



October 19, 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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Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Attended Program Development training.
- Taught Cook Smart Eat Smart class.
- Prepared for upcoming classes.
-

Agriculture

- Conservation Field Day: Cooperative Extension's focus was on 'Vermicomposting' (pictured right).
- Spring Garden School Committee: Plans continue for March 2016
- Farmer's Market Committee working toward securing SNAP for the Rutherford County Farmer's Market
- Food Modernization Safety Act Training: Sessions 3 & 4



Airport

The Airport sold 1,112.0 gallons of Jet A to 6 aircraft and 792.4 gallons of 100LL to 24 aircraft.

Photo: The Old and the New

A 1946 Aeronca Champ sits beside a 2013 Embraer Phenom 505 on the ramp at Rutherford County. The Embraer is a modern business jet featuring all the latest technology available. The Cham is basic stick and rudder flying that doesn't even have an electrical system. It still requires hand-propping to start the engine.



Board of Elections

This week the Director took part in a GIS meeting and a Board of Elections meeting to approve absentee applications. Our first training class was held in preparation for November and staff took part in a webinar with the State Board.

Building Inspections

Building Inspections continue to see increased permit and inspection activity. For the first two weeks of October, our department has issued 90 permits totaling \$16,317 in fees including 6 new house starts.

Our inspectors have conducted an impressive 315 inspections over the same two week period also. In addition to those inspections, we have also started conducting our semi-annual school inspections.

County Manager and Commissioners

The County Manager and Commissioners were involved in numerous meetings, luncheons, and various other events. Beginning Monday, the Manager had several individual Department Head meetings in addition to discussions with the Planning/Projects and Economic Development directors.

On Tuesday morning, Manager Garrison met with the Stronger Economies Together Civic Forum and several other individual meetings. Chairman King was engaged in an Economic Planning Event on Tuesday at the Tryon Equestrian Center.

Commissioner Benfield and the manager met with staff to review the agenda for the upcoming Airport Authority Board meeting which will be held on October 20th.

Vice Chairman Alan Toney had various meetings throughout the week, including the Senior Center Advisory Board meeting. The manager's schedule on Wednesday also included Rails to Trails Committee and an Evaluation and Feasibility Study regarding the Rutherford County Detention Facility.

On Friday, several appointments were scheduled, including discussions with the EMS director and a luncheon with Polk and Cleveland County Managers at the Equestrian Center.

The week progressed with additional duties, consisting of numerous calls, interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, project discussions, preparation for various responsibilities and meetings with Department Heads.

Chairman Bryan King's twin brother, Aaron King, stopped by the County Office for a short visit on Thursday (**pictured right**).



Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department conducted two industrial site visits and attended the SET (Stronger Economies Together) Civic Forum.

Economic Development staff continues to be busy following up with multiple industrial recruitment and expansion prospects, working with the Department of Commerce and existing industry representatives regarding various grant reports, and working with our website designers to finalize website content polishing the overall look of the Economic Development and Gateway West Commerce Park websites.

This week's schedule also included attending miscellaneous meetings with county departments and industry allies.

Finance Department

The Finance Office is working to complete items needed for the audit. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week. Continue to keep our Finance Director, Paula Roach, and family in your thoughts and prayers in the passing of her father.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

- Responded to a search for two missing persons in the South Mountain State Park. Both individuals walked out the next day.
- Attended the N. C. Emergency Management Association Conference.

Deputy Fire Marshal:

- Completed a two week course in Criminal Investigations.
- Continued fire prevention activities at local schools.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. The HR Specialist conducted new hire orientation. The Director conducted training on performance evaluations, met with Charlie D'Angelo with NCACC, met with Cristy Gupton preparing for open enrollment, and met with United Way regarding the 2016 campaign. Reminder: Open season with the State Health Plan begins October 15. Employees must login to shpnc.org to enroll. Flu season is just around the corner! The Health Department will host a flu shot clinic on October 28 from 12:00 - 4:00 at the County Office Building (**further information on page 4**).

