



August 1, 2016

Weekly Report

Highlight of Departmental Activities

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

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Airport

The Airport sold 433.0 gallons of Jet A to 2 aircraft and 1,402.0 gallons of 100LL to 40 aircraft last week.

Photos:

Coming and Goings - A 1969 Piper PA-28 waits for a 2010 Bombardier BD-700 arriving at Rutherford County (pictured right).



N86ST - A 1981 Hughes 369D on the ramp at Rutherford County (pictured left).

Airport continued from page 1

For the first time in three years, the Rutherford County Airport Authority Board held its meeting at the airport. This was done to dedicate the sign that the TDA and Airport staff designed for the airport.



Agriculture/Cooperative Extension

Reported by Jeff Bradley, Tracy Davis, and Cynthia Robbins

- assisted producers with marketing nine tractor trailer loads of cattle through the Mountain Cattle Alliance, a value added marketing program. These loads were valued at \$625,000.
- continued to assist clients with technical assistance through phone calls, office visits, emails, and farm visits.
- taught Take Control nutrition class.
- chaired Community Health Council meeting.
- taught Cooking Class at Clara Allen Center.
- prepared for summer youth programs.
- taught CATCH youth physical activity program.
- conducted food preservation workshop.
- taught Living Healthy with Chronic Disease class.
- conducted Master Food Volunteer training.
- attended Mentor Training.
- conducted nutrition activities at children's health fair.

Board of Elections

This week, the Director and staff have been busy processing signatures for a Write-In candidate to appear on Novembers' ballot.

We have also mailed out over 1700 notifications to our voters in the Haynes precinct to let them know that their polling location has changed.

County Manager and Commissioners

The following are several events and activities in which the County Manager, Commissioners and staff were involved over the last few days:

- Meetings with several departments including, Planning and Projects, Solid Waste, EDC, Transportation, and Finance.
- ARC Distressed County Workshop
- County Attorney meeting regarding various projects
- Department Head Quarterly Meeting (**PHOTOS on page 4.**)
- Hampton Inn Groundbreaking Ceremony (**PHOTOS on page 5.**)
- Customer Service Training for employees
- Individual Agenda review meetings with Commissioners
- Smoky Mountain Mental Health Meeting

Other activities, meetings, and events that took place this week were meetings with citizens, numerous calls, interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, and preparation for various responsibilities.

County Manager and Commissioners continued from page 3

DEPARTMENT HEAD QUARTERLY MEETING		
Meeting Room: County Office Kitchen Auditorium		
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016		
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.		
Meeting Facilitator: Steve Garrison		
Meeting Attendees: Department Heads and Elected Officials or their Designees		
Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30 a.m.	Introductions	Steve
8:40 a.m.	Employee Surveys	John
8:50 a.m.	CodeRed Orientation	Roger
9:00 a.m.	TDA present and future	Don
9:25 a.m.	Round Table Sharing	Department Heads
Notes:		



Department Head Quarterly Meeting



Commissioner Bryan A. King speaks at the groundbreaking ceremony.



Hampton Inn & Suites GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

THURSDAY, JULY 28 @ 11 AM
7 Sparks Drive, Forest City
behind Bojangles



Economic Development



This week, the Economic Development Department responded to an industrial RFI, toured a vacant manufacturing building, and updated available building information on our EDC Website and AccessNC. Staff continues to be busy following up with multiple industrial recruitment and expansion prospects and working with the Department of Commerce and existing industry representatives regarding various grant reports and requests. This week's agenda also included various meetings and calls with county departments and industry allies.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

The Fire Marshal:

- conducted an origin and cause fire investigation.
- responded to several fires to provide additional manpower due to extreme heat conditions.
- assisted Transportation Services with designing new identification cards for EMS employees.
- participated in a statewide emergency exercise.
- conducted case follow-ups.
- completed remaining Emergency Management Performance Grant activities for the State.
- met with State Emergency Management to discuss projects for next year.
- attended various other meetings.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements.

