

CITIZENS NEWSLETTER

January – March 2024

**MAYOR
CHARLES GAYLOR**



Hiawatha Jones
District 1



Chris Boyette
District 2



Jamie Taylor
District 3



Brandi Matthews
District 4



Beverly Weeks
District 5



Roderick White
District 6

Goldsboro City Council

Dear Goldsboro:

I'm deeply grateful, honored, and humbled to be writing this first newsletter as our mayor. Being elected by the people, for the people, as the mayor of our city is a privilege that only a select few have enjoyed in our history. This is a role that I accept with a sincere appreciation for the complexities and nuances that make our community special.

As we embark on the task of growing Goldsboro together, my focus will be to create a city that is safe, inclusive, and prosperous for all. Our city is diverse in background, belief systems, race, educational background, nationality, socio-economic status, and in every other way that one can define. It was not long ago that Goldsboro elected its first woman — my grandmother — to its City Council. Today, Goldsboro has, for the first time, elected a diverse majority female council. This is an exciting moment in our city's history. Our council contains representation of entrepreneurs, social services, veterans, educators, and the non-profit community within its membership.

Simply stated, this election was about taking our city in a direction that honors every corner of our community and simultaneously sets the city up for livability and long-term growth. I ask for your support as we invest in our city's water and sewer infrastructure, public safety services, sanitation services, roads, sidewalks,

and parks. Together, we must build a city that is efficient, sustainable, and attractive to new citizens. We must have a city that is open for high-quality new development that increases the collective quality of life and brings more opportunities for our youth. The city needs your support as we strive to attract new businesses, support homegrown entrepreneurship, increase our educational outcomes, and strategically initiate economic growth that brings better opportunities for all parts of the city. I am eager to work with this exciting new council and with every citizen who desires a constructive voice in the future of our city.

Best Always, and I wish you a prosperous beginning to 2024.

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS*

Feb. 12 | March 4 | March 18

Council Retreat: Feb. 20 and 21, Goldsboro Event Center

Council meets at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

*Subject to change with public notice.

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<http://bit.ly/goldsboronextdoor>

City Begins Enforcement of Two-Hour Parking Downtown

In an effort to address parking concerns throughout downtown Goldsboro, the City is enforcing two-hour on-street parking within the managed parking zone. This area includes Center Street from Ash to Chestnut, Mulberry Street from John to James, and Walnut Street from John to James. All other streets are not included, and parking will continue as before.

With the enforcement of two-hour on-street parking, visitors to City Hall or nearby businesses will no longer be able to park in the off-street lots next to City Hall (Center Street) and behind the City Hall Addition (Mulberry Street) from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. These lots will be reserved for City employees during this time.

In 2016, a traffic and parking study was done to analyze available parking, traffic conditions, patterns of use, and opportunities. The study found that there were 1,929 parking spaces downtown, and it determined that wayfinding signage was needed to help direct and inform the public. Wayfinding was added in 2020. However, downtown has grown significantly in the last three years, doubling the number of upper-story apartments and realizing 40 building rehabilitations. This growth is a testament to fantastic progress. However, it has led to congestion of street parking and a change in traffic/parking patterns that require the City to revisit management and education strategies.

The City of Goldsboro hosted a forum on Jan. 26, 2023, to hear input from downtown stakeholders — including residents, visitors, business owners, employees, property owners, landlords, and developers — regarding parking throughout the downtown area. Parking affects everyone who visits downtown Goldsboro, regardless of frequency. The goal of the public meeting was to gather input and feedback regarding downtown parking



capacity and usage to determine the best way to manage changing parking needs.

After reviewing downtown parking concerns, the Downtown Development Department presented options to the City Council for parking management to include two-hour parking in designated areas from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Council approved the implementation of two-hour parking at its May 1, 2023, meeting.

Goldsboro Police Department has hired a parking specialist to enforce downtown parking regulations. Parking management enforcement will begin with a soft roll-out in January. During this initial phase, warning tickets will be issued to those in violation of two-hour parking rules. Parking violation fines will be assessed beginning April 1, 2024. A two-hour parking violation is \$50. A late fee of \$25 will be added if the fine is not paid within two weeks.