Current vacancies are: Economic Development Director, part-time TDA Welcome Center attendant, Veterans Service Officer, and mechanic for Solid Waste. Applicants can apply at www.rutherfordcountync.gov.

For many years now, Marie Champion, Veterans Service Officer has collected **Toys for Tots**. There is a box located at the County Office Building for anyone wishing to donate toys. Also, if your department desires to collect several toys, we will be happy to have someone pick them up. A big thank you to Marie for all the work she does to support our community with both young and older patrons.

The "White Horse" came in for Toys for Tots, but I was a little disappointed that it didn't come with a chivalrous "Knight in Shining Armor"! Kim Aldridge



FLU SHOT DATE

October 28, 2015,
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Health Department will once again host the County flu shot clinic. The date is October 28, 2015 at the County Office Building from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. If you have BC/BS insurance you are eligible to receive a flu shot at no cost. Children under the age of 10 are not eligible to participate in the clinic.

Anyone wanting a flu shot that is not covered by BC/BS may participate at a cost of \$32.00 payable by check or cash to Rutherford Polk Health Department.

Retirees with BC/BS, United Health Care, Humana, Medicaid or Medicare may also participate.

There is a form that needs to be completed prior to receiving your flu shot. Forms will be available at the door. Please make sure you have your insurance card, form of ID, and completed form ready prior to getting in line.

Any general questions pertaining to the vaccination should be addressed to the Health Department at 287-6317.

The Health Department is asking for an approximate number of people who plan to participate. If you or a family member plan to take advantage of the flu shot clinic, please email Debra and let her know. Email address: debra.conner@rutherfordcountync.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact the HR Office.

Library

Library Director:

The director worked on monthly reports and quarterly reports for the Library board of Trustees. In addition, she help plan programs for the DBU Makerspace, met with and guided our new Youth Services Coordinator, Nicole Morse, through *a day in the life of a Rutherford County Librarian*, stayed up-to-date on the opening of the new library in the Southeastern section of the County, and started thinking about winter programming. She also spent time at the Haynes library helping to sort through books to pack for the upcoming move.

IT Librarian:

The DBU Makerspace is up and running! We've had interest in the media conversion station with one patron converting a VHS tape to DVD and two vinyl LPs to CDs. She was very pleased with the results and emailed us later to let us know..."*The DVD is just like the original and even picked up the closed caption feature that I was most interested in having. I am very pleased with the outcome.*" Upcoming projects include working with local homeschool groups, Girl Scout troops, and planning for a special Halloween themed story time for older kids that will include an electronics project. Be sure to check the events calendar on the library's website (www.rutherfordcountylibrary.org) for a full list of activities.

Youth Services Librarian:

The Youth Services Librarian has spent her first week here at the library getting settled in and planning for upcoming programming. Story Time will relaunch on Tuesday, October 27th at 10:30am in the County Library Children's Room. Story Time will be geared toward children ages 0-5. We will be celebrating Halloween with stories, dancing and snacks!

Be on the lookout for new children's programs coming to the library soon.

Marketing/Outreach:

We will be hosting "Trivia and Dinner" night on Friday, October 16, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Library. The theme will be "Famous Places, Famous Faces." Come on over to this FREE event and bring your dinner to eat while you play trivia. **(Ad pictured to right.)**

Rutherford County Library

255 Callahan Koon Rd.
(next to the Health Dept)
Spindale, NC 28160
828-287-6115



"Self Proclaimed Trivia King"
(can you beat him?)

TRIVIA and Dinner

BYOD - Bring Your Own Dinner and Play Trivia while you eat

**Bring your Dinner
and join us for a
night of Trivia at
the Rutherford
County Library.**

- Friday, October 16, 2015
- 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- BYOD (Bring Your Own Dinner)

This program is for ages 16
and up.



