



September 21, 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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### Say goodbye to summer and welcome to fall!

The Northern Hemisphere's autumnal equinox—the first day of fall—occurs Wednesday, September 23. With its brilliant colors and crisper days, autumn is a favorite season for many. Happy Fall, y'all!



### Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

#### Family and Consumer Sciences

- Participated in webinar for new nutrition curriculum.
- Assisted Extension & Community Association (ECA) in planning upcoming events.
- Attended ECA District Meeting.
- Prepared for Cook Smart Eat Smart Cooking School to be held next month.

### Airport

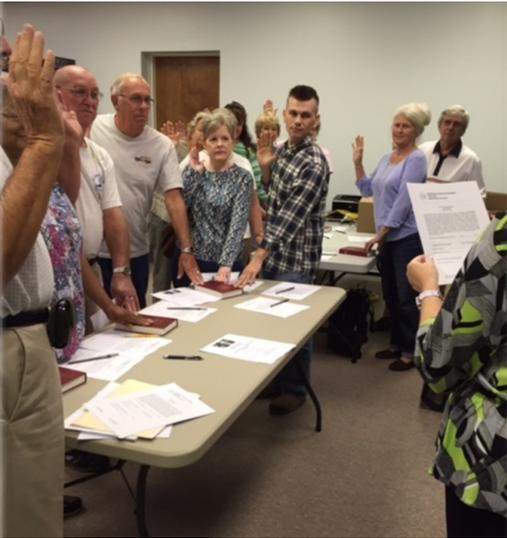
The Airport sold 1,547.6 gallons of 100LL to 34 aircraft and 1,405.0 gallons of Jet A to 6 aircraft last week.

PHOTOS:  
MED TRANS medical helicopter stopped in on a repositioning flight for fuel (**pictured right**).



NCSHP "Air Bear" being fueled by Mickey last week (**pictured left**).

## Board of Elections



Our office had a busy week with five meetings to perform oaths for the new Chief Judges and Judges and to give them a brief overview of their responsibilities (**pictured left**).

Approximately 3000 notices were sent to voters to inform them that they would be temporarily transferred to the traditional voting place for the municipal elections.

## Building Inspections

Building Inspections continues to be consistently busy. In August, the department issued 180 permits totaling \$42,924 in permit fees. Thus far in September, we have issued 85 permits totaling \$15,476 in permit fees. In August and September, our inspectors have conducted 639 and 411 inspections respectively. Our department also welcomes our newest Building Inspector, Caleb Wilson. Caleb came on board on August 31 and has hit the ground running. He is a proving to be a great addition to our department. We continue with inspections at Tryon Equestrian Center, as well as recently conducting final inspections at Sandy Mush Volunteer Fire Department and the ongoing projects at the Southeastern EMS and Library.

## County Manager and Commissioners

Days at the office continue to remain full of activity. County Manager Steve Garrison and Commissioners began their week with meetings – a special meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, and their regular Board of Commissioners' meeting at 6:00 p.m. (**pictured left**).



Commissioner Benfield, serving as chairman, led the monthly Airport Authority meeting on Wednesday afternoon (**pictured right**).



Manager Garrison, Hazel Haynes (Clerk to the Board), and the Economic Development director, Matt Blackwell, attended the formal re-opening for the newly renovated Trelleborg Coated Systems US, Inc. which was held on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Trelleborg is a supplier of polymer-coated fabrics for industrial applications. The company mainly supplies engineered fabrics for use in aircraft evacuation slides and life rafts. Chairman Bryan King, Vice Chairman Alan Toney, Commissioners Greg Lovelace and Eddie Holland were also involved in several meetings at the County Office. Hazel Haynes (Clerk to the Board) and Kim Aldridge (Deputy Clerk) attended the NC Association of County Clerks' 2015 Workshop in Morganton.

Detective Philip Bailey conducted a Reactive Training Session on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the County Office Building to provide training to department heads in regards to recognizing potential risks and how to protect offices in the event of a dangerous situation.

