

Rutherford Monthly



NOVEMBER 2023

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Monthly Newsletter

showcasing activities and accomplishments of the departments within Rutherford County Government.

Airport

The November Airport Authority Board meeting was held on November 6, 2023.

Highlights from the Airport Authority November Agenda

- Financial Report
- Budget Amendment to Purchase New Fuel Truck
- Surplus Request Form for 1987 Chevrolet 2200 Jet-A Truck
- Letter of Agreement for Airport Safety/Maintenance Projects
- 1200.aero Service Agreement for RC Airport Flight Tracking Services
- NCDOA Funding Agreement for Airport Flight Tracking
- 2024 Meeting Dates for Rutherford Airport Authority

Pictured below: Airport Director Devon Raisch presenting information to the Board.





Rutherford County Municipal Elections Moved to Even-Numbered Years

Senate Bill 265 will do the following:

- **Change time of elections for the municipalities of Bostic, Chimney Rock, Ellenboro, Forest City, Lake Lure, Ruth, Rutherfordton, and Spindale to even years, beginning in 2024.**
- **Extend the Term of Office for the Mayor and Commissioners for the Town of Ruth from two years to four years, beginning in 2024.**

For further information:

**Rutherford County Board of Elections
298 Fairground Road
Spindale, NC 28160
Phone: 828.287.6030**

Building Inspections

October Building Inspections Totals	
Permits Issued	240
Permit Fees Paid	\$116,608.80
New Homes	22
Value of New Homes	\$12,976,800.00
Inspections Completed	1,234

Monthly Highlights

- Connor passed his Plumbing State Level 1 Standard (**pictured right**). Great accomplishment, Conner!
- Permits were issued for the Animal Shelter and the County School Bus Garage
- IN A TIGHT SPOT! Inspector Joey Turrubiarte (**pictured below**) coming out of a crawl space upon completing a rough plumbing inspection for a house being remodeled.



County Manager/Commissioners

The County Manager, Commissioners and staff were involved in several resourceful telephone conference and in-person meetings involving the following individuals, departments, boards, and businesses:

- Community Health Council
- NCACC Call for County Managers
- Challenges and Current Strategies Related to Homelessness
- November Board of Commissioners' Meeting
- November Airport Authority Meeting
- Rutherford Bound
- NCACC Opioid Meeting
- NC Representative Jake Johnson
- Board of Education
- Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Tourism Development Authority
- EMS & Public Safety
- Finance
- Public Works and Planning Department
- Veterans Day Event
- NCACC District meeting
- Mayors/Managers Quarterly Meeting
- Rutherford Housing Partners
- Foothills Regional Commission
- RRDC Meeting
- Economic Development Board
- Tourism Development Authority
- Agriculture/Coop Extension
- Pangaea Board
- Partners Board
- Municipalities Joint Sewer Study Progress Meeting
- Dogwood Health Trust
- DSS Board
- Keep Rutherford County Beautiful
- Health & Human Services and Community Support Services
- Library Trustees
- Rutherford County Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Committee
- Senior Center Advisory Board
- Broad River Water Authority
- Board of Commissioners Agenda Review for December meeting

The November Board of Commissioners' meeting was held on November 6, 2023. The meeting was also livestreamed and can be seen by visiting the Rutherford County webpage at www.rutherfordcountync.gov.



**The next Board of Commissioners' meeting will be held
Monday, December 4, 2023 at 6:00 pm.**

**Highlights from the
RC Board of Commissioners' November Agenda**

- **Appointments to RC Boards and Commissions** presented by Clerk of Court Hazel Haynes.
- **RC GIS Winner of NC Property Mappers Association Best Cartographic Map** - GIS Director Katie Doherty (pictured below, and also on following pages under **Planning and Projects**) and Administrative Assistant Janet Lovelace participated in the NC Property Mappers Association Fall Conference. They were recognized at the conference as winners of the Best Fire Map, receiving the award for the Best Cartographic Map. Katie is also the 2023 President of the NC Property Mapper's Association.



