

## September Legislative Update

### Legislative Updates

This week, the General Assembly reconvened for several committee meetings, and the House and Senate passed the following legislation:

#### **Senate Bill 13: Political Terrorism Prevention Act.** (Bipartisan Support 105-6)

Senate Bill 13 would do the following:

- Define "politically motivated act of violence" under the Criminal Procedure Act.
- Create an aggravating factor for felony offenses involving politically motivated acts of violence.
- Create a new felony sentencing enhancement for politically motivated acts of violence.
- Create a new aggravating circumstance in capital prosecutions when the capital felony is committed because of a victim's political beliefs or activities, and the criminal act was committed to silence political expression.
- Require that a notice of intent to seek the death penalty include the aggravating circumstance of political motivation, if applicable.
- Allow the Attorney General to assign a special prosecutor in cases involving a politically motivated act of violence.

#### **Senate Bill 403: Additional Medicaid Funds and Retirements.** (Unanimous Support 111-0)

- Adjust Medicaid funding to account for projected health care changes;
- Reduce funding for vacant positions across state agencies; and
- Reduce appropriations to future building reserves and the State Capital and Infrastructure Fund.

**House Bill 307: Iryna's Law.** (Partisan 81-31)

- Modify laws related to pretrial release conditions, sentencing (including adding an aggravating factor), and death penalty proceedings;
- Reform judicial procedures, including the suspension of magistrates and procedures for involuntary commitment of defendants found incapable of proceeding;
- Extend and clarify probation and post-release supervision for youth adjudicated of certain violent offenses, including victim notification rights;
- Appropriate funds for additional assistant district attorneys and legal assistants in Judicial District 26;
- Require certain involuntary commitment respondents to remain in custody pending hearing;
- Direct the Collaboratory to study the intersection of mental health and the justice system; and
- Prohibit the formation of certain task forces.

**House Bill 358: Continuing Operations Part II.** (Bipartisan Support 105-4)

- An act to provide additional disaster relief, to implement additional budgetary adjustments, and to make other changes.

**House Bill 926: Regulatory Reform Act of 2025.** (Partisan Support 72-37)

- An act to provide further regulatory relief to the citizens of North Carolina and would amend State laws related to State and local government, occupational licenses, commerce, environment, and various other regulations.

**Committee Appointments**

Speaker Hall has re-appointed me to serve on the following committees:

- North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission
- Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology
- Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on the North Carolina Lottery

- Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety

## **Representative Pyrtle Honored**

### **to Receive the CORCA Award**

This week, Representative Pyrtle was presented with the 2025 Carolinas Organized Retail Crime Alliance Legislative Champion award in Raleigh.



The North Carolina Retail Merchants Association (NCRMA) established the Carolinas Organized Retail Crime Alliance (CORCA) in 2015 through our 501(c)(3) Foundation, Retail Consumer Alliance. CORCA was formed in response to the growing prevalence and sophistication of organized retail crime across North and South Carolina. Our mission is to strengthen communication between law enforcement and retailers, and to provide a secure platform for sharing intelligence across agencies.

## **Scholarships for Seniors Applying to Colleges this Fall**

Golden Leaf Scholarship: website link [here](#). Up to \$3,500 per school year is available to students who demonstrate financial need and want to attend a North Carolina public or private university or college.

NC Teaching Fellows Scholarship: website link [here](#). \$10,000 per year at one of 10 partner institutions (Appalachian State University, East Carolina, Elon University, Fayetteville State, Meredith College, NC A&T, NC State, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte, UNC Pembroke) for students interested in teaching STEM subjects at the middle and high school level or special education at any level.

State Employees Credit Union "People Helping People" Scholarship: website link [here](#). One student from each school district in NC will receive \$10,000 in a one-time scholarship. The student must be a member of SECU or a member through a parent. Speak with your school's guidance counselor to apply.

Next NC Scholarship: website link [here](#). Students from households making less than \$80,000 annually will have tuition fully covered at any NC Community College (minimum \$3,000) or tuition at least half covered at any public university in NC (minimum \$5,000).

J.T. Minnie Maude Scholarship: website link [here](#). Open to students in multiple counties including Rockingham with scholarship amounts ranging from \$500 to \$7,500. Applications due March 1.

Aubrey Lee Brooks Scholarship: website link [here](#). Open to students in multiple counties including Rockingham who have a FAFSA Student Aid Index not exceeding \$12,000. Must be seeking a degree at NC State University, UNC Chapel Hill, or UNC Greensboro. Up to \$12,000. Applications due March 1.

NC College Connect: website link [here](#). NC College Connect is a program that offers North Carolina public high school students with a weighted GPA of 2.8 and above who meet NC College Connect requirements direct admission to select colleges and universities participating in the NC College Connect program.

