



## MCRC Weekly Newsletter March 24, 2023

---

---

### Notable Notes From the Region

**-Harnett County Names new Community Relations Director:** Harnett County recently named Desiree Patrick as its new Community Relations Director. Ms. Patrick comes to Harnett County with over 10 years of experience in communications, marketing, and public relations. She will manage the County's Public Information Office, overseeing the communications, marketing, and community relations efforts between the County and its residents, and will be leading internal and external communication campaigns to achieve the County's Strategic Plan. Ms. Patrick previously served as Communications and Public Relations Coordinator at Durham Technical Community College. She increased the college's media visibility, managed internal and external communications efforts, and led the College's 60 for 60-storytelling campaign. Welcome and congratulations on your new position Desiree!

**-Upcoming Festival in Linden:** This Saturday, the Town of Linden will be hosting Little River Days, its hometown festival at the Little River Community Park on 5010 Loop Road in Linden. The free event will feature live entertainment, family activities, food trucks and over 125 vendors. Festivities go from 10:00 AM-5:00 PM, with a Power Hour from 4-5 where vendors will be offering various sales and promotions. Parking is free, and it is recommended that festival participants arrive between 9:45 and 10:30 AM to find parking close to the festival grounds.

---



## **MID-CAROLINA REGIONAL COUNCIL**

*Creative Regional Solutions*

### **Grant News Update**

The Mid-Carolina Regional Council's Area Agency on Aging is pleased to announce that it recently received a grant from USAging for COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccine Uptake Initiative for Older Adults and People with Disabilities for over \$160,000. The grant will be used to provide:

- Vaccination Clinic and In-Home Vaccination Engagement
- Supportive Services
- General Vaccination/Booster Information and Outreach
- Partnership Development
- Training and Peer-to-Peer Engagement

We are also excited to announce that Lanora Washington, our previous Regional Outreach Coordinator for Expanding Access to COVID-19 Vaccines will be rejoining our team as the Aging and Disability Vaccine Collaboration Outreach Coordinator beginning on April 3. We are thrilled to have been the recipient of this grant and to have Lanora rejoin our team in this new position!

---



## **MID-CAROLINA REGIONAL COUNCIL**

*Creative Regional Solutions*

The Mid-Carolina Regional Council has recently completed comprehensive job description templates for positions typically found in local governments. The document can be accessed through our website, [mccog.org](http://mccog.org), or by [clicking here](#). Positions included in the templates pertain to local government administration, finance, planning/inspection, and public works, as well as fire, police, and parks & recreation. We hope you find these templates informative and helpful as you continue to expand your local government capabilities.

---



## Mid-Carolina Senior Games Final Notice

This week is the last week to register for the Mid-Carolina Senior Games. Click this [link](#) to sign up and register for the numerous sports events or Silver Arts categories open. All applicants must register online by **midnight on Friday, March 31**, or if you prefer to mail in an application, it must be postmarked by March 31 at the latest. The Mid-Carolina Senior Games is for participants aged 50 and over. If you have any additional questions regarding the Senior Games or would be interested in volunteering for any of the events, please email Lashonda Gough at [lgough@mccog.org](mailto:lgough@mccog.org).

---

---



NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature Members Needed for Sampson and Harnett Counties

The Mid-Carolina region is in need of two alternates for the North Carolina Senior Tar Heel Legislature (NCSTHL). Sampson and Harnett counties require more alternate members to the legislature in order to comprise of a full delegation from the region. The NCSTHL is for all state residents aged 60 and up. Members of the NCSTHL are volunteers from all walks of life. Some are retired, some still work. They commit to educate themselves about how the state’s aging services and funding streams work, evaluate the effectiveness of the distribution network, measure the impact of current policies and processes, and act to propose legislation that addresses the problems. To inquire about appointment as a NCSTHL delegate or alternate, contact Tracy Honeycutt, [thoneycutt@mccog.org](mailto:thoneycutt@mccog.org), or 910-323- 4191 x27. The Wake County Shrine Club hosted the March 2023 Senior Tar Heel Legislature earlier this week, for more information on the event, please [click here](#).



Bob Nordberg (Harnett County Delegate, back left), Jackie Warner (Cumberland County Delegate, back right), Ifetayo Farrakhan (Cumberland County Alternate, front right), and Tracy Honeycutt (Representing Sampson County, front right) all attended the Senior Tar Heel Legislature earlier this week.

---

---



## Office Closure

The Mid-Carolina Regional Council offices will be closed on Friday, April 7 for the Good Friday holiday. We will be reopened for normal business hours on Monday, April 10. We wish you and yours a happy holiday weekend.

---

### Upcoming COG Events

**Tuesday, March 28:** Matter of Balance, Every Tuesday from 1:30 PM-3:30 PM, Tokay Senior Center, 328 W Hamilton St., Fayetteville, NC 2304. This free class is available to those who may have concerns about falling, and the best practices to maintain proper balance. To register please call 910-433-1414. [Click here](#) to view the informational flyer.

**Wednesday, March 29:** Gentle Yoga, Every Wednesday from 3:00 PM-4:00 PM, Mid-Carolina Regional Council, 6205 Raeford Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28304. Gentle Yoga is appropriate for all levels of experience but is particularly accessible to anyone new to the practice of yoga. Alignment focused and instructive, you will realize the benefits of your practice through improved flexibility and strength. Event is FREE, but registration is required. To register please contact Barbara White at [bwhite@mccog.org](mailto:bwhite@mccog.org), or 910-323-4191, ext. 28. To register, please call 910-433-1414. [Click here](#) to view the event flyer.

**Tuesday, April 4:** Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Board Meeting, 9:00 AM, 455 McKinney Parkway, Lillington, NC 27546.

**Thursday, April 13:** Mid-Carolina Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee Meeting, 9:30 AM, Mid-Carolina Regional Council 6205 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304.

**Thursday, April 13:** Transform the Way You Care: Free Caregiver Virtual Reality Experiences, all day, held every second Thursday of the month. Mid-Carolina Regional Council 6205 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304. This event is by appointment only, please contact Barbara White at [bwhite@mccog.org](mailto:bwhite@mccog.org), 910-323-4191, ext. 28, or Carla Smith at [csmith@mccog.org](mailto:csmith@mccog.org) 910-323-4191, ext. 23 to make a reservation. This event is free, for more information on the event, please [click here](#).



**SCHOOL OF  
GOVERNMENT**

**UNC School of Government Worthwhile Reads**

Can a Member Acting Alone Block a Special Meeting of the City Council?  
(Published 3/14/23) Read [here](#).

Local Government Support for Privately Owned Affordable Housing  
(Published 5/16/22) Read [here](#).

Administering Development Regulations and Accounting for Permitting Fees  
(Published 9/4/18) 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.

Mid-Carolina Council of Governments | 6205 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304  
910.323.4191

[Unsubscribe jhembree@mccog.org](mailto:jhembree@mccog.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [jhembree@mccog.org](mailto:jhembree@mccog.org) in collaboration  
with



Try email marketing for free today!