- **Budget Amendments** presented for the Board's consideration by Finance Director Paula Roach (pictured right).
- **Operation Green Light** - This initiative was presented by Veteran Services Director Susan Hall (pictured below left), and shows support for veterans by lighting county buildings and infrastructure green from November 6th to 11th.



- **Foothills NC Home Consortium Memorandum of Understanding for Home Investment Partnership Act Home Investment in Affordable Housing** presented by County Manager Steve Garrison (pictured below left).
- **NC Arts Council Grassroots Committee Recommendations** presented by Economic Development Director Birgit Dilgert (pictured below right).
- **Interlocal Agreement Between Foothills Health District and Rutherford County** regarding assuming responsibility of the management and operation of Animal Control Services presented by County Manager Steve Garrison (pictured left).
- **Blue Ridge Community Action Community Service Block Grant Application** presented by County Manager Steve Garrison.



Town Manager Doug Barrick and Commissioner Bryan King at the Rutherfordton Fire Substation Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening celebration on October 26, 2023.



Lawmakers visited Isothermal Community College on October 26, 2023 to present a check for the new state-of-the-art Health and Sciences Building. The NC General Assembly made the appropriation when the 2023-2024 budget passed into law. Speaker Tim Moore, Senator Tim Moffitt, and Representative Jake Johnson presented the check on site where the facility will be constructed. Commissioner David Hunt (pictured back row middle) and other board members were also in attendance.



Emergency Medical Services



Burn Ban Lifted

Effective Nov. 22 at 5 p.m.





The burn ban in 30 Western North Carolina counties will be lifted at 5 p.m., Nov. 22, 2023.

View full details at www.ncforestservice.gov.

Effective 5:00 pm, Wednesday, Nov. 22, the N.C. Forest Service lifted a ban on all open burning outside of the 100-foot area around an occupied dwelling for the following counties in North Carolina: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey.

"While recent rainfall has decreased fire danger and provided some relief from persistent dry conditions, I can't stress enough how important it is for the public to be careful, ready and responsible when burning outdoors," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "Almost all wildfires in this state are human-caused, which means most wildfires in this state are preventable. Do your part. Check for restrictions before burning. Get a valid permit. Check the weather, and never leave any outdoor fire unattended."

For additional information please visit the link below:

https://www.ncforestservice.gov/news_pubs/newsdesk_2023.htm

Foothills Health Department



We welcome Megan Rollins, our new Health Educator. Megan comes to us from Spartanburg Regional where she was a Health and Wellness Specialist. Megan has a two-year-old son which is how she and her husband enjoy most of their time. In addition, they enjoy music and concerts. Megan will have offices in both counties. Please welcome Megan to our team!

Please be advised of a new policy that makes our campuses completely free of all tobacco or tobacco-like products.



We look forward to the upcoming holidays and our time together as a team, and for you to be able to spend time with your family and friends also.

Thank you to everyone that helped staff our booth at the Mountain Glory Festival in Marion! We had a lot of visitors, which is great for introducing the community to all that we do! Thank you to Kris Edwards, Josey Miller, Nancy Marshall, Lisa Greene, Bambi Greer, Tammie Hurdt, Amy Lee, and Crystal Margolin. It takes a village and your willingness to volunteer is greatly appreciated!

*Karen Powell, MA
Public Health Director*



Human Resources

Brooke Watson, HR Analyst, attended the Western NC Safety & Health School Conference in Asheville, on November 6th and 7th.



