**Summer Family Fun**

**Movies –**

* FREE Movie Night @ POPS: Join together as a family at the Forest City Pavilion on the Park 8pm, 153 Park Square, May 17, June 21, July 26, & Aug 23 for FREE Movie.
* FREE Movie Night @ Kiwanas Park, 128 Green St, June 14, July 12, Aug 9, 8pm.
* $5 Movies Out of Town at the Big E in Gaffney, Mon-Sat, 10:30am, May 27-Aug 10. Family Friendly movies. $5 includes movie ticket, box of popcorn, 16-ounce soft drink, & $2 game card. Check Facebook page for the movie each week.

**Community Festivals –** Summer Kickoff Festival, Saturday, June 1, 8am-2pm, Farmer’s Market, 172 Park Square, Forest City, Festival includes locals providing produce, meats, crafts w/ FREE kid’s activities & petting zoo, Twist the Balloon man, live music & food trucks.

Cherry Bounce Festival, FREE Concerts, Pavilion On Park Square (POPS) near Historic Main St Forest City.

* + June 7th – Gates open at 6:30pm, Po’ Ramblin Boys at 7:30pm.
	+ June 8th – Gates open at 10am, Concerts (Songs from the Road Band, Reedy River String Band, The Wilder Flower, Wiregrass) all day until 5:30pm. Art Vendors, Food Trucks.

Finally Fridays Concerts, FREE Live Music, 7-10pm, Pavilion on Park Square (POPS), near Historic Main St Forest City, July 19th featuring Camel City Yacht Club.

Food, Art & Brew (coffee): Family friendly free events with live music, food trucks, activities, and multiple local artists. June 7, July 7, Aug 2, Sep. 6, & Oct 25. 6-9pm, Central Street Rutherfordton behind Main St.

Hot Nights, Cool Rides, FREE Car Show, Aug 16th (POPS) & 17th (Historic Main St Forest City),

Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom and Reflection of Experience Saturday, June 15, 12-6pm, Park on Pavilion Square (POPS), 153 Park Square Circle, Forest City. Stage Performances w speakers, choirs, rappers, poetry, bands & dance. Black owned business vendors and Food Trucks.

FREE Concerts 4pm, May 26, Tina & Her Pony, and June 1, Café’ Strings Quartet, Foothills Equestrian Nature Center, 3381 Hunting Country Rd, Tryon, 828-859-9021 info@fence.org.

Saturday Night Lights, Free Family Fun w live music, kid’s activities, carousel rides, face painting, a bucking horse shopping, & equestrian sports. Begins at 4pm each week, May 18, 25, June 1, 8, 29, July 6, 13, 20, September 21 & 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26. Tryon International Equestrian Center, 25 International Blvd, Mill Springs.

Back 2 School Bash & Movement Fest, Saturday, Aug 3, 10am-3pm, Park on Pavilion Square (POPS), 153 Park Square Circle, Forest City. Free School Supplies, Family Resources, Food, Fun, Games, Fitness & Movement, Need Transportation? 828-375-9315

**Sports -** Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Class Every Monday 6pm, Ages 5 up, Henrietta First Baptist, 2736 Harris Henrietta Rd, Mooresboro.

IGA Kids Gymnastics, freestyle ninja. Fun Fridays with Nerf wars and Ninja competitions. 828-288-3547, 129 Grace Way, Forest City.

**Summer Middle School & High School –** Follow us at Facebook, Hopeworks by Blue Ridge Hope and Instagram at HOPEWORKS\_BRH. 654 W Main St, Forest City, John Miller, 704-472-5860, John@BlueRidgeHope.org.

* BINGO Night at Blue Ridge Village, 6:30-8pm, Wed, June 12.
* Karaoke Vibe Nights and Visits to Isothermal Community College – follow us as dates to be announced.
* Comic-Con Vibe Night, Blue Ridge Village, 6:30-8:30pm, Sat, June 29.
* Bowling, Autumn Lanes in Forest City, 6:30-8pm, Thursday, July 11.
* Prom Vibe Night, Saturday, July 27, Blue Ridge Village, 6:30-8:30pm.

Playing Card Club at Library, Every other Tuesday, 1pm, Non-fiction room of County Library, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale, Casual club for teens and adults learning and playing a variety of card games. All experience levels welcome. [www.rutherfordcountylibrary.org](http://www.rutherfordcountylibrary.org).

