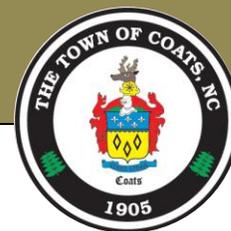


# Coats Corner

“a peaceful place.....a friendly face”



Coats Town Hall, 237 N. McKinley Street, Coats, NC 27521

Web site address: <http://www.coatsnc.org> Phone number: 910-897-5183 Fax: 910-897-2662

## A Message from the Mayor

By Walter Weeks

I am excited to present to you the first issue of our town's newsletter. Our intent is to provide you with information on services, activities, and issues important to our community.

Coats is conveniently located between Raleigh and Fayetteville and serves as the eastern gateway to Campbell University. Within a few hours you can be sitting on a beach or enjoying mountain views. We are truly at the heart of North Carolina.

Our town is governed by five elected commissioners and a mayor. All commissioners are elected at-large and serve four-year terms. Our current commissioners are listed on page five. You will also find there a list of boards and committees that provide important services to our citizens. If you are interested in becoming involved in one of these, please request an application through our Town Clerk.

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said “Everyone can be great because anyone can serve.” No town has a longer list of “great” people who have found ways to serve their neighbors. Keep that heritage alive in Coats. Watch for opportunities to serve through a church or civic group or just reaching out to a neighbor in need. Let us know how we can serve you better. Don't hesitate to contact me or one of our commissioners if you have a suggestion. We are here to serve you.

Thank you for being a part of Coats!

## Police Department Vacationing Tips

By Jeremy Hall, Chief of Police

While you are away don't give a burglar opportunity to prey.

Here are some tips to help protect your home from crime when you are out-of-town:



1. Ask a neighbor to pick up your mail and newspapers or discontinue them while on vacation.
2. Put an automatic timer on a minimum of 2 lights and varying the times that they light.
3. Turn on as many radios as possibly- preferably tuned to a talk show. The sound of voices in the house can be a deterrent. Consider sensors for outside lights so the lights go on automatically when motion is detected.

Continue *Vacationing* on page 4

## Let's Keep it Clean!

*By Kenny Cole, Zoning Administrator*

**Did you know:**

**That there is a town ordinance that prevents your grass from being over 12" high and that there is an ordinance about trash on your property?**

Numerous man hours are spent each month enforcing the Town Ordinances on things we should be doing to our property. This affects all of us by using Town personnel to enforce the ordinances, thus using your tax dollars. I think we will all agree that those hours spent enforcing the

## Play Ball!

*By Mike Collins, Recreation Director*

In partnership with our citizens, the Coats Parks and Recreation provides comprehensive programs, facilities and services which respond to the changing needs within the Coats community.

We strive to preserve, enhance and protect our park to enrich the quality of life for present and future generations in a safe and secure environment. Our goal here in Coats is to promote community health and well-being through fun, to have memorable recreation experiences and provide activities for everyone.

Our spring sports have started and we have 14 teams representing the Town of Coats in Tee-Ball, Softball and Baseball. Coats Parks and Recreation is also a proud member of the Dixie Youth Baseball and Softball Association. The Dixie Youth

*"Our goal here in Coats is promoting community health and well-being through fun"*



code could be better utilized by the Town creating new services that are not currently provided. Uncut lawns and yard trash bring unwanted ticks, rodents, mosquitoes and other vermin. Un-kept lawns also distract others from moving to our town.

**To those of you that keep your property looking good, we thank you! LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN!**



District 11 Majors Baseball Tournament and the Dixie Youth AA Baseball Tournament will be hosted by Coats on June 23, and the winners will go on to compete in the State Championship.

Our park is open to the public and we invite everyone to come out and enjoy it. Park information such as programs, photos, schedules and park rules are listed on our website [www.coatsparksandrec.com](http://www.coatsparksandrec.com). You can also "like" us on Facebook for more up to date information.

## Oh no, that does not apply to my property

When a neighbor has done something on their property that we don't like, we want to know what can be done. But isn't it in our nature that if we do the same thing it's ok? Criticism of zoning laws comes from those who see the restrictions as a violation of property rights. Would you like a landfill next to your neighborhood? Of course not, but if it is in someone else's backyard, then it doesn't bother us.

