

the bizBUZZ

SPRING 2024
(APRIL/MAY/JUNE)

A YVEDDI Quarterly Newsletter Publication for Staff and Volunteers

Length of Service

30 Years

Allison Chappell

20 Years

Mary Wagoner

10 Years

Darry Groce

Maynard Quesinberry

5 Years

Jill Johnson

Carol Marino



Thank you for years of dedicated service!

New Digs: YVEDDI shows off new facility with open house

Ryan Kelly ryan.kelly@mtairynews.com

Jan 20, 2024

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (YVEDDI) held an open house Friday to show off the new home of the YVEDDI Resource Center at 401 Technology Lane, Suite 100, in Mount Airy.

YVEDDI previously had offices in the L.H. Jones Family Resource Center and completed their move into the new location on Nov. 17.

YVEDDI Executive Director Kathy Payne explained that YVEDDI provides services in four counties across more than two dozen locations. The agency rents most of the space that it needs, as was the case at L.H. Jones, and she advised that services to seniors and children must operate in code-compliant facilities.

"We have been in business since 1965 and everyone knows someone whom YVEDDI has helped," she said. "We have fed someone's homebound mother, father, or grandparents. We have transported someone's mother, father, brother, or sister to a cancer or dialysis center. We have a job readiness program to help people become self-sufficient."

"I think it is important that the residents of Mount Airy and Surry County are aware of the ongoing commitment the Ottenweller family has made to the area," Gary Ottenweller said.

"This is an investment in assisting YVEDDI in making the local community stronger and more stable."



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www.yveddi.com



| April | |
|--------------------|------|
| Brenden Stilwagon | 4-1 |
| Jennifer Somers | 4-2 |
| Gelee Beal | 4-3 |
| Allison Chappell | 4-5 |
| Barbara Smith | 4-14 |
| Tracey Speight | 4-20 |
| Katrinka Rinehart | 4-22 |
| Patricia Hernandez | 4-23 |
| Sherman Smith | 4-30 |

| May | |
|----------------------|------|
| Joel Wooten | 5-3 |
| Philip Brock | 5-4 |
| Belinda Stillwagon | 5-5 |
| Connie Eddleman, Jr. | 5-10 |
| David Torres | 5-12 |
| Lois Howes | 5-15 |

*May your Birthday and every day
be filled with smiles, laughter, love
and cheer.*

| June | |
|--------------------|------|
| Antonio DelGadillo | 6-3 |
| Billy Glenn | 6-4 |
| Janet Phillips | 6-7 |
| Christina Edwards | 6-9 |
| Doyle Mitchell | 6-12 |
| Anthony Aquilano | 6-12 |
| Jameca Adams | 6-13 |
| Betty Tucker | 6-14 |
| Beth McCraw | 6-14 |
| Nolan Simmons | 6-15 |
| Gary Hicks | 6-19 |
| Amanda Casstevens | 6-21 |
| Kristofer Stevens | 6-25 |
| Larry Pinnix | 6-28 |
| Joyce Hutchison | 6-30 |

MAY YOU BE PROUD OF THE WORK YOU DO THE PERSON YOU

ARE AND THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE

Congratulations

Welcome Aboard!

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Jameca Adams | Teacher |
| Janica Arnder | Driver |
| Amanda Newcomb | Driver |
| Nolan Simmons | Weatherization Technician |
| Brenden Stilwagon | Weatherization Technician |
| William Vickery | Driver |
| Traci Wagoner | Head Start Health Supervisor |
| Terri Williams | East Bend Senior Center Nutrition Site Manager |

Remembering in Prayer

Board

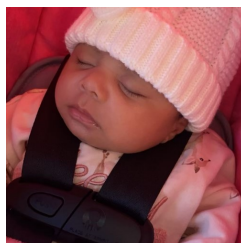
Larry Johnson's wife, still recovering
Mickey Cartner's wife Kathy, continuing with treatment
Sylvia Jessup, illness
Pam Crouse, father has been ill
Brent Ward, previously hospitalized

Staff

TSP- Jeff's wife Debby is having surgery
TSP - Penny Spainhour's husband, health issues
HS - Clara Urquiza, new baby girl
HS - Donna Sims, recovering from surgery

Birth Announcement

Kaeli Naomi Ramirez was born Dec. 19, 2023 and weighed 6 lbs 9 oz.
Congratulations Clara!



