

the bizBUZZ

WINTER 2026
(JAN/FEB/MAR)

A YVEDDI Quarterly Newsletter Publication for Staff and Volunteers

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



Newsletter Editor:
Donna Rutledge, Communications Specialist

2025 Lookback at YVEDDI Accomplishments

- Full Time Finance Director as of February 2025
- Opened the new Mocksville Head Start Center in August
- Zero Findings Senior Services Monitoring in December
- Better Health Insurance Broker and dental plan
- Domestic Violence Colorwalk Fundraiser raised over \$11,000
- Completed a Wage Comp Study
- New audit firm and audit results
- Transportation services continue with 21 new buses and 20 more on order
- Appreciation from the people we helped



The YVEDDI Domestic Violence Color Walk took place on October 18th. We raise over \$11,000 to support a great cause.

**MAY YOU BE PROUD OF THE WORK YOU DO THE
PERSON YOU ARE AND THE DIFFERENCE
YOU MAKE**



YVEDDI
P. O. Box 309
533 N. Carolina Ave. ▪ Boonville, NC 27011
Phone (336) 367-7251 ▪ Fax (336) 367-3637
www.yveddi.com



January	
Wendy Cunningham	1-3
Maynard Quesinberry	1-6
Temeka Marsh	1-7
Sandra Johnson	1-10
Inpone Phavorachith	1-11
Donna Rutledge	1-12
Darlene Nelums	1-21
Geraldine Hall	1-22
Annetta Dalton	1-30

February	
Kathy Chilton	2-1
Deborah Rawley	2-7
Traci Wagoner	2-8
Mary Osborne	2-10
Reginald Nichols	2-15
Susan Lawrence	2-17
Jan Zachary	2-20
Jennifer Spencer	2-21
Heather Handy	2-22
Mary Potts	2-26
John Christensen	2-29

March	
Kitty Martin	3-1
Sharon Branch	3-4
Emma Young	3-6
Jessica Mabe	3-15
Dawn Cheek	3-15
Grayson Boles	3-19
John Patton	3-20
Kathleen Heinrich	3-23
LaShonda Griffith	3-24
Debra Ferguson	3-24
Kimberly Hagwood	3-27
Patricia Glenn	3-31
Tonya Martin	3-31



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

Congratulations

Welcome Aboard!

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Kimberly Antunez | Substitute Teacher |
| Debra Ferguson | Driver |
| Valeria McDaniel | Substitute Teacher |
| William Wheeler Jr. | Driver |

Thank you for years of dedicated service!

Remembering in Prayer

Board

Kelly Craine, father and husband passed away recently
 Mickey Cartner, wife Kathy with cancer

Staff

Linda Trivette, former DV Director – passed away 9-29-25
 Terry Daniels, Executive Assistant – health issues
 Kathy Payne, Executive Director, Grandson and Husband - cancer
 Rhonda Wrenn, HS Director – health issues
 Paige Quesinburry's, TSP - daughter Adalynne medical issues
 Meaghan Pell, HS Teacher - health Issues (Hospitalizations and Procedures)
 Mavis Moore, HS Teacher Assistant - daughter recently had surgery to repair an aneurysm
 Wendy Cunningham, HS EDU Supervisor - broken foot
 Candie Young, HS Substitute - Pneumonia

Other

Roger Routh, Owner Hutchens Dry Cleaners, FRC/YRC Advisory Council Community Representative - stroke

Length of Service

- 25 Years**
Tracey Speight
- 15 Years**
Sheila Harris
- 5 Years**
Karen Shelton

HR Minute

WE ARE HIRING!

Visit <https://yveddi.com/employment-opportunities>

The laws enforced by EEOC protect you from employment discrimination when it involves:

- **Unfair treatment** because of your race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, transgender status, and sexual orientation), national origin, disability, age (age 40 or older), or genetic information.
- **Harassment** by managers, co-workers, or others in your workplace, because of your race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, transgender status, and sexual orientation), national origin, disability, age (age 40 or older), or genetic information.
- **Denial of a reasonable workplace change** that you need because of your religious beliefs or disability.
- **Improper questions about or disclosure of** your genetic information or medical information.
- **Retaliation** because you complained about job discrimination or assisted with a job discrimination proceeding, such as an investigation or lawsuit.



