



SUMMER FUN DAYS AT THE N.C. TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM!

Train rides are only offered on specific Summer Fun Days.

Annual Fire Truck Festival at the N.C. Transportation Museum

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 / 9 AM – 2:30 PM



Fireworks Over Historic Spencer Shops

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 / 6 PM – 9 PM

Brew & Choo Summer Concert at the N.C. Transportation Museum

AUGUST 8, 2026

More events and info at nctransportationmuseum.org.

CHECKING IN AT SPENCER PUBLIC LIBRARY

This year's theme for the Summer Reading Program is Celebrate American Heritage. We will cover major time periods in history every Tuesday in June at 2 PM.

- ◆ **June 2** Native American
- ◆ **June 9** Revolutionary War fife and drum
- ◆ **June 16** Sojourner Truth Impersonation
- ◆ **June 23** Reenactment of everyday life of a Civil War soldier.
- ◆ **June 30** Elvis Impersonator
- ◆ **July 7** Dandelion Circus Arts

Please register by May 25 so that we can order enough crafts and snacks for the summer. Call our library phone (704-636-9072) during operating hours (Monday-Tuesday, 11:00 AM-6:00 PM, Wednesday, Noon-5:00 PM). More information on our Facebook page, facebook.com/spencerncpubliblibrary#.



P.O. Box 45
Spencer, NC 28159

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“When adults feel safe seeking help without judgment, children are safer. Ending substance use stigma strengthens child safety.”

— Erin Moody & Murphy the Therapy Dog

rowancountync.gov/1882/HOPE-Programs



More info:
rowancountync.gov/1966/Mental-Health-and-Resiliency



If someone is in immediate danger, call 911.



May is Mental Health Month:

WHY IT MATTERS IN ROWAN COUNTY

May is Mental Health Month, a time to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and highlight resources that support mental and emotional well-being. Mental health is just as important as physical health—it affects how we think, feel, act, handle stress, relate to others, and make decisions. Everyone has mental health, and everyone can benefit from learning how to care for it.

The 2025 Rowan County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) identified mental health as a top community health issue. Residents reported ongoing stigma, limited access to services, and long wait times, as well as strong links between mental health, substance use, trauma, and stress.

Breaking the Stigma

Stigma is one of the biggest barriers to seeking mental health support. It can appear as silence, judgment, or fear of being treated differently. Reducing stigma starts with open conversations, respectful language, listening without judgment, and normalizing help-seeking as a sign of strength. When stigma decreases, people are more likely to seek help early and stay connected to care.

Mental Health and Resiliency

The Rowan Mental Health & Resiliency webpage highlights the connection between mental health and resilience—the ability to cope with stress,

adversity, and trauma. The page also shares practical strategies and local supports that help individuals build coping skills and resilience.

988

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers free, confidential support 24/7 for anyone experiencing emotional distress, a mental health crisis, or overwhelming stress.

Call or text 988, or chat online to connect with trained counselors who listen, provide support, and help connect people to local resources. You do not have to be suicidal to contact 988—support is available for any mental health concern.

MAYOR

Jonathan Williams

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Peter Franzese

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Kyle Harris
Planner

Heather Kann
Finance Officer

Michael Lanning
Fire Chief

Joe Morris
Special Projects Planner

Joel Taylor
Public Works Director

CONTACT US:

Text Us: 704-870-0720

Town Hall: 704-633-2231

Fire: 704-637-6135

Library: 704-636-9072

Police: 704-633-3574

Public Works: 704-633-5331

Call 911 for Emergencies

Rowan Co Public Safety

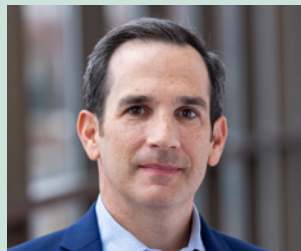
Non-Emergency line:
704-216-8500

MANAGER'S NOTES

by Peter Franzese

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

In recent years, I've heard a frequent wish from members of the community for the types of retail opportunities that Spencer enjoyed decades ago. These have been harder to hold on to over the last 30 years or so. While there are consultants out there who would be happy to sell their line of services to attract retail development to our community, our team believes we already know the formula. The two-step formula is to make the public investments necessary to create a high quality of life for residents, and allow the resulting residential growth to attract business seeking the population density that meets their market needs.



Over the last six years, the Town of Spencer has invested in community facilities; public safety staff, equipment, and technology; new recreational opportunities, and infrastructure projects to improve stormwater management and local water quality. Most of this investment has been made with the support of State grants and private donations, allowing local investments in the outstanding staff that provide services to the community.

The result has improved the quality of life for locals and started to attract the type of development they have missed for decades. Since 2022, our Town has issued over 400 zoning permits, with about 20 percent of those for new residential development. We expect this permit trend to continue in the coming years, with plans for a variety of housing styles to meet local demand.

Along with the residential growth, we've seen a variety of commercial projects bring new life to properties that sat vacant for decades. The shared public and private investment in Park Plaza is just one example. We've also had significant interest in industrial development near I-85 that will transform our local tax base and inject needed resources to continue building the quality of life for residents. If you've recently patronized a restaurant, grocery store, or other retail operation that was not here five years ago, you see the results in action. Several long-standing retail properties have enjoyed extensive renovations. Maybe one of these new or recently improved businesses has quickly become a favorite that you can't imagine not having.

There is no doubt that Spencer is open for business. The process does not happen quickly, but instead quietly and steadily. We thank all those who choose to invest in Spencer and believe in our future, and will continue doing our part to make the community an enjoyable place to live, work, and play.

