



September 14, 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

- Facilitated the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group.
- Judged canned goods at Mountain State Fair.
- Submitted monthly news column.
- Conducted monthly radio program.
- Worked on upcoming projects.



**Cook Smart | Eat Smart**

### Cooking School

Perfect for both the beginner and the seasoned cook – parents, grand parents, women, men, young adults, teens.

Scholarships are available to cover cost of program. Call Tracy Davis @ 287-6020 for information.

*If you are tired of cooking and eating the same old dishes, looking for new recipes, want to improve your cooking skills or just want to eat healthier, Cook Smart is for you.*

- Quick, easy, meals
- Basic equipment
- Simple ingredients
- Healthy foods



#### The Cook Smart Eat Smart Cooking School

Classes: Thursdays, October 8, 15, and 22  
 Cost \$ 25.00 per person for 3 classes  
 Choose times: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm or 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
 Register by October 1, 2015  
 Location: 193 Callahan –Koon Rd, Spindale, NC 28160

Persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency may request accommodations to participate by contacting Tracy Davis, Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences at 828.287.6010 or Tracy\_Davis@ncsu.edu or fax – 828.288.4036, or in person at the County Extension Office at least 10 days prior to the event.



## Airport

The Airport sold 741.0 gallons of Jet A to 5 aircraft and 1,016.7 gallons of 100LL to 36 aircraft last week.

### PHOTOS:

Members of the Hudlow Volunteer Fire Department conducting training on the Airport.

Thank you for the awesome service you provide to our community and the county!



## Board of Elections

Staff reviewed the first set of ballot proofs and generated all ballot styles for the November election. We began working on training materials and printed “Introduction for Chief Judges and Judges” manuals for our meetings with the appointed Judges. The General Assembly is considering holding all primary elections to March next year in a cost saving move.

## **County Manager and Commissioners**

The holiday weekend got off to a great start, but cooler temperatures will begin to move into the area soon. The first day of Fall is almost upon us (September 23), and from there on out, the temperatures will start to drop and the days will begin to get shorter than the nights. However, days at the office continue to remain full of activity. The County Manager, Commissioners and staff made preparation for the upcoming Commissioners' Meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The Manager, EDC Director, Matt Blackwell, and a representative from Senator Tillis' office engaged in a county tour starting with the airport and concluding at ICC. Some of the stops included the town of Spindale and Rails to Trails greenway, Rutherford County Schools Admin Building, Florence Mill project, drive through Cliffside/Avondale/Henrietta/Caroleen communities, Facebook, Equestrian Center, etc. This week's meetings included a planning meeting at IPDC, 911 Communications meeting, and a Rails to Trails meeting at the County Office Annex. Airport agenda review was on Wednesday. The County Manager, Commissioners and staff were involved in meetings, webinars, and projects making for a very busy week. Several public record requests have been processed. A Waste Water Treatment Plant tour was held in Lake Lure, hosted by Town Manager, Chris Braund. The week concluded with several additional departmental meetings, project discussions, appointments, conference calls, public relations, advising, and preparation for various responsibilities.

## **Economic Development**

This week, the Economic Development Department assembled information and met with an industrial prospect to present opportunities associated with locating their manufacturing operations in Rutherford County. The Executive Director met with the county attorney to review legal agreements and met with the EDC Chairman to review recent and upcoming Economic Development activities. The EDC office also worked with the Department of Commerce and existing industry representatives to coordinate facility inspections required to close out two existing Building Reuse grants. Economic Development staff continues working on marketing and advertising efforts, increasing social media presence and working with the website design team in preparation for the upcoming launch of the redesigned website.

## **Finance Department**

The Finance Office continues working to close out the fiscal year and prepare for the arrival of the auditors. The Finance Officer and Assistant Director attended several interdepartmental meetings. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable and payroll. Our prayers and heartfelt sympathy are with RaeAnn Turner, Assistant Finance Director, in the death of her grandmother this week.

## **Fire Marshal/Emergency Management**

Fire Marshal and staff:

- Conducted two origin and cause investigations.
- Continued following up on open investigations.
- Responded to a search for a missing person who was located safely three hours later.
- Assisted Office of State Fire Marshal with rating inspections of Rutherfordton and Spindale Fire Departments.
- Attended a meeting with County fire chiefs.
- Attended various training and meetings.



