



# Garden Spot News

November 2020

## Town of Rural Hall

423 Bethania-Rural Hall Rd  
PO Box 549  
Rural Hall, NC 27045

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County Sheriff's Office  
Non-Emergency Number

## Inside This Issue...

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**Voting Information  
and Election Day:**  
Tuesday, November 3

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**RHFD Thanksgiving  
Fire Safety Tips**



Please stay tuned to our website, social media, email alerts, and future publications for updates or cancellations.



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

*"We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us."*

- Joseph Campbell

## Veterans Day – A Day of Celebration and Patriotism

Veterans Day is observed on November 11 in the United States. It is a day to honor all who have served and acknowledge those who have given their lives to protect our freedoms. The Town of Rural Hall will be honoring veterans this November by hanging veteran pole banners throughout Town, thanking veterans for their service and displaying their name, photograph, and branch of service.

Veterans Day originated on November 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. It was originally called "Armistice Day". It became an annual observance in 1926 and a national holiday in 1938. Veterans Day occurs on November 11 every year in the US in honor of the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918 – the end of World War I. Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans, living or dead, who have served the country in war or peace.

The military men and women who serve and protect the United States come from all walks of life and are an important part of our communities. They make sacrifices to protect and honor our freedoms, and so do their families and loved ones. As of 2019, 641,993 veterans lived in the state of North Carolina. Here are some additional facts about the US veteran population ([from www.history.com](http://www.history.com), updated November 11, 2019):

- As of 2018, 18.2 million living veterans served during at least one war.
- Of the 16 million Americans who served during World War II, about 496,777 were still alive as of 2018.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## 2020 Town of Rural Hall "Community" Christmas Parade

December 6 at 2:30 PM



The Town of Rural Hall plans to have the 2020 Christmas parade! It will look a little different this year and there are details to be worked out, but the 2020 parade is "a go" and we are bringing the parade to you!

Due to current state guidelines and restrictions, the 2020 parade will travel a new route and participants will take the parade to the community. It will be similar to the Spontaneous Parade we had in May. Spectators will be able to watch from their own home, porch, yard or street. Due to the parade traveling farther and at a little faster pace, no walkers will be allowed this year. All participants must ride in or on a vehicle or trailer with railings. Participants will travel a designated route throughout town, including as many streets in town as possible. Candy and goodies will be allowed. We will still have an application process and assign lineup times and locations. We will release an application soon and post it on our website and social media, you can pick one up at Town Hall, or have it mailed, faxed or emailed. Please stay tuned for more information as we finalize the details!

## Rural Hall Needs You—Statewide Decline in Volunteer Firefighters

The Rural Hall Fire Department, and many other departments across the state, are looking to recruit volunteer firefighters. Volunteer firefighters are hard to recruit, and even harder to retain. According to FEMA, 72 percent of firefighters in North Carolina are volunteers, and that number is declining at about 11-12 percent annually. This decline is having a critical impact on emergency safety across our state.



People call 911 for a variety of reasons—in need of medical attention, a car accident, a fire in the home, a smell of smoke or gas and not able to find the source. Whatever the reason, most of the time the responders arrive in a fire truck. Volunteer firefighters are essential to fire service and our communities. Local fire departments need volunteers of all skill levels and abilities.

The Rural Hall Fire Department is fortunate to be one of 15 departments selected across North Carolina to participate in a two-year initiative launched by the North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs and the International Association of Fire Chiefs. The initiative is funded by a SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) grant for recruitment and *(Continued on back page)*

## Rural Hall Fire Department Thanksgiving Tips

Safety in the kitchen is always important (it was this year's focus and theme for National Fire Prevention Week), but especially on Thanksgiving Day when there are a lot of people and activity in the home. Thanksgiving cooking and gathering often results in fun and wonderful memories, but for some it results in disturbing statistics.

Did you know **Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment?** In 2017, US fire departments responded to an estimated 1,600 home cooking fires on Thanksgiving. **Unattended cooking** was by far the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths. Cooking equipment was involved in almost half of all reported home fires and home fire injuries, and it is the second leading cause of home fire deaths. Don't let your kitchen or home be a statistic – follow these cooking safety guidelines, anytime you are cooking in the kitchen:

