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Staff Announcements



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **Holiday:** Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, COG offices will be closed
- **Caregiver Conference:** November 13
- **Ruby Bridges Walk:** November 14
- **RAAC Meeting:** November 19 @ 2 pm at COG offices
- **TAC/TCC Meeting:** November 20 at COG offices
- **Holiday:** Thanksgiving, November 27 & 28, COG offices will be closed



IGNITE 2025 REGIONAL SUMMIT SPARKS CONNECTION ACROSS THE KERR-TAR REGION



On October 9th, the IGNITE 2025 Regional Summit brought over 200 people together, community leaders, local officials, and residents at Oxford City Hall for a day full of learning, connection, and celebration of the Kerr-Tar region. The event was all about embracing community pride, strengthening regional ties, and exploring what makes each of our towns and counties thrive.

Keynote speaker Melody Warnick set an inspiring tone, challenging attendees to think about whether they feel rooted, stuck, or mobile, and showing how anyone can learn to truly love where they live. Throughout the day, Angella Allen, Tourism Director for Granville County, kept the crowd energized with fun trivia and giveaways, including free ice cream and copies of Melody's book for lucky winners.



Each Granville County municipality had a chance to shine, sharing what makes their communities unique and vibrant. The day also featured two engaging panel discussions that captured the spirit of collaboration in our region. The first, **"Why Kerr-Tar: Growing and Thriving,"** explored why people choose to live, work, and invest here.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

IGNITE 2025 REGIONAL SUMMIT (CONTINUED)

The second, **“Sense of Place: Investing in Your Community,”** focused on building belonging and creating spaces where people feel connected and proud. Even a surprise power outage at lunchtime couldn’t dim the energy; organizers quickly moved the event to the gym and kept the program rolling without missing a beat. The day concluded with a lively reception at Tobacco Wood Brewing Co., where attendees enjoyed good food, local brews, and plenty of great conversations. It was the perfect way to wrap up a day filled with ideas, inspiration, and new connections.



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A huge thank-you goes out to our sponsors for making the IGNITE 2025 Regional Summit possible: Granville County, Duke Energy, Person County Economic Development, Sunrock, Granville Health System, Cypress Creek Renewables, Granville County Tourism, Enbridge, NC Electric Cooperatives, and ElectriCities. We’re also grateful to K.G. Photography & Videography LLC for capturing the day’s best moments.

The IGNITE 2025 Regional Summit reminded us that when we come together—sharing ideas, celebrating our communities, and supporting one another—we truly ignite the potential of the Kerr-Tar region. Let’s keep that momentum going and continue to build stronger, more connected communities!

STATE OF THE REGION ADDRESS

On October 22nd, the Kerr-Tar COG was proud to partner with the Henderson-Vance Chamber of Commerce for the State of the Region Address and Luncheon. This event brought together community leaders, business professionals, and residents for an insightful discussion on the future of our region.

The luncheon featured an inspiring presentation from Dr. Michael Walden, Emeritus Professor at NC State University and the President of Walden Economic Consulting. Our Executive Director, Diane Cox, had the honor of introducing Dr. Walden.

Dr. Walden captivated the audience with a comprehensive overview of the current economic landscape, highlighting the region's strengths and its potential for growth. His presentation focused on key factors driving economic progress, from workforce development to infrastructure investment, offering an optimistic outlook for the future.

As the Kerr-Tar COG continues to focus on fostering regional collaboration and economic development, events like this serve as an important platform to share ideas and build momentum for a prosperous future.



TREASURY BEGINS AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN GRANT CLOSE-OUT

"Recipients of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program who have fully obligated and expended their entire award may be eligible to initiate early closeout of their SLFRF award before the official end of the period of performance on December 31, 2026. Since summer 2025, the U.S. Department of the Treasury has been inviting eligible recipients to begin the closeout process on a rolling basis. Invitations are sent directly to designated points of contact, and only those who have received such communication may proceed with early closeout.