HR Director and HR Analyst:

- Held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements.
- Attended the following meetings:
 - * Board of Commissioners
 - * HR Association
 - * JCPC Meeting
- Completed payroll changes
- Conducted monthly orientation
- Held interviews for several positions
- Completed Colonial and SHP Open Enrollment
- Conducted State Health Plan Open Enrollment
- Completed EEO4 Data Collection Report
- Hosted Leadership Training
- Recognized RC Employee/Veterans with a small gift (names listed on following page)



NEW EMPLOYEES

Full-time

Allison Tucker (EMS)
Daniel Smith (DSS)
Christopher Scruggs (DSS)
Heather Greene (DSS)
Crissie McSwain (DSS)
Joseph Wilson (DSS)
Tamesha Williams (DSS)
Jatana Guinzy (DSS)
Christopher Burgess (DSS)
Melissa Lovette (DSS)
Richard Lucas (Detention)
Anthony Willette (Detention)
Sharon Robinson (Detention)
Tyler Simmons (Detention)
Kolten Hildebrand (Sheriff)

Part-time

Brent Cowan (Solid Waste)
David Price (Library)
Bryana Dockery (911)
Maverli Valdez-Rolon (911)
Emmanuel McSwain (Solid Waste)
Dale Logan (Solid Waste)
David McDonald (911)
Marsha Walker (911)
Charles Cundiff (Transit)
William Schappert (Transit)
Frankie Tate (Transit)

CURRENT JOB POSTINGS

Part-time TDA Welcome Center

Revenue Appraisal Tech

CONDOLENCES

Our thoughts and prayers continue for:

- Savannah Wheats (TDA) in the recent passing of her grandmother, Kay Crowe.
- Brooke Watson (HR), Andrew Watson (EMS), Amanda Watson (EMS), and Chuck Watson (retiree Sheriff's Office) in the recent loss of their loved one, Buena Watson.
- Anitra McKinney (DSS) in the recent passing of her father.
- Laura Grasser (Detention) in the recent loss of her stepmother, Esther Grasser.



UPCOMING EVENTS-MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tenure Award Ceremony - December 14, 2023



Name	Department	Branch of Service	Service years
David Hunt	Commissioner Office	US Army	1980-1983
Jennifer Gabriel	Communications 911	US Army	2003-2006
Anthony Willette	Detention	US Navy	2016-2020
Phillip Dendy	Detention	US Army	1983-1987
Terry Ware	Detention	US Marine Corp	
Christopher Pietroskwi	EMS	US Marine Corp	1988-1994
Chris Beheler	EMS	US Army	2007-2011
Bryan Homesley	EMS	US Air Force	1997-2001
Clyde Ferrell	EMS	US Army	1971-1973
Noah Cable	EMS	US Army	2020-2022
Frank Shaffer	Finance	US Air Force	2013-2019
Jeffrey Lynn	Fire Marshal	US Army	2003-2008
Luke Rich	Garage	US Army	2002-2006
James Yorke	Information Tech	US Army	1991-1995
Jimmy Laughter	Information Tech	US Marine Corp	1988-1992
April Young	Library	US Army	2000-2005
Danny Searcy	Planning	US Air Force	1989 to present
Allen Hardin	Sheriff	US Army	1988-1992
Paul Mitchell	Sheriff	US Army	2004-2013
Patrick Wiseman	Sheriff	US Air Force	1999-2004
Joseph McComas	Sheriff	US Marine Corp	2002-2010
Joseph McComas	Sheriff	US Army	2014-2022
Joshua Padgett	Sheriff	US Marine Corp	1994-1999
Christopher Lee	Sheriff	US Marine Corp	1987-1992
Cory Watkins	Sheriff	US Marine Corp	2015-2020
Zachary Walker	Sheriff	US Navy	2000-2004
Charlie McLaughlin	Sheriff	US Marine Corp	2005-2020
Andrew Greenway	Sheriff	US Army reserves	1994-2000
Ann Woodbridge	Social Services	US Air Force	1974-1980
Felicia Hodges	Social Services	US Army	1986-1992
Yolanda Crisp	Social Services	US Navy	1994-2014
Rachel Atchley	Social Services	US Air Force	2003-2007
Lisa Craig	Social Services	US Air Force	2005-2007
Gary Stout	Social Services	US Marine Corp	1963-1967
Michael Padgett	Solid Waste	US Army	1973-1976
Wayne Graybill	Solid Waste	US Army	1964-1966
Harold Enloe	Solid Waste	National Guard/Army	
Ronald Grier	Solid Waste		
Terry Bottomley	Solid Waste	US Navy	1966-1970
John Miller	Solid Waste	US Air Force	1970-1992
Scott Davis	Transit	US Navy	1988-1996
Bill Morris	Transit	US Army	1962-1963
Bill Humphries	Transit	US Army	1979-2003
Charles Cundiff	Transit	US Army	1977-1990
Ronnie McGinnis	Transit	US Army	1969-1970

