

**Honorable Ronald Murphy - Mayor**

Board of Commissioners:

Willie Carter  
Jeffery Ramsey  
Clinton Seegers  
Jacqueline Sumner  
Sandra Ware

[www.cramerton.org](http://www.cramerton.org)



**Michael Peoples – Town Manager**

Administrative Staff:

Luann Ellis, Town Clerk  
Greg Ratchford, Chief of Police  
Steve Baucom, Zoning/Planning Director  
Charles Hastings, Water Services Director  
Jamie Shytle, Wastewater Services Director  
Rodney Baker, Street Services Director  
Cam Carpenter, Recreation Director

**Community Newsletter**

**A Message from our Mayor**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for allowing me to again serve our community as your Mayor. The Town's future is bright and we feel that we are prepared to handle the difficult decisions that our Town faces in the future. The Town welcomes smart growth residential development, commercial expansion, and industrial retention and recruitment.

We are here to serve the citizens of Cramerton with the most effective and efficient service possible. We understand that it is truly the citizens of the Town that makes the difference, and we are here to serve you. If you have questions or need anything, please do not hesitate to let me know. I thank you again and sincerely hope each and every one of you has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Mayor Ronnie Murphy*

**From the Manager**

Hello everyone, I would like to inform you of several projects that the Town of Cramerton has been working on the last several months. First, the Town Board has recently awarded construction contracts to Hickory Construction and Recore Electrical for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. The project started Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and will take approximately 300 calendar days to complete. The Town accepted a \$5.3 million dollar loan from the NC Construction Grants & Loans in order to improve the quality of the water treated at the treatment plant. The State of NC regulates water and wastewater treatment throughout the State and Cramerton is required to stay under compliance of those rules. The Eagle Road Wastewater Treatment Plant is permitted to treat 4 million gallons per day, which is enough capacity to serve the citizens of Cramerton for many years to come while welcoming new residential developments, commercial growth, and industrial clients.

The Town of Cramerton, along with the Belmont Chamber of Commerce, will be hosting a Cramerton Business Appreciation Meeting on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the Cramerton Town Hall. We will have a 30 minute social followed by a presentation by the Belmont Chamber of Commerce, and then an open forum for business owners to discuss how Cramerton can better serve the business growth and retention in our area. Please attend; the Town would love to hear from you.

The Town is also working with Colehouse Publishing to release a Community Magazine that will feature business advertising, community facts, maps, special events, and pictures. This publication will be available to all new residents in Cramerton at Town Hall. If you are interested, contact Tom House at 704-813-3642 or [ColeHousePubg@bellsouth.net](mailto:ColeHousePubg@bellsouth.net)

The Town is also working on the Downtown Redevelopment Project that will relocate utility poles and lines to the rear of businesses on Center Street, add angled parking on the right side of Center Street, add stamped concrete sidewalks on Center Street, Ninth Street, and Eighth Avenue, and also add decorative lighting to the same areas. The downtown area will be greatly improved by this project and it is being funded primarily by a NC Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant. This project should begin in March 2006.

The Town is also working on the Riverside Greenway Project. This project features the construction of a kayak/canoe landing, fishing pier, and additional greenway trails. This is one project that the Town is working on that will add to the quality of life in our community and hopefully be linked to the US National Whitewater Center in the future. For more information about the US National

**From the Manager (Continued)**

Whitewater Center, please go to their website: [www.usnwc.org](http://www.usnwc.org).

I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve you as Town Manager and if I can be of assistance, please call or come see me at Town Hall. If you would like more information concerning town projects, agendas and minutes of past Board meetings, Parks and Recreation event information, and other specific Town Department information, please visit our website [www.cramerton.org](http://www.cramerton.org) or feel free to contact Town Hall, 704-824-4337. You can also email me at [mpeoples@cramerton.org](mailto:mpeoples@cramerton.org).

*Michael C. Peoples, Town Manager*

**From the Street Department**

- Leaf pick-up will continue through January 31. Leaves should be placed at the edge of the yard for pick-up. Please do not block the street in front of the leaf piles.
- Please bag all grass clippings, pampas grass and hedge trimmings. Leaves must be bagged after January 31.
- Please do not mix junk with brush.

**Police Officer Deployed**

Police Officer Lewis Bowman has joined his National Guard Transportation Unit on deployment in Iraq. Police Chief Greg Ratchford notified the Town Board of Commissioners of his receipt of Bowman's deployment at the Board's workshop in October.

Bowman's last day with the department was November 14. His deployment is scheduled for 12-14 months. "The deployment of Officer Bowman is bitter-sweet for the department." Ratchford told Commissioners. "The department could not be more proud than to have one of its own members serving the Country in such a capacity. On the other-hand Lewis is one of the family and he will be truly missed while he is gone."

Bowman has been employed with the police department since January 2004. Ratchford stated that the loss of manpower, even though on a temporary basis, is detrimental to a smaller, municipal department. Bowman's position will be filled with department reserve officers during his deployment. Upon his return Officer Bowman will be reinstated to his current position.

