



MCRC Weekly Newsletter November 18, 2022

Notable Notes From the Region

-New Hire for Harnett County: Harnett County recently announced Natalie Pusser as the new Director for the County Regional Jetport. Pusser has been an employee at the Harnett Regional Jetport since 2003, and previously served as the Office Manager, FBO Manager, and most recently, the Operations Manager. Her new duties will include directing the County's airport operations, monitoring and implementing safety procedures, serving as the liaison for airport projects and grant funding opportunities, promoting economic development and business expansion at the airport, and ensuring Harnett Regional Jetport adheres to county, state, and federal guidelines. Congratulations to Natalie and best of luck in your new position.

-Erwin's Act of Service: Residents in the Town of Erwin took part in Operation Gratitude earlier this week, devoting many hours to put together 10,000 care packages that will be sent out to first responders and service members all throughout the country and the world for the holiday season. The goal of Operation Gratitude is to express appreciation for all that first responders and service members do to protect us at home and around the world. Among other things, Erwin residents included scarves and handwritten letters in the care packages. Kudos to the Town of Erwin on taking part in this great project!



Operation Gratitude has delivered millions of care packages to first responders and service members over the years.

-Salemberg Christmas Celebration: The Town of Salemberg will be holding its annual Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 3 from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM at Town Hall. The event will ring in the holiday season, and will include a Christmas tree lighting, Santa, food, and music. The Town will also be accepting donations at the Christmas Celebration, which will go towards purchasing holiday food and gifts for a local orphanage. Make sure to come out and get into the holiday spirit at this yearly celebration.

-Fallen Clinton Police Officer gets Tribute: This week, the City of Clinton, in conjunction with Sampson County and the North Carolina Department of Transportation, dedicated a bridge to fallen Clinton Police Officer Donald Ray Tucker, who was killed in the line of duty in 1991. The formerly named Faircloth Freeway Bridge over NC 24 will now be named the Officer Ray Tucker Bridge. The official dedication ceremony was attended by numerous friends and family members of Officer Tucker, who spoke of his lifelong commitment to service. To this day, Officer Tucker is the only Clinton Police Officer to die in the line of duty, and the dedication of the bridge represents the gratitude that the City of Clinton has for Officer Tucker and all the other first responders that have died in the line of duty.



The newly named Donald Ray Tucker Bridge honors a fallen Clinton Police Officer who died in the line of duty.



Thanksgiving Announcement:

Next Thursday, 11/24, and Friday 11/25 the Mid-Carolina Regional Council will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will be reopening for business on Monday 11/28. Please enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday with your friends and families. We would like to give thanks to all of our partners for helping us administer quality

services all throughout the region, we could not accomplish what we do without your help!



MCRC Open House Reminder:

A reminder that the Mid-Carolina Regional Council will be holding a winter holiday Open House event on December 6th from 3:00 PM-7:00PM open to the public. The Open House will be in our conference room at 6205 Raeford Rd Fayetteville, NC 28304. Stop by for refreshments, the chance to meet our staff, and the opportunity to see what your COG does. We highly encourage any local government officials to come out to this informal event to get to know what we do in the office!

If you are planning on attending the Open House, please RSVP to aresnick@mccog.org by December 2nd.

Upcoming COG Events

There are no upcoming COG events for now. Please enjoy the holidays with your friends and family and stay tuned for updates about future events!



UNC School of Government Worthwhile Reads

Responding to First Amendment Audits: Is Filming Protected by the First Amendment?
(Published 11/14/22) Read [here](#).

Responding to First Amendment Audits: What is a "Forum" and Why Does it Matter?
(Published 11/15/22) Read [here](#).

Responding to First Amendment Audits: How Do Courts Classify a "Forum"?
(Published 11/16/22) Read [here](#).

Responding to First Amendment Audits: Examples of Forum Determinations
(Published 11/17/22) Read [here](#).



About Us

Mid-Carolina Council of Governments is a multi-county, planning, development, and human services organization. We reach across county and municipal borders to provide technical assistance to our local governments and to administer programs that benefit our region's citizens. Our mission is to provide creative regional solutions to relevant and emerging issues in Cumberland, Harnett, and Sampson Counties while providing a standard of excellence in the delivery of federal, state, and regional services for our local governments and the people they serve.

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