

the COLLARD CHRONICLES

“One of America’s Best Small Communities to Raise a Family”~ U.S. Media Group, 2013



Vision Statement

Vision to
Improve the
Lifestyle and
Landscape of
Ayden through
Growth and
Enrichment

A clean, safe, and attractive community that encompasses characteristics of a village; consisting of an economically thriving retail and service Historic downtown district that is abutted by residential neighborhoods providing a good mix of housing options and that are within walking distance to downtown and recreational opportunities; and that are all surrounded by a flourishing and prosperous commercial and industrial corridor. Ayden is a vibrant community with hometown charm.

For more information, visit the Town of Ayden’s website at www.ayden.com



Featured News:

Mayor Stephen Tripp

“Counting our Blessings and Accomplishments”

For me, this is one of my favorite times of the year with the football season being at its peak with playoffs and bowl games, the beginning of the basketball season, the celebration of Christmas and the welcoming of a New Year. During this period of time we witnessed Christmas enthusiasm in our Town with the decoration of Christmas lights on our water tank, electrical poles, and the trees located downtown. The story of Christmas was told in our Churches with cantatas, plays, and sermons about the birth of Jesus. Christmas festivities were on display with an awesome parade that included the ECU Band Drum Line, Shriners, Santa Claus and all our community’s finest. Our joyous fellowship with each other at parties and family gatherings was enjoyed by everyone, and the magic of Christmas was experienced when Santa Claus visited our community on Christmas Eve. I hope you and your family have enjoyed the spirit of Christmas like my family has.

At Thanksgiving, I was reminded of how much the Lord has blessed the Town and my family. We have experienced a reduction in our electrical rates by 10%; approval for the construction of the Southwest Bypass; grants totaling \$11.5 million over 10 years; improved infrastructure (sewer and storm water); sidewalk expansion; development of Ayden District Park; renovated Ayden Community Center; and the list goes on. As a result, the Town of Ayden is moving in a progressive direction of transformation, growth, ownership, and hope.

As we enter into a new year, we have an opportunity to build on our blessings and accomplishments that will bring economic development and jobs. The Town of Ayden has a unique opportunity to create something special with the Food Processing and Manufacturing Initiative. Working with NC State University, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and other agencies, and through utilizing locally grown farm products, the Economic Impact Study projects the creation of 250 new jobs and \$80 million in production of value-added foods within 10 years in a seven county region. This, along with retail and commercial development in the vicinity of NC-102 and the Southwest Bypass, as well as downtown Ayden, and further investment in the town’s existing assets will further advance the quality of life for our Town.

So with the start of the new year, I will continue to pray that the Lord will bless the Town and each of you. I am reminded of the words of my Executive Assistant, Barbara Hudson, who said “As we approach a new year and remember an old one, let us not forget the lives we have touched by the work we do, the words we speak, the compassion we share, and the forgiveness we practice – every day.” So true, that each of us has that opportunity to touch lives in a special way. Let us take advantage of that opportunity ...every day.

Happy New Year and “Thank You” for taking ownership of our Town and making Ayden “One of America’s Best Small Communities to Raise a Family”.



Wise Words: "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt." ~ Abraham Lincoln

January & February Calendar of Events

JANUARY 2016

- Jan. 1st: New Year's Day, Town offices closed
- Jan. 11th: 7-pm, Governing Board Meeting*
- Jan. 12th: 6:30-pm, Main Street Meeting, Community Building
- Jan. 18th: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Town offices closed
- Jan 18th-20th: Pitt County Schools closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Teacher Workdays
- Jan 19th: 7-pm, Planning Board Meeting*
- Jan 19th: 7-pm, Community Policing Meeting, Community Building

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 8th: 7-pm, Governing Board Meeting*
- Feb. 9th: 6:30-pm, Main Street Meeting, Community Building
- Feb. 14th: Valentine's Day
- Feb. 15th: Presidents' Day
- Feb. 15th: 7-pm, Planning Board Meeting*
- Feb. 15th: Pitt County Schools closed, Teacher Workday
- Feb 16th: 7-pm, Community Policing Meeting, Community Building

MLK Jr. Day Sanitation Schedule

- Jan. 18th: NO COLLECTION
- Jan. 19th: Monday's Route
- Jan. 20th: Tuesday & Wednesday's Route
- Jan. 21st: Recycling

*Please call 481-5826 three(3) days prior to meeting time if you need special accommodations to attend.

Customer Hot List

NEED TO KNOW ITEMS...



Medical Alert Program

If you or someone in your household are chronically or seriously ill or are on a life support system please notify our customer service department. A yearly certification from a doctor or hospital advising of the above condition is necessary to be placed on this program. A customer who complies with these notification procedures will have a special seal placed on his/her meter to designate his/her household as containing a chronically ill or life support customer. The Town will make every effort to keep the power flowing however, due to conditions beyond our control (storm damage, loss of generation, etc.) electric power can not be guaranteed 100% of the time. *Each customer must ensure a back-up plan for movement of a life-support patient if the Town is unable to restore power in a length of time that is acceptable.* Additionally, **each customer has the responsibility to handle his/her account so that service will not be interrupted for failure to pay.** For questions or concerns, please contact our customer service representatives at 252-481-5823.



Where can I put a fence?

Fences require zoning compliance. Fences and walls not over 5-feet high may project into or may enclose any front yard, except on corner lots where the max. height is 4-feet. Decorative or boundary fences or walls enclosing rear or side yards may be 6-feet high. A fence or wall may be erected in the side and rear yard to a maximum of 10-feet in nonresidential districts. All fences and walls must be constructed within the lot line. Fences shall be five (5) feet from all property lines which are adjacent to street right-of-ways. For questions or compliance please call 252-481-5828.

Town of Ayden

Inc. in 1891 - 2010 Population 5,018
Council - Manager Form of Government

A Full Service Municipal Government Offering
Electric, Water, Sewer, Solid Waste,
Recreation, Police, Fire and EMS Services
to the Ayden community.

Governing Body

Stephen W. Tripp, Mayor
Ivory Mewborn, Mayor Pro Tem/
Commissioner 1st Ward
Mary Alice Davenport, Commissioner 2nd Ward
Michael Harris, Commissioner 3rd Ward
Donnie Skinner, Commissioner 4th Ward
Phyllis Ross, Commissioner 5th Ward

Management Staff

Brandon Holland, Town Manager
Robert Sutton, Public Works & Utilities Director
Stephen Smith, Community & Economic Planner
Barry Stanley, Chief of Police
Alicia Simpson, Finance Director
Tommy Duncan, Recreation Director

CONTACT INFORMATION

Town of Ayden
4144 West Avenue/P.O. Box 219
Ayden, NC 28513-0219
(252) 481-5817
<http://www.ayden.com>

FOR PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES EMERGENCIES

Ayden Customer Service at Town Hall
Call During Normal Business Hrs.
(252) 481-5823/481-5821

Ayden Police Dept.
Call Nights/Weekends/Holidays
(252) 481-5844



If you know individuals involved in committing a crime in Ayden, please consider reporting it. You need not to fear your name/info will be revealed in any way to anyone; it will be kept anonymous. Please call (252) 758-7777 or visit: www.crimestopper.org

It's "Budget Billing" Time!

In February, *eligible customers* may sign up for the annual Budget Billing Program. To qualify, you must have resided at your current address for the past twelve months AND have good credit with the Town.

Interested? Please call the Customer Service Department at 252-481-5823 or stop by Town Hall during regular business hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.

