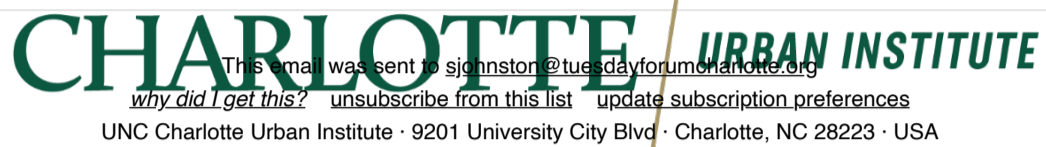


North Mecklenburg towns work to relieve growing pains



From UNC Charlotte Urban Institute <urbaninstitute@charlotte.edu>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
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Data News



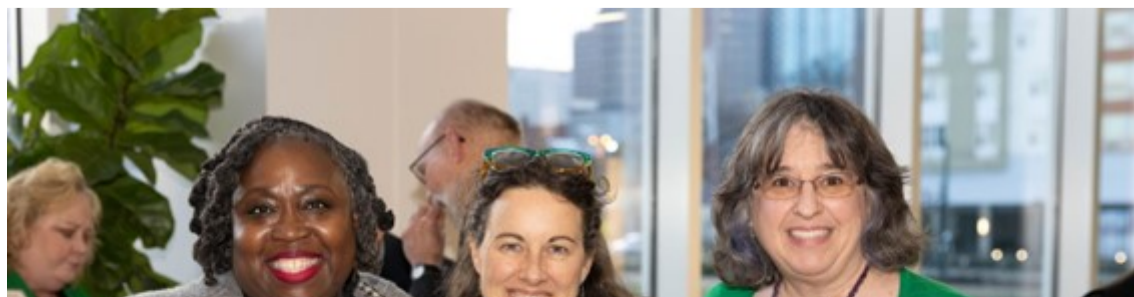
[2023 North Mecklenburg Housing Needs Assessment](#)

by Katie Zager

New residential construction increased over 460% in northern Mecklenburg County between 2010 and 2021, before slowing in 2022 and 2023. And the houses in Cornelius, Davidson, and Huntersville are larger and newer than the county as a whole. Last year, the [UNC Charlotte Urban Institute](#) and the [Lake Norman Economic Development Corporation](#) took a look at how accessible and affordable housing is today in North Mecklenburg and along Lake Norman, in an update to a [study completed in 2019](#).

Since residential building resumed in 2010, there's been a boom in larger, more expensive homes. While the average size and age of homes have changed only slightly over the past five years, housing values have increased dramatically, and half of homes are now valued between \$250,000 and \$500,000. This makes it challenging for people who work in North Mecklenburg to actually live there. >> [Read what else we learned](#)

Opening Comments - Schul Forum 2024





Schul Forum 2024

by Lori Thomas, Ph.D.

On Feb. 1 at our annual Schul Forum, more than 175 Charlotte residents, neighbors and friends, along with national and local experts, explored the implications of [recent research](#) from the Opportunity Insights team, led by Dr. Raj Chetty of Harvard University. The research suggests that [economic connectedness](#), a form of social capital, is connected to upward economic mobility. Dr. Lori Thomas, executive director of the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute and Charlotte Regional Data Trust, set the stage for the Schul Forum, summarizing the Chetty team's research and recognizing both concerns about social capital as a tool for economic mobility and the promise of creating spaces where people authentically connect across differences. >> [Read Dr. Thomas' opening comments](#)

Conservation & Wildlife



Injured Hawk Part 1

by Ruth Ann Grissom

You don't have to live in a small town to experience nature. Sometimes, it will find you in your own backyard, a mere hop and a skip from Uptown Charlotte.

This is the story of an injured red-tailed hawk that brought a community together in the most unexpected ways. >> [Fly closer](#)

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