Day-to-day operations included various meetings, project discussions, appointments, conference calls, public relations, advising, and preparation for various responsibilities. The County Manager and Commissioners extend their appreciation for a great county team!

## **Economic Development**

This week the Economic Development staff researched and presented grant funding opportunities for infrastructure upgrades needed to support a proposed existing industry expansion.

The office forwarded additional information to an industrial prospect in follow up to a recent site visit and met with a contractor to provide the prospect with an up-fit estimate to meet their manufacturing needs.

The staff attended the monthly EDC board meeting and hosted an IEDC webinar at our office for interested board members.

The department also responded to an industrial RFI and an airport hangar/ground lease RFI.

Staff also attended the formal re-opening of the newly renovated North American Headquarters of Trelleborg Coated Systems US, Inc. and hosted a tour of two existing industry Building Reuse recipient's facilities with NC Department of Commerce representatives.

## **Finance Department**

The Finance Office has worked closely with the auditors who are now onsite. The Finance Officer and Assistant Director attended Monday's Commissioner Meeting, Wednesday's TDA Board Meeting, and several other interdepartmental meetings this week. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week. Thanks to all who placed Fall Flower orders to benefit Relay For Life. We look forward to their arrival next week.

## **Fire Marshal/Emergency Management**

Fire Marshal and staff:

- Responded to two missing persons reports.
- Conducted follow-ups on active fire investigations.
- Staff spent four days attending incident management training.
- Met with County Manager regarding the relocation of the Firefighters Monument.
- Assisted Spindale Fire Department with a structure fire.

## **Human Resources**

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

The Director attended the County Commissioners meeting on Monday, conducted interviews for the Youth Services Librarian position along with April Young and Stephanie Long, and attended the HR Association meeting.

A big thank you to Philip Bailey of the Sheriff's Department for conducting Reaction Plan training for staff on Friday.

**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 and the circulation manager completed interviews this week for the youth services position at the library. We hope to have an exciting new member joining our staff soon! Don't forget the Grand Opening of the Library Makerspace is this Saturday from 1-3 at the Main library on Callahan Koon Rd (**see ad on page 11**).

### **IT Librarian:**

Finishing touches are being made to the new Makerspace for the grand opening this Saturday at 1 p.m. Yarn has been wound onto the loom, painting easels setup, green screen and lights are in place, and the 3D printer is busy turning out objects to be given away as door prizes. We are also hoping a special robotic guest will arrive in time to join us!

### **Mountains Branch:**

September is National *Library Card Sign Up Month*, and Mountains Branch Library celebrated with a visit from a hot new Children's Book author and illustrator, Kelly Light. Kelly is the illustrator of several chapter book series, and created a delightful new character, Louise, for her latest book, *Louise Loves Art*. Lake Lure Classical Academy grades K-2 visited the library for Kelly's amazing program, and did their own cat illustrations. They also took home Library Card Applications so that they could get their Very Own Library Cards! Kelly also did a hands-on illustration program for older kids and grown-ups at the library later in the day. Kelly Light's visit was made possible by grants from the Lake Lure Community Education Foundation and the Mountains Branch Friends of the Library (**pictured above right**).



## Public Works and Planning

It has been a tremendous week as the temperatures reflected that Fall is quickly approaching. It's been a busy week as we began with preparations for the Commissioners meeting and their approval to kick off the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Community Project Grant opportunity. The grant applications will be accepted through Oct. 23, and final approval to be considered by the Commissioners November 2. Much progress has been made at the Big-



gerstaff Hanging Tree historical site. The kiosk donated from the NPS (National Parks Services), and the Flagpole (coordinated by County Historian, Chivous Bradley) and donated by Woodmen of the World, have both been installed. In fact, the Woodmen and Chivous are coordinating an event to be held onsite; more to come as those plans develop (**pictured left**).

