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 To: Steve Johnston



An update to the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners from the County Manager

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Jan. 8, 2018

Annual Budget Retreat Set for Jan. 25-26

The Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners meets for its annual Budget Retreat on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 25 - 26, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., at Central Piedmont Community College’s Harris Conference Center.

The conference marks the official start of the FY2019 budget season. The packed agenda for the two-day conference includes briefings on fiscal policies and the financial status of the County.

The Board will also receive updates on various County services and initiatives.

The retreat will be broadcast on the Government Channel and streamed online at www.mecknc.gov. Live updates will be provided on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Volunteers Needed for 2018 Point-In-Time Homeless Count

Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte will hold the 2018 Point-In-Time Count on Jan. 31, 2018. This is when our community comes together to survey and count each person experiencing homelessness on one night. Last year, in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, there were 1,476 people counted, including 148 families, 66 youth and 215 people sleeping outside.

Counting is critical to understand the scope of the homelessness problem. The Point-In-Time Count is the only method used to collect information about unsheltered homelessness in the community, which has risen steadily since 2014.

When combined with all information on system performance, the Point-In-Time Count provides Charlotte-Mecklenburg a way to look at progress in the work to end and prevent homelessness.

Residents are invited to help with the Point-In-Time Count in the following ways:

- Give Time - Sign up to complete surveys with people experiencing homelessness. Information about volunteer shifts can be found [here](#) or at www.EverybodyCountsCLT.org.
- Donate Items - Donate items that will go to people sleeping outside in our community until homes are found. Access the Wishlist [here](#) or go to www.EverybodyCountsCLT.org.
- Raise Awareness - Share information with your networks about housing and homelessness using the #EverybodyCountsCLT hashtag and [content calendar](#). It provides data and links to events throughout January. It is available at www.EverybodyCountsCLT.org.

For more information, contact Courtney Morton, Community Support Services, at 704-497-9546 or Courtney.Morton@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

County Launches Art Contest for High School Students

Mecklenburg County, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Youth Council and Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools are encouraging area high schoolers to get creative.

Beginning on Jan. 15, the three organizations will launch the [Imagine Mecklenburg Student Art Contest](#), giving young artists of all skill levels the chance to imagine Mecklenburg's possibilities. Participants will be asked to consider one of the following questions as they work on their submissions:

- What makes Mecklenburg County a great place to live, work and recreate?
- What is your vision for a unified, safe and prosperous Charlotte and Mecklenburg County?

Artwork should reflect the diversity and interests of the entire community.

Local community members and art professionals will judge the contest. All contest finalists will be recognized for their creative contributions, and three winners will have their artwork framed and displayed in County Executive Offices.

For more information, contact Community Relations Coordinator Christine Edwards at 980-314-2802 or Christine.Edwards@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, Jan. 9, 3 p.m. – BOCC Budget and Public Policy Meeting, CMGC Room 267
- Tuesday, Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m. – County Assessor Ken Joyner will present about the 2019 revaluation during the Pineville Town Council Meeting. The meeting will take place at the Hut meeting facility, 413 Johnston Drive in Pineville.

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