

# Madison County Government Newsletter



## The Great Madison County Litter Sweep Contest

Cleaning Backroads in Madison County since 2019

**April 16th - 30th, 2022**

Join in the fun and win some cash!

The groups that turn in the most bags of trash April 16th - 30th will win!  
**1st place \$1000, 2nd place \$800, 3rd place \$600, 4th place \$400 & 5th place \$200.**

Team Leaders MUST sign-up April 2nd - 16th and pick-up supplies at one of the following locations:

**Reclaim Madison (New Location)**  
 798 Walnut Creek Rd. - Marshall  
 (828) 649-0100

**Laurel River Store**  
 5150 NE US Hwy 25/70 - Marshall  
 (828) 206-0480

**Hot Springs Welcome Center**  
 106 Bridge Street - Hot Springs  
 (828) 622-9932

**Laurel Community Center**  
 4100 NC 212 Hwy - Marshall  
 (828) 656-3633

**FIRST BANK**  
 105 N. Main Street - Mars Hill  
 (828) 689-2600

All group members must be residents of Madison County or MHU Students and at least 12 years of age. 12 up to age 18 must have parental consent. Minimum of 4 people per group.

**\$3,000**  
 in Prize Money

For more information contact:

Elizabeth Gullum at 847-542-1762 [lizgullum@yahoo.com](mailto:lizgullum@yahoo.com)

Barbara Zimmerman at 828-656-2845 [bzimmerman1953@gmail.com](mailto:bzimmerman1953@gmail.com)

Find us on Facebook - @littersweepmnc



Supplies include trash bags, gloves, vests, and signage. Supplies may be limited so sign-up early. Signage is limited to 2 signs per group. Once the contest is over, any unused supplies and all signage must be turned back in at one of the Supply Pick-up Centers.



## NC House Page Program will be Relaunching

Raleigh, NC— On Monday, applications opened for the NCGA House Page Program for the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The House page program offers young men and women the opportunity to learn about, and participate in, the legislative process of our state. It is a four day long experience that allows high school students to observe firsthand how our laws are made. It provides them the unique privilege of working in the House Chamber in the midst of legislative action.

High school students interested in applying can do so at <https://www.ncleg.gov/House/PageProgram/#Apply>.

North Carolina House Speaker Tim Moore, said, "The House Page Program offers high school students the unique opportunity to experience the legislative process firsthand."

He continued, "Thanks to this program, young men and women are given the privilege of not only learning about, but actually participating in how we make laws in North Carolina."

## LOCAL CANDIDATES for Election

### Madison County Board of Education Chair:

- Karen Blevins (D)
- Anthony (Tony) Ponder (R)
- Melissa Sluder (R)
- Scott Greene (R)

### Madison County Board of Education District 01:

- Barbara Wyatt (D)
- Vickie Hollifield (R)
- Ashley Thomason (R)

### Madison County Board of Education District 02:

- Keith Ray (D)
- Monica Olnhausen (R)

### Madison County Sheriff:

- Jim Cruzan (D)
- Buddy Harwood (D)
- Robin Lyles (R)
- Tim Buckner (R)

### Madison County Clerk of Superior Court:

- Mark Cody (D)

### Madison County Board of Commissioners:

- Norris Gentry (D)
- Craig Goforth (D)
- Mark Snelson (D)
- David Peeler (R)
- William (Bill) Briggs (R)
- Alan Wyatt (R)
- Jeremy Hensley (R)

## Check out Madison County's new "Community News" website page!

For updates, community events, new programs/services, and other types of information go to:

<https://www.madisoncountync.gov/community-news.html>

**Madison County Offices will be closed Friday, April 15, 2022 in observance of Good Friday.**

## Join the Comprehensive Planning Process!

Don't miss the opportunity to participate in one of the county's Comprehensive Planning Input sessions. Additional input sessions have been added for the proposed County Comprehensive Plan. If you are interested in participating in the process, please plan to attend a meeting.

- Marshall Library – April 14  
6pm
- Laurel Community Center –  
April 18 – 6:30pm
- Hot Springs Library – April 19 –  
6:30pm

The 2030 Comprehensive Plan will establish goals, policies, and programs intended to guide the physical, social, and economic development of the County. You can also provide input at <http://www.planmc.org/>

## Golden LEAF announces funding for Madison County Projects!

The Golden LEAF Board of Directors awarded \$10,108,307 in funding to support projects through the Community-Based Grants Initiative in the Western Prosperity Zone. Funds were awarded to projects that represent all three funding priorities of Golden LEAF: job creation and economic investment, workforce preparedness, and agriculture. Golden LEAF Board Chair Don Flow said "These projects will support the long-term economic advancement of rural, tobacco-dependent, and economically distressed communities. We look forward to the impact these projects will make for years to come."

