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Tax Collector Implements a Top 100 Delinquent Taxpayers List and Credit Bureau Reporting

The Mecklenburg County Office of the Tax Collector (OTC) has implemented two new initiatives to collect delinquent taxes.

Property owners who have unpaid real and personal property tax bills for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 may have their names and the amount they owe published in the Top 100 Delinquent Taxpayer List on the <u>OTC website</u>. This list can be found by visiting <u>MeckNC.gov/DelinquentLists</u>.

The purpose is to notify the taxpayers on the list that delinquent taxes are due and to inform the public which 100 taxpayers have the highest delinquent balances. Taxpayers can have their name removed from the list by paying their delinquent taxes in full. Delinquent taxpayers in bankruptcy or under appeal are excluded from the list.

The OTC has also partnered with a collections agency, Datamax Corporation (Datamax), to collect delinquent taxes resulting from the reappraisal review. The affected taxpayers are former property owners who have not paid taxes due from when they were the owners.

The affected taxpayers will be mailed a notice tomorrow to notify them that their delinquent tax debt was turned over to Datamax to collect. Those taxpayers will have 45 days from the date of the notice to pay their delinquent taxes in full, or make a payment arrangement if eligible, to avoid having the delinquent debt reported to the credit bureaus for listing in credit files.

For more information, contract County Tax Collector Neal Dixon at 980-314-4488 or Neal.Dixon@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

Criminal Justice Services Receives Grant for Opioid Systemic Response Plan

<u>Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Services</u> will soon begin work to help those affected by the opioid crisis.

Thanks to a \$368,798 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance, the department will implement its Opioid Systemic Response Plan to help gather information about target populations and develop strategies for enhancing services at various intercept points such as jails and community corrections centers. The funding will also help expand prevention and education efforts while also promoting treatment and recovery.

The County will partner with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's School of Social Work to conduct research throughout the project. The grant is part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act -- the first major federal substance use disorder treatment and recovery legislation in 40 years, and the most comprehensive effort to address the opioid epidemic.

For more information, contact Criminal Justice Services Director Sonya Harper at 980-314-1701 or Sonya.Harper@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

Assessor's Office Earns Certificate of Excellence in Assessment Administration

The <u>Mecklenburg County Assessor's Office</u> recently received a Certificate of Excellence in Assessment Administration award from the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) during their annual conference.

Since 2004, only 38 jurisdictions have achieved this award. The County Assessor's Office is only the second in the state to do so.

IAAO is a nonprofit, educational, and research association. It is a professional membership organization of government assessment officials and others interested in the administration of the property tax. IAAO was founded in 1934, and now has a membership of more than 7,000 members worldwide the governmental, business and academic communities.

In addition, three County Assessor employees received recognition during the awards program.

These individuals were acknowledged for having met the requirements of three IAAO's professional designations.

Real Property Manager Cecil Jackson achieved the Assessment Administration Specialist (AAS) designation, while John Geier – a senior real property appraiser – was awarded the Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES) designation.

The AAS recognizes the professionalism and competency in the administration of a variety of functions for property tax purposes and the RES designation recognizes the professionalism and competency in the valuation of residential property.

Property Assessment Manager Sandy Martin received the Personal Property Specialist (PPS) designation, which recognizes professionalism and competency in the valuation of personal property for tax purposes.

Congratulations to Ken Joyner and his staff.

\$250,000 Grant Awarded to 'Building Uplifted Families' Collaborative

Building Uplifted Families, a community collaboration between Renaissance West Community Initiative, Novant Health, Carolinas HealthCare System, UNC Charlotte, has been awarded a \$250,000 BUILD Health Challenge grant to improve the health and overall well-being of Renaissance West residents and neighbors along Charlotte's West Boulevard corridor. <u>Mecklenburg County Public Health</u> will also serve as a partner and participate in the planning process, but will not receive any funding from the grant.

During the two-year grant period, the partnership will focus on improving the lives of Renaissance West families by addressing health disparities and improving access to preventative healthcare. Additionally, resources will be directed toward tackling social determinants that have a direct impact on this community. These include groceries stores and nutritious food, education and job training, transportation, and other solutions to improve overall quality of life.

Building Uplifted Families is one of 19 community projects in 12 states selected to participate in the BUILD Health Challenge, a national program that supports community collaborations that are Bold, Upstream, Integrated, local, and Data-driven projects addressing upstream factors affecting health. The BUILD Health Challenge grant provides funding, capacity building support, and access to a national peer learning network to enhance collaborative partnerships.

Renaissance West Community Initiative (RWCI) is a nonprofit organization leading the revitalization of the former Boulevard Homes public housing site into a vibrant village called The Renaissance. The initiative uses a holistic community development approach and works with a coalition of community partners. RWCI is responsible for developing, coordinating and evaluating a comprehensive array of services and supports, such as health care, out-of-school time programs,

and workplace skills development to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

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

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, Oct. 3, 3 p.m. BOCC Special Meeting, CMGC Room 267
- Tuesday, Oct. 3, 5-6 p.m. BOCC Regular Meeting, Informal Session, CMGC CH-14
- Tuesday, Oct. 3, 6 p.m. BOCC Regular Meeting, Formal Session, CMGC Meeting Chamber
- Friday, Oct. 6, 2 p.m. Hornets Experience Basketball Court Renovations Dedication, Tuckaseegee Park, 4820 Tuckaseegee Road, Charlotte

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