## Are you prepared?

Floods are one of the most common hazards in the United States. Some develop slowly, while others can occur within just a few minutes. Floods can happen on both a small scale and a large scale. Here are the top three safety tips to help you prepare for a flood:

- 1) Turn Around, Don't Drown! ®
- 2) Avoid walking or driving through flood waters
- 3) Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away

**GET FLOOD TIPS HERE**

[https://beta.ready.gov/floods?utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=flood&utm\\_campaign=2015%20NPM#wcm-survey-target-id](https://beta.ready.gov/floods?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_content=flood&utm_campaign=2015%20NPM#wcm-survey-target-id)

Flooding often impacts single communities or neighborhoods, but it can also stretch across multiple counties and even states. Anywhere it rains it can flood, so it's important to be prepared. Have you made a family emergency plan? Don't wait. Communicate. Call a family meeting and [create your emergency plan now!](#)

## Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Last week the HR Director attended several meetings. The Director also set on a panel interview board for a Quality Assurance position at DSS. This week, the director has conducted several retirement meetings. The HR Specialist conducted the monthly orientation. Reminder of Mammography Day for County employees on September 10, 2015. The Detention Center will be hosting a Job Fair on September 11, 2015. See below for more information.

# **Rutherford County Detention Center JOB FAIR**

**The Rutherford County Sheriff's Office is planning a job fair for persons interested in a Detention Officer Career on September 11, 2015.**

**DETENTION OFFICER** - The minimum requirements for becoming a Detention Officer with the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office are:

- Must be at least 21 years old.
- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Training and Standards require a high school equivalent diploma be at least partial classroom.
- Must possess or be able to possess a North Carolina driver's license.
- Must not have been convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanor.
- Must meet applicable standards and Rutherford County Sheriff's Office requirements as well as qualify for State Law Enforcement Certification in accordance with the NC Sheriffs' Training & Standards Commission.
- Must live in Rutherford County or one of its adjoining counties.

Detention Officer is responsible for custodial work with transportation, security and supervision of prisoners in the Rutherford County Detention Facility. Detention Officer's performing a variety of duties relative to the care; direct supervision, processing duty and transportation of inmates. Work is performed in accordance with state law and Rutherford County Detention Facility policies and procedures. Work is performed under the direct supervision of that employee's squad or area supervisor. The applicant must be willing to work 12-hour shifts which includes holidays and weekends.

Anyone interested in a part or full time Detention Officer Position can contact Lt. Michael Callahan at (828) 287-6245 or F/Sgt. Lydia Waddell at (828) 287-6057 for more information on attending the job fair.

## **FLU SHOT DATE**

October 28, 2015 12:00 to 4:00

To: All Employees

From: Human Resources

### **Ref: Flu Shots**

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](mailto:debra.conner@rutherfordcountync.gov).

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

## Library

### **Library Director:**

The director worked on monthly reports. She also contacted vendors concerning furnishing for the new Southeastern Library and reviewed applications for the open Youth Services position. The director spent time ordering new books and movies and adding other new items to the library catalog. Gearing up for the opening of the library's new "Makerspace" and the book sale at the end of the month.

### **Circulation Manager:**

The Circulation Manager, along with the Library Director, attended PLA Boot Camp in Nashville, Tennessee during the week of August 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>. This Intensive Library Management Training provided attendees with knowledge on how to develop a strategic plan for their libraries. Participants learned about determining their library's service priorities, developing goals and objectives for the library, and identifying activities to best meet those goals.

### **Youth Services Librarian:**

For the past 9 years I have had the honor of working with the patrons and employees of Rutherford County Library. It is now time for me to move on to other ventures, though I will miss my "babies!" Thank you to everyone for your support, assistance, and encouragement. Hope to see you around! Jeannie Smith

### **Marketing/Outreach Coordinator:**

We have starting B-I-N-G-O Tuesdays! Come play Bingo 11:00 - 12:00 every Tuesday at the Rutherford County Library.

### **Haynes Branch:**

We have been busy getting shelves in order for the big move. We have also completed some online training webinars through the State Library's *Train Station* these included Christian fiction book roundup, and the best small Library in America. We are working on some new programming for our patrons, and hope to have it ready to go in the New Year.

### **Mountains Branch:**

Joy Sharp and Angie Turner conducted a Volunteer Training Session after library hours this week to update our volunteers on policy changes and operating practices. Joy worked on updating the Volunteer Manual, as well. Joy Sharp attended a Books & Bites author event /fundraiser at the Lake Lure Inn hosted by the Friends of the Mountains Branch Library. Tryon author, Mary Ann Claud, discussed her novel, *The Dancin' Man*. Joy Sharp worked with Lake Lure Classical Academy to bring their K-2 classes to the library for an author visit and library tour as part of National Library Card Sign-Up Month.

