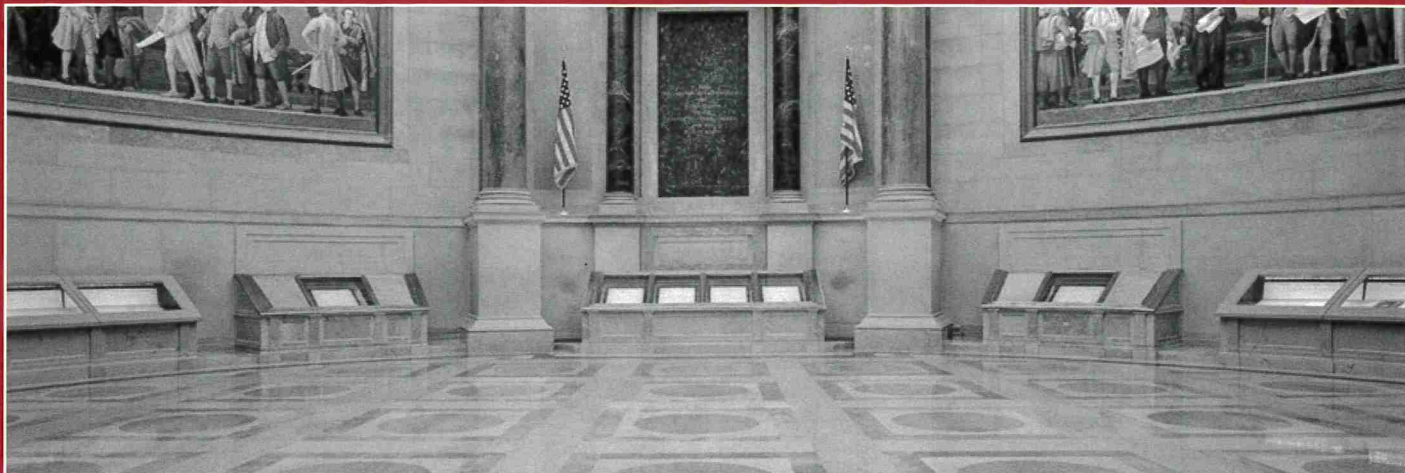
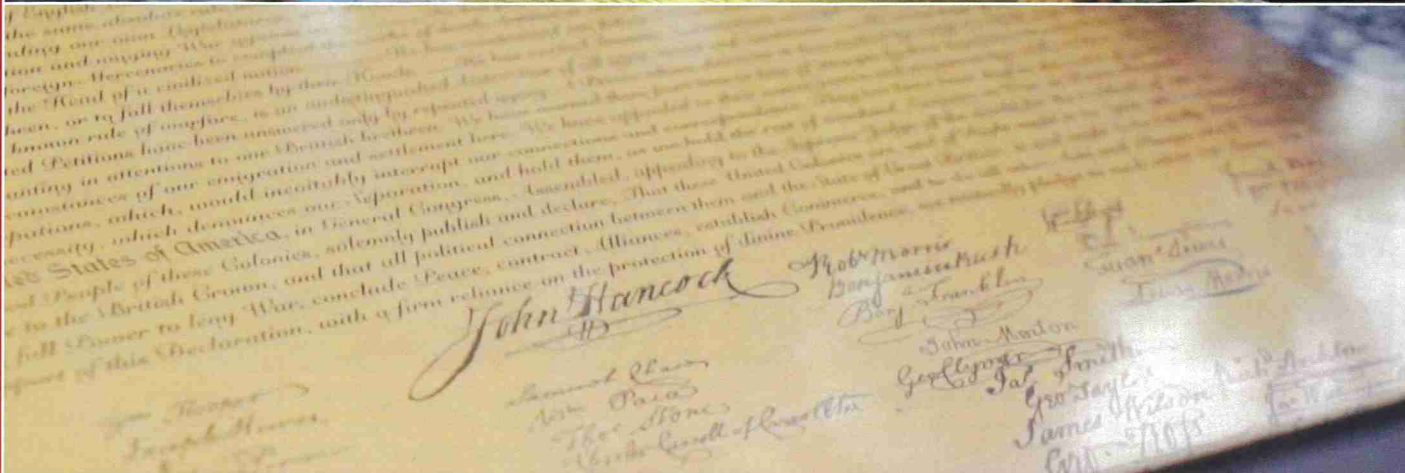