Progress continues toward the County's Comprehensive Transportation Planning process as we met with NCDOT and multiple representatives from the Town this week. Project Manager, Aubrey Clay, is off and running with a great start on compiling data for the Capital Facilities Planning process. Lastly, it is noteworthy that the County regularly receives compliments and has noted significant increase in use of the Rail-Trail. Meanwhile, please note that there will be an unveiling of the panels for the sign frames promoting Spindale, TDA, and the Rail Trail set for Monday, Sept. 21, 6 p.m. (**see ad on page 10**). Lastly and most importantly, our garage and maintenance personnel continue to serve our departments by keeping the facilities and vehicle fleet in great running shape. Many thanks to these guys!

## Revenue Department

**The Revenue Department** is still working 3903 December motor vehicle renewals and handled 31 VTS assists. The office answered 449 phone calls and assisted 246 customers. We completed 1 plat review, 2 pre-permits and answered 1 data request. Appraisers completed 59 building permits and 63 field reviews. A total of 52 new documents were recorded and 56 new accounts were set up. Transfers consisted of 74 straights, 10 estates, 2 merges, 3 splits, and 1 acreage adjustment. GIS created 4 new maps. The GIS website had 150,939 hits and 107,248 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned 9 new addresses and updated 56 addresses with new owner information. Part time maintenance workers completed maintenance on 3 road signs. 10 listing form letters were mailed out, 2 exclusions/deferments were processed and 3 discoveries were completed. Electronic payments consisted of 1 by credit card, 49 by website and 18 over the phone. Collection action consisted of 16 newspaper items. Staff completed 24 occupancy taxes, 12 bankruptcy issues, 2 bankruptcy payments and processed 359 items mailed in,. In person taxpayers at the counter brought in 452 tax payments. Thirty-six 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. The seniors also enjoyed "Grandparents Day" Bingo on Monday afternoon. The Senior Center's Walking Club met on Tuesday and will be walking together at 8:45 a.m. each Tuesday morning. Our Pen Pals also met on Tuesday and were assigned their student at Spindale Elementary for the new school year and wrote their first letter to them. A group of seniors traveled to Gaffney on Wednesday for a fun morning of shopping at Hamrick's and the Prime Outlet Mall. The Director and Activity Coordinator attended the Prime of Life Festival at the Foundation at ICC on Thursday to provide information about our programs. Lastly, on Friday we had a program on Diabetes Education. Anita Phillips, Patient Educator at Rutherford Regional and Tom Martin, Pharmacist, discussed diabetic medications.

Upcoming:

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



The Senior Center sponsored the "Cruise In" Car Show last week, and the pictures listed are some of the participants, including Tommy and Louise Allison (left), Alvin Greene (right), and others.



## Sheriff's Department



*Please keep the family of Alan Young (Sheriff's Department) in your prayers.*

*The family will be receiving friends at Washburn Dorsey Funeral Home on Friday, 9/18/15, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The funeral for his wife, Lynn Young, will be held on September 19th at 2:00 p.m. at the Sunshine United Methodist Church.*

*"To live in hearts  
we leave behind  
is not to die."*

*Thomas Campbell*

## Social Services



Ann Moore, Department of Social Services, **(pictured 3rd from left)** and friends preparing for the Ironman Triathlon this weekend in Niagara Falls. They have been training and pushing themselves to prepare for these races, and hope they will inspire others to do the same.

An Ironman Triathlon is one of a series of long-distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation, and is widely considered one of the most difficult one-day sporting events in the world.

## Soil & Water

District Staff:

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

Admin/Education Specialist:

- continued working on Conservation Field Day planning,
- attended a Farm City planning meeting and Reaction Plan Training.

