Downtown Salisbury, the place for family, friends, and holiday festivities, is gearing up for the holiday season with a variety of upcoming events perfect for all ages. Friday, Nov. 3, kicks off the season with “Thanks and Giving.” Drop off your canned, pet or baby food items in a participating downtown business to support the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina, while enjoying family-friendly activities and music.

Holiday Night Out takes place on the biggest shopping day of the year, Friday, Nov. 24. Stroll the streets and find the perfect gift, or say hello to Santa and the Grinch.

Saturday, Nov. 25, is an annual tradition where you can sip hot cocoa, enjoy crafts, and take a photo with Santa and the Grinch at the historic Bell Tower. Downtown Salisbury offers even more holiday fun on Friday, Dec. 1, with a “Jingle Mingle,” an evening of caroling, last minute shopping, and special appearances by Santa and the Grinch.

The last event before Christmas is Santa and the Grinch with Antique Fire Trucks on Saturday, Dec. 16. Your family can enjoy free rides downtown on antique fire trucks with Santa and the Grinch by your side. Visit downtownsalsburync.com for news, updates, and event details.

City Council

Mayor Karen K. Alexander
Mayor Pro Tem Maggie Blackwell
Council Member Brian Miller
Council Member Kenneth Hardin
Council Member David Post
City Manager Lane Bailey

City of Salisbury Newsletter

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City of Salisbury Newsletter November 2017 Edition

Downtown for the Holidays

City Cemetery has Columbaria

There is now an alternative burial option available to Salisbury residents who wish to be cremated and placed in a City Cemetery. First of its kind in a City Cemetery, two 48-inch columbaria were installed in Memorial Park Cemetery located at 1310 W. Innes Street earlier this year. The doors are engraved like a headstone, and the owner will be referred to one of the local monument companies to perform the engraving. The columbaria takes up less space than regular graves and are cost effective in that they are less expensive than a traditional burial.

Costs are available online at salburync.gov/Cemetery. Linda Davis, cemetery manager, explained that this purchase came after years of inquiries from citizens who were interested in their final resting place in a columbarium located in a City cemetery. Before the City’s installation, only area churches, the National Cemetery and private cemeteries offered columbaria. For more information, please contact Linda Davis, City of Salisbury Cemetery Division at (704) 638-5250 or by email at lcavis@salsburync.gov.

New Waste Collection Routes

Your collection day may change on January 1, 2018.
**City Launches New Website**

Finding information about your local government just got easier! The City of Salisbury launched a new website in the beginning of October 2017. The new design is clean, modern and easy to use with a large search feature on the main page. Helping citizens find the information they need quickly was a priority in the redesign.

The content management system used for the new website is robust enough to handle the needs of a growing city, but flexible enough to handle changes quickly. Representative staff from every city department have been trained in the new system to make edits and update the brand new event calendar and to upload news articles. The redesign also focused on modern web principles. This required a responsive design, so that the website will function appropriately on any device from computers to smartphones to tablets.

In addition, following progressive enhancement guidelines ensures the website will function on any browser and on older computers, so citizens will not have to worry that they don’t have the proper software to access the information they need.

A large emphasis was also placed on accessibility and ADA needs, so that the new website will be available to all of Salisbury’s citizens regardless of ability.

The new website was designed and developed in-house by web services coordinator Fern Blair, who can be contacted at folak@salisburypn.gov.

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**Tips for Safe Shopping**

SPD Officer Annice Chunn shares how to stay safe during Black Friday

- Be aware of your surroundings don’t just focus on shopping always look at your surroundings.
- There’s always safety in numbers. Take someone with you.
- Before leaving home. Make sure all doors and windows are secured, and leave a light of two on to make it appear that someone is there.
- Attempt to shop during the day or park in a well-lit area while shopping at night. Make sure your vehicle is free from any clutter (what might be junk to you, could be a treasure to someone else. Loose change in a tray, botted bags with trash, etc.)
- Ladies. Keep purse close to your body or carry your driver’s license, cash and/or “one” credit card in your front pocket.
- Men. Don’t have wallet visible in your back pocket, just carry driver’s license, cash and/or “one” credit card in front pocket.
- Try to make “ONE” trip to your vehicle to store your shopping bags in the trunk. A thief could be waiting in parking lot if you return into the store, and break into car while you’re gone.
- Returning Home. Be aware of your surrounding (suspicious people walking in the neighborhood).