LEAD AND COPPER INVENTORY: Duke's Root Control has entered a contract with the City of Goldsboro to inventory our water service lines and check for any lead piping. It is our intention for all this work to be performed inside the water meter box at the right-of-way line. In some cases, we may have to dig outside of the box at a distance of 18 inches in either direction of the box. This work is a federal mandate from the EPA, and we are to inventory both the public and private sides of the meter. If work has to be performed on private property, the city will reach out to the landowner and get a right of entry to perform this work. Once this project is completed, the city will post the results on the city website for public viewing. We don't anticipate very many lead water service lines in our system. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Perry, Engineering Manager, at 919-580-4317.

Fire Inspection Fees

Goldsboro Fire Department began charging for fire inspections on Jan. 1. This is a new charge for Goldsboro businesses; however, this is not a new concept as this is standard practice in the fire service. This initiative was presented to the City Council in 2021 and included in the Schedule of Fees in the FY24 budget.

Fire inspection schedules are set forth by North Carolina building and fire codes. Fee schedules are available at <https://fire.goldsboronc.gov/>. Billing will be noted on the provided inspection and collected by a third-party company (Fire Recovery).

If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Marshal's office at 919-739-7411.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Wipes & Personal Hygiene Products Clog Sewer Lines!

Many baby and adult personal hygiene products, along with household wipes and cleaning towelettes, are labeled both DISPOSABLE and FLUSHABLE. While these products may be marketed as a convenience item in this way, the truth is these types of items cause blockages and service problems, not only in the sewer line on your property, but also the public sewer system and pump stations. This is primarily because, unlike toilet paper, these products DO NOT break down once they are flushed.

Since they do not break down, they collect and cause blockages in your on-site sewer, especially older pipelines that may already have existing greases, roots, or other obstructions. A repair of the on-site sewer line can leave the home or business owner with a very costly sewer repair.

When these products are introduced into the public sewer system, they collect and cause larger obstructions and clogs in the main sewer lines and even get tangled in the pump stations — requiring expensive repair or replacement of equipment.

What We Can All Do To Help...

ONLY flush toilet paper; more importantly, NEVER flush the following:

Disinfecting/Surface
Wipes

Mop or "Swiffer" Refills

Baby Wipes

Paper Towels

Jewelry Wipes

Pet Care Wipes

Cosmetic Wipes

First Aid Wipes

Disposable Diapers or
Liners

Bio-pads (nursing home,
home health care, etc.)

Cotton Swabs

Feminine Hygiene
Products

Toilet Cleaning Pads

ANY Moist Type Towelettes



WWW.GOLDSBOROPARAMOUNT.COM

Goldsboro
**FAN
FEST**

FEBRUARY 17, 2024 12p-8p

GAMES VENDORS COSPLAY D&D MAGIC BOARD GAMES COMICS
TRADING CARDS 501ST CAROLINA BATTALION CONCESSIONS
\$10 TICKETS FOR SALE AT GOLDSBORO PARAMOUNT THEATRE

**STAR
WARS**
THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK
SHOWTIME: 6:00PM



goldsboroparamount.com | 919-583-8432

James Gregory: The Funniest Man in America

7:30 p.m., Feb. 2 — For decades, the unforgettable caricature of veteran comedian James Gregory has stood grinning: his shirt untucked, his arms outstretched, a carefree welcome to a down-home, hilarious comedy experience. It's storytelling at its best. The trademark caricature is the essence of humorist James Gregory's comedy: rib-tickling reflections on life from the front porch.

T. Davis & Company, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 9 — T. Davis & Company is the brainchild of T. Davis, a soul singer-songwriter and producer based in Goldsboro. He is proud to be making his headlining debut at the Paramount in downtown Goldsboro. With a funky set of originals from his first two albums and select covers, this show will be one to remember.

