



City Of KINGS MOUNTAIN NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR

Thank you to everyone who reached out to me and my family and wrapped your loving arms around us in comfort following the death of my son, Garrett. We feel so blessed to be surrounded by so many people who care about us and we want to let you know how much we appreciate your love and support. Saying thank you somehow doesn't seem adequate, but I want you to know how you have touched our hearts and we will never forget your kindness.

The Importance of the Census

I couldn't be prouder of how our citizens and the City of Kings Mountain staff have handled the COVID-19 virus. I want to thank everyone in Kings Mountain for doing your part by staying home, staying safe and stopping the spread. We are all in this together!

But the COVID-19 crisis has overshadowed the 2020 Census, and I wanted to emphasize the importance of completing the Census for us all. The Census is a complete count of everyone living in the United States. It's only done once every 10 years and it determines how federal funding is allocated to local, state and federal programs and services and how many representatives we have in Congress. For every person who is not counted, **we lose \$1,800 per person, per year** – just think of how that money could help our community!

When the last Census was taken in 2010, only 67% -- **two thirds** -- of the people living in Cleveland County were counted. Our goal is to get everyone counted in the 2020 Census – to have **100% response rate!** To reach our goal, we need your help. So far, **43% of people living in Kings Mountain** have responded to the 2020 Census which is lower than the national average of 48%, the state average of 45% and the County average of 45%. Heck, even the Town of Boiling Springs (48%) and the City of Shelby (46%) are beating us! But, you know, competition fires me up! I have no doubt we can get 100% participation.

Here's how you can help us make sure that everyone living in the City of Kings Mountain is counted in the 2020 Census:

1. Complete your Census and count everyone living in your household.
2. Remind your family, friends, co-workers, church members and neighbors to take the Census.
3. Offer to help anyone you know who may need assistance with completing their Census.



These are easy steps we can all take to help reach our goal of 100% participation in the 2020 Census. Please complete your Census to avoid future visits or telephone calls from workers. Can we "count" on you?

COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 26, 2020 6:00 pm
 June 30, 2020 6:00 pm

Council Chambers at City Hall

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Scott Neisler
 Councilmember Keith Miller, At Large-Pro-Tem
 Councilmember David Allen, At Large
 Councilmember Annie Thombs, Ward 1
 Councilmember Mike Butler, Ward 2
 Councilmember Tommy Hawkins, Ward 3
 Councilmember Jimmy West, Ward 4
 Councilmember Jay Rhodes, Ward 5

CITY MANAGER—Marilyn Sellers

CITY CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 5/25 | Memorial Day
Observance
(City Offices Closed) |
| 7/4 | Revolutionary 4th
At Walking Track Park |
| 7/6 | July 4th Observance
(City Offices Closed) |



City of Kings Mountain Special Events Department Launches New Facebook Page All 2020 City Sponsored Events Now Listed Online

The City of Kings Mountain's Special Events Department is excited to announce the creation of a new Facebook page geared towards keeping not only Kings Mountain residents, but residents statewide, up-to-date on all city sponsored events. "We are always looking for new ways to market our events," says Christy Conner, Special Events Director with the City of Kings Mountain. "With the high number of people using social media, Facebook continues to be a successful tool we can use to promote our events more efficiently. In the coming weeks, we plan to build our social media platform to include Instagram as well." The Special Events Department's new Facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofKMSpecialEvents/>.

City of Kings Mountain Contracts for Comprehensive Plan

In an effort to move the City of Kings Mountain forward during the next 20 years, City Council, along with the Planning and Economic Development Department identified the need for a new Comprehensive Plan and allocated funds for the project. After an extensive review of proposals that were submitted from outside planning firms, Kendig Keast Collaborative based out of Sugar Land, Texas has been selected to spearhead the new Comprehensive Plan for the City of Kings Mountain. Kendig Keast Collaborative (KKC), is a nationally known community planning firm with more than 37 years of experience with local governments across 38 states.

This project has a detailed scope that spans more than 12 months, beginning in April of 2020. An aggressive plan of action, including a high level of public engagement, will take place in the creation of an actionable, viable plan for the future growth and development of Kings Mountain. Data will be collected on the existing conditions within the City limits and the areas of the ETJ. This will include site visits, tours of the City, interviews with local stakeholders and community leaders, as well as a number of public input sessions to take place in the Fall of 2020.

The Planning and Economic Development staff are enthusiastic about working in collaboration with Kendig Keast and the community to enable the City of Kings Mountain to reach its development and quality of life goals.

EVENTS CANCELLED FOR MAY

A1A Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band
National Day of Prayer
KMHS Blazer & Ninth Grade Band Concert
Yoga in the Park
Movies on the Lawn



Our Memorial Day Observance for May 25th will be held online as a virtual event on our Facebook Page, <https://www.facebook.com/CityofKMSpecialEvents/>.

A MESSAGE FROM PUBLIC WORKS

SUMMER HOURS

Please be aware that the Public Works' crews will begin their "summer hours" on Tuesday, May 26th, working from 6:30am to 3:00pm to shorten their exposure to the heat and humidity of summer. Garbage cans will need to be rolled to the curb for collection by 6:30am from this point until Friday, September 4th.

TRASH PICK UP

As a reminder, all trash **must be bagged and placed inside the garbage container** for collection. The sanitation driver is **NOT** responsible for collecting trash that has blown out of the can due to trash being unbagged. Call the Public Works office or see the City website at www.cityofkm.com for additional information.

LOOSE LEAF & YARD WASTE COLLECTION

As always, remember that from February until October, grass, weeds, flowers and leaves put out for collection must be **in bags and placed behind the curb**. Limbs should also be **placed behind the curb**.

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

City of Kings Mountain offices will be closed on Monday, May 25th for the Memorial Day Holiday and Monday, July 6th for the Independence Day Holiday. GARBAGE services for these weeks will be on a **ONE DAY** delay.



RECYCLING SUSPENDED

We have suspended the Recycling Program due to the lack of options in moving and processing the recyclables. Recyclable goods should be **placed in bags and placed in the garbage container** for collection. If you still have a **BLUE** recycle can, please call us at 704-734-0735 with your address and we will pick it up. You can also take your recycling to the County Landfill if you want to continue to recycle.



Here's What's Happening at the Patrick Senior Center

SHIIP Program—SHIIP Counselors at the Patrick Senior Center can assist you with questions regarding Medicare products and preventive services. If you need help with prescription costs, you may qualify for extra help.

FOOD PANTRY & EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM—The Senior Center is distributing non-perishable food items to seniors 55 and older in need. To arrange a time to come pick up a bag of food, call us during working hours (Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm). Also, we have an Equipment Loan Program. If seniors are in need of items such as walkers, wheelchairs, bath chairs, or other equipment, please call us to check availability.

REFIT—Beginning on Thursdays in June from 5:15pm-6:15pm, come join our new REFIT class at the Patrick Senior Center with instructor Claudia Vaughn. This class is open to anyone age 18 and over and is co-sponsored by the Mauney Memorial Library. No matter your size, shape, age or experience, throw doubt, fear and insecurity to the wind. REFIT is a life-changing experience. Please call us for questions or more information.

NEW TO MEDICARE PRESENTATION—The Senior Center will be hosting a Medicare 101 presentation sometime in early summer. If you are new to Medicare and would like to learn about your options, please call us to register.

Please call the Patrick Senior Center at 704-734-0447 for more information on any of the above events.