If your community has not yet received an invitation, the option is not currently available. You are encouraged to ensure that your points of contact are up to date in the Treasury Portal and to review the SLFRF Award Closeout Preparation Checklist to be ready when invited.

Resources

[Closeout Instructions for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds \(SLFRF\) Program](#)
[State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds \(SLFRF\) Award Closeout Preparation Checklist"](#)

Kerr-Tar Regional Council

2027 Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool Program for Franklin & Granville Counties



Serving Franklin, Granville, Person, Warren and Vance Counties

Does your plumbing leak? Is your electrical system unsafe? Does your roof need repairs? Does your heating system leave you cold? Do you qualify by income? Are you a homeowner?

If your home is in need of serious repairs, you may qualify for home rehabilitation assistance through the KTCOG Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool Program.

Are you...

- An older adult (age 62 and up), disabled (or family member), or a veteran homeowner?
- A homeowner living in a home with lead base paint hazards with children under the age of 6 present?

Loan Information:

Minimum deferred/forgiven loan of \$14,000.
Maximum deferred/forgiven loan of \$70,000.
0% interest.

- No loan payments are required unless the home is sold, or is no longer the primary residence of the applicant, during the first 5 years (payments pro-rated). After 5 years, the loan is forgiven.
- The loan is secured by a deferred (forgiven after 5 years) mortgage on the property.
- Applications are due by noon on **January 9, 2026**.

General Homeowner Eligibility Requirements:

- Gross household income must be at or below 80% of the median county income;
- Home must be site built. Manufactured & mobile homes are not eligible;
- Applicant must own the home being repaired;
- Applicant must live in the home as their primary residence;
- The property cannot have been repaired or rehabilitated with public funding of \$30,000 or more within the past 10 years;
- The cost of rehabilitation cannot exceed the ESFRLP2027 Program Guideline limit of \$70,000;
- Home must meet Housing Quality Standards and Code after the work is completed.

Activities generally include:

- Roof repair/replacement
- Septic system replacement
- Well replacement
- Asbestos & lead paint remediation
- Door/window replacement
- Plumbing/electrical/HVAC
- Siding repair/replacement
- Accessibility improvements for individuals with disabilities
- Other general improvements

For more information or to be added to our list, please contact:
Katie Conner at 252-436-2040 ext. 6071

Kerr-Tar
Regional Council
Of Governments

KERR-TAR FAMILY CAREGIVER CONFERENCE

Join us to hear from Director of Dementia Alliance, Lisa Levine, Pharmacist Consultant, Dr. DeLon Canterbury, and Chief Behavioral Officer and Senior Financial Advisor at Family Legacy Financial Solution, Michael Lewis. Learn practical skills for engaging and supporting our community caregivers, and how to take care of yourself in the process.



MICHAEL LEWIS
Chief Behavioral Officer and
Senior Financial Advisor at
Family Legacy Financial Solution



DR. DELON CANTERBURY
Pharmacist Consultant at
GeriatRx, Inc.



LISA LEVINE
Executive Director at
Dementia Alliance

Family Caregiver Ticket \$10

For those caring for someone living with dementia, neighbors, friends, students, clergy and anyone else who would like to attend. Limited scholarships available.

Professional Caregiver Ticket \$25

For professionals caring for people living with dementia. 1.5 CEU's credited.

Register Now!

WWW.DEMENTIANC.ORG/2025HENDERSON

***Breakfast and refreshments
will be provided***

**THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 13TH**

10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

VANCE GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CIVIC CENTER

WARREN COUNTY SENIOR CENTER FIELD DAY

On October 3rd, 68 older adults from Warren County came together at the Warren County Recreation Complex. The event offered a variety of fun activities where some tried their luck at the classic sack race, others tested their balance and agility in the fun-filled egg race. There was even a lively line dancing session that got everyone moving to the beat.

In addition to the games, participants enjoyed a Chick-fil-A lunch, and hot dogs were prepared on site. The event not only provided a great opportunity for exercise and entertainment but also allowed older adults in the community to connect with each other in a positive and supportive environment.



NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH



NC DEPARTMENT OF
INSURANCE
SENIORS' HEALTH INSURANCE
INFORMATION PROGRAM

Diabetes is one of the leading causes of disability and death in the United States. It can cause blindness, nerve damage, kidney disease, and other health problems if it's not controlled.

One in 10 Americans have diabetes – that's more than 30 million people. And another 84 million adults in the United States are at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

Ask your SHIIP counselor, Crystal Allen about Medicare-covered Diabetes Screening services at callen@kerrtarcog.org or call at 252-436-2040.

Join the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Volunteer Program

Make a Difference in the Lives of Long-Term Care Residents

As a NC LTC Ombudsman Program's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) volunteer, you become the voice and advocate for residents in adult care and nursing home facilities. Your presence helps ensure dignity, respect, and quality of care for some of our community's most vulnerable neighbors.



Why Volunteer?

- ✓ **Impact:** Be a trusted listener and advocate for residents.
- ✓ **Community:** Join others who share your passion for service.
- ✓ **Learning:** Gain insight into long-term care and resident rights.
- ✓ **Fulfillment:** Know that your time makes a lasting difference.



What We Provide

- Training and orientation to prepare you for your role
- Ongoing support and guidance
- Opportunities to serve in your own community



What You'll Do

- Visit long-term care facilities
- Listen to and support residents
- Share concerns with staff and advocates
- Help protect resident rights

Ready to Get Started?

Contact Kimberly Hawkins, Regional Ombudsman, Region K
 ✉ khawkinsekerrtarcog.org | 📞 252-436-2040 ext. 2050

Together, we can make sure every resident has a voice.
Your advocacy matters!

MEALS ON WHEELS NC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On October 9-10 in Greensboro, NC, the Inaugural Senior Nutrition Program Conference, hosted by Meals on Wheels North Carolina, brought together over 100 professionals to explore ways to improve senior nutrition across the state. Keynote speakers included Jen Teague, Director of Health Coverage Benefits at the National Council on Aging (NCOA), and Josh Protas, Chief Advocacy and Policy Officer at Meals On Wheels America. Christina Fisher and Charley Howell from Warren County Senior Center, and Amber Gregory from Vance County Senior Center were among those who attended, sharing their excitement about the sessions and how they'll apply the knowledge to better serve their communities. The conference set the stage for continued collaboration and innovation in supporting North Carolina's seniors.



RAAC/STHL MEETING REMINDER



The next RAAC/STHL meeting will be held on November 19th at 2 PM. We will meet at the Kerr-Tar COG office at 1724 Graham Avenue in Henderson. We will discuss updates in aging services in our five-county region. If you are interested in attending, please contact Alan Winstead at awinstead@kerrtarco.org.

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Medicare's annual Open Enrollment for 2026 runs from October 15, 2025, to December 7, 2025. During this period, people with Medicare can compare and choose health and drug plans for the upcoming year. You may review your plan options because plans and costs often change, and new features are available to help you find the best coverage for your needs. You also may schedule an appointment with a SHIP coordinator by contacting your local senior center or Crystal Allen at 252-436-2040 or callen@kerrtarco.org.



OCTOBER CRAFTS WITH SENIORS IN PERSON COUNTY



This Halloween, the residents of a Person County Adult Care Home, Maple Heights Assisted Living, came together to enjoy the festive spirit in the best way, by decorating pumpkins! Everyone gathered to express their creativity, adding vibrant colors and unique designs to their pumpkins. The atmosphere was filled with laughter as residents shared stories, tips, and a few spooky jokes while they worked.

It was a beautiful moment of connection, with everyone coming together to celebrate the season and create lasting memories. Take a peek at the pictures of the pumpkins!



SAVE THE DATE: ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS WALK

We're excited to announce our upcoming Elder Abuse Awareness Walk happening on June 12th, 2026! Join us for a meaningful day dedicated to raising awareness, showing support, and standing together for the protection and respect of older adults in our community. The event will be filled with fun activities, delicious food, and opportunities to connect with others who share a passion for making a difference.

