July 2019 Volume IV, Issue VII

Harnett COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

Harnett Connect

Monthly Employee newsletter • Keeping You Connected

Employee Communications Survey

Employee Communications Survey

You're invited to participate in our employee communications survey! Harnett County strives to keep employees informed so they can serve as brand ambassadors to the citizens. Our goal is to effectively communicate county initiatives, programs, services, and events to our citizens in a timely, transparent manner.

Please take a few moments to provide input on our communications efforts both internally to employees and externally to our citizens. With your feedback, we will make improvements to our communication efforts to create a better relationship with our employees and partnership with our citizens. All responses will be completely anonymous.

Thank you for your participation. We greatly appreciate your input and feedback to help us improve communication efforts!

Questions? Contact Community Relations Coordinator, Ashley Deans, at 910-814-6001 or adeans@harnett.org.

Harnett COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

We want your input! With feedback from our county citizens and employees, a Strategic Communications Plan will be created to help our county improve our communication efforts among employees and citizens. Please take a few moments to complete the survey and provide feedback about how you are receiving information as an employee and how you would recommend providing information to citizens. The results of the survey are completely anonymous.

Take Survey Now

In This Issue

Communications Survey
Parks & Recreation BINGO
Your Tax Dollar at Work
Department News
Human Resources Corner
Value of Caregiver Support Services
Community Events Calendar
July Poll– What's Your Spirit Animal?
Health & Wellness Tip
Community Give Back Opportunities
July Employee Birthdays and Employment Anniversaries

Game On Harnett County: Parks & Recreation BINGO

Get ready to get in the game this July with Harnett County and celebrate National Parks & Recreation Month by participating in a Parks & Recreation BINGO game.

Harnett County, in partnership with the National Recreation and Parks Association, Towns of Angier, Coats, Erwin, Lillington, City of Dunn, Cape Fear River Adventures, and Raven Rock State Park, has created a BINGO game that includes various recreation themed activities across the county during the month of July. Individuals of all ages are encouraged to get outdoors, have some fun, learn more about their local parks and trails, and win some cool prizes by participating in our BINGO game. We'd love to see you in action as your completing the recreation themed activities. Tag us on social media @HarnettCounty and use the hashtag #GameOnHarnettCounty.

HOW TO PLAY PARKS & RECREATION BINGO

1. Complete the parks and recreation themed activities on the BINGO card between July 1 and July 31, 2019.
2. Score a BINGO by completing 5 activities in a row. *(BINGO can be 5 activities horizontal, vertical or diagonal).*
3. Return your completed BINGO card to Harnett County Parks & Recreation office by August 1. *(Harnett County Parks & Recreation office located in the County Administration Building, 420 McKinney Parkway, Lillington)*
4. Receive a free gift and be entered in to win one of the following grand prizes:
    - FitBit Fitness Tracker
    - Yeti Tumbler

- Tubing Trip for 4 from Cape Fear River Adventures

Download and print your BINGO card now! Cards will also be available at staffed Recreation sites throughout Harnett County. For more information, contact Ashley Deans, Community Relations Coordinator, at 910-814-6001 or **adeans@harnett.org**.

Play Now

Harnett COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

Your Tax Dollar at Work

Most of the spending decisions for Harnett County occur within the General Fund. The funding sources for the general fund include:

- Ad Valorem taxes
- Intergovernmental revenue
- Sales taxes
- Departmental revenue
- Investment earnings
- Other local taxes and revenues

Here's an overview of the county's General Fund Expenditures and a breakdown of your tax dollars at work. Funding includes:

Contingency	Funds budgeted for anticipated but not yet realized future program expenditures. Use of these funds require specific approval by the Board of County Commissioners
General Government	Facility operations, county administration, departmental operations
Cultural & Recreation	Parks, trails, municipalities parks & recreation programming, and library services
Harnett County Schools	Daily operations, non-state teacher salaries, and local teacher supplement
Transportation & Environmental Protection	HARTS transportation services, and preservation of natural resources
Public Safety	Sheriff's office, EMS, emergency management, emergency communications, correctional facilities, Fire Marshal services, and other protective services
Central Carolina Community College	Daily operating expenses, capital funding for the 6 Harnett County sites & the Harnett County Promise program
Human Services	Mental and public health, social services, and aging assistance
Economic & Physical Development	Economy investment and development and business growth resources
Interfund Transfers	Funds used to pay for the debt of previously built schools and county facilities

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Department News

Harnett County Fire Departments Improve Ratings

Harnett County Fire Marshal Office announced on Monday that several Fire Districts within the county received an improved rating after recent inspections. The North Carolina Department of Insurance (DOI) and Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) inspects communities on a regular basis as part of the North Carolina Response Rating System (NCRRS).

