

# Union Update

August 11, 2015



Front row from left to right – April Cardella and Ashley Knox. Back row from left to right – Jeff Mullis and Chris Helms

## Detention Officers Receive Certifications

Four Union County Sheriff's Detention Officers recently completed the Detention Officer Certification course at the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Training Academy.

The graduates were Detention Officer's April Cardella, Ashley Knox, Jeff Mullis and Chris Helms. Detention Officer Mullis also served as Squad Leader for Platoon 1502.

## Tax Office Mails Property Tax Bills

The Union County Tax Office will send out the 2015 annual property tax bills in mid-August. Tax bills are mailed directly to individuals who pay the bill – either property owners or mortgage companies with which taxes are escrowed. However, for the first time, the Tax Office will send a courtesy notice to the approximately 37,000 property owners who escrow their property taxes with their mortgage that will indicate the tax liability.

The Union County tax rate for FY 2015-16 is \$0.7765 per \$100 assessed valuation, \$0.2882 for county services, \$0.0048 for countywide Fire, \$0.0263 for countywide EMS and \$0.4572 for Union County Public Schools. The increase of \$.0151 in 2015 per \$100 assessed valuation is due, in part, to the 2015 countywide revaluation which resulted in a decreased tax base, and in part to increased funding levels.

The residents of Wingate, Wesley Chapel, Fairview, Mineral Springs, Marshville, Hemby Bridge and Stallings will receive one tax bill that includes both county and municipal taxes. The partnership with these municipalities provides these residents with one point of contact for all property tax questions and concerns.

Property taxes are due Sept. 1, 2015. To avoid interest charges, property tax payments must be paid on or before Jan. 5, 2016. If mailed, the payment must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before that date.

Property owners whose payments are postmarked on or after Jan. 6, 2016, will be charged a 2 percent interest penalty for the month of January and an additional  $\frac{3}{4}$  percent every month thereafter until the bill is paid. All unpaid taxes will be advertised in the local newspaper and an additional advertising fee will be added to each bill.

If you feel you need assistance paying your annual tax bill, the Union County Tax Administrator's office has short term payment plan options available. Payment plans must be arranged with our office no later than Dec. 15, 2015. The first payment is required at the time of the arrangement. No formal payment plans will be made after a bill has become delinquent. After delinquency, all bills are subject to authorized enforcement measures.

Continued on next page...



If you need assistance with making these arrangements please contact our Customer Service division at 704-283-3848.

To provide easy access to payment options, there are several ways to pay your tax bill:

- **By Mail:** Mail your check using the return envelope in your tax bill.
- **In person:** Pay by cash or check at the Tax Collector's office located on the first floor of the Union County Government Center weekdays between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **By Drop Box:** Located on Stewart St. Extension behind the Historic Post Office.
- **By phone:** 1-888-977-8411; Credit and debit cards accepted, additional processing charges will apply, and you must have account information available.
- **By Internet:** Visit our Web page at [www.unioncountync.gov](http://www.unioncountync.gov); Credit and debit cards accepted, additional processing charges will apply.

## New Map Leads to Recreational Opportunities Throughout the County

Union County Parks and Recreation has created an interactive mapping system that assists residents in finding recreational opportunities in Union County.

The "Recreational Treasure Map" allows residents to locate parks, libraries, public schools, points of interest and other Union County "treasures." The map can be found on the County's website at [www.co.union.nc.us/Divisions/ParksRecreation/RecreationTreasureMap/unionleasure.aspx](http://www.co.union.nc.us/Divisions/ParksRecreation/RecreationTreasureMap/unionleasure.aspx).

For more information, contact Bill Whitley at [BillWhitley@co.union.nc.us](mailto:BillWhitley@co.union.nc.us).



What Could be Better Than Fun and Educational?

Fun, Educational and FREE!

Please join us for an hour of reading and fun at MOTHEREAD!

### Mothers and Children Learning to Read & Reading to Learn - Together!

Are you a mother (or guardian) of a child between 3 and 5 years old? Do you want to learn to read English or learn how to make reading fun and easy for your child? If you are then this program is for you. Each session starts with a free nutritious breakfast for the two of you, followed by an hour of reading and having fun together.

Location: East Elementary School

Start Date: Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 2015

Breakfast available from 7:45 to 7:55 AM

Classes start promptly at 8:00 AM for one hour

Classes meet Tuesday & Thursday mornings for 12 weeks

**Register Now!**

Breakfast, books and all other materials are free to you

### BONUS

Mothers and guardians receive as many as twelve, free children's books to take home for your own personal at-home library.

Funding for The Motherhead Program is provided by Alliance for Children. The Literacy Council of Union County conducts the Motherhead program, in partnership with Union County Public School/East Elementary.



*Please Join us for the Dedication of the Historic Downtown Greenway Loop*

*Belk Tonawanda Park,  
217 West I.B. Shive Drive  
Monroe, NC 28110*

*August 14<sup>th</sup>  
10:00am*

*Healthy Refreshments and a Walk on the Greenway will Follow the Ceremony*





## Main Library Griffin Room

Thursday, August 20, 5:00 pm—7:00 pm (Members Only Pre-Sale Event)

Friday, August 21, 9:00 am—6:00 pm

Saturday, August 22, 1:00 pm—5:00 pm

Sunday, August 23, 2:00 pm—5:00 pm

Monday, August 24—Wednesday, August 26, 9:00 am—7:00 pm