Whether you're walking in honor of a loved one, supporting a cause you care deeply about, or simply looking to learn more and get involved, this event is for you!

Let's take steps together toward a safer, kinder, and more supportive future for our elders. Mark your calendars!



The NC Division of Aging is inviting YOU to participate in a state-wide arts contest!



Use your voice and creativity to inspire change. Challenge stereotypes. Celebrate respect.

Share your vision of a world where all ages are valued. Students across North Carolina are invited to participate in the Ageism Awareness Contest, "Future Self", expressing their thoughts and creativity about ageism and the value of intergenerational respect.

Questions to Guide You



What does **respect for older adults** look like to you? How does **ageism** show up in everyday life, and how can it be challenged? Can you share a story/moment when you saw **intergenerational connection** or teamwork? What do you love/admire about the older adults in your life? What are some **common myths or stereotypes** about aging that you want to break? How can your art **encourage others** to think differently about aging and older adults? What actions or attitudes would you like to see people take to **create a more age-friendly world**? How does celebrating older adults **benefit your community or school**?

Who Can Enter

Grades PreK-12
Submissions will be grouped by grade level
PreK-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th,
9th-12th

Judging Criteria

Creativity and originality
Clarity of message
Relevance to contest themes

Focus of Contest

What an age-inclusive society feels like (positive aspects), what is ageism and how it affects people, ways to show respect for older adults, the value of intergenerational relationships, celebrating the older adults in your life, creative solutions to challenge aging stereotypes

Incentives

Winners will be featured on the Division of Health and Human Services All Ages, All Stages NC website and media. Winners will also receive a gift bag from the NC Division of Aging. All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

Submission Guidelines

- **Format:** Short essay or Poetry (250-500 words), photography (digital file), or other visual art (photo or scan of artwork), dance/skit/music etc.
- **Deadline:** February 2026
- **Submission Method:** Use the form at the code/link that you followed from the flyer to submit your entry.
- **Questions:** Email aaasnc@dhhs.nc.gov
- **Categories:** Each submission will be judged in the relevant grade and media category.

We can't wait to see what you create!

GOVERNOR JOSH STEIN PROCLAIMS NOVEMBER FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH



State of North Carolina

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH

2025

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, a 2023 report found that 1,280,000 family caregivers in North Carolina provided a total of nearly 1.2 billion hours of unpaid care to family members and friends, valued at a total of \$16.5 billion; and

WHEREAS, approximately 80,000 North Carolina grandparents are responsible for grandchildren under 18; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s caregivers remain diverse in their characteristics and circumstances but share a common goal of keeping their family members or friends in their community of choice; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Division of Aging, the North Carolina Area Agencies on Aging, local providers, and many other organizations are committed to increasing awareness and meeting caregivers’ needs; and

WHEREAS, helping North Carolina’s family caregivers access and use support and acknowledge that respite services can protect a family caregiver’s health, strengthen family relationships, and enable a care recipient to remain at home; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages people to recognize and support family, friends, and neighbors who help those who are aging or have disabilities because doing so is the right thing to do and an essential investment in a better future for North Carolina’s older adults and people with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH STEIN, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 2025 as “**FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH**” in North Carolina and commend its observance to all citizens.



Josh Stein

JOSH STEIN
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-first day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-fifth and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fiftieth.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL AT PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY IN HENDERSON



In the spirit of Halloween, our Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Victoria Glasscock, brought a festive touch by setting up a StoryWalk for the season. This outdoor reading experience features a Halloween-themed story, allowing children and families to enjoy a fun and interactive way to read while getting into the spooky spirit of the season.

The timing couldn't have been better, as our team was also on hand for the Trunk or Treat event at the library on October 21st, where over 200 kids showed up. We were excited to join the fun and connect with the community, handing out safety goodies to children and families. To ensure kids stay safe while out trick-or-treating, we distributed reflective bags that make it easier for drivers to see them as they cross streets on Halloween night.