This week HR sponsored two Customer Service classes. ICC has done a wonderful job with this training. Approximately 90 employees attended the sessions.

HR staff attended a Stakeholder phone conference with the SHP regarding 2017 rates, attended a HBR training for open enrollment for the SHP, and have processed numerous payroll changes.

Interviews for the Utility Worker at Solid Waste have been scheduled. Job opportunities are Tax Collection Tech and Appraisal I. Apply at www.rutherfordcountync.gov.

Mammogram Day is Thursday, September 22nd. **See ad on page 17.**

Information Technology

Traffic Summary - BarracudaSF.rutherfordcountynyc.gov [172.16.10.29]

From 2016-07-18 00:00:00

To 2016-07-24 23:59:00

Inbound Traffic

Day	Rate Controlled	Blocked: Bad Recipient	Blocked: Spam	Blocked: Virus	Quarantined	Allowed: Tagged	Allowed	Total Received
2016-07-18	1394	459	841	17	51	11	3709	6482
2016-07-19	68	182	968	13	41	7	3338	4620
2016-07-20	16	243	1013	14	42	9	3016	4853
2016-07-21	0	342	1170	1	43	7	3523	5086
2016-07-22	5606	423	734	19	14	3	3701	10500
2016-07-23	1421	84	532	35	15	1	1130	3218
2016-07-24	1524	66	499	23	11	1	944	3068
Total	10029	1799	5757	122	220	39	19361	37327

Outbound Traffic

Day	Rate Controlled	Blocked: Policy	Blocked: Spam	Blocked: Virus	Quarantined	Sent	Encrypted	Redirected	Authentication Failure	Total Received
2016-07-18	161	0	3	0	0	1171	7	0	512	1854
2016-07-19	117	0	0	0	0	1218	4	0	495	1834
2016-07-20	80	0	2	0	0	899	1	0	435	1417
2016-07-21	371	0	0	0	0	1164	5	0	152	1693
2016-07-22	60	0	31	0	0	1189	1	0	748	2029
2016-07-23	12	0	0	0	0	261	0	0	731	1024
2016-07-24	12	0	1	0	0	235	0	0	320	568
Total	813	0	37	0	0	6157	18	0	3393	10419

Library

Haynes Branch Library / Deb Womack - Haynes had their weekly Summer Reading Program July 26 and had 63 in attendance. We will also have our monthly book club meeting on Thursday. Wednesday @10:00 we will have Chef Paul who is a graduate of the Art Institute of Charlotte, NC giving a demonstration and tasting. Six patrons were in attendance.

County Library / Kenneth Odom - The Maker Camp continues to go well. This week campers made light-up flying saucers using styrofoam plates, LEDs, copper wire, and batteries. The campers also got an introduction to programming using Scratch to create their own games. We began circulating the Playaway Launchpad learning tablets last week and they have been a big hit already. The tablets are pre-loaded with educational games and eBooks. These devices do not require an internet connection to work and are rugged enough to be used by small children. Though they are rugged enough for children, we have Playaway Launchpads geared towards adults as well. These twenty-seven learning tablets were purchased with grant funds from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.

County Library / Maria Davis – Maria took Trivia on the road to the Senior Center Thursday and had a GREAT time. She is also working on a presentation to take to the Seniors in September to familiarize them with what Rutherford County Library System has to offer. Adult Summer Reading is moving right along. We have had approximately 10 participants complete their challenge card to be entered into the drawing for the Kindle. We have been able to give away two weekly prizes every week of the program.

Upcoming events are as follows:

7.28.16 – Chef Paul at Mountains Branch @ 6:00

7.29.16 – Chef Paul at County Library @ 3:00

7.30.16 – Chem-MESS-try @ Haynes Branch STEM Maker Camp

8.2.16 – AcroEntertainment will do acrobatics for Summer Reading

8.18.16 – “Beyond Words: Effective Communication Strategies in Dementia” presentation by Smoky Mountain LME/MCO @ County Library

County Library / Nicole Morse – Nicole has worked hard getting the weekly entertainers booked and ready for Summer Reading. This week we hosted “Chimney Rock Animals” at each branch. Approximately 225 children were in attendance and were impressed by the live owl and baby opossum.

