



April 4, 2014

Weekly Report

A Highlight of Departmental Activities

The Weekly Report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the many Departments within Rutherford County Government. Click on the directory list, department headings, icons and text in blue to be linked to more information.

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[Airport](#)

The Airport sold 374 gallons of 100-LL fuel and 747.47 gallons of Jet A. Prepaid customer fuel sales totaled 691 gallons. Cash sales for the week were \$648.46 with \$150.00 in hanger rent and \$950.00 in monthly billing for hangar rent. Additionally, KCH Services purchased \$21,776.08 of fuel and DN Aviation purchased \$10,000.00 of fuel.

[Board of Elections](#)

The Board of Elections testing is in full swing for the Primary with staff working in hot conditions. The work teams will be glad when the temps get back into the seventies! The Director hosted a GoToWebinar for the Director's Association on Thursday and is preparing for the County Commissioners' meeting on Monday.

[Building Inspections](#)

The Building Inspections Department issued 159 permits in March totaling \$21,903 in fees. Included in those permits were 10 new house starts. Our inspectors also conducted 532 inspections. The staff has also been working in preparation for the joint informational meeting between Rutherford County Building Inspections, Town of Forest City Building Inspections, licensed electrical contractors and licensed general contractors. The Director also made a presentation to the architectural and engineering drafting classes and the electrical class at RS Central high school regarding building codes, permits, and plan requirements.

[Clerk to the Board](#)

On Monday, County Commissioners and staff attended a reception for retiring Rutherfordton Town Manager Karen Andrews at the Rutherfordton Town Hall. Commissioner Julius Owens and the County Manager Carl Classen traveled to Waynesville on Wednesday evening to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' District Meeting. Commis-

-sioner Owens also met with Chris Baucom of the NCACC staff prior to the meeting in Rutherford County. Vice Chairman Holland and Commissioner Eckler toured Isothermal Community College facilities on Wednesday afternoon with college staff and board members. County Commissioners held a special meeting on Thursday evening to review the agenda for the April 7 regular County Commissioners meeting. They also discussed and established goals following the agenda review. Commissioner Owens participated in the Lutz Foundation Interviews on Friday.

Cooperative Extension

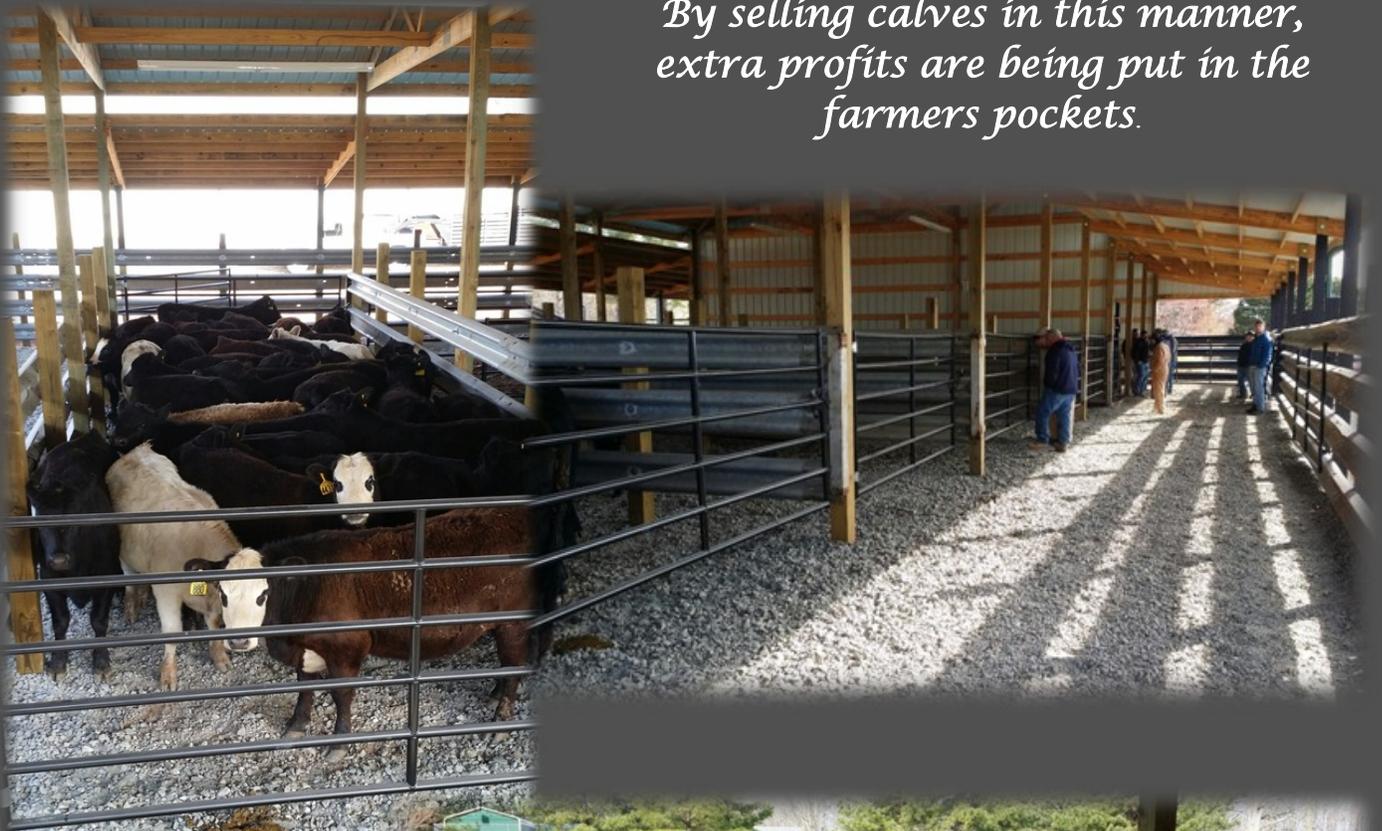
The Cooperative Extension's Family and Consumer Sciences staff attended the NC Cooperative Extension Administrative Update, assisted with the Small Fruit Plant Sale, taught Steps to Health 2nd grade nutrition at Ellenboro Elementary and taught Better Food Better Health for Latino families. The EMGV Intern Training is in Week 6 (Small Fruit/Tree Fruit)

