

TOWN OF VALDESE

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As cool, crisp autumn air returns to our beautiful foothills, I am reminded of how lucky we are to live in Valdese. Fall is always an exciting time in our town. Students return to school; families settle back into routines and our town welcomes fall events. But what makes us truly special is our deep sense of community.

When we look around Valdese, we have so much to be thankful for. We can be grateful for our safe neighborhoods, our beautiful parks, and our proud history. We can also be grateful for the days when we gather to cheer for our local sports teams. Whether you are in a gym, in a stadium or sitting in the bleachers for youth games, your support unites us. Our young athletes, coaches, and families show the very best of Valdese pride.

Most of all, we can be thankful for the kindness and connection we share as neighbors. We see this close bond in the quiet ways you help each other every day. True community strength means moving forward together and making sure no one is left behind, especially when times are tough. As the days grow shorter and the weather cools, please look out for the people around you. Take a moment to check on our older neighbors to make sure they are ready for the chilly weather. A simple phone call, a quick visit, or helping rake early fall leaves can mean the world to someone.

As we look ahead, we can be proud of the current growth in our community. We see new places to live and exciting new shops opening on Main Street. This growth helps our future while keeping the historic, small-town charm that we love.

Let's keep showing up for our local teams, supporting our growing businesses, and counting the many blessings that make Valdese such a special home.

On behalf of the Town of Valdese, I wish you and your family a safe, peaceful, and happy autumn ahead. Thank you for making our town so special.



Warm regards,

Mayor, Keith Huffman



EVENTS CALENDAR

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS:

OCT. 5 | NOV. 2 | DEC. 7 - 6PM
LOCATED AT VALDESE TOWN HALL

COMMITTEE & BOARD MEETINGS:

VALDESE PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS
OCT. 19 | NOV. 16 | DEC. 21
VALDESE TOWN HALL - 4PM

VALDESE ABC BOARD MEETINGS

OCT. 19 | NOV. 16 | DEC. 21
VALDESE ABC STORE AT 4PM

DRUG & HOMELESS TASK FORCE

OCT. 27 | NOV. 24 | DEC. 29 - 6PM
VALDESE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

PARKS & REC COMMISSION

OCT. 12 - SPLASH PAD BLDG. 7PM

OLD ROCK SCHOOL EVENTS:

MISS NC SUNSHINE PAGEANT - OCT. 3
AUTHENTIC UNLIMITED - OCT. 10 - 7:30PM
OCP PRESENTS DESCENDANTS - OCT. 22-25
RUSSELL MOORE & IIIRD TYME OUT - NOV. 7
RSAF PLEIN AIR FEST RECEPTION - NOV. 8
CHRISTMAS IN NOV. CRAFT SHOW - NOV. 13 & 14
HATLEY MEMORIAL TREE LIGHTING - DEC. 1
MINGLE WITH KRIS KRINGLE - DEC. 12
OCP CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION - DEC. 10-13
STUDIO NEWTON RECITAL - DEC. 19

DOWNTOWN EVENTS:

GREAT TRAILS STATE DAY - OCT. 17
TWILIGHT TALES ON THE TRAIL - OCT. 29
TREATS IN THE STREETS - OCT. 30 - 4-6PM
CHRISTMAS PARADE - DEC. 5 AT 10AM
PJ'S ON PARADE - DEC. 11 AT 6PM

VALDESE

NORTH CAROLINA

EVENTS: VISITVALDESE.COM
MEETINGS: TOWNOFVALDESE.COM

PARKS & REC UPDATE

Fall is in the air at the Valdese Parks and Recreation Department. We love to see our parks filled with visitors enjoying our shelters, fields, and trails this time of year!

Valdese Tiger Football is in full swing, with the Tiger players and cheerleaders playing home games at Draughn High School this season. Thank you to the Valdese Boosters for providing the new game jerseys this season! While football is starting, we're already looking forward to basketball and micro-basketball, with registration beginning in October and the season starting in November. Later in the winter, we will be offering our always popular youth girls volleyball program.

