



April 20, 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.

Department Directory

[Agriculture/Cooperative Extension](#)

[Airport](#)

[Board of Elections](#)

[Building Inspections](#)

[Clerk to the Board](#)

[County Manager](#)

[Economic Development](#)

[Fire Marshal/Emergency Management](#)

[Finance](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Information Technology](#)

[Library](#)

[Public Works and Planning](#)

[Register of Deeds](#)

[Revenue](#)

[Senior Center](#)

[Social Services](#)

[Soil and Water](#)

[Solid Waste](#)

[Transportation Services \(EMS/Transit\)](#)

[Tourism Development Authority](#)

[Veteran Services](#)

Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

- Taught *Eat Smart Move More Take Control* class
- Attended Partnership For Children board meeting
- Facilitated Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group
- Taught *Better Food Better Health* Latino class
- Conducted site visit for grant-funded health programs
- Assisted Extension & Community Association in hosting district event

Farmers Market:

The Farmers Market of Rutherford County has applied for a grant to build four raised beds for a children's garden area at the Market. We need your help in getting this grant by voting for our project! You can vote once a day through April 27th and the site can be accessed through our



Facebook page which is Farmers Market of Rutherford County. First, "like" our page and then just "click" on the Seeds of Change logo and vote - one vote per day! Please share our page with your friends on Facebook, as the more votes we receive, the better chance we have of being in the top fifty projects that may be chosen for one of 34 grants that will be awarded!

If you have any questions, please email me at brenda.watson@rutherfordcountync.gov



Airport

The Rutherford County Airport sold 443.9 gallons of 100LL and 1153.0 gallons of Jet A fuel last week. The Airport Operations Manager attended a training class sponsored by the USDA and NCDOT Division of Aviation on Managing Wildlife Hazards at Airports, as well as other local meetings last week.



(This photo was taken last week during a Foggy Sunrise at the Rutherford County Airport.)

Board of Elections

The Board of Elections met on Tuesday and observed a demonstration of a version of voting equipment that will be before the State Board next month for certification. Director and staff toured the Cliffside Fire Department at the Board's request to determine if it could be used as a polling place, and the Board approved moving the Caroleen-Cliffside precinct to the Fire Department.

Clerk to the Board



Cherie Berry, Commissioner of Labor, presented Safety Award for Lakeside Mill. Caroline King received award on behalf of dad, Commissioner Bryan A. King.

Chairman of the Airport Authority, Mike Benfield, held a meeting on Monday with the Airport Authority Attorney, the County Manager, and staff.

On Thursday, County Commissioners attended the Volunteer Rutherford Award Luncheon. This is an annual event hosted by County Commissioners to recognize the volunteers in Rutherford County who are so important to County government.

Commissioner Bryan A. King attended the NC Department of Labor Banquet on behalf of Rutherford County, and several of the county departments received Safety Awards. Also, congratulations to Commissioner King for receiving a Safety Award for his company.

Several meetings were also held by County Commissioners with constituents.

County Manager

The County Manager began the week involved in numerous meetings, luncheons, and various other events. He enjoyed tours through several county offices. Preparations on budget for the coming fiscal year continue. The week progressed with additional duties, consisting of numerous calls, interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, preparation for various responsibilities and meetings with Department Heads.

Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department met with existing industry and EDPNC to discuss a possible expansion; while the EDPNC representative was in town, she was taken on a product tour of available sites and buildings in the area. Economic Development staff continues to be busy following up on multiple industrial recruitment activities, preparing grant applications, reaching out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines, contacting existing industry to arrange BR&E visits, and updating the contacts database. This week's schedule also involved participation in the monthly EDC Board Meeting and attending various meetings, including the NCEDA Seminar in Durham regarding BR&E, and the Chamber of Commerce Board of Director's Meeting.

Finance

The Director continues to work on compiling the departmental budget requests. The Finance Office processed payroll and accounts payable.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

- Conducted one origin and cause fire investigation
- Responded to a search for a missing person from a local retirement home that returned on their own
- Employees attended Sheriff's Office in-service class
- Conducted investigative interviews
- Attended the Western North Carolina Firefighters Association meeting
- Began reviewing fire service district budgets

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Employees who have left the service of Rutherford County are Billy Scoggins (Retirement). We want to thank Billy for his years of dedicated service to Rutherford County. The Director held several meetings with various department heads, attended a farewell lunch for Carl Classen, attended the funeral of Jean Baynard, and met with staff of Solid Waste. The HR Specialist conducted the monthly orientation for new hires.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Revenue Department and the Planning Department for receiving their 2nd Certificate of Safety and to the Human Resources Department for receiving their 11th Certificate of Safety (**pictured to the right**).

