



Town of Fairmont

Town Talk

A monthly newsletter provided by the
Fairmont Board of Commissioners
With assistance and support of the town staff



Volume XI, Issue III

www.fairmontnc.com

March/April 2010

Special points of interest:

- Mayor's Column
- Calendar of Events
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Flea Market reopens
- Fairmont Womanless Pageant
- Grease Goblin

Easter Egg Hunt



Ages: Birth to 12 years

**Fairmont
Community Park
Saturday, March 27
10:00 a.m.**

**Fun and treats for
ALL!!!**

**Sponsored by the
Fairmont Recreation
Department**



THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH BY MAYOR CHARLES KEMP

Sorry, we're not going on a trip to Florida so get that out of your literary mind right away. I've been, drank from the fountain. It don't work. Different fountain is the topic today. For those who read this column and are teachers you know full well the excitement of those you teach on a regular day. For those who don't here's a small lesson. Monday's are not good. Kids are still in the middle of the last weekend. Friday's are the same. Kids are in the middle of the next weekend. That leaves Tuesday through Thursday to capture their creativity, imagination, and academic co-operation. The enthusiasm is there for all but a few. It's lying just beneath the skin ready to burst forth. All is needed is a little boost. The most creative teachers carry an imaginary shovel. We just love to dig that creativity out of our kids. Works every time. But you have to be careful not to hit emotions, dating relationships, neglect issues, cell phone texting, and a hundred other hidden spots lurking with each kid. They're there. Gotta be very careful.

The true pleasure is to see and feel the enthusiasm when it erupts from a kid. It's a sight to behold. When they understand a taught concept, capture that multiplication table, find out that reading about buried treasure has unlocked a new world for them then you just stand back and wash yourself in their cascading glee. Happens a lot more in lower grades than in high school. Higher grade kids tend to wear their game face more. They require more skills from the shovel wielder. A little tougher to break into the trust zone. But it can be done. I've got 40 years of proof backing up my theory.

What gets kids really excited these days? Talking and texting on cell phones is probably number 1. Hanging out in a mall, bowling alley, or at a party with friends is high on the list. Sports? But not all kids play them. Working? Money gives them freedom. What gets kids really pumped up. I know the answer and will bet you do to if you have had any contact with them. They just want time to be with others that they like and feel good about. How simple was that? Not in math class, or learning a new band routine. Not at a baseball game watching with their parents as little brother slides into 3rd base safely. They want to be with their own set, their pals, and grow up together. That's all they need or ask for. I believe it is societies duty to provide them that opportunity.

I didn't need society to help me in the late 50's and 60's when I was in my youth. We found plenty of growing up to do. Nowadays kids need a little boost. That is precisely why I hosted a Youth Forum back in mid January and formed the Fairmont Youth Council since then. Kids need a little boost to get them on their way and this organization is their rocket fuel. We've met 4 times since the Youth Forum, made a few short and long term plans, and started to feel comfortable talking to each other. But the best thing we have done is have a dance. Just a regular old garden variety, speakers thumping out loud music with lyrics most adults don't have a clue about, kids gathered up in small groups laughing and giggling kinda dance. I don't guess you remember those things when you were 15 or 16 huh? Don't try and fool me. I see you and your girls giggling over in the corner right now eyeing the boys on the other side of the room.

We had our very first teen dance in a public building, the Heritage Center, on Friday February 26th. 50 high school teens attended and the room could have held a lot more. The numbers will increase at the next dance and the next. The best thing that happened was unnoticed by all the chaperones I had helping me. It went unnoticed by the cops there to make sure nothing went wrong. I saw it because I have a trained eye for young folks. A 40 year trained eye. What actually happened was that they were allowed to be themselves for 3 hours. No game faces, no rules about put up your cell phones, stand in a perfectly straight line in the cafeteria, no teacher breathing down their neck, no asking permission to go to the bathroom. They could just let their hair down and grow into each other. I saw it and felt it. The room reeked with their enthusiasm. I was proud to be around it and to help be a part of this part of their lives.