Down in the bowling alley, our leagues have kicked off their long season with some great scores, with one league bowler having back to back perfect games early in the season! Congrats, Julien! Our Wednesday senior bowling group is having fun, students from North Carolina School of Math and Science are learning about the sport. Additionally, on weekends, we have our Saturday party packages which include food from concessions, our party room, and bowling for up to 20 people, and we are also now offering private Sunday afternoon bowling parties for three hour rentals from 1:30pm-4:30pm for all eight lanes!

Fitness classes are seeing excellent participation numbers, with our TRX, Silver Sneakers, Science of Stretching, and other classes keeping the Splash Pad building full on weekday mornings. The Bubble will go up the week of October 12, so the pool will be closed from October 11-October 18, with us reopening on Monday, October 19th. Please check town social media posts for more information on aquatic programming. Draughn and East Burke High Schools will be back in the Bubble this fall and winter, and we have worked with the teams to minimize disruption to our regular schedule. We are also bringing our pool parties back, with Saturday table rentals and private Sunday options back in the mix. The Splash Pad building is also available for Saturday rentals for your party, celebration, or meeting needs.

October is busy with all sorts of activities in the parks. On October 3, we'll be working on a cleanup event with the Catawba Riverkeeper at Valdese Lakeside Park. The following weekend is an epic trail run sponsored by Friends of the Valdese Rec on Saturday, and Sunday will be a Sunday Sounds at the Lake. Great Trails State Day is on October 17. Join the Friends of the Valdese Rec to hike, bike, paddle, or roll to help meet the mileage goal for the day! To close out October, Valdese Lakeside Park will host the second Twilight Tales on the Trails event. Last year's evening was a tremendous success, and we're looking forward to another great time with storytellers and smores! Join us the evening of Thursday, October 29 for that event.

FALL IS HERE - LEAF COLLECTION REMINDERS

Valdese provides year-round Brush, Leaf and Yard Waste Pickup. Brush is collected bi-weekly by area and must be separated, with limbs no larger than 7 inches in diameter and 10 feet long. Leaves and yard trimmings are collected weekly; place leaves within 6 feet of the roadside and trimmings in heavy-duty bags under 25 pounds. Keep all materials free of rocks, dirt and other debris, and away from power lines and fire hydrants. Contractor and lot-clearing debris must be hauled away by the contractor.



TOWN UPDATES & PROJECTS

Old Rock School Entertainment

Did you know that the Old Rock School is known nationally for its Bluegrass at the Rock Concert Series? This year marks a record year with over 170 season ticket holders. The season ticket holders are from neighboring states as well as locals. The concert series welcomes award winning musicians from October through May each year. The series first began in the early 1990's and has continued bringing visitors to Valdese for several decades.

See the full lineup at bluegrassattherock.com

FALL PAVING PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

Areas included Harris Ave, Bounous St, Nellie St, Lincoln Ave, Griffin Ave, and Morganton Ave

Now Hiring:

- Reserve Patrolman
- Fire Captain

Start your career with Valdese & apply at townofvaldese.com



SPECIAL PROGRAMS WITH FIRE & POLICE

Valdese Public Safety Building

Ground Breaking Ceremony - Massel Avenue



Valdese Police Dept.: Boos & Birdies A Haunted Golf Classic for Blue Santa

Join us for a spooky golf tournament in benefit of the Valdese Police Department's Blue Santa Program. October 24 at 11:30am -until 1:00 PM Tee Time (*Lunch Included*). The event will be held at **Silver Creek Golf Club**. 4 Player Captain's Choice-\$300.00 a team or \$75.00 a player. Register by 10/20/26 5:00 PM online at: boosandbirdiesgolftournament.my.canva.site

In support of Valdese Police Department's Blue Santa program that provides gifts and needed items to children at Christmas.