



ECC MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

REGIONAL UPDATES

ECC & COLLIERS CO-HOST GIS WORKSHOP

ECC and COLLIERS ENGINEERING & DESIGN HOSTED A GIS WORKSHOP on FEB. 20th: ECC is grateful to **Colliers'** Andrew Clark and newly hired, Danial Hoff, who provided the day-long event. Sixteen from the region attended the workshop, which was planned for GIS beginners and advanced users; the GIS presentation gradually became more complex in nature as the day progressed. The morning session was devoted to GIS, Geospatial benefits, an overview of ESRI products, and mapping basics. Whereas, the afternoon session focused on field operations of data collection and digitization, applications for collection, online mapping, geospatial data management, and GIS asset management.

Communities represented: **Carteret County's** Cedar Point, Emerald Isle, and Newport; **Craven County's** Riverbend and White Oak River Basin; Duplin County and Magnolia; Jones County; **Lenior County's** City of Kinston; **Onslow County's** Holly Ridge; Pamlico County and Vandemere; and **Beaufort County's** City of Washington.



GIS Workshop Planners included: (L-R) Holly Lippitt, ECC Community Planner, Andrew Clark, Colliers Project Manager/GIS, Dan Hoff, Colliers GIS Specialist, and Becca Eversole, ECC Sr. Transportation Planner. Not included in the photo were: Larry Faison, ECC Planning Director, Carlton Gideon, Sr. Community Planner, and Mickey Anderson, ECC Transportation Planner.



ECC RECENTLY HOSTED AN ETHICS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKSHOP: We had tremendous participation both in-person and online! Thanks to David Baxter, of **Sumrell Sugg, Attorneys at Law**, for once again providing this excellent program for the benefit of our region. We appreciate everyone who participated!



ROTARY CLUB OF NEW BERN PRESENTATION - FEB. 24th: ECC Executive Director, David Bone, recently shared with Stephen Clayton and the rest of **The Rotary Club of New Bern** the role of the Eastern Carolina Council and the array of services that the ECC Team provides across the region in our communities. We appreciate the opportunity to share ECC's story.



LENOIR COUNTY AARP NETWORK RECEIVED THE AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

CERTIFICATION: Lenoir County has created an action plan for becoming more age-friendly under the criteria established by AARP and has been renewed as a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities certification. People of all ages benefit from the adoption of policies and programs that make neighborhoods walkable, feature transportation options, enable access to key services, provide opportunities to participate in community activities, and support housing that's affordable and adaptable. Well-designed, age-friendly communities foster economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages. For further information visit

<https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/network-age-friendly-communities/>.

APPLY TO HOST A LEAD FOR NC FELLOW BY MARCH 8th – *Lead for NC* aims to create the next generation of local government leaders in North Carolina. The UNC, SOG program places recent college graduates in Full-Time, paid local government fellowships, to work on transformative community projects that are identified locally. It is a great way to build capacity and create a pipeline of future employees in local governments.

Every government partner receives a subsidy to alleviate its cost-share to contribute to the *Lead for NC* program. The most distressed communities will receive significant subsidies to hire a Full-Time fellow / employee to increase the capacity of their governments.

The deadline is March 8, 2024 The application will take about 5 minutes to complete; it can be found at this web site, https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ocsZ8PyA9mEn6Rw . Please navigate to the following links to access the informational flyer, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OIImUMpxwoaA6fzqRHHA3P2D9woISIsqr/view> and a FAQ webpage, <https://lfnc.sog.unc.edu/for-governments/>. Feel free to contact the LFNC Program Director, Dylan Russell, with any questions at russell@sog.unc.edu.

The program will host optional virtual informational sessions for interested governments on **Thursday, Feb 29 at 12:00 PM** - <https://www.addevent.com/event/fr20138955>

FOLLOW-UP FROM DISASTER RECOVERY WORKSHOPS HELD IN THE FALL: As you may recall, the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments, in partnership with the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments, [Working Landscapes](#), and [Croatan Institute](#), hosted 3 workshops on October 23, 24, and 30 - to help communities identify and prioritize resiliency projects.

Local governments that participated have recently received a short, user-friendly report (via email and USPS mail) that summarizes their project plan ideas and provides targeted funding opportunity

recommendations and digital geospatial maps. These reports are designed to begin or continue a conversation about how to respond and prepare for your community's residents and infrastructure for future disasters. We encourage you to share this report with other government representatives, such as commissioners and relevant staff.

The facilitation team would also be happy to connect with participating communities over a 30-minute Zoom or phone call. This will be an opportunity to gain additional clarification about this report and strategize about next steps. This follow-up call will also be an opportunity for communities to learn more about funding opportunities relevant to their disaster resilience goals, as well as ideas on future collaborations with communities nearby.