All Harnett County Fire Districts that were inspected, since January 2019, received a rating of a Class 3 or Class 4. According the OSFM statewide 2016 ratings, there are 1,532 Fire Districts in North Carolina, with 199 Fire Districts rated Class 4 and 61 rated Class 3. Less than 20% of North Carolina Fire Districts across the state have received a Class 4 rating or less.

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Schedule a Physical for Your Child Entering Kindergarten

As this school year comes to a close, summer vacations and other fun activities are gearing up. It's a busy time of year, but also an important time to make sure your child is ready to return back to school in August.

The Harnett County Health Department, is reminding parents of children who will be entering Kindergarten this school year, to schedule an appointment for their child's required kindergarten physical before the start of school. The Health Department provides physicals for all grades including Kindergarten, Head start/Pre-K, and Daycare.

For more information or to make an appointment for your child please call the Health Department at 910-893-7550.

Read More

Board of Elections to Host Voter ID Seminars

The Harnett County Board of Elections will hold two educational seminars about voter photo identification requirements on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 6pm and Thursday, August 22 at 6pm at the Harnett County Commons Complex, located at 307 W Cornelius Harnett Blvd, Lillington, NC 27546.

The seminars are free and open to the public.

In November 2018, North Carolina voters approved an amendment to the N.C. Constitution to require voters to present photo ID at the polls. Beginning in 2020, voters will be required to provide photo identification before they vote. This includes both in-person and by-mail voting, with some exceptions.

Session Law 2018-144 requires each county board of elections to hold at least two voter ID seminars before September 1, 2019. Attendees will receive information from the N.C. State Board of Elections about voting options, including absentee-by-mail, One-Stop early voting, and Election Day voting. Information about provisional voting, the availability of free North Carolina voter ID cards, and residency requirements

Contact the Harnett County Board of Elections at 910-893-7553 for questions regarding the Voter ID Seminars.

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County EMS System Receives American Heart Association Award

Harnett County EMS System has received the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Plus Award for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks.

The Mission: Lifeline initiative provides tools, training and other resources to support heart attack care following protocols from the most recent evidence-based treatment guidelines. Mission: Lifeline's EMS recognition program recognizes emer-

Library Offers Food for Fines Program

Local Harnett County Libraries are offering a Food for Fines program that will allow overdue library fines to be waived with the donation of food items.

The Food for Fines program will run Monday, June 24 through Wednesday, July 31. Any individual with overdue library fines at Harnett County Public Library, located at 601 S. Main Street, Lillington, Dunn Public Library, located at 110 E. Divine Street, Dunn, or Coats Public Library, located at 29 E. Main Street, Coats, are able to bring in dry or canned goods to waive those fees.

gency medical services for their efforts in improving systems of care to rapidly identify suspected heart attack patients, promptly notify the medical center and trigger an early response from the awaiting hospital personnel.

"Harnett County EMS System is dedicated to providing optimal care for heart attack patients," said EMS Chief Belanovich. "We are pleased to be recognized for our dedication and achievements in emergency medical care efforts through Mission: Lifeline."

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All food donations will donated to the Harnett Food Pantry. At this time, individuals are encouraged to donate canned spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, and canned corn.

For more information on the Food for Fines program, contact Autumn Landers, Youth Services Librarian, at 910-893-3446.

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Emergency Food & Shelter Program Grant

Harnett County has been chosen to receive $57,669 from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency to support Emergency Food and Shelter Programs (EFSP) within the county.

The selection was made by a Committee utilizing funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from the American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; Salvation Army; United Jewish Communities and, United Way of America.