Spencer hats are available for purchase in Town Hall for \$11.19 (or \$11 if paying with cash). Adjustable fit and available in navy or chrome.



Call for Volunteers

Spencer has always been a town built by its own people. The railroad that made us, the shops that sustained us, the places, projects, and events that define us — none of it happened without neighbors showing up and doing the hard work together.

In 2026, Spencer is working to grow local volunteerism by building a network of residents willing to lend a few hours here and there to local projects they care about. Not everyone wants to begin with a formal board or commission appointment, and that is perfectly okay. Some residents may want to help with a single event. Others may be interested in hands-on manual labor, beautification efforts, outreach, fundraising, or longer-term service. No experience is required to start helping, and the level of commitment does not have to be large. What matters most is a willingness to contribute.

The Community Appearance Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, and other Town efforts all have important work ahead in 2026 and beyond. The CAC is looking for help with the Spencer Community Garden at 2nd & Salisbury Avenue, future improvements to Jefferson Street Park (behind Bojangles) which will become a native plants showcase garden, and event planning and logistics throughout the year. The HPC is seeking volunteers to support public history classes, special workshops, new sub-committees, and more. All these efforts help keep Spencer active, welcoming, and well cared for.

If you've ever passed a Spencer project or attended a local event and thought, *I'd like to be part of something like that*, this is your invitation.

To volunteer, apply for a board or commission seat, or simply learn more about current opportunities, please contact Town Clerk Anna Ward at award@spencernc.gov (704) 633-2231. Tell her what you care about in Spencer, and she'll connect you with the right people.

LABOR DAY STREET DANCE

The Spencer Holiday Caravan Committee invites everyone to join us for the Labor Day Street Dance on **Saturday, September 5** from 6-9 PM.

Motel Soap will be providing our music and Miss Holiday Caravan will be crowned. Bring your chairs and dancing shoes and join us!

MISS SPENCER ROWAN/ MISS HOLIDAY CARAVAN PAGEANT

The pageant will be held **Saturday, September 5**, at Spencer Town Park. Applications at spencersholidaycaravan.com. Entry deadline is August 15.



HELP US CELEBRATE COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE!

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to make a difference in our community? Now is your chance to recognize their dedication, leadership, and impact by nominating them for the **Spencer Jaycees Distinguished Service Award**.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: July 3, 2026

AWARD CELEBRATION: July 30, 2026

Let's honor the individuals whose service inspires us all. Use the QR code to submit your nomination today and help shine a spotlight on those who make our community stronger!



Spencer, Then and Now

Thank you to the 24 attendees of the Historic Preservation Commission's first Class, "Spencer, Then and Now."

HPC Member Barbara Moran shared the importance of this location to early settlers. Then Larry Neal, our guest speaker, covered the evolution of Spencer's shops, including why here, the land acquisition, its construction and its current use as a museum. He then shared some of the museum's future development plans.

We also shared some of HPC's future plans. We are hoping to publish a book of happenings in Spencer, as told by its residents. We need your Spencer stories to make this happen. We would also love to have copies of your photos of town events to catalog and archive. If you wish to make a suggestion for a future class topic, or to contribute a story or photos, you may drop them off at town hall in an envelope addressed to P.O. 45, Spencer, NC 28159, or drop it in the mail to the same address.

SCHOOL AWARDS

The Town of Spencer presented student awards at each of our schools during the schools' award programs. Recipients were chosen by each school and received a plaque stating their award and name. They are:

NRHS ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARDS

9th Grade Rizal Holliday
10th Grade Tennyson Kirk
11th Grade Chase Cauble
12th Grade Adrionna King

NRMS MOST IMPROVED

6th Grade Ny'Lyrca Graham
7th Grade Londyn Walker
8th Grade Jamuary Anderson

NRMS MAGNIFICENT MAVERICK

6th Grade Jacob McCubbin.
7th Grade Ambers Dontarrance
8th Grade Alecia Zapata.

NRES STAR STEAMER AWARD

5th Grade Amyia Whittlesey & Keshon Dukes.

Congratulations to all of these individual students, administrators, staff, student populations and their families for another successful school year! Have a safe and happy summer!



CRCHC EXPANDS ACCESS TO CARE WITH NEW IN-CLINIC PHARMACY OPENING IN SPENCER

Cabarrus Rowan Community Health Centers (CRCHC) expanded its footprint in Rowan County with the opening of a new pharmacy inside Northern Rowan Family Medicine in Spencer on May 4, bringing a more connected, patient-centered approach to care in one convenient location.

The new CRCHC Pharmacy, powered by TrueCare Pharmacy, is designed to make managing medications easier and more affordable for patients, while strengthening coordination between providers and pharmacists. By placing pharmacy services directly within the clinic, patients can fill prescriptions, ask questions, and receive personalized guidance without an extra stop, removing common barriers to care.

NCMDTM receives one-of-a-kind donation and visit from YouTube influencer!

YouTube creator Allison Hernandez of the Muñecas, Poupees, & Dolls YouTube channel visited the museum in March and facilitated a unique donation from generous doll-lovers. The museum received its first-ever ball-jointed dolls, or BJDs. These intricate and pricey marvels of dollmaking are resin wonders, often handmade by independent artists.

Visit nctransportationmuseum.org for more information.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS START NOW!

Spencer's Holiday Caravan Parade needs:

VOLUNTEERS ❖ SPONSORS ❖ ENTRIES

Apply online at spencerholidaycaravan.com, or email spencerholidaycaravan@gmail.com.