

December 18, 2015



COUNTY OFFICES TO CLOSE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

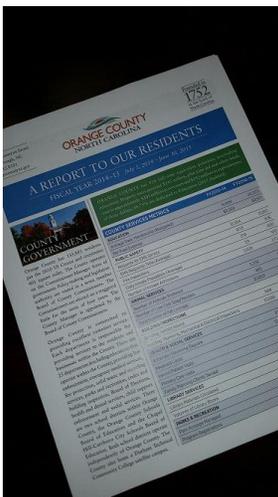


Orange County will close its administrative offices from Wednesday, December 23 – Friday, December 25, in observance of the Christmas holiday.

The County offices will re-open and all employees will return on Monday, December 28, and resume regular business hours from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The County offices will close again on Friday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day. Employees will return on Monday, January 4, and resume regular business hours from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. [Read More](#)

ORANGE COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORT TO OUR RESIDENTS



Orange County has completed its financial audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

The financial audit indicates strong financial operations for the County.

The Finance and Administrative Services Department has prepared A Report to Our Residents, which highlights the County's financial strength.

The report includes Financial and Service Delivery Metrics for the County.

To view the Financial Report to Our Residents [click here](#)



ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING SUMMARY

The Board of Orange County Commissioners (BOCC) met on Tuesday, December 15, at the Southern Human Services Center in Chapel Hill.

Click on the link to review a brief summary of the Board actions. This summary should not be viewed as official minutes. [Meeting Highlights](#)

The next Regular Meeting will take place on **Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.** at the BOCC meeting room in the Whitted Building in Hillsborough.

COUNTY DSS EMPLOYEE PARTNERS WITH UNC PROFESSOR TO ADDRESS HEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR DISADVANTAGED WOMEN

Since 2011, Robert Gilmore, DSS human services supervisor for Orange County's Work First program has been working with Shawn Kneipp, Ph.D., RN, ANP-BC, APHN-BC, FAANP Associate Professor, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Nursing, Health Care Environments Division.

Robert has been instrumental in an article being published in Advances in Nursing Science. [Synthesizing Marketing, Community Engagement, and Systems Science Approaches for Advancing Translational Research](#) sheds light on the health problems experienced by female clients receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

These women have very high rates of depression, low back pain, and headaches, but there are no evidence-based models for how to best address the health needs of this group within the context of the TANF program. This is problematic, because by addressing health-related barriers to work, it could help clients in this program more successfully secure and maintain employment.

One study has shown that placing public health nurses in the TANF program improves both health and employment outcomes for this group, but new, more engaging ways to get this information out to TANF managers and Work First supervisors that shows them why, and how they should adopt this model in their counties are needed.

This article describes a pilot study underway to test a video-animated simulation approach for explaining the model, and the benefits of adopting it, to public health nurse and TANF managers in North Carolina. Results will be available by May 2016.



Pictured from left to right: Robert Gilmore, Orange County DSS
Shawn Kneipp, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UNC at Chapel Hill

CHAMBER RECOGNIZES MEN AND WOMEN OF SERVICE

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce hosts a festive after-hours event, where the Chamber recognizes the men and women who are committed to making Chapel Hill-Carrboro a thriving, healthy and sustainable community.

Congratulations to **James Lunsford** with EMS at Orange County Emergency Services for being recognized as the Employee of the Year.



Photo Courtesy of Lili Engelhardt



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE ANNOUNCES 2016 CHANGES TO MEDICARE PARTS A AND B

Every year the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services reevaluate the costs for Medicare Parts A and B to determine if changes need to be made to deductibles, co-pays and out-of-pocket maximums.

SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, is available to North Carolina's Medicare beneficiaries, their families and caregivers to help them understand how the coming changes will affect them in 2016. [Read More](#)

SOCCEP SHOWCASE SCORES BIG IN ORANGE COUNTY



The Soccer.com Center is one of 16 sites around the Triangle to host the CASL visit Raleigh.com National Soccer Series the weekends of November 20 – 22 and December 4 – 6.

This year, 1,367 teams from 34 states and more than 900 college coaches competed at 16 different sites with 62 different fields (Soccer.com hosted five fields).

Specifically, at the Soccer.com Center, the two weekends attracted 230 teams, from 22 states, 4,830 players, 107 college coaches, and a total combined gate attendance of 13,100. The two-week event generated more than

\$16,000 in total revenue to the County at the Soccer.com Center from field rental revenue and onsite concession sales.