**e and compelling headline**

## **N.C. Youth Legislative Assembly**



The N.C. Youth Legislative Assembly (YLA) offers high school students the opportunity to simulate legislative duties such as creating, debating, and voting on mock bills—while developing skills in research, policy writing, and interviewing. Applications are due January 5th

[Application Link](#)

## Rockingham County in the News

### Shiloh Airport Ribbon Cutting



### Town of Madison Donates Fire Truck to Rockingham Community College



On August 14th, Madison voted to donate a pumper fire engine to Rockingham Community College's Fire Academy, along with extra equipment, including 10 sets of turnout gear. After purchasing a new fire engine, the town sought to donate or sell the old one at a low cost to the college. The engine will be used to train both current and future firefighters, offering opportunities for mock calls and trial scenarios that

simulate real-life decision-making in the field. RCC expressed gratitude for the donation and excitement about how it will benefit not only the fire academy but also the surrounding county as a whole.

### **K9 Donated to Madison Police Department**



Thank you to Ms. Birgit Hall, owner of European Belgian Malinois Kennel, for the generous donation of K9 Aspen to the Madison Police Department. Trained in-house by Sergeant Gann and Lieutenant Patterson, K9 Aspen is ready to serve and protect alongside her handler, Sergeant Gann. K9 Aspen will be an integral asset to both the community and department.

### **Museum and Archives Receives Grant**

The Museum and Archives of Rockingham County (MARC) has been awarded a \$27,000 grant from North Carolina's America 250 NC initiative to support the nationwide celebration of the United States' 250th anniversary in 2026. With this support, the MARC will host a year-long exhibit and free community events focused on the American Revolution, highlighting Rockingham County's contributions to the nation's founding.

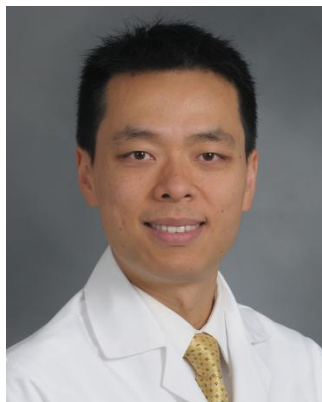


### **Physicians New to Rockingham County**





Dr. Lorenzo J. Spencer (MD, MS) recently completed a one-year fellowship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He specializes in Family Medicine, Primary Care, and Sports Medicine, and is pleased to begin practicing in Rockingham County.



Dr. Siyuan Peter Sheng (MD, MPH) completed a cardiology fellowship at Stony Brook University Hospital in New York. He is new to Rockingham County and specializes in Cardiology. He is passionate and ready to educate patients about their risks for heart disease.



Dr. J. Bailey Sanford (MD, MDiv, MEd) is new to Rockingham County. He completed medical school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a residency in Family Medicine at Cone Health. He specializes in Family Medicine, and Primary Care.

## Top News Clips

**Rockingham Update:** [NC Health Launches First-in-Nation Rural OBGYN Fellowship at UNC Health Rockingham.](#)

**The Carolina Journal:** [Criminal justice bill 'Iryna's Law' heads to the governor](#)

**News & Observer:** [A unique NC unit helps schools catch warning signs before violence.](#)

**WUNC:** [New NC law makes students turn off phones, but school boards must decide how to enforce it.](#)

**The Carolina Journal:** [NC House passes Political Terrorism Prevention Act.](#)

The Carolina Journal: [NCDOT to receive \\$1.15B in federal Helene relief](#)



Click Below for Information on  
Veteran Services in Rockingham  
County

[Veterans Services](#)



Recognize, Respond, Refer

Click below for a Toolkit on  
Suicide Prevention

[Suicide Prevention Toolkit](#)

## Hurricane Season

June 1st - November 30th

Click below for your Safety Checklist

[Red Cross Safety Checklist](#)

Events in Rockingham County



STATE EMPLOYEES' CREDIT UNION

# SHRED DAY!

**Saturday, October 4**  
from 9:00am to 12:00pm

Rockingham Community College  
Whitcomb Student Center  
484 County Home Rd  
Reidsville, NC 27320

**FREE!**  
DOCUMENT DISPOSAL THAT'S SAFE,  
SECURE, AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY!

SECUCU

Town of Mayodan

## NEW PAYMENT PORTAL

We're upgrading your online payment experience! Our NEW and ENHANCED payments portal is coming soon -- designed to be more user-friendly, secure, and packed with new features, including:

- Auto Pay, E-Billing, & Text-N-Pay
- Historical Bill & Payment History
- Account updates/multilingual access
- One-view access for multiple properties
- Capability to update your account

Contact Us  
(336)-427-0241

## BUNDLE UP DRIVE

**DONATE YOUR GENTLY USED BLANKETS, SOCKS AND GLOVES**

Too many individuals in our community are facing harsh weather without proper clothing. Your donations help Rockingham County Help for the Homeless Providing warmth, comfort, and dignity to those in need.

**WHAT WE'RE ACCEPTING:**

- Warm socks
- Hats, gloves, and scarves
- Gently used blankets & cold weather gear

Please make sure all items are clean and in good condition.

