

Municipal News January 2010

What is coming to Barnwell? On January 28, 2010 at the Reid's parking lot the US Census Bureau will bring their Census 2010 Educational Bus. This will be a time for all Barnwell city and county residents to find out what the Census is all about and to have any of your questions answered. The bus will arrive in Barnwell around 4pm and will be open until 6pm.

The City has erected two support signs for the Census at the Fuller Park parking lot and at five points. The City Council urges all City of Barnwell residents to fill out their questionnaires and mail them back as soon as they receive them from the Census bureau.

Why is the City in such support for a complete Census count, here are a few reasons.

1- Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part on census data.

2- Census data is used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing developments and other community facilities.

3- Census data determines boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts.

As you can see a poor census count could have a direct impact on the quality of life of Barnwell City residents.

Here are the 2010 Census Key Dates.

March 2010 Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

April 2010 Be counted program is implemented.

April 1, 2010 CENSUS DAY

May- July 2010 Census takers visit households that did not return questionnaires by mail.

December 31, 2010 By law the Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President.

March 11, 2011 By law, the Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to the states.

Currently the Census Bureau is planning to have an employee set up at the Barnwell City Hall during March and April. If you have any questions or need help filling out the questionnaires, stop by City Hall and talk to the Census representative.

The City will keep reminding the residents of Barnwell how important the complete count is to us all. During the 2000 Census the state of South Carolina was 49th of the 50 states in questionnaires returned. Let's show everyone this year that we can be number 1.

Municipal News February 2010

John Zawacki

Spring may not be here yet but the city recreation department is hard at work on the Lemon Park ball fields. They are currently redoing the infields and adding 25 tons of pro choice soilmaster clay to the infields. This will allow the fields to better absorb the rain water and be able to recover to a playable state faster than last year. Our first tournament this year is early March (TBD) and will be sponsored by the South Carolina Independent School Association.

Work is complete on the landscaping of the City Hall parking lot. This work was done through a grant the City received from Palmetto Pride in the amount of \$3080. The Barnwell Police Department also received a grant from the Palmetto Pride program in the amount of \$5,000 for litter control cameras. These cameras will be used in high litter areas to help cut down on the amount of liter that is being dumped in these areas. The City greatly appreciates these grant awards from Palmetto Pride.

Work on the Jackson St, Wellington St. Park by Lake Brown continues. Workers from the City Water Department and Street Department are currently clearing and contouring the park. Once completed, the park will contain approximately 6 picnic tables with grills and an area for fishing. Swimming will not be allowed at the park.

Remember the 2010 Census will be April First. Most individuals will receive their 2010 Census questionnaires by March. With only 10 questions, the questionnaire takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. The City Council Complete Count Committee wants to remind you again that filling out the questionnaire and sending it back promptly is very important to you and the city.

The Barnwell County Relay for Life will be held in the downtown circle area of Barnwell again this year. The dates for the Relay are Friday and Saturday, April 23-24. The Relay begins at 7 PM and is planned for an all night event. Please help support this cause, which helps the American Cancer Society in research and in many other ways. The money is also utilized locally for assistance through the ACS to patients of cancer. For more information regarding the ACS, please visit www.cancer.org. There are numerous fundraisers that teams throughout the county are putting on over the next several months. Our goal in Barnwell County is to raise \$50,000. You may visit the Relay for Barnwell County Page by visiting: www.relayforlife.org/barnwellsc. Please consider supporting these events to help us all raise awareness and funding to find a cure for cancer.

Latest Municipal News

Special March NEWS!

From the South Carolina Rural Summit held March 7-9, 2010



Director's Award City of Barnwell

Effective community and economic development programs require leadership that is willing to “develop” a plan, find creative ways to “finance” the plan and ultimately have the patience, endurance, and commitment to “work” the plan. Four years ago, the City of Barnwell made a commitment to revitalize its central business district.

Since then, Barnwell has developed and is implementing a master plan geared toward addressing marketing, retail recruitment/expansion, traffic/pedestrian flow, recreation/events, and project funding. The City continues to be a work in progress, but visible progress can be seen in the more than 12 buildings that have been revitalized, the conversion of a former bank into a new city hall, upgraded and expanded Lemon Park Sports Complex, new city fountain and highly visible adoption of a city-wide branding campaign.

