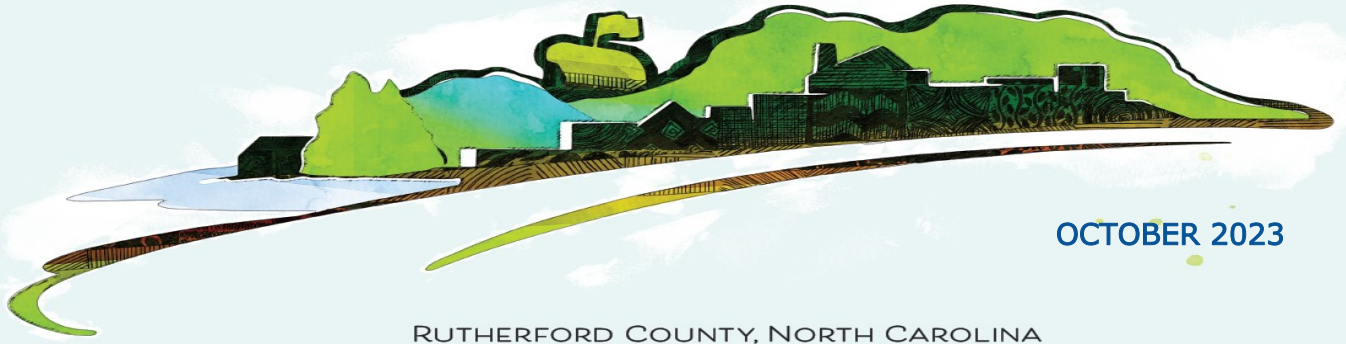


Rutherford Monthly



OCTOBER 2023

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Monthly Newsletter

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

Airport

Active general aviation at the airport!



Early morning operations!



Construction of Lighting Rehab Project in full swing replacing old lighting with new LED lights, windsock, and beacon (pictured below and on following page).





Early morning sky aglow with a tapestry of red and orange hues.



Board of Elections

Director Dawn Lovelace and staff have been busy welcoming our 2023-2025 Chief Judges and Judges for the County's 17 precincts. They hosted three orientation seminars for new appointees and planning sessions to get ready for the next election (**pictured below**).

Chief Judges and Judges are nominated by their respective parties and appointed by BOE five-member bipartisan board. This can be a tedious process as there are strict guidelines laid out by the state that each county must follow. It is becoming harder to find voters who are willing and interested in serving. As a reminder, if you are interested in working as an election worker, please contact our office at 828-287-6023.

Reminders:

- If you live inside city limits, there will not be a municipal election this year. The next election will be in November 2024 per S.B. 265.
- In the March Primary 2024, voters will be required to show a valid photo ID when voting.
- The Board of Elections office and the NC DMV are providing free IDs for voting. Please see our County web page or call our office for more information.





Monthly Call Summary



911 processed phone calls (99.58% answered w/in 15 secs.)	3,865
Administrative phone calls (98.68% answered w/in 15 secs)	8,335
TOTAL	12,200

Dispatched Calls for Service Per Agency

Rutherford County Sheriff	3,658
Forest City Police	1,482
Rutherfordton Police	835
Spindale Police	1,462
Lake Lure Police	136
Rutherford County Animal Control	127
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	1,395
Rutherford County Fire Departments	761
TOTAL	9,856



The 911 Communications 'Engagement Committee' has been busy decorating the Center for Halloween as they always do for the holiday seasons.

This is one way staff can feel a little more at home.



911 staff also participated in the Spindale Safety Night on Saturday October 22, 2023.

Pictured is Malikka Hutchins, Training Coordinator, getting ready to hand out candy and 911 safety information to all the kids who came out for the night.

Over 100 bags of candy and safety information were handed out for all the children who were there. It was a great night for community involvement.



