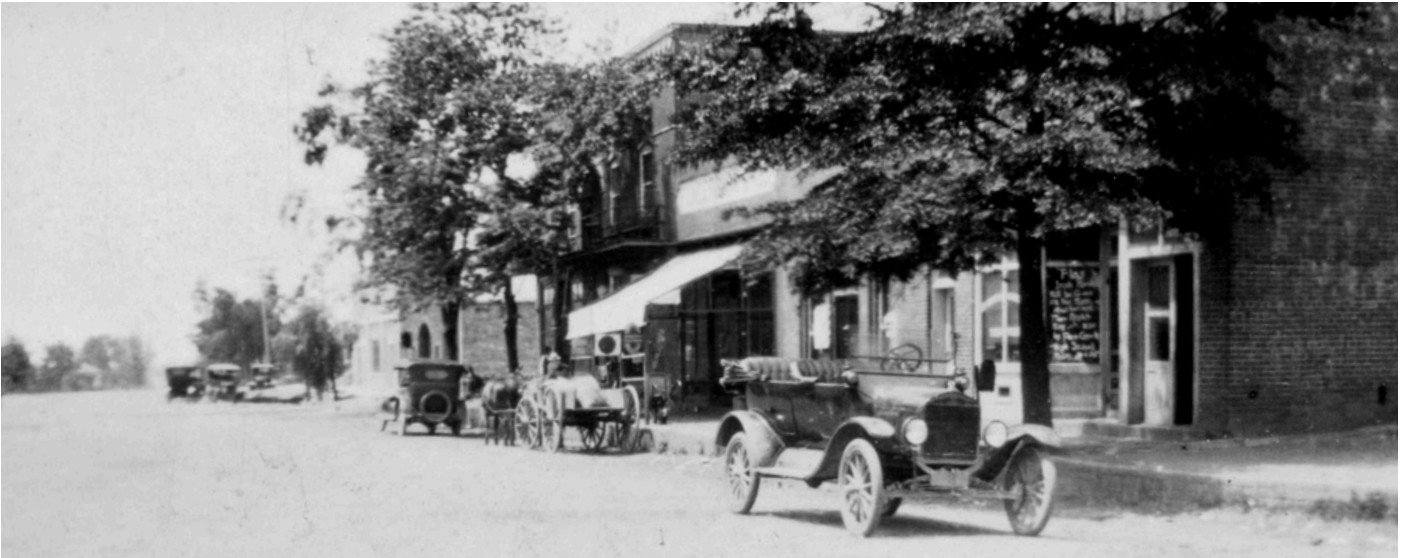


# FOUNDATIONS

*Quarterly newsletter for the Matthews Historical Foundation  
and the Matthews Heritage Museum*



## Learning from Fred Rogers' Legacy

By Bob Aycock

Earlier this year I applied to be part of the Fred Rogers Institute's Educators' Neighborhood. Educators' Neighborhood is a community of educators—early childhood, K-12, library and museum staff—inspired by the enduring life's work and legacy of Fred Rogers. It's an honor to share that I have been invited to join the Educators' Neighborhood community for the 2024-2025 school year.

Over the past four years, Educators' Neighborhood has brought together nearly 600 educators from around the world to learn from one another and draw inspiration from Fred Rogers' timeless work. This year-long program connects a global cohort of participants, primarily through virtual meetings, to explore how they can deepen their application of Fred Rogers' principles in their work with children and their communities.

As a lifelong admirer of Mister Rogers, I am truly honored and humbled by this incredible opportunity. I look forward to getting started this fall and applying the knowledge gained from my cohort and the Fred Rogers Archive to enrich our museum programs. I'm also excited to bring these insights to the Town of Matthews, enhancing the Foundation's offerings to the community in meaningful ways.

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### LEARNING FROM FRED ROGERS' LEGACY

#### CELEBRATING HERITAGE IN STYLE

#### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### UPCOMING MUSEUM EXHIBITS

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

#### HISTORIC TRANSPORTATION MARKER



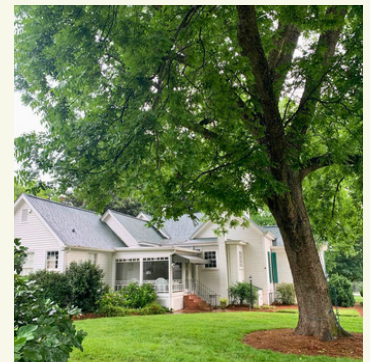
## Celebrating Heritage in Style at Matthews Alive

The Matthews Historical Foundation and Matthews Heritage Museum were excited to once again participate in the Matthews Alive Parade over Labor Day weekend. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Urban Architectural Group for generously sponsoring the Matthews Heritage Museum float. A special shoutout goes to Renfrow Hardware for providing unique farm props, including a cotton basket, burlap sacks, and vintage farm tools, which added a special touch to our display. The parade offered a great opportunity to showcase our town's rich history, and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces along the route. We were proud to share this celebration with our amazing community!

