May has been designated Historic Preservation Month both nationally and locally. Preservation Month was designed to raise awareness of the power historic preservation has to protect and enhance our homes, neighborhoods and communities - the places that really matter to us. It provides an opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of Forsyth County and enables all of us to become involved in the growing preservation movement.

Join the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission (HRC) to celebrate, recognize, and honor the historic resources of Forsyth County. Throughout the month of May there will be many opportunities to learn more about ways our community is working together to preserve our history. On May 1, join the HRC at the kick-off event, open houses at two of Winston-Salem’s Local Historic Landmarks. The William Allen Blair House and Hylehurst will be open from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. These two grand homes are impressive reminders of the high-style residences of prominent industrialists and community leaders that once lined Cherry Street around the turn of the twentieth century.

The HRC also invites you to two City historic marker unveilings. The first will be Five Row at Reynolda on May 14 at 1:30 p.m. Join the HRC and Reynolda House Museum of American Art to learn more about the African-American community of Five Row that was first occupied in 1916. The community was demolished in 1961 to make way for Silas Creek Parkway. Then on May 21 at 3:00 p.m., join the HRC at the Malloy Jordan East Winston Heritage Center to unveil the East Winston Library marker. Built in 1954 from the donations of three prominent African-American physicians and their wives, this branch library has brought educational opportunities to many neighborhoods in East Winston-Salem.

Other programs during May include Old Salem Museums and Gardens’ Wednesday Lunch and Learn program; New Winston Museum Salon Series including a panel discussion about the restoration of Union Station; and family day events at the Rural Hall Depot, another Local Historic Landmark. All events are free and open to the public. For more information visit: www.ForsythCountyHRC.org.

2016 CAC Awards - Reserve Your Seat!
The 2016 Community Appearance Awards will be held Wednesday, June 8th, at 4:30 p.m. in the Gray Auditorium at the Old Salem Visitor Center. The keynote speaker for the event is Dr. Katherine Loflin, an internationally recognized, award winning consultant and speaker on PLACE MAKING. Please RSVP to Amy Crum at amyc@cityofws.org or 336-747-7051 by May 31st. For more information, visit www.cityofws.org/CAC.
The Legacy 2030 comprehensive plan encourages healthy food production in urban areas as well as rural areas. The Urban Agriculture Ordinance was adopted in 2015, eliminating one of the barriers to using urban land and buildings for agricultural production.

To educate the public on the new ordinance, an Urban Agriculture Toolkit was developed. The toolkit provides general information on the urban agriculture permitting process, applicable zoning districts, and site and setback requirements. The toolkit was developed by Planning staff with significant input from the Forsyth Community Consortium and the Cooperative Extension Office.

The Urban Agriculture webpage is also available now on the Planning and Development Services webpage. Citizens can use the webpage to download the Urban Agriculture Toolkit, as well as find useful information on the permitting process, resources and tips for starting a community garden. The Urban Agriculture webpage is located at: http://www.cityofws.org/Departments/Planning/Urban-Agriculture

May is Building Safety Month

The International Code Council’s (ICC) Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. The campaign reinforces the need for adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code enforcement and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system. The North Carolina Building Code is an ICC sponsored and developed code.

The Building Safety Month campaign is presented by the ICC and its 57,000 members worldwide along with a diverse partnership of professionals from the building construction, design and safety community. Corporations, government agencies, professional associations, nonprofits and more come together to support Building Safety Month because they understand the need for safe and sustainable structures where we live, work and play.

This year’s theme is Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety. Each week of the month spotlights a specific area of building safety. Additional information and hands-on activities are available on the ICC website: http://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/building-safety-month/2016-building-safety-month/

Locally, the Winston-Salem City Council and the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners will be asked to adopt proclamations recognizing May as Building Safety Month, acknowledging the essential services provided by state and local building safety officials and encouraging participation in Building Safety Month activities.

To help educate our community, the City-County Inspections Division has worked with City Marketing and Communications to produce information videos. Two videos, “Why We Need Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Inspectors” and “This is Our Home”, are available on WSTV Digital Media and on the City’s YouTube Channel at: www.youtube.com/user/winstonsalemcitygov/search?query=Inspectors

Want more information?

Contact the City-County Planning Board Office
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