

## **New Hangar, New Jobs for Samaritan's Purse**

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Samaritan's Purse is adding to its disaster relief operations in Wilkes County, and bringing some new jobs to the county in the process. The Boone-based charity is buying a 19,738-square-foot hangar at the Wilkes County Airport from Raleigh-based Capital Bank, according to their press release, and adding 23 new positions at the site, 13 of those in warehouse and support services, with the target of 55 jobs there by the end of May. Samaritan's Purse's North American Disaster Relief operations are headquartered in North Wilkesboro and its aviation operations, closely aligned with disaster relief, have been at the Wilkes County Airport since 1989. Last Tuesday night, the Wilkes County commissioners approved the transfer of the lease of county-owned land beneath the hangar from Capital Bank to Samaritan's Purse. The press release said the 21-acre site "will be utilized to accommodate the growth of this critical area of the organization's work," referring to the North American Ministries. Five disaster relief tractor-trailer units, each stocked with tools and cleanup supplies Based at the Samaritan's Purse facilities on N.C. 268 East are and ready to be deployed at a moment's notice when disasters strike.