the chairman of the Rowan County Leadership Rowan Steering Committee, treasurer of the Blanche and Julian Robertson Family Foundation, serves on the Catawba College Board of Visitors, and is a founding member of CBAN, the Catawba Black Alumni Network, where he currently serves as president.



Dr. Martha Starks

Dr. Starks is the senior pastor of Word of Life Family Worship Center in Salisbury. Active in the community, she is a member of the North Carolina Chaplaincy Association and a member of the Salisbury Interdenominational Minister's Fellowship (IMF).

The mission of the Human Relations Commission is to create an environment of hospitality, inclusiveness, acceptance, and appreciation of the diversity of all people. The Human Relations Commission membership is appointed by the City Council. For more information, visit salisburync.gov/hrc.



Para la traducción al español, visite www.salisburync.gov/NoticiasEspañol

City Council: Mayor Karen Alexander, Mayor Pro Tem Tamara Sheffield, Council Member David Post, Council Member Harry McLaughlin, Council Member Anthony Smith
City Manager Jim Greene Jr.



Budget Focuses on **Public Safety & Growth**

Salisbury City Manager Jim Greene presented his recommended fiscal year 2023-2024 (FY24) budget to City Council at a budget work session meeting, Tuesday, May 23. A fiscal year is the city's annual financial period beginning July 1 through June 30. The recommended city budget of \$108,064,027 includes a recommended general fund of \$54,102,406. The balanced budget includes a property tax recommendation of \$0.61 per \$100 of valuation, a decrease from last year's tax rate of \$0.7196, following Rowan County's revaluation. While Salisbury's revenue-neutral tax rate is calculated at \$0.58, Greene is recommending a three-cent addition to fund Council priorities, such as debt service for new Fire Station 3 construction, police pay adjustments, funds for new positions based on new Police Chief recommendations and camera upgrades and maintenance.

Additional proposed items in the recommended budget:

- \$75,000 for crime reduction initiatives
- \$100,000 for in-park cameras
- Debt service for the construction of a new fire station
- Stormwater and water/sewer projects
- \$353,000 for street lighting and traffic safety improvements
- \$200,000 for neighborhood revitalization
- \$30,000 for small business entrepreneur development

A public hearing about the budget will be held on Tuesday, June 6, at 6 p.m. at the regular City Council meeting. This meeting is open to the public and also can be viewed via the City's live stream at www.salisburync.gov/webcast or the City's Facebook account at <https://facebook.com/CitySalisburyNC>. Prior to the public hearing Salisbury City Council will hold a special budget work session to receive recommendations from the city manager on projects and capital items. The special budget work session will take place at 5 p.m. Residents are invited to listen in preparation for the public hearing to follow at 6 p.m. Council must adopt a final budget by June 30.

The proposed budget can be found on the city website at salisburync.gov/RecommendedBudget.



Darrell Riley, Engineering Specialist

This month's employee spotlight is Darrell Riley, an engineering specialist in the City of Salisbury Engineering Department. With 23 years of service, Darrell started his career with public services, currently public works, in 1999 as a grounds maintenance worker. He then joined the engineering department in 2013.

In his role as an engineering specialist, Darrell works closely with the North Carolina Department of Transportation on special projects, assists traffic operations with their daily needs, and reviews development plans for compliance with city codes and construction standards for Salisbury-Rowan Utilities and Salisbury Public Works Dept.

"The most rewarding part of my job is seeing projects that I have been involved with come to a close and become useful to the residents of Salisbury."

**Congratulations to Sophia Atkinson,
our 2023 Lamplighter Survey Winner!**



STAY CONNECTED - CITY OF SALISBURY

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