"All of this would not have been possible without your support! The fields at Soccer.com park were excellent, and your staff was great to work with," said Bill Hanckel, director of CASL visitRaleigh.com National Soccer Series Tournament.

The event planning, development and implementation at Soccer.com was a joint effort between the County's Parks and Recreation Divisions of the Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation. Staff from each division worked tirelessly, leading up to the tournament and each weekend to ensure the event's success.



PHONE OPERATOR AVAILABLE TO ANSWER CALLS



In an effort to improve customer service and assist residents with connecting to County departments faster, an Operator is available to answer calls and direct residents to the person who can assist them or answer their questions.

Residents can call the Orange County main line at 919.732.8181 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to speak with a live attendant.

ORANGE COUNTY SLOGAN CONTEST More Than 500 Submissions Received

When the Board of Orange County Commissioners launched a contest on December 4th asking residents to help them name the I-40 Interstate sign that welcomes motorists to Orange County, they had no idea what to expect. But in just two weeks, media partner WCHL Radio and Chapelboro.com received more than 500 entries suggesting slogans for the new Interstate welcome sign.

The current sign welcomes interstate travelers with the message "Orange County: You'll Be a Fan for Life."

The contest remains open for sign and slogan suggestions through January 8th and then will conclude with an open voting forum in mid-January. At the month's end, Commissioners will be given 10 suggested slogans from which to choose. A new sign, and slogan, will be erected in February.



Prizes are being offered weekly to all those who submit ideas and Orange County continues to enjoy the high level of creativity from residents, visitors and friends of North Carolina.

To review the submissions and submit an idea, log on to: www.chapelboro.com

RECREATION PROGRAM GUIDES AVAILABLE



The 2016 January - April program guide is now available. Registration for all upcoming programs begins on Monday, January 4. To view all of our winter and early spring classes, leagues, and special events [click here](#)

Check out our Special Events on pages 4 - 6.

Summer Camp registration information can be found on pages 20 - 21.

Registration is accepted in-person at the Central Recreation Center, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. To register online [click here](#)

**APPLICATION WINDOW CLOSING:
2015 PAULI MURRAY HUMAN RELATIONS AWARDS**

The Orange County Human Relations Commission has extended the nomination period for the 2015 Pauli Murray Human Relations Awards.



Each year, the Pauli Murray Award is presented to a youth, adult and business owner in Orange County. Each recipient is recognized for serving the Orange County community with distinction in the pursuit of equality, justice and human rights for all residents.

Nominations are due by 5:00 p.m. TODAY. The nomination form is available online, [click here](#) to access the form.

Individual and Youth nominees must reside in Orange County. Business nominees must operate or conduct business within Orange County. [Read More](#)



COUNTY ACCEPTING LEADERSHIP TEAM APPLICATIONS

The Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness is accepting applications for its 2016 Leadership Team.

The mission of the Partnership to End Homelessness is to work collaboratively to end and prevent homelessness in Orange County. The Partnership's Leadership Team is the governing body of the Partnership and provides leadership to its work.

To access the application [click here](#). The deadline is Monday, December 28.

For more information, please call Jamie Rohe at 919.245.2496.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ANIMAL SERVICES



COUNTY WEBSITE ANALYTICS

TOP FIVE VISITED PAGES

Animal Services = 5,451 Sessions

Library = 4,072 Sessions

Board of Elections = 3,327

Human Resources = 2,809 Sessions

Register of Deeds = 2,691 Sessions

TOTAL SESSIONS = 100,928 / November 2015

News & Notes

COUNTY EMPLOYEES NAMED WCHL HOMETOWN HEROES

Libbie Hough, Library [Details](#)

Paul Sorrell, Asset Management [Details](#)

SAVE THE DATE: Annual Agricultural Summit

Monday, February 29, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Whitted Building

300 W. Tryon Street in Hillsborough

Human Relations Forum

A Focus on Disability Awareness

Sunday, January 31, 2016

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Whitted Building

300 W. Tryon Street in Hillsborough

Christmas Bird Count

Sunday, December 20

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Free for ages 6 and older

Count the birds at Little River Park.

Stay Connected

Encourage others to stay connected with Orange County by subscribing to the News list, [click here](#) to join the mailing list or follow us on [Facebook](#) and like us on [Twitter](#) and watch us on [YouTube](#). Look for our monthly newspaper ads in the News of Orange and Chapel Hill News.

For more information, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 919.245.2302.