Human
Resources

Transportation Happenings



Hello



January



The YVEDDI Transportation Program recently did a presentation for the seniors at the Yadkin Valley Senior Center.

- HCCBG allocated funding to YVEDDI Transportation Program.
- Surry County awarded the YVEDDI Transportation Program \$93,000.
- The YVEDDI Transportation Program received 20 vehicles that was ordered in FY 2025-2026

Upcoming Events:

January 22, 2026: Senior Resource Expo
BROC Recreation Center Gym

Call (336) 679-2071 for more information.

Need a Ride? Call (336) 679-2071



WE ARE HIRING!

Visit <https://yveddi.com/employment-opportunities>

**Yadkin Valley Senior Center
November 2025**

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless." -Sherry Anderson

Your dedication means so much! Thank you for all you do to support and uplift the seniors in our community.

"We're missing a few folks who couldn't make it for the picture, but we appreciate every single one of you. Thanks for being an amazing team!"



**Pilot Mountain Senior Center
November 2025**

The NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, Surry County had a great turnout today at the YVEDDI Pilot Mountain Senior Center. We talked about Lenten Roses and how to plant them, care for them, and how to propagate them.



**Pilot Mountain Senior Center
November 2025**

Carson with the Surry County Health Dept. is teaching us the "Benefits of Sweet Potato's"



Surry County Senior Center

Christmas Party 2025!
We had a blast!

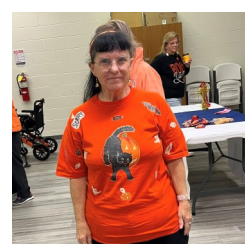
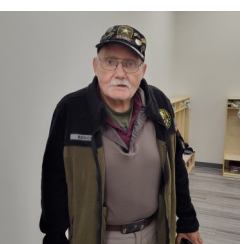


Surry County Senior Center

October 2025

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN BINGO

Thank you to Carolyn H. Gentry and Brittany B Russell and United Health Care for sponsoring this event. We had a great time!



Holiday Schedule

January 1

New Years Day

January 19

MLK, Jr

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.

A Prayer for Staff

I pray that You would give all employees wisdom and strength for the tasks at hand and that You would guide their steps and their decisions.

Help them to work together in harmony and to support one another in times of need. I ask that You bless our work environment and bring about positive change where it is needed.

Amen

If you have any of these signs, symptoms or "diagnosis:

- Cold
- Persistent Cough
- Body Aches and Chills
- Fever
- COVID
- Flu
- RSV



Please stay at home until you are well!

East Bend Senior Center December 2025

When we get yarn donations our lady gets busy making blessings.

Sending out 69 toboggans to our local food pantry. Partnering with Yadkin Christian Ministries to help keep our community warm.



October 2025

Yadkin Valley Senior Center

We had a great fellowship meal on Monday night. We celebrated Judy Hackney's 83rd Birthday.

Happy Birthday Judy!



Pilot Mountain Senior Center November 2025

Sing A Long with the Chamber's "Being Thankful"



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)
- Child Care Services
- Consumer Help
- Counseling
- Crisis Intervention
- Health Care
- Housing
- Senior Services
- Support Groups
- Volunteer Opportunities



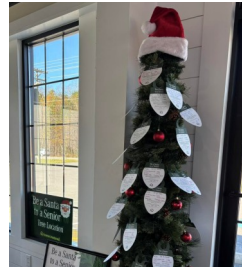
October 2025

Yadkin Valley Senior Center, Yadkin County Senior Center and East Bend Senior Center joined forces to have a Halloween Party. We had vegetable beef soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, cupcakes and way too much candy. It was a fun night for all.



Surry County Senior Center

We are so grateful to Home Instead for including YVEDDI's homebound Surry County seniors in their 14th annual Be a Santa to a Senior Program. So many of our homebound seniors would not have a gift for Christmas without this program. Please consider choosing an ornament and shopping for a senior. Participating Mount Airy locations include Granny Ruth's Bakery, Chick-fil-A Mount Airy, and Pages Books & Coffee.