Ceramic Sorcery 16 year old teens and adults. Mondays 5:30-9pm or Thursdays 9:30am-1pm, or 5:30-9pm $100. Foster artistic growth and enhance pottery skills. Check out CeramicSorcery@gmail.com.

****Dungeons & Dragons Teens 14-19 1st & 3rd Thursdays of month at 5pm.Players of all experience levels. County Library, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale.

**Get Outdoors –** Backyard Bird Interactive Scavenger Hunt, Thursday, June 20, 10am, Crowe Park, 1267 Crowe Park Dr, Forest City, Spaces are limited – registration opens June 13th at 828-248-5224. Ages 3 – up.

Gemstone Mining with Schiele Museum, Thurs, July 11, 10-11am, Crowe Park, 1267 Crowe Park Dr, Forest City. Space limited, register at 828-248-5224. Join us to explore with Schiele Museum the world of rocks, gems, minerals. Treasure seekers keep what they find.

Fence RODEO, June 14 & 15, Kid’s Under 10 are FREE, Foothills Equestrian Center, International Professional Rodeo Association with bull riding, saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, steer wrestling, cowgirls breakaway roping, team roping, cowgirls barrel racing and tie down roping. Gates open 6pm. $15 Tickets sold at gate! 3381 Hunting Country Rd, Tryon. 828-859-9021 info&fence.org.

OWLS Baseball, Specific theme nights - examples: Fireworks (June 1st, July 3rd), Family Fun Days (June 2nd, June 16th, June 30th), June 4th Faith Night, June 22nd Wild West Night, July 5th Give-away Night, July 15th 50cent Hotdogs, July 27th Hollywood Night.

Beginners Backpacking Trip, June 7-8, Ages 12+, One night trip in Pisgah National Forest at Pisgah Pink Beds, Back-country style camping. For questions and registration call Gabe at 828-351-3235.

**Parks & Trails –**

* Kiwanas Park, Crowe Park, Hardin Park, J.D. Melton Ball Field, Thermal Belt Rail Trail, Cr
* Spindale House- Tennis & Pickleball Courts, Weight Room, Volleyball, Basketball, Game Room (ping pong, air hockey, etc), 119 Tanner Rd, Spindale.
* Purple Martin Greenway, Hwy 221, South of downtown Rutherfordton.
* Trails to Tails Dog Park, 122 Park St., First Saturday of month at 10am, Meet at 380 US 221, Rutherfordton.
* Spindale Police Club, Ledbetter Rd, Spindale, Softball field.
* Charles B. Deviney Park, 217 Greer St, Spindale, Picnic shelters, Playground, Horseshoe pit, Basketball & Tennis courts
* Rumbling Bald Trail, Chimney Rock State Park free access. Also visit the Flowering Bridge in Lake Lure. Visit the Right Track Toy Train Museum. 2414 Memorial Hwy, Lake Lure.
* Second Street Park, Rutherfordton
* Crestview Park

**Water Fun –** FREE Splash Pads at Forest City POPS off Historic Main St, Forest City. Bring your sunscreen, bathing suits & a towel, Open 8am-11pm during summer months.

Forest City Pool, 217 Clay Street, Forest City, M-F, 1-6pm, Saturday, 10am-6pm, Sunday 2-6, T & Th 8-10pm. Swim Lessons in 2 week sessions either 11-11:45am or 6-6:45pm, Level 1 & 2 beginners and Level 3. Call for fees & sign up 828-248-5220.

Broad River Access on 520 Gray’s Road, Rutherfordton and 2254 Coxe Rd.

Broad River Paddle, Saturday, May 25, 9am, Start at Gray’s Rd Access to Coxe Rd with places to stop and snack, rope swing, rock ledge rapid area to play. Register with Gabe Issac, 828-351-3235 at gabe@rutherfordoutdoor.org.

Lake Lure beach access, Ages 4-12, $8, Adults $10, Includes a water park and beach access to Lake Lure. 2530 Memorial Hwy.

**Summer Reading –** Summer Reading Kickoff FREE Event (POPS off Historic Main St Forest City), Mon, June 10th, 10-12, Games & Activities, & Splash Pads open. Event will be held in the Forest City Clubhouse if it rains, 10-12. For more information 828-248-5224.

