



June 15, 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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Veteran Services

Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

- held Grandparents Raising Grandparents annual family picnic.
- met with Extension & Community Association County Council.
- conducted Powerful Tools for Caregivers training for class leaders.
- submitted grant applications for future programs.

The Farmers Market has added Thursday evening to the Market schedule from 3:00-7:00 pm. You can find local-grown vegetables, yellow squash, zucchini, green beans, lettuce, a variety of greens, new potatoes, as well as a variety of bedding plants, herbs, ornamental bushes and trees. Visit downtown Forest City on Thursday evenings to shop the Market, and also enjoy the Summer Music Series being held at the Southern Quarter on Main Street.

The logo for Rutherford County Farmers Market, featuring a basket of fresh produce (apples, oranges, pumpkins, carrots) and the text "RUTHERFORD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET DOWNTOWN FOREST CITY" and "Fresh Local Now".

Join us at our new location
172 Depot Street in Forest City

Tuesday & Saturday 8am – 12 noon
*Open Thursdays June 4 - Aug. 27, 3pm - 7pm

<http://rutherfordcountync.gov/farmersmarket>

Like us on Facebook

Phone: 287-6080

Rutherford County Farmers Market
INDOOR MARKET
108 Main Street in Forest City

A photograph of the Rutherford County Farmers Market building, a modern structure with large glass windows and a blue facade.

Open Fridays & Saturdays
3pm - 7pm
Beginning June 5 thru December
Phone: 287-6080
rutherfordcountync.gov/farmersmarket

Like us on Facebook

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Airport

The Rutherford County Airport sold 589.8 gallons of 100LL and 1,430.0 gallons of Jet A last week.



The colorful, magical and uncommon occurrence of the RAINBOW!

Picture taken at airport by Director Randy Patterson.

The Special Forces Association Parachute Team staged at the Rutherford County Airport last week prior to jumping into the Tryon International Equestrian Center. **Pictured**

right, they can be seen loading onto their aircraft prior to take off for the jump.



A member of the Special Forces Association Parachute jumping the American Flag into the Tryon International Equestrian Center (**pictured left**).

Building Inspections

Building Inspections has had an extremely busy spring which seems to be indicating a very positive trend in the building industry. The department totals for May include 174 permits issued totaling \$20,322 in fees and 748 inspections conducted. That is an inspection increase of over 20% compared to May 2014. Included in those inspections was Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the Legends Club at Tryon Equestrian Center, remodels/additions at Pro Physical Therapy and several local churches, Temporary Certificate of Occupancy at Dollar General in Harris, multiple inspections at Lake lure Classical Academy, addition at Dogwood Motel, Sterling Oaks apartments, remodel for the new offices at Family Preservation Services, Green Hill Farmers Market, two projects at Gilkey Lumber and the renovations at Trelleborg.

County Manager and Commissioners

The County Manager and Commissioners stayed very busy with an active week of numerous meetings, luncheons, and various other events. Manager Garrison began the week by attending the 5th grade graduation of his daughter, Emily, from Mars Hill Elementary. Congratulations to Emily!

Manager Garrison, Commissioners Benfield and Toney, and Director James Kilgo, Solids Department, enjoyed a plant visit and tour of the Cliffside Mill.

The Commissioners, several Department Heads and county employees took part in the county's Relay for Life activities last Friday night in Forest City (**More pictures from Relay for Life on page 10**). Commissioner



Eddie Holland was among the hundreds of survivors participating (**pictured right**). Commissioner Alan Toney communicating with Jason Ruff, Director of Building Inspections (**pictured left**).



Manager Garrison and Chairman Bryan King were involved in a press conference held at the Tryon International Equestrian Center last Saturday evening.

Pictured left is Commissioner King as his look of surprise was captured when he realized Lee Greenwood was the gentleman standing next to him, engaged in conversation, as they waited for Governor McCrory to arrive for the press conference. "Mr. Greenwood is a true gentleman and he was very complimentary of western North Carolina," stated Commissioner King. Mr. King's daughter, Caroline, an avid horse rider, was also interviewed (**pictured right**).



