



Town of Holly Ridge

# Mayor's Message



NOVEMBER 4TH, 2024

As your mayor, I am dedicated to keeping you informed and engaged with current developments in the Town of Holly Ridge and to fostering open communication with our community. I welcome any recommendations or suggestions you may have to enhance this process. I'd also like to recognize our excellent Town Manager and Staff, whose experience and dedication to the future of Holly Ridge greatly benefit our community.

1. We continue to meet and discuss our needs with the Onslow County leadership. Holly Ridge is integral to the county due to our growth projections. We continue to discuss our needs. But the county is working on many areas that are aligned with our needs, such as the following:
  - a. EMS Support
  - b. School System Plans
  - c. Transportation, Parks & Recreation
  - d. County Strategic Plan Components Impacting Us

Several meetings and presentations will be held during the next few months, and we will attend them to represent Holly Ridge and gather information. We will share anything public with you as soon as we have it. I asked the county manager to give us a brief overview during the December Town Council Meeting, and he graciously accepted.

2. The voting will be on November 5<sup>th</sup> in the Holly Ridge Community Center located at 404 Sound Road. The community center will be closed on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and will not be open to the public.
3. The Town's Parks and Recreation Team initiated the Senior Social Club gathering every Wednesday (not this Wednesday) through mid-December. the Kid's Night Out event has been canceled due to a lack of registration. We will offer another opportunity in January!
4. Holly Ridge has many great restaurants and food services, such as Smoky Tony's BBQ, The City Cafe, Southern Roots Grill, Coastal Blends, Holland's, and Fusion Blue Bistro. Randy Millis, the new owner of Holland Restaurants, has excellent plans for upgrades and changes. Laura and Chris Gates, the owners of Fusion Blue Bistro, have made many changes. Recently, there was an article about them in the Topsail newspaper.
5. For those unfamiliar with The Camp Davis Industrial Park, several businesses are operating there in Phase I, and Phase II is in progress. Camp Davis is one of the keystones of the town footprint; feel free to drive in there and see what is there:
  - a. Phase I Companies - Project United, Crete Solutions (concrete plant), Onslow Bay Boatworks, Atlantic Seafood Company, Coastal Carolina Containers, BlueWaterCandyLures, Alexander Ind., Above Topsail, Cabinet/Granite Sol, MNC Metalworks, Bachelor Construction, Tom Dean Company, Gulfstream Steel
  - b. Phase II Companies in progress- Sierra Global, Refine Management Group, UPS, , Freedom 15, Surf Prep, and FW Marsh

6. We continue to look for volunteers to join our Branding and Marketing Committee as well as the Political Connection Committee; these are posted on the Town's webpage. We appreciate those who have already volunteered and joined. The Political Connection Committee is not a political action committee; no town funds will be spent on candidates. We cherish and seek more involvement from the community with experience to help us as we go forward and support our residential and commercial growth.
7. As a part of our effort to seek funding, we continue to seek grants from various public sources. However, we have limited staff. We are seeking volunteers from our community to help us with grant application writing. Please be on the lookout for that announcement. It is critical to our Town, and we appreciate anyone with any proposal development and grant writing background who can help us, give advice, and support our needs.
8. Several events are going on during the next couple of months. All are posted to the Town's Website, but here is a summary:
  - a. Monday, November 4- November 6, the Community Center will be closed for voting.
  - b. Monday, November 11, 2024 – Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Liberty Fountain Park beginning at 11:00 a.m.
  - c. Thursday, November 7, 2024 – Meeting with the Public on the Park design from 4–7 p.m. in the Community Center.
  - d. Friday, November 15, 2024 – Teen Night hosted by the Town of Holly Ridge Parks and Recreation Department beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center.
  - e. Wednesday, November 20, 2024 – Family Game Night hosted by the Town of Holly Ridge Parks and Recreation Department beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Center. This is a Free Event.
  - f. Every Monday Through December 16, 2024 – The New Toddler Time Program begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Center. This is a Free Event.
  - g. Thursday, November 28, 2024 & Friday, November 29, 2024 – Administrative Offices Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving.
9. I will continue office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 4 this week to meet with the citizens. I welcome your visit and chat. You are always welcome to email or call me.
10. November 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Town Council Meeting will include the following special presentations: The ONWASA CEO, Mr. Franky Howard, Onslow County Commissioner and ONWASA Chairman Mr. Royce Benett and Jacksonville Onslow Economic Development Director (JOED), Mr. Mark Sutherland, will present Phase III of The Camp Davis Industrial Park development.
11. Last Saturday there was a ribbon cutting for the new Evolve apartment complex. This modern development brings a fresh and vibrant community to our town, offering quality living spaces and amenities for current and future residents. Welcome, Evolve Apartments!
12. The new town newsletter, "The Buzz" is now available on the homepage of the Town of Holly Ridge website! Be sure to visit the site to stay informed about important updates, initiatives, and news!

Please feel free to contact [pparnian.hollyridge@gmail.com](mailto:pparnian.hollyridge@gmail.com)

*Mayor Pete Parnian*