Planning and Projects

During the November Board of Commissioners’ meeting, Katie Doherty, (GIS) was awarded the following:

- The prestigious *Fireman’s Shield* from the Town of Rutherfordton Fire Chief for her stellar work on fire district mapping.
- Award from NC Mappers Association *Most Cartographic Award* for the Rutherfordton Fire District Map.

Way to represent the County, Katie! We are proud of you.

Katie Doherty and Fire Chief Brandon Harrill



The framed Civil Rights Articles presented during the October Board of Commissioners’ meeting from Foundation Forward is now displayed inside the Courthouse next to the Declaration of Independence.





Rutherford County Senior Center



October Report

SERVICE TYPE	NUMBER OF MEALS
Congregate Meals	2251
Ellenboro Congregate Meals	553
<u>Home Delivered Meals</u>	<u>4130</u>
Total Meals:	6,934

NEW PARTICIPANTS

The Senior Center has been growing, adding new participants both at the Center and to our Home-Delivered Meals program. As of November 22, we’ve had 24 new members for the month of November. The total number for October was 27 new members. This includes a mixture of congregate, home delivered meals, food boxes, etc.

VOLUNTEER HOURS:

We had 37 volunteers in October logging a total of 304.17 volunteer hours.

EMPLOYEE WORK ANNIVERSARIES:

Congratulations to the following employees on their work anniversaries this month:

- Kay Aldridge, Site Manager - 11 years (November 8, 2012) **pictured below left**
- Dan Arrowood, Home-Delivered Meals Driver – 4 years (November 25, 2019) **pictured below middle**
- Joyce Bailey, Kitchen Assistant – 17 years (November 28, 2006) **pictured below right**



EMPLOYEE CELEBRATIONS:

We had two employees have milestone birthdays this month. Angie Miller turned “60” (**pictured right**), and Dan Arrowood turned “70” (**pictured above middle**). Each one celebrated with cake and light refreshments.



MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

Are you on Medicare or know someone who is?

The Senior Center has two awesome SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program) counselors who are trained by the Department of Insurance. They offer FREE, unbiased information and counseling to look at ALL your options, so YOU can make the best decision for YOU!

Please do not wait! You only have through December 7, 2023 to make changes for 2024. Call 287-6409 to make an appointment.

Our trained SHIIP Counselors can provide this service in person or via phone. Plans change and so does your health, so be sure to evaluate your plan every year.

Want to save on Medicare costs?

**SHIIP can help find the
best Medicare Prescription
Drug Plan for you!**

**It's time to evaluate your plan and see what's new
for 2024. SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance
Information Program, offers free, unbiased
information about Medicare and can assist with
enrollment and subsidy applications that could
save you money.**

**Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period
October 15 – December 7**

Changes will be effective Jan. 1, 2024

**Call to schedule an
appointment with a trained
SHIIP counselor today.**

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY
SENIOR CENTER**

**193 Callahan Koon Rd. Ste. 132
Spindale, NC 28160
828-287-6409**



SHIIP
NC DEPARTMENT OF
INSURANCE

K-9 Kilo Presented with Quilt

Last month, K-9 Kilo was injured in the line of duty while performing his job assisting deputies who were attempting to arrest a suspect from multiple vehicle breaking and entering. The suspect fled, striking K-9 Kilo with the suspect vehicle.

Kilo is partnered with Sergeant Perez and has been with the Sheriff's Office for over three years, as well as being attached to Homeland Security Task Force. He has assisted in hundreds of cases.