We want to Congratulate
the following for completing
the APCO Public Safety
Telecommunicator Course



- Jacob Allen
- Ben Blanton
- Mandi Siefkin
- Bryson Walker
- Courtney West



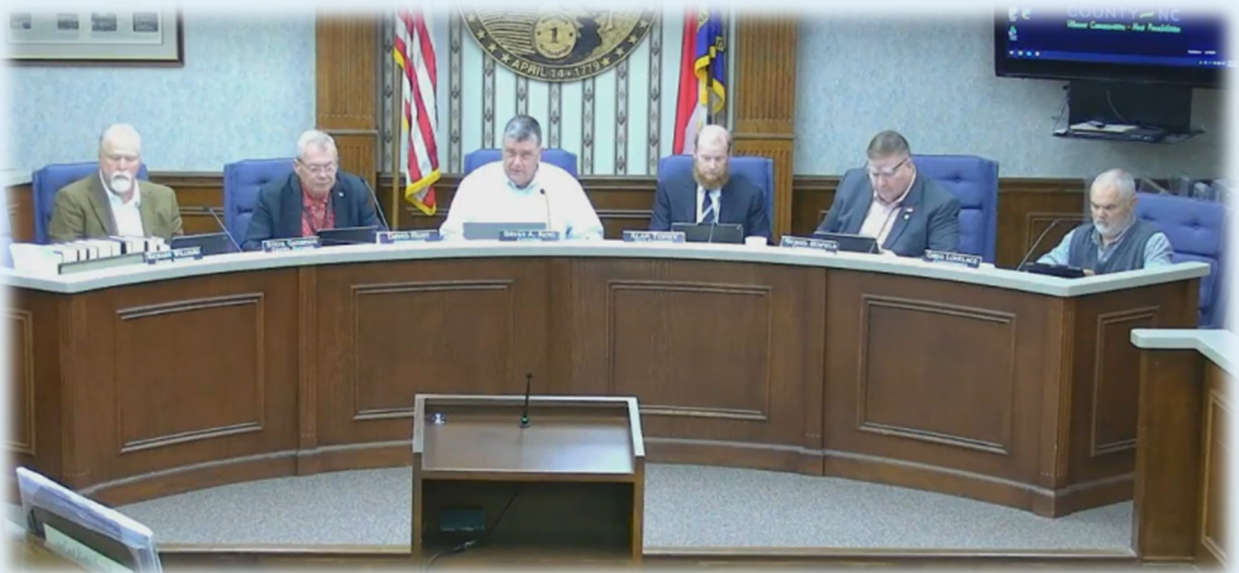
911 Center has two new promotions we would like to announce. Benjamin Blanton and Brandon Freeman have been promoted to Assistant Supervisors. We are expecting good things from their addition to our leadership team. Thank you, Benjamin and Brandon for your dedication to the team.



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
- October Board of Commissioners' Meeting
- NCACC Opioid Meeting
- Board of Education
- Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Tourism Development Authority
- EMS & Public Safety
- Finance
- Public Works and Planning Department
- NCACC District meeting
- Rutherford Housing Partners
- Foothills Regional Commission
- Regional Farmland Preservation and Appreciation Luncheon
- Airport Authority Agenda Review for November meeting
- RRDC Meeting
- Economic Development Board
- Tourism Development Authority
- Agriculture/Coop Extension
- Pangaea Board
- History Matters Presentation - ICC Library
- Partners Board
- Rutherfordton Fire & Rescue Station 2 Grand Opening
- Dogwood Health Trust
- DSS Board
- Health & Human Services and Community Support Services
- Pangaea's 20th Anniversary Celebration
- Library Trustees
- Fountain Electric Open House
- Rutherford County Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Committee
- Senior Center Advisory Board
- Broad River Water Authority
- Board of Commissioners Agenda Review for November meeting



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

Highlights from the RC Board of Commissioners' October Agenda

Public Hearings

- **Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Grant** presented by Senior Center Director Tammy Aldridge (**pictured below**). The goal of this grant is to provide transportation services that meet the special needs of elderly persons for whom transportation services are unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. The Rutherford County Senior Center will contract with Rutherford County Transit to provide daily transportation services to the Senior Center.



- **Grant for Transportation Services** presented by Transit Director Kerry Giles (**pictured right**). Transit's intent is to apply for grant funds from NCDOT to cover administrative and capital expenses for FY 24-25. The Community Transportation Program provides assistance to coordinate existing transportation programs operating in Rutherford County, as well as provides transportation options and services for the communities within this service area.



Commissioners/Appointments presented by Clerk to the Board Hazel Haynes

- North Carolina Arts Council Grassroots Committee
- Transit Advisory Board
- Planning Commission

Commissioner Reports

- **Charter Communications Update** presented by Michael Tanck, Director of Government Affairs for Charter Communications
- **RC Community Child Protection/Child Fatality Prevention Team Annual Report** presented by DSS Director Dee Hunt (**pictured right**).