Agriculture Literacy Program staff continued networking with Rutherford Soil & Water, FSA, Rutherford Farm Bureau and Rutherford Extension Center volunteer readers with the second grade students at each of the elementary schools. Staff completed the program reaching all Rutherford County Elementary Schools and Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy. Staff attended the Rutherford County Farmers Market Board Meeting and continued assisting with the 4-H Small Sale with Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. A total of 134 contacts were made.

Staff loaded out 2 tractor trailer loads last week. There were 151 total calves that sold for over \$160,000



*By selling calves in this manner,
extra profits are being put in the
farmers pockets.*



These images were captured at the Livestock Facility built last year.

County Manager

The County Manager held meetings with the directors of Solid Waste, Planning and Public Works, Finance, Revenue, Economic Development, Fire Marshal/Emergency Management and the County Attorney. He met with the Fire Training Facility Project work group, Biggerstaff Group and CHC Substance Abuse Committee. The County Manager attended the Broad River Water Authority Board Meeting and the district meeting of the NC Association of County Commissioners with Commissioner Owens in Waynesville. Additionally, he attended the April 3rd Special Meeting (Agenda Review and Goals Setting Session) of the County Commissioners, a Facebook and Solid Waste Incentives meeting, and the retirement reception for Karen Andrews, Rutherfordton Town Manager.

Economic Development

The Economic Development Executive Director worked on refining budget estimates for FY 14-15, prepared and submitted a package for an industrial recruitment opportunity, began coordinated efforts with the EDC Subcommittee for Industry Development Marketing to develop marketing materials for the Daniel Road Economic Development project, met with the County Attorney to review Economic Development Agreements for recently announced projects, attended the Agenda Review session, and met with the Airport Director to review potential development opportunities.

The Project Administrator worked on existing industry visit updates and schedules, networked with existing industry via visits, phone calls and email, assisted Rutherford County Schools CTE for Advisory Board outreach, forwarded NC Military Business workshop material to an existing industry, assisted a company with scheduling upcoming anniversary announcements, and researched and provided updated infrastructure information on industrial building.

The Economic Development Assistant processed the information received from the Revenue Department with regards to budgeting for incentive payments due for FY 14-15, prepared a year-end report for the Department of Commerce, prepared and submitted the monthly safety report, collected and input data for the building permits report, and reviewed and forecasted line item balances.