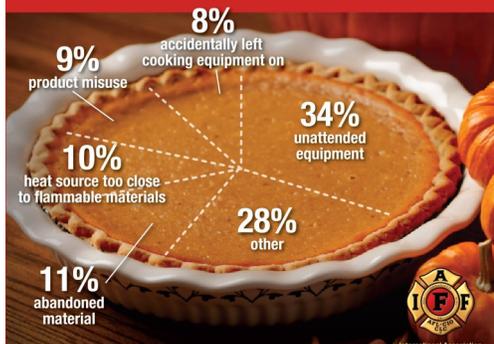
- ⇒ Don't desert the turkey – do not leave cooking unattended.
- ⇒ Use timers to help keep you organized and safe.
- ⇒ Enforce a no-kids zone – let them help, but keep them away from the stove/oven.
- ⇒ Keep anything flammable at a distance.
- ⇒ Unplug unused appliances.
- ⇒ Dress for cooking success – no long, loose sleeves.
- ⇒ Enjoy wine or cocktails AFTER the cooking.
- ⇒ Leave the turkey frying to the professionals – it's dangerous!
- ⇒ Keep a fire extinguisher on hand and stored within reach.
- ⇒ Get a post-fire checkup if you do have a fire!

You can also visit this link for Thanksgiving Safety Tips: <https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/ThanksgivingSafety.ashx>

**The Town of Rural Hall and Rural Hall Fire Department wish you a happy and safe Thanksgiving!**

## THANKSGIVING SAFETY

Fire fighters say the greatest number of home cooking fires occur on **Thanksgiving Day**. Top causes are:



## Waste Management Recycling

**Recycling Dates Highlighted Below**  
**Recycling every other Tuesday**  
**Garbage every Tuesday**

November						
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					

December						
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		

### Rural Hall Senior Citizens Club

RH Senior Citizens Club meetings are cancelled for the remainder of 2020. They will try to gather again early 2021. Be on the lookout for more information. In the meantime, contact Penny Dixon at 336-934-6523 if any questions.

### A Message from Rural Hall Elementary School Principal, Shannon Boles



We are so excited to be entering into Plan B and the ability to have some of our students in the building soon. We are working hard to social distance, wear masks and keep our students and staff safe. It will be a happy day for our staff to see students headed into our buildings. Learning is so much more fun in person. We understand if families opt to continue virtual learning and we will continue to meet all of our students' needs as we navigate this new "normal". As always, thank you for your support and "Go Bulldogs"!

### Veterans Day – A Day of Celebration and Patriotism (continued from front page)

- ◆ 9 percent of veterans are women.
- ◆ 7 million veterans served during the Vietnam War.
- ◆ 3 million veterans have served in support of the War on Terrorism.
- ◆ 2 million veterans served during the Korean War.
- ◆ As of 2017, the top three states with the highest percentage of Veterans were Alaska, Maine and Montana.

*Veterans Day is a day of celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. If you know a veteran, or someone currently in the military, take the time this month to thank them for their sacrifice and service.*

### Election Day & Voting Information (Forsyth County)

The 2020 General Election is **Tuesday, November 3. Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM.** The voter registration deadline has passed and early voting ended October 31. You must already be registered in order to vote on election day. You must vote at your polling place based on your address. You can find your polling place on the FCBOE website at: <https://www.forsyth.cc/elections/>. Visit their website or contact the FCBOE at 336-703-2800 for questions or more information.



## Rural Hall Branch Library



### Library Hours

Monday - Wednesday: 10 AM – 7 PM  
Thursdays and Fridays: 10 AM – 5 PM  
Saturdays: 10 AM – 2 PM

### Rural Hall Library To-Go Schedule

Monday - Wednesday: 10 AM – 7 PM  
Thursdays and Fridays: 10 AM – 6 PM  
Saturdays: 10 AM – 2 PM

### When you visit us...

Please keep your visit brief, wear a mask, and follow guidelines for social distancing (maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet from others). Before entering the library's doors past the lobby area, all visitors will be asked a series of questions. If you answer yes to any of the questions, you will be asked to wait until you are well again to visit the library building.

### Computers

A limited number of computers are available. Users are allowed a total of four, 30-minute sessions per day.

### Virtual Programming & More

While in-person programs have been suspended until further notice, Forsyth County Public Library is working on virtual programming for this fall, and we may host outdoor movies in our parking lot soon (drive-in format). Be on the lookout for more information!

If you miss story time, be aware that there are two story times a day offered via Zoom. Sign up information for these live Zoom story time sessions can be found at: <https://www.forsyth.cc/library/article.aspx?NewsID=25461>.

### Digital Services

Be sure to check out the variety of digital services, including videos of programs and crafts, available through the library's website <http://www.forsythlibrary.org>, and materials through our Library To-Go Services for reserves and requests.

Please do not hesitate to call the branch at 336-703-2970 to choose items for pickup.