By combining creativity, community engagement, and safety education, this event was a perfect example of how we can make the Halloween season both fun and safe for all.



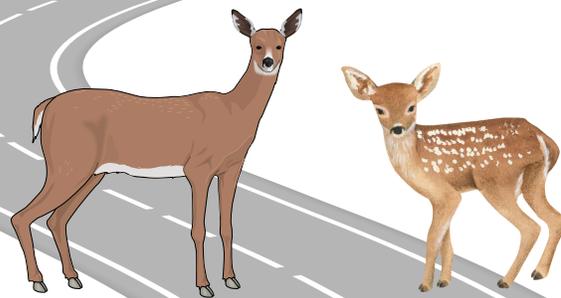
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



On October 7th, Henderson came together to celebrate National Night Out, and what a fantastic evening it was! With beautiful weather setting the perfect stage, the event brought families, neighbors, and local organizations together for a night of entertainment, safety, and community spirit.

The event was a great opportunity for local organizations and city services to connect with residents and promote safety and well-being in the community. Our team was proud to participate, distributing goodies on behalf of the Aging Department and Safe Routes to School. We handed out helpful resources, safety materials, and fun items to keep everyone informed and engaged.

AVOIDING COLLISIONS WITH DEER



“Fall is a beautiful time of the year in North Carolina, but from October to December, drivers must remain vigilant on the roads to avoid deer-vehicle collisions. Deer movement increases dramatically during this time because of mating and hunting seasons, and limited lighting makes it more difficult for drivers to see them on or near roads.

According to the N.C. Department of Transportation’s Traffic Safety Unit, about 8 percent of all vehicle crashes in the state involve animal strikes – most of these involve deer.

Below are important tips regarding animal (usually deer) crashes:

- Always maintain a safe amount of distance between your vehicle and others, especially at night. If the vehicle ahead of you hits a deer, you could also become involved in the crash.
- Slow down in areas posted with deer crossing signs and in heavily wooded areas, especially during the late afternoon and evening.
- Most deer-vehicle crashes occur where deer are more likely to travel, near bridges or overpasses, railroad tracks, streams, and ditches.
- Drive with high beams on when possible and watch for deer eyes reflecting in the headlights.
- Deer often travel in small herds, so if you see one deer near a road, be alert for others.
- If you see deer near a road, slow down and blow your horn with one long blast
- Do not swerve to avoid a collision. This could cause you to lose control of your vehicle and cause a more serious crash.
- If your vehicle does strike a deer, do not touch the animal. A frightened and wounded deer can be dangerous or further injure itself. Get your vehicle off the road, if possible, and call 911.”



RPO MEETING

On October 23rd, the Kerr-Tar RPO TAC/TCC Board held its first all in-person meeting since 2020 to discuss functional classification changes to roads in the region. The board also discussed the status of our new regional comprehensive transportation plan. Among the other things discussed were new funding opportunities from NCDOT for crosswalks and safer intersections in rural communities, and that all submittals are due by November 14th. We also opened the floor to the idea of collaborating on potential projects centered around US-158, and the possibility of working to open the route for greater economic growth in the future.



STATE ARCHIVES WORKSHOP



STATE ARCHIVES of NORTH CAROLINA

"The State Archives is excited to open registration for our next set of workshops: Managing Public Records for Local Government Employees. This free, virtual workshop provides an overview of the maintenance, retention, and disposition of public records for local government employees. We'll also look at some of the retention schedules for local governments. It's the perfect class for local government employees who want an introduction or a refresher on the management of public records.

Interested local government employees can register for one of the following classes:

When:

Registration link:

Tuesday, November 4th, from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

<https://bit.ly/4gKmvoC>

Thursday, November 13th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

<https://bit.ly/3IP2ikW>

We look forward to seeing you at these workshops! If you have any questions about the workshops, please contact Kayla Leonard, Essential Records Analyst, at kayla.leonard@dncr.nc.gov."

