



Garden Spot News

August 2023

Town of Rural Hall

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*Forsyth County Sheriff's Office
Non-Emergency Number
336-727-2112 (Dispatch)
336-917-7001 (Office)*

Check us out on Social media and be sure to follow or like us! Please stay tuned to our social media, website, email alerts, and future publications for events, update, cancellations, etc.



Council Meetings

August 7

Agenda Briefing
3:00 pm Council Chambers

August 14

Regular Council Meeting
7:00pm Council Chambers



Rural Hall Spotlight

Rural Hall Fire and Rescue Department



All too often, the sound of sirens emerges through the silence of Rural Hall. Men and women have been rushing from full-time jobs, ball games, dinner tables and leisurely evenings to extinguish fires since 1939, when the Rural Hall Fire and Rescue Department was formed. It was the first volunteer fire department in Forsyth County, and Carl Baker served as the first chief.

At the beginning, the department purchased a 1941 Plymouth truck for \$500 and spent \$25 to paint it "fire engine red." The truck was equipped with ladders, lanterns, extinguishers, and a hose. In 2003, the fire department regained ownership of the original fire truck and it has since been restored to its original look.

In 1949, a two-story building near what is now Rural Hall Elementary School gave the department a place to house their equipment and rooms upstairs to hold meetings. Through its early years, the fire station was enlarged to house more equipment that the department needed to provide adequate protection for its citizens. In 1988, major renovations began on the building to house the growing fleet and a Forsyth County Emergency Medical Service paramedic unit. The finished product left no signs of the old building. Now, Forsyth County Truck 309 is housed at the fire station.

In 1955, a fire marshal was added, and the Rural Hall's Firemen's Auxiliary was established. A junior fire department was formed in 1968.

On August 17, 1992, the first full-time paid firefighter, Mark Williams, was employed by the town. Full-time, 24-hour fire and rescue service began in November 1996. Eddie Horn was the department's first paid fire chief.



The current full-time staff is led by Fire Chief Mike Simone and Fire Captains Ryan Hooker, Josh Joyce, and Josh Wright. Career Firefighters include Ryan Key, Thomas Ma-be, Chris Nowlin, Chad Stevens, Mark Thorpe, and Josh Kiger. Part-Time Firefighters include Deputy Chief Brian McGlamery, Chaplain Donald Davis, Safety Officer Scott Castle, Captain Al Childress, Rescue Captain Scottie Emerson, and Lieutenant Jason Hill. Thanks to all who protect and serve our community.

New Town of Rural Hall Attorney



The Town of Rural Hall is excited to welcome Hugh Campbell as our new Town Attorney! Following a request for proposals and interviews with two of the five firms that responded, The Town Council unanimously selected the Campbell Law Group, PLLC to provide legal services for the Town.

Mr. Campbell brings many years of experience with municipal legal matters to his new role as our Town Attorney. He has served as Attorney for the Town of Dobson since 2004, and for the City of Mount Airy since 2002. He is a graduate of the Wake Forest School of Law (1992) and Davidson College (1989). From 2005 through 2008, he served on the Council of Directors for the NC League of Municipal Attorneys, and is Past President of the Judicial District 17-B Bar Association.

Hugh and his wife Susan have three adult children, and they reside in Mount Airy, where Hugh is also active in numerous civic and community endeavors.

We are excited to have Hugh Campbell as our newly appointed Town Attorney, and he is already working with our Town Council and management team on several projects. Welcome, Hugh!

Council & Staff

- Timothy M. Flinchum
Mayor
- Susan H. Gordon
Mayor Pro Tem
- Janet M. Carithers
Councilwoman
- Eddie Horn
Councilman
- Terry Bennett
Councilman
- Hugh B. Campbell, III
Town Attorney

- Ron Niland
Interim Town Manager
- Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk
- Homer T. Dearmin
Interim Finance Director
- Donna K. Watson
Administrative Assistant

- Dawn Tysor
LPA Supervisor
- Jonathan Collins
Title Clerk
- Lisa Lane
Title Clerk
- Shykerria Moore
Title Clerk
- Annette Sawyers
Title Clerk

- Jason Hill
Public Works Director
- Donnie White
Maintenance Tech II
- Dalton Pendry
Maintenance Tech II
- Brian Jobe
Maintenance Tech II

- Mike Simone
Fire Chief
- Ryan Hooker
Fire Captain
- Josh Joyce
Fire Captain
- Josh Wright
Fire Captain
- Ryan Key
Career Firefighter
- Thomas Mabe
Career Firefighter
- Chris Nowlin
Career Firefighter
- Josh Kiger
Career Firefighter
- Chad Stevens
Swing Shift Firefighter
- Mark Thorpe
Swing Shift Firefighter

- Steve May
Code Enforcement

- Michael Collins
Town Deputy
- Trent Thornton
Town Deputy



National Night Out– August 1, 2023

Join the Town of Rural Hall and the Forsyth County Sheriffs Office for our annual National Night Out!

