

Mr. Harnett Comes to Harnett County

Harnett County received a visitor this month with a unique connection to the County's history.

James Harnett toured a portion of Harnett County along with his daughter, Niamh, as part of a visit to the County that shares his family's name.

Harnett is from Abbeyfeale in County Limerick, Ireland, and was visiting the United States for the first time to surprise his friend, Noel Lyon, who lives in Cary, for the 25th anniversary of Lyon's company, McGill Environmental Systems of North Carolina. Harnett introduced Lyons to his lead business partner nearly three decades ago.

While he was in the Triangle, Harnett decided to visit neighboring Harnett County. He said he learned of Harnett County's existence several years ago while researching the Harnett name.

Harnett said there are hundreds of people who have the Harnett name in County Limerick and the surrounding area, more than anywhere else in the world.

"I've always been fascinated by why the Harnett name is so strong in this small area of Ireland," he said.

In 2012, he organized the Harnett Reunion Weekend Clan Gathering, a Harnett family reunion of sorts. A commemorative magazine was published for the occasion. During his visit, Harnett donated a copy of the magazine, which includes notable stories of the Harnett family as well as information about Harnett County, N.C., and the County's namesake, Cornelius Harnett.



James Harnett presents a copy of The Harnett Reunion Commemorative Magazine to Harnett County Public Library Director Angela McCauley. Harnett is from Ireland and visited Harnett County during his first trip to the United States to surprise his friend, Noel Lyons of Cary. From left are McCauley, Harnett's daughter, Niamh, Harnett and Lyons.

While researching for the reunion, Harnett also learned about Cornelius Harnett, whose father was a merchant and immigrated to the Americas from Dublin, Ireland.

Harnett said he was interested in finding out whether he might be related to Cornelius Harnett, but many of Ireland's records were destroyed during the Easter Rising, a rebellion that took place during Easter Week, April 1916.

Nonetheless, Harnett said he was fascinated to learn about Cornelius Harnett and Harnett County, and wanted to

stop in while he was nearby.

While he was here, he visited Lillington Town Hall, the Harnett County Courthouse, County Administration Building, and he had his first Southern breakfast at Sweet Magnolia in Downtown Lillington.

Harnett also visited the Harnett County Public Library to present the County with a copy of the Harnett Reunion Commemorative Magazine.

Interim Harnett County Library Director Angela McCauley said she was honored and delighted by Harnett's

Keep up with Harnett County on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and go to www.harnett.org/publicinfo for news releases, important updates, a community calendar and other information.



What's Happening in Harnett?

Are you looking for something to do over the weekend? Have you ever wanted to run your own business, but need some help getting started? Keep up with what's going on in Harnett County with the Community Calendar at www.harnett.org/publicinfo.

The calendar compiles community events taking place throughout Harnett County — from all the town festivals and parades going on in the fall to community meetings and seminars at Triangle South Enterprise Center — and puts them in a single location. It also includes events held by partner organizations including area chambers of commerce, the Dunn Area Tourism Authority, Campbell University, Central Carolina Community College and Raven Rock State Park. See something that's missing from the calendar? Let us know and we'll add it! To submit an event for inclusion in the Harnett County Community Calendar, email bhaney@harnett.org.



During his visit to Harnett County, James Harnett also met with Harnett County Manager Joseph Jeffries and Deputy County Manager Paula Stewart, and was given a bag full of Harnett County promotional items.

visit and the donation to the library. She said the magazine will be added to the library's collection as a reference item in the local history room.

"We are most grateful for Mr. Harnett's book donation," said McCauley. "He offered interesting facts and details about the Harnett family and his enthusiasm made it clear that he and other family members are quite dedicated to their her-

itage and family roots, and they have pride in the Harnett name."

Harnett said he was impressed by his visit to the United States and Harnett County, both by the vastness and natural beauty of the land, and the friendliness of the people.

"People have been welcoming everywhere we've gone," he said. "Everyone takes the time to talk to you."