The purpose of the EFSP is to supplement and expand the ongoing work of local social service organizations, both non-profit and governmental, to provide shelter, food and supportive services to individuals and families who have economic emergencies. EFSP funding is open to all organizations helping hungry and homeless people, as well as organizations that support those at risk of becoming hungry or homeless due to economic hardships.

Qualifying organizations are encouraged to apply. The deadline for submitting a letter of request and application to the local Board is Wednesday, July 17, 2019 by 5:00p.m. Applications can be downloaded at http://www.harnett.org/fire/.

Completed applications can be emailed to ltsmith@harnett.org or hand delivered to Harnett County Emergency Services, 1005 Edwards Brothers Drive, Lillington, NC 27546.

For more information on the Emergency Food and Shelter Program grant, contact Larry Smith, Harnett County Emergency Services Director at 910-893-7580, or by email at ltsmith@harnett.org.

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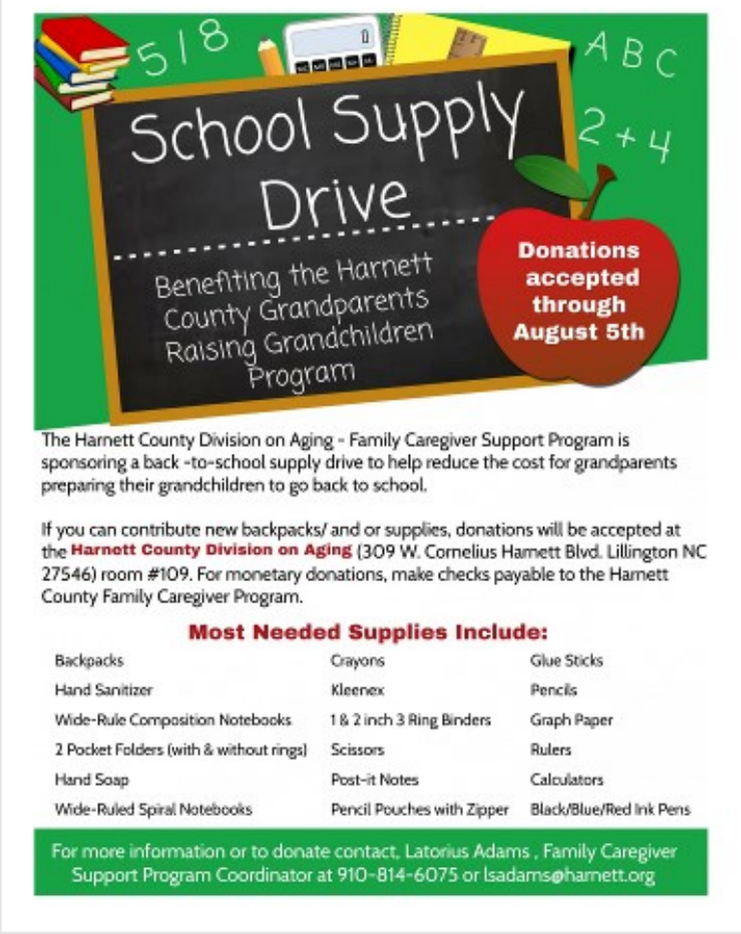
Veterans Treatment Court and Family Caregivers Program Sponsor Back to School Supply Drives



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Human Resources Corner

Continue your education, advance your career

Advancing your studies can be a great way to take your current career to the next level or even prepare for a second one. Here are a few good reasons, along with some tips, on how to continue your studies without breaking your budget.

Boost your current career or prepare for a second
Ask your manager about the skills needed to advance your career. This could lead to greater responsibility and a pay increase. Then look for in-person or online courses to help you reach your goals.

There are a number of online sites that offer self-paced video classes from industry experts. There may be no upfront charge during the introductory period for this kind of coursework. However, you may need to save a credit card number in the system. If you remain enrolled after the trial period, your card will be billed automatically.

So, keep an eye on your introductory period to avoid unwanted charges. Cancel the service if you don't want to pay for it. If the coursework benefits your career, review your budget to ensure you can afford an ongoing subscription.

Next, look to your industry associations for free webinars to help you bolster your skill set. You may even find complimentary pre-recorded webinars using an internet search. These online classes feature topics ranging from accounting to mastering Microsoft Office and more. Community colleges can help with no-cost or affordable programs specifically for individuals aged 50-plus who are near or in retirement.