Current vacancies are:

- Part-time Transit
- EMS.

Apply at Rutherfordcountync.gov or 289 North Main Street.

Please be watching for email blasts for Relay for Life (for further info, see pages 9 - 11).

The **Annual County Employee Blood Drive** is scheduled for May 6 from 11:00 am-3:30 pm. Please contact the Human Resources Department to sign up: 828-287-6145. We need 15 more people to meet our goal. Will you be one of them?



Commissioner Bryan A. King receives Safety Awards at the NC Dept of Labor Banquet on behalf of Rutherford County's Personnel Department, Maintenance Department, and Revenue Department. Congratulations to these Departments for their safety efforts and reportable success of consecutive years of safety.



EVERY PINT OF BLOOD CAN SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES! REMEMBER, THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN OR THAT OF A LOVED ONE.

Library

Library Director:

April focused on gathering information for the quarterly Library Trustee Board meeting and cleaning up the patron database. Library staff attending an early morning staff meeting to cover new procedures and to highlight special library events. Staff continues to discuss new ways to engage the community. Our computer classes have become a huge success. We look forward to offering new programming for all ages in the coming months.

Circulation Manager:

The Rutherford County Library will host a Foster Parenting Informational Session on Wednesday, April 29th, from 10:30-11:30. Angela Black from DSS will provide information about the need for foster and adoptive homes in Rutherford County. This meeting is for anyone in the community who would like to learn about the process for becoming licensed as a foster parent in North Carolina.

IT Librarian:

Computer Training will be offered on the following schedule:



Email Basics—April 21st, 3pm & April 23rd, 10am

Job Searching Online—April 28th, 3pm & April 30th, 10am

There are 6 seats for each class. All computer training is currently only offered at the Rutherford County Library at 255 Callahan-Koon Rd. in Spindale (next to the Health Department). For more information, contact the library at 287-6115.

Youth Services Librarian:

We're closing out our Story Time series on "wild animals" by learning about those that live in the oceans. Next week's theme is Gardens and Seeds. Outreach has been at Forest City/Dunbar Elementary School and The Carver Center. Besides a staff meeting and a webinar, the Youth Services Librarian also lined up several in-house tours, worked on Summer Reading Program preparations, completed contracts for the performers, and disseminated SRP supplies to all the county's libraries.

Haynes Branch: Staff spent time sorting through donations and participating in library webinars.

Public Works and Planning

The County Garage completed numerous automotive repairs, tire service calls, preventative maintenance repairs, along with a number of N.C. vehicle safety inspections. The garage supervisor and mechanics work very hard to keep such a large fleet in great condition. Our Maintenance crews have been very busy completing numerous TrackIt work orders, preventative maintenance and groundskeeping as 'Spring growth' has really taken off. Thanks to all the maintenance staff for their hard work. Planning and Projects has been involved in multiple meetings, site inspections and paperwork regarding the following:

- Capital Facilities Planning and Performance Contracting jointly with RCS and ICC
- Rail Trail improvements
- Planning Board
- Comprehensive Transportation Planning meeting with NCDOT, Greyrock and Queens Gap oversight
- Meeting with the State's energy office in reviewing the draft RFP

Meanwhile, we continue working with the architect and general contractors for the Southeastern EMS and Library on contracts and details.

Register of Deeds

Transaction Group	Cash
Copies	\$ 23.00
Real Estate	12,094.00
Marriages	900.00
Vital statistics	3,490.00
Total	\$16,507.00

Revenue Department

The Revenue Department is still working July motor vehicles renewals and handled 63 VTS assists. The office answered 953 phone calls and assisted 421 customers. We completed six plat reviews, 4 pre-permits and answered 58 Data Requests. Appraisers completed 364 field reviews. A total of 39 new documents were recorded. Transfers consisted of 71 straits and 1 split. GIS created seven new maps and three new data layers. The GIS website had 175,809 hits and 122,899 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned 7 new addresses and updated 98 addresses with new owner information. Part-time maintenance workers completed maintenance on nine road signs. One appeal was received and 13 letters were mailed out. The PUV program assisted nine program members. Staff processed seven exclusions/deferments. We had three refunds, two releases and five discoveries. Electronic payments consisted of 36 by credit card, 85 by website and 14 over the phone. Collection action consisted of 11 debt setoff and 19 notice letters. Staff completed 21 gross receipts\occupancy tax and 10 bankruptcy issues. In person, taxpayers at the counter brought in 486 tax payments. Twenty-eight 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. Forty-five clients took advantage of this service. On Thursday, our Pen Pals group met to write to their Spindale Elementary Pen Pal. The Square Dance class continues to meet on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. The Senior Center Advisory Board met on Thursday for the quarterly meeting. We have had several sporting events this week for the Senior Games **(pictured below)**. The Senior Games will continue through Friday. The Closing Gala/Athletic Awards will be on Friday, May 1st, to celebrate and recognize the seniors who participated for their dedication and commitment to a healthy active lifestyle.