GREAT time to stock your classroom library

Build your home library

# HUGE Book Sale

September 24 & 25, 2015  
9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

September 26, 2015  
10 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

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

DVDs \$1.00  
Hardback \$3.50  
Most Paperback \$2.25

Stock Up and Save

## Public Works and Planning

The garage completed multiple preventative maintenance service calls, repairs, tire service calls and other repairs to the County's motor vehicle fleet. Maintenance has had a productive week in conducting repairs and preventative maintenance to the County's facilities. Meanwhile, we welcome the new project manager, Aubrey Clay formerly of Building Inspections Department. The Director and Project Manager were involved in multiple meetings including a projects update report, preparation for the upcoming board of commissioners meeting, Rail-Trail Committee, Comprehensive Transportation Planning with NCDOT, along with multiple site inspections and overview of what this job entails. In preparation for the Commissioners meeting, we will present this year's Community Grant package in addition to a bid for road work in Queens Gap.

## Revenue Department

**The Revenue Department** is still working 3903 December motor vehicle renewals and handled 30 VTS assists. The office answered 402 phone calls and assisted 209 customers. We completed 4 plat reviews, 2 pre-permits and answered 3 data requests. Appraisers completed 41 building permits and 52 field reviews. A total of 47 new documents were recorded and 27 new accounts were set up. Transfers consisted of 38 straights, 5 estates, 1 merge, 7 splits, and 2 acreage adjustments. GIS created 6 new maps. The GIS website had 160,298 hits and 113,156 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned 3 new addresses and updated 35 addresses with new owner information. Part time maintenance workers completed maintenance on 7 road signs. The PUV program assisted 31 program members. Electronic payments consisted of 26 by credit card, 49 by website and 6 over the phone. Staff processed 3 exclusions/deferments and completed 1 gross receipt, 14 occupancy taxes, 85 overpayments, 10 bankruptcy issues, 110 bankruptcy payments and processed 461 items mailed in. Taxpayers at the counter brought in 373 tax payments. Twenty-three new deeds were certified for recording purposes.

## Senior Center

The Senior Center's Walking Club met on Tuesday and will be walking together at 8:45 a.m. each Tuesday morning. The Senior Center also hosted "Use It or Lose It" on Tuesday. 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. Jane Armstrong, former owner of De-Clutter for Real Life, did a presentation called "Telling Your Family Memories through Pictures". She discussed ways to de-clutter and organize photos. On Thursday, Greg McIntyre, an elder law attorney, discussed "What is Elder Law" to make seniors aware of their legal, financial, and healthcare options. The Senior Center also hosted "Last One Standing" Bingo on Thursday afternoon.



The Senior Center hosted the play, *The Odd Couple*, last Friday evening. Special thanks to the director, Robert Judd, and all of the cast members. They did an outstanding job! **(Pictured above and to right.)**



Upcoming:

"Cruise In" (Car Show) 9:00 -11:30 a.m. on September 11

Zumba at 6:45 p.m. on September 21

## Sheriff's Department

### August 2015

Calls for Service:	5052
Warrants Served/Total Arrest:	292/261
Domestic Calls:	201
Involuntary Commitments/Hours.:	26/27.75 Man Hrs.
Civil Papers Served:	278
Exparte's Served:	39
Evictions:	8
Animals Pickup/Surrender:	286
Animals Returned to Owners or Rescued:	176
Animal Control Calls for Service:	273
New Cases Assigned to Detectives/Road Patrol:	212/19
Pill Drop Collections:	5,247 Doses Units/1,387ml Liquids
Average Daily Inmate Confinement:	186
Gun Purchase Permits Issued:	102
Carry Concealed Permits Issued:	129
Project Lifesaver Clients/Contact Hours:	7/8.0 Man Hrs.
Registered Sex Offenders/Contact Hours:	186/30.0 Man Hrs.
Litter Control Calls/Cases Assigned/Closed	11/15/12

### New Full-Time:

**Effective: 09-08-2015**

**Tyler Dills, Reserves-----Ptl. Road Patrol, A-Crew**

### New Part-Time:

**Effective: 08-31-2015**

**Melissa Carlisle ----- Telecommunicator (TBA)**

**Effective: 09-02-2015**

**Jennifer Valdez ----- Telecommunicator (TBA)**

**Effective: 09-04-2015**

**Steven James ----- Detention (TBA)**

### Other Changes:

**Effective: 08-31-2015**

**Amanda Revels, Full-Time to Part-Time – Telecommunicator (TBA)**

## Condolences

*Please keep the family of Sonny Chapman (Sheriff's Department) in your prayers. The funeral for his mother, Geneva Chapman, was held on September 8th.*



## **Social Services**

Earlier this month, Erni Lewis, local coordinator for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, spoke to staff about this program that provides a book to participating children once per month without regard to income. This program is sponsored by the Partnership for Children of the Foothills through grant funds. Information about the program will be provided by staff as they encounter families and be available in the each of the lobbies. This week Holly McNeil, with the State Division of Social Services, has been at the agency this week providing technical assistance to child welfare staff regarding many of the policy and practice changes that are taking place on the federal and state level. Several staff participated in the monthly statewide Director's conference call; the Director attended the Community Health Council Meeting and participated in a conference call with leadership from the Division of Aging and Adult Service and the other co-chairs of the Adult Services Committee of the Director's Association to make plans for the coming year. All social worker staff enjoyed Social Worker Appreciate Month last Friday with a wonderful breakfast provided by the Program Manager and Social Work Supervisors. In addition to the food, staff enjoyed lots of fun, fellowship, and laughter. DSS welcomes new employees: Josh Howell, Lisa Sparks, Kem Packard, Carol Sullivan, and Courtney Pickett.