Birth Announcement

Kason Adler Mendez was born
March 3, 2024 at 3:44 AM
7lbs 7oz
21 ½ inches



YVEDDI gets funding help for Meals on Wheels

Recently efforts to help feed area seniors got a helping hand when Meals on Wheels got a helping hand.

Through a national partnership with Meals on Wheels America, Food Lion Feeds donated \$20,000 to Yadkin Valley Economy Development District, Inc., (YVEDDI) to feed senior neighbors in their time of need as well as to serve the increased demand for Meals on Wheels in the community.

The organization will use the grant funding to build capacity by supporting the relocation of Meals on Wheels to its new home. The local program was one of several that made the move recently from the L.H. Jones Family Resource center to the new YVEDDI Resource Center in the Ottenweller Building at 401 Technology Lane, Suite 100, in Mount Airy.

"YVEDDI Meals on Wheels has been challenged by an ever-growing waiting list for services and a shortage of volunteer drivers to deliver meals," said Kathy Payne, executive director at YVEDDI. "This donation will allow us to address these challenges by investing in a more accessible facility in which services can be provided."

YVEDDI is among 13 local Meals and Wheels programs that were on the receiving end of grant funding in communities where Salisbury based grocer Food Lion operates stores. Funding for the grant was made possible between Meals on Wheels America and Food Lion Feeds.

"These meals will immediately impact seniors' lives and have a lasting result for the organizations at a time when the high demand for Meals on Wheels remains steady," said Kevin Durkee, manager, Food Lion Feeds, Food Lion.

"Through this partnership with Meals on Wheels America and these community-based programs, we will make a tangible impact to serve our aging neighbors in the towns and cities we serve. No senior should have to worry about where their next meal will come from," he said.

The new YVEDDI resource center in the Ottenweller Building will provide more space to the programs they offer in an easier to access building with all facilities found on one level. At the L.H. Jones Family Resource Center there were logistical and design challenges that prevented the building from being able to serve everyone which have been resolved.

Architectural work on the new center started in August 2022 as the Ottenweller Building needed some conversion work to turn it into what was needed. One year later work was finished before a series of building inspections were completed; agencies began moving in November.

Making the move to the Ottenweller Building was not without its pitfalls as the county had wanted to help fund work on the building but then later deemed that was not an appropriate use of county funds to upfit a building the county would ultimately be renting.

Payne said they pushed on despite the challenges. "We kept on looking for help. We received financial assistance from the county, foundations, the landlord, Food Lion Feeds America, and other various donations."

In total, Food Lion Feeds has donated \$500,000 to Meals on Wheels America and grantee organizations in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program, federal legislation that provides critical funding for nutrition services and helps support programs like Meals on Wheels.

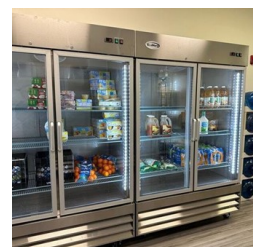
The grocery store chain has donated more than 970 million meals to individuals and families since 2014 and has committed to donate 1.5 billion meals by 2025 through Food Lion Feeds.



The children were released early ahead of the open house at YVEDDI's new Resource Center. A Head Start classroom inside the new center is shown replete with art stations, desks, and of course cubby holes.



The main floor of the YVEDDI Resource Center is wide open space which can be modified to accommodate all sorts of events such as line dancing as seen during the recent open house.