Manager Garrison and Commissioner Benfield attended the Rutherford County CTP (Comprehensive Transportation Plan) meeting and enjoyed a brief visit

to the nearby Welcome Center and boat ride on Lake Lure (**pictured right**).

Manager Garrison and the Commissioners engaged in several meetings with various departments including Tourism, Solid and Waste, Project and Planning, Airport, and IPDC Board. The week continued with interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, and preparation for various responsibilities.



Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department attended the North Carolina Economic Developers Association 2015 Annual Conference. Economic Development staff continues to be busy reaching out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines, preparing for the upcoming EDC Board meeting, and continuing work on website content and updates. This week's schedule also included following-up with finance in preparation of FY '14-'15 close out.

Finance

The Finance Office has begun working to close out the fiscal year and complete budget information related to the adopted budget. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable and processed payroll this week. Thanks again to all who came out last week making for a very successful Relay For Life.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

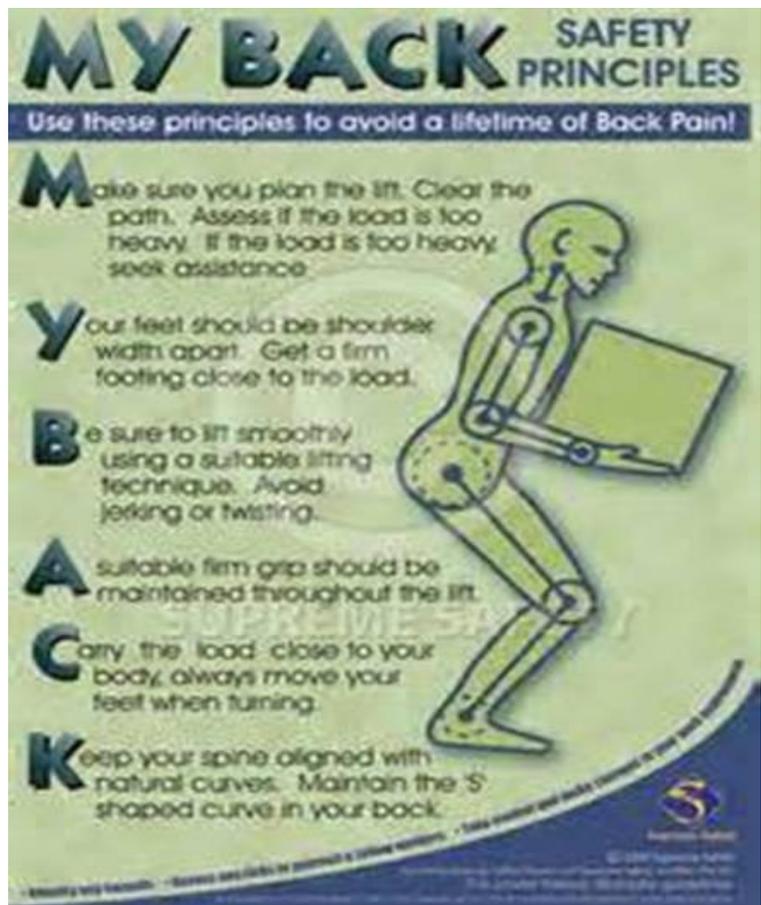
- completed several Emergency Management Performance Grant activities.
- attended Interview and Interrogation training.
- updated fire department contracts.
- continued work on 800Mhz radio templates and programming.
- conducted follow-ups on fire investigations.
- attended various meetings.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Representatives have begun departmental enrollments into the new dental plan. Thanks to each department for making this process run smooth and efficiently. The Director held several meetings this week and attended a phone conference along with Danny Searcy. The HR Specialist conducted new hire orientation. Current vacancies are: Part-time Transit and EMS. Apply at Rutherfordcountync.gov or 289 North Main Street.

June is Safety Awareness Month. Reminders and safety tips will be sent throughout the month. **(My Back - Safety Principles posted to right.)** Please take advantage of reviewing safety videos with your staff this month. Videos may be checked out from the Human Resource Department.

