



Town of Mars Hill
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MARS HILL LETTER

A Publication of the Town of Mars Hill, N.C.

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COVID-19 UPDATE

The Town of Mars Hill continues to operate under local and statewide state of emergency proclamations issued in March 2020. All Town facilities are operating following guidelines from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Residents are encouraged to continue utilizing our drop boxes, telephone, and mail to make payments.

After a period this summer of falling cases of infection, we are again seeing significant rising numbers of cases due to the variants and other contributing factors. Please consider the health of yourself and your neighbors by taking every precaution available to control COVID-19. Consider receiving the vaccine available at a number of locations, including the Madison County Health Department, CVS, Ingles, and other providers. COVID-19 information from the N.C. Department of Health and Human Resources can be viewed online at <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>.

ONLINE PAYMENT OPTIONS NOW AVAILABLE

The Town of Mars Hill now offers an online payment option for the payment of water bills. This optional payment service is provided through a partnership with a payment processing vendor called Invoice Cloud, a leader in the industry. There is a small convenience fee charged by the third-party vendor to process online payments by electronic check (\$1.95) or credit/debit card (\$3). This fee is set and collected by the vendor and the Town does not receive any proceeds from the convenience fee. Customers can also enroll in auto-payments and e-billing. This is a service we are pleased to offer for those seeking an online payment option. You can access the online payment system at <https://www.townofmarshill.org/>.

NC 213 CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

The Town of Mars Hill has received word from the NC Department of Transportation that NC Highway 213 will soon be under construction from the I-26 interchange to the intersection with Gabriel's Creek Road. Work will begin in mid-August and continuing well into the winter to replace crosswalk and driveway ramps in preparation for complete resurfacing in the



summer of 2022. A considerable amount of the work will be done at night to ease the congestion and other factors. We are glad to see this work take place but caution everyone to stay alert during this process.

TOWN RECEIVES NEW TRASH TRUCK

The Town of Mars Hill placed a new trash truck in service in early July to serve the town's sanitation and recycling needs. This 2022 Freightliner truck replaces our previous vehicle which had been in service for over 16 years and was well beyond its useful service life.



This vehicle was purchased using a grant from the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality Division of Air Quality through the N.C. Volkswagen Settlement Program. The VW program was established as part of the automaker's national settlement with the US Dept. of Justice for emission standard violations. This phase of the settlement program was designed to replace high-polluting vehicles to achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions.

The Town is grateful to receive this grant-funded vehicle and appreciates the technical assistance received from the Land of Sky Clean Vehicles Coalition.

Be sure to say "hello" to David, Gordon, and Garrett when you see them working in your neighborhood!



MARS HILL FARMERS AND ARTISANS HOLIDAY MARKET OPENS IN NOVEMBER

Mars Hill Farmers and Artisans Market (MHFAM) takes place every Saturday until October 30th on College Street on the campus of Mars Hill University in downtown Mars Hill.

After regular season ends in October, the Holiday Market begins! The Holiday Market will take place on College Street from 10am - 1pm on Saturdays in November and December 2021.

Customers can expect to find a variety of fresh seasonal produce, locally prepared foods, handmade crafts, and herbal & homecare products including: fresh baked goods, ice cream, fresh locally roasted coffee, eggs, goats milk soaps, pork, chicken, grass fed beef, herb infused honeys, fire ciders, elixirs/tinctures, teas, flowers, handmade jewelry, handmade pottery, and more.

For the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, MHFAM is operating under modified guidelines to ensure a safe and user-friendly shopping environment through social distancing with increased spacing between tents, limiting customers in the shopping area, handwashing stations and extra sanitation efforts, and contactless payment options. We are encouraging shoppers to pre-order from vendors using information provided on our website.

MHFAM has partnered with Beacon of Hope's food pantry in Marshall. MHFAM will offer a donation station at the management tent where shoppers can leave donations to be picked up by Beacon of Hope at the end of each market day for distribution through their food pantry the following week.

Market Hours and Location:

SATURDAYS IN MARS HILL: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on College Street at Mars Hill University just off NC Highway 213, in front of the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre. College Street will be closed to all vehicles during the market.

****NOTE: Due to the Madison Heritage Arts Festival on Saturday, October 2, 2021, MHFAM will take place at the gazebo pavilion across from Stackhouse on S. Main St.**

Sign up to receive the MHFAM newsletter at www.marshillmarket.org for updates and information each week on what products to expect at the market.

From Our Friends at SART

SART Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament

WHEN: Friday, September 17th at 2:00 p.m.
WHERE: Reems Creek Golf Course
DETAILS: Shotgun start at 2 p.m. Four person teams-\$95 per player. Lunch and snacks are included. Win a new car with hole-in-one and other prizes!

Contact Dorothy Rapp at drapp@mhu.edu, or Dan Lunsford at dlunsford@mhu.edu, for more information.

DATES OF INTEREST

- August 25-28.....Students return to MHU
- August 30.....First Day of Class for MHU
- September 2.....Thursday Night Football – 7:00 p.m.
MHU vs. Chowan
- September 3.....First Friday Event – Gazebo
- September 6.....Labor Day Holiday
Town Offices Closed
Trash Pickup on Tuesday, September 7th
- September 9.....Thursday Night Football – 7:00 p.m.
MHU vs. Virginia-Lynchburg
- September 18.....MHU Football vs. Virginia-Wise – 1:00 p.m.
- October 1.....First Friday Event – Gazebo
- October 2.....Lunsford Festival AND Madison Heritage Arts Festival – MHU Quad – 10 a.m.
- October 2.....MHU Football vs. Newberry – 1:00 p.m.
- October 9.....MHU Homecoming – MHU vs. Barton – 2:00 p.m.
- October 23.....MHU Football vs. Catawba – 1:00 p.m.
- November 2.....Election Day
- November 5.....First Friday Event – Gazebo
- November 6.....MHU Football vs. Tusculum – 1:00 p.m.
- November 11....Veterans Day Holiday
Town Offices Closed
- November 25 & 26...Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Town Offices Closed



First Fridays in Mars Hill is an evening of music, food, and fun! Select Downtown Mars Hill businesses will be open until 8pm and will be offering specials as well as the chance to win fabulous prizes. Come on out and join us at the Town Gazebo on the first Friday of the month.

COVID-19 vaccines:
Safe, effective, free.



From the League of Women Voters

For over 30 years the League of Women Voters Madison County has brought candidates and voters together to provide voters information to make informed choices and candidates an opportunity to present their positions.

Come meet the candidates for mayor and town council for Mars Hill on Tuesday, October 12 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the meeting room in the Mars Hill Library at 25 Library Street. The election will be held on November 2, 2021. October 8 is the deadline for registering to vote in this election.

Like its state and national counterparts, LWV Madison County encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Contact us at lwwmadisonnc@gmail.com.