# Downtown Herald

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November 2015

## The Corner Chair

### Friends,

Fall has arrived by the Calendar date, but recent temperatures have not been quite so fall like. Don't worry, I'm sure those cool nights and mornings will be here soon. As we move towards winter there are a number of events and activities that one does not want to miss. Things like the Christmas parade, after Thanksgiving sales, the Christmas Chorus, and a variety of other plays, and music events.

The **Fall Y'all Festival** was a huge success last month. We had a great crowd to participate in the activities. Special thanks to everyone who helped with the games and food. Jamie did a great job of putting everything together and securing volunteers to help.

The **Fall Window contest** is currently underway and the winner will be selected at the November Design and Appearance Commission meetings. After the Fall display the next window contest will be Christmas/ Winter decorations. Citizens can still vote online at www.townofwilliamston.com or in person at Town Hall.

Some **development news** for downtown, this past year there was significant investment **(over \$500,000)** made in the downtown area. Those properties included the *Red Heron, Access Medicine, Peele's Lawyers' Building, Peele Jewelry, His and Ours Skating Rink*, and most recently *Modlin Insurance* beside Town Hall. Special thanks to all these businesses and their owners for their investment and support of the Downtown Business District. We have at least a couple of more renovations that are beginning that will bring additional investment, business, and job opportunities

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## **Main Street News**

Economic Development. There are several buildings available downtown in prime locations on Main Street. Renovation grant funds are available for qualifying new businesses. Grant amounts are based on new full time job creation. The Planning Department is available to assist potential businesses with the grant process.

Promotions. Small Business Saturday continues to be a success. Come downtown on the first Saturday of each month, shop at a participating business and you can enter into a drawing to win \$50 in Downtown Dollars! You could be the next winner! Come join us for the next Small Business Saturday event on November 7th.

In The Park. These events are possible because of your donations to Williamston Downtown Inc.! We would like to thank our sponsors for the *Fall Yall Festival*, including Williamston Downtown Inc., Town of Williamston, Williamston Police Dept., Williamston Fire Dept., Quality Shoes, Martin Supply, Red Heron Café, His & Ours Skating, ChildLinks, and Uplift & the Power of U.

We are planning for the 2016 In the Park events and could use some ideas, volunteers, and entertainment.

Contact us at williamstondowntown@yahoo.com



We had a great crowd for the Fall Y'all Festival. The weather was perfect. There were plenty of games and activities with lots of prizes and candies.

# Williamston Downtown Inc. Board Meeting

## November 10th 7:00 am @ Red Heron Café 118 Harrison Street

Call to order	7:00 am
Invocation	7:01
Minutes of last meeting	7:05
Financial Report	7:10
Committee Reports	7:15
Economic Development	
Design Subcommittee	
Promotions	
Arts Council	7:25
Friends of Courthouse	7:30
E.J. Hayes Alumni Association	7:35
Martin Community College	7:40
Tourism	7:45
Woman's Club	7:50
Discussion	7:55
Adjourn	8:00 am

**Seen on Main Drag**...Gary Wiggins working on Modlin Ins, Rep. Shelly Willingham entering Town Hall, Sparky the Fire Dog at Barnes Plaza...

Williamston Downtown, Inc. Chairperson: Wilbur Edwards Vice Chair: A. R. Chesson Secretary: Jean Stevens Treasurer: John Spilman Newsletter Editor: Brent Kanipe **Corner Chair continued.....** to downtown. Stay ... tuned for more as it develops.

The next big event downtown will be the *Annual Christmas Parade* on Thursday December 3rd followed on Saturday December 5th with **Small Business Saturday** shopping. We welcome **Domino's** to the Small Business Saturday promo. Now you can register to win and spend downtown bucks there as well.

Also, the Williamston Downtown Inc.

Facebook Page is back! We would like to invite downtown businesses to share special events, sales, or coupons to be posted on this page. If you have anything to be posted, you can contact us at email williamstondowntown@yahoo.com.

#### **Brent**

Remember, "Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars" Casey Kasem

Face Painting during Fall Y'all was a huge hit, thanks to Katherine Edwards, Arts teacher at Riverside Middle School.

## **Upcoming Events**

November 7th

Small Business Saturday @ Downtown Williamston Now thru February

Martin County Geo-caching Trail participant guide @ www.visitmartincounty.com

November 7-8th

Fort Branch Civil War Reenactment , Hamilton November 13-14

Stampede in the Park Rodeo @ Sen Bob Martin Center

November 13-15

34th Annual Roanoke Arts and Crafts Guild Holiday Show @ MC Farmers Market, Williamston November 14th

Chamber of Commerce 5K Turkey Trot and Family Fun Run/Walk @ Martin Community College November 17th

An evening with Ben Franklin @ Martin Memorial Library

November 20-22nd

NBHA Coastal Run Super Show @ Sen. Bob Martin Eastern Ag. Center

November 27th

Martin County Art Council Christmas Market @ Martin County Arts Council

December 3rd

Williamston Christmas Parade

December 5th

Small Business Saturday in Downtown Williamston

Check out these and other events @ www.visitmartincounty.com or www.martincountync.com



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