County Library / April Young – April has attended several meetings including Department Head meeting. She has been working on the annual report for the State Library as well as processing materials from all three branches. April is also helping Maria with making preparations for her ARSL 2016 Conference in Fargo, ND in October.

Mountains Branch / Joy Sharpe – Joy and Angie were hard at work cataloging new Large Print, Audio, and other books, as well as lots of new DVDs. Joy attended a staff meeting to discuss the libraries’ new operation hours. Joy working on selecting new Juvenile Non-Fiction books with funds donated by Friends of the Library. Angie attended the Friend of the Library Books & Bites event at the Lake Lure Inn.

County Library / Stephanie Long – Stephanie purchased 20 new DVDs to add to Haynes and County collections. They should be on the shelf in the next few days. Stephanie also purchased some new jigsaw puzzles that are kept out daily for patrons to enjoy.

Revenue Department

The 2016 tax bill will be in the mail on Friday July 29th. If you call the Tax Office and have to leave a message, we apologize for the wait. Just know that we are helping other tax payers. Your calls are important. Please leave us a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

The Revenue Director and Revenue Department would like to congratulate Richard Lawson for being promoted to the new Appraisal Coordinator position. He is a great asset to the department with 16 years of experience in county government.

The Revenue Department wishes Janet Lovelace's mother, Ruth, a speedy recovery after recent surgery.

Customer Service	Totals
Phone Calls	502
Info/Data Requests	5
Website Hits	3,549
County Growth Indicators	
Building Permits Reviewed	51
Deeds Recorded	166
Collections Progress	
Deeds Certified/Prior Year Taxes	32
Total Taxes Collected	\$72,212.02

Senior Center

The Senior Center participated in the 2016 North Carolina Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. The Center was awarded 65 sets of coupons (\$21 in each set) to be used for fresh fruits and vegetables at our local Farmer's Market. The criteria states that an individual's monthly income must not be more than \$1,832 or \$2,470 for a couple. The Nutrition Coordinator distributed the coupons last week to the qualifying seniors.

The Center provided a trip to the Farmer's Market in Forest City on Tuesday so those who do not have transportation would have an opportunity to spend their coupons. The seniors also enjoyed craft time and ice cream shop on Tuesday. Diane Trainor, SMP Program Specialist, presented a special program on Wednesday about Medicare fraud and scams. Maria Davis, Rutherford County Library, came on Thursday to do a trivia activity on the "Fabulous 50's". Several seniors went to Flat Rock Playhouse on Thursday afternoon to see "Dolly Parton's 9 to 5". Lastly, on Friday afternoon we hosted an intergenerational activity of "Coloring with the Grandkids".

Upcoming:

Zumba at 6:00 p.m. August 1

Rutherford County Senior Center

*~ North Carolina Certified Center of Excellence ~ United Way Member Agency ~
~Our Mission: Rutherford County Senior Center provides opportunities for
senior adults to help them maintain and enhance their quality of life.~*

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

193 Callahan Koon Rd, Suite 132 Spindale NC 28160

Telephone: 828-287-6409

Hours: Monday: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

We've all heard the saying, "use it or lose it." Seniors need to stay as physically active as possible. In addition, brain exercise for seniors is just as important in helping them maintain mental acuity and alertness. Brain cells don't die as we age, but reaction and processing time may slow down. An older person is fully able to retain the same knowledge and skills as a younger person, but may need some more time to attain the same conclusion.

Mental exercise is the act of performing a mentally stimulating task that is considered beneficial to warding off Alzheimer's disease and dementia. There are many ways in which seniors can participate in mental exercises. According to the National Institutes of Health, one hour per day of mental exercise is enough to keep your memory active and the mind sharp. Seniors who actively exercise their brains are more likely to maintain control over daily tasks. The following is a list of some mental activities: crossword puzzles, painting and drawing, arts and crafts, Bingo, board games and playing cards, telling stories of their lives, and computer activities. Another way to stimulate the brain is by using your non-dominant hand to do everyday tasks like brushing your teeth, eating, dialing the telephone, buttoning buttons or using a computer mouse. The majority of these activities can be done in pairs or groups, which will provide not only mental stimulation, but also social opportunities with other seniors.