How to pay for continuing education
You may have the desire to continue your studies, but you may not have the budget for it. That being said, there are resources which could help. Start with your employer. If there's money available through your company, don't miss the opportunity to apply for it.

Otherwise, look to your credit union or bank for help with funding your education too! They may offer professional development scholarships as well as funds to help adult students offset the cost of college. And your college of choice may have scholarships available for continuing education. Combined, these funding sources could make paying for school a little easier on your finances.

Finally, know that continuing your education can happen at any point in your career. Don't miss an opportunity to go further up the ladder.

Article provided by Local Government Federal Credit Union. The advice provided is for informational purposes only.

The Value of Caregiver Support Services

Latorius Adams, MS
Family Caregiver Support Program Specialist & Medicare Counselor

Caregivers come in all sizes, shapes, genders and ethnicities. However, they do have one thing in common. Caregivers are usually not prepared for their new role. There is no question that caregivers need support Caregiving is hard and often leads to burnout or stress. If a Caregiver is caring for someone with Alzheimers, Schizophrenia, or other mental issues, it can be especially difficult.

Because it often arrives unexpectedly, caretaking may become a full-time job, affecting free time and causing feelings of alienation because of the lack of support from friends and family members. Caregivers are silent heroes due to their devotion, commitment and self-sacrifice.

Caregiving is a tough and isolating experience. Fortunately, there are caregiving support groups that can help. Caregiver support groups are filled with people in similar situations. Finally! People who actually get what you are going through!

It is important for the caregiver to determine if a support group is appropriate for them. The best way to know is to attend a meeting and assess the dynamics of the group and the quality of the leadership. Caretakers can gain valuable information about resources from other caretakers in similar situations. Sharing stories and experiences is a great way to learn from others.

Support groups bring together people who are going through or have gone through similar experiences. The common experience among members of a support group often means they have similar feelings, worries, everyday problems, and experiences. Participating in a group provides you with au opportunity to be with people who are likely to have a common purpose and likely to w1derstand one another.

- Benefits of participating in a support group may include:
- Feeling less lonely, isolated or judged
- Reducing distress, depression, anxiety or fatigue
- Talking openly and honestly about your feelings
- Improving skills to cope with challenges
- Staying motivated to manage chronic conditions or stick to treatment plans
- Gaining a sense of empowerment, control or hope
- Improving understanding of a disease and your own experience with It
- Getting practical feedback about treatment options
- Learning about health, economic or social resource

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Community Events Calendar

Check out all of the upcoming events and programs offered during the month of June.! For complete list of events and programs, view the **Harnett County Community Calendar**.

You're invited for a fun Family Bingo Night at Boone Trail Community Center on July 25 at 6:30pm. Different variations of the classic game will be played for a variety of prizes. An adult must accompany anyone under the age of 16. This is a free event.

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Needing a parents night out? Enjoy a night out on Friday, July 19. Kids ages 5—12 can be dropped of at 5:30pm at Boone Trail Community Center & Library and picked up between 7-8pm. Cost is $7 per child and includes dinner, games, and movies. participate in

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Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo Moon Landing with us! MOON WALK on in to our Family Moon Event featuring a Star Lab Mobile planetarium and STEM Stations to learn about all the Moon on Saturday, July 20 from 10am-12pm at the Harnett County Public Library.

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Don't miss out on seeing Dan the Animal Man! You'll get to experience face to face encounters with wild animals! Join us on Thursday, July 25 at 2pm at the Harnett County Public Library.

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The Town of Angier, in partnership with the American Red Cross will host a Battle of the Badges Blood Drive on Friday, July 19 from 12pm-5:30pm at The Depot, located at 19 W Depot Street in Angier. To schedule an appointment, visit: www.redcrossblood.org or contact Christy Adkins at 919-331-6713.

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Dunn Area Chamber of Commerce will host Third Thursday Dine and Stroll in Downtown Dunn on Thursday, July 18 from 5pm—9pm. Stop by one of Downtown's eateries for dinner, than take a stroll around to various downtown merchants. For more information, contact Dunn Chamber at 910-892-4113.