**Collection Dates**  
**September 8- 30, 2025**

**DROP OFF LOCATIONS:**  
McMichael High  
6845 NC-159  
Mayodan, NC 27027336  
WRCC  
112 West Murphy Street,  
Madison, North Carolina, 27025

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
WESTERN ROCKINGHAM CHAMBER

**FALL MAKERS MARKET**  
**SATURDAY | NOV. 15**  
**10AM-3PM**  
**NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY**  
**292 NC-65 REIDSVILLE, NC**

Locally made jewelry, bath products, pet treats and supplies, crafts, handmade goods, crochet, local honey, food items, and much more!!

Food & Coffee trucks

Great Holiday Shopping!

**\$2 ADMISSION OR CANNED FOOD DONATION**  
**KIDS UNDER 12 & VETERANS/ACTIVE MILITARY - FREE ADMISSION**

PROCEEDS BENEFITTING ROCKINGHAM COUNTY VETERANS COALITION FOOD BANK

**Recycle - Upcycle Art Event**

## Passion for Trashin' '25

### CALL FOR ARTISTS

Use your creative magic to make artwork of any size and shape from found objects, upcycle and recycle broken shards of clay, glass, nets and beads, wire, foam board, hay, straw, wood, old jewelry pieces, anything that can be repurposed to fulfill your imagination.

**TAKE IN - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 - 2PM-7PM**  
**AWARDS - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2 - 6PM**  
**FABA HOUSE - 301 CHEROKEE CAMP ROAD, WENTWORTH**

**START MAKING YOUR ART NOW!**  
**1-3 pieces**  
**\$10 entry fee**

Use the QR code below to register or email us at [rockartcontest@rccnc.com](mailto:rockartcontest@rccnc.com)

For questions or additional information email us at [rockartcontest@rccnc.com](mailto:rockartcontest@rccnc.com)

Artists in the Past: Rockingham County Historical Association of Rockingham County

## FREEDOM PARK

### CRUZ-IN & JEEP MEET

121 N EDGEWOOD ROAD, EDEN N.C.

May 31	Carolina Kool
June 28	Bullet Band
July 26	Straight Shot
August 30	Legendz Band
September 27	Andy Burnette Trio

BANDS PLAY 6 TO 8:30 P.M.

**2025 CRUZ-IN & JEEP MEET**  
**FROM 5:30 TO 8:30**

**BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR** • **CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE**

for more information: 336-627-4711 or [chuffman@edennc.us](mailto:chuffman@edennc.us)

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) MEDIA MINISTRY PRESENTS

## Community MOVIE

**NIGHT ON THE LAWN**  
LOCATION:  
206 HOLDBERY ST. REIDSVILLE, NC 27320  
**4TH OCTOBER**

SHOW TIME 8PM

Bring your Lawn Chairs and a Blanket  
**FREE HOT CHOCOLATE & POPCORN**

## ANNUAL FALL Festival

Downtown Stoneville, NC  
Saturday, September 27, 2025  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC / CRAFTS  
FOOD TRUCKS / CONTESTS / CASH & DOOR PRIZES

Sponsored by: **Rotary**  
Rotary Club of Stoneville District 7690

Rotary International, established in 1905, is a global service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to promote humanitarian service and to improve material and moral standards for world. It is a non-political and non-religious organization open to all. There are over 4,100 Rotary clubs worldwide, with a membership of 1.4 million individuals. Please see Rotarists.

## Disney HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR

Book CONNORS KELLY Music & Lyrics TIM MINICHINI

**Friday, September 26 at 7:30**  
**Saturday, September 27 at 2:30 & 7:30**  
**Sunday, September 28 at 2:30**  
**Rockingham County Community College**

Disney's High School Musical Jr. is a musical with a book by Connors Kelly and lyrics by Tim Minichini. The musical is based on the Disney movie High School Musical.

THE UPS STORE  
1000 W. Church St. - Barber's Crossing

MM ARS  
The Overman Group

Theatre Guild of Rockingham County

Meet the Office Staff!



**Theresa Lopez**

[theresa.lopez@ncleg.gov](mailto:theresa.lopez@ncleg.gov)

Theresa is Representative Pyrtle's Legislative Assistant! She schedules meetings and events for Representative Pyrtle and is happy to answer the questions of any constituents in the district.



**James Scott**

[james.scott@ncleg.gov](mailto:james.scott@ncleg.gov)

James is Representative Pyrtle's Research Assistant! He helps research new bill ideas and other legislative topics. He is also able to assist constituents with any issues they may have.



**Colby Gunter**

[colby.gunter@ncleg.gov](mailto:colby.gunter@ncleg.gov)

Colby is Representative Pyrtle's intern for the fall! He is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and will be formulating the newsletter, and doing other office-related tasks.



**Do you have unclaimed cash with the State Treasurer's Office?**

[CLICK HERE](#)