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 heed 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

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 the 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.
    - One-Time Payments (Online)
      - Make a one-time payment online at salisburync.gov/pay. No registration required. Must have 14-digit account number including the dash.
      - Pay-By-Text
        - Register at salisburync.gov/pay and receive monthly statement via text and pay instantly.
      - Auto Pay
        - Register at 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 3 to make a payment.
      - Routing number and bank account information needed for check payments.

From The City Manager’s Desk

As I write this article, I can only think that few Americans have ever experienced a pandemic like 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. We’re in this together, and together we will come out more resilient than before.

Sincerely,
City Manager, W. Lane Bailey

For the latest information on City closings and the City’s response to COVID-19, visit: salisburync.gov/covid-19

For community closings, visit: salisburypost.com

Para la traducción al español, visite www.salisburync.gov/NoticiasEnEspañol
Parks and Rec Helps You Play At Home

“As we adapt some of our programming to reach our residents virtually,” Nick Aceves, Parks & Recreation Director, said, “Salisbury Parks and Recreation, along with other park systems across the country, have been adapting to the current environment and challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

The Salisbury Community Appearance Commission and Salisbury Housing Advocacy Commission are 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 grassroots 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, and 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. For questions, please call Alyssa Nelson at 704-638-5235.

Applications can be submitted by postal mail to:
Salisbury Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 479
Salisbury, NC 28146
Or email at blockwork@salisburync.gov

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/PlayAtHome, then select Activities, then search for camps.

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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.”

salisburync.gov/PlayAtHome

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