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Everyone mark your calendars, Erwin Area Chamber will be hosting the second Blue Jean Boogie event on July 27th with Identity Crisis! There will be Music, food, drinks, Shaved Ice, Funnel Cakes, Dancing, and fellowship!!! Everyone bring your family and friends the event will start at 7PM!! For more information, contact Erwin Chamber at 910-591-4207.

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The Harnett County Board of Commissioners will hold their regular meeting on Monday, July 15 at 6 p.m. in the County Administration Building at 420 McKinney Parkway, Lillington, NC.

A meeting agenda will be made available the week before the meeting. You can view past agendas and meeting minutes on the Harnett County webpage.

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Summer Fun Poll

Summer Fun Poll- July Edition

If I were an animal, I would be... Let us know what's your spirit animal! Here's a list of animals in case you need some suggestions! https://www.spirit-animals.com/complete-animal-totem-list/

What is your spirit animal?

Your answer

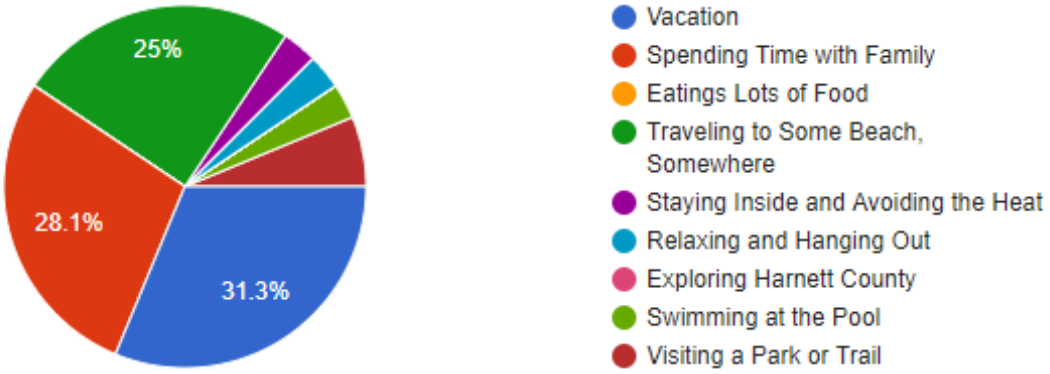
SUBMIT

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

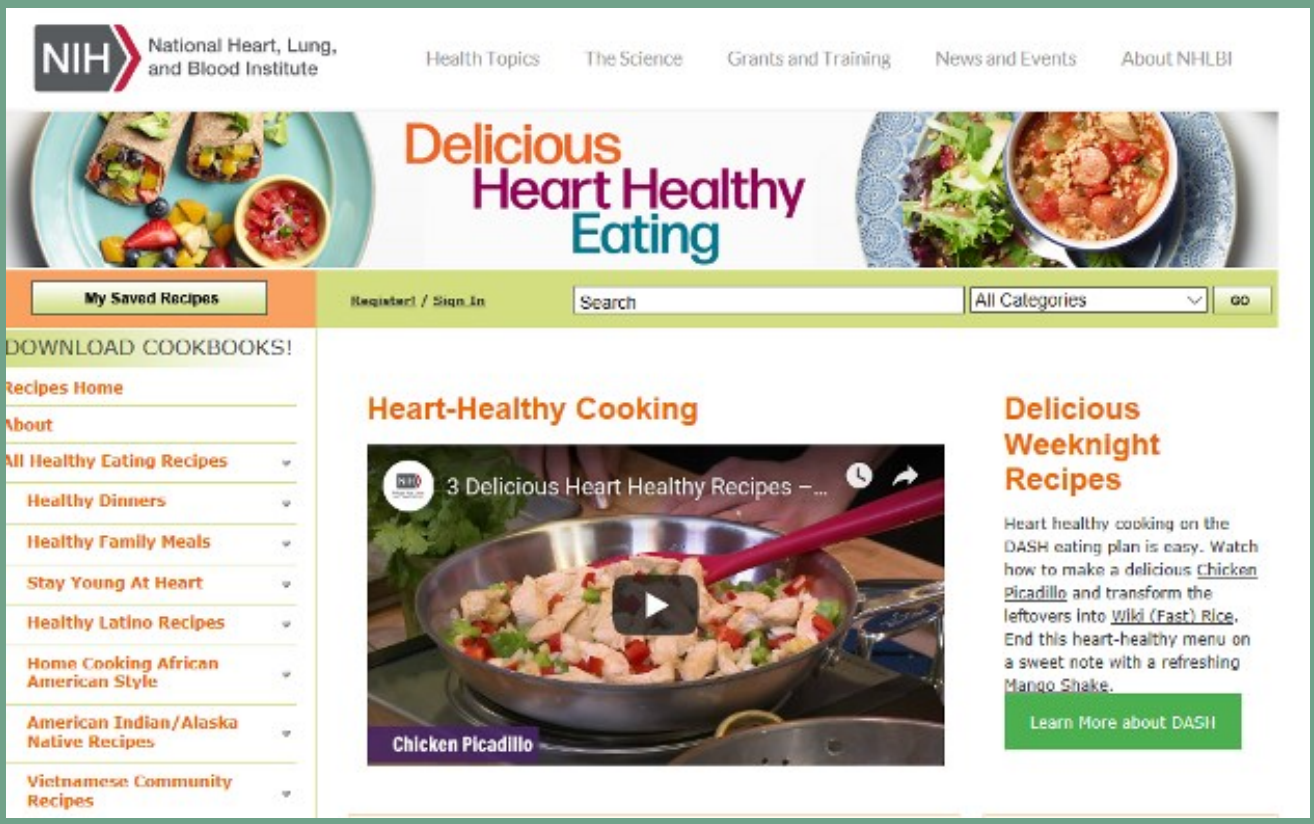
And the June Poll Results Are...

