



Fun Facts About Rutherford County, NC Did You Know ...

The Lake Lure Flowering Bridge features over 700 species of plants and flowers, and is only the second flowering bridge in the nation.

Downtown Rutherfordton is home to the only remaining cluster of antebellum houses and public structures in the southern foothills of North Carolina.

Downtown Forest City has more than a half-million Christmas lights - more than any downtown in NC.

Bennett Classics Antique Auto Museum of Forest City was named "Best Museum in the Nation" in 2013 by the Antique Auto Club of America. Their collection features the original Barney Fife car from the "The Andy Griffith Show."

Laura's House Bakery & Restaurant in Chimney Rock supplies baked goods to over 3,000 vendors across the Southeast.

On its 5th generation, Washburn's General Store in Bostic is the oldest, continually-run, family owned and operated business in North Carolina.

In 1832, Christopher Bechtler of Rutherfordton minted America's first one-dollar gold coin (17 years before the U.S. Mint).

The Forest City Owls Collegiate Summer Baseball League ranked top ten in the nation in 2010, 2011, and 2012, and ranked 11th in 2013.

The scene where Baby asks her father for money in the movie "Dirty Dancing" was filmed at Rumbling Bald Resort's Bald Mountain Golf Course.



In 2013, Chimney Rock State Park won awards for “Favorite State Park” and “Best Hiking Trails” by *Blue Ridge Country Magazine* readers. From the top of the Rock, you are treated to a stunning 75-mile panoramic view.

Lake Lure's inaugural Dirty Dancing Festival in 2010 attracted fans and journalists from 24 states and two foreign countries.

Blue Ridge Distilling Co. in Golden Valley (Bostic) was built by native Tim Ferris - owner and operator of an international, marine salvage company - and his team of divers. Defiant Whisky, their debut spirit, is named after the salvage company.

Rutherfordton's Four Paws Kingdom Campground is the only campground in the nation of its kind dedicated to dogs.

The Lake Lure Olympiad sports festival celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2014.

In 2013, owner and operator Michael Yelton of The Granddaddy Fly Fishing Experience ranked 33rd in the nation at the USA National Fly Fishing Tournament.

Washburn's General Store in Bostic, Pine Gables in Lake Lure, and The Esmeralda Inn in Chimney Rock were all stops on the historic Stagecoach Trail.

McNair Field, where the Forest City Owls play, was named after NFL Houston Texans Owner Robert McNair who is a native of Forest City, and whose contribution made construction of the field possible.

St. Francis Episcopal Church in Rutherfordton features two Tiffany stained-glass windows.

The cast and crew of "Dirty Dancing," F. Scott Fitzgerald, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt were all guests of The 1927 Lake Lure Inn & Spa.