We grown ups sometime forget that we were them once. Running, giggling, being silly, acting up. All we were doing is growing up like the current crop of kids are now. What they really, really need from us in addition to rules, lectures, and safety tips is a little "rocket fuel" which if properly applied should provide a real lift off for our youth. It won't take much because their "fountain" is bubbling already. Let's just stand back and watch them show us their stuff.

TOWN OF FAIRMONT

421 South Main St. Phone: 910-628-9766
P.O. Box 248 Fax: 910-628-6025
Fairmont, NC 28340 E-mail: fairmontnc@bellsouth.net



SPRING FLING TEEN DANCE

Friday, March 26
8:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Heritage Center
School ID required

BEWARE OF THE Grease Goblin



LAST SEEN:
Loitering in Sinks
and Drains

WANTED FOR:
Causing Sewer
Overflows

DID YOU KNOW...

Most sanitary sewer backups occur between your home and the town's sewer main?

You can help prevent a costly and unsanitary overflow by following a few simple steps:



- ✓ Scrape excess grease in a container and dispose of it in the garbage.
- ✓ Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes, or start a compost pile; promote use of scraping ware prior to washing.
- ✓ Place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of solid wastes. Disposable diapers, condoms, and personal hygiene products do not belong in the sewer system.
- ✓ Promote the concept of "3 R's": Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

DO NOT

- ⊘ Pour grease, fats, and oils from cooking down the drain.
- ⊘ Use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- ⊘ Use the sewer as a means of disposing food scraps.

The Grease Goblin and associated materials are provided by the N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance (DPPEA) located in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Samples of materials using the Grease Goblin image must be provided to DPPEA.



Calendar of Events



- Thursday, March 18** - Community Watch, 7:00 p.m. Courtroom. Election of new officers for the year.
- Friday, March 19** - FREE MOVIE, 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center. Free popcorn.
- Friday, March 26** - Rosenwald Elementary School Kindergarten registration, 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.
- Friday, March 26** - "Spring Fling" Teen Dance, 8:00 to 11:00 p.m., Heritage Center.
- Saturday, March 27** - Fairmont Presbyterian Springfest, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.
- Saturday, March 27** - Fairmont Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 a.m., Fairmont Community Park. Sponsored by the Fairmont Recreation Dept.
- Sunday, March 28** - Fairmont Woman's Club Turkey Dinner, 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Fairmont High School Cafeteria. Plates \$7
- Thursday, April 1** - Town employee Easter cookout, 12:00 noon
- Friday, April 2** - Town offices closed for Good Friday/Easter.
- Friday, April 2 - Friday, April 9** - Schools closed for Spring Break.
- Saturday, April 3** - Senior Bingo & Easter Fashion Show, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., Heritage Center.
- Tuesday, April 6** - NC Small Town Main Street meeting, 6:00 p.m., Courtroom.
- Saturday, April 10** - Opening Day for Dixie Youth Baseball.
- Monday, April 12** - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce, 6:00 p.m., Border Belt Museum.
- Tuesday, April 13** - NCDMV Mobile Driver's License Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- April 17 to May 1** - Spring Litter Sweep and clean up weeks.



Fairmont Womanless Pageant

Saturday, April 17
Heritage Center
Spaghetti dinner, 6:00 p.m.
Pageant, 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for the meal and \$5 for the pageant and may be purchased at Angie's Touch of Class/Curves or at the door. Proceeds benefit Relay for Life. Sponsored by the Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens and their parents. If you would like to participate or if you need more information, please contact Angie Lovin at 628-6027.

FLEA MARKET REOPENS

The Town will be reopening its outdoor Saturday flea market on Saturday April 3rd but vendors may set up and start selling earlier if the March weather is nice. The Fairmont Flea Market will be located on the grounds of the Borderbelt Farmers Museum at the northern entrance of our historic downtown and will be open for business at 7:00 a.m. each Saturday. There is NO FEE for vendors to set up but each seller must provide their own table(s) and there is to be no cooking or selling of food products. Any interested persons may call Mayor Kemp at 628-9766 ext 15 or 740-0277 to get further details or reserve a spot for any Saturday.

