

## IN THIS ISSUE

### -Important Information

- [Annual Awards Banquet](#)
- [Cultivate 2024 Summit](#)
- [Warren County Highway Honors Former NC Congresswoman](#)
- [Jeremy T. Jones Appointed Assistant County Manager](#)
- [ARPA Funds](#)
- [NCDIT Launches Online Dashboards Showing Broadband Awards](#)
- [Join Free Cybersecurity Awareness Presentations](#)
- [3-D Mammogram Screening Event](#)

### -Area Agency on Aging

- [Medicare Open Enrollment](#)
- [Groundbreaking for New Senior Center in Stovall](#)
- [Tai Chi Is Back!](#)
- [Kathy May Honored The Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award](#)
- [Long-term Care Residents Honored During Residents' Rights Month](#)

### -Planning & Economic Development

- [Kerr-Tar Projects Selected for Funding in the Regional Impact Category](#)
- [Working Towards Resiliency Webinar](#)
- [Vance County Public Safety Expo](#)
- [NCDOT MOBI Awards](#)
- [Meet our new AmeriCorps Member!](#)
- [Advancing Regional Food Strategies](#)
- [North Carolina State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program](#)
- [NC Grants](#)
- [Members Needed for Broadband Planning Committee](#)

### -Workforce Development

- [NCWorks Assists with Hiring Event for Local Employer](#)
- [Success Story](#)



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### Upcoming Events

- Kerr-Tar Regional COG Executive Board Meeting, **Oct 17, Time TBD**
- Halloween, **October 31st**
- NADO Conference Training, **Oct 21-24, 2024 New Orleans, LA**
- Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council Meeting, **Oct 20, COG Office**
- Veterans Day, **Nov. 11 COG Office Closed**
- TAC/TCC Meeting, **TBD**

# 2024 Annual Awards Banquet

## Kerr-Tar Annual Award Winners

Outstanding Board Member



John Alston  
Warren County

Outstanding Municipal Elected Official



Linda Jordan  
Town of Butler

Outstanding County Elected Official



Russ May  
Granville County

Outstanding Manager



Zachary Steffey  
Town of Franklinton

Outstanding Clerk to Board



Lynda Clayton  
City of Roxboro

## Upcoming Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments Board Officers



From left to right:  
Chairperson, Betty Wright  
(Town of Louisburg, Vice  
Chairperson Carolyn Faines  
(Vance County), Treasurer  
John Alston (Warren County)

# Scenes From the Banquet



Special  
Thanks to our  
Sponsors



# Cultivate 2024 Summit

*Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Cultivate 2024 Summit! It was a fantastic event with inspiring speakers, great networking, diverse vendors, and a special book signing by Jennifer Phar-Davis, plus delicious food trucks. Your presence made it truly special!*



## Special Thanks to our Sponsors

Dominion Energy  
Duke Energy  
Cypress Creek Renewables  
NC Electric Cooperatives  
ElectriCities of North Carolina

Benchmark Community Bank  
Blue Cross Blue Shield  
The Sunrock Group  
Granville County TDA

# Warren County Highway Honors Former NC Congresswoman

A section of Interstate 85 in Warren County has been joyfully dedicated to honor former Congresswoman Eva Clayton!

In mid-September friends, family, and officials from the N.C. Department of Transportation gathered to celebrate both her birthday and the highway dedication. The signs along I-85 stretching from Ridgeway Drewry Road (Exit 226) to the Warren-Vance County line proudly commemorate her inspiring legacy in North Carolina.



Clayton earned her bachelor's degree in biology from Johnson C. Smith University and a master's in biology and general science from North Carolina Central University. She made history as the first Black woman to represent North Carolina in Congress, passionately advocating for the First Congressional District in the northeast. Her journey into civic and political life was ignited by the civil rights movement. In 2022, Gov. Roy Cooper presented her with the North Carolina Award, the state's highest civilian honor. Clayton still resides in Warren County, where she remains an active and beloved member of the community!

## Jeremy T. Jones Appointed Assistant County Manager



Vance County Manager C. Renee Perry has appointed Jeremy T. Jones as the new Assistant County Manager effective October 1, 2024. With over 10 years in law enforcement, including roles from Patrol Deputy to Administrative Sergeant, Jones brings expertise in public safety, strategic planning, and community outreach. He will oversee various county departments and serve as the Public Information Officer.

Perry expressed enthusiasm for Jones's leadership, noting his commitment to enhancing county services and community well-being. Jones holds degrees in Criminal Justice and Administration and has been with the Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office since 2017.

