



# Garden Spot News

December 2020

## Town of Rural Hall

423 Bethania-Rural Hall Rd  
PO Box 549  
Rural Hall, NC 27045  
[www.ruralhall.com](http://www.ruralhall.com)  
[townhall@ruralhall.com](mailto:townhall@ruralhall.com)  
336-969-6856 PHONE  
336-969-9081 FAX  
336-727-2112 Forsyth  
County Sheriff's Office  
Non-Emergency Number

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 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 should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count."*

- Neal A. Maxwell

## TORH Public Works Employee Chris Southern—Retiring After 28 Years

**Chris Southern, Public Works Crew Leader**, has been working for the Town of Rural Hall since 1992. To say he has been an asset to our town and the Department of Public Works is an understatement. Chris is retiring on Monday, November 30 with 28 plus years of service. Chris has worked in the Department of Public Works since he began with the Town of Rural Hall in March of 1992. Not only will we miss his knowledge and expertise, but also his sense of humor and friendship.



On Friday, November 20, Public Works hosted a Drive-Thru Retirement event honoring Chris at the Public Works Facility. If you were not able to make the drive-thru event, feel free to drop off any cards or well-wishes at the Town of Rural Hall office at 423 Bethania-Rural Hall Road.

Congratulations to Chris from all of us at the Town of Rural Hall. We are thankful for Chris's service and dedication to the Town of Rural Hall and the community, and we wish him the very best for a long and happy retirement!



## The Town of Rural Hall Welcomes Newest Employee

The Town of Rural Hall welcomed our newest employee, **Shykerria Moore**, to our team on Monday, November 9. Shykerria goes by "Shy" and is a Title Clerk at the Rural Hall License Plate Agency. She has title experience and previously worked for Flow Automotive's Wholesale Department. Shy lives in Winston-Salem and outside of work she enjoys spending time with her family. Shy is excited about the opportunity to work at the Rural Hall License Plate Agency and the Town of Rural Hall is glad to have her as part of our team!

## 2020 Town of Rural Hall Christmas Events

### Virtual Christmas Tree Lighting—Thursday, December 3 at 6 PM

Please tune in to **Town of Rural Hall's Facebook** at **6 PM** to view our live, virtual Christmas Tree Lighting from Town Hall! Follow us on Facebook if you don't already. Join us as we officially light the Christmas trees at Town Hall and declare Christmas! Our Town Council will be sharing a Christmas story and someone special will be paying us a visit! I wonder who it could be? You will have to tune in to find out!



### "Community" Christmas Parade—Sunday, December 6 at 2:30 PM

We are so excited that we will be having our 2020 "Community" Christmas parade! The parade will start at Town Hall and travel a designated route throughout town limits, including as many side streets as possible. Spectators can watch from their home, yard, or nearby street or viewing area.

The parade will not travel down dead-end roads or roads that are difficult for large vehicles to turn around. **The finalized route will be posted on our website and social media.** If the parade will not be traveling down your street, please look for the closest viewing area on the map. We will also communicate via our email alert list. If you are not already on it, please email [town-clerk@ruralhall.com](mailto:town-clerk@ruralhall.com).

Candy and goodies will be thrown by parade participants! So get your candy bag/buckets, chairs, blankets, cameras, etc. ready for Sunday, December 6th! We can't wait to see you!

**(Rain date: Sunday, December 13, 2020)**

## Rural Hall Fire Department—Holiday Safety Tips

Christmas lights and decorations, festivities and entertaining, yummy treats and feasts – all of these make for a wonderful holiday; however, they also cause an increased risk of home fires during the holidays.

### Christmas Decorations and Tree Fires

Carefully decorating your home can help make your holidays safer. Between 2013-2017, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 780 home structure fires per year where decorations ignited the fire, excluding Christmas trees. U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 160 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year. Almost three of every five December home decoration fires are started by candles. Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are much more likely to be serious. Christmas trees become increasingly flammable as they continue to dry out in your home. More than one-quarter of home fires that begin with Christmas trees occur in January.