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



FOOD AND FARM PROFILES USDA AG CENSUS



Every five years, the USDA releases updated Ag Census Data. These Local Farms and Food Profiles help economic developers, planners, local food advocates, and community members understand the impact of their county and region to the overall NC agricultural economic impact. See the full list [here](#).

NCDOT CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY

At the Kerr-Tar Council of Governments, we're committed to improving the safety, efficiency, and overall experience of our region's transportation system. To help with these efforts, we encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the N.C. Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) Annual Survey.

Your feedback will help identify ways to make transportation programs, services, and the entire network more customer-focused. This survey also includes valuable questions about the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and how it can better serve you.

The NCDOT has issued this survey every year for the last decade to gather input directly from the community. The results will be publicly available on NCDOT.gov after the survey closes on November 7th. We highly encourage you to participate, as your voice plays a vital role in shaping the future of our transportation system.

Go to the Survey [HERE](#).

How are we doing? ★★★★★

Let us know by taking the **NCDOT CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY**

Survey will be live **Oct. 1 - Nov. 7, 2025**



NEXTGEN TUESDAY SUCCESS STORY

Over the past few months, NCWorks and Kittrell Job Corps have joined forces to create an exciting new opportunity for students participating in our NextGen Tuesday Job Club. This ongoing partnership focuses on helping young adults build the essential skills needed to enter the workforce with confidence and purpose.



Each week, students have been sharpening their job interviewing techniques, from crafting strong elevator pitches and practicing professional handshakes to polishing resumes, mastering interview questions, and exploring Labor Market information to better understand in-demand careers. The program also featured special guest speakers, including Wendy McCoy from Coastal Credit Union, who shared valuable insights on money management, and Ashley Brower from Sunrock Industries, who discussed what employers look for during interviews and the importance of soft skills in achieving long-term success in the workplace. We are incredibly grateful for the community partners who continue to invest their time and expertise in preparing our young people for their future careers.

Finally, we'd like to spotlight the outstanding group of students from Kittrell Job Corps who have shown tremendous motivation, engagement, and professionalism throughout the program. Working with such a dedicated and enthusiastic group of young adults has been inspiring, and we are proud to support them as they take the next steps toward their own career success.

WARREN CO. BRINGS EDUCATION & INDUSTRY TOGETHER TO KEEP TALENT LOCAL

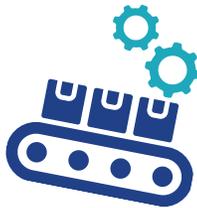
Warren County is taking big steps to build a stronger future for its residents. A new Talent Retention Policy by Kerr-Tar Staff is connecting education, industry, and local job seekers with one goal in mind: keeping our talented people right here in Warren County.



Through this initiative, Kerr-Tar is hosting community roundtables that bring together employers, educators, and job seekers to share ideas and explore ways to strengthen the local workforce. The discussions will focus on growing industries such as healthcare, manufacturing, technology, and skilled trades. Local educators – from high schools to community colleges – will help align training programs to meet employer needs, supporting Warren County's commitment to education, business growth, and expanded career pathways.

By working together, the community hopes to create more good-paying local jobs and reduce the number of residents commuting out of the county. "Our goal is to make Warren County a place where people can learn, work, and build their future. When schools, businesses, and community leaders collaborate, everyone benefits – and our hometowns grow stronger." The first roundtables are now being planned, and community members are encouraged to take part. For more information, contact Lisa Holland, Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board, at lholland@kerrtar.org.

KERR-TAR WORKFORCE BOARD, VGCC, PCC UNITE FOR MANUFACTURING DAY ROUNDTABLE



On October 3rd, the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board, in partnership with Vance-Granville Community College (VGCC) and Piedmont Community College (PCC), hosted an Advanced Manufacturing Roundtable at the Civic Center on the VGCC Main Campus.

The event followed successful Manufacturing Day celebrations held earlier at both VGCC and PCC, where students and community members toured facilities, met local employers, and explored modern manufacturing career opportunities. These events set the tone for continued collaboration and discussion at the roundtable.