The impressive part of Barnwell’s past four years is their commitment to “take the bull by the horns” and get the job done on their own with little or no outside funding or assistance. Their “yes we can” attitude has earned The City of Barnwell the 2010 Director’s Award.

The director's award is a special award and is not given every year. It is an award that allows the director of Rural Development at the South Carolina Department of Commerce (Maceo Nance) to give special recognition to a community/individual that has gone above and beyond in improving a community.

Pictured from left to right: Marty Martin (BCEDC), John Zawacki (City Admin), Lynn Cox (Tourism & Comm Dev/City) and Maceo Nance (Director of Rural Dev. Dept of Commerce)

Municipal News April 2010

It is that time of year again BASEBALL SEASON is here. The Barnwell Baseball Association will hold the first games on April 19th and their Opening Day ceremony on April 24th. This year Dixie Boys will be using the new 300 foot field next to Hagood Ave.

Emily has stated the parking policy for this season trying to alleviate the parking congestion of last season. This year's policy is; Parking will only be allowed in the 3 parking lots provided. Parking lot #1 is located off Park St., Parking lot #2 is located off Lemon Park Dr., and Parking lot #3 is located off Brown St. Parking will not be allowed along the perimeter of the park unless patrons are parked in designated disabled parking spaces. Parking along the perimeter creates a safety hazard for children and pedestrians. Parking will not be allowed in any business parking lots surrounding the park.

Currently Emily has 16 tournaments scheduled for this season. These are;

SCISA Tournament TBD, ISA TBD, USSA tournament April 17th& 18th, East Coast Ball Tournament May 29th to 31st, USSA Tournament June 5th & 6th, Dixie Tournament July 3rd thru the 9th, ISA tournament July 10th & 11th, Adult Tournament July 17th & 18th, East Coast Ball Tournament July 24th & 25th, ISA Tournament August 6th Thru the 8th, East Coast Ball Tournament August 21st & 22nd, East Coast Ball Tournament September 18th & 19th, Adult Tournament September 18th & 19th, ISA Tournament October 9th & 10th, East Coast Ball Tournament October 16th & 17th, Turkey Adult Tournament November 20th & 21st.

The city will be constructing Parking lot #4 on a City owned lot across from the TNT building. This will be a 1.6 acre lot with a pedestrian cross walk on Main St. Also the City will be constructing temporary Restrooms between the T-Ball field and the 300 foot field. These restrooms will also service the playground and will be open to the public during games or whenever the playground is open.

Don't forget our Pick up with Pride event on Saturday April 17th 7am till noon. Pick up supplies will be available at City Hall and the trash drop off location will be on the Circle. We need your support for this event several areas in the city are in need of clean up. Take Pride in your City and volunteer.

The 2010 Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society is scheduled for Friday-Saturday, April 23-24 from 7 pm to 7 am. The walk will officially begin at 7 pm with our cancer survivors. Teams will be set up all on the Circle. We invite the entire community to come out and support this event. Entertainment, activities, FOOD and games will go on throughout the night. Support this worthy cause then join us for the reading of the names of cancer survivors as well as friends and family who lost their battle to cancer during the luminary service at 10 pm. We thank all of the sponsors for this year's relay as well as the teams for working hard. Luminaries are still available, so please contact any one of the teams or for the City Hall Team; you may call Lynn Cox at City Hall- 803-259-3266 for more information.

Municipal News May 2010

Did you know that the month of May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month as well as National Bike Month? With the weather turning warmer, May is a perfect time to get outside and exercise and ride a bike. The City of Barnwell Parks and Recreation Department encourages the community to get out and enjoy the spring time by walking, jogging or riding a bike. Many of our baseball and softball leagues are in full swing and a number of adult leagues are starting up. We encourage anyone to go out to the parks and participate in watching the youth or playing in other leagues. Don't forget our other park amenities such as basketball or disc golf at Fuller Park. Across the nation, communities are getting into shape with healthier living and exercise. National Bike Month includes Bike-to-Work Week from May 17 - 21 and National Bike-to-Work Day on Friday, May 21. Join this effort to provide environmentally friendly transportation.