Kilo has made a full recovery and is back on duty.

Blankets are given to injured and/or fallen law enforcement by Quilts for Cops. (Kilo and Sergeant Perez pictured below with quilt.)



Crime Stoppers of Rutherford County is wanting to spread this message to the people of Rutherford County: Make the holiday season safer! Report a fentanyl dealer and earn \$250 cash! Tip must result in arrest and seizure of drugs. Call 286-tips and remain anonymous!

Rutherford County, NC
CRIME STOPPERS

Social Services

As you may know, across the state of North Carolina there is a foster parent shortage. To avoid kids having to spend the night on a cot at the agency, we were blessed to have been awarded a grant from Dogwood Trust to build a home for our kids until we find placement for them. The comfort of an actual home will provide a feeling of normalcy as opposed to sleeping in an office. Thank you, Dogwood Trust and Dee Hunt, for investing in our community and the future of our children.



More people can now get health care coverage in North Carolina through Medicaid. It can take up to 45 days to process your application. You can help the process by applying online at epass.nc.gov. You may be contacted by mail, phone, email and/or text message if more information is needed.

NC Medicaid coverage helps you get the health care you need.



Health services NC Medicaid covers include:

- regular check-ups
- hospital visits
- behavioral health
- vision and hearing
- dental and oral health services
- health visits when you are sick
- care during and after pregnancy
- benefits to help pay for prescriptions
- medical-related devices and other therapies

Apply now at epass.nc.gov.



Soil and Water

Staff at Soil and Water have been extremely busy the last few weeks. From trainings to partnerships, educational outreach is thriving. In the month of October, Soil and Water hosted around 500 students throughout the County at Isothermal Community College for Conservation Field Day. Soil and Water also partnered with the Rutherford Outdoor Coalition to do a program on pumpkins. Soil and Water Education Specialist Kayla Upton also worked with many different schools including Lake Lure and Trinity to bring a variety of lessons on pumpkins, soil, and composting.



Soil and Water was able to participate in East Rutherford high school Ag Day and able to reach out to both Middle and high school students about what Soil and Water Conservation is and the career opportunities that they could find in the conservation field (pictured below and on following page).



One of the most exciting things that has been in the works and is continuing to move forward is working with Trinity Christian school to provide them with an exploratory class every week on Environmental and Agriculture related topics. We are helping the school find the funds to bring compost bins and raised beds to the school to provide them with more outdoor education opportunities.

We would also like to give a special congratulations to Soil and Water board member Shannon Buckley for being selected for the 2023 North Carolina Forest Association Distinguished Service Award. Shannon worked in the Forest industry for 43 years and is now enjoying his retirement (pictured on following page).



Solid Waste

Tonnage Intake

Material	Weight
MSW/Household Garbage	2,967.95
Construction/Demo Debris	1,949.33
Metal	65.93
Recycle	187.44
Electronics/TV	3.95
Tires	174.00

Director James Kilgo and Angie Wright attended the NC SWANA 2023 Fall Conference in Cherokee, NC in October.

This month, Reece Beaumont and Ethan Garland attended the NC SWANA training for the Landfill and Transfer Station, and they are now certified.

