

Roaming Around Reidsville

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Reidsville residents are invited to training camp, but this camp will explain how the City of Reidsville works.

For many residents, they just don't understand why "government" makes the decisions it does. That's why the City of Reidsville is making plans for a "Team Reidsville Training Camp" this spring. This column was due before a final decision was made, but this citizen's academy is tentatively scheduled to begin at the end of March, continuing for seven weeks.

TEAM REIDSVILLE 2019 TRAINING CAMP

The final week will be "graduation", which will include recognition at a regular monthly Reidsville City Council meeting, most likely in May, of our Team Reidsville Ambassadors.

For those citizens willing to give up a few hours a week for seven weeks, they will get a firsthand view of their local government. "Reidsville Rocks!", the first week of the training camp, will include a welcome from Reidsville Mayor Jay Donecker, a brief history of the City and its form of government and a session on the City's logo and branding efforts, and maybe, even a Scavenger Hunt!

Ever wonder why you need to get a permit to open a certain kind of business? The City's Planning & Zoning staff will explain the process, including why it's not always the City that creates certain rules and regulations. Cities thrive and grow if they can bring industries and jobs to the area. Our Economic Development staff will highlight those efforts, including the partnerships they have with other organizations to help make this happen. And the City seems to focus a lot of its time and effort on its downtown. Find out why Reidsville, one of the first Main Street communities in the State, works to make its "front porch" a vibrant hub for its citizens.

For many of our residents, the importance of good emergency management services is key. Everyone wants to feel safe in their community. Learn more about our police and fire operations and how these departments work in our City on a daily basis, not just when solving crimes and fighting fires.

Crunching numbers may not be too exciting for some, but our Finance Department oversees a multi-million dollar annual budget that dictates what kinds of services our citizens receive. Our Finance Director has a fun, interactive way to bring the budget alive for those participating so you don't want to

miss it! In this session, staff will also touch on the City's Information Technology needs and Human Resources.

Our Public Works employees are on the front lines everyday ... they can be seen out fixing potholes, picking up trash cans and keeping the streets plowed during snow storms. But what about the things they do that you don't see on a regular basis? You will learn about them in one night's session.

We often talk about how a City's quality of life can encourage people to live and work here. No where is that more evident than in a City's recreational services. Reidsville has a wonderful network of neighborhood parks, greenways and treasures like Lake Reidsville and Lake Hunt. Learn more about the City's many amenities during this session.

All of these sessions will be designed to be not only informative but also fun. Many of the sessions will include interactive segments.

More details will be coming out soon! As we finalize the plans for "Team Reidsville Training Camp", we will be spreading the word through the City of Reidsville's website, reidsvillenc.gov, social and print media. We plan to keep the first class small, most likely, only 10 students. If you live in the Reidsville corporate limits, think about joining us.

For our elected officials and City staff, we want to be able to increase our residents' awareness of why local government works the way it does. While this camp can definitely appeal to new and existing residents, we especially wanted to offer something for our longtime residents to learn more about the City in which they live. Hopefully, by giving participants a firsthand view of how government operates, we can foster a greater appreciation in our residents of their hometown. Not just in Reidsville, but in many cities across the United States, we always say it is hardest to "sell our city to our own residents." The end result of this training camp, we hope, is to foster civic engagement and create cheerleaders and true Ambassadors for Reidsville. We want everyone to be a part of Team Reidsville!

In other events around Reidsville during March:

Casino Night in Downtown Reidsville.

The Reidsville Downtown Corporation & Reidsville Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual Casino Night fundraiser beginning at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 9, at the Reidsville Event Center, 223 South Scales Street, Reidsville. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the Casino & Silent Auction from 7-10 p.m. The Live Auction starts at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance & \$35 at the door. Tickets can be purchased either at eventbrite.com or at the Chamber Office, 140 S. Scales Street (336-349-8481).

Registration Continues for T-Ball and Baseball!

Spring T-Ball and Baseball League signups are continuing through March 22 for ages 4-14. Available are T-Ball for ages 4-6; Coach Pitch for ages 7-8; Minor League for ages 9-10; Major League for ages 11-12; and Pony League for ages 13-14. Cost for T-Ball is \$10 for In-City residents and \$20 for outside-City

residents. The other baseball leagues are \$15 for City residents and \$30 for non-City (there is an additional \$5 fee for late registration!). First-time participants must provide proof of insurance and a copy of the child's birth certificate. For more information, contact Quintin Robertson at 336-349-1092 or the main # at 336-349-1090. You can stop by 201 N. Washington Avenue, Reidsville to register in person or you can go online at <http://activenet.com/reidsvillerec>. Let's play ball!