Police Administrative Offices: 704.824.7964  
Emergency: 911 / Non-Emergency: 704.866.3300  
Fax: 704.824.0134 / Online: [www.cramertonpd.org](http://www.cramertonpd.org)  
Email: [administration@cramertonpd.org](mailto:administration@cramertonpd.org)

**NOTICE**

*The Town needs volunteers to serve on its Planning and Zoning Advisory Board. If you are interested, please come by Town Hall for an application or visit [www.cramerton.org](http://www.cramerton.org) under Public Information.*

**RECYCLING INFORMATION**

*Participate in recycling?  
Confused on what can be recycled? Brown, green and clear glass; aluminum; plastic #1 & #2 bottles; steel cans and newspapers may all be recycled.*

**NEW GYM HOURS DURING BASKETBALL SEASON:**

Monday – Friday	7AM-5PM	(Open Play)
	5PM-9PM	(League Play)
Saturday	8AM-7PM	(League Play)

**FITNESS ROOM HOURS:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	7AM-8PM
Wednesday	7AM-4PM
Saturday	9AM-5PM

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE HOURS:**

Monday – Friday	8AM-5PM
Telephone:	704.824.4231

Basketball and cheerleading signups were a huge success this year. We have almost 320 participants. This year we have:

- 4 teams of 3-4 year olds
- 6 teams of 5-6 year olds
- 7 teams of 7-8 year olds
- 6 teams of 9-10 year olds
- 5 teams of 11-12 year olds
- 2 teams of 13-15 year olds

We will be having a pre-season tournament for age groups 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, AND 13-15. The tournament will begin January 2, 2006 at 6PM and will conclude with championship games on Saturday, January 7, 2006.

League play will begin January 9, 2006 and will conclude on February 25, 2006. The Eastern Gaston County tournament will be held Saturday, February 26 thru March 4, 2006. This year we will be hosting the 11-12 and 13-15 year old tournaments.

**COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER RENTALS**

Book a party for the upcoming year...Reservations will begin January 2 for 2006.

**RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

The recreation department is seeking individuals who would like to volunteer a couple of hours each month by participating on the Recreation Advisory Board. If you're interested call Cam at 704.824.4231.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Registration will begin in February for:

Baseball Signups:	Ages 5-14
Girls Softball:	Ages 8-15
Spring Soccer:	Ages 3-12

Church softball will begin in April; anyone interested in participating should call the recreation department at 704.824.4231.

Easter Egg Hunt - 10AM Saturday before Easter

Mayworth Festival – Date TBA

Community Swimming Pool will open May 27, 2006

**Wastewater Services News**

The Wastewater Services Department will begin in the new year with phase III of their sewer line right of way clearing, as required by NC State Permit number WQCS00058. The areas to be cleared include Timberlake, Lakewood, and Cramer Mountain neighborhoods.

***Need information on Police Services? Want to provide an anonymous tip on criminal activity? Visit: [www.cramertonpd.org](http://www.cramertonpd.org)***

***Planning & Zoning forms are available at: [www.cramerton.org](http://www.cramerton.org)***

**River Bluff**

The Cramerton Board of Commissioners and Planning Board have approved plans for an upscale single-family subdivision on Cramer Mountain Road. The 169-site development will begin breaking ground in early 2006 after all the details of the construction plans have been finalized and reviewed by staff.

The homes will start in the 300's and will be the first built under the new design standards approved earlier in 2005 for homes in new subdivisions. The site is approximately 88 acres and is situated around the Baltimore neighborhood near Old Course. The development is to be named River Bluff and the developer is Grace Development of Charlotte.

**Privilege Licenses**

The Town Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance this year requiring that the Town license businesses yearly. The privilege license applications are available at Town Hall or online at [www.cramerton.org](http://www.cramerton.org) in the planning section under forms. The application will provide us with the information necessary to process the license. The ordinance also makes failure to obtain a license a violation and will result in fines being issued.

If you own or operate a business in the Towns jurisdiction please submit the completed application to Town Hall as soon as possible to avoid any penalties or fines. The application can be mailed to or dropped off at the Cramerton Town Hall.

**Minimum Housing and Junk Cars**

Code Enforcement staff will begin another sweep of Town for minimum housing violations and junk cars. These two items are of great concern to staff and elected officials and we will work very hard to abate any problems we find or that are brought to our attention.

The Town's Code of Ordinances' minimum housing section requires that homes be kept in a habitable state and must meet certain requirements in order to be occupied. We have several locations and property owners that we are working with to improve the condition of their dwellings and the appearance of the neighborhoods they are in. We will be pursuing other sites to make sure that they meet the code requirements. Failure to comply with the ordinance could result in fines or could even require demolition of the dwelling.

Also, if you have a junk car on your property you could be in violation of the code if the vehicle is not in running condition, is not able to pass inspection, and not displaying a valid tag. If you get a notice about a junk car please remove the vehicle from the property or contact us as soon as possible to let us know you are removing the vehicle. Please do not place the vehicles on the roadway as additional ordinances and State Law will apply.

Junk vehicles are subject to daily fines until removed or the Town may have the vehicle removed and the cost of the removal will be billed to the property owner and could become a lien on the property.

**Town of Cramerton Contact Information**

Town of Cramerton  
 155 North Main Street  
 Cramerton, North Carolina 28032  
 Office: 704.824.4337 / Fax: 704.824.8943  
[www.cramerton.org](http://www.cramerton.org)  
 Business hours: Monday – Friday 9AM – 5PM

**Upcoming Board of Commission Meetings:**

**January 3, 2006 (regular meeting)**

**January 31 (workshop)**

**February 7 (regular meeting)**

**February 28 (workshop)**