



## Town of Rural Hall

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Non-Emergency Number

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Check us out on  
social media and  
be sure to follow  
or like us!



Instagram



**A VACATION**  
IS HAVING  
**NOTHING**  
TO DO AND  
**ALL DAY**  
TO DO IT IN.  
- Robert Orben

# Garden Spot News

July 2020



## NCDOT Update on the Northern Beltway Western Loop Projects

The Winston-Salem Northern Beltway is a 34.2-mile, multi-lane freeway looping around the northern part of Winston-Salem. Western loop projects R-2247EC & R-2247EB connect Rural Hall to the Northern Beltway. Project updates are as follows:

### R-2247EC Project (NC-65 Interchange)

Final touches on phase two of the bridge recently took place and the bridge opened to traffic in June. New traffic patterns are routed along NC-65/Bethania-Rural Hall Road to allow construction work to continue on the outside shoulders and the inside concrete islands/medians. Concrete fascia panels are being installed on the bridge, as well as painted bridge railing, painted bridge girders, and painted signal poles. All noise walls have been installed, with staining to take place over the next few weeks. Grading work continues for the US-52 northbound off-ramp to NC-65 at Forum Parkway. NCDOT anticipates the new off-ramp to open mid-July, which will complete all new alignments for the interchange. This project is estimated to be completed by mid-August 2020.

### R-2247EB Project (I-74 Connector)

Additional clearing and grading will begin near the Westinghouse interchange on US-52 in the next several weeks, in preparation of US-52 widening in this area. Right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation efforts are still underway. Completion for the project is estimated to be around September 2022.

Near the SR-1840 project area (Hwy-66/Old US-52 Ramp at University Parkway), additional culvert, bridge, and utility work are underway. Construction for the new US-52 southbound alignment is also underway, with the construction of four culvert structures, on-going installation of four bridges, and the beginning of mass earthwork moving. NCDOT anticipates the new US-52 southbound alignment to be operational spring of 2021.

For more information, contact the NCDOT Division 9 office at 336-747-7800 or visit the [NCDOT Division 9 Directory](http://www.ncdot.gov) online. You can also visit [www.ncdot.gov](http://www.ncdot.gov) and click on projects.

## TORH's Newest Community Policing Officer

Deputy Brandon Baugus recently joined the Town of Rural Hall Community Policing. Monday, June 1 was his first day on duty for the Town of Rural Hall. Deputy Baugus has been with the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office for one year. Prior to joining the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Baugus was in the United States Marine Corp for four years. He lives in Davidson County, is married, and enjoys being outdoors and near the water.

Deputy Baugus is replacing Deputy Rachael Spainhour. He stated, "I am excited to be in Rural Hall and hope to be an asset to the community." We know he will make a great addition to our team and we are excited to have him. **Welcome aboard, Deputy Baugus!**



## Rural Hall License Plate Agency Update

The Town of Rural Hall was awarded the contract for the License Plate Agency (LPA) in Rural Hall. We have been working to remodel our former Town Hall facility, which is now our LPA. Renovations on the main level are complete. We are currently waiting on the State Department of Transportation to hold training sessions for employees. We know how important and valuable this agency is to our citizens and surrounding community and hope to open as soon as possible. We will provide updates on our website and via social media and email alerts as they become available.

The Rural Hall Garden Club has graciously contributed up to \$500 for landscaping/plantings around the LPA. The Garden Club's president Ed Deal stated, "We have been most appreciative of the Town's support of the gardening club efforts in the past and are pleased to be able to help out during these lean times. Personally, I am very happy that the Town recognizes the club as a resource and ally."



## Fireworks Safety from the Rural Hall Fire Department

Each Fourth of July holiday, thousands of people (most often children and teens) are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks, such as devastating burns, injuries, and death, as well as fires. It is important to know that fireworks should be left to the professionals and are not safe in the hands of consumers, especially children.

### Fireworks fire & injury facts (from [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)):

Fireworks started an estimated 19,500 fires in 2018—over 17,000 outside fires, 1,900 structure fires, and 500 vehicle fires. These fires caused five deaths, 46 civilian injuries, and \$105 million in direct property damage.

