For Immediate Release

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From the Office of Sen. Joyce Waddell, NC Senate Mecklenburg County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greetings:

This is the time of the year for graduation ceremonies and new beginnings. The coming weeks I will be taking part in community meetings, activities, answering constituent concerns, and festivals.

Joyce Waddell

Economic Outlook

Despite record-high inflation, the U.S. economy is doing well, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Virginia. It has also been reported that we are in the middle of the fastest (economic) recovery in any of our memories over the last 23 months and that unemployment is at a historic low of 3.6%.

Against tough odds, businesses are still turning a profit, very busy and doing well. Although the indication of them doing well has been reported, they are really struggling on the supply side. The war in

Ukraine has dealt a "severe jolt" to small towns in the supply of essential commodities like oil and wheat.

American Airlines 40 Year Celebration



Senator Waddell participates at the American Airlines 40 year celebration. One of American Airlines' hub location is at the Charlotte Douglas airport.

Lillian's List Holds Reception



Lillian's List holds reception for female candidates of Mecklenburg County.

Community College Impact

More than 500,000 students attend one of the state's 58 community colleges, the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) said in an April release celebrating National Community College Month. The Community College System is key to the recovery and growth of the state's economy. North Carolina is proud to participate in this national awareness month to showcase our crown jewel – the Community College System."

An economic impact study presented to the State Board of Community Colleges last month found the NCCCS contributes about \$19.3 billion to the state's economy each year. The community college system supports 319,763 jobs and employs 36,422 people, according to the report from labor analytics firm Emsi/Burning Glass.

The study also indicates the system nearly doubles the revenue taken in from taxpayers, with taxpayers getting \$1.90 back in added tax revenues and public sector savings for every dollar the state invests. And on average, the report shows that North Carolina community college students have a rate of return on their college investment of 22.3%.

I have observed that attending a community college is an excellent way to begin your educational training toward a higher degree. Community Colleges assist with certifications and other skill building advancements.



Senator Waddell Attends Fundraiser

Senator Waddell attended a fundraiser sponsored by the Mecklenburg County Black Political Caucus. She is pictured with Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley.

Senator Waddell Congratulates awardees at the CMS JROTC Awards Program





Senator Waddell participates in a JROTC CMS Cadet Achievement Awards program in Mecklenburg County.

Tuition Assistance

On Friday North Carolina directed \$34 million in new federal funding to further support postsecondary students in completing their degree or credential and to help address K-12 student learning and mental health needs as students continue to recover from the pandemic. The program will provide tuition assistance to public and private postsecondary students who take summer courses

in order to accelerate or stay on track toward graduation.

The Summer Accelerator grant program will provide grants up to \$5,000 to cover tuition, fees, books, housing, and other expenses based on the number of summer courses a student is taking. To be eligible for a Summer Accelerator grant, a student must be a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes, enrolled in an academic program leading to a postsecondary degree or credential, and be working towards their first post-secondary degree or credential. Funds will be available for students who take courses during the summer of 2022 and 2023. Students interested in the program should contact their college's financial aid office.

Education is a vital part of our future. I am glad to see these types of incentivized programs that enhance our state's ability help our citizen's contribute towards the future.

Mecklenburg County Primary Voting Schedule

04/22/22 Voter Registration Deadline

04/27/22 Voter Registration Deadline - Exception for missing or unclear postmarked forms and deadline for hard copies of forms submitted electronically

04/28/22 Absentee One Stop Voting Begins

05/10/22 Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail - CIV

05/14/22 Absentee One-stop Voting Ends

05/17/22 Primary Election

05/27/22 Protest Deadline (re tabulation or counting votes)

For additional information <u>click here</u> to be linked to the

Mecklenburg County Board of Elections.

Senator Waddell is working tirelessly for Senate District 40, but she cannot do this alone. Can she count on your help to continue working for the district?

CLICK HERE TO

DONATE \$25; \$50; \$100; \$250 OTHER AMOUNT \$____

Early voting has begun. Please find your designated poll. Below is a list of early voting locations in Mecklenburg County.

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