ACCESS ★ EDUCATION ★ COMMUNITY



# THE CHARTERS OF FREEDOM

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ★ UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ★ BILL OF RIGHTS



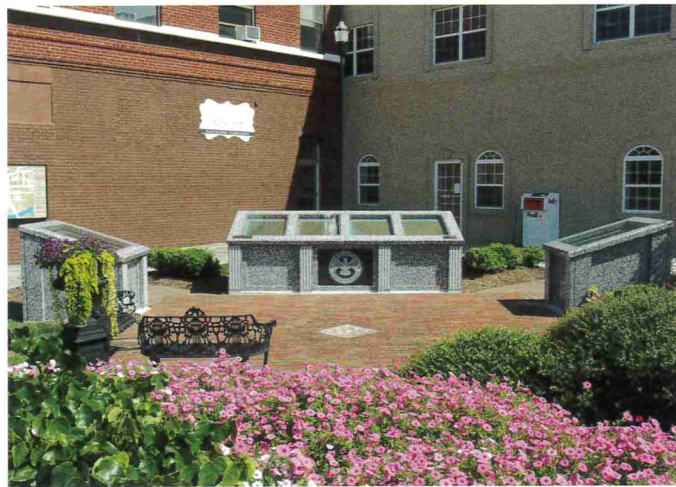
**Foundation Forward, Inc.**  
An Educational, Nonprofit, 501(c)(3) Organization

# North Carolina Settings



**Burke County, Morganton, North Carolina**

First Charters of Freedom Setting outside of Washington, D.C.  
Polished Granite. Dedicated July 2, 2014



**Cherokee County, Murphy, North Carolina**

Polished Granite  
Dedicated September 17, 2014



**Bertie County, Windsor, North Carolina**

Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated August 24, 2017



**Caldwell County, Lenoir, North Carolina**

Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated July 3, 2019



**Catawba County, Conover, North Carolina**

Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated October 9, 2019



**Halifax County, Halifax, North Carolina**

Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers With Halifax  
Resolves on the far left. Dedicated April 12, 2019

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# North Carolina Settings



**Henderson County, Hendersonville, North Carolina**  
Special Stone Fascia with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated September 19, 2018



**Cabarrus County, Harrisburg, North Carolina**  
Cast Stone Fascia with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated November 11, 2019



**Polk County, Columbus, North Carolina**  
Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated September 17, 2019



**McDowell County, Marion, North Carolina**  
Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated June 21, 2019

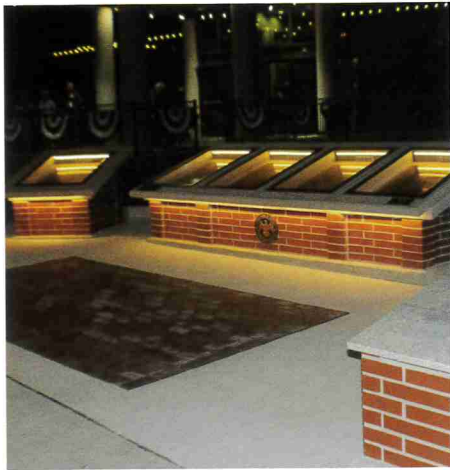


**Ashe County, Jefferson, North Carolina**  
Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated November 5, 2018



**Jackson County, Sylva, North Carolina**  
Local Brick with Cast Stone Cap and Chambers  
Dedicated May 19, 2017

# Settings Across the Country



**Hamilton County, Noblesville, Indiana**  
Local Brick with Indiana Limestone Cap and Chambers; Internally lighted with Donor Pedestals; Dedicated September 28, 2019



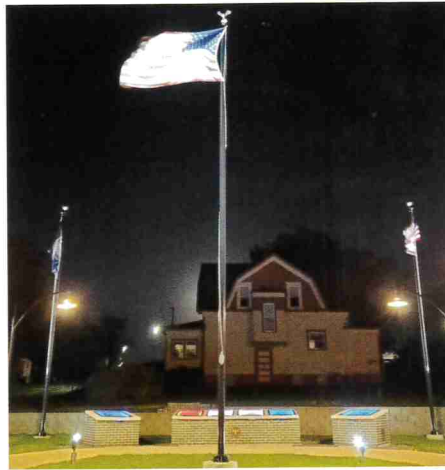
**Richland County, Columbia, South Carolina**  
Polished Granite Setting  
Dedicated May 26, 2016