## President's Corner

*By Becky Willard*

The spring's heavy thunderstorms brought down a significant branch from our legacy elm tree at the Reid House. The Matthews Historical Foundation extends our gratitude to Brad Cauble, Town Arborist for Matthews, and Shawn Welch, owner of Crown to Roots Tree Care, for promptly removing the branch from John Street and cleaning up the debris. In May, we invited Shawn to join our Board meeting, where he provided a valuable tour of our "big three" trees—the pecan, elm, and magnolia. We are now working with Crown to Roots Tree Care, to ensure all necessary tree maintenance is carried out, helping us preserve these beautiful legacy trees and protect the historic Reid House for generations to come.



## IN MEMORIAM

In fond remembrance, we extend a heartfelt tribute to those we have recently lost. May their memory continue to inspire and leave a lasting impact on our community.

- Angela Parlante, a cherished former docent, on July 24, 2024
- Ted Cullis, former Matthews Historical Foundation Treasurer, on August 22, 2024

## Upcoming Museum Exhibits

Our popular *Unearthed Riches* exhibit will soon be moving to Town Hall offering more people the opportunity to enjoy it and making space for our next temporary display. Building on the success of last year's veterans exhibit, *Service and Sacrifice: Honoring our Heroes*, will return to showcase a collection of military uniforms, photographs, and memorabilia. The items that will be on display have been generously loaned to the Museum by the Matthews Veterans Advisory Committee, Hooks-Orr American Legion Post #235, and some of our dedicated docents. Later this year, stay tuned for an exciting train exhibit, which will coincide with the sesquicentennial celebration of the first train rolling into Matthews—a transformative event that forever shaped our town's history.



## From the Director's Desk

By Bob Aycock

The Museum received a wonderful donation this summer from James Bailey. James has been going through his late mother's estate and came across a photograph from the second annual "Twins Picnic" at Sustar's Pool. This photograph is even more special because it was taken on June 14, 1929, two years earlier than the photograph we have on our Sustar's Swimming Pool



Second Annual "Twins" Picnic

display panel. James shared that his late grandmother was a fraternal twin and attended the "twins" picnics with her brother in the 1920s-30s. Their family grew up around Harrisburg, NC.



James Bailey presented the photograph to the Heritage Museum on June 13, 2024

## HISTORIC TRANSPORTATION MARKER

The William G. Pomeroy Foundation has approved a grant to the Matthews Historical Foundation for a historic marker for the Matthews Depot, which serves as the town's Visitor Center. The grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation will enable us to commemorate this important town site with a transportation marker that highlights its historical significance. This marker will not only honor our past but also serve as an educational resource for residents and visitors alike.

## PRESERVING OUR PAST FOR THE FUTURE

The Matthews Historical Foundation extends its appreciation to all our members for their ongoing interest in and support of the Foundation and its initiatives. Over the past 37 years, we have achieved remarkable milestones, and we are excited for what the future holds! Every project and event we undertake is made possible by the generous contributions from our members, sponsors, and benefactors. Your support is invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment. Together, we can continue to preserve and celebrate our community's rich history for generations to come. Thank you for making our work possible!

To view our membership levels, please visit our website:  
[matthewshistoricalfoundation.com/membership](http://matthewshistoricalfoundation.com/membership)

Checks can be mailed to:  
 Matthews Historical Foundation  
 P.O. Box 1117  
 Matthews, NC 28106

*As a 501(c)(3) organization, your donations are tax deductible. No donation is too small or too large.*



**One of the Area's BEST KEPT SECRETS**  
**2024 Winner BEST LOCAL HISTORIC SITE**

*Contact us today to book your event!*  
 704.849.7368  
[matthewsreidhouse.org](http://matthewsreidhouse.org)

*Charming & quaint, it is an ideal setting for your next event!*

Wedding Ceremonies • Outdoor Weddings  
 Rehearsal Dinners • Wedding Receptions  
 Bridal Luncheons • Anniversary Celebrations  
 Charity Events • Private Parties • Luncheons  
 Business Meetings • Corporate Functions  
 Reunions • Film & Photography Location

### Matthews Historical Foundation Board of Directors

Becky Willard, President  
 Bob Aycock, Vice President  
 Brian Antal, Treasurer  
 Carol Cullis, Secretary  
 Paula Lester, Historian  
 Anne Bennett  
 Chuck Bennett  
 Kress Query  
 Jim Taylor  
 John Urban  
 Tina Whitley

Ex Officio  
 Sandy Duncan  
 Bill Helms  
 Marilyn Sczech

### Matthews Heritage Museum Docents

Joe Brandenburg  
 John Camenga  
 Sadie Castner  
 Gloria Clackum  
 Gregg Coleman  
 Karen Foley  
 Julia Hanson  
 Pam Henson  
 Clyde Kiser  
 Mini Kumar  
 Eileen Linz  
 Michael Meath  
 Elinor Minshew  
 Constance Oliver  
 Lanell Owenby  
 Kathy Shonts  
 Brad Smith  
 Barbara Stegall

Museum Director  
 Bob Aycock

Visit our websites  
[matthewshistoricalfoundation.org](http://matthewshistoricalfoundation.org)  
[matthewsheritagemuseum.org](http://matthewsheritagemuseum.org)  
[matthewsreidhouse.org](http://matthewsreidhouse.org)

*Foundations* is a publication of the  
 Matthews Historical Foundation and the  
 Matthews Heritage Museum  
 Edited by Bob Aycock