Harnett Capital Plan Is Underway

Harnett County is in the process of putting together a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for all County departments.

A CIP is an efficient financial tool designed to assist county governing boards and employees in meeting program and service goals. In general, the CIP lists facility and equipment needs, prioritizes those needs and schedules them for funding and implementation.

The Harnett County CIP lays out a road map for the next five years to identify the County's capital needs well before implementation. Individual County departments are required to submit capital project forms for consideration.

Here are a few considerations for departments looking to submit a project:

- The cost of the project/purchase must be at least \$10,000.
- The project/purchase must result in a long-term asset.
- The project/purchase must be non-recurring.
- The project/purchase should be submitted well before the fiscal year when it will be needed, except in emergency situations.

If a proposed project/purchase meets these requirements, it will be considered for inclusion in the County's CIP.

A CIP can be an excellent tool to increase organization and efficiency. Harnett County can use its CIP to meet essential service needs for employees and citizens in the years ahead.

Winner of First #ParkYourPhoto Contest Selected



In partnership with Local Government Federal Credit Union (LGFCU), Harnett County Parks & Recreation has selected the winner of the first #ParkYourPhoto Contest. The winner was 'Sweet Stillness,' which was taken at Anderson Creek County Park by Miranda Kelly. Kelly received an LGFCU Prize Pack. The theme for the first contest, which was held during April and May, was 'Nature.'

The next #ParkYourPhoto contest is currently underway with the theme 'Family.' The deadline to submit photos for this period is July 31. To enter, take a photo that ties in with the theme at any local park in Harnett County. Post your photo to the "Harnett County Parks and Recreation" Facebook page, tweet your pic @HarnettCoParks using #ParkYourPhoto, or post your photo on Instagram using #ParkYourPhoto and #HarnettParks. Be sure to include the name and location of the park where you took the photo. You may take photos at any Harnett County Park, any municipal park in Harnett County, Raven Rock State Park, or the Dunn-Erwin Rail Trail. For more information, go to www.harnett.org/parkrec/.

Upcoming Events

- The next Lillington Community Blood Drive will be held Thursday, July 14 from 1 to 5:30 p.m. in the Harnett County Government Complex Commons Area in Lillington. All donors will receive home-made ice cream after they make their donation. To make an appointment or for more information, call (910) 893-7578. The blood drive is sponsored by Harnett County Public Health and Harnett County RSVP.
- The Harnett County Public Library's summer reading program is currently underway. Events include programs for children, tweens, teens, adults and fun for the whole family with activities at every library in Harnett County. For a complete schedule of events, go to www.harnett.org/library/.
- The annual Harnett County Health Fair will be held October 6, 2016, in the Government Complex Commons Area. The Health Fair, which is hosted by Harnett County Human Resources, is free for all employees and offers an opportunity to meet local health care providers and learn about some of the many services available in Harnett County.

If you know of any important events for future months that should be included in this newsletter, email information to bhaney@harnett.org.

Human Resources Corner

How to Save on Medical Costs During Retirement

While you likely won't have the day-to-day expenses during retirement that you had while working, you'll still have to pay the costs of utilities, insurance and groceries. On top of that, you will likely have more medical costs. But there are ways to manage your health care costs in retirement. Here's how:

Save more now.

You'll likely have health care expenses during retirement that can drain money earmarked for other retirement spending and goals. Be proactive to protect your retirement lifestyle by saving more money now for health care expenses.

If you have a Health Savings Account (HSA) while still working, fully fund it each year. You can use these pre-tax dollars for qualified medical expenses when you retire. If you have permanent life insurance, there is typically a cash value account you can access tax-free for medical costs. If these tools aren't available, contribute to a savings account earmarked for future

health care costs.

Stay healthy.

Taking care of your health by being physically active and eating well is an easy way to reduce your health care costs now and in the future. Explore fitness programs and healthy eating classes available in your community when you retire. Check for program discounts through your health insurance carrier.