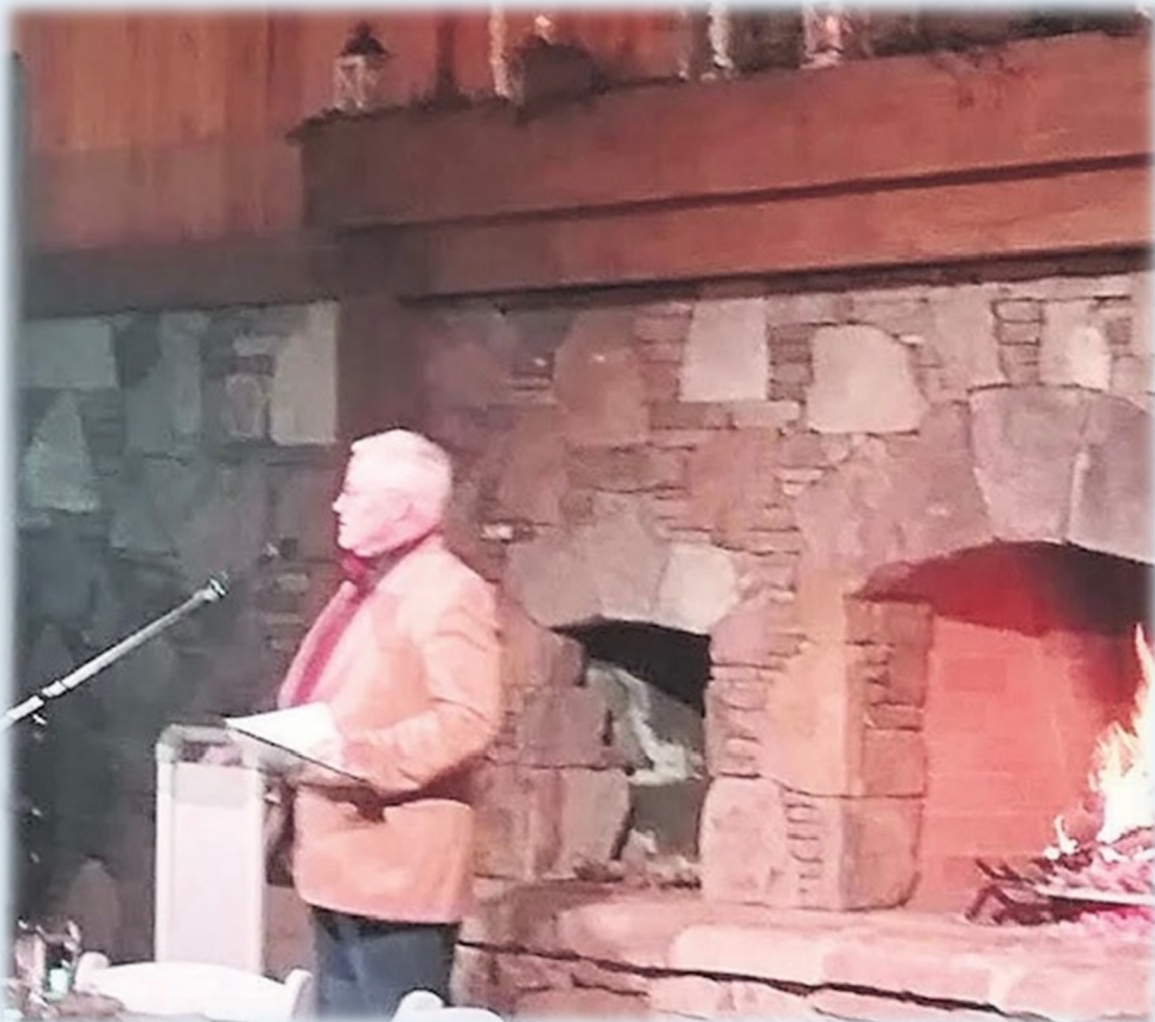
Pictured below, we captured this beautiful sunrise highlighting the trees behind the C&D Landfill on November 17th.



<u>Avondale Center:</u> 2310 Ellenboro-Henrietta Rd. Ellenboro, NC 28040	828-657-6952
<u>Bills Creek Center:</u> 2130 Bills Creek Rd. Lake Lure, NC 28746	828-625-8516
<u>Colfax Center:</u> 1676 US 74 Business Ellenboro NC 28040	828-248-1268
<u>Danieltown Center:</u> 1381 Bethany Church Rd. Forest City NC 28043	828-245-6524
<u>Gilkey Center:</u> 2489 HWY 221 N, Rutherfordton NC 28139	828-286-8829
<u>Golden Valley Center:</u> 6075 Bostic-Sunshine Hwy. Bostic NC 28018	828-245-1328
<u>Pea Ridge Center:</u> 3892 Pea Ridge Rd. Bostic NC 28018	828-287-1358
<u>Green Hill Center:</u> 204 Rainbow Rapids Rd. Rutherfordton NC 28139	828-286-8458
<u>Hollis Center:</u> 4480 Hollis Rd. Ellenboro NC 28040	828-453-1021
<u>Shiloh Center:</u> 152 Richland Dr. Forest City NC 28043	828-245-6108
<u>Landfill:</u> 656 Laurel Hill Dr. Rutherfordton NC 28139	828-287-6125

