

the bizBUZZ

A YVEDDI Quarterly Newsletter Publication for Staff and Volunteers



SUMMER 2026

(JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER)



Left to right:

- Tom Beckom, SS Deputy Director
- Dawn Cheek, CSBG Director
- Susan Lawrence, SS Nutrition Specialist
- Carolyn Gentry, SCSC Manager
- Katrinka Rinehart, PMSC Manager
- Lisa Money, SS Director
- Brent Ward, YVEDDI Board
- Kathy Payne, Executive Director
- Mickey Cartner, YVEDDI Board Chair

Pilot Mountain Senior Center May 2026

What an incredible day celebrating the Grand Opening and Open House of the Pilot Mountain Senior Center and Nutrition Site on Thursday, May 28, 2026!

This day was a beautiful reminder of what can happen when a community comes together with compassion, partnership, and a shared commitment to serving others. From heartfelt speeches and inspiring music to laughter, fellowship, and celebration, the entire day was a tremendous success.

We are so grateful to everyone who helped make this new beginning possible — the YVEDDI Board of Directors, First Presbyterian Church of Pilot Mountain, community leaders, volunteers, staff, participants, and countless supporters who stepped in during this transition and helped us find a wonderful new home.

A special thank you to our incredible Pilot Mountain Senior Center participants and volunteers for embracing this change with such positivity and enthusiasm. Your joy and spirit are what truly make this center feel like home.

We are also extremely proud of Katrinka Rinehart, Manager of the Pilot Mountain Senior Center, for her outstanding leadership and dedication — including earning a perfect sanitation inspection score of 100 in the new facility!

The music, fellowship, refreshments, and smiling faces throughout the afternoon made this celebration one we will never forget. Thank you to everyone who attended, performed, volunteered, spoke, and supported us along the way.

The future is bright for the Pilot Mountain Senior Center and Nutrition Site, and we are excited for all that lies ahead.



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YVEDDI

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www.yveddi.com





July	
Marguerite Barnett	7-2
Jason Hill	7-2
Tom Beckom	7-6
Crystal Smoot-Dulin	7-5
Alan Moxley	7-10
Alan Pilcher	7-10
Lonnie Freeman	7-13
Sheila Harris	7-17
Donna Kingsland	7-17
Rhonda Wrenn	7-17
Morgan Lang	7-21
Sylvia Stevenson	7-21
Nathan Debord	7-23
Martha Jones	7-25
Cristina Alonzo	7-27
Randall Walker	7-27

August	
James Bonello	8-3
Tommy Meeks	8-3
Clara Berrum-Urquiza	8-15
Paige Quesinberry	8-15
Carol Marino	8-16
Haleigh Simpson	8-16
Whitney Ravit-Mendez	8-20
Iaisha Olver	8-23
Karl Allen	8-24
Malanie Poteat	8-25
Elisha Harris	8-28

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

September	
Ramona Rios	9-1
Sammie Clement	9-7
Mark Bowen	9-9
Foster Tedder, Sr.	9-10
Mavis Moore	9-14
Vernon Simmons	9-14
Gina Gregory	9-16
Zany Gray	9-19
Crystal Williams	9-19
Lisa Money	9-23
Tammy Pendleton	9-25
Yolanda Lytton	9-27
Amanda Blevins	9-28
Lori Moore	9-28
Lynn Wall	9-29
Jeff Cockerham	9-30

Welcome Aboard
Angelica Perez, Head Start Substitute Teacher

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

Congratulations

Thank you for years of dedicated service!

Remember In Prayer	
Board	
▪ Mickey Cartner, wife and son illness ▪ Van Tucker, wife Karen, illness ▪ Kelly Craine, recovering from surgery and more surgery in August ▪ Eddie Harris, illness ▪ Richard Lasky, wife recovering from surgery	
Staff	
▪ Senior Services -Carolyn Gentry, daughter, stage IV ovarian cancer ▪ Head Start - Wendy Cunningham's daughter is in the hospital ▪ Head Start - Whitney Ravit-Mendez's grandparents are both very ill ▪ Head Start - Candie Young grandmother passed away recently ▪ Admin – Janet Phillips, mother having health issues ▪ Resource Center, Bristol Mitchem, mother having health issues	

30 Years Rhonda Wrenn
15 Years Elisha Harris
10 Years Darlene Nelums
5 Years Gina Gregory Jan Zachary

Holiday Schedule

May 25

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.

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

Pilot Mountain Senior Center April 2026

A very large turnout for the gardening workshop!! A big thank you to Robin.



East Bend Senior Center May 2026

Older Americans Month ice-cream party was so much fun. Thank you to everyone who came out.