## **Soil & Water**

The District Staff:

- is preparing for our Office move scheduled for Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> -Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Admin/Education Specialist:

- worked on District Meeting Minutes
- Farm City Poster Announcement
- continued working on Conservation Field Day planning.

The Ag. Cost Share Technician:

- spent the week working on Ag. Cost Share planning.
- worked with land owners to write conservation plans
- worked on preparation to move to new building
- answered technical service questions from landowners.

## **Solid Waste**

The Solid Waste Department has been extremely busy this week. The following are the stats for the week:

Customers served 380

Loads hauled from convenience centers 57

Loads shipped to Lenoir 32

Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2

Tire customers 24

Community service workers 5

Community service reports 1

The office staff has been busy with customers and reports. The director had a busy week working on reports, meeting vendors and meetings with the HR department. The transfer station staff continues to process the MSW and recycling tonnages that have been coming in. The shop staff continues to service equipment while performing preventative maintenance. The C&D staff continues to process the tonnages coming in while hauling dirt for cover. Work continues to be performed at the airport with weekly grass cutting and bush hogging. We sent several employees to school to renew their landfill certifications. We have sent out two loads of electronics within the last ten days.

Everyone please continue to recycle!!!!!!!!!!!!

## Transportation Services

### Emergency Medical Services:

EMS submit a Facebook grant this week to help fund a new fitness program for employees.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	140	168
Convalescent Calls	43	59

### Transit Department:

Weekly numbers reflect only 4 operating days because of the Labor Day holiday.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	7,666	10,056
# of Local Trips	842	1,149
# of Out of County Trips	44	81
# Unduplicated Passengers	195	241
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$11,787</b>	<b>\$15,385</b>



## Veterans' Services

### Hamburger/Hotdog Cook Out

Save the date!

September 18th, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Veteran's Office

Come join us for a good meal. **See attached ad on page 12.**

<b>Mail In</b>	77
<b>Mail Out</b>	146
<b>Fax</b>	258
<b>Phone Calls In/Out</b>	110
<b>Veteran Contacts</b>	263

# HOT DOG/HAMBURGER SALE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO ASSIST VETERANS IN  
RUTHERFORD COUNTY.

SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>  
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE  
303 FAIRGROUND ROAD  
SPINDALE, N.C.  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

1 HAMBURGER PLATE \$5.00

1 HOTDOG PLATE \$4.00

1 HAMBURGER AND 1 HOTDOG PLATE \$6.00

2 HOTDOG PLATE \$5.00

PLATES INCLUDE, CHILLI, ONIONS, SLAW, CHIPS,  
DRINK, DESSERT

SPONSORED BY AMERICAN LEGION AUX.



Below is the fall plant sale order form. We are selling flats of pansies for \$13 and 8” mums for \$6 each. Please email or bring orders to Jeanette Bosgra, Finance Department, by Thursday, September 17th. Checks can be made to ACS (American Cancer Society) or you can pay at pick up. Call Jeanette at 828.287.6211 if you have any questions.

2015 Relay for Life Fall Plant Sale			
* \$13 per flat of 36 plants * \$6 for 8 inch mums * (Colors May Vary)			
ORDER DEADLINE: 9/17/15			
Delivery date Thursday 9/24 (time to be determined)			
Name	Department		
Phone #	Fax		287-6210
		<b>Pansies</b>	<b>Matrix Coastal Sunrise Mix</b>
Quantity	Color		
	Delta Pure Red		
	Delta Premium Neon Violet		
			Morpheus Matrix
	Matrix Autumn Blaze Mix		
			Panola Deep Orange (panolas are smaller than pansies)
	Matrix Blotch Mix		
			Panola True Blue
	Matrix Citrus Mix		
		<b>MUMS - 8 inch pots \$6 each</b>	
# Flats (\$13 each)	\$	Color	Quantity
# Mums (\$6 each)	\$	Yellow	
Total Due	\$	Orange	
check or cash - prefer prepaid		Red	
Checks Payable to ACS - American Cancer Society		Purple	

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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