

Madison County Government Newsletter



Employee Milestone Anniversaries

- Jonathan E. Gosnell – 1 year in January
- Mechelle Williams – 1 year in February
- Curtis N. Chandler – 1 year in March
- Amy J. Rice – 1 year in March
- Jessi C. Clark – 1 year in June
- Morgan E. Foushee – 1 year in April
- Chelsie Lewis – 5 years in May
- Donald L. Mathis – 5 years in January
- Meredith M. Sams – 5 years in January
- Ricky Ray – 5 years in March
- Clifton Norton, Jr. – 5 years in April
- Donald C. Norton – 5 years in April
- Catherine Reece – 5 years in April
- Kaitlyn Orr – 5 years in May
- Emily Love – 10 years in January
- Stephen P. Carver – 10 years in March
- Jeffrey Lisenbee – 10 years in June
- Terri Strickland – 10 years in June
- Mary E. Fisher – 10 years in July
- Angel Goforth – 15 years in February
- Jason Treadway – 15 years in May
- Winnie Broglin – 15 years in July
- Sylvia M. Shelton – 20 years in April
- Tommy Waldroup – 25 years in May

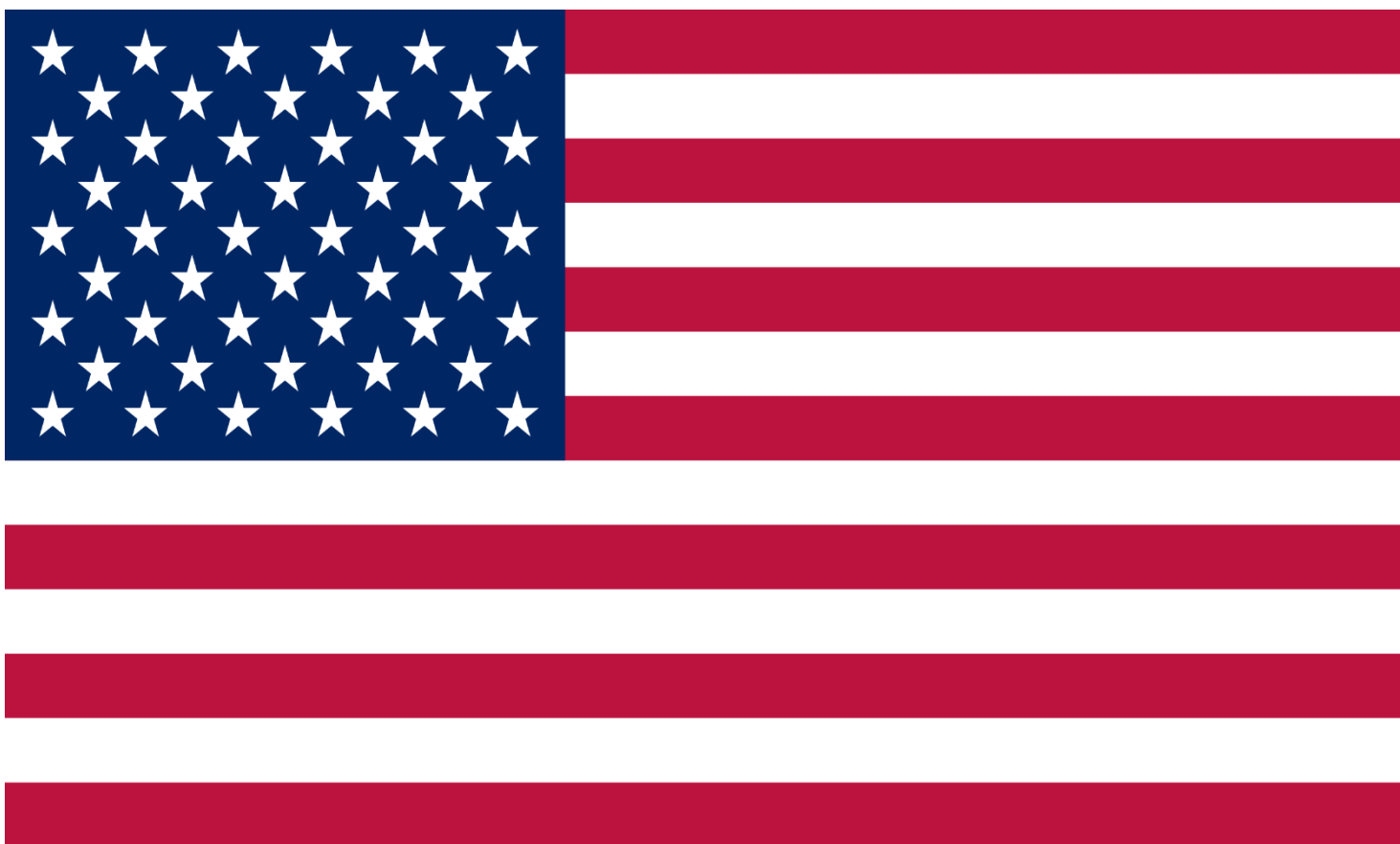
**Thank you all for your hard work
and dedication to Madison County!**

2023 Madison County Transportation “ROADEO”

On June 16th, the Madison County Transportation Authority (MCTA) attended the Northwest Region Transit “Roadeo” in McDowell County. Drivers from Avery, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, and Yancey counties participated in a driving course and various trainings. Beverly Sawyer tied for Rookie of the Year. Pat Hagerman tied for second place and Cindy Thomas won first place overall. All of the MCTA drivers represented Madison County well.