Budget Amendments presented by Finance Director Paula Roach (**pictured left**).

Annual EMS Reconciliation of Debt presented by EMS Director Kaleb Johnson explaining the Accounts Receivables debt reconciliation per the Emergency Services Standard Operating Procedure #134 (**pictured right**).



Charters of Freedom gifted the County with a framed copy of the Civil Rights Amendment to hang inside the Courthouse. Presented by Public Works and Planning Director Danny Searcy and Foundation Forward representatives, Ron Lewis and Dr. David Streater (**pictured on following page**).

Meeting Dates for RC Board of Commissioners for 2024

Charters of Freedom Gift

Pictured I-r: Danny Searcy, Ron Lewis, David Streater



Pictured front row I-r: Dr. David Streater and Mr. Ron Lewis

Back row I-r: Commissioners David Hunt, Bryan King, Michael Benfield, Greg Lovelace, Alan Toney



Clerk to the Board of Commissioners Hazel Haynes (pictured below) submitted the correct answer to the Chamber of Commerce trivia question this month and won a \$10 treat from Hope House Coffee Company in Forest City. The trivia question was *Who was the first principal at East High?*, and the correct answer is *O. W. Morris*. Congratulations, Hazel!



The legendary principal, O. W. Morris, steered East Rutherford through desegregation in 1969, and it is said that he was an educator who didn't need books to teach (pictured below).



Speaker of the House Tim Moore (left) and Commissioner Bryan King (right) pictured in front of the Sheriff's Office Breast Cancer Awareness vehicle at the Rutherfordton Hilltop Fall Festival.



RCS Transportation Services Center Groundbreaking Ceremony - October 10, 2023

Commissioner Bryan King (pictured below) was among officials and school staff who shared remarks regarding the beginning of the transportation and maintenance facilities project which will be located on the baseball field of the former R-S Middle School campus.



Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

County Manager Steve Garrison, along with NCACC Opioid Coordinator, Payton Williams, led the meeting at the County Administration Office Building on October 11, 2023.



Emergency Medical Services

EMS has had a busy October so far! The leaves are changing and the temperatures are cooling down. Fall is in the air. We celebrated birthdays for several of our technicians this month:

- Makenna Barrett EMT
- Charity Gragg EMT
- Cecilia Libby EMT
- Alan Meja EMT
- Kaila Montague Paramedic
- Jordan Sane Paramedic
- Lucas Sane Paramedic
- Kaleb Johnson Paramedic
- Ramona Smith EMT
- Amanda Watson Paramedic
- Terri Carswell Paramedic

There have been several PR events this month!

Our agency participated in a Safety Day at Thomas Jefferson on the 17th of October, as well as Spindale Safety Night on the 21st. We also visited with the kids at McNair on the 27th.

EMS would also like to welcome Hannah Monteith EMT, Allison Tucker AEMT, and Lacey Burlison AEMT to full-time status with our agency.

In the spirit of October and Halloween we are conducting a pumpkin decorating contest. Who will be our winner!?



Monthly Response Information

EMD Complaint	Details
Sick Person	172
Falls	112
Transfer/Interfacility/Palliative Care	107
Breathing Problem	76
Traffic Accident	75
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic)	57
Unconscious/Fainting	45
Psychiatric Problem/Abnormal Behavior/Suicide Attempt	32
Abdominal Pain/Problems	24
Convulsions/Seizure	21
Overdose/Poisoning/Ingestion	21
Unknown Problem/Person Down	20
Heart Problems/AICD	19
No Other Appropriate Choice	19
Hemorrhage/Laceration	17
Traumatic Injury	17
Assist Invalid	16
Cardiac Arrest/Death	12
Diabetic Problem	12
Stroke/CVA	11
Assault	9
Standby	8
Back Pain (Non-Traumatic)	7
Allergic Reaction/Stings	5
Choking	5
Headache	5
Eye Problem/Injury	4
Pregnancy/Childbirth	4
Medical Alarm	3
Animal Bite	2
Fire	2
EMS Special Service	1
Disposition	Totals
Assist, Public	8
Cancelled (No Patient Contact)	14
Cancelled (Prior to Arrival at Scene)	31
Cancelled on Scene/No Patient Found	4
Patient Evaluated, No Treatment/Transport Required	10
Patient Refused Evaluation/Care (With Transport)	1
Patient Refused Evaluation/Care (Without Transport)	114
Patient Treated, Released (AMA)	29
Patient Treated, Released (per protocol)	4
Patient Treated, Transferred Care to Another EMS Professional/Unit	2
Patient Treated, Transported by Law Enforcement	2
Patient Treated, Transported by Private Vehicle	3
Transported Lights/Siren	23
Transported Lights/Siren, Downgraded	3
Transported No Lights/Siren	648
Transported No Lights/Siren, Upgraded	7