Visit [https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/Winter\\_Holiday\\_Safety.pdf](https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/Winter_Holiday_Safety.pdf) for **Winter Holiday Safety Tips**.

Visit <https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/ChristmasTreeSafetyTips.pdf> for **Christmas Tree Safety Tips**.

It is important to know what to do to keep your family and friends safe while hosting and entertaining during the holidays. The NFPA provides a wealth of safety information to help ensure the holiday season is a safe one. Visit them at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) for more information and fire safety tips.

**The Rural Hall Fire Department wishes you a very Merry Christmas!**

## Waste Management Recycling

Recycling Dates Highlighted Below

Recycling every other Tuesday

Garbage every Tuesday

December 2020						
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		

January 2021						
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						

**Flag Program:** Flags can be purchased at the Town of Rural Hall for \$20 in memory or honor of someone or a group. These funds help replenish the flags that fly along Broad Street and NC 65 as they become tattered and torn.



### Recent Flag Purchases

*In Honor Of:*

CHRIS SOUTHERN  
FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
TOWN OF RURAL HALL  
BY LARRY & BILLIE WILLIAMS

CHRIS SOUTHERN  
FOR 28 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
BY THE "PUBLIC WORKS CREW"

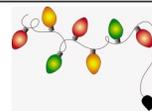


### Blessing Box

A blessing box will soon be located at Town Hall. It will be a food pantry and be open to anyone in the community. Stay tuned to our social media and next newsletter for more details. Please contact Johnnie Tayloe at [Johnrtayloe@gmail.com](mailto:Johnrtayloe@gmail.com) if questions.

### #decktheHALL

We plan to **#decktheHALL** again this year! Watch for more details...



## A Message from Rural Hall Elementary School Principal,



### Shannon Boles

We have a HAPPY STAFF at Rural Hall Elementary! We have welcomed our Pre-K, EC Curriculum Support, Kindergarten, and First Grade back into the building. These last two weeks have been wonderful being able to see the happy faces of **our reason** for being here. It is unfortunate that we can't have everyone back in the building for in-person learning, but we are gradually getting some of our students back. Some of our students have remained remote, but we are accommodating for their learning preferences too. Hopefully, the Board of Education will bring back more of our students soon.

We love teaching and will continue our dedication to our Rural Hall Bulldogs, whether they are in-person or remote. Happy Holidays from our staff and we hope everyone remains safe as we navigate our new circumstances.

## Rural Hall Area Business Association (RHABA)

The Rural Hall Area Business Association invites you to be a part of networking with other local area businesses and organizations! Meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 PM at Mayflower Seafood Restaurant. Currently, the RHABA is holding zoom meetings (no in-person meetings until further notice). **The December meeting will be on December 8 at 12:30 PM (second Tuesday)**. For the zoom meeting link and/or more information, please contact by Steve Hill at 336-969-9511 or email [promisekp@earthlink.net](mailto:promisekp@earthlink.net).

## 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 two, 1-hour sessions per day.

### Virtual Programming & More

While in-person programs have been suspended until further notice, Forsyth County Public Library is working on developing some virtual programming. 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>.

We will be offering one program for adults via Zoom in December:

### Friday, Dec. 11 at 1:30 PM: Holiday Ornament DIY-A Virtual Zoom program

Do you need fresh holiday ornaments for your tree? Follow along and create three quick, budget-friendly, and colorful ornaments for the season. Registration is required in person, by phone or online at <https://tinyurl.com/y6eg7gkp>. Registration is limited so hurry to join the fun! Once you have registered, you may pick up supplies for the program at the library.

### 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.

## Crisis Control Ministry



This holiday season send a **2020 Holiday Honor Card** and give the gift of **LOVE and HOPE** to our neighbors in crisis. You can help provide food, medication, housing, and utility assistance to our neighbors by purchasing your holiday cards from Crisis Control Ministry (CCM) and honoring your clients, friends, and family. The holiday honor card is the perfect way to spread holiday cheer while giving back to your community. The cards also make a great alternative gift for those friends and family members that are hard to shop for.

