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**JULY 2017** • The City of Morganton Local Government Newsletter

www.morgantonnc.gov/newsletter

## City Calendar

http://bit.ly/mgacal

Art In The Hall • Uni4 Artists June - July 8am-5pm @ City Hall

Red, White, & Bluegrass Festival

Saturday, 7/1 - Monday, 7/3 @ Catawba Meadows Park www.redwhiteandbluegrassfestival.org



## FREE Independence Day Celebration

Tuesday, 7/4 5pm @ Catawba Meadows Park

TGIF + Cruise-In with
JJ Hipps and the Hideaway

Friday, 7/7 6pm @ Courthou

6pm @ Courthouse Square Opener: Alberta Hall

#### **Coffee With A Cop**

Wednesday, 7/12 8:30am @ Abele's

# TGIF with Chris Cates and the Masterplan

Friday, 7/14

6pm @ Courthouse Square Opener: Neil Saunders

#### TGIF with Bobby Darrin

Friday, 7/21

6pm @ Courthouse Square Opener: Fat Daddy Reed and the Family Band

#### TGIF with Outshyne

Friday, 7/28

6pm @ Courthouse Square Opener: Cross Cut

More events on Page 2

http://bit.ly/mgacal

# City awarded \$1.3 million grant for infrastructure

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) recently approved a \$1,374,714 grant to the City of Morganton to construct an I-40 frontage access road in Burke County.

The ARC funds will be used to construct a .28-mile road connecting S. Sterling Street to W. Parker Road located in northwest quadrant of Exit 105 of I-40. The new road will promote economic development in the area by providing essential access to new local development sites supporting the growing tourism industry in the county.

"This tremendous news is the result of a lot of hard work on the part of so many, including the City of Morganton, ARC, NCDOT, and others," Congressman Mark Meadows said. "I am thrilled that we were able to assist in getting this grant secured, and I'm confident that the resulting project will serve as a major catalyst for our district's economy."

It is estimated that the project will support the creation of 45 new jobs over next 3 years and leverage \$15 million in private investment in the area. The project is contingent upon securing a developer for the properties.



Olivia Collier, center, Appalachian Regional Commission Program Manager, presented a \$1.3 Million check to Assistant City Manager Sonja Marston, right, and Development and Design Director Phillip Lookadoo.

"I am so excited about the growth that's happening in Morganton," said Assistant City Manager Sonja Marston, who facilitated the grant application for the City. "This grant will allow us to develop necessary infrastructure to not only support current growth, but to also create opportunities for the future."

Check out an illustration of the proposed road at <a href="http://bit.ly/2tDusns">http://bit.ly/2tDusns</a>.

## There's A LOT happening in Parks and Rec!



There's a lot happening this summer in City of Morganton Parks and Recreation! Swim and tennis lessons, art and exercise camps, music and festivals, and a whole lot of FUN!

Visit the link below to watch the video and learn more: http://bit.ly/prsummer2017.

# 2 Council seats up for election

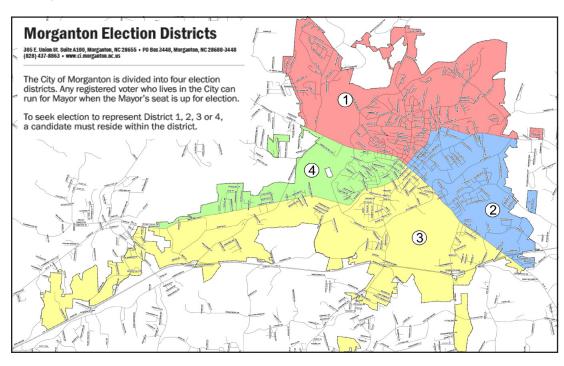
Two seats on the Morganton City Council are up for election this year - District 3, currently held by John H. Cantrell, and District 4, currently vacant.

Filing for the 2017 election

opens at 12 noon July 7, and closes at 12 noon July 21. To run for District 3 or 4, you must live in that district.

Candidates must file at the Burke County Board of Elections, located at 2128 S. Sterling St. Check the election district map online at <a href="http://bit.ly/mvoting">http://bit.ly/mvoting</a>.

Early voting runs from Oct. 19 to Nov. 4, and election day will be Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2017.



# City Calendar Continued http://bit.ly/mgacal

Art In The Hall • Natalia Leigh Aug. -Sept. 8-5 @ City Hall

Parks and Rec Master Plan Public Meeting Thursday, 8/3

6pm @ Collett Street Recreation

TGIF w/ Sweet Revenge Friday, 8/4 6pm @ Courthouse Square Opener: Taylor Hensley

Community Day Saturday, 8/19

11am @ Mountain View Rec Sarah Tucker in Concert

Saturday, Aug. 19 7pm @ CoMMA

Tour d'Art Reception for Natalia Leigh Thursday, 8/24 5-7pm @ City Hall

Benton Blount in Concert Saturday, Aug. 26 7:30pm @ CoMMA

Coffee with a Cop Wednesday, 9/13 8:30am @ Pat's Snack Bar

The Moore Brothers Band Thursday, Sept. 14 7:00 pm @ CoMMA

# The latest skate park design looks pretty rad

This Christmas might be a good time for kids in Morganton to ask Santa for a new skate board, because Morganton's new City skate park should be open then!

"We hope to start construction in mid-September, and we hope to be done before Christmas," Parks and Recreation Director Rob Winkler said.

Not only will the new park meet the needs of local skaters, it will be one more piece in the recreation/tourism puzzle that helps draw visitors and dollars into Morganton. Read the full story and see what a local skater/business owner has to say about the new park at <a href="http://bit.ly/2t2YcN/">http://bit.ly/2t2YcN/</a>.



Conceptual design of the new skate park behind the Collett Street Recreation Center.

#### **MORGANTON CITY COUNCIL**

Ronnie Thompson • Mayor
S. Sidney Simmons • District 1
Forrest A. Fleming • District 2
John H. Cantrell • Mayor Pro Tem - District 3
Vacant • District 4

#### **CONTACT THE COUNCIL**

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**Morganton Matters** is produced by the City's Public Information Office.

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