Practice prevention.

See your doctor regularly and when you experience symptoms of illness. Take advantage of free health risk screenings available in your community. By checking things out early, you may be able to save on bigger and more expensive problems that could become chronic or worse.

Understand your coverage.

It's easy to underestimate your share of health care costs during retirement. According to Medicare reports, if you

retire today, you can expect to pay an average of \$4,123 a year out-of-pocket for health care costs. This includes the cost for Medicare Part B (for services and supplies), which requires a monthly premium payment.

Supplement your coverage.

Medicare won't cover all healthcare costs during retirement. If you won't have retiree health insurance from your former employer available, consider a Medicare Supplement Plan (Medigap) to pay for services not fully covered by Medicare. For prescription drug coverage sign up for Medicare Part D. These coverages add to your retirement expenses, but they protect against larger out-of-pocket costs, which can overwhelm you.

These small changes can help protect your financial freedom in retirement.

The advice given is for informational purposes only. Contact your financial advisor for additional guidance.

Keep Beneficiaries Up-to-date

It's important to keep your beneficiary designations up-to-date. Failure to do so before a major life event occurs (such as death, change in marital status or the addition of a child) is a common mistake. When you pass, regardless of your intentions, the beneficiaries listed on your assets (insurance policies, retirement or deposit accounts) are the only legal recipients of the assets.

What to do now

Update designated beneficiary forms for each policy and account that requires changes after every major life

event. If you decide to make a change, note that most institutions require the following beneficiary information: proper and legal name, date of birth, Social Security number and physical address.

You can update your beneficiaries at any time. Once they are updated, all previous beneficiaries are canceled and replaced.

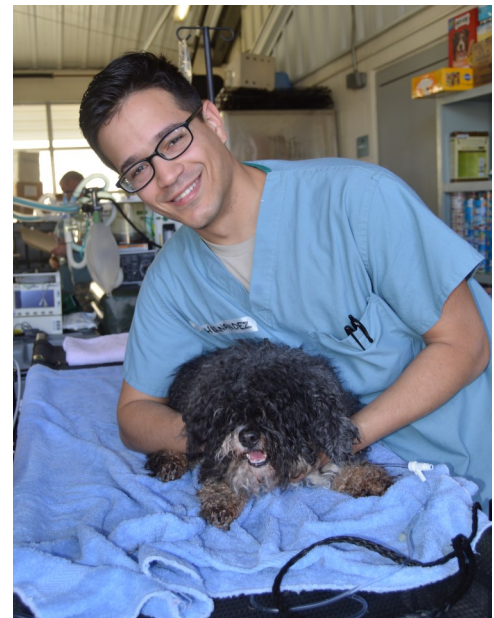
Update insurance policies

You can take similar steps when updating those who you want to receive benefits from any insurance policies

you own. These are known as primary and contingent beneficiaries. Remember, your primary and contingent beneficiary designations can be held by an individual, group of individuals, your estate or an entity, such as a charity or corporation (some restrictions may apply based on the policy or account).

Avoid adding to your loved ones' emotional grief with financial misunderstandings. Be sure to keep your beneficiary designations current.

Article provided by Local Government Federal Credit Union.



Soldiers with the 248th Medical Detachment Veterinary Services Support at Fort Bragg spent a week at the Harnett County Animal Shelter training for an overseas mission and providing much needed services to animals at the shelter. At left are some of the soldiers who took part in the training with one of the dogs they treated. At right, Sgt. Jose Hernandez adopted one of the dogs he treated during the week.

Military Trains at Harnett Animal Shelter

Soldiers with the 248th Medical Detachment Veterinary Services Support at Fort Bragg spent a week at the Harnett County Animal Shelter training for an overseas mission and providing much needed services to animals at the shelter.

During the training, soldiers spayed and neutered dozens of animals and performed various other necessary medical procedures at no cost to the County. In addition to animal technicians, food inspectors also trained at the Animal Shelter.