HELP FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY WITH A CLEAN ENERGY AND RURAL SOCIAL MOBILITY SURVEY: You are invited to complete an anonymous survey on the impact of clean energy technologies on upward social mobility of rural residents and communities in eastern NC and SC. The survey is being conducted by researchers at Fayetteville State University and will be important in advancing the life and welfare of rural communities. You can access the survey at <https://arcg.is/1amoSH2> or through this Q-code:



Please share this survey in your communications / social media and feel free to forward this survey invitation to other residents of rural communities that you know who are aged 18 and above.

Thank you for your assistance with this survey!

ECC TO OFFER DISASTER RECOVERY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA) FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION TRAINING LATER THIS SPRING: ECC will facilitate a one-day program involving Disaster Recovery Best Practices, funded by the NC Office of State Budget and Management in conjunction with the NC Department of Public Safety and the Office of Emergency Management. Those encouraged to attend include managers, financial officers, clerks, emergency management personnel, public works staff, fire chiefs, and other government staff, especially those who have not experienced a disaster involving a Declared State of Emergency in the last 5 years. More information will become available soon.

ECC HUMAN SERVICES / AGING

ECC IS REBRANDING THE AGING DEPARTMENT AS THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT: ECC is rebranding the Aging Department (which includes the Area Agency on

Aging) to the Human Services Department. With this rebranding, ECC will continue to support and grow Aging programs and services, and we will look for other opportunities / funding to serve our communities through new Human Services programs. We are excited about this opportunity to find new ways to serve the communities in our region!



ECC WELCOMES DAVID ROSADO AS HUMAN SERVICES MANAGER: ECC is pleased to welcome David Rosado as Human Services Manager. David previously worked for ECC in the Aging Department for about 20 years and served as the Aging Director. He left in 2019 and has been working in the private sector. David has a long history of leadership in community service with various organizations, and he is excited to get back to his passion of serving the community. David started his new position February 26th. Welcome, David! We look forward to his leadership.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HEATHER O'CONNOR WHO IS SERVING IN A NEW ROLE AS DEPUTY FINANCE DIRECTOR: Former Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Director Heather O'Connor has transitioned to her new position as Deputy Finance Director. Congratulations to Heather on her new role! We look forward to her contributions in this new leadership capacity.

DEMENTIA LIVE PRESENTATION at CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE: ECC Human Services staff provided the large group Dementia Live program and Dementia presentation to 1st-year RN students on February 15th; they received information on normal aging versus not normal aging, Dementia, behaviors individuals exhibit, and ways to engage with older adults.

NC OMBUDSMAN ASSOCIATION: ECC Ombudsmen attended the NC Ombudsman Association meeting on February 21st at Central Pines Council of Government and the State Ombudsman Training on February 22nd.



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORIENTATION TRAINING: ECCAAA Ombudsmen conducted a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) member orientation on February 1st, 2024, from 9:00-2:00 at the ECC offices. Volunteers learned about the roles and responsibilities of the CAC Program and participants learned about resident rights and how to advocate for residents in long-term care.



MARCH BRINGS SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAMS: Every March since 1972, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) recognizes its Senior Nutrition Programs and the services provided to millions of older Americans. ACL, a federal agency under the Department of Health and Human Services, recognizes its Senior Nutrition Programs and the services provided to millions of older Americans. **The 2024 theme, "Connection in Every Bite,"** will highlight one of the most important aspects of the Senior Nutrition Program - the profound relationship between food and social connection. For more information on nutrition events and programs in your county, please contact your local senior center.

Leonn Mann Jr. Enrichment Center: 252-247-2626

George St. Senior Center: 252-638-1790

Havelock Senior Center: 252-444-6423

Duplin Senior Services: 910-296-2140

Greene County Senior Center: 252-527-1545

Jones County Senior Center: 252-448-1001

Lenoir County Council on Aging: 252-527-1545

Onslow Senior Services: 910-455-2747

Pamlico Senior Center: 252-745-3488

Wayne County Services on Aging: 919-734-1178

WAGES in Wayne County: 919-734-1178



North Carolina
Senior Games

Eastern Carolina's Senior Games



Carteret Senior Games will be held from March 26 - April 30, 2024. For further information and to register visit <https://ccpr.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/87/37th%20Annual%20SG%20Packet.pdf>.



Neuse River Senior Games (Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, and Pamlico County) 2024 participant registration is available on February 1, 2024. The Neuse River Senior Games will run from April 8 - May 24, 2024. For further information and to register visit, <https://www.ncseniorgames.org/neuse>.



Onslow Senior Games will be held from April 13 - May 6, 2024. For further information and to register visit, <https://www.onslowcountync.gov/1683/Senior-Games>.



Wayne County Senior Games will be held from April 1 - April 30, 2024. For further information and to register visit, <https://www.ncseniorgames.org/wayne>.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS / EVENTS

NC Main Street Conference, March 12-14, Paramount Theater, 139 S. Center St., Goldsboro.

NC Association on Aging Conference, March 13-14, Riverfront Convention Center, New Bern.

ECC General Membership Board Mtg., ECC Offices, March 14, 6:00 PM Dinner, 6:30PM Meeting.

NC Rural Center's Rural Summit, *Building a Vibrant Future*, Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, March 20-21.

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