Relay for Life was held Friday, June 5th. Thank you to all who helped or just came out to support the cause. Rutherford County has an awesome team of employees! **(Pictures on pg. 10)**



Library

Library Director:

The Director worked with staff to plan for the upcoming changes to the room currently being used for public computer training classes. The space will be designated as a "MakerSpace" in August. Job duties and re-assignments were discussed with full-time staff after the retirement of Lois Poole and in anticipation of the newest staff member, Maria Davis. Ms. Davis will be joining the library staff next week.

Circulation Manager:

Carolina Chiropractic Plus will present a Peak Energy Talk on Monday, June 15th at 3:30pm at the Rutherford County Library. During this free program, Dr. Sarah Merrison-McEntire and Dr. Drew Morris will teach participants how to increase energy levels, productivity, coordination, and mental clarity, while reducing stress levels. Call (828)287-6396 for more information and to sign up.

Youth Services Librarian:

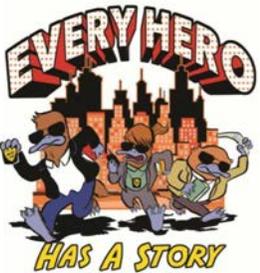
The Summer Reading Program begins next week! With the theme of "Every Hero Has a Story," we'll be celebrating all the Heroes and She-Roes--both supernatural and real, with the first week being Red Herring Puppets. They will be presenting the show "Electricity," which uncovers the mysteries of power through inventions by using large tabletop Bunraku puppets. The free shows will be Tuesday, June 16 at 9:30 a.m. at Haynes Branch Library, 12:30 p.m. at Rutherford County Library, and 3:30 at Mountains Branch Library.

Haynes Branch Library:

The Haynes library participated in a webinar on "How to help your patrons master the job search". The staff has also been alphabetizing shelves and preparing for summer reading which begins next week. The last outreach to the schools for summer reading was completed and fliers handed out.

Mountains Branch Library:

The Librarian did outreach to promote the Library's Summer Reading Program at Lake Lure Classical Academy. She also continued to promote the Library's Summer Film & Discussion series with social media and flyers in the community. The new Battle of the Books list was displayed, and all titles pulled and displayed for students. The Librarian worked to update juvenile series titles, and selected Easy Reader biographies and non-fiction titles to order. She participated in training webinars on selecting test prep materials. The Assistant Librarian attended the Friends of the Library Books & Bites program at the Lake Lure Inn with author Peter J. Barr.



2015
Rutherford County Libraries
Summer Reading Program

Free Programs for ages 2-12
each Tuesday (except July 4 week)

9:30 am Haynes Branch Library (141 N. Main St.,
Henrietta, 288-4039)
12:30 pm Rutherford County Library (255 Callahan-
Koon Rd, Spindale 287-6115)
3:30 p.m. Mountains Branch Library (150 Bill's
Creek Road, Lake Lure 287-6392)

June 16	Red Herring Puppets (www.redherringpuppets.com)
June 23	Rutherford County Sheriff Department and K-9 Officers
June 30	Steve Barr Cartoons (www.stevebarrcartoons.com) * 6:30 pm—Cartoonist Workshop at Rutherford Cty Library (ages 10-18)
July 7	No Program
July 14	Michael Beadle—Storyteller/Poet/Musician (www.michaelbeadle.com)
July 21	Bill Grimsley, Magician (www.billgrimsley.com) * 6:30 pm—Trivia Game Show at Rutherford Cty Library (ages 10-18)
July 28	Summer Reading Celebration Party with program by Miss Jeannie

Summer Reading Club

Reading is vital to the Summer Reading Program. Set your own goals. Get a Contract and Reading Record at the library and return by July 21. Read at or above your level and to pre-schoolers. Write titles completed on the Record. Certificates and prizes to be awarded at the final program July 28.



Public Works and Planning

The hotter temperatures are taking a toll on the HVAC systems across the County. In fact, we are replacing the third unit at the Health Department this week.

Not only are the temps up, but so are the daily demands and tempo of work throughout the department including Maintenance, Garage, Grounds and Planning & Projects. We've experienced multiple calls after-hours with garage personnel. There has been an increase in troubleshooting electrical/computer issues in the vehicles in addition to completing numerous automotive repairs, tire service calls, preventative maintenance repairs, along with N.C. vehicle safety inspections. 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 in completing numerous TrackIt work orders, preventative maintenance, in addition to the demands of groundskeeping. Thanks to all the maintenance staff for their hard work.

