

WEDDINGTON JOURNAL

The Official Newsletter for the Town of Weddington, North Carolina



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WEDDINGTON

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Weddington Annual
Christmas Tree Lighting,
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*Have any questions about
the community?*

Contact us!

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The History Behind Weddington Industrial Institute

Weddington Industrial Institute was established in the year 1920 and was located roughly where the Weddington United Methodist Church stands today. At the time, Weddington UMC was known as The Methodist Episcopal Church South. The leaders of the church felt a need for a more “religiously and industrially trained” community and promised a sum of \$70,000 toward the establishment of the institute as part of a Christian education campaign.

The institute occupied 20 of the 600 acres deeded to the church from Reuben B. Weddington and was located an equal distance of 15 miles from the towns of Charlotte and Monroe. The institute would come to replace Weddington Academy, which had stood on the site since 1899. Most of the students attending the institute were day students. However, there were dormitories provided for students with a longer commute. The old Weddington Academy building was relocated on the property and became the male dormitory. The curriculum at the institute was varied. It held public elementary grades one through seven as well as high school and college classes, all of which reflected the religious background of the founders. English and math were included in the curriculum as well as bookkeeping, foreign languages, and secretarial skills. There were various classes in the arts offered as well, including piano, singing, and dressmaking to name a few. All students were required to take biblical classes.

The community had great expectations for the institute, but sadly, a fire destroyed the administration building in 1924. After the fire, the Methodist Church deeded the property to Union County for \$2,000 and a small public school was continued on the site.

Source: Enquirer-Journal March 7, 1991 by Glenna Sims



September & October Council Meeting Recaps

In September, the Council reported a successful School Tools and Movie Night at the Old Dairy Farm. Jenn Jones gave a presentation on a possible conditional rezoning for a community arts and recreation center. Proclamations for Constitution Week and Domestic Violence Awareness Month were adopted, and the 2019 Christmas Tree Lighting to be hosted at Town Hall on November 22, 2019 was discussed.

At the October meeting, the Town Council called for a public hearing on November 12, 2019, to consider the preliminary plat for the Hemby Place Subdivision. An event policy was discussed and adopted to set procedures for town sponsored events. Two resolutions of intent to abandon right of way were adopted; one at Michelle Court and the other on Rea Road near Reid Dairy Road. There will be a public hearing on those abandonments at the November meeting. A contract for professional help on developing a tree ordinance was approved and the Council reviewed the repairs needed at the Wesley Chapel Volunteer Fire Department Hemby Road Station.



The Council also voted to allocate money to pay for a “leading, left-arrow turn light” that will be added to the southbound signal at Twelve Mile Creek Road and Highway 84. The town had hoped NCDOT would have the Rea Road extension/Hwy 84 widening complete by now, as both the Twelve Mile Creek and Deal Road intersections will be upgraded with that project, but the project has been pushed back to 2024. The new “leading left” will allow southbound traffic (regardless of turning left or other movements) to have exclusive access through the intersection; after which, the lights will revert to normal traffic flow.

In addition to easing congestion, we hope this will create safer travel for our residents and school traffic. NCDOT expects this project to be completed in one to two months. Please educate your Weddington School drivers about the upcoming improvement and the need to try to avoid using Weddington Hills Drive/Bluebird Hill Lane (Bluebird is the Twelve Mile Creek entrance into the neighborhood, Weddington Hills is the Hwy 84 entrance) once the signal is updated. There will likely be tweaks to the timing with the new arrow, so once the light is in place, any feedback you have would be very beneficial.

Weddington Litter Sweep Success!

On Saturday, September 21st, Weddington community members participated in a successful fall litter sweep. Bi-annually, volunteers and residents teamup for a roadside litter cleanup drive. The campaign is sponsored by the Town of Weddington in conjunction with the NC Department of Transportation's Litter

Removal Initiative. Trash bags, gloves, and orange safety vests are provided along with coffee and donuts at every Weddington Litter Sweep event.

No litter sweep would be complete without choosing the winner of the most unusual piece of trash. This year, volunteers found a breakdancing Snoopy toy, a deer skull complete with teeth, and a large piece of mystery metal. After much consideration, it was decided that all three treasures were worthy of a three-way tie.

Over 80 citizens generously volunteered their time to help pick up trash in an effort to enhance the beauty of our town. Many thanks go out to everyone involved, including, but not limited to, the 8th Grade Football Team from Weddington Middle School, Weddington High School JROTC, Weddington Middle School PTSO, Scott Clark Toyota, and Harris Teeter. The town appreciates your time and effort and looks forward to seeing everyone at the next Litter Sweep in the spring of 2020.



Deputy Corner

The Union County Sheriff's Deputies have received complaints from the community regarding stolen mail. USPS offers a feature called Informed Delivery, allowing subscribers to track mail delivered to their personal mailbox via email. Informed Delivery provides subscribers with a daily email which includes a photo of the front of each piece of mail being delivered to their mailbox. This is an excellent way to track personal mail and make sure nothing is missing from your mailbox. Use the following link to sign up: <https://informedelivery.usps.com/box/pages/intro/start.action>.



Recently we have received an increase in traffic complaints ranging from speed violations to reckless driving. If you witness reckless driving, please contact 911 to have a deputy dispatched to the area.

Here is a link to this month's Crime Map: <https://unioncountysheriffsoffice.com/crime-mapping> and the Union County Sheriff's Office website: <https://unioncountysheriffsoffice.com/>.

As always, we want our residents to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's office by calling 911. Calls will be prioritized and immediately sent out.

Thank you for your cooperation!

WINTER COAT DRIVE TO BENEFIT UNION COUNTY



Help families in need in Union County by bringing your new or gently used winter coat, hats or gloves to one of the following locations now through December 1st.

- Weddington Town Hall • Weddington Swim & Racquet Club •
- Weddington Fitness & Community Center •

WEDDINGTON
FITNESS
AND COMMUNITY CENTER





Town of Weddington Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

**Friday, November 22nd 5-9pm
at Town Hall**



Free Hot Chocolate & Cookies
Local Choirs/Church Performances

Fire Pits

S'mores Station

Balloon Artist

Food Trucks



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