**Yadkin Valley Senior Center
November 2025**

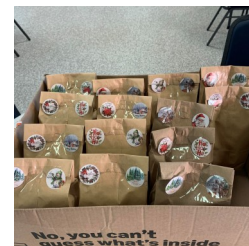


Happy 83rd Birthday, Nora! What a joy to celebrate together at the Senior Center—with homemade soup, hearty sandwiches, and enough sweets to make Jonesville smile. And of course, countless rounds of bingo to keep the laughter going!



**Yadkin County Senior Center
December 2025**

Thank you to Marlen Chandler and her sister Maritza Binaco for buying, bagging and donating 60 Christmas gift bags to all of our Homebound meals-on-wheels recipients and the volunteer drivers



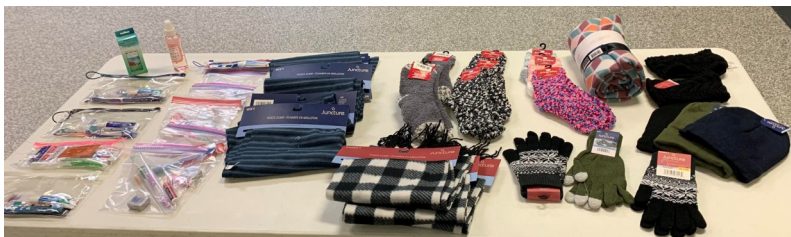
**Surry County Senior Center
December 2025**

Many hands make light work! Thank you Christie Speer and Millennium Charter Academy seniors for coming to help us out today! You wrapped over 100 presents in less than an hour! Thank you!



**Yadkin County Senior Center
December 2025**

Thank you to Ashley and her daughter Julia for the wonderful donated gifts to our seniors



**Yadkin Valley Senior Center
November 2025**

Thanksgiving Turkey! Thanks to all my sneaky seniors for making this for me. I love it!



October 2025

Surry County Senior Center

The Fall Harvest Centerpiece Workshop finished today at the YVEDDI Surry Senior Centers. The NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, Surry County loved seeing all the beautiful pumpkins and everyone having such a great time! As one participant put it, these pumpkins are just "gaw-jus" i.e. gorgeous! We had a pumpkin party!



Master Gardener | Surry County

We Need Your Help!



Volunteer Drivers are needed to deliver Meals-on-Wheels to home-bound seniors in **Surry County**

Please Call And Volunteer Today!

(336) 415-4241

Susan Lawrence, Nutrition Specialist
YVEDDI Senior Services

401 Technology Lane, Suite 100 • Mount Airy, NC 27030



www.yveddi.com

October 2025

Surry County Senior Center

We had a really fun genealogy workshop using the FamilySearch Tree app.

Participants looked up famous ancestors and found how they are related to them. Then, we also found out our relationship to others in the room!

They were asking when we're going to have another one!



East Bend Senior Center

We had a great time at our November Veterans Coffee Connection meeting.



Surry County Senior Center

December 2025

It was looking a lot more like Christmas at YVEDDI Surry Senior Centers today! The NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, Surry County had a workshop to make Ornaments From Nature. We shared memories, read stories, and listened to Christmas music.



Yadkin County Senior Center

December 2025

Beautiful Christmas cake donated by Rebecca for our December birthdays. Thank you Rebecca!



Weatherization Happenings



July 24, 2025

YVEDDI
PO Box 309
Boonville, NC 27011

Dear YVEDDI staff:

We want to give our heartfelt thanks to the Weatherization program that so kindly came in and did an excellent and expert job weatherizing our house against the elements. We are eternally grateful!!

The office staff did a lot of calculating of my self-employment earnings, and were very helpful in telling me what papers I needed to get to qualify.

We appreciate all of the men who came to the house to do so many different things. Our house needed a lot and we are so grateful for all the work done. We were amazed at what a quality work they were doing. No Mickey Mouse work. It was all done with expert knowledge and quality. We really appreciate that!