Finance

The Finance Department has continued to review the 2014-2015 budget requests. The Assistant Director attended Governmental Accounting & Reporting Course at the School of Government this week. The Director and Accountant attended a webinar for Occupancy Tax sponsored by the School of Government. The Director also attended a webinar sponsored by Farragut on the NCVTS tax system and new budgeting reports available. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

The Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Director conducted two origin and cause investigations, responded to two reports of missing persons (both of which were found quickly, assisted several fire departments with budget preparations, chaired the Emergency Management Response Team meeting and attended various other meetings.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Welcome new employee Lora Tesseneer (DSS). Employees who have left the service of Rutherford County are Jack Smith (DSS Retire), Jerry Crowder (Sheriff), and Ron Goode (SW). The Director attended a meeting with Finance Director Paula Roach and Carl Classen regarding the FY2014-2015 budget, attended the retirement reception for Town Manager Karen Andrews, met with Jeff Buchanan and completed entering payroll information. Final details and numbers are being reviewed by HR for input with the budget process.



If you received an email stating "e-mail verification update...." this is junk, please delete!

Information Technology

The IT Department closed 103 work orders, continued installing five of the seven new replacement MDTs for EMS, and worked with Maintenance to have cable pulled in the new, mini training room in the Revenue Department.

Staff have worked with Avaya to find out the details of why caller id is not working properly. The issue is one that involves working with the County's service provider, AT&T. Peter is working on some options to address this and will let staff know what can be done. This matter mainly affects staff who use Twinning or Call Forwarding to cell phones.

Library

The Library staff participated in a meeting to introduce the new LS2 PAC and LS KIDS PAC now available to the public. Check it out at www.cmclibraries.org:8080. Click on the tab at the top left hand side that reads "Kids Catalog" to access the LS Kids PAC. When you do, the screen image to the right will come up. Then, explore from there!

The Rutherford County Library will participate in the new NC LIVE Home Grown eBook pilot project. It will be available to all NC LIVE libraries and will:

- provide perpetual access to about 1,000 titles
- include content from about 10 NC-based publishers, including Algonquin, Press, Ingalls Publishing, John F. Blair, Publishing, UNC Press, McFarland, and a few (uncommitted) others
- use an "always available" model, making holds unnecessary
- provide a user-friendly interface for access and discovery
- provide basic MARC records for addition to local catalogs for better access and discovery
- enable downloading to mobile devices for offline reading



This week at Mountains Branch Library: A volunteer luncheon planned for June, staff continued to weed the non-fiction, made plans for advertising upcoming events, and started working with a new printer for patrons to use provided by the Friends of the Library. Friday marks the April Books & Bites luncheon with Irish musician and author Danny Ellis at the Lake Lure Inn. For more details see: www.mountainsbranchlibrary.org.

Public Works and Planning

The Public Works and Planning Department's garage had 12 preventative maintenance service calls, 17 repairs, four tire service calls and 10 other repairs/inspections. Maintenance staff completed 29 work orders and repairs, and groundskeeping of all County facilities as the spring growing season breaks through. The Director and Operations Manager participated in a class to obtain required annual continuing education credits. The Director and Project Manager prepared the Community Grants summary, Ruth School Adaptive Reuse options and Southeastern EMS/Library exemption for the Commissioners April agenda. Additionally, staff have continued progress with the Rail Trail, Greyrock, Queens Gap. A meeting on the Biggerstaff property was held with the National Park Service, Paul Carson, Chivous Bradley, OVTA-Marc Bowen, and Paul McIntosh for next steps and grant discussion. Other notable projects currently progressing through next steps are the CDBG (grant) and distressed County granting with IPDC's assistance.

Greyrock:

The pavers are finishing paving Projects 7, 3B, part of 8 & all of 9. Project 10 clearing is underway.

Queens Gap:

Project 1 is continuing to move forward. The 10 x 12 culvert has been installed. The next large culvert will be installed next week. Project is about 40% complete. A rebid date is set for April 15th for Project 3 due to an insufficient number of bidders.

Register of Deeds

The Register of Deeds Department made 12 copies resulting in cash receipts of \$106.25, processed 234 real estate records with \$12,914.00 received in cash, and processed 142 vitals, receiving \$2,200.00. A total of 388 transactions were made with a total of \$15,240.25 in cash received.