Ag. Cost Share Technician:

- spent the week writing contracts.
- Had field visits with NRCS
- BMP installs

## Solid Waste

Landfill customers 345  
Loads hauled from centers 65  
Loads shipped to Lenoir 38  
Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2  
Tire customers 50  
Community Service workers 4  
Community Service reports 1

The director attended the Commissioner's Meeting dealing with the recycling of electronics. Staff has spent a lot of time researching vendors and other county's policies for this presentation. Staff has started negotiations for an electronics' contract. Also the director met with HR on an employee issue. The rest of the office staff has been busy performing their everyday job duties while continuing to write reports and monitoring grants. The transfer station staff has been busy handling all the MSW and recycling tonnages that are coming in. C&D staff have been busy with the tonnages coming in while continuing to haul dirt for cover. The shop employees have been busy performing preventative maintenance and fixing items as they break. We have also sent the newer Kenworth roll off truck to the dealership to have some factory recalls performed. We are pleased to announce that the new recycling compactors are installed at the Gilkey and Green Hill Convenience Centers and they are in full operation. Staff also continues to review the solid waste ordinances. We had several vendors stop by the landfill this week.

Please continue to recycle!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## Transportation Services

### **Emergency Medical Services:**

Staff have worked to update multiple Standard Operating Procedures to improve consistency. Three Field Training Officers attended a Difficult Airways course.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	150	168
Convalescent Calls	48	59

### **Transit Department:**

Staff are preparing for Transit's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Invitations were mailed out this week. Director presented Transit's 5-year plan to County Commissioners this week and received support on a resolution to implement the plan.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	10,603	10,056
# of Local Trips	1,118	1,149
# of Out of County Trips	75	81
# Unduplicated Passengers	228	241
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$16,852</b>	<b>\$15,385</b>

## Veterans' Services

Mail In	87
Mail Out	72
Fax	258
Phone Calls In/Out	107
Veteran Contacts	295

## County Events

**Kidsenses Children's Museum**

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

YUMMY FOOD AUCTIONS  
BEER & WINE  
BAND & DJ

CHECK OUT THE SURPRISE ON THE OTHER SIDE

Tickets \$50 per Call, or Click:

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**

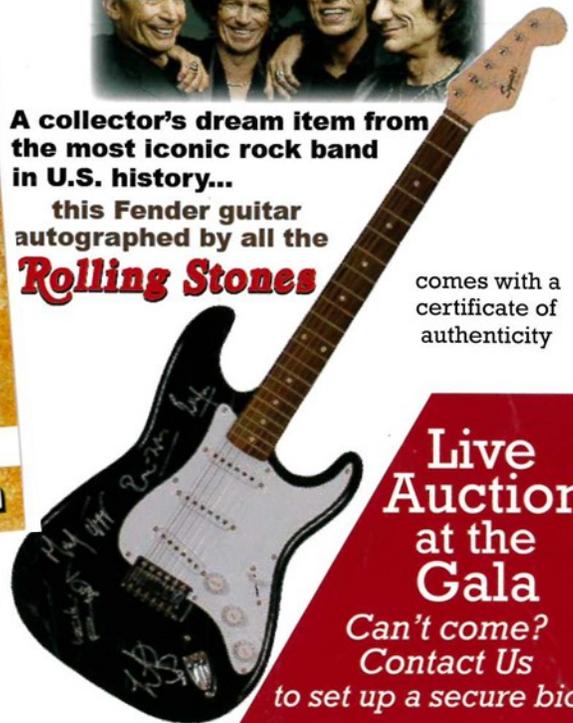
## You Could Win!



**A collector's dream item from the most iconic rock band in U.S. history...**

**this Fender guitar autographed by all the Rolling Stones**

comes with a certificate of authenticity



**Live Auction at the Gala**

Can't come?  
Contact Us  
to set up a secure bid



'Lots going on!'.....County Events continued

**FREE**  
**SATURDAY**  
**10 • 03 • 15**  
 DOWNTOWN RUTHERFORDTON  
**5k and fun race**  
 ARTS & CRAFTS • FOOD • CORNHOLE  
**LIVE MUSIC**  
 RACE STARTS AT 8:00 • FESTIVAL RUNS 9-5

**Hilltop FALL FESTIVAL**

**TOUR-DE PUMPKIN**  
 EDGE RACE



### Broad River Fall Clean-up

Saturday September 19, 2015  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

ROC is putting together another Broad River clean-up and we need your help!