Upcoming:

Zumba class at 5:30 p.m. on April 20 and 27th



A special thanks to *Autumn Bowling Lanes* for the use of their facility at a minimal cost.



"Dirty Hands" after pitching horseshoes!



Overzealous players threw the corn hole bag and it lodged in the ceiling!

Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist completed and submitted the quarterly Technical Assistance Reimbursement report, worked on an Earth Day presentation for Chimney Rock Stewardship Day, and worked on grant supplies and report. The Ag Cost Share Technician worked with landowner and engineer for an AgWrap contract, attended a cooperative grazing workshop with NRCS and Cooperative Extension, and certified a Request for Payment.

Solid Waste

The solid waste department has had a very busy week. The solid waste department numbers are below:

Customers served 332
Loads hauled from convenience centers 62
Loads shipped to Lenoir 37
Recycling loads 3
Tire customers 34

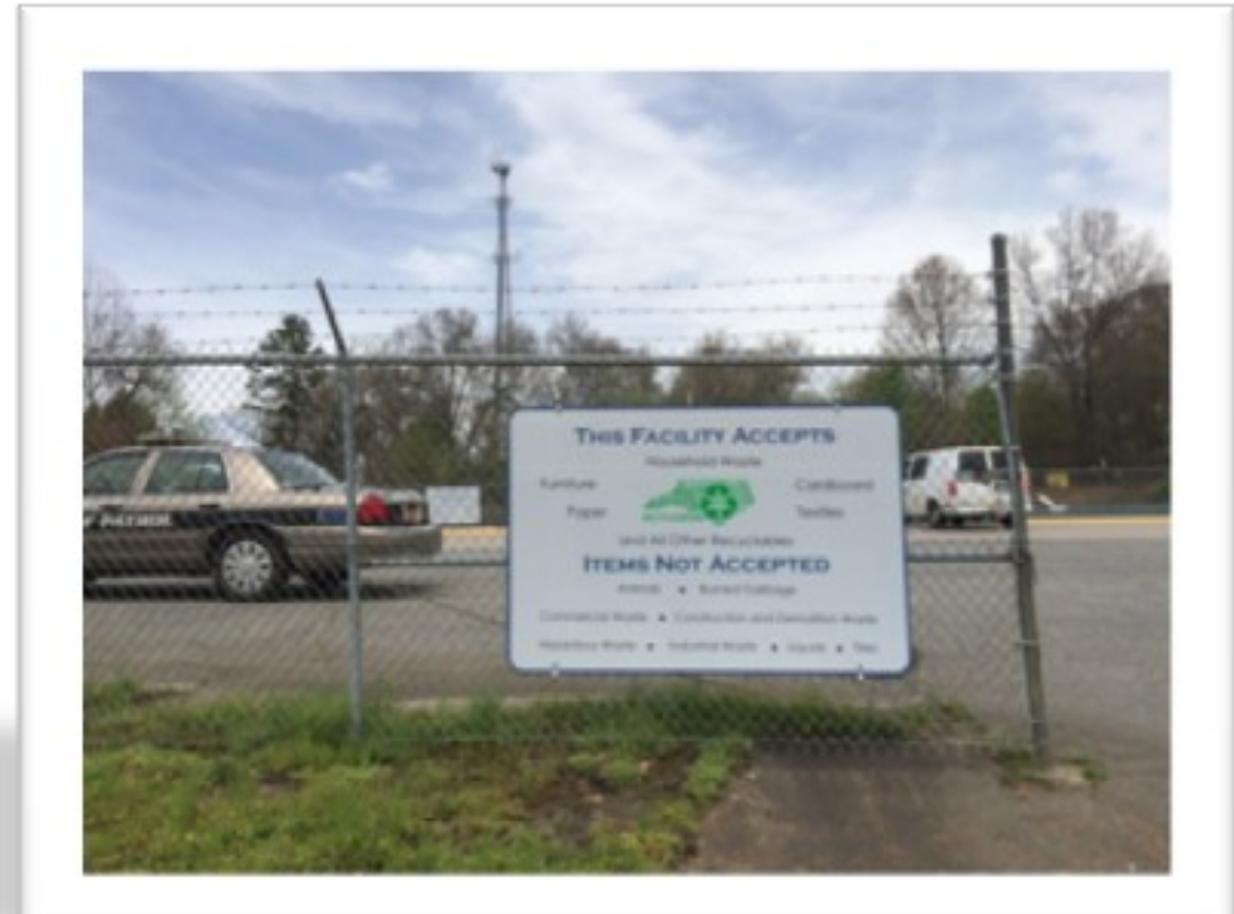
Please continue to recycle!