We encourage our seniors to increase their mental sharpness by continually learning new things. Learning encourages the growth of brain cells. We also encourage seniors to engage in thinking games, as well as, learning new skills and hobbies to continually keep the brain functioning and alert. Come join us at the Senior Center and participate in our many opportunities for mental exercise, and let's keep those brain cells awake and active!

Angela Ezell, Director

Sheriff's Department

Thom and Amy White, new managers of SunnySide Orchard on U.S. Hwy 221-South in Rutherford County, donated peaches to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. and Mrs. White stated, "God has blessed us and we want to be a blessing to others."

SunnySide Orchard has been donating fruit to the Rutherford County Sheriff Office for over twenty years.

The peaches will be given to participants of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office, "Are-U-Okay" program, which is a free telephone reassurance program offered to citizens of Rutherford County.

The "Are-U-Okay" program, which was implemented in late 1990, is designed to check on our seniors and help them and their family to have peace of mind.

This "Are-U-Okay" program provides the participants with the knowledge that someone cares and will be checking on them daily.

Pictured are Thom and Amy White.

For more in formation on the "Are-U-Okay" program, contact Lt. Leon Godlock (828) 287-6395.



Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist:

- attended County Customer Service training.
- worked on information for the Annual Report.
- worked on Field Day planning and Education Program planning.
- worked on District and Farmland Preservation meeting Notice and Agenda items.
- worked on updating Farmland Preservation Ordinance.

The Ag. Cost Share Technician and Student Intern:

- attended the Department Head Quarterly Meeting.
- worked on revising EAP's for watershed dams.
- met with land owners to take applications.
- worked on BMP design and plan writing.
- worked on updating the Annual report.

Solid Waste

Customers served 371

Loads hauled from convenience centers 60

Loads shipped to Lenoir 32

Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2

Tire customers 24

The staff has been extremely busy this week with the starting of the new grant process, P.O. Requests, and annual reporting. The transfer staff continues to process all the MSW and recycling tonnages that are coming in. The C&D staff has been busy processing the tonnages coming in while hauling dirt for cover. The shop staff are busy with repairs and maintenance on trucks and equipment. Work continues to be performed at the airport while bush hogging at the south landfill.

Tourism Development Authority

Visit our website for a full list of events and times at: Timeofyourlifenc.com or call our Welcome Center at 828-287-6113.

If you have questions, please contact Taylor Hardin, Administrative Assistant for the TDA at 828-287-6013 or by email at taylor.hardin@rutherfordcountync.gov

Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

Staff have attended the Customer Service Training being offered at ICC this week. Monthly crew meetings were held where employees discussed the power of positive thinking. Employees are keeping a “gratitude” journal for the next 21 days to focus on things we are thankful for. EMS employees are surrounded by difficult emergency calls all day and we are working to focus on the betterment of self. For more insight, feel free to watch the following Ted Talk: [The Happy Secret to Better Work](#).

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK
Emergency Calls	187
Non-Emergency Calls	30

Transit Department:

Transit staff attended a webinar on our scheduling software. Staff also participated in the ongoing Customer Service classes being taught by ICC at the Annex. Interviews are being conducted for a Part Time Driver position. The two new transit vans are very close to being ready for revenue service. The radios, tablets and camera systems have been installed. Staff is finalizing year-end reports to be submitted to NCDOT. Staff is in preparation for a scheduled Drug & Alcohol Testing Procedures audit that will take place on August 18th. Transit Director and Operations Manager attended a Department Head meeting at the Annex

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	9,622	9,438
# of Local Trips	1,141	1,094
# of Out of County Trips	47	55
# Unduplicated Passengers	225	226
Total Revenue	\$17,718	\$16,133

Veteran Services

The Veteran Services Department kicked off our community involvement project this week by getting over 200 letters in the mail to local business owners. The main goal of the program is to show Rutherford County veterans that the community appreciates and supports them. It should also promote local spending if we get enough participants. More details to come.