The roundtable brought together 45 participants, including local manufacturers, educators, workforce partners, and economic development representatives. It provided a valuable forum for open conversation about workforce needs, training opportunities, and the future of advanced manufacturing across the Kerr-Tar region. Manufacturers expressed appreciation for the meaningful dialogue and the opportunity to connect directly with educators and workforce leaders. "It was encouraging to see such strong collaboration and commitment to growing our talent pipeline," noted one participant.

Representatives from Advanced NC, including Representative Elizabeth Hamm, discussed the advantages of joining the Advanced NC program, which connects manufacturers with statewide innovation networks, specialized training, and technical resources to strengthen competitiveness and growth. Additionally, North Carolina Commerce presented information on the SmarterNC Grant, outlining how manufacturers can leverage funding to support technology adoption, workforce development, and business expansion.

This event reflects the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board's ongoing commitment to strengthening partnerships between employers, students, educators, and job seekers—ensuring a strong and sustainable manufacturing workforce for years to come.

A huge thank you to the VGCC Culinary team for providing lunch to the roundtable participants.



3RD ANNUAL FRANKLIN COUNTY CAREER ON WHEELS EVENT



On October 15, 2025, Louisburg Magnet High School hosted the 3rd Annual Franklin County Career on Wheels event, giving students an engaging, hands-on opportunity to explore a wide range of career paths. The event brought together local employers, educators, and community partners to highlight careers that keep our communities and economy moving.

Students interacted with industry professionals, learned about training and education requirements, and gained insight into in-demand careers across the region. One of the highlights of the day was the NCWorks Mobile Career Center, which proved to be a big hit with students. The mobile unit allowed students to explore job search tools, resume-building resources, and career assessments—offering a firsthand look at the workforce services available across North Carolina.

Events like Career on Wheels play a vital role in connecting students with local industries, helping them make informed decisions about their futures. The Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board is proud to support initiatives like this that strengthen the link between education and workforce development in our region.



NCWORKS PARTICIPATES IN VGCC PART-TIME CAREER FAIR



NCWorks was proud to participate in the Vance-Granville Community College Part-Time Career Fair, held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025. The event, hosted by VGCC's Career Services Team, brought together over 250 job seekers and 30 vendors for an afternoon focused on connecting talent with opportunity.

Representatives from across the region engaged with students, job seekers, and employers to discuss career pathways, workforce resources, and current job openings. NCWorks shared information about local employment initiatives, training programs, and career development services available to support both employers and job seekers in our region.

The collaboration between VGCC and community partners continues to strengthen the local talent pipeline and foster economic growth across the Kerr-Tar region. We extend our thanks to Vance-Granville Community College and the Career Services Team for hosting another successful event and for their continued commitment to workforce development. We look forward to participating in future events that help connect people to meaningful careers and support the needs of local employers.

TURNING POINT CDC HOSTS ANNUAL COMMUNITY FALL FESTIVAL



On Saturday, October 25, 2025, Turning Point CDC once again brought the community together for its Annual Community Fall Festival—a celebration of unity, empowerment, and fun for all ages. The event featured activities, local vendors, and family-friendly entertainment, all designed to strengthen community connections and promote the organization’s mission of empowering lives and transforming neighborhoods.

The NCWorks Career Center proudly participated in this year’s event, sharing valuable workforce resources and career opportunities with attendees. NCWorks staff engaged with community members to provide information on job training programs, resume assistance, and employment support services available throughout the Kerr-Tar region. The Fall Festival has become a beloved tradition, offering a space for families, youth, and community partners to come together in a spirit of fellowship and service. Through events like this, Turning Point CDC and NCWorks continue to make a lasting impact by supporting education, workforce readiness, and community well-being across the region.

The Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board is proud to support Turning Point CDC’s ongoing efforts to uplift and inspire positive change. Together, we continue building stronger, more connected communities throughout our region.



DESTANI HARRIS SUCCESS STORY

Destani Harris joined the NextGen Program in June shortly after graduating from Granville Central High School. Through the program, she completed a paid Work Experience assignment as an IT Intern with Flex Desk 360 in Henderson, where she gained valuable hands-on experience in the technology field.