With the end of the month, summertime is approaching. There are a number of individual summer activities provided by the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as the Summer Day Camp, available from June 7 through August 13. For many summer activities and events, please refer to the Program Guide, printed and available from the Parks & Recreation Department in City Hall, also available in many stores and businesses around Barnwell. You may also find it in pdf form on the City's website at www.cityofbarnwell.com.

As you may have noticed the City is placing new sewer force mains on Galilee Road and Main Street. The new force mains will insure a good working system of sewers for the area. The work will be along Main Street beginning at Brown Street to the Heathwood lift station and from the Galilee lift station to Main Street. The work should be completed within 90 days.

The project for the paving of the Circle has been let by the Department of Transportation. The project deadline date is September 30. We will inform the businesses on the Circle as soon as we have information about the schedule of the contracted work. The City has been assured by the contractor and DOT that the crosswalks should not be damaged. The crosswalks on the Circle were placed in their locations for a number of reasons, one being safety. The City strongly encourages pedestrians to use the crosswalks that are provided instead of jaywalking. We understand that the shortest distance from Carol's to Subway is a straight line but there is no crosswalk there. Due to safety reasons, that crosswalk was removed. Children have been nearly run down by vehicles on that corner. Please consider this issue when enjoying your downtown shopping and visiting.

Finally, a new event is coming to the Downtown Area this summer! Join the Barnwell Development Association and the City of Barnwell for the Third Thursday Event. Each month, there will be a different event with a theme, activities, entertainment and stores will stay open for your convenience until 7 pm. On May 20th, the Spring Fling will begin at 5 pm with a family scavenger hunt and music from the Sleytown Folk on the Circle. Allen Black will be there juggling on his unicycle. Come and bring the family. Our local businesses owners need to be

encouraged during this very difficult economic time. Support your local economy; SHOP locally!!

Municipal News June 2010

Recreation Director Emily Randell has been notified by the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism that our request for funding for a Walking/ Nature Trail at Fuller Park has been recommended for funding of \$60,725.95. If the final project review is approved by the Federal Highway Administration, State Historic Preservation Office and the US Fish & Wildlife Service. The grant will be finalized and the City will be able to move forward on the project.

Other projects currently being worked on by the city are the Main Street/Galilee Road force main project which is currently 75% complete. There are two potential areas of minor traffic congestion on this project (1) at the Main Street Lift Station when workers will be boring under the highway and (2) at Galilee Rd where the force main will cross the road to run along Jack Phillips Park. The second project is the City Park construction at Wellington and Jackson Streets. City workers are completing the construction of the Park parking lot. This will be as much of the project that will be completed this fiscal year. We hope to start phase two of the project in October and contour the area for picnic tables and grills. The third phase will include landscaping and fencing of the park.

On June 12th the South Carolina Housing Authority hosted a track and field event at Lemon Park. Approximately 35 Youth from Anderson, North Charleston, and Barnwell participated in the event that included the long jump, 50 meter dash and shot put.

The City of Barnwell, the Barnwell County Arts Council, and the First Baptist Church are proud to present the 2nd Annual Family Fun Fest Independence Day Celebration. The event will take place on Saturday, July 3rd beginning at 5 pm at the Veteran's Park. There will be old fashioned games(sack races, egg toss, water balloon toss, 3-legged races and more) beginning at 5 pm. Music will be provided by Mr. Gary Brantley. At 7:30 pm the Forth Gordon Military Band will begin performing patriotic music for your enjoyment.. The evening will culminate in a professional fireworks display around 9:15pm. The fireworks will be shot from a different location than last year so the park is an excellent location to view the show. Come out early, play games and support the military band during their excellent performance. Bring your chairs, picnic baskets (some food may be available for sale by vendors), hand fans and the whole family.