**Howard County, Kokomo, Indiana**  
Indiana Limestone Setting  
Dedicated September 26, 2015



**Carson City, Nevada**  
Polished Granite Setting  
Dedicated June 14, 2018



**Dodge County, Uehling, Nebraska**  
Local Brick with Cast Stone Top and Chambers  
Dedicated November 12, 2018



**Clark County, Clark, South Dakota**  
Local Brick with Cast Stone Top and Chambers  
Dedicated November 11, 2018



**Hanover College, Hanover, Indiana**  
Indiana Limestone Setting  
Dedicated September 19, 2017



**Tripp County, Winner, South Dakota**  
Custom Concrete Fascia with Cast Stone Caps and Chambers  
Dedicated September 2, 2019



**Morgan County, Jacksonville, Illinois**  
Indiana Limestone Setting  
Dedicated May 26, 2015

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# Our Mission



Our Founding Fathers authored the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. These three founding documents are known as:

## The Charters of Freedom

These three documents declare:

- We are an independent people;
- We are governed as a Democratic Republic;
- We are secure in our freedom and rights as citizens of the United States of America.

**Foundation Forward** is an educational, nonprofit organization that builds Charters of Freedom settings in communities across the country. These settings are replicas of the displays of our founding documents as seen in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. These settings are built to last 300-500 years.

**Our Mission** is to teach and preserve American history and civics, so all will know how our government is meant to serve and protect *We the People*.



Grade school children are taking field trips to their local Charters of Freedom setting to learn about American history and civics. These field trips are remarkable life experiences for our young future leaders and they love them!

# Our Story



It all started in the Fall of 2011 when Vance and Mary Jo Patterson were in Washington, D.C. They decided to go to the National Archives because they had never seen the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution.

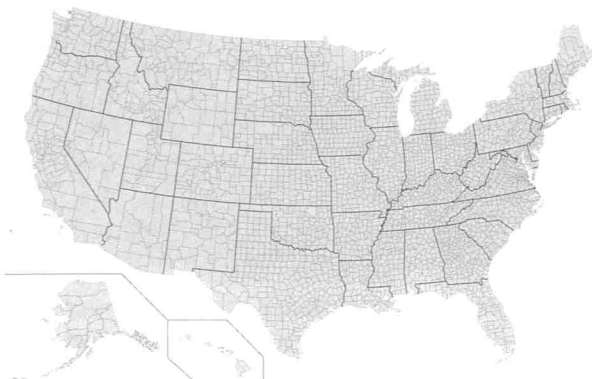
Vance recalls, "Seeing something our Founding Fathers had actually penned and then seeing their signatures, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Rutledge, Wilson, and the others, I just got goosebumps. And, then when we moved over to see the Constitution and those three words, *We the People*, I got a lump in my throat. I looked over at Mary Jo and she had tears in her eyes. It was, really, an emotional experience for us."

The next year, back home in western North Carolina, Vance was thinking about the experience and the thought came to him, "What if I could duplicate that experience we had in Washington when we saw the founding documents for the first time? What if I could bring that experience back to the citizens of Burke County?"

Two years later, on July 2, 2014, Vance and Mary Jo gifted and dedicated the first Charters of Freedom setting outside of Washington, D.C. to the children, veterans, and citizens of Burke County, on the Historic Courthouse green in downtown Morganton, NC. This was only the beginning.

In 2013, the Pattersons started Foundation Forward, Inc. a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational project to promote civics education and preserve American history. Over 30 settings have been dedicated across the country. Locations include North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska, South Dakota, and as far west as Nevada.

**The long-term goal is to place Charters of Freedom settings in as many communities as possible over the next 10 years.**



Where history meets the future.