East Bend Senior Center May 2026

Mother's Day Celebration



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 |

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



Pilot Mountain Senior Center

May 2026

Opening day at the new Pilot Mountain Senior Center felt a little like the first day of school—if school had better food, more laughter, and absolutely no pop quizzes.

As the doors opened at our new home inside First Presbyterian Church of Pilot Mountain, folks came in smiling, curious, and ready to “inspect the premises.” Within minutes, it was clear: this wasn’t just a new location—it was THE location. Conversations filled the room, chairs filled up quickly, and there may have even been a few unofficial “this is my spot” claims made before lunch.

Speaking of lunch—right on time at 11:30, because some traditions are sacred—the room paused just long enough to enjoy a good meal and even better company. From there, the day rolled on with energy that could rival any grand opening: exercise kicked things off, painting brought out some hidden masterpieces, and line dancing proved that this group knows how to keep things moving (and keep us all entertained).

Most of all, the day was filled with joy—real, contagious, can’t-help-but-smile kind of joy.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to First Presbyterian Church of Pilot Mountain for so graciously opening their doors and sharing their space with us. Your generosity made this exciting new chapter possible.

And if you’re wondering whether it’s worth checking out... let’s just say this: if happiness had a grand opening, this would be it.

Would you like to be as happy as these folks? Come join us!

NEW PHONE NUMBER: 743.255.7699.

ADDRESS: 316 E MAIN STREET, PILOT MOUNTAIN NC 27041



Surry County Senior Center

May 2026

Just look at our seniors having a great time sharing their line dance talents at the Mayberry Farm Fest.



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

Surry County Senior Center

June 16, 2026

Senior Health Fair



**HAPPY
4TH OF JULY**

We will be closed Friday, July 3rd, to
celebrate Independence Day

Happy 4th of July!

HR Minute

WE ARE HIRING!

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

YVEDDI Human Resources Service Recognition Plan and Budget

FY 2026-2027

Recognition Type	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years	20 or more years
Amazon Gift Card	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$40
Commemorative Gift – Air Tag	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Staff Meeting Acknowledgement	✓	✓	✓	✓
Handwritten note from supervisor	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newsletter Recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓
Board Recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓
Team Celebration			✓	✓
Legacy impact highlights or employee appreciation comments shared at staff meeting			✓	✓
Executive Director's Note				✓

Budget example for a typical number of 28 Employees/Board members annual distribution might look like:

Tier	Employees	Avg Cost	Total
5 Years	10	\$35	\$350
10 Years	8	\$40	\$320
15 Years	6	\$45	\$270
20+ Years	4	\$60	\$240
		Subtotal	
			\$1180 / 28 = \$42.14

Other ideas for gift types - buy in bulk annually

Branded tumblers, mugs, portfolio binders, journals, camp chairs

Make Recognition the Main Event

Employees often remember:

- sincere praise,
- stories,
- and peer appreciation more than the actual item.

A well-written 2-minute recognition can outperform a \$100 plaque.

- **Buy up 1-2 years of a gift and change the gift type every 5 years. In year 2030, start looking for new gift type for FY 2031-32**
- **Estimating Air Tags at \$20 each**
- **Retirement after 20 years – cake at staff or board meeting**

Human
Resources

Transportation

Happenings

WE ARE HIRING!

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



YVEDDI Public Transportation attended two community events:

April 21, 2026: Job Fair at Forbush High School

This event was designed for students attending Forbush High School. It provided an opportunity for students to explore a variety of career fields and employment opportunities, helping them gain insight into potential career paths and make informed decisions about their future after graduation. YVEDDI Transportation was proud to participate in this event, allowing students to learn more about the transportation services we provide and the career opportunities available within our organization. Our presence helped increase awareness of the valuable resources and services YVEDDI offers to the community.

June 16, 2026: Senior Health Fair at the YVEDDI Surry Senior Center

The Senior Health Fair was held at the Surry Senior Center and provided residents with the opportunity to learn about a variety of programs, services and resources that may benefit them now or in the future. Attendees had the chance to connect with numerous vendors and organizations, many of which were previously unfamiliar to them. The event served as valuable educational experience, increasing awareness of available community resources and support services for Surry County residents. YVEDDI Transportation was pleased to be a part of this event, sharing information about our transportation services, helping attendees better understand the mobility options available to them. This allows us to connect with the community and raise awareness of the transportation resources YVEDDI offers to support residents throughout the area.



Pictured: Bill McCall, our Operations Manager, and Paige Quesinberry, our Mobility Manager.

Need a Ride? Call (336) 679-2071

Surry County Senior Center

June 2026

The NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, Surry County, celebrated our busy little native bees at the YVEDDI Surry County Senior Centers. We learned how to prepare and maintain a Bee Hotel to provide nesting habitats for these hardworking pollinators.