Municipal NEWS – July 2010

City of Barnwell Police Department Joins the National Crime Map

July 8, 2010 – by Chief Todd Gantt

Have you ever seen flashing blue lights in your neighborhood and wanted to know what was going on? Do you want to find out how safe your neighborhood really is? Now you can, through a new partnership between the City of Barnwell Police Department and CrimeReports, creators of the National Crime Map, at www.CrimeReports.com.

Providing reliable, timely information to our citizens is one of our top priorities, and partnering with CrimeReports gives us the ability to keep the public informed on a regular basis as to what is going on in the community. The public can access the crime map 24 hours a day through the city website, CrimeReports website or through the CrimeReports iPhone app, available for free download in the Apple iTunes store. The new service even lets local citizens sign up for free customizable email alerts, so they can stay on top of crime in their neighborhood. Information is power, and we hope that giving the community this information will help them prevent crime in their neighborhoods.

Greg Whisenant, founder and CEO of CrimeReports states that police departments like the City of Barnwell Police Department are leaders in law enforcement innovation and that they are demonstrating their commitment to the community, to proactive policing, and fiscal responsibility.

Barnwell Police Department is joining a list of nearly 800 other law enforcement agencies of all sizes across North America who are sharing their crime information with the public through the map, like Baltimore, Boston, San Jose, San Francisco, Portland, Washington D.C., Los Angeles County, and more.

You can access your local crime map and sign up for daily, weekly, or monthly email crime alerts at www.CrimeReports.com or at the City of Barnwell website, Police Department page:
<http://cityofbarnwell.com/departments/police/CrimeReports.aspx>

Working with nearly 800 law enforcement agencies across North America, CrimeReports is the largest and most accurate online resource for up-to-date crime information. CrimeReports services are offered by Public Engines, Inc. For more information, visit www.CrimeReports.com.

Municipal News August 2010

By John Zawacki

In July, the City of Barnwell has revamped its building inspection program. The city entered into a contract with England Enterprises Inc. the leader in certified, independent contract provider for building inspection services. England Enterprises Inc. was established in 1992 as the only company in the southeast to assist federal, state and local jurisdictions with the training, plan reviews, building inspections, and implementation of the International building codes.

Today England Enterprises Inc. has offices in Columbia, Spartanburg, Beaufort, Hardeeville and North Myrtle Beach South Carolina. They also have offices in Orlando Fl, Las Vegas Nv. and Phoenix Az. We look forward to a long relationship with England Enterprises Inc. and an excellent and consistent building inspection program. The Building official assigned to Barnwell is Ron Powell. Ron is also responsible for the building program for the town of Saluda SC.

The City is also working to create a small park at the corners of Jackson and Wellington Streets by the lake. This park is part of a grant project to provide a city maintained lake park. The property was bought by the city a number of years ago for this park. The park will have benches, picnic tables, grills, a small parking area and fishing will be available on the bank of the lake.

During this month, the City of Barnwell is holding a Park Naming Contest. The city council will vote on the best name for the park at the September 13th city council meeting. There is no guarantee that the name will come from the submitted entries, depending on the quality of submissions, but it is a very good possibility. Also, this contest is a name entry only contest; no petitions will be accepted for any one particular name. Already, a number of names have been submitted for the contest. The deadline is Friday, September 3 at 4:30 pm (City Hall closing time). No submissions placed in the deposit box after 4:30 on that Friday will be accepted.

Naming Suggestions (encouraged, but not required)

1. Incorporate wit, whimsy or thoughtfulness into your entry.
2. Consider an historical figure from Barnwell. The name should have a story behind it, something we can sink our mental hooks into. Historical figure means that it would be someone from the past, not a current resident or living person.
3. Avoid your name or names meaningful to you because of your own family history, unless the person was significant to Barnwell's history.
4. The park also does not have to be named after a person. Simple geographic or descriptive names can be used, but again, give us a story.

The winner will not only get their picture in the paper, recognition by the city, but also receive a special basket full of Barnwell items and/or gift certificates from local merchants.

Entries are required to be written or typed on a form that can be downloaded from the city's website or picked up at city hall and other various local businesses. More than one entry can be submitted.