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**City Council Meetings**

City Hall - December 3, starts at 5 p.m.
Located at 217 S. Main St.

First Friday
From 5 to 6 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, enjoy a good time dining, shopping, and strolling through Downtown Salisbury.

Downtown Salisbury - December 1, from 5 to 9 p.m. The theme for the night is Aingle Mingle. You can visit with Santa, listen to caroling & ride the trolley!

**Santa & the Grinch with Fire Trucks**

The holiday cheer continues with antique fire trucks rides around downtown Salisbury, with Santa and the Grinch along for the ride as well!

Downtown Salisbury - December 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Brunch with Santa**
Enjoy a pancake brunch and have your photo taken with Santa! Includes games and crafts.

Civic Center - December 2, from 10 a.m. to noon. Pre-registration is required, call (704) 216-PLAY

**New Year’s Eve at the Bell Tower**
Watch the live video feed of the ball drop in NY Times Square, while enjoying games, live music and refreshments.
Bell Tower Park - December 31, from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Salisbury Fire 200 Year Celebration
The Salisbury Fire Department is celebrating 200 years of service with a plaque dedication and a fire truck parade!

Downtown Salisbury - The Fire Truck Parade will go down Main St. from Kerr St. to Station 3, starting at 7 p.m.

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**DSI and City Host Open House on Empire Hotel**

As developers prepare to rehabilitate the Empire Hotel property, a drop-in open house was held last month in City Hall Council Chambers. Residents interested in the project’s progress were able to ask questions of and receive updates from the developer, Downtown Salisbury, Inc. and Salisbury representatives. Tours of the currently shuttered Empire Hotel were also provided.

One year ago, Black Point Investments, LLC, signed a purchase and sale agreement with plans to develop the property into market-rate apartments. Initial plans also provide for the development of retail storefronts along South Main St., including the retail space in the former Montgomery Ward main floor, mezzanine and basement. Combined, this is approximately 29,000 square feet of retail space.

It was anticipated that the property would close in August 2017; however due to the project financing structure recommended, the closing date has been rescheduled to early to mid-2018. Construction is scheduled to begin thereafter.

The Empire Hotel project is contingent upon the successful completion of several factors such as a market feasibility study, financial feasibility analysis, planning review and community input. The Open House is one of many opportunities to be provided for community input.

In 2010, Downtown Salisbury, Inc., through a series of public meetings, discussions, and with much public input, published the Downtown Master Plan. As proposed, redevelopment of the Empire Hotel will provide a framework for achieving a number of strategies outlined in the plan -- one being the expansion of the downtown as a diverse, livable, urban residential district.

For more information, contact the City Planning at (704) 638-5230 or visit www.empireSalisbury.com.

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**New Waste Routes**

Effective January 1, 2018, Salisbury will be implementing new routes for garbage, recycling and yard debris collection, possibly resulting in a new garbage and recycling pick-up day of the week for residents. Route changes will enable more efficient collection points, while keeping the trucks in the same general area each day, thereby reducing the number of miles driven per week.

To view the new waste collection route map, please visit www.salisburyn.gov. Residents will also receive notifications on rollout carts over the next several months via the Xosite notifications system and updates on Facebook and Nextdoor.

In addition to the new route changes, the waste collection will implement changes to Chapter 21 of the Salisbury Code of Ordinances that became effective July 1. Previously, items that were considered “bulky,” were inconsistently collected. While the Code allowed for changes, rarely were fees incurred. With the recent change in the Code, these items will now incur a fee for removal, except during Spring and Fall Spruce Up periods, in an effort to keep neighborhoods tidy.

The new standards for collection of rollouts, bulky items and yard waste are:
- Items left outside of City issued rollouts will be considered bulky
- Bulky items can be collected by calling 704-638-5260 to schedule an appointment
- The City of Salisbury will still provide a Spring and Fall Spruce Up week for collection of bulky items,
- Limits to yard waste collection – One truckload per week

**Bulk Item Collection Fees:**

- Minimum Charge: $10
- Lampshades (per item): $5
- Scrap metal (per pickup load): $20
- Caring for pickup (per pickup load): $20
- Mattresses: $50
- Furniture: $50
- Miscellaneous Items (per pickup load): $25
- Items Requiring a license (per pickup load): $25

- Flat fee: $25

- Charges for specific cases will be calculated by Public Service Director and fees must be paid in advance of service.