What are you most looking forward to this Summer?

32 responses



Health & Wellness Tip: Heart Healthy Cooking



Making the move to heart-healthy eating can help lower your risk for heart disease and other conditions. Need help starting a healthy eating plan? Find tips for shopping, cooking, and eating healthy. And check out more than 100 recipes. You can even save favorites to your own personalized recipe box on the site.

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Community Give Back Opportunities

Elderly Nutrition Program

Animal Shelter

Looking to make an impact in your local community? Become a volunteer with our Department on Aging. The Department on Aging's Elderly Nutrition Program offers opportunities for individuals and groups to assist with delivering meals to our elderly homebound clients. Delivery of meals typically takes about 45 minutes per day and is done five days a week. For more information and to sign up to deliver meals, contact Debra Vaughn at 910-814-6072 or dvaughn@harnett.org.

Sign Up Now

Individuals can assist with our rescued animals at the Animal Shelter. Typical duties include: greeting and assisting the public with adoptable pets, socializing with the animals, and keeping the kennels clean. To view the volunteer policies, requirements, and application, **click here.**

For more information, contact LeeAnn Wagstaff at 910-84-2952 or **rwagstaff@harnett.org**.

Sign Up Now

Harnett County Schools: STEM Lab, Job Shadowing, and Career Exploration

Do you enjoy working with kids? Are you passionate about your job? Harnett County government is looking to partner with Harnett County Schools to develop a program to support Middle students with career exploration. We are looking to start working with the schools for the Fall 2019 semester. Here's how you can support this partnership!

Volunteer at Dunn Middle School STEM LAB

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Lab at Dunn Middle School has 28 lab modules that allow students to learn more about STEM based careers. Modules include: Flight Technology, EMT, Structural Engineering, Finance, Forensic Science, Child Development, and much more. As a volunteer, you would work with the students to help complete modules and provide insight on your career. You do not have to have a career in **one of the lab's 28 modules** in order to volunteer.

Present to a Class on your Career

Provide students an overview about your current career, background, and tips to being successful.

Allow a Student to Job Shadow or Be an Intern

Give students a chance to see a "day in the life" of your job. Students will get a look of day to day tasks and what it means to be in your career. There is also opportunity to have high school aged intern support your department by getting real life experience and working for you.

Let a Class Tour Your Office/Facility

Allow a class to come to your office or facility to take a tour and meet others in your work group. This will give them an opportunity to get a look into how government departments operate and work with citizens in community.

If you or your department are interested in any of these partnership opportunities, please contact Ashley Deans at 910-814-6001 or adeans@harnett.org. We are currently complaining a list of interested employees and departments and will work with the Harnett County Schools to coordinate dates and times to work with the students.

