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Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"

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Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 4:01 PM**To:** [Steve Johnston](#)

MECKLENBURG COUNTY GOVERNMENT



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

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April 10, 2017

Legislative Update

The North Carolina Senate moved closer to further lowering the state's corporate and personal income-tax rates, passing what leadership has named the "Billion Dollar Middle Class Tax Cut," or Senate Bill 325. No Senate Democrats supported the measure. The bill has passed the Senate and is now in the House.

The House purportedly plans to lower the corporate and personal rates as well, but to a lesser extent. If SB 325 passes the House in its current form, the personal income tax rate would go from 5.499 percent to 5.35 percent and the corporate tax rate would go from 3.0 percent to 2.5 percent by 2019. The bill would also increase the standard tax deduction for married couples filing their taxes jointly – from \$17,500 to \$20,000. Accordingly, married couples earning less than \$20,000 a year would not owe any income taxes.

A bill has been filed in the North Carolina Senate that would significantly change the way that handguns and other weapons are permitted in North Carolina. Senate Bill 503, titled Online Paperless Pistol Modernization, would do away with the current paper permitting process that runs through the Sheriff's Office.

In lieu of paper permits, gun dealers would run their own national background checks on the purchaser of the weapon and electronically send the results to the Sheriff's Office. The bill sponsors have emphasized that this will bring North Carolina up to speed with the other 49 states, as North Carolina is the last state in which a paper handgun permitting process exists.

The North Carolina Sheriffs' Association opposes the bill, stating that the national background checks run by gun dealers are liable to miss local criminal misconduct.

The North Carolina General Assembly is expected to take an unofficial spring break from April 12 – 18.

For more information, contact Legislative Affairs Liaison Jonathan Sink at 980-314-2884 or Jonathan.Sink@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

2017 Employee Climate Survey Available Beginning April 17

Mecklenburg County's annual Employee Climate Survey (ECS) will be available to employees April 17 – May 9. The ECS offers employees the opportunity to share thoughts and suggestions about

17 – May 8. The ECS offers employees the opportunity to share thoughts and opinions about employee motivation and satisfaction, employee development, and employee perceptions of the workplace.

The theme for this year is “Your County, Your Opportunity: When opportunity knocks, we listen.” Last year, many employees expressed concerns about the level of security after regular business hours. Additional cameras have been installed at Wallace H. Kuralt, Valerie C. Woodard, Bob Walton and Hal Marshall to provide a safe and secure work environment for employees.

Together, we can continue to enhance the quality of our services and environment.

Community Resource Center Update

It is with great excitement that we continue to move forward in the development of our prototype Community Resource Center (CRC), which will open in 2018 at the Valerie Woodard Center. This prototype is the result of a multi-year planning process spanning across each [Health and Human Services](#) department to provide coordinated services to our clients and will become the model we adopt going forward in the development of future centers.

With the opening of the prototype approaching, it is critical that we begin work on the staffing of this first center, beginning with the center director. I am pleased to announce that Rodney Adams has agreed to assume this leadership role as the center director and will lead the continued development of the operational model.

Rodney has more than 28 years of experience working for Mecklenburg County in the Social Services Department and has extensive expertise in Economic Services, which is a critical component to the success of the CRC model. Until the time that the prototype Center opens, he will also continue to serve in his current role as the deputy director of the Social Services Department.

For more information, contact Assistant County Manager Anthony Trotman at 980-314-2911 or Anthony.Trotman@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

County Partners in 'This is Art. This Is Public Health.' Initiative

Mecklenburg County youth will showcase a variety of artwork highlighting public health priority areas such as tobacco prevention, food access and HIV, as part of the "This is Art. This is Public Health." initiative. The event will take place Friday, May 5, 7 to 10 p.m., at the C3 Lab, LLC 2525 Distribution St., Charlotte and is free to attend.

The This is Art. This is Public Health. initiative is a partnership between [Mecklenburg County Public Health](#), West Charlotte High School, local artist Bree Stallings and Behailu Academy. The initiative seeks to inform and inspire the community, youth, and decision makers by creating unique art pieces that tell a story about the issues and the solutions related to health disparities and health equity. At the core of this initiative is a unique collaboration between the health sciences field and the arts by appealing to both the minds and hearts of the community.

The showcase will feature artwork informed and inspired by the public health work in Mecklenburg County and the lived experiences of the youth and their communities. Spotlighted art pieces include photography of Public Health's Healthy Corner Store Initiative Murals as well as a plethora of artwork from individual students attending West Charlotte High School, Behailu Academy, and the Mission Possible Youth Group.

For more information, contact Public Health Director Dr. Marcus Plescia at 980-314-9020 or Marcus.Plescia@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, April 11, 3 p.m. – BOCC Budget and Public Policy Meeting, CMGC Room 267
- Wednesday, April 12, 10 a.m. – West Charlotte Recreation Center re-dedication ceremony, 2401 Kendall Drive

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