EMS wishes everyone a happy and safe Halloween! Watch out for all those trick or treaters!



Foothills Health Department



On Monday, October 2, 2023, we officially opened the Health Clinic at Isothermal Community College with our new nurse practitioner Angela Ashley.

Thank you to Jason, Terri, and Crystal for helping Joan and Angela have a great first day!

We have another group of motivated nurses signed up for the Credentialed Public Health Nurse Class! Good luck to all of you and thank you for your dedication to Public Health and Foothills Health District!

- Alicia Dayberry
- Jessey Houck
- Kris Edwards
- Crystal Margolin
- Shannon Dillard

New McDowell County Business Alerts

- Firehouse Subs (my personal favorite) is coming soon, right beside Dunkin Donuts.
- Sheetz Gas Station will be opening right across from the Walmart entrance.

Exciting news for McDowell!

The Mountain Glory Festival was in Marion this month. It was a great opportunity to market our services and the great things going on at Foothills. We need all the volunteers we can get!

Beginning December 1, 2023, more North Carolinians will be able to get health coverage through NC Medicaid. This will be a game changer for the more than 600,000 people who will be able to access health care and is the most significant investment in the health of our state in decades. Please be watching for information to pass on to our patients and clients about the upcoming changes to Medicaid.

Thank you for all you do for Foothills! Your teammates appreciate all your hard work and so do I.

Karen E Powell, MA

Public Health Director

Foothills Health District

828-287-6220 (O)

828-223-3908 (C)

kpowell@foothillshd.org



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
- Hosted American Red Cross Blood Drive (pictured on following page)
- Conducted Colonial Open Enrollment
- Conducted State Health Plan Open Enrollment
- Held Flu Vaccine Clinic
- Hosted OSHA/Harassment Training



NEW EMPLOYEES

Full-time

- Rachel Atchley (DSS)
- Andea Bennett (DSS)
- Jessica Blevins (DSS)
- Erika Franklin (DSS)
- Sheri Highsmith (DSS)
- Emily Toney (DSS)
- Latreza Williams (DSS)
- Jessica Romero (DSS)
- Criston White (DSS)
- Richard Harris (Maintenance)
- Phillip Dendy (Detention)
- Chris Beheler (EMS)

Part-time

- Stephanie Calhoun (Solid Waste)
- Amanda Waller (Library)
- Antonio Munga (911)
- Patricia Stetler (Veterans)
- 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
- Part-time Utility Worker
- EMS Training Officer

CONDOLENCES

Our thoughts and prayers continue for:

- Anna Lane (Revenue) in the recent passing of her father, Charles Logan.
- Cristy Dysart (Transit) in the loss of her mother, Linda Dysart.



UPCOMING EVENTS-MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Leadership Training - November 16, 2023

Tenure Award Ceremony - December 14, 2023

Rutherford County American Red Cross Blood Drive



Library

The Rutherford County Library System is excited to welcome David Price to our team! David began working at the County Library in October after first serving as a volunteer. He comes to us with 10 years' experience working for Chimney Rock State Park. When he's not at the library, you can find him studying—he's currently attending Gardner Webb—or spending time with his wife and children. They enjoy reading, gardening, hiking, and playing video games!



Our Passport Fair on October 14th was a huge success! We saw over 100 people and accepted 94 applications. The fair was featured on several news outlets throughout the region, so we saw visitors from all four corners of the state as well as South Carolina! If you missed out and need a passport, remember that we are the only passport acceptance facility in the County. Call the County Library at 828-287-6115 to schedule an appointment and learn about the required documents!



We held several fun events in October, including:

- cooking demonstrations
- teen Friday the 13th party at the County Library
- children's Halloween party at Mountains Branch Library
- craft programs for both children and adults
- a movie screening

Our calendar is always available online at www.rutherfordcountylibrary.org/events-calendar with a complete list of upcoming events!