A bay of commercial reach-in refrigerators are seen in the new YVEDDI Resource Center

Holiday Schedule

May 27th
Memorial Day

Mission Statement

Dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families in Davie, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin Counties through a variety of programs and partnerships to build stronger communities.



Resource Reminder:

For your convenience, employees may access YVEDDI's Facebook page for news and events or policies and procedures at www.yveddi.com.

Please consult your supervisor if you need a password for the website staff page.

YVEDDI documents and forms can be downloaded from the P: drive. Reminder: Please do not leave your information on the forms.

Pilot Mountain Senior Center December 2023 Christmas Sing A Long



Boonville Head Start families enjoyed the Fall Festival!



Yadkin Valley Senior Center

Thank You for the new flag Woodmen Life!
We really appreciate it.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Santa to a Senior @ project! From the individuals who shopped and made donations, to the Meals on Wheels drivers who delivered the presents! And a special thanks to Home Instead for all their efforts to pull it off! When the community works together we can really make a difference!



Volunteer Opportunities Available Call YVEDDI R.S.V.P at (336) 415-4247

Newsletter Editor: Donna Rutledge, Communications Specialist

We love our families! Pictured: London Head Start



Parent Volunteers are AWESOME! Thank you so much to our Boonville Head Start parents for helping to keep the center beautiful.



- Calvin Vaughn, left, poses with Karl Allen, On-Site Administrator of
- Granite City Head Start. Vaughn has donated copies of his new
- Mayberry themed coloring book for area Head Start, kindergarten,
- and first-grade students, as well as to charter and homeschooled
- students. "Learning the ABC alphabet helps improve basic speech
- and communication skills and giving children an ABC coloring book
- increases their joy of learning," Vaughn said. Vaughn knows the
- importance of increasing children's interest in learning and building
- their literacy. Vaughn said he was asked by Cynthia Taylor of
- Page's Book Store in downtown Mount Airy to create it. Vaughn said
- he uses the talents of Geoffrey Walker, owner of Demo's Art Loft in
- Elkin, to design all the covers of his books and the illustra-
- tions. Vaughn loves Mount Airy. He has enjoyed writing children's
- books about Mayberry in part because he said, "Mayberry is a place
- filled with good neighbors where everyone feels at home and every
- child is loved." Many thanks to Calvin Vaughn for his dedication to
- literacy and for realizing that children are the future.
-

Before the big move....Jones 5 Parent Club Meeting was a success and tasty as well!

Pilot Mountain Senior Center
March 12, 2024: Spring Crafts



Yadkin Valley Senior Center Christmas Party 2023



East Bend Senior Center Christmas Party 2023



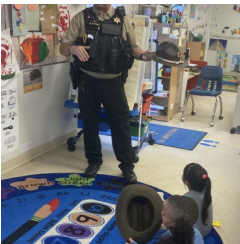
Granite City 2 created cute and fun Christmas and snow globe items!



The children and their families at Surry Head Start created an image of themselves that say I am unique, important, smart, capable, strong, special and me!



Thank you to the local sheriff's department for making a visit to Jack Koontz Head Start. We appreciate all that you do for our community and families!



YVEDDI CSBG is working with Wheels 4 Hope to obtain vehicles for customers.

Wheels4Hope is a non-profit, faith-based car donation program that turns donated cars into local blessings. We are located in the Triangle and Triad areas of North Carolina. Our mission is to provide affordable, reliable transportation to economically vulnerable families and individuals who are referred to us by one of our partner agencies. As an IRS approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Wheels4Hope exists only through the contributions of numerous donors, volunteers, congregations and partner businesses who understand that reliable transportation is a vital component for self-sufficiency.

The details are located on their website.

<https://wheels4hope.org>



Also, if anyone would like to donate a vehicle they will tow it and will take vehicles in any condition.