Thanks to you for fix'ing, delivering
such good food for me to enjoy 100%.
It's the #1 thing I look forward to
since retirement and no car driving at
my age 92. Most of the time is spent in
my comfortable home with TV, word-search,
playing the piano, etc. = I'm happy and
thankful to be so blessed.
You are #1 with your services.



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.

April 2026

Yadkin Valley Senior Games Opening Ceremonies.



East Bend Senior Center

May 2026

Our seniors had a great time crafting and enjoying homemade oatmeal cookies for National Oatmeal Cookie Day!



East Bend Senior Center

May 2026

Tia Chi



2026 Monitoring Report

- Carter, P.C. CPAs **Annual Fiscal Audit** of FY 2025 - No Findings!!
- Council for Women and Youth monitoring of the **Domestic Violence Program** on 3/31/26 – No Findings!!
- Office of **Head Start** Federal Monitoring week of May 11th - preliminary report - No Findings!!
- Piedmont Triad Regional Council Division of Aging monitoring - **Senior Nutrition Program** Dec 2-3, 2025 - No Findings!
- Piedmont Triad Regional Council Division of Aging monitoring - **Senior Centers** April 24th - No Findings!
- Department of Environmental Quality monitoring of the **Weatherization program** March 23 - 26, 2026 - No Findings!!

Many thanks to the program directors and staff for making your programs and YVEDDI shine!!!

Weatherization

Happenings



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Brenden Stillwagon and Tina Anderson attended the North Carolina Community Action Association conference from May 19th to May 22nd.

Tuesday: Registered and talked with vendors.

Wednesday morning: They enjoyed an inspiring keynote session from Dr Kenston Griffin of Dream Builders Communications, along with an important Legislative update from David Bradley of the National Community Action Foundation.

Wednesday afternoon: Brenden attended the Mobile Home Insulation I and II classes. Tina attended the Duke Energy Income Qualified update.

Thursday: Both attended the Energy Auditor / Quality Control Inspector I, II, and III classes.



Community Services

Happenings

Celebrating Elisha Harris's 15-Year Anniversary with YVEDDI

Throughout her tenure, Elisha has been a cornerstone of the Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG), bringing a wealth of knowledge, experience, and commitment to the program. She became a Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) Trainer in 2014 and maintained that certification for many years before recently transitioning to a ROMA Implementor role. Her expertise has helped guide the CSBG Program's case management systems and support continuous program improvement.

Before joining YVEDDI, Elisha worked in the mental health field with Easter Seals. Interestingly, her first job was through Polly Long's JTP program, where she was placed with Surry Community College's GED program at the Family Resource Center—sometimes even riding YVEDDI transportation to work.

Elisha earned her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Human Services in 2017. She and her husband will celebrate 25 years of marriage this August, and she is the proud mother of four amazing children. Originally born in Georgia, Elisha moved to Surry County at 18 months old and has called it home ever since, except for a brief seven-month stay in Oklahoma. In her free time, she enjoys reading, diamond painting, and spending time with family.

When asked what she enjoys most about her work, Elisha points to her coworkers and the opportunity to help others. The most rewarding part of her career has been making a positive impact in people's lives - whether helping a family through a housing crisis, supporting someone as they earn a degree or certification, or hearing from participants whose lives have been changed through the program's support.

Thank you, Elisha, for your 15 years of service, compassion, and dedication to our mission and the communities we serve.



Community Services

Happenings

Con't

Temeka Marsh, Success Coach with the CSBG Program, has been busy and productive during the month of May! We were excited to participate in several community resource events, connect with individuals and families, and strengthen partnerships with fellow community organizations. As we move into the summer months, we look forward to new opportunities to serve our community and continue building meaningful connections.



Head Start Parent /Family Resource Event in Davie County



Healthy kids Day in Yadkin County



Yadkin County High School's Student Resource Event

The YVEDDI CSBG Program is proud to celebrate its Affiliate Partnership with Wheels4Hope.

Wheels4Hope is a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable, reliable transportation. By partnering with community agencies, Wheels4Hope helps individuals who are actively engaged in case management and working toward self-sufficiency during significant life transitions.

Reliable transportation can be life changing. For individuals who are employed and committed to achieving greater stability, access to a dependable vehicle can remove barriers to employment, expand opportunities, and create pathways to better-paying jobs and long-term success.

The opportunity is made possible through the generosity of community members who donate vehicles and skilled mechanics who volunteer their time and expertise. Without these contributions, this life-changing opportunity would not be possible. We encourage you to visit Wheels4Hope's website to learn more about the program and discover how you can help support someone's journey toward self-sufficiency. Whether through vehicle donations, financial donations, or sharing information about the program, your involvement can make a meaningful difference in the life of a neighbor in need. For more information, visit www.wheels4hope.org and help spread the word about this impactful community partnership.

<https://www.wheels4hope.org/>





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, 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.