Remember the deadline is Friday, September 3 by 4:30 pm when the City Hall closes. Good luck and thanks for participating.

Third Thursdays will continue through the fall months. Come out and enjoy free entertainment and fun. Check out the Community Calendar here in the People Sentinel for dates and information or the city website at www.cityofbarnwell.com.

Municipal News September 2010

At the City Council meeting on September 13th City Council adopted the 2010/2011 budget for the City and gave a second reading to Ordinance 2010-4 to raise revenue for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011. The budget for next year showed revenues up by .025% over last year or \$107,500. The city budget for this year totaled \$4,355,540. The City budget can be viewed on the City website: www.cityofbarnwell.com.

Several months ago the City requested from SCDOT the placement for two pedestrian crosswalks on Dunbarton Blvd. One is at the intersection of Highway 64 and 278 (at Sports) and the other is at the top of Dunbarton hill at the intersection of Highway 278, 70, and Pechmann St. After studying the traffic flow at these locations SCDOT approved the construction of these crosswalks. Work should start within the month and SCDOT expects the crosswalks to be completed by the end of the year. Not only will these crosswalks make crossing Dunbarton Blvd. more safe but will also join the walking trail at the lake to the trail that will be constructed at Fuller Park.

The Barnwell Fire Department Open House will be on Oct 5, part of National Fire Prevention Week Oct 3-9. Beginning at 7 PM until 9 PM the department will conduct fire extinguisher demonstrations, provide information about home fire safety, preparing a home readiness kit and residential fire sprinklers. Tours of the fire station and a display of equipment will be available. Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be awarded periodically throughout the evening. Come meet the volunteer firefighters protecting your community.

Police Chief Todd Gantt, is currently working with the Meadow Brook neighborhood to establish a Neighborhood Watch program. This would be the first watch program set up within the city limits. The Neighborhood watch program shows that the community is proactive in keeping the Neighborhood safe and friendly. Chief Gantt is hoping other neighborhoods will take the lead from Meadowbrook and set up watches in their neighborhoods.

The City Council is still considering the entries of the Name that Park Contest so did not take a vote on the park name for the new park at the corner of Jackson and Wellington. A vote will be taken within the next few months.

Fall is full of activities in and around the city. The Parks and Recreation Fall Program guide is out and available on the website. Our community events calendar is adding events every week, not only from the program guide but from other organizations around the city. If you have an event that is open to the public and is happening within the city limits of Barnwell, please contact Lynn Cox at lscox@cityofbarnwell.com with the detailed information to be placed on the calendar. Don't forget to look for us on Facebook. We have nearly 1000 fans and we update them often on our events and activities.

Municipal News for October 2010

On Monday October 4th City Council voted on the winning entry in the Name the Park contest. The winning entry came from two participants Mrs. Cindy Pack and Mr. Tom Boulware. The winning Name submitted was Kilkenny Park. The Name Kilkenny originated when Cornelius Tobin established a large plantation in Barnwell shortly after the American Revolution, and named it after Kilkenny County Ireland the ancient seat of the Tobin clan in Ireland. As fall and winter progress the city will continue construction of the park and hope to have it ready for the spring.

Clearing has started on the Fuller Park walking /nature trail. The City has received a grant from the Federal Recreation Trails Program for the construction of the trail. When completed, the trail will consist of 3,600 feet of asphalt walking trail and 600 feet of boardwalk, which will run along Turkey Creek. The trail will start at Dunbarton Blvd, next to the bridge over Turkey creek and run completely around the park. A trailhead shelter will be constructed next to the parking lot. The shelter will be 24 feet wide and 48 feet long. The City has 18 months to bid, award and construct the trail. Please note that during construction of the trail some areas of Fuller Park will be roped off. The City requests that users of the park honor these restricted areas and not cross the line into the construction areas.

South Carolina DOT continues to make progress on the pedestrian crosswalk on Dunbarton Hill. Handicap ramps are in place and crossing signal changers are being installed. This crosswalk will make it safer for people who have to cross the four lanes of traffic on Dunbarton. Work on the crosswalk by Sports will start soon.

