

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions on the information in this newsletter, please contact your Knightdale Public Information Officer, **Jonas Silver** at **919-217-2205** or **Jonas.Silver@KnightdaleNC.gov**.

For customer service questions or concerns, please contact our customer service desk at **919-217-2200**.

For issues regarding a specific department, please go to **www.KnightdaleNC.gov**, click on "REPORT A PROBLEM" in the top right corner of the homepage and fill out the form of the appropriate department.



Dear Knightdale Resident,

We are excited to provide Town news to you in our Knightdale "Knews" letter. We look forward to bringing residents more local information, and are happy to provide you with this service.

Jonas Silver
Public Information Officer
Town of Knightdale

K NIGHTDALE NEWS

WINTER 2019

www.knightdalenc.gov

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The Town of Knightdale published its first newsletter "The Knightdale Knews" in June of 1943. The first publication reported on food preservation, the proposed Town budget, and upcoming social events in Town. Though subject matter will not change much, the number of people who receive the newsletter will! The Population of Knightdale in 1943 was 360 people, now we are sending this newsletter to over 6,000 homes and local businesses.

KNIGHTDALE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA DEDICATION



Disabled American Veterans member salutes the US Flag



Veterans from each US Armed Forces branch raised their flags



The event honored Those who served, and the families of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice



Over 400 guests were in attendance to recognize the sacrifices of those who served our country



Above Middle: Paula Hartman, Garden Club of North Carolina's Blue Star Memorial Marker Committee Chairman re-dedicated the Blue Star Memorial. **Above Right:** NC Garden Club President, Gail Hill spoke about Blue Star and Gold Star Memorials



On November 11th, the Knightdale community gathered for its annual Veterans Day tribute, hosted by the Two Green Thumbs Garden Club and the Town of Knightdale. This year's event was emceed by WRAL's Renee Chou and featured Four-Star General Dan K. McNeill (Retired) as the keynote speaker.

The program this year was special, as it marked the dedication of the Knightdale Veterans Memorial Plaza, with its five monuments honoring each branch of the military. The names of our community members, whose lives were lost in service to our Country, will be inscribed on the monuments. The Plaza is the new home of Knightdale's Blue Star Memorial Marker, honoring all those who serve in the Armed Forces. The dedication culminated with the unveiling of a Gold Star Families Memorial Marker, honoring the families of fallen soldiers. The Knightdale Veterans Memorial is the only memorial in North Carolina to hold both Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial status.

General McNeill spoke about the privilege of serving in the Armed Forces and how that service translates into the liberties we enjoy each day. He said "By what right do we assemble here today to dedicate this beautiful memorial?.... The liberties and latitude of the Constitution of the United States of America grant us the right of peaceful assembly and free expressions of gratitude. Who has the duty to protect that Constitution? All those who serve."



Keynote Speaker, Four Star Army General Dan K. McNeill (Retired) spoke directly to Veterans and citizens about the extraordinary sacrifices made by those who serve



Mayor James Roberson Welcomes guests



Emcee Renee Chou & Knightdale Two Green Thumbs President Sandra Dutton

FORESTVILLE ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX



On November 20th, 2018 Wake Stone Corporation finalized a 40 acre donation to the Town of Knightdale. This generous donation is designated for the construction of an athletic complex at the intersection of Forestville Road and Old Crews Road. The Town of Knightdale and the North Carolina Football Club (NCFC) will collaborate to build the complex. The first phase of the project includes five regulation-sized soccer fields and associated amenities. The Wake County Board of Commissioners, through the Hospitality Tax Small Projects Capital Grant Program, awarded the Town of Knightdale a \$1 million grant for this project on May 21, 2018.



"It is exciting to see this vision become a reality after years of working with the Town and other stakeholders to provide additional recreational opportunities for our community," said

Sam Bratton, President of Wake Stone Corporation. "At Wake Stone, we have a long history of serving the communities where we operate, and we are glad that this donation will benefit the residents of Knightdale and the greater Wake County region, for generations to come."

Per Mayor James Roberson, "This project will generate an estimated economic benefit of \$4.4 million annually, bringing an estimated 261,000 visitors to Eastern Wake County." Bob Harris, Director of Operations for NCFC Youth stated, "North Carolina Football Club is excited to partner with Knightdale to provide this opportunity for eastern Wake youth. It's a fantastic location and the facility's size will allow for us to expand many programs, including our college showcase."

HARPER PARK IMPROVEMENTS

KNIGHTDALE HARPER PARK IMPROVEMENTS CONCEPT PLAN
TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE JANUARY 5, 2018



Citizens traveling down Smithfield Road and Main Street will notice quite a bit of construction at Harper Park as the Town is making renovations. In addition to the existing tennis courts being updated to meet United States Tennis Association (USTA) standards, two new tennis courts and two pickleball courts will be constructed. A new facility with bathrooms and additional functionality will be built to meet the expanding needs of the park as well.

Once remodeled, the part of the Harper Park building that once housed the Chamber of Commerce will be the new home of the Knightdale Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Programs Department. The Recreation Department will share the facility with the Police Department, which opened a new substation in the building last year.



CHRISTMAS ON FIRST AVENUE



The Knightdale community gathered for its annual Christmas on First Avenue Celebration during the first weekend of December. The festivities began Thursday evening with area vendors putting their unique wares on display while local musicians played Christmas music. On Friday evening, citizens enjoyed hot chocolate, apple cider, and cookies while singing Christmas carols. Children met with Mrs. Claus to review their Christmas lists. The evening culminated with Mayor Roberson and Santa lighting the Christmas tree, marking the official beginning of the Christmas Season in Knightdale.

On Saturday, the holiday spirit filled First Avenue during the annual Knightdale Christmas Parade. The parade began at Knightdale Elementary School and ended at Knightdale Station Park, with everything from The Knightdale Knights youth football team to Santa himself! The Town recognized the Knightdale Hustle, winner of the 2018 11U AAU National Championship, as this year's Grand Marshal.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Cupid Run 5K - Join us in your runday best for our annual Cupid Run 5K at Knightdale Station Park and surrounding neighborhoods on Saturday, February 10th at 8:30 AM.