# ARPA Funds: Deadlines & Resources



**The obligation deadline for ARPA funds is 12/31/24. If you are uncertain whether all of your ARPA funds are obligated, please contact Kerr Tar COG ([kconner@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:kconner@kerrtarcog.org))**  
**ARPA OFFICE HOURS:**

The UNC School of Government (SOG) hosts virtual ARPA Office Hours for local governments to discuss issues related to the American Rescue Plan Act Fiscal Recovery Fund program and local government finance. NCACC participates in these sessions and provides timely updates for counties on ARPA-related matters. Click [here](#) for the UNC SOG ARPA Office Hours and to access the Zoom link.

## Upcoming ARPA/Finance Office Hours:

- Thursday, Oct. 10 – 8:30-9:30 a.m. (property management)
- Tuesday, Oct. 15 – 12-1 p.m. (responding to COVID and its negative economic impact category)
- Monday, Oct. 21 – 8:30-9:30 a.m. (obligation deadline)
- Wednesday, Oct. 30 – 12-1 p.m. (budgeting and documentation)

# NCDIT Launches Online Dashboards Showing Broadband Awards

The North Carolina Department of Information Technology's Division of Broadband and Digital Equity recently launched new online interactive dashboards that show information about ARPA-funded broadband awards across the state. The dashboard contains data on awards made under the CAB program, Digital Equity Grant, GREAT Grant, Pole Replacement program, and Stop-Gap Solutions program. Users can view dashboards showing awards by county, awards by program, or a general awards tracker. Within the dashboard, users can sort by county, funding program, awardees, and project status. Click [this link](#) to view the dashboards.



# Join Free Cybersecurity Awareness Presentations This October



October is the 21st national cybersecurity awareness month, a dedicated time for the public and private sectors to collaborate on raising awareness about the importance of cybersecurity in our home and work environments. The NC National Guard Cyber Security Response Force (CSRFF) invites you to attend **free** (yes, free!) virtual presentations on improving workplace cybersecurity to further harden our State's overall cybersecurity defenses. The presentations emphasize identifying and defeating current tactics and techniques employed by cyber criminals. Although this training is end user centric, IT professionals are encouraged to attend and share their insight and expertise.

Participants are encouraged to ask questions or discuss specific incidents they were involved in. Each presentation will last approximately one hour, depending on the participation level from the attendees. More participation equals a longer discussion, and is strongly encouraged!

To reserve a virtual seat, visit the NC Training, Exercise & Response Management System (NC TERMS) at [this link](#) to select the presentation(s) you wish to attend. **If you have questions please contact Matt Chytka at [joseph.m.chytka.nfg@arm.mil](mailto:joseph.m.chytka.nfg@arm.mil).**

## Presentation Topics & NCEM TERMS Course Code, presentation dates:

- Recognizing Social Engineering NCJCTF-705 Oct. 7, 14, 21
- Ten ways YOU can reduce cyber threats at work NCJCTF-715 Oct. 4, 18, 28
- Business Email Compromise, Ransomware & Extortionware NCJCTF-505a Oct. 9, 25
- Artificial Intelligence: What it can, and cannot do NCJCTF-720 Oct. 11, 16, 30
- Working Offsite best business practices NCJCTF-725 Oct. 2, 23, Nov 1st

## Follow us on social media!

Don't miss out on future training opportunities and events hosted by the Kerr-Tar COG! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on what we are up to.



[facebook.com/kerrtarcog/](https://facebook.com/kerrtarcog/)



[instagram.com/kerrtarcog/](https://instagram.com/kerrtarcog/)





Table of Contents

# 3-D MAMMOGRAM SCREENING EVENT



## “TOGETHER WE FIGHT”

 **OCTOBER 19, 2024**   
**10 AM-3 PM**

## Early Detection is Key

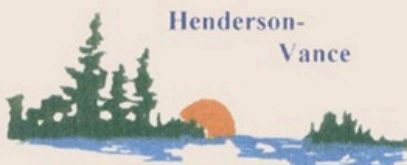
Breast Cancer is the second most diagnosed cancer in the country and in effort to support the women in our community. Our organizations have partnered with **Invision Diagnostics** to provide breast cancer screenings to all women who qualify.

**Please call (877) 318-1349 to schedule your appointment.**

You can also schedule your appointment online at <https://appointments.invisiondiagnostics.com/>

### Community Partners

- Henderson-Vance Recreation and Parks
- Henderson Institute Graduates and Former Students Association
- Kesler Temple AME Zion Church
- Vance County Senior Center
- Pink with A Passion
- Sisters Speak Life



Recreation & Parks



### Are you eligible?

Women 35 years and older with an active health insurance plan

Must be 1 year since previous mammogram

Can't be pregnant or breastfeeding

Must report a PCP or OBGYN to receive results

Must not have a lump you can feel or dimpling of the breasts; or nipple changes

SCAN ME



**Aycock Recreation Center**  
307 Carey Chapel Road  
Henderson, NC. 27537  
**(252) 438-3948**



# Medicare Open Enrollment

The Medicare Open Enrollment period starts **October 15 and ends December 7**. The *Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)* helps Medicare beneficiaries and caregivers with Medicare, Medicare supplements, Medicare Advantage, Medicare Part D, and long-term care insurance. We offer *free* and unbiased information about Medicare health care products.

