

Discover a Healthy Life

KANNAPOLIS MATTERS

KANNAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HOST TRUCK PARADE, FOOD DRIVE AND BLOODMOBILE

The Kannapolis Fire Department will host a Fire Truck Parade, food drive and bloodmobile event on Friday, October 3. The parade will begin at 6 p.m. Bring a chair and enjoy seeing fire trucks, old and new, from departments throughout the region. The parade route will begin at Biotechnology Lane and Laureate Way, travel Laureate Way to Northeast Research Campus Drive and back onto Laureate Way. The parade will end at the intersection of Watson Creek Drive and Laureate Way.



Meet our firefighters as you drop off a canned food donation from 12 noon to 6 p.m. Firefighters will be at the fire trucks, which will be located at the intersection of Laureate Way and Watson Creek Drive. Items that are needed most are canned meats, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti

Continued on page 2



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Labor Day Holiday**
City Hall closed
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Kannapolis Farmers Market** | Corner of Vance St. and Dale Earnhardt Blvd.
- 11 Thursdays on Main: The ToneZ**
6 p.m. | Veterans Park
- 13 Cruise In** | 1 p.m. | NCRC
- 20 Run Kannapolis: Flint's Fabulous 5K** | 8 a.m. | NCRC

OCTOBER

- 3 Fire Truck Parade, Food Drive and Bloodmobile**
6 p.m. | City Hall
- 4 Run Kannapolis: Race for Peace** | 8 a.m. | NCRC
- 11 Free Document Shred Event**
9 a.m.-noon | Public Works
- 11 Fire Department Open House**
10 a.m.-noon | Fire Station 3
- 11 Cruise In** | 1 p.m. | NCRC

*Free Admission. No pets or smoking, please.
More at kannapolisnc.gov.*



Continued from page 1

noodles, canned fruit, pork-n-beans and pudding cups. All items will be taken to Cooperative Christian Mission to distribute locally to those in need.

One Blood will have the Big Red Bus at the intersection of Laureate Way and Watson Creek Drive, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for



anyone who would like to give a blood donation. To make an appointment, register at <https://www.oneblood.org>.

If you have a fire truck and want to join the parade, please scan the QR code.

Please remember, the roundabout in front of City Hall will be closed during the parade, but both City Hall parking lots will remain open.

KANNAPOLIS WILL HOST A FREE DOCUMENT SHREDDING EVENT

From 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday, October 11, the Kannapolis Environmental Services Department and the Kannapolis Youth Council will host a free document shredding event at Public Works, 1401 Bethpage Road.



This event is for Kannapolis residents only. Document shredding is limited to five file boxes per person, which is the equivalent of two 40-gallon trash bags. No businesses, please.

For more information, call Transportation and Environmental Services at 704-920-4444.



Fire Truck Parade & Food Drive

Friday, Oct 3
Kannapolis City Hall
401 Laureate Way

9 AM - 2PM
Blood Drive

12 - 6 PM
Food Drive

6 PM
Parade Begins

VILLAGE PARK HOURS

As Fall approaches, the attractions at Village Park will operate on a different schedule. After Labor Day weekend, the splash pad will close for the season.

The Village Park Rotary Express Train and Carousel will operate on weekends only (10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturdays and noon-6 p.m. Sundays) through October 19. The train and carousel will be open Labor Day, Monday, September 1, from noon-6 p.m. Admission is \$1.50.

The Village Park playground and shelters remain open daily and are located at 700 West C Street.



WALTER M. SAFRIT II RETIRES AFTER FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS

After more than four decades of dedicated service, Kannapolis City Attorney Walter M. ("Wally") Safrit II has retired. Wally has been the City's sole attorney since its incorporation, serving the citizens of Kannapolis for 41 years.

Although Kannapolis originated in the early 1900s as a company town for Cannon Mills, it was not officially incorporated as a city until 1984. At that pivotal moment in the City's history, Wally was in private practice with the law firm of Rutledge, Friday, Safrit and Smith. He played a key role in supporting a group of local leaders through the incorporation process. In February 1985, he was officially appointed as the first City Attorney.

Wally continued to manage his private legal practice while serving the City until 2011, when he became Kannapolis' first full-time in-house attorney.

"Wally has played a critical role in virtually every consequential event in the City's history, including construction of two



From left: Miller, Wally, Lynne and Elizabeth Safrit

baseball stadiums, development of the City's first industrial park, the construction of the City Hall and Police Headquarters, and the revitalization of Downtown Kannapolis," said Mike Legg, City Manager.

In recognition of his lasting contributions, the Kannapolis City Council has honored Wally by naming the Gem Theatre balcony in his honor. As a lifelong resident of Kannapolis, the Gem Theatre has special significance for Wally. He was instrumental

in the City's efforts to acquire and preserve the historic landmark.

Walter M. Safrit Park, which was named in honor of Wally's father, was also renamed Safrit Park by City Council to memorize the contributions of the entire Safrit family. Wally's father was a long-serving leader at the Kannapolis YMCA and played a pivotal role in establishing it as a cornerstone of the community.

Wally was also presented with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by Governor Josh Stein, and Congressman Addison

McDowell presented Wally with a flag that has been flown over the U.S. Capitol and a resolution that was read into the Congressional Record.

Wally has also served a number of civic organizations, including the Rotary Club, Kannapolis Educational Foundation, Chamber of Commerce, the YMCA Board, and the Cabarrus College of Health Sciences, among others.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Recycling is very important, so let's learn how to #RecycleRight! Are you still crushing your cans? No need! The recycling machinery recognizes the items by shape and size, ensuring each one is recycled properly.





NEW OFFICERS JOIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Six new police officers – Cameron Blackwelder, Gabriel Chandler, Xavier Gonzalez, Ethan Ratliff, Thomas Skinner and Eric Velazquez – have joined the Kannapolis Police Department. They have been assigned to patrol squads and will receive additional training by experienced Kannapolis police officer mentors. All graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Training at Rowan Cabarrus Community College.

SIGN UP FOR RUN KANNAPOLIS



There is still time to be a part of the Run Kannapolis Series! There are three 5k opportunities left in 2025.

Runners and walkers of all ages and abilities are invited to participate.

The remaining races include:

- **Flint's Fabulous 5K** – 9 a.m., September 20, 2025
- **Race for Peace** – 8 a.m., October 4, 2025
- **Old Armor 5k for Heroes** – 9 a.m., November 8, 2025

Sign up to participate in the Run Kannapolis Series at www.runkannapolis.com.

Discover Entertainment!



www.gem-theatre.com



www.theswaneetheatre.com

THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS

401 Laureate Way | Kannapolis, NC 28081

704.920.4444

www.kannapolisnc.gov



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