People with canoes as well as kayaks are asked to join us on this beautiful float down the Broad River. Along the way we will be collecting any trash that we see. ROC will provide gloves, trash bags, and a few trash grabbers. There may be a few extra kayaks or canoes for people that want to help but do not have a boat of their own. We are planning to clean the following sections:

In Rutherford County:

- Section 2 (Rock Springs Church Road to Clark Road)
- Section 3 (Clark Road to River Road)
- Section 4 (River Road to Grays Road)
- Section 5 (Grays Road to Coxe Road).

In Cleveland County:

- Lake Hauser to the Broad River Greenway

\*\* Each group of volunteers will float 1 section of the river. We will need the most help on Sections 4 and 5.

If you are interested in participating, contact Dana Bradley at [trails@rutherfordoutdoor.org](mailto:trails@rutherfordoutdoor.org) or (828) 625-9983 ext. 505.

**Attention: Rutherford County Employees**  
**October is Corporate Month**  
 @  
**Lifestyle Wellness & Spa**

We are celebrating you! During the month of October, we want you to come experience what we have to offer.

Follow these simple steps to activate your membership:

1. Show proof of Rutherford County Employment.
2. Pay \$10.00 to activate your Membership Card.
3. Experience our large fitness area, group exercise classes, and swimming pool.

This is our way of giving back to you, our County workers.

No contract. No Hassle.

Come by today and start your journey to being healthier and happier.



\*This offer is for New Members Only!

### RUTHERFORD COUNTY TDA TO UNVEIL NEW VISITOR INFORMATION NETWORK SIGNAGE IN SPINDALE ON SEPT. 21; PUBLIC INVITED

Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) is unveiling the first Visitor Information Network (VIN) sign in Spindale N.C. on Monday, Sept. 21, 2015 at 6 p.m. The series of signs will help visitors identify their current location and navigate their way through Rutherford County while providing interesting destination information.

Positioned along the Spindale section of the Thermal Belt Rail Trail, the inaugural sign features Spindale-specific visitor information on one side and general Rutherford County information on the opposite side with maps to accompany each.

A second Thermal Belt Rail Trail sign - produced for Rutherford Outdoor Coalition (ROC) and Rutherford County, and supplied with the structure, printing and design work from Rutherford County TDA - will be installed in the same Spindale location. This sign is identical to the one presented by the ROC and Rutherford County in August.

The iron frame for all of these signs is the art of Ornametals, and all feature the TDA logo's symbolic "swoosh."

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Tyler Moore constructed the wooden column surround, which is designed to emulate the exterior of the Spindale House, as well as the brick base that represents the old Stonecutter Mill.



The new Spindale Visitor Information Network (VIN) sign will be unveiled in this frame on Sept. 21. Photo by Connie Dalziel.

*Save the Date*

**25<sup>th</sup>** TRANSIT'S  
 ANNIVERSARY  
 LUNCHEON

Tuesday, September 29th 12:30 - 2:00 pm  
 294 Fairgrounds Road - Spindale

Join us to Celebrate the grand opening of phase I & groundbreaking of phase II the #PurpleMartin Greenway



Monday Sept 21st at 5:30pm  
Meet at the Trail head of Phase I

Located in Park Crossing Subdivision on Hwy 221 S Across from Cowan Tire



**Rutherfordton**  
A MINTED ORIGINAL



A special thank you to  
**RHI Legacy Foundation**  
for their gift

GREAT time to stock your classroom library Build your home library



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



Stock Up and Save!

**Rutherford County Library** is hosting the Grand Opening of our DBU Makerspace - Dream It - Build It - Use It on Saturday, September 19, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Come see what a Makerspace is all about. We have a 3D printer, looms, electronics & robotics, media conversion kits, building and art sets, and much more. All of this equipment is available for public use. Attend the Grand Opening and see what you can Dream, Build, and Use!



**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.



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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