Tourism Development Authority

Tourism Development Authority celebrated five years of *Rutherford Bound* on November 2, 2023. Rutherford Bound is the 'master plan' for tourism asset development. Approximately 150 community leaders, professionals, and government officials attended the event at the Zimmerwald Estate in Golden Valley. Director Don Cason spoke about the tourism master plan and said he looks forward to the next five years. (Pictures compliments of Scott Carpenter, Daily Courier)





We hope you will join us!

Please RSVP to Taylor Hardin at

Taylor.Hardin@rutherfordcountync.gov

by December 1st.

FY 23-24 October Transit Numbers

Operating Week	# of Total Miles	# of Local Trips	# of Out of County Trips	# of Unduplicated Passengers	Total Revenue
Oct 02 - Oct 08	7614	1082	45	152	\$ 12,081
Oct 09 - Oct 15	7613	1086	24	151	\$ 12,621
Oct 16 - Oct 22	8059	1134	22	151	\$ 12,469
Oct 23 - Oct 29	7977	1127	22	152	\$ 12,582
Average	7816	1107	28	152	\$12,438

Transit hired two part-time drivers this month. We welcome Marese Rather and Ron Epley to our Transit family. They are both in the latter part of orientation and training and will be driving solo in the next couple of weeks.

With a total of five new drivers over the past two months, we have been able to increase our Tri-City Xpress hours to near normal. We are currently operating this route on regular schedule and stopping both loops at approximately 4:30 pm daily.

We continue to hire part-time drivers and welcome all applications, especially CDL drivers with Passenger Endorsement, although a CDL license is not required to apply.

Transit Director Kerry Giles had the privilege of traveling to Washington DC this month with the NC Public Transportation Association’s legislative delegation. Director Giles and her colleagues met with NC Representatives, both Senators and/or their staff, plus the FTA to further gain support for rural public transportation. Legislators were thanked for supporting the recent \$20 million federal RAISE grant awarded to Rutherfordton and Spindale that will include four dedicated bus stops and shelters for the TriCity Xpress route. Funding was made possible through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Further attention was given to the importance of employment transportation to assist our citizens in getting access to jobs in our community (pictured on following page).

Transit was invited to attend the monthly County Human Resources Association meeting to discuss the services that Rutherford County Transit offers to county residents.

Transit held their Quarterly Transit Advisory Board Meeting this month and welcomed new board member, Cedric Banks, who is a student at Isothermal Community College.

Finally, the month would not be complete without Transit’s annual Thanksgiving lunch. We are so very thankful for all our staff and the service they provide to our citizens every day (pictured below).







Rutherford County
Veteran Service Office
Annual Christmas Celebration

Drop-in event held on
December 13th, 11:00 - 2:00
at the Veteran Services Office
303 Fairground Road, Spindale, NC

**All veterans are welcome. Plenty of food and a
special gift for all veterans attending.**



DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

December 5th @ 6:00pm
Rutherford County Administration Building
289 N Main St, Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Visit www.veteransbattlefield.com to learn more about the documentary.



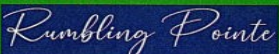

Looking for a new job or career opportunity? [Click here](#) for current opportunities available with Rutherford County.



STOCKING THE PANTRIES

WHY
A community gathering to celebrate and restock our local food pantries to assist those in need.

