

CROSSROADS VOLUME 2 NUMBER 3 **MARCH 2024**

Town Council Meeting March 14 • 6 p.m. **Public is Invited**

Carolina Strawberry Festival Garden Gala tickets on sale now

The Carolina Strawberry Festival will start this year with a pre-festival event, the Garden Gala on April 27 hosted by the Gardens at Johnson Nursery. The idea was to add another event to the festival, provide more opportunities to promote the community, thank our big sponsors and extend the festivities.

This inaugural kick-off event promises an enjoyable experience



with food, drinks, music, and an opportunity to ex-THE CAROLINA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL plore the beautiful gardens at Johnson Nursery. VIP and regular ticket holders will get opportunity to tour the gardens, have refreshments wine from Duplin Winery,

Burgaw Brewing, domestic beers and imported Italian wines. Homemade pizzas will be available as well.

General Admission tickets are \$35 and include 1 complimentary drink, Gala T-shirt and koozie (while supplies last), and a Calibrachoa Superbells® Strawberry PunchTM from Proven Winners!

VIP tickets are \$75. VIP guests will receive access to the VIP tent, with complementary hors d'oeuvres catered by the Mad Boar, a Gala T-shirt and koozie(while supplies last), two complementary drinks, and a Calibrachoa Superbells® Strawberry PunchTM from Proven Winners!

Live musical entertainment will be provided by The Catalinas. The event runs from 1-6 pm and an After Party will be hosted by the Mad Boar. More information coming soon! Get ready for a Berry Good Time! For tickets and further details, visit www.carolinastrawberryfestival.com.

Libby- Your Online Library!

To use Libby, download the Libby app to your device and sign in using your Thelma Dingus Bryant Library card. Browse the available items, borrow them and enjoy them on Phones, tablets, and Kindles can be used and audio books can play in the car with BlueTooth capability.

Thelma Dingus Bryant Library 409 West Main Street • Wallace



Second Saturday at the Wallace Depot 206 SW Railroad St. • Wallace

The Wallace Train Depot will be open on the second Saturday of the month from 10 am-Noon! The Model Train Room will be open with an interactive layout that allows children to help run the trains, and the new outdoor Garden Railroad will also be runningweather permitting.

The Learning Station at the Depot will be open with lots of activities, including the ride'em Thomas the Train and interactive train table.





The Wallace Train Depot is available to rent for birthday parties, weddings and wedding events. For information on prices and availability, please contact the Wallace Area Chamber of Commerce at info@wallacechamber org or (910) 665-9535.

Wallace Depot Commission Annual Fundraiser

The Wallace Depot Commission Annual Fundraiser and the dedication of the Ed Braks Garden Railroad will be held Saturday March 23, 2024 from 6-10 PM at the Wallace Depot Complex. This year's event will defray the costs to complete the Garden Railroad and help complete the renovation of the Railway Postal Car (RPO).

Gourmet Greek, Italian and Vegetarian Cuisine will be prepared by Chef Isaac Georgiadis, and a cash bar serving beer and wine will be available.

Music will be provided by River Landing's River Bandits band from the River Landing Community. They formed a little over two years ago. They have played for local house parties and at the Mad



Boar. They feature classic rock from the 70's to today.

Meg Petersen (vocals and flute) started singing in the church choir and went on to sing in various choruses, weddings and musicals. Upon moving to North Carolina, she joined The Ridge Band in Wake County.

Jim Scott (lead guitar) has been playing lead guitar for over 50 years per-



forming professionally as a solo act and groups ranging from trios to seven-piece bands.

Jeff "Fry" Smith (rhythm guitar and vocals) influences include the Rolling Stones, Grateful Dead and Phish. Jeff was added to the band a little over a year ago adding his acoustic guitar sound, harmony and lead vocals.

Rich Lutze (bass guitar and vocals) began playing in rock and soul groups in high school and college. Since then he

has played in blues, pop and rock bands as well as studio work. His son, Ken (lead guitar) sits in with the band when visiting from Ohio.

Ticket Price \$100.00 per person (of which \$50.00 is a tax deductible contribution to the Wallace Depot Commission)

> For more info please contact Paul Izzo at 856-577-3683 or paulizzorl@gmail.com

Carolina Strawberry Festival Recruiting Volunteers for 2024

The 2024 Carolina Strawberry Festival is coming sooner than you think! The strawberry plants are in the ground getting ready to produce the best North Carolina strawberries just in time for the Wallace festival. The bands, rides, vendors and dinosaurs are all ready and waiting for May 3 &4!!

