

The Orange County Government Gazette

Serving Orange County Residents since 1752

(919) 732-8181 • www.orangecountync.gov • 300 West Tryon Street, P.O. Box 8181, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Orange County Roadshow and Volunteer Fair on Saturday, September 21

The Orange County Roadshow and Volunteer Fair will be held on Saturday, September 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Eno Arts Mill at 437 Dimmocks Mill Road, Suite 17, Hillsborough. 12 Orange County Government Departments will be on hand at this free, family-friendly event to present information about county services and volunteer opportunities.



The goal of the Orange County Roadshow is to bring government services to the community in a location and time that is convenient to them. This Roadshow will also highlight the many volunteer opportunities at Orange County Government.

Many Orange County Departments rely on the hard work and commitment of volunteers to make their services and programs the best that they can be. Attendees to the Roadshow may learn about the diverse volunteer opportunities available at Aging, Animal Services, Clerk to the Board, the Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation (DEAPR), Emergency Services, Library, Orange County Arts Commission, Social Services, and Sustainability.

In addition to learning about volunteer opportunities, residents will have the opportunity

to accomplish many tasks in one place, including:

- Check voter registration information, get a photo ID for voting purposes, or see a sample ballot.
- Learn about joining the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT training teaches community members essential skills to care for themselves and others during emergencies.
- Get information about fostering a pet, low-cost rabies and microchip clinics, and barn cat programs.
- Register for activities at the Library, Aging, or Recreation.
- Apply for a property tax payment plan or state tax assistance programs (Present Use Value, Disabled Vets, Homestead Exclusion).
- Sign up for a library card.
- Apply to serve on a volunteer board or commission.
- Learn about the Orange County Land Use Plan 2050 which will establish a cohesive, county-wide land use vision for the future.
- Sign up to volunteer for the Department of Social Services Toy Chest event.
- Learn about the Climate Action Plan, Climate Action grants, and tips for living sustainably. The Orange County Roadshow and Volunteer Fair will also have art activities for children and a free raffle for a wide variety of prizes. Learn more about attending this event at www.orangecountync.gov/OCRoadshow. Learn more about volunteer opportunities at www.orangecountync.gov/OCVolunteers. This event is free and open to the public.

New Bridge Housing Project Opening in Chapel Hill

Orange County Government will join Alliance Health and Caramore, Inc. on September 9 in opening the Wonderful House, a new bridge housing project at 2032 Homestead Road in Chapel Hill. The house honors the late Wonderful Buie, beloved Caramore peer support specialist and resident manager and his own history of homelessness and recovery. Bridge housing paired with supportive services is an evidence-based best practice designed to help stabilize people coming out of homelessness, incarceration, and institutions. It provides safe housing for three to five months with a focus on recovery supports, case management and peer support, developing independent living skills, and making connections to permanent housing. Bridge housing has been identified for several years as a critical need in the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness System Gaps Analysis.

The Homestead Road property is a five-bedroom brick ranch home located next to a city bus stop and near Interfaith Council facilities, the Southern Human Services building, and the Seymour Center. It will house six people referred by Orange County and Alliance Health in four bedrooms for up to five months and will be staffed seven days a week with a case manager and peer support professional providing both individual and group programming. Orange County housing, reentry, street outreach, and behavioral health and social service providers will have access to the home to provide additional support.

The house will be managed by Caramore under contract with Alliance Health, with project funding shared by Orange County Government and Alliance. The funding from Orange County is through the Partnership to End Homelessness, which is also supported by the Towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough.

Since 1974, Caramore has provided vocational and residential support services to Orange County adults living with mental illness. Alliance Health is the public managed care organization for county citizens with severe mental illnesses, substance use disorders, and long-term care needs including intellectual/developmental disability and traumatic brain injury.

"With growing numbers of Orange County residents with behavioral health needs experiencing homelessness and needing support on their way to permanent housing, this program will provide critical housing and interventions," said Ann Oshel, Alliance SVP for Community Health and Well-Being. Alliance's funding of the project is part of over \$8M invested in housing support for its health plan members since 2017.

"This project embodies Orange County's commitment to ensure a community network

of basic human services and infrastructure that maintains, protects, and promotes the well-being of all county residents," said Jamezetta Bedford, Orange Board of County Commissioners Chair.



"Wonderful House will provide a critical step in ensuring all residents of Orange County have housing and the behavioral health support they need," said Orange County Housing Director Blake Rosser. "This short-term, low barrier housing coupled with supportive services will provide a successful transition into permanent housing."

A ribbon cutting will be held at the house on Monday, September 9 beginning at 11:00am with tours of the house to follow. The public is cordially invited to attend. The address is 2032 Homestead Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516. No RSVP is required.

About Alliance Health

Alliance Health is a public managed care organization serving Cumberland, Durham, Harnett, Johnston, Mecklenburg, Orange and Wake counties in North Carolina. Working with a network of more than 4,000 private providers, Alliance has responsibility for almost 470,000 Medicaid-eligible and uninsured individuals among a population of over 3.5M.



The Alliance Medicaid Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disability Tailored Plan manages all the health care needs – physical, behavioral and pharmacy – for people with severe mental illnesses, substance use disorders, and long-term care needs including intellectual/developmental disability and traumatic brain injury. Learn more about Alliance's housing initiatives.