Pictured: Resin jewelry made by teens at the Friday the 13th party at the County Library!



Mountains Branch Library in Lake Lure is starting a new monthly club! Aspiring adult (18 and up) authors are invited to Mountains Branch on the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 am to discuss their projects with other writers and offer feedback at our brand new Adult Writers Club. The first meeting will be on November 16th!

Rutherford County Library System

Adult Writers Club



Writers are encouraged to meet at Mountains Branch Library in Lake Lure on the third Thursday of every month at 10:30am to share their work and offer feedback and ideas with other writers! No registration is needed.

www.rutherfordcountylibrary.org

Planning and Projects

Female inmates returned from Burke and McDowell counties this month to the newly renovated jail. This section had been closed since April 2023 for updates and repairs. Extensive planning and work went into replacing walls, floors, plumbing, HVAC, communication systems, and light fixtures.



Planning and Projects continued

Four Rutherford County employees participated in this year's NCPMA Fall Conference, including Katie Doherty and Janet Lovelace from the Planning Department, and Lois Shuford and Stephani Williams of the Revenue Department.

Katie Doherty is the current president of the North Carolina Property Mappers Association and continues to represent Rutherford County extremely well. In fact, during this year's conference, she was recognized for the best fire map, receiving the award for best cartographic (pictured below).



Planning and Projects continued

Katie's work and role as co-chair of Working Group for Seamless Parcels (WGSP) continues toward seamless parcel mapping and software compatibility across the state.

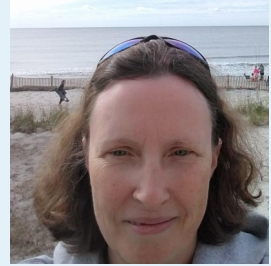


Please help us welcome our newest employee in the Maintenance Department, Rick Harris.



Revenue Office

Congratulations to Lois Shuford, Land Records/Mapping, for earning her CMS (Cadastral Mapping Specialist) certification (pictured right).



Customer Service	
Phone Calls	1,033
Taxpayer Office Visit Assistance	415
County Growth Indicators	
Deeds Transferring Property	217
Transfer By Estate	30
Plats reviewed	-
Parcels with mapping changes (Split or Merged)	63
Parcels Reviewed with Building Permits	272
Parcels Reviewed w/o Building Permits	682
Collections Progress	
Deeds Certified	175
Legal Actions (Garnishments, Attachments, etc.)	60
Total Taxes Collected	\$1,196,424.29

Register of Deeds

Assumed Business Names	15
Certificates of Satisfaction	148
Deeds	323
Deeds of Trust	161
Plats/Surveys	41
Powers of Attorney	54
Various other documents	121
Certified Vital Records Issued	657
Marriage Licenses Issued	59
Notary Public Oaths	23



Rutherford County Senior Center



September Report

SERVICE TYPE	NUMBER OF MEALS
Congregate Meals	2394
Ellenboro Congregate Meals	565
<u>Home Delivered Meals</u>	<u>3983</u>
Total Meals:	6,942

NEW PARTICIPANTS

The Senior Center is growing with new participants both at the Center and in our Home-Delivered Meals program. In September, we gained 35 new members. This includes a mixture of congregate, home-delivered meals and food boxes.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

We had 38 volunteers in September and logged a total of 212.25 volunteer hours.

EMPLOYEE WORK ANNIVERSARIES:



Congratulations to Barbara Hill on her 17th work anniversary (October 6, 2006). Barbara is the Center's Activity Coordinator and does an excellent job bringing programs, activities, trips and fun adventures to our seniors (pictured left).

ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR:

The Center hosted its annual Health Fair on October 16. There were multiple vendors in attendance performing health screenings and sharing information. The Rutherford Health Department hosted their vaccine clinic and a total of 36 vaccines were given, including flu, COVID, and pneumonia (pictured below).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting on October 19th. All business on the Agenda was discussed and members enjoyed a delicious lunch.



Senior Center continued

Saturday, October 28th, is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. We are excited to partner with the Sheriff's Office and United Way on this annual event. This is a drive-thru event from 10 am to 2 pm at the Senior Center, 193 Callahan Koon Road, Spindale.