In 2018, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,100 people for fireworks related injuries. Half of those injuries were to the extremities and 34% were to the eye or other parts of the head. Children younger than 15 years of age accounted for more than one-third (36%) of the estimated 2018 injuries. *These injury estimates were obtained or derived from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's 2018 Fireworks Annual Report.*

We encourage you to leave the fireworks to the professionals and find other ways to get into the patriotic spirit! Visit the safety tips link below to get some great ideas, as well as view other fireworks safety information. You can also visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/FireworksSafetyTips.pdf>

## Money Matters—What Your Tax Dollars Are Doing For You:

### 2020-2021 Town Budget Approved

The Rural Hall Town Council passed a budget to begin July 1, 2020, that maintains the current property tax rate and same level of services for our citizens. In preparation for the fiscal impacts associated with COVID-19, the overall general fund spending is down compared to the prior fiscal year. The majority of our revenue comes from ad valorem property taxes, which are billed and collected by the Forsyth County Tax Collector. The Town remains fiscally strong and continues to be able to provide a tremendous amount of services to our citizens, a few of which are highlighted below:

- weekly brush and limb, bulk item/white good, and yard waste cart pickups
- weekly garbage and bi-weekly recycling services
- two community policing officers from the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office
- opening of the new Rural Hall License Plate Agency
- fire protection service, including business inspections and fire investigations

You can view our current and last year's budgets online at <https://www.ruralhall.com/government-rural-hall-nc/budgets/>.

## Thank You—What Would Hungry Neighbors Do Without You?

When Rural Hall Moravian Church organized a Drive-Thru Food Drive on May 30 for Crisis Control Ministry, you came by with vehicles full of food! In total, you gave 669 pounds of food and donated over \$370.

Thank you for helping keep Crisis Control Food Pantries stocked with essential items! Because of you, neighbors financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic are receiving groceries to make healthy, nutritious meals for their families.

A recent food pantry client shared, *"We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the support we received from you in the form of much-needed food. Our family found ourselves in a bind due to the COVID-19 closures. We reached out for help and you were there! You were generous in providing our family with food for the month when we were at a time of true need! Thank you!"*

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our neighbors!



## Waste Management Recycling

Recycling Dates Highlighted Below  
 Recycling every other Tuesday  
 Garbage every Tuesday

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## A Word from the New Rural Hall Elementary School Principal,

### Shannon Boles

"The Rural Hall bulldog is my new mascot! I am very proud to be a bulldog. My name is Shannon Boles and I am the new principal of the Rural Hall Elementary School team. I come to you with 27 years of experience in teaching and administration. I began at RHES on June 1. We just closed out the school year with a wonderful fifth grade drive-thru graduation to celebrate their accomplishments. This year has been hard on our students, staff, and parents during virtual learning. Our district will be determining what school will look like in August. Students will begin classes on August 17 and we will conquer whatever form that takes. I want to welcome you to come by the school this summer. I would love to meet you."

### Newsletter Via Email?

In a continued effort to reduce mailing paper newsletters, please let us know if you would like to start receiving your monthly newsletter by email instead of USPS mail.

## Rural Hall Branch Library



The Rural Hall Library is reopening June 29. Here is a message from the library:

Greetings! We are really looking forward to seeing everyone, but we do ask for you to keep your visit with us brief to minimize the chance of infection.

We will be following the County's COVID-19 protocol and you will be able to come in to browse our collections as long as you are wearing a mask and willing to follow social distancing guidelines by maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet from others.

Be sure to check out the variety of digital services, including videos of programs and crafts, available through the website at [www.forsythlibrary.org](http://www.forsythlibrary.org), and materials through the To-Go Pickup services for reserves and requests. Feel free to call the branch at 336-703-2970 to choose items for pickup. Computer access will not be available at the Rural Hall Branch when we reopen.

**To-Go Pickup Service Hours Extended:** The library's lobby is open for customers to pick up their holds/materials. Hours are:

Monday through Thursday, 10 AM – 7 PM

Friday, 10 AM – 5 PM

Saturday, 10 AM – 2 PM

Before entering, all visitors will be asked the following questions by staff:

- Have you recently been quarantined or tested for COVID-19?
- Have you been in contact with someone who was recently quarantined, tested or diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Do you have a fever, or have you had a fever in the past 24 hours?
- Are you experiencing new or worsening shortness of breath?
- Do you have a cough?
- Do you have a recent loss of smell or taste?

*If you answer yes to any of these questions, you will be asked to wait until you are well again to visit the library.*

## Rural Hall Senior Citizens Club

The Rural Hall Senior Citizens Club has postponed monthly meetings for the summer. The club is hoping to meet again starting in September, depending on state guidelines/restrictions and if their meeting location (Kingswood United Methodist Church) is open for use. Stay tuned for more details to come. In the meantime, for information or questions contact Penny Dixon at (336) 934-6523.



## Crisis Control Ministry (CCM)

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, CCM has changed their operating hours until further notice. Please visit [www.crisiscontrol.org](http://www.crisiscontrol.org) for more information.