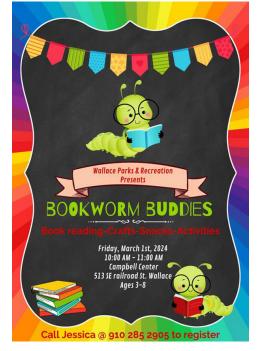
The festival doesn't just happen on its own.... it takes a lot of folks behind the scenes...and it takes volunteers for many positions. High School students can apply for credit hours but many slots need adult volunteers. Please fill out the form on the CSF website to become a 2024 volunteer!

www.carolinastrawberryfestival.com/volunteer





Wallace Parks & Recreation Events Run • Read • Celebrate Easter • Play Ball



BOOKWORM BUDDIES comes to Wallace

Books read by local "celebrities", art & crafts, snacks and activities are all part of the Bookworm Buddies program being held at the Campbell Center every month! In February, WallaceFire Chief Taylor Johnson read the book, and brought a fire engine to the event for the kids to see! Register for this great event asap! The next event is March 1. Call Jessica at 910-285-2905 to register!



INTRODUCING THE 2024 CAROLINA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL 5K

Kick off your Strawberry Festival weekend with the 5K or 1 Mile walk/run presented by Wallace Parks and Recreation.

NEW LOCATION!! Start/Finish and Celebration at Campbell Cen-

ter at Clement Park.

2 FUN RACE DISTANCES FOR 2024

The 5K is perfect for runners and walkers of all skill levels! The Strawberry Jam is a 1 Mile is a non timed event and perfect for all ages! **REGISTRATION INCLUDES**

Shirt • Finisher Medal • Top Age Group Awards • A morning of fun

THE WHY

Wallace Parks and Recreation is currently working on a project that would allow children with disabilities to be able to have a safe and accommodating playground to enjoy.

All proceeds from this years 5K sign ups will go to help fund the new Inclusive Playground at Clement Park!

SIGN UP

www.runsignup.com/Race/NC/Wallace/CarolinaStrawberryFestival5K

PI DAY BAKE-OFF MARCH 14TH, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

THELMA DINGUS BRYANT LIBRARY 409 W. MAIN ST., WALLACE, NC 28466

1-910-285-3796 PLEASE BRING PIES BY 5:00 PM JUDGING WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 6:00 PM TDBLIBRARY@WALLACENC.GOV

Register at TDBL front desk, TDBL Facebook page, or call 910-285-3796

Celebrate **T** day

We all learned it in school. π = the Circumference of a circle divided by the Diameter of the Circle....or 3.14159265359 and so on 3/14, we celebrate Pi Day with something much better than math!

At the *Thelma Dingus Bryant Library*, we celebrate this monumental day...with PIES!

Get your best pastry recipe, and fill it full of tasty pie filling and bringit to the library on 3/14 by 5 pm to be judged!

Call 910-285-3796 for additional information. Wallace Parks & Recreation Presents

EASTER



IN THE PARK 16 MARCH,2024

Fun & Games	Starts @ 12:00 PM
Pictures With Easter Bunny	Starts @ 12:30 PM
EGG HUNT	Starts @ 2:00 PM

INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR Call Jessica @ 910 285 2905

Who To Call

TOWN OFFICIALS CONTACT INFORMATION 316 East Murray Street • Wallace, NC 28466 910-285-4136 • mail@wallacenc.gov • www.wallacenc.gov

Mayor Jason Wells jwells@wallacenc.gov

Mayor Pro Tem Francisco Rivas-Diaz frivas-diaz@wallacenc.gov

Town Council Members Frank Brinkley fbrinkley@wallacenc.gov

Jason Davis jdavis@wallacenc.gov

Tasha Herring therringredd@wallacenc.gov

Penny Thorne pthorne@wallacenc.gov

Town Manager Rob Taylor **Town Clerk** Jackie Nicholson **Public Services Director** Brent Dean Planning & Zoning Director Rod Fritz Chief of Police James Cravton Fire Chief Taylor Johnson Parks & Recreation Director David Bizzell Librarian Thelma Dingus Bryant Library Jennifer Raynor

FOR PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITY EMERGENCIES

During Normal Business Hours 910-285-4136 After Hours/Nights/Weekends/Holidays 910-285-5927