



# HICKORY

## City Snippets

Information. Well Crafted.

### City Manager takes new role as County Manager



City Manager Mick Berry began a new role as County Manager for Catawba County on July 5. Berry served as Hickory’s City Manager since August 2004, working closely with City Council to craft a vision and plan for a strong and prosperous city.

Berry managed all City operations provided by 640 full-time employees and an annual budget of over \$100 million. During his almost 12 years as City Manager, he worked on multiple projects that helped advance the City and grow the local economy. Most recently,

Berry spearheaded the initiation of a \$40 million bond referendum, which passed in November 2014, and has resulted in the commencement of four major projects within the City of Hickory, with a focus on economic development.

“This is a logical progression for Mick,” noted Mayor Rudy Wright. “I don’t believe the county could have made a better choice. Mick and Beth have been great contributors to the quality of life in our region through their professional activities, as well as civic, educational, and spiritual involvement. While Mick will be missed in City Hall, we look forward to working with him in this new role and City Council is fully committed to building on our successes of the past 12 years.”



Berry has balanced his role as City Manager, while also engaging in the community by serving as a United Way Board Member, a Member of the Hickory Rotary Club, and as the Co-Chair for the Catawba County Children’s Agenda. Berry has also completed a two year term as President of the BYU Public Management Association and has served on the NC City County Management Association Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Additionally, since 2007, Berry has served as Hickory Stake President for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



“It has been a privilege to serve the citizens of Hickory, as well as work with City Council and all of our talented and dedicated City coworkers,” said Berry. “I leave the City knowing that it is in excellent financial and operating condition and that City Council’s vision for the future is clear and attainable. I look forward to continuing the many City/County partnerships to enhance quality of life in Catawba County.”

Berry is a native of Sparks, Nevada and a graduate of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in 1988 and a Masters of Public Administration degree in 1990. He and his wife Beth, who was born in Hickory, have five children.

# Hickory High students learn about city government

Written by students, Amy Herfurth and Madeline Pitts

## HICKORY CITY COUNCIL

August 2 & 16 at 7 p.m.  
Julian G. Whitener  
Municipal Building  
[hickorync.gov](http://hickorync.gov)

## HICKORY FARMERS MARKET

Downtown Hickory under the  
Sails on the Square  
Wed 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. &  
Sat 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.



On the first Saturday of each month, make sure to check out the City's booth at the Farmers Market to get current information on various departments and upcoming projects!

Stay up-to-date on current City events! Follow us on social media!



City of Hickory, NC Government



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Earlier this summer, we and eight other students from the Leadership 2000 and Beyond program at Hickory High School, participated in learning about the City of Hickory. We are rising sophomores, who applied last year to join this three year program. The program takes place the first week of each summer for rising freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. We are required to intern for 30 hours each summer.

This year we toured the City of Hickory and explored all the different roles needed to make the city function properly. We met with each department of the city to learn their job in the community. We toured Hickory's parks and recreation centers, the local airport, the water treatment plant, the fire department, the police department, and the library. Each tour provided new and interesting facts that we did not know. Everywhere we went, we learned what part they play in the City of Hickory.

The second half of our internship consisted of individual students spending time in a particular city department. Each student was assigned a different department, such as Police, Fire, Airport, Communications, or the City Manager's Office. We worked on hands-on projects and experienced the behind the scenes efforts that make Hickory such a great city!



Student Amy Herfurth shared, "I really enjoyed this week and working with the communications department. I realized how much work they put in to keep the citizens updated on everything going on in Hickory. I also became aware of all the very cool up and coming projects Hickory is currently working on, which are going to make Hickory even greater than it already is!"

"Working with Dana and Sarah in the Communications Department has helped me learn what City Government is and how much there actually is to it," said student, Madeline Pitts. "A lot of work is put into the city that many don't get to see. Touring all the different parts of Hickory and seeing/hearing about the upcoming projects makes me very excited about how Hickory is growing. This has been a very fun learning experience."

## New Sculpture Welcomes Residents to Sally Fox Park

The City of Hickory Public Art Commission announced the installation of a new acquisition, "Generations," by artist Stefan "Steebo" Bonitz. The interactive work, which invites participants of all ages to gong a large bell, is located in Sally Fox Park in downtown Hickory. Go by and check it out!