Revenue

The Revenue Department answered 621 phone calls, and assisted 243 citizens who came in to the office (two being PUV). 67 deeds were recorded and 40 were transferred. Seven estates were transferred and 20 new accounts were set up. Mapping completed five splits, two merges, one acreage adjustment and created four new maps. Six new E911 addressees were assigned. Ownership of 65 addressees was updated. Seven new road signs were installed. Appraisers completed 377 field reviews. Electronic payments consisted of 70 by credit/debit, 33 by website, and 15 by phone. 253 citizens came in to pay at the counter. Enforced collection action consisted of 55 Debt Setoff, 100 garnishments, and 11 attachments. 10 Deeds were certified. Staff worked 33 overpayments, 55 employee lists, 29 bankruptcy payments/issues, three discoveries, 15 releases, and four refunds. 198 pieces of mail were received and processed. 5062 motor vehicles renewals were processed. The office is still working county listing, informal appeals and prep work for the Board of E&R has begun.

Senior Center

The Senior Center hosted Larry Gregg, Rutherford County's NC Senior Tar Heel delegate, who updated the seniors about the 2014 legislative priorities. The following are the top 5 priorities for 2014:

- Funding for HCCBG (Home and Community Care Block Grant) services
- Maintain funding for senior centers
- Restore funding to sustain Project C.A.R.E. (Caregivers Alternatives to Running on Empty)
- Ratio of CNAs to residents in nursing homes
- Strengthen and fund North Carolina's Adult Protective Services Program

Upcoming Events:

The AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program is being offered at the Senior Center. This service is for low to moderate income individuals, with special attention to those 60 and over. The trained volunteers will be available, by appointment only, on Thursdays and Fridays through April 11th.

The Senior Performing Arts (The Follies) will be held on Friday night (April 4th) at 7:00 p.m. This event is open to the public and admission is only \$2.00. The Seniors will be competing for the "Best-Over-All Blue Ribbon".

Check out an article in the Digital Courier

on the Senior Games Silver Arts participants by clicking [here](#).

Social Services

The Social Services Department's Income Maintenance staff continues to work diligently as NC FAST implementation continues. On Tuesday, the weekly NC FAST Conference Call was held and attended by the Director and Income Maintenance Manager. A special statewide directors' conference call was held on Tuesday to discuss NC FAST issues, in addition to the weekly NC FAST Conference call on Wednesday. The Director also attended the county Substance Abuse Committee on Tuesday held at the Sheriff's Department. This is a sub committee of the Community Health Council to look at substance abuse issues in the county and how to improve access to treatment, identify gaps, and increase knowledge of substance abuse in the county. Adult Services staff had court on Tuesday, followed by a family meeting held at DSS. On Wednesday, the Director and Social Work Program Manager held a conference call with a representative from Northwoods to discuss issues related to the agency's proposal for the Northwoods Case Management System. Also on Wednesday, the Director attended the Community Health Council Meeting at Rutherford Hospital. On Thursday, the regular monthly management team meeting was held. The team is making preparations for the April session of the DSS Leadership Development Program. The Director and Fiscal Officer attended the monthly statewide fiscal conference call; the Director and Program Manager met with Chief Deputy Jeff Buchanan, and 911 Communications Director, Tammy Aldridge, regarding a statewide effort to give local DSS agencies access to national criminal record checks; and the Director and Program Manager met with After-hours Staff.



Kim Murray, who works in the administrative unit, was recognized this week as the Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2014. Kim is a part of the agency's Leadership Development Program, and also creator and editor of the agency's monthly newsletter.

Soil and Water

The Soil and Water Department's Staff attended the District Board Meeting, the Commissioners Agenda review meeting, and helped at the Envirothon Competition in Waynesville. The Admin/Education Specialist completed the District agenda and information folders and attended the Farm City Committee meeting. Staff also worked on the Outdoor Environmental Learning Center Grant reports. The Ag Cost Share Technician worked with NRCS to certify practices for the Conservation Reserve Program for the Farm Service Agency and supervised and implemented stream bank conservation practices for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program.



Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Department Landfill served 422 customers, hauled 66 loads from the convenience centers and shipped 43 loads to Lenoir. Staff also sent out two recycling trailers this week. The Director attended several meetings this week including the weekly Solid Waste Department meeting with the County Manager, a meeting with Keith Ward about the jail dumpster, a litter campaign meeting, a working budget review with Raeann, the Commissioners pre-meeting and worked with Adrienne on a litter presentation. The Director attended the Carolina Recycling Association Conference in Asheville on Tuesday and Wednesday with the Recycling Coordinator. Electronics have been keeping staff busy but they have them under control. Staff continues to perform everyday job duties while performing other tasks asked of them. The shop fixed the Shiloh compactor and installed a new cylinder at the Pea Ridge Convenience Center.