The Malpass Brothers, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 10 — This is music steeped in the legacy of the Louvin Brothers, Johnny Cash, Marty Robbins, Hank Williams, Sr. & others. Count on classic, real country. Count on new Malpass tunes. Count on a couple of old-time traditional gospels. Count on their probably coming down into the house at intermission and asking what you'd like to hear. Count on giggles and ribbing between brothers. Count on some big hair and fancy boots and maybe even an Elvis twitch or two. Count on lines at the merch table – and count on logging on to find out where you'll be able to see them next!

Goldsboro FanFest 2024, 12-8 p.m., Feb. 17 — We are excited to announce Paramount's second annual "FanFest"! This humble version of "Comicon" will include table-top gaming, vendors, cosplayers from the 501st Carolina Garrison and Blue Ridge Base, and "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back" at 6 p.m.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (Wayne County Museum), Feb. 23-25 — After being convicted of a petty crime, a charming, rebellious rogue named McMurphy contrives to serve his short sentence in an airy mental institution rather than in a prison. This, he soon learns, was a mistake. He immediately clashes with the authoritarian head nurse, a fierce martinet named Nurse Ratched. Despite Ratched's strict reign, McMurphy quickly takes over the yard, leading others out of introversion, staging a revolt so that they can see the World Series on television, and arranging a rollicking midnight party with liquor and women. But McMurphy's brash insubordination has its consequences;

Ratched ultimately triumphs by subjecting McMurphy to a frontal lobotomy.

Mean Girls: High School Version, March 1-3 — Set in the fictional North Shore High School, the story revolves around Cady Heron, a new student who becomes entangled in the complex social hierarchy ruled by the Plastics, a trio of popular and ruthless girls led by Regina George. As Cady navigates the treacherous waters of high school cliques, she must grapple with friendship, betrayal, and the consequences of trying to fit in. The musical features catchy songs, witty dialogue, and a blend of humor and heart as it explores the challenges of adolescence and the quest for self-discovery. With a vibrant and energetic cast, the "Mean Girls" musical captures the essence of teenage life, delivering a relatable and entertaining experience for audiences of all ages.

Tangled: The Ballet, March 9-10 — Presented by Goldsboro Ballet

Dance for Christ, March 15-24 — Dance for Christ (DFC) is a ministry used to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through dance. The production features various genres of dance-ballet, lyrical, tap, jazz, and hip-hop. Dancers become the vessels which put God in the spotlight. As believers, the mission is to bring honor and praise to Jesus Christ and to open up the hearts and minds of non-believers to God's word in a way that is both relevant and truthful. Each dance piece tells a story or demonstrates God's unfailing love and mercy.

Comedy with Jen Kober, 7:30 p.m., April 6 — Jen Kober has energetically bounded into the national spotlight with a growing list of credits that include: "AJ & The Queen," "Dead to Me," "The Purge," "American Horror Story," "Bunk'd," and epic Star Wars miniseries, "The Mandalorian." You won't want to miss her Paramount debut. Jen's hard-hitting show is phenomenally funny as she commands the stage with her original blend of stand-up, story telling, and improvised rock-n-roll that brings crowds to their feet and dares you not to laugh!

Dasan Ahanu, April 12-13 — Christopher Massenburg, better known as Dasan Ahanu, is a public speaker, organizer, curator, educator, poet, spoken word artist, educator, songwriter, and emcee, and loyal Hip Hop head born and raised in Raleigh, North Carolina. He is co-founder and managing director of Black Poetry Theatre, a Durham based theatre company that creates and produces original poetry and spoken word based productions. As an active participant in poetry slam, Dasan has competed regionally and nationally as a founding member and coach of Durham, NC's own Bull City Slam Team. In 2010 and 2014, Ahanu led the Bull City Slam Team in winning the Southern Fried Southeastern Regional Poetry Slam, the largest regional poetry slam in the country. He also led the team to a 3rd place finish at the 2010 National Poetry Slam and a 2nd place finish in Group Piece Finals at the 2012 National Poetry Slam.