**Turn in unneeded
medication for safe disposal.**

**WHERE: RUTHERFORD COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
193 CALLAHAN KOON ROAD, SPINDALE**

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Keep them safe. Clean them out. Take them back.

Visit DEATakeBack.com for a collection site near you.

Social Services

We would like to send a big shout out to Sheriff Aaron Ellenburg for bringing the Breast Cancer Awareness car to DSS and sharing his story of how cancer has touched his life and the life of his kids. We have three breast cancer survivors who had the honor of signing the car, Judy Vickers, Kim Callahan and Susan Epley (pictured below). We are so thankful and blessed that you fought the fight and won! For more information about breast cancer visit <https://www.komen.org/.../breast-cancer-awareness-month/>



Social Services continued



Melinda Medina, **pictured second from right**, is the new LINKS Coordinator on our team. It's virtually impossible to look at Melinda Medina and see the scars of her past. The only real clue that may tip you off is that she is extremely passionate about helping people who are in need. Born as the third of nine children, to a mother who suffered from childhood abuse and domestic violence, Melinda was eventually placed into foster care at the tender age of six years old. She was twenty years old by the time she was out of foster care, but by then she had been placed in 25-30 different homes and had experienced homelessness several times in between.

She boldly and bravely shares her story that includes being a victim of sexual abuse, becoming pregnant at age thirteen, giving birth at age fourteen, and being forced to drop out of school. Yet despite having another child at age fifteen, she graduated high school on time and with honors.

No matter what life has thrown her way, Melinda has decided to overcome and use her pain as fuel to help others. As an active co-founder of SaySo (Strong Able Youth Speaking Out), she has been recognized as a national advocate for children in foster care. She has received several college degrees, including an Associates of Arts, a Bachelors in Criminal Justice, and a Post Baccalaureate Paralegal Degree.

Yet, her greatest joys in life are her three beautiful adult daughters (**pictured above**).

Soil and Water

Congratulations to Soil and Water Director Brandon Higgins' daughter, CJ, for bringing home first place for all dairy breeds at the NC Mountain State Fair in Fletcher, NC.

CJ Higgins brings home first at the Mountain State Fair



Ruth, pictured with her owner, CJ Higgins, was selected as the Western NC Overall Youth Grand Champion for all dairy breeds at the NC Mountain State Fair in Fletcher. Contributed photo

Solid Waste

Tonnage Intake

Material	Weight
MSW/Household Garbage	2,016.43
Construction/Demo Debris	3,144.74
Metal	93.42
Recycle	171.05
Electronics/TV	2.70
Tires	1.32

On October 6, Reece Beaumont represented Solid Waste Department at the Conservation Field Day at ICC. She spoke to fifth graders about recycling and how it is collected, brought to the facility, and processed after leaving the transfer station (pictured below).



- Avondale Center: 2310 Ellenboro-Henrietta Rd. Ellenboro, NC 28040
- Bills Creek Center: 2130 Bills Creek Rd. Lake Lure, NC 28746
- Colfax Center: 1676 US 74 Business Ellenboro NC 28040
- Danieltown Center: 1381 Bethany Church Rd. Forest City NC 28043
- Gilkey Center: 2489 HWY 221 N, Rutherfordton NC 28139
- Golden Valley Center: 6075 Bostic-Sunshine Hwy. Bostic NC 28018
- Pea Ridge Center: 3892 Pea Ridge Rd. Bostic NC 28018
- Green Hill Center: 204 Rainbow Rapids Rd. Rutherfordton NC 28139
- Hollis Center: 4480 Hollis Rd. Ellenboro NC 28040
- Shiloh Center: 152 Richland Dr. Forest City NC 28043
- Landfill: 656 Laurel Hill Dr. Rutherfordton NC 28139

- 828-657-6952
- 828-625-8516
- 828-248-1268
- 828-245-6524
- 828-286-8829
- 828-245-1328
- 828-287-1358
- 828-286-8458
- 828-453-1021
- 828-245-6108
- 828-287-6125