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* Spindale Wed County Library, Wednesdays, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale
* Haynes Memorial Tuesdays, 10:30am 2669 US 221A Hwy, Mooresboro
* Mountains Branch Library Thursdays, 150 Bills Creek Rd, Lake Lure

Tiny Tot Tuesdays 10-10:30am, ages birth-3, Free w/ no registration. Summer for little explorers with stories, songs, felt board to develop fine motor skills. Mooneyham Library, 240 E Main St, Forest City. June 18 & 25 and July 9 & 16. Look for more fall dates.

Smores & Stories Thursday, July 18th, 2 times, 10am & 3pm, Mooneyham Library, 240 E Main St, Forest City. Limited space, Registration begins July 11th, ages 3 – up. DIY s’mores and indoor campfire in library’s downstair meeting room. 828-248-5224.

Sensory Story Time w Ms Stephany 2nd & 4th Saturday of every month, 10:30am, County Library, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale, Involves stretching, light yoga, music, and interactive fidgets.

Bilingual Storytime w Ms. Juanita 3rd Saturday of month, 1pm, Stories, songs, & craft. County Library, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale.

**Magic & Comedy –** Magical Program w Jack Roper, Thursday, June 13, 3-4pm, Mooneyham Public Library, 240 E Main St, Forest City, FREE w no registration needed. More info call 828-248-5224.

**Arts & Crafts –** Kid’s Paint Party, June 21st, 6pm, $15 per child, Wear clothes to get messy to paint a wooden cutout (unicorn, dumptruck, mermaid tail, or game controller). 3381 Hunting Country Rd, Tryon. Register at 828-859-9021 and info@fence.org. All supplies provided w drinks and snacks.

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* Kid’s Sip & Paint, Thursday, June 27th, 2 classes 10-11am & 3-4pm, Free Tiny art painting small canvases with snacks and juice boxes provided. Ages 3-up. Registration begins June 20th by calling 828-248-5224 w limited spaces. Downstairs Mooneyham Library, 240 E Main St, Forest City.
* Stitch by Stitch, Ages 10+, All experience levels welcome with cross stitch, needlepoint, and slow stitching. Every First Saturday at 12 noon in Non Fiction room at the County Library, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale,
* Crochet Club, All skill levels, Every 3rd Saturday, 10:30am-noon, 255 Callahan Koon Rd, Spindale.

**Etc –** Wildfire Prevention – Families invited to Haynes Branch Library, Thursday, May 30, 10:30am to learn from Smokey Bear Comics and NC Forest Service. Haynes Memorial, 2669 US 221A Hwy, Mooresboro. Register at 828-288-4039.

Fantastic Fridays - Kid’s Senses Museum Every first Friday of the month hours are extended, 9am-8pm, all participants get in FREE!!! 172 W Main St Rutherfordton. Other days (T-Sat), 9-5, $8 per person.

**Neighboring Counties –** Kid’s Bowl Free All Summer -Out of Town at the Big E in Gaffney, SC. Must register.

**FREE Church Events -**

Cruise-In, 8am-1pm, Saturday, June 1, Liberty Baptist Church, 821 Webb Rd, Ellenboro, All years, makes/models/clubs welcome.

Marketplace Hometown Nazareth Where Jesus Was a Kid, Sunday, June 2-Thursday, June 12, 6-8pm. The Marketplace has shop keepers to share trades in the Bead Bazaar, Rock Quarry, Synagogue School, Carpentry School, Farmer’s Field, Brick Making Shop, Olive Shop, and Food Market. For more information call 828-245-6446. First Baptist, 341 E Main St, Forest City.

Breaker Rock Beach, June 10-13, M-Th, 6-8:30, age 4-5th grade. Cane Creek Baptist, Hwy 64, Union Mills.

The Wonder of Christmas VBS, July 15-19, 5:45-8:30, Liberty Baptist, 821 Webb Rd, Ellenboro. Call 453-0186 for more info. K-6th.

Ice Cream Social followed by The Great Jungle Journey Cruise VBS, June 2-7, 6pm every evening begins with dinner. Calvary Baptist Church, 224 Chimney Rock Rd, Rutherfordton. More info. Call 828-287-3887.

Serve & Play Summer Nights and VBS is on July 30-August 3, Adaville Baptist Church, 805 Oakland Rd, Spindale, 828-286-2361.