About Caramore, Inc.

Caramore Community's transitional rehabilitation program offers people with severe and persistent mental illness the opportunity to focus on vocational development, residential stability, and learning to prioritize their healthcare. For the past 50 years, Caramore Community has served the Orange County community with a variety of vocational, residential and peer support services. During that time Caramore has supported hundreds of Orange County residents toward their achievement of independent, community-based living. Caramore is currently providing other successful Bridge Housing program services in Chapel Hill and Charlotte.



REQUEST YOUR BALLOT NOW!

Tuesday, November 5, 2024 Presidential Election

Any North Carolina registered voter may request and receive a mail-in absentee ballot. No special circumstance is needed. You may request your absentee ballot **NOW** through **October 29** for the **November 5, 2024** election!

A registered voter or their near relative or legal guardian must complete, sign and return the request form.

PHOTO ID
REQUIRED TO VOTE



How To Request Your Ballot

Online	votebymail.ncsbe.gov
On Paper	www.orangecountync.gov/VoteByMail
Request A Form	919-245-2350 or vote@orangecountync.gov
In Person	208 S Cameron St, Hillsborough

Orange County Land Use Plan 2050 Community Meetings

Are you interested in where and how new development happens? Do you care about Orange County's environmental resources and where and how they are preserved?

Help to guide the future of Orange County! Join us to review modeled land use alternatives and draft vision themes and goals. All content and activities will be the same at both meetings.

If you are planning on attending this event and would like interpretation services, call (919) 245-2498 two weeks prior to the event.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Wednesday, Sept. 25	6 – 7:30 pm	Gravelly Hill Middle School Auditorium 4801 W Ten Rd, Efland, NC
Thursday, October 3	6 – 7:30 pm	American Legion Post 6 3700 NC-54, Chapel Hill, NC



Scan to view project website!
orangecountylanduseplan.com

You are invited to a Reentry Simulation!

At this FREE event, participants will have an opportunity to experience the struggles and challenges faced by individuals who are transitioning from incarceration back to society.

All are welcome to attend, including court stakeholders, law enforcement officials, elected officials, educators, service providers, faith community members, advocates, business community members and anyone interested in understanding reentry.

Facilitated by the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction.

Wednesday, Sept. 25 • 10:30am-12pm

Whitted Building, 300 W Tryon Street, Donna Baker Meeting Room, Hillsborough, NC



Register to Attend:
orangecountync.gov/ReentryAttendee

Register to Volunteer at orangecountync.gov/ReentryVolunteer



A Path for Hope Suicide Prevention & Awareness Walk

Shoes will be on display to honor the Durham and Orange County community members who lost their lives to suicide from 2017-2021.

We are collecting gently used shoes, for the event. To donate shoes, email wrobison@dccon.gov for Durham shoes and mcreed@orangecountync.gov for Orange County.

Interpreter services and/or special sound equipment are free and available on request. Call 919-245-2398 or 919-245-2402 in advance of the event.



Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024 • 5:30-7pm

Leigh Farm Park located at 370 Leigh Farm Road, Durham, NC. Located just north of NC 54 at the I-40 intersection.

For more information visit www.orangecountync.gov/HealthyCarolines



Southern Noir BOOK DISCUSSION

Join us at the Main Library in Hillsborough for a discussion of *All The Sinners Bled* by S.A. Cosby and *Something Bad Wrong* by Eryk Pruitt. This is a discussion with librarians in advance of a conversation with the authors on October 4th.

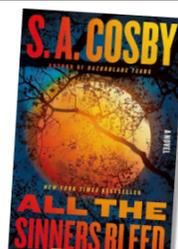
Registration for this event is encouraged but not required at orangecountync.gov/Noir

Thursday, September 26 • 6pm

Orange County Public Library, 137 W. Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC



orangecountync.gov/LibraryEvents



Celebrating Falls Prevention Month

Learn how to reduce and prevent falls

PROGRAM	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION	REGISTR. DEADLINE
Better Balance Demo Day	Tues, Sept 10	10-11am	Seymour Ctr 919-968-2070	none
You're on the Floor, Now What?	Tue, Sept 17	10:30 - 11:30am	Seymour Ctr 919-968-2070	none
Falls Prevention Bingo	Fri, Sept 20	10-11am	Passmore Ctr 919-245-2015	Mon, Sept 19
Falls Prevention Bingo and Falls Safety Presentation	Tue, Sept 24	10 - 12pm	Cedar Grove CC 919-245-2640	Mon, Sept 23
Falls Prevention Bingo	Wed, Sept 25	10-11am	Efland Cheeks CC 919-563-1130	Tue, Sept 24
Free Community Health Clinic	Thur, Sept 26	10 - 12pm	Passmore Ctr 919-245-2015	Tue, Sept 24



www.orangecountync.gov/Aging



Orange County
Community Giving Fund

Find out more about orangecountync.gov/CGF



WE ARE HIRING!

To learn more about job opportunities available in Orange County Government, please visit www.orangecountync.gov/Careers or contact the Human Resources Recruitment Manager at (919) 245-2557