



July 6, 2015

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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Typically known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. **Happy 4th of July!**

Airport

The Airport sold 1,175.7 gallons of 100LL to 30 aircraft and 944 gallons of Jet A to 5 aircraft last week.

Congratulations to airport employee, Mickey Cochran (**pictured right**), for completing the Eastern Aviation Fuels, Quality Control Course in Charlotte. This course certifies Mickey as a Line Service Fuel Supervisor and Quality Control Technician. He was also certified to IATA standards for the packaging and shipping of certain Hazardous Materials. Mickey also completed the USDA Wildlife Hazards For Airport Personnel in Asheville. Congratulations and thanks for your hard work, Mickey!



Airport continued from page 1



The PC-6, **pictured left**, is a 1971 Pilatus turbo prop owned by JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service), Inc of Waxhaw, NC stopped in for fuel while on a training flight. JAARS, is a non-profit organization that helps organizations around the world get day to day support for Bible translation.

fuel, is a true WWII era Army veteran. It was delivered to the Army just as the Japanese were surrendering in August, 1945.

The J3 Cub, (Army L-4 Grasshopper), **pictured below**, that stopped by for



Board of Elections

The Board of Elections staff have been busy preparing for municipal filing that starts next Monday. We anticipate approximately 30-40 candidates will file with us in the next two weeks. Municipal contests and filing fees are available on our website.

County Manager and Commissioners

The County Manager and Commissioners' week began with several departmental meetings, a retirement event, and a tour of Facebook facility.

They also enjoyed a plant visit and tour of Cliffside Duke Energy Plant. **Pictures to right and on page 3 are from June 13th tour and July 1st tour.**

Staff stayed very busy with an active week of numerous meetings, luncheons, and various other events. The weekly schedule also included agenda preparation for the upcoming Board of Commissioners' meeting on July 6th. The week continued with interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, and preparation for various responsibilities.



County Manager and Commissioners continued from page 2



Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department issued a press release announcing an existing industry expansion and responded to two industrial RFIs. This week's schedule also included attending various meetings at Isothermal Community College, Duke Energy, and the Economic Development Partnership of NC, as well as internal meetings with other county departments and industry allies. Economic Development staff continues to be busy following up with multiple industrial recruitment prospects, reaching out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines, and continuing work on marketing and advertising efforts including print media and website updates.

Finance

The Finance Office continues working to close out the fiscal year and prepare for the auditors. The new fiscal year is open in Keystone and ready for the departments. The Finance Officer attended the TDA Board Meeting on Monday. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week and has begun to work on payroll for the upcoming week.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

- attended EMS Quality Management meeting.
- at the request of North Carolina Emergency Management, responded to a mutual aid request to assist Catawba County Emergency Management with a wildfire on Bakers Mountain.
- performed maintenance on equipment.
- responded to a missing person call in which the subject was located quickly by the Sheriff's Office.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Employees who have left the service of Rutherford County are: Darcy Dalziel (DSS). The Director attended several meetings this week including a review of the personnel policies. Insurance changes have been entered and a big Kudos to Brooke Watson, Human Resource Specialist, for her time and efforts.

Vacancies are Building Inspections, IT Analyst, and part time Transit, Cooperative Extension and EMS. Apply at Rutherfordcountync.gov or 289 North Main Street.

June is Safety Awareness Month-reminders and safety tips will be sent out throughout the month. Please take advantage of reviewing safety videos with your staff this month. Videos may be checked out from the Human Resource Department. Stay ahead of the heat and stay hydrated.

The HR Department wishes everyone a safe, fun-filled 4th of July!

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Please remember Sarah Laughter and her family as her mother, Mrs. Vera Toney, passed away this week. Services are as follow:

Visitation - July 3 @ 12:45 to 1:45, Mountain View Baptist Church

Funeral - July 3 @ 2:00 p.m., Mountain View Baptist Church

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. May God bless and strengthen you.

Library

Library Director:

The Director completed several monthly reports, community contacts/outreach, timesheets, and managed to move lots of donations to the Evans Building with the help of Kenneth Odom.

