

“Take Pride Where You Reside”

Zac Holcomb

Litter is everywhere. Everyone is complaining about how bad it is. A few people are doing something about it. Everyone needs to step up from downtown to throughout the County.

Our downtown is our community living room. Let’s clean it up and keep it clean. We have company every day of the week and we need to look presentable.

There are street gutters downtown that stay trashed. This is right at the front door of businesses.

Yes, the street belongs to the City, but we all have to do our part. If you have staff that is assigned to clean-up duties inside, assign outside duties as well to help make a good impression to guests.

40,000 guests are arriving in a few weeks. A downtown cleanup day is coming up to prepare for BBQ Festival. Let’s rally together, each business or property owner and volunteers to adopt a block and adopt a pot. Let’s spend the day together cleaning and planting and loving our City.

CLEANUP DAY SATURDAY MARCH 25

Adopt a block:

LeonSteele17@suddenlinkmail.com



Downtown Kinston

REVITALIZATION

NEWSLETTER



Statesville hosts the 2023 North Carolina Main Street Conference March 14-16. Sessions include such topics as Implementing Vacant Building Policies, Are You on the Fence for Ditching an Event, Is Your Board Getting an Award or a Gourd, along with great Keynote and Plenary speakers. North Carolina Main Street hosts one of the best annual revitalization conferences around. Anyone can attend. Register at <https://www.ncmainstreetandplanning.com/nc-main-street-conference-save-date>

Crushin' It in Kinston

At Lenoir County Fairgrounds

KICK - OFF CONCERT!



Downtown Kinston presents:
The Pizazz Band



FRIDAY, APRIL 21
7PM - 10PM

@Lenoir County Fairgrounds
Kinston, NC



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
www.downtownkinston.com

DK Board meetings are open to the public. Committees get the work done. Please join.

Help us out. Adopt a pot

Last month we asked downtown merchants to contact us regarding the planters. We received one response.

The Design Committee will be relocating planters soon. If you have one of the DK planters at your business and wish it to remain, you must let us know right away. 252-525-6144

Maintaining all the baskets and pots of flowers downtown costs nearly \$10,000/year. We are blessed to have a great group of volunteers do the planting, but the rest of it is not free. Won't you adopt a pot or a block?



MSD Stands for Municipal Service District

With the district comes a property tax of \$0.27/\$100 assessed property value that amounts to \$58K and is designated as part of the budget to help support the downtown revitalization non-profit. The notion that a portion of one's revenues or that all of the property taxes in the MSD funds is awarded to Downtown Kinston Revitalization (DK) is incorrect.

In 1984 DK joined the State and National Main Programs for historic commercial district revitalization. MSD arrangements are the norm with such programs. In the early years, programs were mostly stand-alone non-profits. Lately the evolution is to quasi-public-private relationships with the city whereby the Director is a City employee with revitalization experience to guide the non-profit that is governed by the Board of Directors; both working as a mutually supportive team. One benefit to this arrangement is stability in that the organization no longer has to worry about raising the funds for the Director's salary and benefit. Another is most Boards are composed of professionals working in various, specific fields that may not include revitalization, historic preservation, marketing, cultural asset development, placemaking, design and other tools necessary to revitalization in addition to the basics of beautification and events.

For Lease

Do you need an office in downtown Kinston? Check out the Kinston Enterprise Center at 327 N Queen St. This prime location offers various size offices, some furnished, and your lease includes high speed Internet, telephones, building maintenance, free parking lot, a break room and shared kitchenette, access to a conference room, on-site mail boxes and building manager, housekeeping of common areas, 24/7 tenant access, and security cameras. Professional tenants include attorneys, seamstress, billing offices, mental health, LCC Small Business Center, and a CPA among others. Everything else you may need is within walking distance. Spaces and rates vary. Call Marian Green at (252) 525-6144 to schedule a showing of this great building in the epi-center of downtown Kinston.



Thanks to the generosity of local citizens, the heart of the Central Business District will have lights delineating the primary pathways. This not only provides additional light but also easily identifies the area while adding to the ambience each night throughout the year.

Thank you Dan Sale/Sale Auto Mall, Aaron Wills/Lanier Tree Service, Jess Edwards/Kinston Realty Group, Sugarhill Pizza, Fly Exclusive, Heith Harrison/Farmers Insurance, Dr. Pradeep Arumugham, Drs. Heather and Scott Matthews, Kinston Neuse Holdings, Collective Church, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Ramsay, Steve Gaskins, Mr. & Mrs. S King in memory of Allie Palmer.

Together we are restoring the heart of Lenoir County

JOIN THE DOWNTOWN KINSTON REVITALIZATION TEAM AND BE A CHANGEMAKER FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



- Complete this portion of Riverwalk, lights, banners and landscaping
- Clean, paint, and light the Beach corner plaza
- Find way to get new concrete for Mr. Washington/J&M Auto Detailing
- Address certain buildings and possible Brownfield sites (tanks in ground)
- Find a way to make the slough bridge a gateway
- Start a parapet lighting program

As we move into the next phase of downtown revitalization, we will continue to identify and focus on downtown neglected buildings ordinances, funding to complete our Riverwalk to the African-American Music Park and the Kinston Community Center, address possible Brownfield sites, create an exciting gateway into downtown at the south end, attract more people off of Hwy 70, and aggressively explore economic and redevelopment opportunities to return economic vitality to the southern-most portion of our MSD.

Kinston's 2nd annual spectacular Renaissance Faire kicks off with a Downtown Kinston fundraiser concert featuring one of the hottest performance bands in North Carolina.

Pizzazz Band

Tickets are only \$20 for 3 full hours of your favorite dance and romance songs from beach to country to funk to top popular hits.

Friday April 21, 7-10PM Pizzazz Band

Concert tickets: www.downtownkinston.com.

All at the Lenoir County Fairgrounds, 401 Fairgrounds Road Kinston, North Carolina

Saturday and Sunday APRIL 22-23, 10AM-6PM Renaissance Festival

Ren Faire tickets and info: <https://www.encrenfaire.com>