**To find a SHIIP counselor please contact your local senior center or email [callen@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:callen@kerrtarcog.org) at the Area Agency on Aging.**



# Groundbreaking for New Senior Center in Stovall

The North Granville Senior Center held a groundbreaking for a new Senior Center in Stovall on September 6. Granville County Senior Services joined volunteers and elected officials to celebrate the investment in a new facility to meet the growing demand for senior services.



# Tai Chi is Back!!

Tai Chi is Back and our Family Caregiver Specialist, Michael Patterson is offering Tai Chi classes at the Person County Senior Center on Thursday Afternoons. Michael is a certified instructor and works throughout our region. If you're interested in your senior center having Tai Chi lessons, **please contact Michael Patterson at [mpatterson@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:mpatterson@kerrtarcog.org).**



# Kathy May Honored The Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award



Senator Mary Wills Bode honored Granville County Senior Services Director Kathy May on Wednesday, September 25 at the Granville County Senior Center in Oxford. Kathy May was honored with **The Order of the Long Leaf Pine** award for her professional and personal contributions to the aging network in Granville County and throughout the state. Since 1963, North Carolina’s governors have reserved their highest honor, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine award, for persons who have made significant contributions to the state and their communities through their exemplary service and exceptional accomplishments. Persons named to The Order become honorary North Carolina “Ambassadors” with their names and award dates recorded on a Roster maintained by The Order of the Long Leaf Pine Society.

## Long-term Care Residents Honored During Residents’ Rights Month

October is Residents’ Rights Month, an annual event designated by Consumer Voice to honor residents living in all long-term care facilities and those receiving care in their home or community. It is an opportunity to focus on and celebrate the dignity and rights of every individual receiving long-term services and supports. Residents have the right to self-determination and to use their voice to make their own choices. This year's Residents' Rights Month theme, The Power of My Voice, emphasizes self-empowerment and recognizes the power of residents being vocal about their interests, personal growth, and right to live full, enriching lives. For further information on residents rights please click [here](#).



# Kerr-Tar Projects Selected for Funding in the Regional Impact Category

NCDOT has released the regional scores, as well as informed Kerr-Tar RPO that 6 projects have been selected for funding in the Regional Impact Category for the draft 2026-2035 STIP.

## Franklin County

- Widen to multi-lanes - NC 56, NC 581 (Nash Street) in Louisburg to SR 1229 (Main Street) **\$46,000,000**
- Widen roadway. The project is a modification of H090813 (NC56 from Franklinton Bypass to US 401/NC 56 in Louisburg NC where the proposal is to widen to 4 lanes. This abbreviated project shortens the length of the project and widens to 4-lanes and is located entirely in KTRPO. **\$58,000,000**

## Vance County

- Construct the Alexander Avenue extension to SR 1267 (Dabney Dr) and grade separation with road OVER rail. Project also includes: (1) closure of SR 1228 (Chavasse Avenue) existing at-grade Crossing # 630 489N, (2) closure of Spring St at-grade Crossing # 630 488G, and (3) construction of Peachtree St pedestrian access tunnel/bridge in Henderson, NC. Project includes minor track realignment as needed. **\$28,450,000**
- Improve intersection where Belmont Drive and Welcome Avenue meet **\$2,800,000**
- Install Citywide Signal System **\$5,036,000**

## Person County

- Replace 5 Lane Facility with 4 Lane Facility with Planted Median. Reduce Number intersections; Add Sidewalks to Both Sides of the Road Where they are missing. Includes intersection improvements at NC 157 / Johnson Street / Hurdle Mills Road / South Main Street AND NC 49 (Leasburg Road/Chub Lake Street). **\$26,700,000**

# Working Towards Resiliency Webinar

Join the UNC School of Government for "Working Towards Resiliency" on October 22 2024 from 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM. Communities across North Carolina are facing infrastructure challenges job shortages, and climate change. This event, hosted by the ncIMPACT Initiative and Environmental Finance Center, will explore how workforce needs and green jobs can benefit local communities. Learn about job opportunities and funding options from experts. Click [HERE](#) to register.



# Vance County Public Safety Expo



Vance County held their Public Safety Expo on Saturday, September 14th where several families came out and enjoyed fire trucks, boats, and safe biking! Granville Vance Public Health (GVPH) partnered with the COG and our Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Victoria Glasscock, was able to give out nearly 40 helmets to children of all ages! All thanks to the Bicycle Helmet Initiative Grant GVPH received.



## NCDOT MOBI Awards

The N.C. Department of Transportation is again honoring North Carolina towns, cities and counties that have completed multimodal transportation projects that spurred economic development, improved public health and enhanced communities. Click [HERE](#) to register.