And we really appreciate getting a new air conditioner and heater, since the year before, our air conditioner died and when we went to turn on the heater last year it didn't want to work for three days, but finally kicked in. We just want to really express our appreciation and want to mention that all the men that came to the house worked very well together and not one cuss word was spoken! That's great!

Thank you again from the bottom of our heart, because we don't have the money to replace the air conditioner or the heater, so all of the work done was a God send!!!

Sincerely,

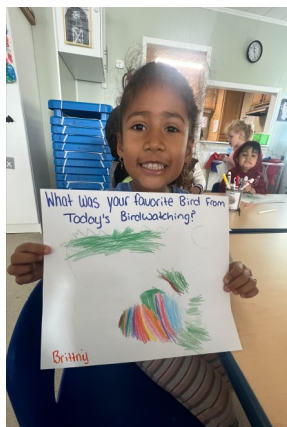
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcos + Joanne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marcos and Joanne

Head Start Happenings



Beauty Between the Branches



Children at Jonesville Head Start recently observed the birds while outside on the playground. This activity was an extension of their current study in the classroom. Children were encouraged to look for different types of birds. They discussed the reason birds take shelter in the trees and learned new vocabulary words. Once they were back in the classroom, children were encouraged to draw/color the birds they observed outside.



WE ARE HIRING!

Would You Like to Join Our TEAM?

Are you interested in helping young children learn, grow, and succeed?

We are now hiring dedicated, caring professionals to join our early childhood education team! Visit the website at www.YVEDDI.com for more information and to submit your application.

Call 336-367-4993 for more information.

When it's Raining, Bring the Fun Inside

Recently when the weather didn't cooperate, the staff and children at Sandy Ridge Head Start brought the fun indoors. YVEDDI Head Start partners with the Special Olympics and they provide beneficial training for staff and a great supply of gross motor equipment that staff can use to plan activities for the required one-hour of gross motor play each day. We are grateful for such a wonderful partner and resource.





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.

**Pilot Mountain Senior Center
December 2025**

Craft class with Wendy. We had such a great time.



**East Bend Senior Center
December 2025**

Thank you to Small Town Christmas for your donation of 50 goody baskets to our home bound and congregate seniors!



**Yadkin Valley Senior Center
December 2025**

We had fun! Dirty Santa is a favorite with our folks here. Lots of laughter and good food. Merry Christmas from all of us at the Yadkin Valley Senior Center



Surry County Senior Center



STEP-tember Walking Challenge

43 Participants

<u>Week 1 Total</u>	<u>Week 2 Total</u>	<u>Week 3 Total</u>	<u>Week 4 Total</u>	<u>28th-30th Total</u>	<u>Total for the Month</u>
1,078,596	1,250,022	1,522,947	1,421,850	302,384	5,575,799

Our Seniors are the BEST! Here are our top 10 walkers:

- 1 – Becky Parries
- 2 – Rhonda Parker
- 3 – Stella Jones
- 4 – Emma Lee Easter
- 5 – Linda Agee
- 6 – Phyllis Oehman
- 7 – Blanche Waddell
- 8 – Mike Jones
- 9 – Woltz Lowe
- 10 – Ally Berryman

**Yadkin Valley Senior Center
December 2025**

Congratulations Shirley Pardue on winning our raffle! Big Thanks to all that bought raffle tickets for our fundraiser. Also a Big Thank you to Christene Mason, our quilting instructor, who made and donated this beautiful quilt. Your efforts to support our center do not go unnoticed.





Do you qualify for food assistance?
 If yes, your child
 qualifies for 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, 2025?

If so, you can complete an application for your child NOW for the 2025-2026 school year.
 Scan the QR code below with your camera to contact us!

For more information call: (336) 367-4993 x 246

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

Davie County Office
 (336) 284-2374

Surry County Office
 (336) 786-6155
 Ext. 506/507/508

Stokes County Offices
 Sandy Ridge (336) 871-5022
 King (336) 983-2344

Yadkin County Offices
 Boonville (336) 469-6371
 Yadkinville (336) 367-4993 Ext. 239



*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.