Marketing/Outreach continued:

Saturday, October 10, 2015, the Library hosted a 1920s / Prohibition Era Exhibit. We had authentic period clothing and items from the Roaring 20s. We also had a modern day still on loan from the Sheriff's Department. Many thanks to Sheriff Francis for loaning it to us and Deputy Lori Morris for staying with her evidence during this program. Thanks also to Vickie Campfield from Frame House Gallery and Belinda Evans from Rutherford County Schools for their loan of Depression Glass. Several viewed the display (pictured left and below).



Haynes Branch:

Haynes has been busy this week organizing things to get ready to move to the new library. Many boxes have been taped up and several hundred children's book have been sorted through along with all the Christian Fiction.

Mountains Branch:

Joy Sharp continued with Supercharged Storytime online training through the North Carolina State Library. The goal of these enhanced storytimes is to focus more on alphabetic recognition and increase literacy skills. This week's storytime was all about the letter "O". O is for October! Angie Turner participated in a webinar on finding reliable information and sources online. Joy produced a column on library happenings for the Lake Lure Breeze.

Revenue Department

Revenue Department is still working January motor vehicle renewals and handled 55 VTS assists. The office answered 387 phone calls and assisted 227 customers. We completed 1 plat review, 1 project and answered 4 data requests. Appraisers completed 91 building permits and 53 field reviews. A total of 81 new documents were recorded and 49 new accounts were set up. Transfers consisted of 71 straights, 6 merges, 5 splits, and 3 acreage adjustments. GIS created 7 new maps.

The GIS website had 137,579 hits and 95,405 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned two new addresses, part-time maintenance workers installed seven new roads signs and completed maintenance on one road sign. Staff processed one exclusion and 10 appeals. We had one release and one discovery. Fifty-one new deeds were certified for recording purposes.



Congratulations to Director Sherry Lavender for successfully completing all necessary requirements for certification as a County Assessor in North Carolina. (See certification letter on page 6.)

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. Forty clients took advantage of this service.

The "Living Healthy with a Chronic Pain" workshop started on Tuesday. This 2 ½ hour class will be held weekly on Tuesday morning for six weeks. Each session is facilitated by two trained leaders who follow a detailed manual, so that each workshop is highly consistent. This workshop is appropriate for people living or caring for someone with a wide variety of chronic health conditions.

This week's topic was "Differences between Acute & Chronic Pain". The Director was also a panel participant at the Leadership Rutherford class on Tuesday, which focused on quality of life and what the Senior Center brings to Rutherford County.

Our Pen Pals met on Wednesday to write in their journals to the Spindale Elementary students. The seniors enjoyed craft time on Tuesday and Thursday decorating a pumpkin for Halloween and making Halloween cards.

Lastly, on Friday the Senior Center provided a trip to the hospital jewelry sale.

Upcoming:

Zumba at 6:45 p.m. on October 19, 26

Health & Wellness Fair October 29 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.



North Carolina Department of Revenue

Pat McCrory
Governor

Lyons Gray
Secretary

October 5, 2015

Ms. Sherry Lavender
Rutherford County Tax Department
P.O. Box 143
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Dear Ms. Lavender:

I am pleased to inform you that you have successfully completed all of the necessary requirements for certification as a County Assessor in North Carolina. Our office is honored to issue you the enclosed certificate to that effect signed by the Secretary of Revenue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (919) 814-1129.

Sincerely,

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION
David B. Baker, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David D. Duty".