Call (336) 355- 9130 for more information



Inequity Statement

YVEDDI is deeply disturbed by the recent racial injustice and violence. We have always stood for equal treatment, inclusion, mutual respect, and strive to empower people to lead more successful lives. We are committed to doing our part to reduce inequality in our communities.

Pilot Mountain Senior Center December 2023

Santa visits PMSC. Happy times with our wonderful Meals on Wheels & Providence drivers.



Please submit your news-worthy articles and pictures to drutledge@yveddi.com

- Outstanding Achievements of an Employee
- Employee/Volunteer of the Month or Year
- Engagements/Weddings/Births
- Special Events
- Favorite Recipes
- Quotes/Jokes



www.NC211.org

Need Help, But Don't Know Where To Turn?

DIAL 2-1-1

Free ▪ Confidential ▪ 24 Hours a Day ▪ Any Language

Your connection to:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| ▪ Basic Needs (food, clothing, shelter) | ▪ Health Care |
| ▪ Child Care Services | ▪ Housing |
| ▪ Consumer Help | ▪ Senior Services |
| ▪ Counseling | ▪ Support Groups |
| ▪ Crisis Intervention | ▪ Volunteer Opportunities |

Pilot Mountain Senior Center December 2023

December Gardening Class with Master Gardener- Robin RT Portis



Many thanks to our local firefighters for keeping our families safe and visiting Jack Koontz Head Start.



The class at Mount Olive celebrated Dr. Seuss week and the Teacher's (Emma Carter) dad took time to stop by to read a story to the kids.



A Prayer for Drivers

Lord, guard us and our vehicles Lord, guard us and our cars from any danger and keep us safe on our journeys.

Give us strength and courage to face the day and help us to be successful in all our work and efforts.

We thank You for Your grace and mercy in Jesus name, Amen.

Oak Grove Head Start parents enjoy painting pumpkins just as much as the kids!

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Pilot Mountain Senior Center

March 2024: Munch & Mingle Community Meal & Games was another huge success!



Yadkin Valley Senior Games



Do you qualify for food assistance?

If yes, your child qualifies for Head Start!

**We Accept
SNAP
Benefits**

Today's List

~~1% milk~~

~~butter~~

~~sandwich bread~~

Head Start

YVEDDI Head Start

Do you or someone you know have a child that will be 3 or 4 years old on or before August 31, 2024?

If so, you can complete an application for your child NOW for the 2024-2025 school year.
Scan the QR code below with your camera to contact us!

SERVICES OFFERED

- NO COST Preschool Program
- Qualified Nurturing Teachers
- Fun Educational Activities
- Family Services and goal setting
- Healthy meals and snacks
- Ensure delivery of Health and Dental Services

SCAN ME

NEEDED FROM PARENTS

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Shot Record
- Proof of income for each parent/caregiver
- Insurance/Medicaid Card

Call Today to Enroll!

Save Time – Application available Online!

Visit our website: www.yveddi.com and click Head Start

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Davie County Office (336) 284-2374</p> | <p>Stokes County Offices Sandy Ridge (336) 871-5022 King (336) 983-2344</p> |
| <p>Surry County Office (336) 786-6155 Ext. 506/507/508</p> | <p>Yadkin County Offices Boonville (336) 367-7175 Yadkinville (336) 367-4993 Ext. 239</p> |

*Head Start is following all required state health guidelines regarding COVID-19 to ensure the health of our staff and the families we serve. We may potentially offer remote services, depending on the status of the pandemic.

Granite City 2 went for their first nature walk at the new facility. What fun they had looking for bugs!



Surry County Senior Center

Congratulations to our Senior Bowlers

Gary Stevens: 269 and 203

Larry Moore: 203

Clarence Cropps: 236 and 220

Tim Vernon: 244 and 202



East Bend Senior Center

March 8, 2024: Easter Crafts



East Bend Senior Center March 2024

We had a great time learning about the benefits of microgreens, tasting them, and planting our own microgreen garden. A special thanks to Beth Sarmiento with Second Harvest Food Bank for sharing her knowledge and teaching us how to grow our own microgreens.