WHEN
Saturday, December 2, 2023
2pm - 6pm

WHERE


2417 Buffalo Shoals Rd,
Lake Lure, NC 28746

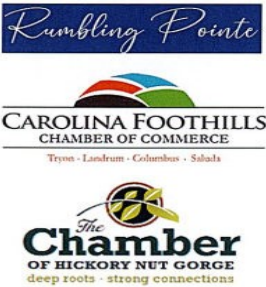


Follow this QR code to purchase your \$50 ticket online or call Carolina Foothills Chamber of Commerce for more info, (828) 859-6236



- COME ENJOY**
- Carolers
 - A holiday story reading
 - Piano with sing alongs
 - Silent auction
 - Catered hors d'oeuvres and adult beverages
 - Fire pit with s'mores

SPONSORED BY



ALL PROCEEDS FROM TICKET SALES, SILENT AUCTION AND DONATIONS BENEFIT
Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach
Thermal Belt Outreach



Forest City NC HOLIDAYS

November 23- January 1






- **Lighting Ceremony** 6:30–9PM ••
THANKSGIVING NIGHT 11/23
- **Christmas Parade** 3–5PM ••
SUNDAY 11/26
- **Rutherford County Farmers Market** ••
Annual Holiday Market and Winter Festival 172 Park Sq.
SATURDAY 12/2, 9AM–4PM
- **Carriage Rides** 6–8:45PM ••
Online Reservations Only @ ExploreForestCity.com starting November 27th
FRIDAYS 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22
SATURDAYS 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23
- **Hayrides** 6–9PM ••
FRIDAYS 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22
SATURDAYS 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23
- **Ice Skating** 6PM–Until ••
Ice rink is synthetic ice which acts and performs as real ice
FRIDAYS 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22
SATURDAYS 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23
- **Visit with Santa** 6–9PM ••
FRIDAYS 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22
SATURDAYS 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23
- **Santa Paws** 1–4PM ••
SUNDAYS 12/3, 12/10, 12/17
- **Be the Light 5K** 6:30PM ••
Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/ForestCity/BetheLight5KRun>
SUNDAY 12/10






LEGEND

ATM/Bank	Hot Beverages
Carriage Loading	Ice Skating
Food/Eatery	Lighted Alley
Food Truck	Parking
Fountain	Restrooms
Handicap Parking	Taproom
Hayride Loading	

Call 828.447.1730
Visit TownofForestCity.com
Search Forest City Events on



JOIN US AT COLFAX CREEK FARM FOR OUR FIRST

CHRISTMAS

VENDOR MARKET!
SUNDAY . 03 DEC

12PM - 4PM. FOOD . ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

WWW.COLFAXCREEKFARM.COM









The Preserve at Maple Creek Glass Chapel, Rutherfordton, NC, is featured in the December edition of *Our State* magazine. Each year, owners Steve and Laura Duncan, hold a Christmas event in the Glass Chapel, ending the evening with candlelight and attendees singing *Silent Night*.



Christmas in Forest City, NC!

© Gary Poteat Photography



Trail Ambassador Program

If you are out enjoying the Thermal Belt Rail Trail, look out for our fantastic group of volunteers who are walking, running, and biking the trail to assist other users. If you have any questions or concerns about the trail or local information, a Trail Ambassador will be happy to help!

Just look for the bright green shirts, like Steve and Betty are wearing, to ask questions on where to stop for lunch, where the nearest bike repair station is located, or anything else you are looking to do!

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Trail Ambassador, contact Gabe Isaac at gabe@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call 828-351-3235.

[Click Here](#) for more information on Rutherford County trails.



County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, Chairman
Alan Toney, Vice Chairman
Michael Benfield, Commissioner
David Hunt, Commissioner
Greg Lovelace, Commissioner

County Office

Steve Garrison, County Manager
Hazel Haynes, Clerk to Board
Kim Aldridge, Admin Asst/Deputy Clerk
Richard Williams, County Attorney

Rutherford County
289 N. Main Street
Rutherfordton, NC 28139
828.287.6060

informationrutherford@rutherfordcountync.gov
