

Roaming Around Reidsville

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As we progress into September, don't forget to take special care out on our roadways since school is back in session. Little ones are getting on and off school buses and gearing up for what we hope will be a terrific year for all of our students, from kindergarten up to grade 12.

It is hard to believe that the Moss Street Partnership School is heading into its second year of existence. In August of 2017, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Rockingham County Schools announced the creation of this innovative partnership at the former Moss Street Elementary School. The plan was for UNCG to provide students with the latest concepts in experiential learning and cutting edge teaching techniques in a "lab school" setting.

I admit I was so excited to hear about the lab school when announced two years ago. As a former Moss Street Elementary School graduate myself, I was glad to hear that the school was going to a STEAM curriculum focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. It sounded like so much fun! Giving students state-of-the-art technology and access to the best resources available sounded perfect. Let's face it, today's teachers must constantly battle the lure of video games and social media to get students to learn (and do homework!) after they leave the classroom each day. It can't be an easy task so finding interesting ways to engage students in the classroom hopefully spills over into other aspects of their lives to make these young ones lifelong learners.

Moss Street Elementary School had seen its student population declining in recent years. In its first year, the UNCG Moss Street Partnership School enrolled 372 students taught by 21 classroom teachers, creating an average class size of 17 students. The number of applications received by the time this column went to print seemed to be projecting around 400 students for the upcoming year. We hope



MSPS Principal Catina Chestnut, above, speaks to a student on the first day of the 2018-2019 school year. Below, four students work together on a science experiment. (Photos courtesy of *UNC-Greensboro*)



that the school will be able to eventually reach its 450-student capacity, and the cap will be removed to allow the school to reach its physical capacity. By all accounts, it was a very successful year for the school.

“Throughout 2018-2019, the MSPS family engaged in instructional practices that emphasized experiential and interdisciplinary learning,” said Principal Catina Chestnut. “Without the help of 22 interns from UNCG supporting staff and students in classrooms, student support services, and administration, providing such innovative instruction would have been a definite challenge. The success of year one builds even more excitement for year two!”

We are definitely excited here in the City of Reidsville about what this partnership brings to our local students. We can’t wait to see what happens in year two.

In other news around the City of Reidsville

Recycling Deadline Nears.

No matter what your stance on the environment, I think we can all agree that recycling is a good thing! Reidsville City residents are reminded that the deadline is looming to sign up for curbside recycling with Foothill Waste Solutions. The company has agreed to offer Reidsville City residents and businesses the service if at least 400 subscribers sign up by Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

The City of Reidsville negotiated with Foothill after Waste Management decided to discontinue the curbside recycling service within the City. Foothill will offer the voluntary service at a cost of \$9.50 per month and bill customers quarterly. Glass will not be collected. City residents must call Foothill Waste Solutions directly at 336-871-4055 and leave their name, address and phone number to express their interest in subscribing to the Reidsville curbside recycling program. Once the 400-subscriber mark is reached, Foothill will contact customers to subscribe them to the service. Let’s make that goal!

A Main Street Community for 35 Years.

Did you know that the City of Reidsville was one of the first cities in North Carolina to join the Main Street Community program? Our State was one of the first six in the nation to start a Main Street program, focusing on economic development in collaboration with historic preservation to help jumpstart and maintain vibrant downtown areas. City leaders had a vision of what the City’s downtown area should be and joined the North Carolina Main Street Program in 1984. Thirty-five years later, the Reidsville Downtown Corporation and Main Street Manager Missy Matthews want to recognize the achievement throughout the month of September. They plan to “kick off” the celebration at the September 13th Second Downtown Friday event with an 80s theme. And, how perfect that “*Back to the Future*” is the movie playing that night. They will follow up with 35 days of social media posts on the downtown area. Sounds both informative and fun!

Other Upcoming Events in September

- Every Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday in September, come check out the **Farmer's Market** at Market Square in downtown Reidsville. Fresh vegetables and other offerings are available from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. SNAP/EBT, Farmer's Market WIC, Debit and Credit cards are accepted so make sure to stop by.
- Friday, September 13: **Second DownTown Fridays** ends in September. Come enjoy one last time the music at Mural Park, kids' activities, food and classic cars & trucks. The fun, sponsored by Team Reidsville, Reidsville Downtown Corporation and Reidsville Chamber of Commerce, is from 6-9 p.m. The event ends with the Movie @ Market Square: *Back to the Future* beginning around dusk/8:30 p.m. Bring a chair or blanket for this free movie on the lawn at Market Square.
- Saturday, September 28: **Music @ Market Square** concludes its 2019 Summer Concert series with the **The Alter Egos GoGo Band**, which offers its unique take on funk, jazz, neo-soul, R&B and rock. Bring a chair or blanket for this free concert from 7-9 p.m. The beer garden will be open, and there will be games such as sidewalk chalk, hula hoops, giant tic-tac-toe and more to keep the children entertained.
- And throughout the month through September 25, every Monday and Wednesday: **Fitness on the Square @ Market Square featuring Zumba** from 6-7 p.m. This free class is sponsored by Annie Penn Hospital. No rhythm required!
- Every Tuesday and Thursday: **Fitness on the Square @ Market Square, this time with Yoga** from 6-7 p.m. Bring a mat or towel and water. Again, these classes are sponsored by Annie Penn Hospital. These classes end on September 26th!