The primary purpose of zoning prevents issues like this from happening. It segregates uses of property that are thought to be incompatible. In practice, zoning is used to prevent new development from interfering with existing residents or businesses and to preserve the "character" of a community. State Law gives the authority to towns to regulate zoning in their jurisdiction. Some communities can have

### LOOK, IT'S A YARD SALE!

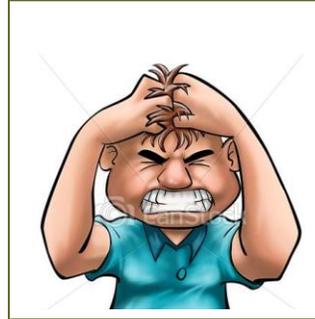
*By Kenny Cole, Zoning Administrator*

We all love good yard sales. Too many yards sales in bad locations can distract motorists, thus possibly causing accidents. The Town Board adopted a new yard sale ordinance. You must get a permit to have a yard sale. Go by Town Hall or visit our website at <http://www.coatsnc.org> for the permit form. There is no charge for the permit.

Here are a few tips:

1. A property location shall not be permitted for a yard sale more than four(4) times in residential zone and two (2)times in a commercial zone in a calendar year
2. If you are having a yard sale on someone else's property, please make sure the property owner has signed the permit.
3. Don't put signs up too early and take your signs down after your yard sale is complete.

Please visit our web site or call Town Hall to get a complete copy of the ordinance. **The Police Department will close your yard sale if you fail to get the proper permit.**



*"you don't understand.....this is my property.....its ok"*

zoning laws so strict it can get in the way of creative developments like mixed-use buildings and can even **stop** harmless activities like lemonade stands for children.

So, what does our zoning regulate? Go to our web site at <http://www.coatsnc.org> to see the complete zoning ordinance or just give us a call. Zoning permits are needed from home renovations to what types of fences can be erected.

## Hot Fun in the Summer.. Please, Please Consider your Animals



The summer brings us ideas of back yard cook outs with family and friends, a swim in the pool, a family vacation to the beach.....ah, nothing like good ole lazy days of summer!

The summer brings outside animals the thoughts of no shade to lie in, the worry of fleas and ticks, being left in a vehicle, no food because we were having too much fun or no water because the sun dried it all up. Please consider your outdoor animals this summer. For animal neglect, please contact Harnett County Animal Control at 910-814-2952

Vacationing Tips from page 1

4. Tell a neighbor, relative or friend when you are leaving for vacation. Include trip plans and phone numbers where you can be reached.
5. Ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your house while you're away. Tell them to call the police if they see anything suspicious, such as people walking around the property and to the rear of the property, ringing the doorbell for a long period of time, sitting in front of the house in a vehicle for an inappropriate amount time. We (the police) would rather respond to a suspicious person/condition call and find nothing wrong, than to not be called at all. Neighbors are the best eyes and ears

of the neighborhoods for helping in crime prevention.

6. Keep articles away from your house that can be used to climb up to a window, for instance, picnic table, chairs, ladders, garbage piles... etc..

Coats Police Department has a vacation house check form on our website or at Town Hall. This can be found and filled out at the Town Hall information desk (910-897 5183). You will need to give the police information such as: any persons or vehicles authorized to be on the property; dates leaving and returning; who has a key in case of an emergency; what lights are on; how you can be reached while you are away. The information will be given to your area patrol car to make periodic checks of your premises during your vacation.

## Girl Scouts Raise Money for the Coats Library

When Juliette Gordon Low founded the Girl Scouts of America in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia, she envisioned an organization which would encourage the values girls and young women needed to become productive members of society. Her idea, which became the Girl Scout mission, was to



“build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.” Part of the Girl Scout tradition is their slogan; each Girl Scout should “do a good turn daily.” Recently, the Junior Girl Scouts of Troop 454 in Coats did the Coats Library a good turn. These Girl Scouts, while working towards their Bronze Award, raised \$320 for children’s audio books. The Bronze Award is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn, and part of

earning that award is exploring the community to identify where improvement is needed. With all the publicity the Coats Library has garnered in the past year, the Girl Scouts identified us as a part of the community that could use help. The Girls of Troop 454, by raising twice their goal amount, will provide the library with 16 new audio books. Children of all ages enjoy having books read to them. Audio books pair professional voice actors with interesting stories to engage children’s imaginations and intellect, and engender a life-long love of reading. Seventeen girls from Troop 454 will earn their Bronze Award with this project, and their success shows what a vital part of the community they consider the library to be. We want to thank the girls of Troop 454 for taking an active role in their community and providing resources that will be enjoyed for years to come!