**Foundation Forward Inc.**  
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# Access and Community



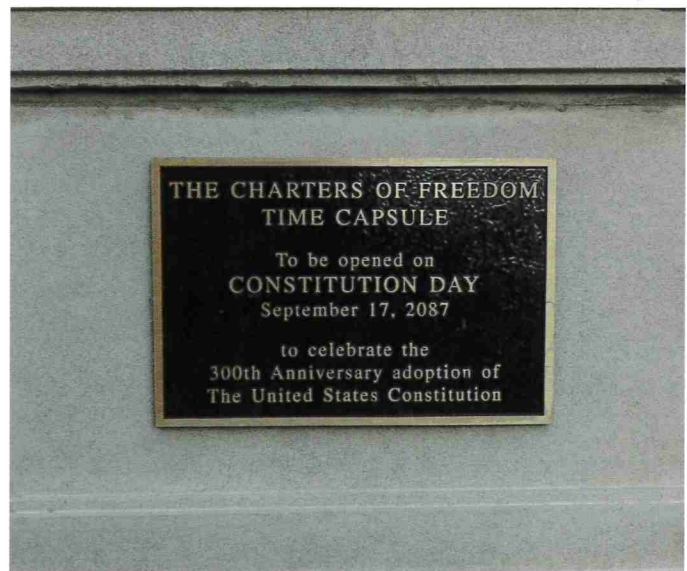
Not everyone can get to our nation's capital to see the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. "It took me over 60 years to get to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to see our founding documents," Founder Vance Patterson explains. "Even though it's free and open to the public, most people will never see and experience these documents in a proper setting."

The goal of Foundation Forward is to bring these documents to local communities in life-sized replicas of the settings in the National Archives. Your Charters of Freedom setting will be placed in a location central to the community, with high visibility, high foot traffic, and easy access for schoolchildren and veterans. They are built to last 300 to 500 years!

Your Charters of Freedom will be a firm basis on which to teach and preserve American history surrounding the time of our country's founding. Civics and government can be taught so all will know how our government is meant to serve and protect *We the People*.

Veterans will feel a renewed sense of pride and comfort because they swore an allegiance to the United States Constitution.

On the 300th anniversary of our United States Constitution Day, September 17, 2087, your community will participate in the opening of the vaults containing the time capsules, along with all the other communities around the country.



# Education

## History Government Civics



It's amazing how many people come to the Charters of Freedom setting, read the documents and say, "That's all there is to our Constitution . . . only four pages?"

You would not believe how many people do not know that our first approved Ten Amendments are our Bill of Rights! Many citizens do not realize the First Amendment, which guarantees Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Assembly, Freedom of the Press, and the Freedom and Right to Petition the Government is only 45 words!

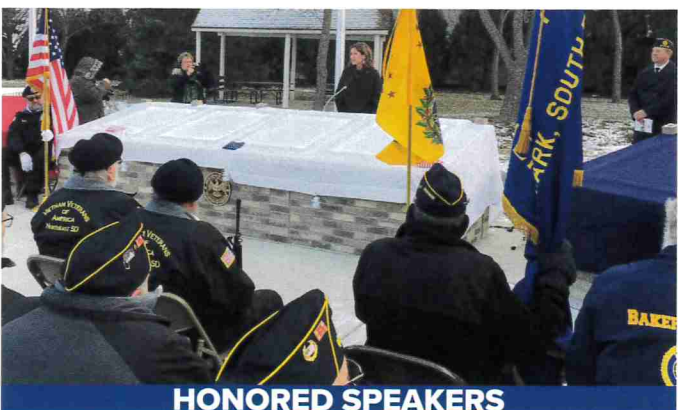
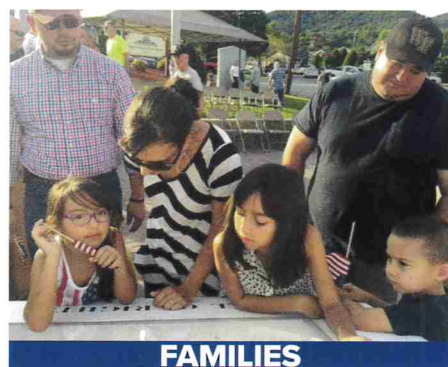
After the presentation dedication ceremony of Your Charters of Freedom setting, schoolteachers will begin bringing their 3rd-5th-grade classes on field trips to see these founding documents in a proper setting. While students are there, they learn about American history, at the time of our County's founding. Schoolchildren will learn about government and how it is to serve and protect, *We the People*. Students will also learn about civics and how they can participate in local, state, and national programs, to serve our Country. This is now happening in communities across the Country where students and others have their Charters of Freedom setting. The students love it!

"Our hope is that our future leaders will come from communities with their own Charters of Freedom," says Vance. "They will grow up not just talking about the Constitution and Bill of Rights in Washington, but talking about *their* Constitution and *their* Bill of Rights, the ones they grew up with, right in their home community. And they will know how government is supposed to work to protect and serve *We the People*."