On August 1st, Destani successfully completed her internship and has since taken the next exciting step in her journey—she is now a freshman at Howard University, where she is pursuing a major in Information & Technology.

Destani’s story is a shining example of how early career exposure and support through programs like NextGen can empower young professionals to pursue their goals with confidence and purpose.

BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Ty Cheek
November 2nd



Christa Hight
November 8th



Kelly Hundley
November 14th

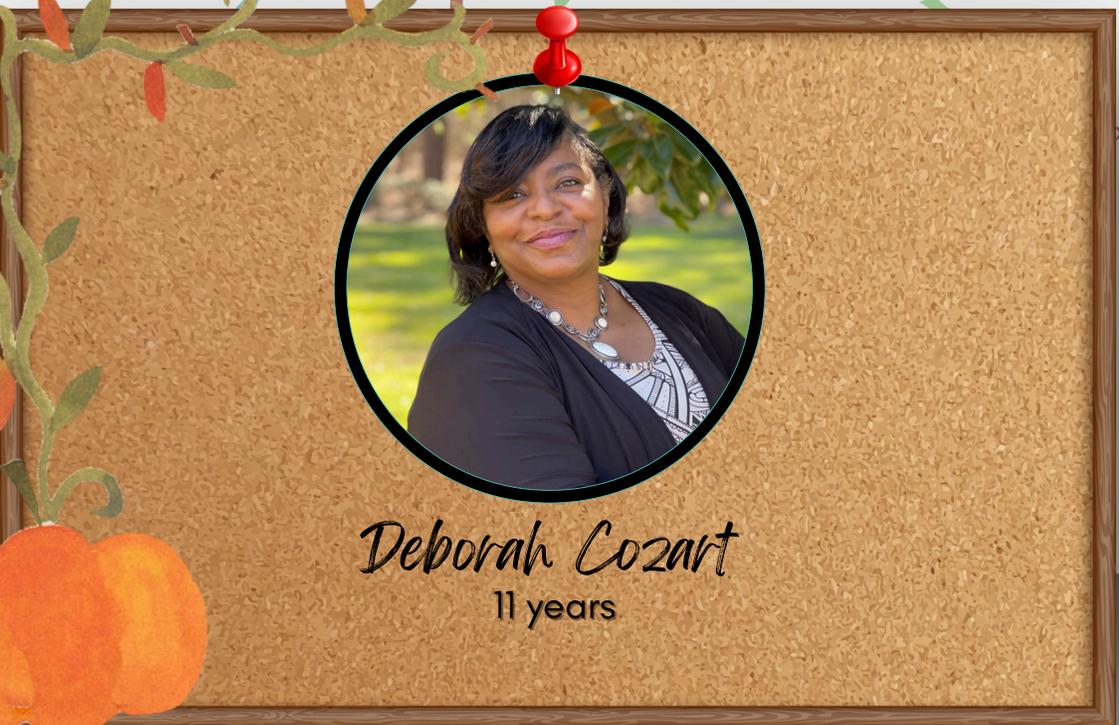


Alan Winstead
November 20th



Michael Patterson
November 28th

ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Deborah Cozart
11 years

Kerr-Tar

Regional Council of Governments

COMMUNITIES SERVED

Franklin County
Granville County
Person County
Vance County
Warren County
Town of Bunn
Town of Butner
City of Creedmoor
Town of Franklinton
City of Henderson
Town of Kittrell
Town of Louisburg
Town of Macon
Town of Middleburg
Town of Norlina
City of Oxford
City of Roxboro
Town of Stem
Town of Stovall
Town of Warrenton
Town of Youngsville

Executive Director

Diane Cox

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Area Agency on Aging

Alan Winstead

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Community & Economic Development

Desiree Brooks

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Workforce Development

Lou Grillo

lgrillo@kerrtarco.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments aims to promote regionalism that provides opportunities for local governments to enhance and improve the quality of life for our citizens through effective delivery of services and programs.

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments

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