Animal Services Program Manager Steve Berube said the military contacted

him about training at the shelter. He said allowing the training was a “no-brainer.”

“This is a great opportunity for the County,” he said.

Major Patti Glenn, operations officer for the 248th MDVSS, was appreciative of Berube’s willingness to partner with the military.

“It was a mutually beneficial opportunity,” she said. “Harnett County needed the services and we needed the training.”

The training worked out incredibly well for one of the animals that was at the shelter.

Sgt. Jose Hernandez ended up adopting a dog he treated.

“He’s real energetic and I’ve got another dog, so they’ll be able to play with each other when I’m away,” he said.

The 248th MDVSS’s deployment includes stops in Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, East Timor and Vietnam.

Berube said he looks forward to more opportunities to partner with the military.

“This is just one of the ways we can show how much support Harnett County has for our military,” he said.

Employment Anniversaries

The following Harnett County employees celebrate employment anniversaries in July 2016:

5 years	Stephanie Jordan (EMS)	15 years	Richard Meeks (Public Utilities)
10 years	Justin Saunders (EMS)	20 years	Lori Barnes (Health)
	Martin Denton (Public Utilities)	25 years	Robert Wilson (Sheriff’s Office)
	Stacie Taylor (Public Utilities)		Trudi Wester (Register of Deeds)
	Thomas Armstrong (Public Utilities)		

July Employee Birthdays

The following Harnett County employees and board members celebrate birthdays in July. Please join us in wishing these employees a happy birthday.

July 1	Mitchell Prince (EMS)		Debralyynn Dingle (Social Services)
	Odis Faircloth (Public Utilities)		Christa Reid (Social Services)
	Judy Wheeler (Social Services)		Judith Kelly (Social Services)
2	Amy Driggers (Development Services)	16	Linda Wangelin (Parks & Recreation)
	Douglas Jones (EMS)		John Symmonds (Sheriff's Office)
	Kimberly Buchanan (Human Resources)		Kenneth Bass (Social Services)
	Chris McDougald (Public Buildings)	19	James Fipps (Animal Services)
	Debra Taylor (Social Services)		Deborah Hall (Board of Elections)
3	Donald Knight (Public Buildings)		Richard Meeks (Public Utilities)
4	Waylon McCloud (Public Utilities)		Paula Avery (Library)
	Veronica Ramos (Social Services)		Debra Vaughn (Division on Aging)
5	Cathy Ryals (Finance)		Mitchell Moore (Public Buildings)
	Elizabeth Garcia (Public Utilities)		Paul Stewart (Sheriff's Office)
	Ronnie Thompson (Public Utilities)		Marty Ivey (Sheriff's Office)
	Thomas Parker (Sheriff's Office)	20	Daniel Pope (Emergency Services)
	Melody McGee (Social Services)		Richard Stevens (Public Utilities)
7	Jessica Forbes (Development Services)	21	Charles Outlaw (EMS)
	Gina McKinney (Public Utilities)		Valencia Bell (General Services)
	Christie Irvine (Social Services)		Monica Jackson (Legal Services)
8	Rebekah Butler (Communications)	22	Cornelius McNeill (Health)
	Joseph Webb (Sheriff's Office)	23	Margarette Wood (Transportation)
	Sarah Monk (Social Services)	24	John Dodd (EMS)
9	Marissa Macri (EMS)		Chrystal Johnson-Hammons (Social Services)
	William Wagstaff (Public Utilities)	25	Christopher Hedges (EMS)
	Annette Burnett (Social Services)		Katie Benedyk (EMS)
10	Denise Vogt (Finance)		Joshua Tindal (Sheriff's Office)
11	Jessica Woods (Social Services)	26	Benjamin Pollock (IT)
12	Preston Sutton (Development Services)		John Clark (Sheriff's Office)
	Marcia McNeill (EMS)	27	Heather Geffken (Communications)
	Edward Byrd (Sheriff's Office)	28	Nuria Bennett (Health)
13	Mary Sauls (Health)		Gil Williams (Sheriff's Office)
	Henry Evans (Restitution)		Sean Chavis (Sheriff's Office)
14	James Jones (Cooperative Extension)		Jennyfer Castaneda (Social Services)
	James McLean (Public Utilities)	29	Paul Polinski (Social Services)
	Amanda Jackson (Health)		Justin Ferrell (Social Services)
	Margaret House (Human Resources)		Valerie Rogers (Social Services)
	Jerry Gilbert (Sheriff's Office)	30	Robert Wilson (Sheriff's Office)
	Lori Powell (Social Services)	31	Everett Blake (Development Services)
15	Emily Foreman (EMS)		George Keele (Public Utilities)
	James Johnson (Public Buildings)		Morgan Spears (Social Services)
	Angela Whittington (Social Services)		Ethel Blinson (Solid Waste)