NCDOT is again honoring North Carolina towns, cities, and counties that have completed multimodal transportation projects that spurred economic development, improved public health, and enhanced communities.

**Awards Ceremony**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Friday October 11th  
Raleigh Convention Center

# Meet our new AmeriCorps Member!



AmeriCorps

This month, KTCOG welcomes our new AmeriCorps member, Nicole Manalis! Nicole will continue to increase capacity for food systems work in the region, including but not limited to continuing relationship building with food practitioners and member governments conducting interviews and storytelling with farmers, resource mapping, and assisting with the Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council. Both of our AmeriCorps members, Nicole and Charlie, attended the *RAFI Come to the Table Conference* in Rocky Mount on September 30 and October 1.



# Advancing Regional Food Strategies



On September 9, several members of the Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council attended the Community Food Strategies Regional Food Gathering in Greenville, NC. Attendees discussed strategies to move regional and statewide projects forward, including implementation of the Tri-COG FEEDS project that Kerr-Tar COG has been part of.

**From left to right:**  
Ardis Crews, Gabe Cumming, Earline Middleton, Charlie Robinette



# North Carolina State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program

Do you want to increase the cybersecurity at your office of local government? Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments can provide technical support to help request funding! This opportunity should open in October and the deadline will likely be at the beginning of 2025.

To learn more about it go to [THIS](#) website. Get your proposal started today and contact our office by emailing our Regional Project Manager, Amanda Lewis at [alewis@kerrtarco.org](mailto:alewis@kerrtarco.org).



## North Carolina Grants



There is a great listing specifically for North Carolina grants, available at [this](#) website. Please take a look at these wonderful opportunities and reach out to our office to request technical assistance when needed! We can even provide editorial support for you project proposals.

## Have you signed up for our Grant Opportunities Newsletter?



This newsletter provides grant opportunities across the region where a variety of applicants are invited to apply. Our grant writer Amanda Lewis is on staff to provide technical assistance. If you would like to be part of this newsletter please email [alewis@kerrtarco.org](mailto:alewis@kerrtarco.org)

# Members Needed for Regional Digital Equity Planning Committee

## Are you interested in becoming a member of the Kerr-Tar Regional Digital Equity Planning Committee?

Committee Members: The proposed structure of the Kerr-Tar Regional Digital Equity Planning Committee will designate sixteen seats that promote inclusion from identified voices in the region:

- Franklin County
- Granville County
- Person County
- Vance County
- Warren County
- Healthcare
- Farm/Agriculture
- Veteran
- Information Technology
- Education (K-12)
- Higher Education (VGCC)
- Higher Education (PCC)
- Nonprofit
- Small Business
- Faith Leader
- Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments



If you are passionate about broadband, please click [HERE](#) to fill-out the Kerr-Tar Regional Digital Equity Planning Committee interest form to support the Digital Inclusion project efforts starting in October.

If you have any questions about joining the Regional Digital Equity Planning Committee or would like to learn more about our Digital Inclusion Plans across our region, Contact Amanda Lewis at [alewis@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:alewis@kerrtarcog.org)

# NCWorks Assists with Hiring Event for Local Employer

On September 12th, CertainTeed held a hiring event at their manufacturing facility in Granville County. The NCWorks Business Services Team assisted with promoting the event on their social pages and getting the word out to community partners in the Kerr-Tar region. A total of 96 jobseekers attended the event and 81 were interviewed on the spot. CertainTeed plan on hiring between 16 - 20 new employees. "We wouldn't have had this type of turnout if NCWorks didn't help promote the hiring event" says, Jessi Jones, HR.



A subsidiary of Saint-Gobain, the world's largest building products company, CertainTeed® is North America's leading brand of exterior and interior building products, including roofing, siding, trim, insulation, gypsum, and ceilings.

## Success Story



Congratulations go out to Ms Kiara Robinson. Ms. Robinson has just completed the PEER Support Specialist training through Voice Therapeutic, NC Hope. Ms. Robinson was enrolled in the Adult WIOA program. She has already received a job offer pending the release of her name on the PEER Support registry. Ms Robinson is a single mother of 5. She is very excited about this new opportunity and looks forward to working with the people in her community.

Stay Connected with Your NCWorks Career Center!







# KERR-TAR

*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  
[dcox@kerrtar cog.org](mailto:dcox@kerrtar cog.org)

### Area Agency on Aging

Alan Winstead  
[awinstead@kerrtar cog.org](mailto:awinstead@kerrtar cog.org)

### Community & Economic Development

Desiree Brooks  
[dbrooks@kerrtar cog.org](mailto:dbrooks@kerrtar cog.org)

### Workforce Development

Lou Grillo  
[lgrillo@kerrtar cog.org](mailto:lgrillo@kerrtar cog.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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