Transit

Transit has been fortunate to hire four part-time drivers in the past month. We welcome Shannon Lancaster, Charles Cundiff, Frankie Tate and Bill Schappert to our Transit family. We anticipate being able to return our Tri-City Xpress Loops back to full operating hours within a couple of weeks. To run these routes efficiently and effectively, we try to use our larger vans that require a driver with a CDL license with a (P) passenger endorsement. Our staffing shortage has improved, but we are still short on drivers with a CDL license. We continue to accept applications and advertise for part-time drivers. **We are hiring part-time drivers and welcome all applications, especially CDL drivers with Passenger Endorsement although a CDL license is not required to apply.**

The NCDOT-Public Transit Division offers a Transportation Leadership Development Program every year through the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at NCSU. We are excited to be able to send Kyle Connor to this program for the current session of 2023-2024. This program involves several hours of self-study and project work, along with several in-person classes held at NCSU throughout the program duration. Each participant works on a project for their respective agency and also work on a group project they will present at the NCPTA conference in April 2024. Kyle is a very hard worker and will be able to grow his understanding of the Public Transportation segment and bring new skills and knowledge back to Rutherford County Transit.

Transit Director and Operations Manager met with the Director of Grahamtown Team, Keisha McDowell, at Grahamtown Center in Forest City to see the facility location. They discussed how Transit could serve as a source of transportation for citizens to access these services. The Atrium Health Bus is on site at the Center every Thursday from 10am-4pm and the Center has a stocked food pantry, as well as clothing that people in need can access at no cost. We are very excited and pleased to be able to provide this service to any resident for free that would like to be taken to Grahamtown Center on Thursdays for medical, food or clothing needs and then taken back home. We are able to offer this service due to receiving an RHI Grant.

Staff attended monthly NCDOT-IMD Transit Systems Call and Update, and were introduced to the interim NCDOT-PTD director. Required safety meeting for October covered the topic of Defensive Driving. Transit conducted one random drug test since last month. Staff submitted first quarter Operating Statistics to NCDOT.

FY 23-24 September Transit Numbers

Operating Week	# of Total Miles	# of Local Trips	# of Out of County Trips	# of Unduplicated Passengers	Total Revenue
Aug 28 - Sep 03	7389	1055	34	150	\$ 11,256
Sep 04 - Sep 10	5885	863	38	127	\$ 8,992
Sep 11 - Sep 17	7713	1099	44	150	\$ 12,157
Sep 18 - Sep 24	7612	1097	33	156	\$ 12,109
Sep 25 - Oct 01	8269	1122	36	166	\$ 13,528
Average	7374	1047	37	150	\$11,609



Rutherford County
TRANSIT
DrivingPossibilities.com

**Free Transportation
to Grahamtown
Thursdays from 10 am - 4 pm**

The Atrium Health Bus and Grahamtown's food pantry are both available on Thursdays.



Call **828.287.6339** to schedule a ride with Transit.

Transportation is free through December 31, 2023. Service may be extended based on demand.



Veteran Services

The Veterans Service Office is excited to have the new Tyler Technologies programming for intake and processing of claims. **(Staff pictured below using new program.)**

This system consolidates the process and forms into one program and will make serving our veterans easier and more efficient. It also has features such as tracking and reminders that the department has not had in the past that will assist in claims processing as well.

Thank you to IT Director Jai Doherty and the IT Department for researching, arranging training sessions, and implementing the process.



December 13, 2023 will be the Veteran's Annual Christmas Party. It will be at the Veteran Services office from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Director Susan Hall attended the NC Association of County Veterans Service Officers fall conference held the first week of October in Cherokee NC.





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



LAKE LURE VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

Please join us as we honor all veterans at this year's Lake Lure Veterans Day Program.

WHAT: Lake Lure Veterans Day Program

WHEN: Friday, November 10, 2023 at 9:00 AM

WHERE: Lakeview Terrace at the Rumbling Bald Resort on Lake Lure

NOTE: A Buffet Breakfast will be served following the program. Veterans and their spouses, please enjoy a complimentary meal. Other guests may make a donation for their meal.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



Tell Us Where You'd Like to Hike in 2024!



Hello ROC Folks! We Want to hear from you!

The new year is rapidly approaching and ROC is planning for the hikes of 2024! Be a part of this planning process and let us know what hikes interest

you.

Send your suggestions to trails@rutherfordoutdoor.org and maybe it'll be chosen as one of ROC's 2024 hiking outings!

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
 Richard Williams, County Attorney*

Rutherford County
informationrutherford@rutherfordcountync.gov
 289 N. Main Street
 Rutherfordton, NC 28139
