

THE SPRINGS

a newsletter from the town of holly springs, north carolina

road work plan

designing solutions to Avent Ferry traffic

The Town Council has endorsed a plan for reconfiguring the intersection of N.C. 55 Bypass and Avent Ferry Road to open up bottlenecks that are worst during rush hours.

The proposed changes are designed to accomplish several things, but mostly to speed left turns from Avent Ferry Road onto N.C. 55 in the morning and right turns from N.C. 55 onto Avent Ferry in the afternoon.

The N.C. Department of Transportation

agrees that this plan is the best remedy without waiting many years in hopes of a much more costly and elaborate solution.

The overloaded intersection was among the topics at the Town Council's annual planning retreat Feb. 21-22 in Southern Pines. The configuration that the council approved was one of several design alternatives that were developed during an intersection traffic study commissioned by the Town and the N.C. Department of Transportation in 2013.

Cooling our worst traffic hot spot will require lane and median additions plus signal light changes estimated to total \$1.6 million.

For weeks, the Town has been talking with state officials about ways to share the \$1.6 million cost. Possible sources of state funding that could provide up to two-thirds of the estimated cost have been identified. However, no state funding has been approved yet.

NCDOT has final say over the intersection since both roads are state-maintained. If approved and funded, the changes could be in place within 12-18 months.

The Town has been working closely with NCDOT on the intersection since traffic backups worsened there late last summer.

Visit www.hollyspringsnc.us to learn more about what changes are proposed.

planning a Holly Springs hospital

We're celebrating Rex Healthcare's recent announcement of plans to build a 50-bed hospital at the corner of N.C. 55 and Avent Ferry Road, where Rex has an urgent care center and other services.

The official announcement at a press conference Feb. 19 represents a major milestone in Holly Springs' years-long effort to win approval for a hospital.

The most recent bump in the road occurred when Novant Health challenged state regulators' approval of Rex's plan.

Novant had maintained that it should be allowed to build a hospital here instead. Novant dropped further challenge after the

state Court of Appeals ruled against it.

Mayor Dick Sears has been a vocal and persistent supporter of efforts to bring a hospital to Holly Springs and a critic of the slow process for approval.

Sears noted that hospital would benefit not just Holly Springs, but Fuquay-Varina and an area of 150,000 people.

Rex Healthcare indicated that construction of the hospital is several years away.

David Strong, president of Rex Healthcare, said hospital officials would gather information about community needs to determine whether updates are needed to the 4-year-old hospital plan.

March 2014

calendar

Mon., March 3	Monday Movie, 10am, CC (Meets Weekly)
Tues., March 4	Puppet Theatre, 11am, CC Town Council, 7pm, TH
Wed., March 5	Bridge Club, 10am, CC Senior Bingo, 1pm, BL
Fri., March 7	Family Fun Night, 6pm, BL
Sat., March 8	Spring Tennis Begins Kitchen Connections for Kids, 10am, CC John Sebastian, 7:30pm, CC
Tues., March 11	Discovering Nature, 10am, BL Bunco for Seniors, 2pm, CC Photo Club, 7pm, BL Board of Adjustment, 7pm, TH
Wed., March 12	Bridge Club, 10am, CC (Bridge Club Meets Weekly) Garden Club, 7pm, BL
Thurs., March 13	Senior Gaming, 2pm, CC Bunco Night, 6:30pm, CC Recreation Board, 7pm, TH
Fri., March 14	Family Bingo, 7pm, BL
Tues., March 18	Puppet Theatre, 11am, CC H.S. Bookworms, 6:30pm, CC Town Council, 7pm, TH
Wed., March 19	Senior Bingo, 1pm, BL
Thurs., March 20	Explore-a-Story, 10am, BL QDMA, 7pm, BL
Fri., March 21	Hotel California, 7:30pm, CC
Sat., March 22	Hotel California, 7:30pm, CC
Tues., March 25	Utility Bills Due Planning Board, 7pm, TH
Sat., March 29	Mixed Media Class, 2pm, CC

Locations

Bass Lake (BL) Hunt Center (HC)
Town Hall (TH) Cultural Center (CC)

keeping your water clean

Although your water is safe to drink, it might smell and taste more like chlorine during March.

This is because treatment plants change how they disinfect water each March.

State and federal rules require a bal-

ancing of treatment methods for safe drinking water.

Water plants throughout the state do this month-long switchover each year.

Kidney dialysis users should be aware that the water may contain chloramines, chlorine, or a mixture during March.

Call our Public Works Department at (919) 552-5920 if you have questions or concerns.

A temporary switchover in treatment methods may lead your water to taste and smell more like chlorine during March. It's still safe to drink.

During April, the treatment water plant will return to the use of chloramines for disinfection.

Mixtures of chlorine and chloramines may

be present during the early days of April.

Aquarium owners should use neutralizers that work on chlorine as well as chloramines.

The flushing of lines during this period may cause minor discoloration of the water. However, it remains safe to drink.

staying in touch

Want emergency alerts and/or Town government information on the topics of your choice?

Our Web site, www.hollyspringsnc.us, allows you to sign up for e-mail or phone text messages on numerous categories.

Just click the Notify Me button on the right side of our home page. Provide your e-mail address and/or phone number.

Signing up is free, of course, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Notification choices include Town news releases, emergency alerts, weather-related cancellations, calendar postings, Town government job openings, and many more.

You control which information that we send your way.

rabies clinic

Saturday, April 12

9 a.m. - Noon

Town Hall (Rear Parking Lot)

- **Vaccination** - \$5 per cat or dog, cash only; 3-year vaccinations available for those with vaccine certificates from last year.
- **Microchips** - \$20 per animal

Leashes or cages required for all pets. Please muzzle any pets that are aggressive.

Hosted by Holly Springs
Police Department
(919) 552-7110

helping us communicate with you

Help us provide the information that you want and need and deliver it in the ways that work for you.

We're conducting a survey for your feedback on the various communications outlets that we use to provide news and information.

To try to reach as many people as possible, we use a variety of methods. They range from the very low-tech, such as the printed version of

this newsletter, to notifications delivered to your smartphone.

We'd like to learn more about

what types of news topics interest you and which outlets you prefer. All survey responses are anonymous. For the link to the

communications survey, see Quick Clicks in the top right corner of the home page of our Web site, www.hollyspringsnc.us.

Planning & Zoning

Information Day

Thursday, March 13

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Hunt Community Center

- Drop by and talk with Town planners about permits needed for spring home improvement projects involving sheds, pools, etc. They'll walk you through it.
- Chat with planners and get up-to-date on all the exciting development that is coming to Holly Springs.

More Information - (919) 557-3908

pitch, hit & run

Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Event

Friday, April 11 at 6 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Baseball Fields

Ages 7-14

An opportunity to compete free of charge in competition that recognizes core baseball skills. Winners can advance to levels culminating at the Major League All-Star game. **Course Code # 13114**

track & field

An Introduction for Young Athletes

Residents' Registration Through March 14

Residents' Fee: \$60; Late Fee \$10

Twice weekly practice begins in mid-April. Participants will have the opportunity to advance from local to regional and state competition. **Course Code # 13112**