The director began the week by attending a SWANA event held in Asheville. He also attended a budget review meeting with Finance, met with Human Resources on an employee issue and held several internal meeting with staff from the landfill. Also Craig Sappenfield, Risk Control Specialist from North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Risk Management Pools, came by the landfill to observe our operations and offered ways to increase the safety of our operations. The office staff finished the presentations that will be presented next week to the state of Tennessee in Pigeon Forge. Also, staff has started the grant reimbursement process for the 2014-2015 CWRAR grant which allows us to install recycling compactors at Avondale and Colfax Convenience Centers. This grant allowed us to install new signage at all centers **(pictured below and on page 7)**. All the signs are installed, so please check them out when you have a chance. Please remember the Baynard family in your thoughts and prayers in the passing of their mother.

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report is as follows:

Open Cases 9
Closed cases 4
Cases resolved with clean up 3
Citations written 0
Cameras installed on sites 1
Community service workers 4
Community service reports 1





Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

EMS would like to recognize the 911 Communications Center for National Telecommunicator Appreciation Week. They do an excellent job and are a vital part of our public safety team.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	179	168
Convalescent Calls	55	47

Transit Department:

Transit submitted multiple quarterly report to NCDOT this week. Staff is also finalizing the 5-year Community Transportation Plan.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	10,169	9,566
# of Local Trips	1,164	881
# of Out of County Trips	59	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	243	238
Total Revenue	\$13,681	\$14,549

Veterans Services

Mail In	54
Fax	109
Mail Out	42
Phone Calls In/Out	77
Veteran Contacts	194

County Commissioners

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

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

Follow us online!

www.rutherfordcountync.gov



Upcoming Events.....

If you would like to assist with any of these events, please print the Sign-up Sheet on page 11, sign and return to Jeanette Bosgra, Finance Department or call 828-287-6211.

SHOOTING FOR A CURE

Handgun Competition
Shotgun Trap Games



Date: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Place: Old Hickory Rifle and Pistol Club
Gun Club Road, Bostic, NC 28018

Cost: \$5 per shoot

Beginners welcome. Bring your own shotgun, pistol and ammo. Shotgun and pistol ammo will be available for purchase. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be for sale.

Sponsored by: Rutherford Co. Sheriff's Office, Butler's Jewelry and Loan, Old Hickory Rifle & Pistol Club

All proceeds are to benefit **RELAY FOR LIFE**. Come and support a worthy cause!

SPRING PLANT SALE

Transform your landscape and gardens with vibrant colors and fresh foliage!

Date: Order deadline - Thursday, **April 23, 2015**

Place: County Annex

Pick up Date: Friday, **May 1, 2015**

Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Go to Website for Plant Order Form: [http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form\(1\).pdf](http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form(1).pdf)

MAYFEST CUPCAKE BOOTH

Celebrating with a family friendly street festival!

Date: Saturday, **May 2, 2015**

Time: Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Place: Downtown Rutherfordton



WHOOOO loves Baseball? We DO!
We think the best way to enjoy the first game of the season is to come out and enjoy it with a giving heart!



Purchase your tickets for \$8 and know that part of that will help in the fight to end cancer.

Opening game is May 26, 2015

Raffle tickets available to purchase at the game to participate in 50/50 raffle money giveaway!

For more Information or to purchase tickets contact:

Alma at 828-287-6125 or 828-980-1472

Or Brandy Morris at 828-287-6203

DRESS DOWN FRIDAYS

Give \$30 and reward yourself with dressing down on Fridays!

April to June 2015

Call Brooke Watson for further details at 828-287-6061.

RELAY FOR LIFE COMMUNITY EVENT

Date: Friday, **June 5, 2015**

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Place: Forest City Parks and Recreation

RELAY FOR LIFE Tee shirts available.

Tee shirts are white with purple design.

All Orders must be in to Finance by April 24, 2015

Call Jeanette Bosgra to place order at 828-287-6211.

Pay now (cash or check to ACS) or pay on delivery

Sizes: Youth S- L \$10.00 Adult S- XL \$10.00 / 2X - 6X \$12.00

Don't miss out!

Participate in a Relay for Life event.

Sign-up Sheet on page 11.

Relay Volunteer Sign Up Sheet



Mayfest, Saturday, May 2nd

1

2

3

4

Relay for Life Community Event

1

2

3

4