## Rural Hall Historical Society

The Rural Hall Historical Society (RHHS) will meet on **Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 PM**. Location TBA. (For board members who cannot attend, the board president will do conference calls.) The RHHS has a Facebook page. If you would like to join, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/819372938503118/>

Request to "join the group".

RHHS membership is \$10 per person / \$15 per family/ Lifetime membership \$150. If you would like to be a member of RHHS, or have questions, contact Janet Carithers at 336-414-1246, [jlmcarr1228@aol.com](mailto:jlmcarr1228@aol.com), or Facebook Messenger.

### 2020 RHHS Officers:

Janet M. Carithers, President  
Miranda Griffin, Vice President  
June Koehn, Secretary  
Susan Gordon, Treasurer

### Additional Board Members:

Carolyn Kiger, Lee Childress, Shirley Koehn, and Ruby Terry.

## Crisis Control Ministry



### CCM Food Pantry

Please consider donating to CCM's food pantry, it does make a difference!

**CCM food pantries are often low on the following items:** cooking oil, spaghetti sauce, beef stew, canned meats, canned fruit, toothpaste, toothbrushes, potato flakes, box dinners, and baking items.

CCM food pantries also distribute personal hygiene products, laundry aids, cleaning supplies, and paper products in addition to food.

### CCM Gift of the Month

Each year this list is modified to reflect the needs of our food pantry. Please consider becoming a gift of the month partner.

#### November Item

**Sugar, flour, and baking items**

### Share the Warmth Program

You can help your neighbors stay warm this winter by making a financial donation to Crisis Control. Last year, CCM assisted over 4,300 residents with utility and housing bills. You can help "share the warmth" this winter by making a donation online at: <https://www.crisiscontrol.org/ways-to-give/financial-donation.html>.

## Council & Staff

Timothy M. Flinchum  
Mayor  
John N. McDermon  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Susan H. Gordon  
Councilwoman  
Ricky S. Plunkett  
Councilman  
Jesse A. Stigall  
Councilman

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Megan Garner  
Town Manager  
Dora Moore  
Town Clerk  
Wade Gilley, Jr.  
Finance Director  
Misty Meadows  
Administrative Assistant  
Dawn Tysor  
LPA Supervisor  
Jonathan Collins  
Title Clerk  
Dawn Sutton  
Title Clerk  
Joe Johnson  
Town Deputy  
Trent Thornton  
Town Deputy

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Jason Hill  
Public Works Director  
Chris Southern  
Public Works Crew Leader  
Donnie White  
Maintenance Tech II  
Jarrett Golding  
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

***Rural Hall Needs You (continued from front page)***

retention of volunteer firefighters. The initiative involves locally targeted research in communities and holding workshops across the state.

**What do volunteer firefighters do exactly?**

Volunteer firefighters protect the community from disaster situations and respond to accidents and other emergencies. They suppress fires, drive and maintain fire vehicles, maintain fire stations and equipment, provide first-aid and CPR, clean up emergency scenes, participate in drills and training, and more. Being a volunteer firefighter is a rewarding experience and can be life-changing. It is an opportunity to make a real difference in your community, by directly impacting the lives and safety of others, as well as gain invaluable experience and skills along the way.

If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information (ages 14 and up), please reach out to **Fire Chief Andy Marshall at 336-969-9171 or [amarshall@ruralhall.com](mailto:amarshall@ruralhall.com)**. You can also visit [www.volunteerfirenc.org](http://www.volunteerfirenc.org).

The Rural Hall Fire Department is eager to increase volunteer recruits and transform fire service in our community—please help us



**Rural Hall Historic Train Depot & Railroad Museum**

***Santa at the Caboose Event***

**December 12, 6–8:30 PM**

The Rural Hall Historic Train Depot and Railroad Museum is excited to announce that Santa will make his annual appearance at the Depot on **Saturday, December 12 from 6:00 PM until 8:30 PM**.

Due to current health and safety guidelines, all activities will take place outdoors and attendees will be asked to wear a face covering. More information, including a complete list of activities, will be posted on Facebook as soon as it becomes available. Thank you and looking forward to seeing you at the Depot!

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



**Last Food Truck Tuesday of 2020  
Town Hall**

*(2nd Tuesday of the Month, starts 11:30 AM)*

**November 10: *Sooo Truckin Hungry***



**Community Calendar**

- November 1: Daylight Saving Time Ends
- November 2: 10 AM, Agenda Briefing
- November 3: Election Day (Polls open 6:30 AM—7:30 PM)
- November 9: 7 PM, Council Meeting
- November 10: 11:30 AM, Food Truck Tuesday
- November 11: Veterans Day, Town Offices Closed
- November 26-27: Thanksgiving, Town Offices Closed