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer has been busy following up on trash complaints and has reported the following:

- Active Cases: 8
- Convenience Centers Cases: 2
- Warning Tickets Issued: 2
- Letters Written: 0
- Community Service Workers: 5
- Community Service Report: 1



Code Enforcement Officer Steve Nanney speaks to an audience at the Carolina Recycling Association Conference.

Tourism Development Authority

The TDA hosted three familiarization tours of the County for volunteers, employees, stakeholders, and marketing professionals. One particular visitor of note was Beth Gargan, the new State Division of Tourism Public Relations (PR) Director, who came for her first-ever visit to Rutherford County. Her role is vital to what potential national and international tourists know about us.

Transportation Services

The Transportation Services Department's EMS personnel responded to 142 emergency calls and 42 convalescent calls. Staff attended a vehicle review meeting with Finance, as well, as the monthly Community Health Council. Director and Training Officer made a presentation to Eaton requesting grant funds for an additional ventilator. Staff also met with a representative from NCACC, to be interviewed on the 911 Public Awareness Campaign. EMS, 911 and Commissioner Julius Owens all participated in the interviews.

Transit: Transit drove 10,224 miles, completed 1,053 local trips and 65 out of county trips, transported 260 unduplicated passengers and collected \$16,354 in revenue. Transit is also working with the Community Health Council to advertise the NC Farm Bureau's free Health Screenings on April 24th. Transit will provide free transportation to anyone who is interested.

NEW BUS STOP SIGNS HAVE BEEN CREATED AND WILL BE INSTALLED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY PRIOR TO JUNE 30TH.



Veterans Services

The Veterans Services Office had 30 mail-ins, 31 mail-outs, 217 facsimiles, 76 telephone contacts, and 191 veteran contacts. Last week's conference provided very good training for the Director.

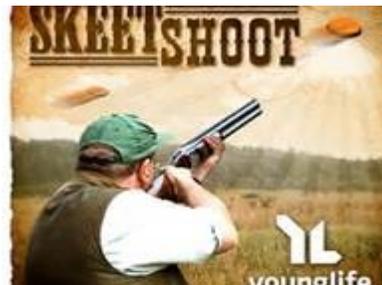
RELAY FOR LIFE SHOOTING FOR A CURE



HANDGUN COMPETITION & SHOTGUN TRAP GAMES



DATE: SATURDAY APRIL 19TH, 2014 9AM-1PM
PLACE: OLD HICKORY RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB
GUN CLUB ROAD
BOSTIC, NC 28018



- *BEGINNERS WELCOME
- *BRING YOUR OWN SHOTGUN, PISTOL AND AMMO
- *SHOTGUN AMMO WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
- * **HOTDOGS & HAMBURGERS WILL BE FOR SALE**



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The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

Rutherford County Government
BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, May 7th
11:00 am – 3:30 pm

PLEASE DONATE BLOOD!

Please contact Debra Conner at
287-6145 to schedule your appointment.

American Red Cross

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

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A Child Abuse Vigil will be held Saturday, April 12 beginning at 6:30pm on the Courthouse Lawn.

For more information, contact Nancy Morgan at 704-434-4967 or at nmorgan7114@gmail.com

Scholarship Opportunity for Children of Local Government Employees

The Warren Jake Wicker Undergraduate Scholarship is awarded annually to a high school senior who has been accepted by and will be attending UNC-Chapel Hill as a freshman in 2014. The \$1,000 award is offered to freshmen with at least one parent who has been continuously employed full-time by a North Carolina city or county government for at least five years prior to January 1, 2014.

Applications are accepted starting February 1, 2014, and must be submitted to the UNC Office of Scholarships and Student Aid on or before May 1, 2014. For information and an application form, email Torie Davis Forte or call her at 919.843.1619. The Wicker scholarship is awarded based on relative financial need and academic promise and is non-renewable.

The scholarship was created by the School of Government's 1990 *Municipal and County Administration* class to honor course director Jake Wicker, who was a member of the School of Government faculty for 48 years.



County Commissioners

William Eckler, *Chairman*

Julius Owens

Eddie Holland, *Vice Chairman*

Roger Richard

Greg Lovelace

Carl Classen, *County Manager*

Hazel S. Haynes, *Clerk to the Board*

Richard Williams, *County Attorney*



Stay connected!

www.rutherfordcountync.gov