David D. Duty
Education Manager
Property Valuation Specialist II

cc: Mr. Bryan King
Chairman-Board of County Commissioners, Rutherford County

Sheriff's Department

Sheriff's September 2015 Report	
Calls for Service	4675
Warrants Served/Total Arrest	303/193
Domestic Calls	134
Involuntary Commitments/Hours	24/27.6 Man Hrs.
Civil Papers Served	338
Ex parte Served	20
Evictions	22
Animals Pickup/Surrender	167
Animals Returned to Owners or Rescued	144
Animal Control Calls for Service	240
New Cases Assigned to Detectives/Road Pa-	172/16
Pill Drop Collections	8399.5 Doses Units/2894.44 ml Liquids
Average Daily Inmate Confinement	179
Gun Purchase Permits Issued	165
Carry Concealed Permits Issued	61
Project Lifesaver Clients/Contact Hours	5/8.0 Man Hrs.
Registered Sex Offenders/Contact Hours	188/26.0 Man Hrs.
Litter Control Calls/Cases Assigned/Closed	14/26/0
Promotions	
Effective 09.28.2015	
Cpl. Lynn Davis, Civil	Sgt. Civil
Ptl. Ed Toney, Civil	Cpl. Civil
T/C Susan Lawter	Cpl. 911
New Part-Time	
Effective 9.14.2015	
Loujeana Parker	Secretary
Effective 09.28.2015	
Lindsay Spangler	Telecommunicator
Other Changes	
Effective 09.28.2015	
Ptl. Lynn Hill, Courthouse Security	Civil Division
Sgt. Amy Ferguson, Civil Division	Cpl. Courthouse Security

***Pictures from the
Run Against Addiction Marathon
on October 10th***



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*Congratulations to proud grandparents, Robert and Shelley Owens (Sheriff's Dept.), as they announce the birth of their beautiful granddaughter, **Emily Kate Owens**.*

- *Birthdate: 10/15/15*
- *Weight: 8 lbs 8 oz.*
- *Height: 20 inches*



**WINTER HOURS
ANIMAL SHELTER and COMMUNITY PET CENTER OFFICE
EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2015**

Animal Shelter

Monday - Friday:

- 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- No Over-the-Counter Intake of Cats or Dogs after 3:30 p.m.

Open 1st and 3rd Saturdays:

- 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (November 7, 21 and December 5, 19)
- No Over-the-Counter Intake of Cats or Dogs after 12:00 p.m.

Community Pet Center Office

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:

- 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed Thursdays

Open 1st and 3rd Saturdays:

- 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (November 7, 21 and December 5, 19)

Social Services

Over the past two weeks, the DSS Director and staff have attended numerous regular meetings including the Partnership for Families of the Foothills Board Meeting, Community Health Council, and the Statewide DSS Director's Conference Call, as well as, numerous internal staff meetings and in house trainings. Several child welfare staff members attended training in Charlotte and Asheville, as well as, a Child and Family Team Conference training held at Isothermal.

The Rutherford County Community Child Protection Team/Fatality Prevention Team met at DSS on Tuesday. The Director and Income Maintenance



Manager met with Sandra McGriff of Rutherford Health Center to discuss an out posted Medicaid Caseworker at the clinic. Rutherford County DSS hosted an Operational Support Team (OST) Cluster Meeting at the Annex on Tuesday and Wednesday. OST is a state team of consultants that provide guidance and support for counties on the NC FAST system. Fifty people representing ten counties were in attendance.



On Saturday, several staff members attended the Run Against Addiction 5K in Spindale to share information about Foster Care and Adoption. They were able to

use some of the new recruitment materials recently purchased, including a two sided retraceable banner, magnets, and tent (**pictured right**). Several local high school students, working on a senior project on child welfare assisted



staff (**pictured above left**). If you are interested in learning more about becoming a foster or adoptive parent or know someone who is, please contact Angela Black at DSS at 287-6295.



Sheila Bailey, a CPS Social Worker, was recently named Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2015. Sheila has been with the agency since March 2014.

Congratulations Sheila!

Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist:

- attended the Area 1 Fall meeting in Canton
- worked on Quarterly Reporting and District Agreement amendment paperwork.

The Ag Cost Share Technician:

- attended the Area 1 Fall Meeting in Canton.
- worked on BMP planning.

Solid Waste

Customers served 343

Loads hauled from convenience centers 54

Loads shipped to Lenoir 34

Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2

Tire customers 17

Community service workers 5

Community service reports 1

The director met with County Manager Steve Garrison for the monthly department head meeting, met with Larry Walker from Polk County Solid Waste and met with several vendors that visited the landfill.