The Golden LEAF Board of Directors awarded 14 Community-Based Grants Initiative projects totaling \$10,108,307 in the Western Prosperity Zone. Buncombe, Cherokee, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Madison and Transylvania counties received funding for projects. Madison County received a total of \$1,241,500 in funds for projects.

Madison County received \$450,000 for renovation and upfit of part of the remaining 3,800 square feet of the Spring Creek Community Center building to provide business support, retail sales, continuing community college education space, and income-producing rental spaces.

Madison County Cooperative Extension received \$304,000 for construction and equipment to expand and upgrade the Value-Added Center and Inspected Kitchen.

Madison County Public Schools received \$487,500 for tools, equipment, curriculum materials, and building supplies to add electrical, HVAC, and plumbing to the district's CTE constructions trades program, improving high school students' employability with training in technical skills and hands-on experience.

## Madison County Board Member and Employee Recognition

### Congratulations to:

- Gordon Parker for obtaining Plumbing Level I Certification.
- Mandy Bradley for obtaining NC County Clerk Certification.
- Terrey Dolan for obtaining NC Zoning Official Certification.
- Diana Norton for completing the Fundamentals of Property Tax Collection Course.
- Caroline Blevins for obtaining Bibliographic Cataloguer Certification.
- Catherine Nines for obtaining Item Cataloguer Certification.
- Shawna Bryce for becoming commissioned as a Notary Public.
- Laurel Reinhardt for becoming commissioned as a Notary Public.
- Connie Molland for 9 years of service on the Economic Development Board.
- Sylvia Shelton for 19 years of employment with Madison County.

# Coming up in April at Madison County Public Library's!

## Just in Time for Spring Break! FREE Attraction Admission with a ZOOM Pass

The Madison County Public Libraries have teamed up with local attractions and museums to offer FREE admission for Madison County library card holders with a ZOOM pass! The three Friends of the Library groups have purchased season passes for several local attractions that can be used by library card holders with a ZOOM pass sign up. You can sign up to visit the WNC Nature Center, the NC Arboretum, the Asheville Museum of Science, and the Hands On! Children's Museum in Hendersonville – at no charge! Passes are typically good for a family admission (usually 2 adults and 2 children).

Visit the library's ZOOM pass registration page (<https://bit.ly/mcpl-zoom>) to sign up and view the details for each pass or call one of your local branches for help with signing up. Passes are good for the entire day that is reserved. These specially embossed one-day passes are accepted at these four attractions for admission only. They do not provide any of the other member benefits of a season pass.

## In-Person Computer Basics Classes

Are computers often a challenge? Join the Mars Hill Library for a FREE in-person Computers Basics series during the months of March and April. Laptops will be provided, or you can bring your own device.

**April 13** – 10:30am – Customizing and Updating Your Computer

**April 21** – 10:30am - Proctored Assessment of these skills for certification – *attendance at these courses is not required to take the certification test* – register for the assessment at <https://bit.ly/NS1-assess>

Register to attend the classes at <https://bit.ly/NS1-basics> or call 689-5183 to register.

## Who's Got Your Number?

Join the Marshall Library and the Local Government Federal Credit Union for a FREE program on ways to protect yourself and your family members from identity fraud and theft on **April 21** at 12pm. Learn how thieves get your personal information and ways to minimize your risk on and offline, where and when it is okay to give your social security number. Plus, learn the warning signs to indicate you may be an identity theft victim and what to do if it happens. This is a great workshop to attend prior to the library's Shred Event at the end of the month!! Call the Marshall branch to register 649-3741 or register online at <https://bit.ly/mcpl-identity>

## Behind the Scenes Tour

Ever wonder what is in the Madison County History Room at the Marshall Library? Come out on **April 27** at 11am and discover all of the local history and genealogical resources available for use as the library takes you on a guided tour of this valuable county asset. Call the Marshall branch to register 649-3741 or register online at <https://bit.ly/mcpl-history>

## Free Shredding Event

Marshall Library - Saturday, April 30 from 11am to 2pm (or until the truck is full)

## Board Games and Puzzles – Available for Checkout!

Spring break is coming up! Do the kids need some fun at-home activities? How about the adults? The Marshall branch has a variety of board and role-playing games for all ages, plus puzzles, available for check out at that branch only. Come and check out the growing collection to which the library will continue to add.