Free food, drinks, and family fun, including a bounce house and the barrel train ride!



The Rural Hall Citizens' Academy



Are you interested in learning more about how local government works? The Town of Rural Hall is hosting a FREE Rural Hall Citizens Academy!

The Rural Hall Citizens' Academy is designed to give participants an in-depth look at Town Government, including how each Town department functions, how our government is funded, applicable laws and statutes, the Town's infrastructure, and how the Town provides services to our citizens. The Citizens' Academy is a four-week program, with each session lasting approximately 90 minutes, and meeting locations will vary depending on subject matter. 2023 Citizens' Academy dates are:

- August 9, 2023 – General Government & Finance
- August 23, 2023 – Fire & Public Safety
- August 16, 2023 – Public Works, Utilities, & Recreation
- August 30, 2023 – Visioning/Future Projects
- September 11, 2023 City Council Meeting – Graduation!

Stop by town hall for application or visit:

<https://www.ruralhall.com/citizens-academy/>

Rural Hall Lifespan

The annual " Back to School Bash" will be held on August 12th at Rural Hall Covington Park from 10-noon. There will be the distribution of free school backpacks with supplies for K through 12th grades. Also, there will be fun activities, prizes, and refreshments. The event is sponsored by the Rural Hall Lifespan Center INC., Rural Hall National Women of Achievement Inc., and the Lily Network

Rural Hall Historic Train Depot and Railroad Museum



The Depot will present it's 2nd Annual Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 19th from 1:00-3:00pm. The Open House event will feature ice cream (of course!), children's games, tours of the Depot, and more. If you are looking for something cool to do this summer, you don't want to miss this! Admission is free; donations are appreciated! See you at the Depot!

Waste Management Recycling Recycling Dates Highlighted Below

Recycling every other Tuesday

Garbage every Tuesday

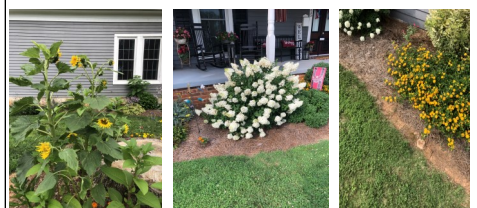
*Holiday-one day delay

August 2023						
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		

September 2023						
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

Yard of the Month—July 2023

Congratulations – 8025 Broad Street
Gerardo Gonzalez and Chon Russell Gonzalez





Rural Hall Garden Club

The gardens are still ablaze with color in August and there are plenty of jobs to do taking cuttings, dead-heading, feeding and watering. Much of the garden is probably packed with half-hardy annuals, such as Cosmos, Cleomes and Zinnias. They are joined by a crowd of tender perennials. These are all pumping out the flowers and will provide a carnival of color into late Autumn along with our Salvias, Hydrangeas and other flowering plants. Although Fall planting doesn't start in earnest for another month or so, there are still flowers to sow if you're wondering what to plant in August. Consider these plants 1) "Primula" they are easy to establish and they will come back year after year giving much needed early season color in containers and borders. 2) "Cerinthe major" 'Purpurascens' 3) "Nigellas" also known as love in a mist. Also, if you want to enhance the borders of your beds consider the Versatile viburnum's they have lovely foliage and pretty, scented flowers, so a good choice if you looking at what to plant in August in your garden borders. Many varieties also produce berries that are an attractive food source for birds and other wildlife, so they are good to include in a wildlife garden. There are many species that are native to North America so there is bound to be a variety that is perfectly suited to the conditions in your own backyard. Viburnums are easy to grow, and there lots of different varieties for specific blooming schedules, so plan for flowers to appear in spring or summer. You could choose a selection to see you through most of the year. Most importantly remember to keep yourselves hydrated, and wear sunscreen and clothing to protect you from the Sun. Your body will thank you in later years. Quote from Paul Simon ***"Nothing dies of too much love"***

Our family garden club has been organized for Rural Hall and surrounding area to help promote Rural Hall's theme, "Garden Spot of the World." Men, women and children (ages 12 and up) are welcome and invited to join us.