Youth Services Librarian:

Around 250 people learned how to draw cartoons at this week's Summer Reading Program. Mr. Steve Barr, author of 14 "How-To" drawing books, led young and old alike with step-by-step instructions in 4 different programs. **(pictured left)**. The next program will be July 14 with Mr. Michael Beadle, Storyteller/Poet/Rapper.



And the audience was also thrilled at last Saturday's "Science Shenanigans" this month's Super Science Saturday. The kids helped perform various chemistry and physics experiments, including making elephant toothpaste and indoor lighting.

Haynes Branch Library:

Crystal Shires, library assistant at the Haynes Branch, was in attendance for the awarding of the Silver Congressional Award Medal to Savannah Bell. Savannah has been volunteering at the Haynes library regularly for the past 3 years. The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' award for young Americans. It is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive. The program is open to all 14- to 23-year-olds. Participants earn Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Certificates and Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas; Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration. We are very proud of Savannah and all her accomplishments **(pictured above right)**.



Mountains Branch:

This week saw lots of kids and out-of-town visitors to Mountains Branch. We continued to sign up kids for the Summer Reading Program and enjoyed great attendance at our K-9 Summer Reading Program. Joy Maxwell met with other library staff for the CMC Consortium meeting where work was done on the policy manual. She also participated in a webinar on fund raising for small libraries. Joy Maxwell and Angie Turner attended the Lake Lure Lions Club Awards Dinner, where Library Director, April Young, received an award for Community Service. Mountains Branch received a donation from the Lions to purchase Large Print, Audio and Juvenile materials. Joy Maxwell also worked on compiling Summer Reading Lists for local schools and gathering the selections for display.

Public Works and Planning

As temperatures have been unbearable over the past couple of weeks, some of the daily demands have been just as unbearable. Even in this heat, the garage has completed numerous automotive repairs, tire service calls, preventative maintenance repairs, along with N.C. vehicle safety inspections in addition to working inventory for the new fiscal year. Thanks to the garage supervisor and mechanics who work very hard to keep the County's vehicles in such great mechanical condition. Our Maintenance crews have been very busy as well in repairing multiple air conditioning units, completing numerous trackit work orders, preventative maintenance, and the demands of groundskeeping. Thanks to all the maintenance staff for their hard work. Planning and Projects has been involved in multiple meetings, site inspections and paperwork regarding the following: preparation for the Commissioners meeting, planning board activity, approved budget implementation, coordination with HR in rewriting the job description for project manager, Capital Facilities planning, Tryon Equestrian support and growing infrastructure planning, Rail Trail improvements, planning and future fund raising. We have been researching grant opportunities for the County's historical and recreational properties. Last but not least, we've scheduled site inspections on the new AEO project, Greyrock, Queens Gap and are excited to report very good strides of progress at the Southeastern EMS and Library project We remain hopeful that construction will still be completed by Nov. 2015 despite the long winter delays.

Revenue Department

The Revenue Department handled 34 VTS assist. The office answered 417 calls and assisted 230 customers. We completed two plat reviews, one pre-permits and answered five Data Requests. Appraisers completed 6 building permits and 42 field reviews. A total of 70 new documents were recorded and 50 new accounts were set up. Transfers consisted of 82 straights, 2 merge, 3 splits, and 0 acreage adjustments. GIS created 2 new maps. E911 addressing assigned 4 new addresses, ordered 3 new road signs, and updated 32 addresses with new owner information. Part-time maintenance workers installed 0 new road signs and completed maintenance on 2 road signs. No appeal forms were received and 0 listing letters were mailed out. The PUV program mailed 327 Audit letters, and assisted 10 program members. (COLLECTIONS DID NOT REPORT THIS WEEK DUE TO YEAR END AND TOTALS WILL BE INCLUDED IN NEXT WEEKS TOTALS). Staff processed 0 exclusions/deferments. We had 0 refund, 0 releases and 0 discoveries. Electronic payments consisted of 0 by credit card, 0 by website and 0 over the phone. Collection action consisted of 0 attachment and 0 newspaper items. Staff completed 0 gross receipts/occupancy taxes, 0 payment plans and 0 bankruptcy issues. In-person taxpayers at the counter brought in 0 tax payments. Seventeen new deeds were certified for recording purposes.