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Granite City's Open House was a success!



We want to thank those that came out to celebrate the opening of our Granite City Head Start location. The Head Start was formerly located at the Jones Family Resource Center. The YVEDDI Resource Center is now located at 401 Technology Lane, Mount Airy, NC and includes a Senior Center,

Meals on Wheels, Public Transportation Department, the Community Services Block Grant Self Sufficiency Program, and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program



East Bend Senior Center

March 11, 2024: Spring Celebration



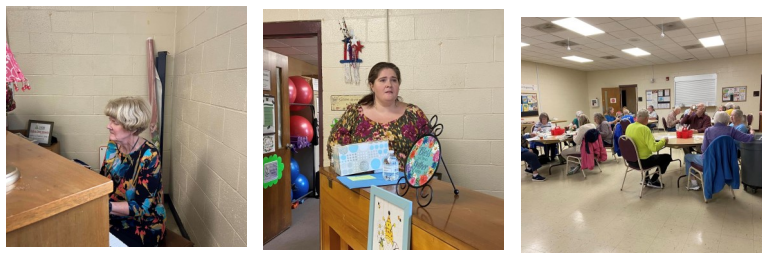
East Bend Senior Center

Feb. 8, 2024: Valentines Party



Pilot Mountain Senior Center

March 19, 2024: Easter Piano & Sing A Long with Wanda Goins on piano & Sarah Daughenbaugh led us with her angelic voice!!!



Yadkin Valley Senior Center

St. Patrick's Day Celebration



Paynetown Head Start
created *melted* snowmen!



Yadkin County Senior Center
Cardio Drumming



Yadkin Valley Senior Center Feb. 1, 2024

Thank you Chris Ray of Local Government Credit Union! Your presentation was informative and entertaining. I appreciate your efforts of advocacy against Social Media and Phone scams for our senior population. The interaction was great.



Yadkin County Senior Center

Lunch & Learn with Senior Services Director, Lisa Money and farewell to Rhonda Beavers



Yadkin Valley Senior Center

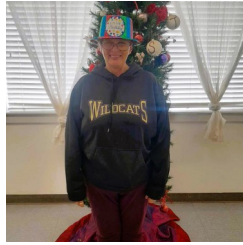
Our Quilters have been busy. They have made 111 pillowcases to donate to Brenner's Children's Hospital. They have also been working on some really beautiful projects.



Yadkin Valley Senior Center

Feb 29, 2024

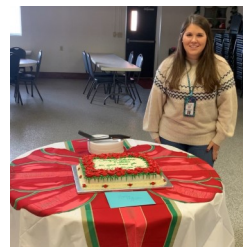
Happy Birthday to our Birthday Babies! We celebrate each birthday because we know the next one is not promised. We try to be thankful for every little thing but living to celebrate another is a BIG DEAL. Happy Birthday young'uns'. Big thanks to Elkin First United Methodist Church for helping us with this monthly activity



Yadkin County Senior Center New Memorial Flag



Yadkin County Senior Center Farewell to Natalie Williams Party



Yadkin County Senior Center

Collaborated with The Town of Yadkinville in the Easter Fest "Fill the Basket" and Community Food Drive



Surry Head Start enjoyed making their very own pumpkin pie! The children were able to mix the filling and place it in the crust. The staff baked the pies and the children were able to enjoy their very own little pie that they made



CSBG Program

March 21, 2024

CSBG staff members Dawn Cheek and Temeka Marsh attended the Showcase Yadkin event held at the Yadkin County Agricultural & Education Building. We were excited to interact with many high school students and discuss planning for their entering the job market as well as educational opportunities. Also in attendance were many of our community partners and individuals from the community. It was a great day for networking and sharing our resource information with others.