Where history meets the future.

# Dedications and Celebrations

The dedication and gifting of the Charters of Freedom is a historic event for the community.



# Our Team



**Vance and Mary Jo Patterson**  
*Founders*

Vance is a proud American manufacturer. Two of the companies he currently operates make industrial fans. A serial entrepreneur, he has started 21 companies and taught Entrepreneurship at the University of Oxford, England. Vance is a father of four and has been married 46 years to his wife and Foundation Forward co-founder, Mary Jo.



**Perry Snider**  
*Operations Manager - Materials, Construction, and Veterans Action*

Perry is responsible for Operations, Materials, and Veterans Action. Perry organizes schedules, procures materials and coordinates operations throughout the Foundation. As a Command Sergeant Major, United States Army (retired) he has spent 11 years in Iraq and Afghanistan building and sustaining camps for the United States military.



**Mike Unruh**  
*Communications and Resources*

Mike works with national organizations and businesses to promote our mission around the United States. This includes the procuring of materials and tax-deductible donations. In addition, Mike works with media outlets to communicate the principles of Foundation Forward and update the community on the progress of projects. His background includes working as a Constituent Advocate for Military and Veterans Affairs for the United States Senate.

Where history meets the future.

# Our Team



**David Streater, Ph.D**

*Director of Education*

David constructs descriptive research of the Founding Fathers and develops supplemental educational materials to be shared with educators across the United States. These materials are used for field trips to local settings and assisting teachers. Dr. Streater is a criminologist with past careers in probation and parole holding officer and leadership positions, in addition to college teaching and administration. In the Navy, Dr. Streater served aboard the USS Nitro and the JAG office, NTC Orlando. David and his wife, Vivian, have been married for more than 40 years, having two sons and a granddaughter.



**Ron Lewis**

*Facilitator, Spokesman, and Foundation Treasurer*

Ron will be the first contact for those counties considering a Charters of Freedom setting in their communities. He schedules presentations and speaks on behalf of Foundation Forward. Ron also works directly with our Community Support and Out Reach Programs. Ron is a retired County Manager and Communication Officer in the United States Marines. Kay Lewis is his lovely wife and together they enjoy their three sons and three grandchildren.



**Connie Snider**

*Office Manager*

Connie manages all daily activities for the corporate office in Valdese, North Carolina. She has over 30 years of experience in office duties such as bookkeeping, accounting, banking, scheduling, filing, and working with the public and an office team. Being a part of the team is part of what makes her world go around. Connie has family in North Carolina and Florida and enjoys her time with both! She has two grown adults she raised in Florida. Connie has no grandchildren, however several grand pups, with several pups, cats, and seven baby chickens of her own.



**Don Ramsey**

*Construction Manager and Santa*

Don assists community volunteers and contractors with the installation of the Charters of Freedom settings. He coordinates materials and labor from each community, and provides site plans and construction documents for each setting. Don is a graduate of North Carolina State University (the *only* State University), a father of two Eagle Scouts, and is married to Patti Ramsey since 1983.



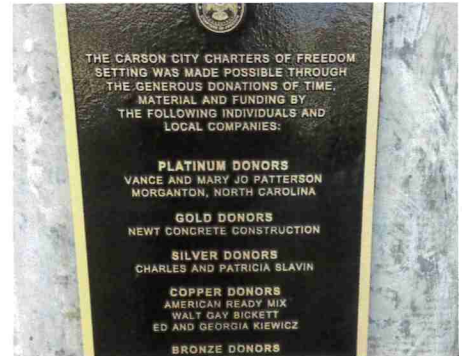
**Justin Smith**

*Fabrication and Construction*

Justin Smith is a native of Caldwell County, North Carolina. He is the mason for Charters of Freedom. In addition, he teaches and supervises others in masonry. He has over 25 years of construction experience, and is a father of two intelligent children and a loving husband to Pamela Smith since 1998.



Founder Vance Patterson with World War II veteran Norman Mears in Brunswick County



## Memorial Tribute for Mark Finegan

whose tireless effort brought the Charters of Freedom to Hamilton County, Noblesville, Indiana in September 2019.

*All Honor To His Name.*

828-522-1400  
chartersoffreedom.com