Senior Center

The Senior Center provided a trip to the local Farmer's Market on Tuesday and hosted an activity called "Summertime Reflections" to share their memories of summers past. On Wednesday the Center had "Use It or Lose It". We encourage seniors to engage in thinking games as well as learning new skills and hobbies to continually keep the brain functioning and alert. Studies show that the brain requires a consistent workout to stay sharp just like the body does to stay strong. Spartanburg Rehabilitation sponsored our "Watermelon Slicing" on Thursday and we had a "Watermelon Scavenger Hunt". Lastly, the Senior Center will be closed on Friday in observance of Independence Day. Our Home Delivered participants received a pre-packaged meal for Friday.

Upcoming:

Zumba at 6:45 on July 6, 13, 20, 27

Great news and congratulations! The Senior Center was re-certified on June 19th as a 'North Carolina Center of Excellence' for the next five years.

Sheriff's Department



Happy Retirement

*Rutherford County Sheriff's Office
Cordially invites you to attend a
Retirement reception*

In Honor of

Sgt. Billy Scoggins & Cpl. Chuck Watson

*"Celebrating years of Outstanding Service
to the Citizens of Rutherford County and the Rutherford
County Sheriff's Office"*

July 9th, 2015

2:00pm – 4:00pm

Rutherford County Annex

Young Marines is a youth educational service for boys and girls ages eight through completion of high school that promotes mental, moral and physical development. Joseph McComas, who spent 10 years in the United States Marine Corps, is starting a unit in Rutherford County called the Broad River Young Marines. Mr. McComas wanted to say a special thanks to the Rutherford County officers, Sgt. Tim Martin, Cpl. Matt Owens, Deputy Zach Walker, and Deputy Trey Hooper with his K-9, Karma, who came out to assist with the parent and recruit orientation Monday night, June 29th (pictured below).



Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist worked on:

- Fiscal Year closing reports
- Safety Inspection Checklist
- District Minutes
- Sending Supervisor Travel

The Ag. Cost Share Technician worked on:

- AgWrap Best Management Practice planning.

Solid Waste

Customers served 358
 Loads hauled from convenience centers 59
 Loads shipped to Lenoir 32
 Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2
 Tire customers 37



This week has been very busy. The director attended a meeting with the Sheriffs' department, held several internal meetings and worked on year end. Shop employees have been busy performing preventative maintenance on equipment and trucks. Transfer station staff continues to process the MSW and the recycling. Also, the landfill sent out three tractor trailer loads of tires (**pictured right**). Bush hogging continues to be performed at the central landfill. Staff continues to perform work at the airport. No Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report this week due to vacation. Please remember to recycle and have a great 4th of July.

Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	173	168
Convalescent Calls	53	59

Transit Department:

Transit staff continues to review the NCDOT 5-year plan that was presented last week to the Steering Committee and to make revisions for inclusion in the final plan. Basic health physicals were completed at Occupational Medicine for all Safety Sensitive employees. Work is continuing on installation of new tile in the kitchen/meeting room and bathrooms along with new tile outside the front entrance of the building. Maintenance has completed the installation of new Energy-Efficient LED light fixtures in all areas and offices of Transit (**pictured**).



Transit Director and Operations Manager met with the Senior Center Director and Rutherford Life Services Director to discuss the transportation needs, transportation costs for each agency and ideas to increase ridership and efficiency for each agency.

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TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	9,393	9,566
# of Local Trips	1,123	881
# of Out of County Trips	77	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	235	238
Total Revenue	\$13,740	\$14,549

Veterans Services

Mail In	118
Mail Out	113
Fax	128
Phone Calls In/Out	89
Veteran Contacts	220

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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