Sign Up Now

Let's Celebrate: Employee Birthdays & Anniversaries

July Employment Anniversaries

5 Years	20 Years
Lee Harris, Health Department	*No anniversaries in July*
10 Years	**25 years**
No anniversaries in July	Avis Watkins-Smith, Health Department Elaine Weeks, Health Department Gregory Taylor, Sheriff's Office
15 Years	**30 Years**
Jeremy Roberts, Sheriff's Office Timothy Stewart, Sheriff's Office Monnie Lee, Social Services	*No anniversaries in July*

July Employee Birthdays

1	Mitchell Prince, Emergency Services Odis Faircloth, Harnett Regional Water Edwin Dejesus, Sheriff's Office (Detention) Glynnis Crawford, Social Services Judy Wheeler, Social Services	17	Benjamin Shooter, Emergency Services
2	Amy Driggers, Development Services Debra Taylor, Social Services	19	Deborah Hall, Board of Elections Richard Meeks, Harnett Regional Water Paula Avery, Library Debra Vaughn, Division on Aging Mitchell Moore, Facilities Maintenance Marty Ivey, Sheriff's Office
3	Kevin McLamb, Emergency Services Donald Knight, Parks & Recreation	20	Daniel Pope, Emergency Services Richard Stevens, Harnett Regional Water
4	Charles Watson, Emergency Services Waylon McCloud, Harnett Regional Water Margaret Capps, Sheriff's Office Veronica Ramos, Social Services Shyann Overfelt, Solid Waste	21	Valencia Bell, General Services Michael Matthews, Harnett Regional Water Monica Jackson, Legal Kenneth Peroni, Transportation
5	Garcia Elizabeth, Harnett Regional Water Brionka Judd, Library Melody McGee, Social Services	22	Anna Reardon, Division on Aging Cornelius McNeill, Health Department Kevin Letarte, Sheriff's Office Elizabeth Ramirez Sanchez, Social Services
7	William Slaughter, Emergency Services Rochelle Weeks, Social Services	23	Alexa Hernandez, Workforce Development
8	Rebekah Butler, Communications Blake Wilsey, Information Technology Joseph Webb, Sheriff's Office Heidi Wiseman, Sheriff's Office Sarah Monk, Social Services	24	Austin Coleman, Sheriff's Office Chrystal Johnson-Hammons, Social Services
9	Sonya Thompson, Workforce Development	25	Christopher Hendges, Emergency Services Johnathon Daugherty, Sheriff's Office (Detention) Joshua Tindal, Sheriff's Office
10	Denis Vogt, Finance	26	Benjamin Pollock, Information Technology Robert Doberstein, Tax Department
11	Amos Tart, Emergency Services	27	Heather Geffken, Communications Brandon McLamb, Harnett Regional Water
	Sierra Lee, Communications		Elizabeth Goughnour, GIS

12	Preston Sutton, Development Services Christian Parker, Emergency Services Edward Byrd, Sheriff's Office (Detention)	28	Nuria Bennett, Health Department Gil Williams, Sheriff's Office (Detention) Sean Chavis, Sheriff's Office
13	Mary Sauls, Health Department Henry Evans, General Services	29	Paul Polinski, Social Services Valerie Rogers, Social Services Amra Murphy, Solid Waste
14	James Jones, Cooperative Extension James McLean, Harnett Regional Water Margaret House, Human Resources Damon Haley, Sheriff's Office Lori Powell, Social Services Sylvia Armstrong, Transportation	30	Miranda Ward, Sheriff's Office (Detention) Robert Wilson, Sheriff's Office
15	Emily Foreman, Emergency Services James Johnson, Facilities Maintenance Angela Whittington, Social Services Dedralynn Dingle, Social Services Christa Reid, Social Services	31	Everett Blake, Development Services Beth Blinson, General Services George Keele, Harnett Regional Water Morgan Spears, Social Services
16	Jason Healy, Harnett Regional Water Linda Wangelin, Parks & Recreation Kenneth Bass, Social Services		

Stay connected to Harnett County online! Visit the County webpage and social media pages by clicking on the icons below.

@HarnettCounty **Harnett County Government** **@Harnett_County** **Harnett County Government** **www.harnett.org**

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strong roots • new growth