Mail In	86
Mail Out	23
Fax	172
Phone Calls In/Out	85
Veteran Contacts	142



County News



August 5

2016 #FUNC Music Series! These great family friendly events feature local music, kids' games, food, drinks & much more. This year's series promises to be even better. All nights begin at 7pm! If you are interested musician, food truck operator, vendor or just want to help with the planning committee please contact Doug Barrick at dbarrick@rutherfordton.net

August 12-14

Lake Lure Olympiad

Three days of competitive sports races and family fun in Lake Lure and Chimney Rock. Register your events before July 27 and snag a free t-shirt. For more information, call The Welcome Center at 800-849-5998 or visit our website - www.LakeLureOlympiad.com

August 19-20

Dirty Dancing Festival

Lake Lure, NC: A tribute to the classic movie filmed in and around Lake Lure, the 7th annual Dirty Dancing Festival features a weekend of live bands, dance performances by the Asheville Ballet, lessons and even a "lake lift" competition. Enjoy local food vendors, watermelon carrying games, merchandise and more. Funds are also raised to benefit pancreatic cancer research in honor of the film's late star, Patrick Swayze. For more information call The Welcome Center at 800-849-5998 or visit www.DirtyDancingFestival.com.

August 20

Hot Nights, Cool Rides Auto Show - 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 pm.

Admire and compare this incredible collection of more than 400 vehicles lining Main Street in Forest City. Roam historic downtown while dining on local eats from food vendors, jamming to live bands and stargazing classic rides.

August 26

4TH FRIDAYS ON MAIN - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Street vendors, live music, artists. Fun for the whole family. Downtown Forest City, NC

August 23 - September 23

Celebration of the Arts

Dale McEntire will judge the show, including paintings, photography, sculpture, pottery, wood, textiles, glass, metal and jewelry.

The Visual Arts Center, 160 N. Main Street, Rutherfordton

Entry fee - Guild members or enrolled art students: \$25 Non-members: \$35

Applications are available at The Visual Arts Guild or www.revag.com.

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LUNCH & LEARN LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Congressman McHenry will be visiting with the citizens of Rutherford County on August 1st. We invite you to join him at the Copper Penny in Forest City at noon (lunch is Dutch treat). We will be receiving a legislative update and have the opportunity to ask questions we may have for the Congressman.



Rutherford County Government Employees Mammogram Day

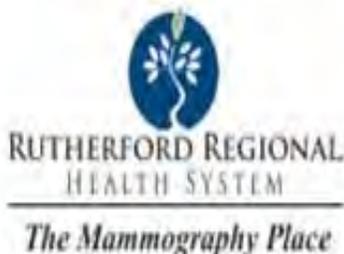
at The Mammography Place



Thursday, September 22

Call **286-5380** to schedule your appointment.

Remind the scheduler when you call that you work with Rutherford County Government and you would like to schedule your appointment on September 22.



Have your insurance information ready.

Brunch will be served during appointments from 8:30am until 1pm
Snacks will be served during appointments from 1pm until 4pm

The Mammography Place ● 175 Tryon Road ● Rutherfordton, NC



Saturday, July 30th:

- ROC Race Series: Meet Me at the Fountain 5K in Forest City. Register online at <http://smithsdrugsfc.com/5k/>.

Email us at trails@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call (828) 625-9983 ext. 505 if you would like to sign up for any of the ROC workdays, clean-ups, or group hikes.

County Manager
Steve Garrison

County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, *Chairman* Alan Toney, *Vice Chairman*
Michael Benfield, Eddie Holland, Greg Lovelace

County Office

Hazel Haynes, *Clerk to Board*
Richard Williams, *County Attorney*

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