The Barnwell City Planning Commission will meet at 6pm on October 25, 2010 to discuss a rezoning request from the Barnwell county EDC. The request is to rezone several lots on Fuldner St. from Industrial to Highway Commercial. The Commission will also elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman at the meeting. Citizens are welcome to sit in on the meeting if they are interested.

With fall in the air, we are gearing up towards our annual Christmas events held in the downtown area. The Christmas Tree Lighting and Love Light Service along with the Christmas by Candlelight will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2010 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. The annual Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 4 at 4 pm. If you are interested in participating in any of these or other events (Third Thursday) held in the downtown area, please contact Lynn Cox at 541-6555 or lscox@cityofbarnwell.com. All events and forms are also available on our website at www.cityofbarnwell.com.

MUNICIPAL NEWS NOVEMBER 2010

The City of Barnwell would like to extend a HUGE THANKS to all who participated in the Fuller Park and Turkey Creek Clean Up. A special thanks goes out to Boy Scout Troop 392 and Girl Scout Troop 753 for their help in this effort. This goes a long way to implementing the vision for the park from the 2006 Master Plan. Work has started on the walking trail and boardwalk areas; the trail portion of the project has been laid out; and the base layer of sand-clay is now being installed. The City plans to have the board walk drawings completed by the end of this month and go out for sealed bids in early December. We expect to have the bid awarded in January 2011. Once the board walks are completed we will then request bids for the asphalt portion of the trail in April 2011.

Work will resume on Kilkenny Park after the beginning of the new year with installation of the retaining wall for the picnic areas. Grade work will soon follow. It is our hope that the Park will be ready for a spring opening.

Don't forget to check out the calendar of events on the city's website (www.cityofbarnwell.com) for the most up to date information on programs and events happening within the city. If you have a public event to add to the calendar that is happening within the city limits, please email the information to lscox@cityofbarnwell.com.

The City invites everyone to come and join us for our annual Holiday celebrations. The annual Tree Lighting and Love Light service will be held on Thursday, December 2 beginning at 5:30 pm. Love Light honorariums and memorials must be received by the Barnwell Development Association no later than Monday, November 29 to be printed in the program for the annual service. After the tree lighting, all are invited to enjoy our downtown area shops during the annual Christmas by Candlelight. Many of the shops will be open with Christmas specials and sales. Our annual Christmas Parade is scheduled for 4 pm on Saturday, December 4. If you are interested in participating in the parade, you must contact Lynn Cox no later than Monday, November 29. We would also like to thank Mayor Pro-Tem Pickens Williams Sr. and his family for donating the Christmas tree for the circle this year. We look forward to seeing everyone enjoying their community during this Festive holiday Season. Lynn can be reached at City Hall at 541-6555 or 259-3266.

On December 6th City Council will hold a public hearing on rezoning several lots on Fuldner Road by the airport from Industrial to Highway Commercial. Any concerned Citizens are urged to attend. Information on the lots' locations can be seen at City Hall.

On December 7th City Council will be meeting with our Legislative Delegation to discuss the 2011/2012 legislative Agenda. City council wants to be sure that our delegation understands the city council's position on several proposed bills that would affect the City negatively. Council will also provide an update on the City's accomplishments as well as a discussion on the

city's future needs. Council will offer a tour of the city to the delegation to show them the progress made in the City over the last three years.

In light of recent burglary attempts in Barnwell and as we move closer to the holidays, our Barnwell Police Department would like to provide a few reminders and safety tips. Everyone should be more alert and aware of people around you, from the business owner in the store to the shopper on the street. Talking on the cell phone or texting while walking or getting into your car can place you at risk and reduces your sense of awareness of your surroundings. Lock vehicles, even at home. Ask a neighboring business owner to walk with you to your car in the evening. Park your car in well lit areas. If you feel someone is following you, turn around and check. Proceed to the nearest lighted house or place of business. If you feel you are in danger, do not hesitate to call for help or scream. Keep as little cash as possible on hand and lock all packages and valuables in the trunk of your car or out of sight. The Barnwell City Police Department wants all Barnwell citizens to have a safe and happy holiday season.