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Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"

Mecklenburg County [web@subscriptions.mecklenburgcountync.gov]

Sent: Monday, August 31, 2020 6:13 PM

To: Steve Johnston



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COVID-19 Update

As of 5:30 p.m., there were 25,556 cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) with 295 deaths due to COVID-19 reported among Mecklenburg County residents.

Click [here](#) for the latest data report.

Health Director's Statement on Davidson College COVID-19 Cluster

Mecklenburg County Health Director Gibbie Harris issued a statement in response to a reported COVID-19 cluster at Davidson College. Click [here](#) to view the statement.

Census Response Options Set to Close Sept. 30

There are only a few weeks left for Mecklenburg County residents to complete the 2020 Census.

Self-response and field data collection for the U.S. Census will end on **Sept. 30, 2020**. This is one month earlier than previously scheduled in order to allow for data processing to begin.

The 2020 Census will determine congressional representation, inform hundreds of billions in federal funding, and provide data that will impact communities for the next decade. In North Carolina, we still need four million people to be counted -- that's **\$7.4 billion** of federal of funding that's at risk per year for our state.

As of August 30, 65.5% of Mecklenburg County residents have completed the Census.

For more information on the Census or to complete the questionnaire online, visit <https://my2020census.gov> or call 844.330.2020.

Opioid Response Project Update

The [Mecklenburg County Substance Use Disorder Task Force](#) completed its work on the Opioid Response Project in August. This project helped to guide the development of our local strategic action plan. We have focused our efforts in four key areas:

1. Our community's residents will understand addiction and opioids, as well as prevention and treatment options.
2. Those experiencing opioid dependence crises will have access to resources for transitional

- care.
3. Eliminate opioid availability for misuse.
 4. Harm reduction tools will be available for those in need.

Project Achievements since 2018:

- Increased the diversity of task force partners.
- Established procedures to assist individuals who have experienced an opioid overdose or have an opioid use disorder transition from the emergency department to treatment or from the detention center to treatment.
- Outreach to independent pharmacies, senior living facilities, and community events to promote and support proper storage and disposal of medication.
- The Harm Reduction workgroup, jointly supported Charlotte's first Syringe Exchange Program, Queen City Needle Exchange. Center for Prevention Services, another partner of the SUD Task Force, drove the startup and continues to maintain Queen City Needle Exchange's services. Their services have made a huge impact on the community as they've given 216,970 syringes and 2,919 naloxone kits since June 2018.

The next meeting for the Mecklenburg County SUD Task Force will be held via Zoom on **Tuesday, September 22, 2020 from 2:30 to 4:00 PM**. For more information on the meeting or what is next for the project, contact Criminal Justice Services Director [Sonya Harper](#) or [Janeanne Gonzales](#).

Mecklenburg County Code Enforcement Receives National Recognition

Mecklenburg County Code Enforcement has been recognized by the Insurance Service Offices (ISO), which provides analytical services for the insurance industry evaluating how communities across 45 states enforce applicable fire and building codes.

ISO issues rankings via its Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS). The BCEGS scale considers several factors, including current fire and building codes, code official qualifications, and public awareness programs.

Mecklenburg County's commercial program has received the highest ISO BCEGS rating, "1," which indicates exemplary commitment to fire and building code enforcement.

A rating of 1 places Mecklenburg County among a very small group of the most exemplary code enforcement authorities nationwide. A BCEGS score of 1 can help positively impact insurance rates in Mecklenburg County.

For more information, contact LUESA Director, [Ebenezer Gujjarlapudi](#).

Solid Waste and Community Partner Recognize Recycling Excellence

Mecklenburg County Solid Waste and Sustain Charlotte were not able to hold their planned Earth Day Event for 2020 due to the pandemic. Sustain Charlotte's Sustainability Awards will celebrate many of the winners in the future, however, the award team wanted to announce the winners of the Recycling Excellence Award at this time. The Recycling Excellence Award Judging Criteria included creative or innovative solutions to waste reduction and/or recycling that inspires and educates.

Please join Sustain Charlotte and Mecklenburg County in congratulating the two 2020 *Recycling Excellence Award* recipients: **Nourish Charlotte** and **PNC Music Pavilion**!

For more information, contact Solid Waste Director [Jeffrey Smithberger](#).

News Releases:

- [County Activates Plan to Help Residents Stay Cool During Extreme Heat](#)
- [Update on Colonial Pipeline Release in Huntersville as of August 26](#)
- [COVID-19 Impact on County Services](#)
- [Mecklenburg County COVID-19 Data for August 26](#)
- [Update on Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Mecklenburg County Health Director Issues Statement on COVID-19 Cluster at Davidson College](#)

Click [here](#) to view a full list of news releases.

Media Update:

Mecklenburg County Manager Dena R. Diorio and Public Health Director Gibbie Harris gave an update on COVID-19 cases in Mecklenburg County on August 21. Click [here](#) to view the latest media availability.

COVID-19 Symptoms:

As the pandemic continues to have an impact the community, click [here](#) to view a list of COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID-19 Testing and Medical Advice:

Residents who believe they may have been exposed to the virus can contact the County's Public Health Hotline at 980-314-9400 to speak with a medical professional or for guidance on testing.

What to Do If You're Feeling Sick:

Click [here](#) for more information on what to do if you think you may have been exposed to the virus.

Frequently Asked Questions - Residents:

Click [here](#) to view a list of the most frequently asked questions related to COVID-19.

Resources for County Employees:

Employee Rights Under Families First Coronavirus Act

On April 1, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was signed to help provide additional paid leave for government employees affected by COVID-19.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the act.

The latest
[MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](https://www.mecknc.gov)

Board Bulletin

is **now available** online.

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