

Feb. 25, 2019

State of the County Address Set for Thursday

<u>Board of County Commissioners</u> Chairman George Dunlap will present the 2019 State of the County Address this Thursday, Feb. 28 at 10 a.m. in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center Meeting Chamber.

Elected officials, the public and the media are invited to hear Chairman Dunlap provide an overview of County initiatives, projects and highlights from 2018, as well as goals for the County's future.

For those who can't attend, the speech will be broadcast live on the Government Channel and streamed online at MeckNC.gov.

Ozone Season Starts March 1

Mecklenburg County Air Quality wants to make sure that you know when poor air quality is forecast for the Charlotte region so that you can protect your health and reduce excess pollution. While Mecklenburg County meets all federal health-based air quality standards, there are usually a couple days each year when ground-level ozone concentrations are elevated. These days typically occur during "ozone season," which runs from March 1-Oct. 31 each year.

On days when conditions are right for unhealthy air quality, Air Quality Action Day notices are issued by the N.C. Division of Air Quality. Commissioners and County employees will get these notices through Employee News Now. The email will include associated health precautions and tips for reducing excess emissions. County residents receive this information through local news outlets, County social media, EnviroFlash email subscription and the AQ widget on Mecklenburg County Air Quality's homepage. Residents can also access real-time and historical local air quality data through the County website.

For more information, contact Air Quality Director Leslie Rhodes at 980-314-3366 or Leslie.Rhodes@MecklenbrugCountyNC.gov.

Do the Write Thing Essay Challenge Award Ceremony set for March 4

Next month, CMS students from across the County will come together to celebrate their work with the annual National Campaign to Stop Violence's Do the Write Thing program, a community partnership between Community Support Services (CSS) Prevention and Intervention Services and

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the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD). This year, we recognize the 1,259 students from 19 CMS middle schools who participated in the challenge.

On March 4 from 6 to 8:30 p.m., CSS and CMPD will co-host the 2019 Do the Write Thing Awards Ceremony, a celebration of each school's top two finalists. The ceremony will take place at the Police and Fire Academy, 1770 Shopton Road, Charlotte.

Out of the school finalists, two will be selected as challenge winners and will have their writings published and distributed locally. In addition, the finalists will become ambassadors of the program and honored at a national recognition ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The program, designed for middle school students, includes an essay challenge that engages students to think about how violence and drug abuse have affected their lives. Through classroom discussions and writings, students communicate what they think should be done to reduce youth violence.

For more information, contact Alex Pyun, CSS violence prevention manager, at 980-314-8944 or Alex.Pyun@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, Feb. 26, 3 p.m. BOCC Budget/Public Policy Workshop, CMGC Room 267
- Tuesday, Feb. 26, 6-8 p.m. District 5 Revaluation Listening Session, Marion Diehl Recreation Center, 2219 Tyvola Road, Charlotte
- Thursday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m. BOCC Chairman George Dunlap will deliver the 2019 State of the County Address, CMGC Meeting Chamber
- Thursday, Feb. 28, 6-8 p.m. District 6 Revaluation Listening Session, Mecklenburg County Sportsplex at Matthews, 2425 Sports Parkway, Matthews
- Thursday, Feb. 28, 6 p.m. County Assessor's Office staff will speak during the Steele Creek neighborhood annual meeting about the 2019 Revaluation.

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