**For a minimum tax-deductible donation of \$5 per card**, CCM will beautifully hand address, stamp with a holiday stamp, and mail these high-quality cards for you. If you prefer to address and sign the cards yourself, you can pick them up at a CCM office or have them mailed to you. All proceeds from the card sales go directly to helping our neighbors in Forsyth and Stokes Counties. Visit [www.ccmcard.org](http://www.ccmcard.org) to see design options, order cards, and for more information. (2020 Honor Card by Beth Jones pictured above).

Please note Crisis Control Ministry is closed December 23-27, 2020. We will try our best to process orders that come in on Monday, December 21 before Christmas.

**CCM Food Pantry:** 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.

**Gift of the Month Item: Saltine Crackers**



### Second Harvest Food Bank NWNC Holiday Giving Ideas

Purchase Dewey's Bakery products at [Deweys.com/SecondHarvestNWNC](http://Deweys.com/SecondHarvestNWNC) now through January 15 and **50% of your purchase total will be donated to Second Harvest.**

Send a personalized **Second Harvest Food Bank Holiday Honor Card** and Second Harvest will turn your recognition into meals for neighbors in need.

Shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon will donate a portion to Second Harvest at no cost to you!

Visit Second Harvest NWNC at <https://www.secondharvestnwnc.org/> for more details and information on ways to give gifts that give back!

## 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  
Shykerria Moore  
Title Clerk  
Dawn Sutton  
Title Clerk  
Joe Johnson  
Town Deputy  
Trent Thornton  
Town Deputy

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Jason Hill  
Public Works Director  
Donnie White  
Maintenance Tech II  
Jarrett Golding  
Maintenance Tech I

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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**



**Annual Christmas Food Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank NWNC**

We are hosting our annual food drive for **Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina**. Food donations are needed now more than ever! This is a super easy way to help give back during the holidays! We will collect canned foods/nonperishable items through **December 7**. Collection boxes will be set up at **Town Hall and the Rural Hall Fire Department**. You can also give a monetary donation. Checks should be made to: **Second Harvest Food Bank NWNC**. For a complete list of the best foods to donate, visit: <https://www.secondharvestnwc.org/bestfoodstodonate>.

See page 3 of the newsletter for **Second Harvest Food Bank NWNC Holiday Giving Ideas—Gifts that give back!**



**Ornaments for Town Hall Christmas Tree Needed**

We need your help making ornaments for our Town Hall Christmas tree that will be set up by our front doors. Have fun and get creative! This is a great family project to do together. We are excited to see the different ideas you come up with!

Come by Town Hall (423 Bethania-Rural Hall Road) and hang your ornament on our tree. If the ornament is heavy, please sit it by the tree. *(You are welcome to pick up your ornament after the holidays; however, we cannot guarantee it will still be on or by the tree.)*

**Rural Hall Historic Train Depot & Railroad Museum**  
**Santa at the Caboose Event**  
**December 12 from 6:00 PM—8:30 PM**

You better not cry, you better not pout – because Santa Claus is coming to the **Rural Hall Historic Train Depot on Saturday, December 12!** Activities include socially distanced visits with Santa, Christmas songs performed by Sara Culler Chatham, a Lionel “Polar Express” Model Train Set raffle, and more.

In adherence with COVID-19 guidelines, all activities will take place outdoors and attendees are asked to wear a face covering. **Admission is free; donations appreciated.**



For more information visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ruralhalldepot/>

**Community Calendar**

- December 3: 6 PM, Virtual Christmas Tree Lighting
- December 6: 2:30 PM, “Community” Christmas Parade
- December 7: 10 AM, Agenda Briefing
- December 14: 7 PM, Council Meeting
- December 24-28: Town Offices Closed for Christmas
- January 1: Town Offices Closed for New Year’s Day