The Operations Manager and Director continue coordinating with our contract vendors to assist with the heavy workload on maintenance, along with completing capital funded projects this fiscal year. Planning and Projects has been involved in multiple meetings, site inspections and paperwork regarding the following: Commissioners meeting, HR position description rewrite, Capital Facilities planning, Tryon Equestrian support and growing infrastructure planning, Rail Trail improvements, planning and future fund raising. In addition we've scheduled watershed inspections on the new AEO project, in addition to Greyrock and Queens Gap oversight; and we are pleased with the progress at the Southeastern EMS and Library project.

Revenue Department

The Revenue Department handled 40 VTS assists. The office answered 385 phone calls and assisted 221 customers. We completed 15 plat reviews, 4 pre-permits and answered 7 data requests. Appraisers completed 288 field reviews. A total of 51 new documents were recorded and 26 new accounts were set up. Transfers consisted of 34 straights, 10 estates, 5 merges, 6 splits, and 2 acreage adjustments. GIS created seven new maps. The GIS website had 164,224 hits and 115,697 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned two new addresses and updated 69 addresses with new owner information. Part-time maintenance workers installed eight new roads signs and completed maintenance on two road signs. The PUV program mailed five letters and assisted nine program members. Staff processed 30 exclusions and 2 discoveries. Twenty-two new deeds were certified for recording purposes.

Senior Center

The Senior Center hosted the monthly blood pressure clinic on Monday. Representatives from Carolina Home Care conducted the Senior Center's monthly blood pressure checks. Thirty-eight clients took advantage of this service. Our Walking Club met on Tuesday and will be walking together at 8:45 a.m. each Tuesday morning. Pen Pal participants visited Spindale Elementary School on Tuesday for this school year's last visit with their pals. On Wednesday, the seniors enjoyed baking cookies and a trip to Sweet Frog's. Lastly, on Thursday several seniors enjoyed a trip to Hamrick's and the Prime Outlet Mall, and at the Center we had a video presentation of "This is Progressive Rutherford County". This is an industrial film produced and directed by Don Parisher in late 1948, and was meant to promote industry and business in Rutherford County.

Sheriff's Department

MAY 2015

Calls for Service:	4,815
Warrants Served/Total Arrest:	218/220
Domestic Calls:	220
Involuntary Commitments/Hours.:	31/28.0 Man Hrs.
Civil Papers Served:	273
Exparte's Served:	17
Evictions:	10
Animals Pickup/Surrender:	195
Animals Returned to Owners or Rescued:	136
Animal Control Calls for Service:	185
New Cases Assigned to Detectives/Road Patrol	123/24
Pill Drop Collections:	10,487.5 Doses Units/1,362 Liquids
Average Daily Inmate Confinement:	182
Gun Purchase Permits Issued:	69
Carry Concealed Permits Issued:	107
Project Lifesaver Clients/Contact Hours:	3/3.0 Man Hrs.
Registered Sex Offenders/Contact Hours:	181/30.0 Man Hrs.

New Employees:

Part-Time, Communications, Heather Greene, effective 05-28-2015

Part-Time, Deputy Sheriff, effective 05-23-2015

Retirement Congratulations to:

Sergeant Billy Scoggins, effective 07-01-2015

Corporal Chuck Watson, effective 07-01-2015

Social Services

Over the past two weeks, interviews have been conducted for several vacant positions within the agency, including the staff attorney position. DSS would like to welcome new employees Ashley Porter, Logan Melton, Ashley Hunter (Economic Services) and Amber Reeve (Family & Children's Service). The Director attended several meetings including the Partnership for Children of the Foothills Board meeting and the Community Health Council. He also attended regular monthly NCACDSS committee meetings, and the statewide DSS Director's Meeting in Raleigh on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Fiscal Officer, Pam Price, and Adult Services Supervisor, Vic Martin, attended a webinar regarding changes in state contracts on Tuesday. Adult Services staff held a conference call on Tuesday with the state Adult Program Representative, Brenda Yeatman. The Director and the Income Maintenance Administrator participated in a DSS Director/County Manager webinar, "DHHS Updates on NC FAST, Medicaid and Food & Nutrition Services Case Processing, and Sustainability Planning". The Social Work Program Manager met with representatives from Customized Training and Development and Career Development programs at Isothermal to discuss educational and career assessment and development for DSS family and children's services consumers.

Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist:

- worked on District meeting minutes and Resource Conservation Workshop Information.

The Ag Cost Share Technician:

- worked in the field with Ag Wrap contracts
- executed repair work on watershed dams

Solid Waste

Customers served 345
Convenience center loads hauled 59
Loads shipped to Lenoir 33
Recycling loads shipped to Conover 3
Tire Customers 35

The Solid Waste Director attended a meeting with the County Manager and held several internal meetings. The office staff has been busy working on year-end, grants for next year, and the possibility of adding textile recycling to all public schools in the county. The shop employees have been busy performing preventative maintenance on equipment while performing vehicle inspections. The metal company has arrived on site and they are in the process of baling the metal for transport (**pictured right/below**). Transfer station continues to run smoothly. Also, we have started bush hogging at the Central Landfill along with weed eating (**pictured below**).

Please keep Steve Nanney in your thoughts and prayers with the passing of his mother this week.

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report is as follows:

Opened cases 8
Closed cases 3
Pictures taken yes
Citations written 0
Community service workers 5
Community service reports 1

Thanks and please continue to recycle.



Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

EMS held a breakfast on Tuesday for all local agencies that utilize our non-emergency transportation. New contracts were distributed and there was great discussion on processes and improvements to service. Staff are also finalizing a grant to the RHI Legacy Foundation. EMS will be requesting quick response vehicles for the community paramedic program. Administrative staff met for the monthly meeting to discuss ongoing issues and new opportunities. Director also attended the month Community Health Council meeting.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	179	168
Convalescent Calls	58	59

Transit Department:

Transit staff are pleased to participate in Relay for Life this Friday night. Employees are in the process of completing an annual physical through Rutherford Regional's Occupational Medicine department. This is the first time physicals have been conducted and staff are pleased to offer this benchmark for our employees and new hires. Transit also held their quarterly Transit Advisory Board meeting. Much of the discussion centered around the completion of the 5 year plan and the upcoming 25th anniversary celebration. Director also submitted year end budget amendments to NCDOT.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	9,457	9,566
# of Local Trips	1,077	881
# of Out of County Trips	66	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	218	238
Total Revenue	\$12,704	\$14,549

Veterans Services

JUNE ACTIVITIES

- **Flag Day, Sunday, June 14th**
- **Kids n Cops, Friday, June 19th at Dunbar Park**
- **Military Night @ Forest City Owls Game, Saturday, June 27th**

Mail In	110
Fax	121
Mail Out	111
Phone Calls In/Out	66
Veteran Contacts	152



Pictures from Relay for Life Ceremony Dunbar Ball Field, Forest City



EMS/Caleb Johnson's family and son, Landyn, a survivor



Benjamin Roach (Paula Roach's son, Finance) 'assisting' at Relay for Life!



Debra Conner (Human Resource Director) working and sharing smiles with all!



Jason Ruff (Building Inspections), Madison (daughter, a survivor), and Christy (wife).



The "Queen" (Brooke Watson, Human Resources) at her coronation!



Jason Ruff and family led the Opening Ceremony



Sheriff Chris Francis and wife



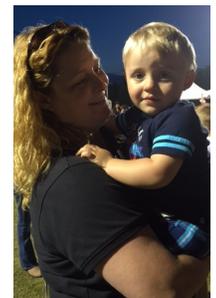
Relay for Life Team Captains Alma Resendiz/Solids Dept and Brandy Greene/DSS



Officers



Debbie Mitchell, survivor



Cynthia Robbins (Coop Ext) and son

Special Recognition

SHE SAID YES!

*Best wishes to
Ann Moore (DSS) and Thomas Gerth
as they prepare for their wedding,
November 7, 2015.*



County Commissioners

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

Steve Garrison, County Manager
Hazel S. Haynes, Clerk to the Board

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www.rutherfordcountync.gov