Contact Information email ruralhallgardenclub@gmail.com

Facebook Page search:
[RH Garden Club](#) "Rural Hall Garden Club"

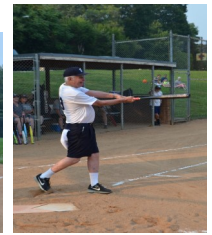
Bombers vs. Young Guns

Softball Game & Picnic



On July 17, 2023, on a hot and muggy Monday night at Covington Memorial Park in Rural Hall, the Bombers Softball Team played the Young Guns Softball

Team. The Bombers range in age from 79 to 95 (the 79-year-old is the only woman on the team; therefore, she was allowed to join the team before she was 80). The players on the Young Guns are all ages, up to 79 years old. When they turn 80, they move to the Bombers. The game was close, but the Young Guns won 12-11. The Bombers are coached by Jim Matney and the Young Guns are coached by Jim's son, Bret Matney. After the game, both teams were treated to a picnic, provided by The Legacy Group from Winston-Salem First Church. Dr. Allen Griffin is the Senior Pastor. The Legacy Group has an outing once a month and for July they chose to come to the Bombers/Young Guns softball game. Doug Jackson is a member of the Young Guns and he and his wife, Mabel, arranged to have the Legacy Group provide the picnic for the players. The Legacy Group brought lots of folks to cheer on both teams, including Legacy Pastors David and Joyce Henson. Prior to the game, Pastor David led the group in prayer. After the prayer, Doug Jackson (from the Young Guns) and Larry Chase (from the Bombers) sang the National Anthem. At the beginning of the 4th inning, the crowd sang "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." It was a wonderful event for all. The Bombers and Young Guns play every Monday night, weather permitting, beginning at 6:30 at Covington Memorial Park.



Fireworks—July 3, 2023

We had a great time and turnout for our Fireworks display this year. Thank you to everyone who came out to join in the fun.



Rural Hall Elementary School



Rural Hall Elementary is planning a back-to-school drive to support families in need. We plan to include school clothes and hygiene needs in the items students purchase to start the school year with.

We have identified students that would benefit from a back-to-school outfit, hygiene items, book bag, and school supplies. We hope you will support us with the means to purchase these items for the identified students at a back-to-school shopping event. Specifically, Rural Hall Administrators and Student Services (School Counselor and School Social Worker) are asking our Partners in Success to collect Walmart Gift Cards so that we can take students shopping for an outfit, school supplies, hygiene items, and backpacks in August. We are tentatively looking at August 18th for the shopping event.

We hope you are willing to support our school and students by donating Walmart gift cards for our students. We would like all gift cards donated by August 14, 2023.

Please contact Shannon Boles for any questions 336-703-6789 or spboles@wsfcs.k12.nc.us



Rural Hall Municipal Elections — November 2023



Mayor

Bennett, Terry Michael	Terry M. Bennett	PO Box 703	Rural Hall, NC
Gordon, Susan Hawks	Susan Hawks Gordon	7430 Broad St.	Rural Hall, NC

Town Council

Lane, Mark Alan	Mark Lane	7701 Broad St.	Rural Hall, NC
Woodcock, Michael Thomas	Michael Woodcock	7685 Broad St.	Rural Hall, NC
Carithers, Janet Masencup	Janet M. Carithers	7439 Church St.	Rural Hall, NC



For many of us, water activities equal fun. But it's important to be aware of electrical hazards while enjoying the water. Know how to be safe around swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.

- If you are putting in a new pool, hot tub, or spa, be sure the wiring is performed by an electrician experienced in the special safety requirements for these types of installations.
- Outdoor receptacles must have covers that keep them dry even when appliances are plugged into them.
- Ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are special devices designed to protect against electric shock and electrocution. They are required for most pool, spa, or hot tub equipment. They may be in the form of an outlet or a circuit breaker. Test the GFCIs monthly according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Electrical appliances, equipment, and cords should be kept at least 6 feet away from the water. When possible, use battery operated appliances and equipment, such as televisions, radios, and stereos.
- Avoid handling electrical devices when you are wet.
- Make sure that any overhead lines maintain the proper distance over a pool and other structures, such as a diving board. If unsure, contact a qualified electrician or your local utility company to make sure power lines are a safe distance away.
- Do not swim during a thunderstorm.
- Have a qualified electrician periodically inspect and—where necessary—replace or upgrade the electrical devices or equipment that keep your pool, spa, or hot tub electrically safe.
- Have a qualified electrician show you how to turn off all power in case of an emergency.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

KNOW THE RISKS!