Madison
County offices
will be closed
Tuesday,
July 4th
in observance
of
Independence
Day!



Madison County Parks & Recreation Summer 2023 Program Schedule

Day	Date	Venue	Time	Amount
Tuesday	July 11	Bowling	9:30 AM – 12:45 PM	\$15.00
Thursday	July 13	Movies: TBD	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM	\$10.00
Tuesday	July 18	Horseback Riding*	8:45 AM – 11:45 AM	\$30.00
Thursday	July 20	Rafting**	8:15 AM – 12:45 PM	\$10.00
Tuesday	July 25	Retrocade	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM	\$10.00
Thursday	July 27	Mars Hill Pool	11:15 AM – 2:30 PM	\$5.00

**Contact the Madison County Parks and Recreation Department for registration and other information!
(828) 649-3635**

<https://www.madisoncountync.gov/park-summer-events.html>

*Participants must at least be 6 years old

**Participants must at least be 8 years old

Opioid Community Input Survey

Madison County wants **your** input on how we should best allocate funds from the national opioid settlement.

Take our brief survey below to inform the permitted strategies Madison County can undertake under the [NC Memorandum of Agreement \(MOA\)](#).



Learn more at:

www.madisoncountync.gov

For questions, please contact the
Madison County Manager's Office
at the number listed below:

[\(828\) 649-2854](tel:8286492854)



Coming up in July at Madison County Public Libraries!

Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar?

Participants in this program (age 7 and up) study a crumbled crime scene, collect clues, and come to conclusions to answer the age-old problem of the cookie caper. This program will be offered at the Marshall Library on **July 10** at 1pm. Registration is required. Call the Marshall Library to register (649-3741) or sign up at <https://bit.ly/mcpl-zaniac>.

Story of the Plott Hound

Join Bob Plott for a discussion on the history of the Plott Hounds, the state dog, at the Marshall Library on **July 11** at 5:30pm. Bob is a third great grandson of (Johannes) George Plott who first brought the Plott bear hounds to America in the mid-18th century, and he is a great-great nephew of Henry Plott who introduced the breed to the Great Smoky Mountains in the early 1800's. Registration is requested to ensure seating at https://bit.ly/Plott_Hound-MSHL

Home Health: Natural Apothecary

It has long been said that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Do your future self a favor, looking ahead to cold and flu and back-to-school seasons, and prep for wellness now.

Join local author and homesteader Ashley English **July 13** at the Marshall Library at 2pm as she shares information about and demonstrates how to create the following fall and winter home apothecary remedies: Elderberry and honey syrup, fire cider, cough syrup, mustard bath, and a decongestant balm.

It's Trivia Night!

Test your team's (or your personal) knowledge of friends in movies, cartoons, music and more on Friday, **July 14** at 5:30pm at the Mars Hill Library. No minimum team size, but a max of 6 can play. Special prizes will be distributed to the first and second place winners. This program is open to teens and adults. Please register at <https://bit.ly/mhl-trivianight>

Local River Fishing

Join Josh Garris from Curtis Wright Outfitters on **July 15** at 2pm at Bugs n Brews in Hot Springs (two doors down from the Hot Springs Library in Vaste Riviere) as he discusses how to get local river fishing and shares some of the basics about our local rivers. This program is for teens and adults. Registration is recommended – <https://bit.ly/fishlocal> or call the Marshall Library to register (649-3741).

Color Your World with Kindness

Drop by the Marshall Library on **July 17** at 1pm and explore your creativity with color. The library will have tons of sidewalk chalk and colorful supplies to create special goodies to share with a friend.

New Department Heads in Madison County

E-911 Director

Introducing, Christopher Alquiza as our new E-911 Director. Chris joined us at the end of May. He has an associate degree in emergency management and is pursuing his bachelor's in emergency management and homeland security.

Chris has been in Emergency Management for the past 12 years where he has worked as a First Responder, 911 Telecommunicator, EM training and supervisor, and an Emergency Management Specialist where he worked alongside emergency management officials in training and preparedness exercises.

Please join us in welcoming Chris!

Soil & Water Director

Please join us in welcoming Jessica Hocz as the Soil & Water Director for the County. Jessica lives in Madison County with her husband and children. She has a master's degree in landscape architecture and environmental planning.

She has more than 12 years of directly related experience where, most recently as Executive Director of Mountain Valleys RC&D, she has worked hand in hand with our Soil & Water Department. This has allowed her to develop positive working relationships with several NC Soil & Water Conservation Districts, The Division of Soil and Water Conservation, USDA NRCS, USDA Rural Development, USFS, NCFS, NCWRC, local governments, and many more!

Jessica started in May of this year, if you have not had a chance to meet her yet, please reach out to welcome her!

Animal Shelter Director

Pia Cash, a resident of Madison County for 14 years, is our new Animal Shelter Manager. Pia started at the end of May; she has a bachelor's degree from Appalachian State University, with more than 17 years' experience working in the animal welfare field.

She has been the Program Director for Friends of Madison County Animals for the past two years where she partnered with local veterinarian's, shelters, and the ASPCA.

She is familiar with the needs of our county and is passionate about the animals. Her knowledge and contacts will be a valuable asset for our shelter.

Please take a moment to stop by the shelter and welcome her!