## Street Safety

Public safety is a primary concern for the Town of Coats. One of our responsibilities is to ensure that streets are safe for both motor and pedestrian traffic. While we appreciate the outdoor recreation basketball goals provide for youth and adults alike, they present a very serious hazard to those who play in the street.



Basketball goals erected in the public streets in front of a home are a hazard.

Town Code section 130.20 and 130.22 prohibits persons assembling within a street and prohibits obstructions of any kind within the streets. For safety and liability reasons, Coats requests that basketball goals be removed from the Town's streets. When a basketball goal is discovered on Town streets, we will notify the owner who then has two weeks to remove the goal. If the hazard remains after that time, the Town will remove it without further notice.

## Coats Chamber Events- Enjoy Some Family Fun

### Music in the Square:

Enjoy free entertainment each Third Thursday of the month (June thru September) at 7:00 pm at the Chamber.

### 2012 100<sup>th</sup> Farmers Day Event:

Coats will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> Farmers Day on October 12th and 13<sup>th</sup>.

Contact the Chamber at: 910-897-6213 or email: [chamber@coatschamber.com](mailto:chamber@coatschamber.com) for more information.

Visit our website for future news letters and 2012-13 budget information at:  
<http://www.coatsnc.org>



**CHECK GOVDEALS.COM FOR TOWN SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

## Town Boards and Committees

### Board of Commissioners

Walter Weeks, Mayor  
 Dr. Linda Robinson, Mayor Pro Tem  
 Allen Mosby, Town Commissioner  
 JC Allen, Town Commissioner  
 Jerry Beasley, Town Commissioner  
 Don Pleasant, Town Commissioner

### Planning Board

John Spears, Chairman  
 Vicky Abate  
 Ed Lauder  
 Carolyn Spears  
 Max Mathews  
 Magdalene Pleasant  
 Debbie Greider

### Parks and Recreation Committee

JC Allen  
 Jay Smith  
 Yamil Aponte  
 Laura Weeks  
 Robert Barefoot

### Cemetery Committee

Margaret House  
 Michele Godwin  
 Dovie Beasley  
 Ann Beasley  
 Ted Penny  
 Diane Denning  
 Sondra Smith

**Town of Coats**

237 N. McKinley Street  
P.O. Box 675  
Coats, NC 27521

**Phone:**

910-897-5183

**Fax:** 910-897-2662

**Hours:**

8-5 Monday -Friday  
Closed 1-2 Lunch

**Holiday Closing:**

May 28, Memorial Day  
July 4, Independence Day  
September 3, Labor Day

**Web Address:**

<http://www.coatsnc.org>



*Find us on facebook*

**Town Information**

Trash Collection:..... Fridays  
Recycling Collection:..... Every other Friday  
Leaf, Limb & Furniture Collection: ..... Weekly  
Water Bills: ..... Due the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month

Check out our Town Calendar for specific dates/reschedules @  
<http://www.coatsnc.org>

**Town Staff:**

Kenny Cole, Town Manager	910-897-5183 Ext. 24
Gary Denton, Public Works Director	910-897-5183 Ext. 34
Jeremy Hall, Chief of Police	910-897-5183 Ext. 28
Mike Collins, Recreation Director	910-890-4946
Karen Wooten, Town Clerk	910-897-5183 Ext. 33
Margaret Strickland, Deputy Clerk	910-897-5183 Ext. 22
Zoning	910-897-5183 Ext. 24
Trash Collection	910-897-5183 Ext. 22
Water Service	910-897-5183 Ext. 22
Animal Control	910-814-2952
Library	910-230-1944
Police (General Questions)	910-897-5183 Ext.29

**Police officers:** Ken Storricks (Sergeant), Michael Blackman (Corporal), Ryan Sasser, Norma Gelabert, Chad Garvin **Public Works:** Craig Parrish, Chester Mathews, Rodney Pleasant **Library:** Rebecca Dallamura, Linda McNeil

**DAIL 911 FOR POLICE AND MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

Town of Coats  
237 N. McKinley Street  
Coats, N.C. 27521



**Customer Name**  
**Street Address**  
**City, ST ZIP Code**