Future issues of *The Cornelius* will include employee birthdays for the coming month instead of the current month to allow for advance notice of upcoming birthdays.

Want to know about events taking place in Harnett County each month? Check out the Harnett County Community Calendar at www.harnett.org/publicinfo. And if you know of an event that should be on the calendar and isn't, email information to bhaney@harnett.org.



County Eyes Natural Gas Options Along N.C. 87

The Harnett County Board of Commissioners and County staff toured the N.C. 87 corridor in the western part of Harnett County with representatives from Piedmont Natural Gas to look at the possibility of expanding natural gas into western Harnett. Despite massive population growth in the western part of the county, a lack of access to natural gas has inhibited commercial and industrial growth in that part of Harnett County. The Board of Commissioners has listed expansion of natural gas in the County as a major priority and has asked for legislation that would allow the County to operate natural gas as an enterprise, which municipalities are allowed to do. 'We appreciate the folks from Piedmont taking the time to show us where the lines are in that area and we look forward to further discussing how we can bring natural gas to the western part of Harnett County to make the area more attractive to commercial and industrial development,' said Commissioners Chairman Jim Burgin. From left are Harnett County Manager of Planning Services Jay Sikes, Development Services Director Mark Locklear, Dale Norville with Piedmont Natural Gas, commissioners Joe Miller and Gordon Springle, Bob McCune with Piedmont Natural Gas, Chairman Burgin, Tammy Thurman with Piedmont Natural Gas, Commissioner Barbara McKoy, Greg Epting with Piedmont Natural Gas and Transit Driver Grace Kelly.

Board Celebrates 50 Years for Harnett Business



Photo/Shawn Savarese (Daily Record)

Members of the Harnett County Board of Commissioners present a proclamation congratulating Godwin Manufacturing on 50 years of business in Harnett County to the company's founder, Pat Godwin. From left are Board of Commissioners Vice Chairman Gordon Springle, Commissioner Barbara McKoy, Godwin Manufacturing President Pat Godwin Jr., Founder Pat Godwin, Vice President Phyllis Godwin Norris, Commissioners Chairman Jim Burgin, and commissioners Abe Elmore and Joe Miller.

County Recognizes Employees During EMS Week



Emergency responders in Harnett County were recognized in May with a proclamation from the Harnett County Board of Commissioners recognizing May 15-21, 2016, as Emergency Medical Services Week. Emergency Services Director Jimmy Riddle presented the proclamation and EMS employees were treated to hot dogs and hamburgers by Emergency Services in two shifts over two days. Harnett County EMS also received the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Silver Award.

Sheriff's Office Dedicates Law Enforcement Memorial

The Harnett County Sheriff's Office held a dedication ceremony for the Harnett County Law Enforcement Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park in the Harnett County Government Complex. Sheriff Wayne Coats honored the memory of Deputy John Strickland, who was killed in a crash while responding to a call on Sept. 24, 2003. Strickland was a U.S. Army Veteran and served eight months with the Sheriff's Office.