Office staff has been busy with reports and executing contracts that have been sent out recently. The transfer station staff continues to process the MSW and recycling tonnages that are being brought in. A truck load of electronics are ready to ship once contract is final. C&D staff continues to process the tonnages coming in while hauling dirt for cover.

The shop staff continues to work on equipment while performing preventative maintenance checks. Also, this is the month for vehicle inspections. We are starting to see the electronics pace slow down. Work continues to be performed at the airport mainly with grass cutting due to the recent rain (**pictured right**).

Please remember to recycle!!!!!!!!!!!!



Transit

Emergency Medical Services:

EMS personnel took part in a “MOCK” drill at East High School on Tuesday, This drill included personnel from Greensboro Fire Departments who have been presenting this drill across the State.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	176	168
Convalescent Calls	43	59

Transit Department:

Transit Director and Operations Manager attended the annual NCDOT conference in Raleigh. Monthly safety meeting was held and covered Emergency Communications and Proper use and deployment of all required safety items that are kept in every vehicle. **Our Employee of the Month for October is Sandy Bumgarner.** All employees were thanked for their hard work making our 25th Anniversary celebration a huge success.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	10,664	9,566
# of Local Trips	1,080	881
# of Out of County Trips	92	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	236	238
Total Revenue	\$17,034	\$14,549

Veterans' Services

Mail In	39
Mail Out	37
Fax	120
Phone Calls In/Out	122
Veteran Contacts	201



Upcoming County Events

Kidsenses Children's Museum

COME OUT AND PLAY
AT THE **FUN**
FACTORY

YUMMY FOOD AUCTIONS
BAND & DJ
BEER & WINE
MAKER FUN

CHECK OUT
THE SURPRISE
ON THE →
OTHER SIDE

Tickets \$50 per
kidsenses.org/gala

GET YOUR POSSE TOGETHER
AND HAVE A GREAT
NIGHT OUT!

The Photo Booth Is Back :)
Attire: Fun, Funky or Glam
Really Good Craft Beers & Wine
Fantastic Food from Area Eateries
Cool "Maker" Spaces - Get Creative!
Great Live Band & DJ Dance Party to Close
Lots of Auction Items: Art, Vacations, Pampering & More

172 N Main St, Rutherfordton NC (828) 286-2120

Saturday, Oct 17 at 7:00pm



GRAND OPENING / RIBBON CUTTING
RUTHERFORD COUNTY EMS
AND
FOOTHILLS BRANCH LIBRARY

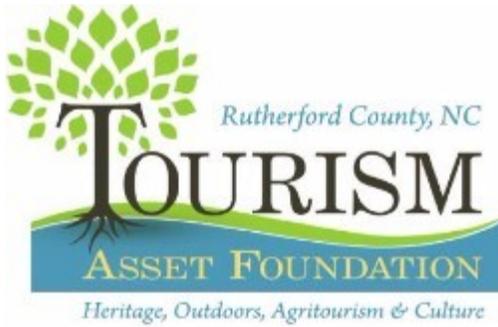


*Please join us as we celebrate the Grand Opening
of the new
Rutherford County Emergency Medical Service Station
and the
Rutherford County Foothills Branch Library*

November 10, 2015
Ribbon Cuttings at 4:30 p.m.
Tours of the Library until 6:30 p.m.

Rutherford County EMS
2649 221A Hwy
Mooresboro, NC 28114

Foothills Branch Library
2669 221A Hwy
Mooresboro, NC 28114



**BECHTLER RIFLE
AND
NEW EXHIBITS
TO BE UNVEILED AT BECHTLER HOUSE
IN
RUTHERFORDTON ON OCT. 29**

The public is invited to a special “Bechtler Gold Day” event to view new exhibits and hear other exciting announcements from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

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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www.rutherfordcountync.gov