### CCM Gift of the Month:

**Peanut Butter & Jelly**

### Battle of the Badges Event

- ◆ Saturday, July 11, 2020
- ◆ 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM
- ◆ David Couch Ballpark at 401 Deacon Boulevard in Winston-Salem
- ◆ Battle of the Badges is a family-friendly sporting event. The Winston-Salem Police Department, Winston-Salem Fire Department, and Forsyth County Sheriff's Office will compete to raise money for CCM! There will be a Silent Auction & Raffle! You could win a 2020 Chevy Silverado 1500LT Crew Cab from Modern Chevrolet! Raffle tickets are now available online. Visit: <https://www.crisiscontrol.org/news-events/events.html/event/2020/07/11/2nd-annual-battle-of-the-badges/290708> for more information.
- ◆ Admission: 3 items per person (Acceptable items include: non-perishable food, over-the-counter medications, cleaning products, or personal hygiene items to support CCM's food pantries and licensed pharmacy)

## Rural Hall Historic Train Depot & Railroad Museum



The Rural Hall Historic Train Depot and Railroad Museum has cancelled all upcoming open house events until further notice. Please stay up-to-date on Depot activities by visiting [www.ruralhalldepot.org](http://www.ruralhalldepot.org) or liking their Facebook page. The Depot appreciates your support and hopes to see you at the Depot soon!

## Council & Staff

Timothy M. Flinchum  
Mayor

John N. McDermon

Mayor Pro Tem

Susan H. Gordon

Councilwoman

Ricky S. Plunkett

Councilman

Jesse A. Stigall

Councilman

D. Barrett Burge

Town Attorney

\*\*\*\*\*

Megan Garner

Town Manager

Dora Moore

Town Clerk

Wade Gilley, Jr.

Finance Director

Misty Meadows

Administrative Assistant

Joe Johnson

Town Deputy

Brandon Baugus

Town Deputy

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Jason Hill

Public Works Director

Chris Southern

Public Works Crew Leader

Donnie White

Public Works  
Maintenance Tech II

Jarrett Golding

Public Works  
Maintenance Tech I

\*\*\*\*\*

Andy Marshall

Fire Chief

Brian McGlamery

Fire Captain

Eric Stewart

Fire Captain

Mark Williams

Fire Captain

Ryan Hooker

Career Firefighter

Josh Joyce

Career Firefighter

Chad Stevens

Career Firefighter

Josh Wright

Career Firefighter

## Agenda Briefing

1st Monday, 10:00 AM  
(as needed)

## Council Meeting

2nd Monday, 7:00 PM

**TOWN OF RURAL HALL**  
423 Bethania-Rural Hall Road  
Post Office Box 549  
Rural Hall, NC 27045

STD MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USPS  
PERMIT NO. 9  
RURAL HALL, NC

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



### **Food Truck Tuesdays**

*(2nd Tuesday of the Month)*

Town Hall Parking Lot

Starts 11:30 AM



**July 14: Taste Jamaica &  
EmergenSweets**

Check them both out on Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/cometastejamaica/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/cometastejamaica/?ref=br_rs)

<https://www.facebook.com/Emergensweets/>

Mark your calendar for **August 11:**

**Pacific Rim Food Truck**

### **Plan to be away for a few days?**

Summer is prime time for vacations! You can request our community policing officers do a security check while you are out-of-town or away from your home. Please call 336-969-6856 or email [townhall@ruralhall.com](mailto:townhall@ruralhall.com) to request a security check. We can take your information over the phone or you can email the following information: the dates you will be out-of-town, name, address, contact number(s), a list of anyone who will be visiting the home and reason, any vehicles that will be at the residence, and if any lights will be left on.

### **Rural Hall Fireworks Display**

**Friday, July 3**

Mark your calendars for the Town's first annual drive-in fireworks display on Friday, July 3. The display will be visible from multiple locations throughout Town. We plan to have food trucks at Town Hall and Covington Memorial Park that evening and estimate fireworks to begin around 9:30 PM.

Due to COVID-19, attendees are asked to remain at their vehicles and properly social distance. Please stay tuned to our website, social media, and email alerts for updates as we work through the details.

### **July Community Calendar**

- July 3: Town Offices Closed (Independence Day)
- July 3: Drive-In Fireworks Display
- July 14: 11:30 AM, Food Truck Tuesday
- July 17: 7:30 PM, Movie Night (tentative, details TBD)

#### **Mark Your Calendar for...**

- August 4: National Night Out
- August 11: 11:30 AM, Food Truck Tuesday
- August 21: 7:30 PM, Movie Night (tentative, details TBD)