Electrocution is death by an electrical shock. Be aware when skin is wet or when surrounding surfaces, such as the grass or pool deck, are wet. Wet skin or wet surfaces can greatly increase the chance of electrocution when electricity is present.

There are several signs of electrical shock. Swimmers may feel a tingling sensation. They may experience muscle cramps. They may not be able to move. They may feel as if something is holding them in place.

If you think someone in the water is being shocked, turn off all power, but do not attempt to go in the water. Use a fiberglass or other kind of rescue hook that doesn't conduct electricity to help the swimmer. Have someone call **9-1-1**.

If you think you are being shocked while in the water move away from the source of the shock. Get out of the water.

FACT

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has reports of 14 deaths related to electrocutions in swimming pools from 2003 to 2014. Hot tubs and spas may present the same hazard as swimming pools.



Every year, wildfires burn across the U.S., and more and more people are living where wildfires are a real risk. But by working together, residents can make their own property—and their neighborhood—much safer from wildfire.

- **REMOVE** leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters, and on and under the deck to help prevent embers from igniting your home.
- **SCREEN** areas below decks and porches with 1/8" wire mesh to help prevent material from accumulating underneath.
- **COVER** exterior attic and soffit vents with 1/8" wire mesh to help prevent sparks from entering your home.
- **ENCLOSE** eaves to help prevent ember entry.
- **INSPECT** shingles or roof tiles. **REPLACE** missing shingles or tiles. **COVER** ends of tiles with bird stops or cement to help prevent ember penetration during a wildfire.

Tips for Landscaping Around Your Home

- **REMOVE** dead vegetation and other flammable materials, especially within the first 5 feet of the home.
- **KEEP** your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to help reduce fire intensity.
- **PRUNE** tree limbs so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet above the ground to help reduce the chance of fire getting into the crowns of the trees.
- **MOVE** construction material, trash, and woodpiles at least 30 feet away from the home and other outbuildings.
- **DISPOSE** of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings that you have cut to reduce fuel for fire.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Increase your wildfire safety. Make simple low-cost changes to your home and landscape starting today.



Visit www.firewise.org for more information.

SAFETY TIPS FOR DRIVERS

BACK TO SCHOOL



PLEASE SLOW DOWN

School days bring congestion: kids are on bikes hurrying to get to school, parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. It is very important for drivers to slow down and pay attention when kids are present - especially before and after school.



IF YOU ARE DROPPING OFF

More children are hit by cars near schools than at any other location. The following apply to all school zones: don't double park, don't load or unload children across the street from the school, carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.



SHARE THE ROAD WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

According to the NSC, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4-7 years old, and they are walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus.



SHARE THE ROAD WITH BUSES

If you are driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.



SHARE THE ROAD WITH BICYCLISTS

On most roads, bicyclists have the same rights as vehicles. Children riding bikes create problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions. The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

<https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/seasonal-safety/back-to-school/drivers>

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

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 RURAL HALL, NC



Food Bank

St. James United Methodist Church holds a weekly food bank on Thursday from 11:00-4:00pm at the church (165 Bethania-Rural Hall Rd). There is a small intake process that involves brief questions before pickup. It is recommended that community members be able to provide their own transportation, as well as their bags for pickup. Donations of nonperishable food items are needed. Volunteers are appreciated.

St. James partners with Second Harvest Food Bank to help with cost and food for their party.



Town of Rural Hall
 Hats for sale!
\$20.00
 Stop by to get yours before they're gone!

Flat & Fast Rural Hall 5K 10K
October 28, 2023

Registration is now open for the 16th running of the Flat & Fast Rural Hall 5K 10K being held October 28, 2023. All proceeds benefit the Rural Hall Elementary School. Businesses are also invited to sponsor and get their name (and logo depending on level of sponsorship) on 540 runner & volunteer shirts, on the website, on a huge check in the school lobby all year, and on all the printed lists that we circulate around town between now and the event. For more information call Steve Hill at 336-969-9511 or click on the link below:

<https://www.ruralhall.com/business-rural-hall-nc/rhaba/>

Rural Hall Business Association
 Meetings held at Mayflower Seafood Restaurant at 12:30pm

Meeting Date	Speaker
15-Aug	Pat Ivey–NCDOT–Community road project
19-Sep	NC House of Representatives, Kyle Hall
17-Oct	RHES – Race Fundraiser Update & Final Volunteer Needs
21-Nov	Bobby Kimbrough, Forsyth County Sheriff
12-Dec	Rural Hall Elementary School Program & Luncheon