

NCSCA News Winter 2022

LEADER'S LETTER

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Welcome to 2022,

I am sure you, like me, have thought by now we would have moved passed COVID-19. But, here we are, still dealing with increases in positive cases from a new variant, restrictions, cancellations and closings. Although it seems this may forever hinder what we do or want to do to meet he needs and to serve our seniors, I want to encourage you-WE GOT THIS!! We can get through this together. From what I see and hear you all are making things happen, serving your seniors in ways we never dreamed we would or imagined we were capable of. I am so proud of all of you and proud to be a part of this network of the best senior center professional in the country. I want to thank you for your resilience, dedication, innovation, persistence, and continued support of our seniors.

The Alliance needs to fill three committee seats. I would love to have Region B and N represented but at this time we will take members from anywhere across the state to fill the At-Large vacancy, and the Region N and B vacancies. Contact me at 25-475-5 or via email at sandyf@darenc.com if you want to be a part of an amazing group of hardworking, selfless, dedicated individuals that want to see all senior center staff succeed.

Check out the Alliance Facebook page for information about upcoming training opportunities, innovative programming ideas, advocacy events and ideas, conferences, and more. Please be mindful that the Alliance Facebook page is not for your center's specific use and should not be the place you post things that need to be on your center's page. However, we do want you to post some of the awesome, unique programs and services you are offering as this is a great place to share and learn from each other.

If you need SCOPE kits, please reach out to me or the special projects committee and We can email you the folder inserts but at this time since we are not meeting in person or attending conferences, you will have to set up your boxes and include your own files and file folders. There is no charge for the SCOPE folder inserts you will receive digitally.

Lastly, I would like to know what things you would like to see in future editions of the Alliance newsletter. You can submit them to to me or to the newsletter lead, Katherine Irby at: katherine.irby@darenc.com

I hope you were able to enjoy the recent snow if you got some in your area. I don't know about you all but I hope that groundhog does not see his shadow.

Sincerely,

Sandy

Submitted by Sandy Pace, R, Chair, Dare County Senior Center





NCAOA/NCSCA Membership Renewal

Become a contributing member of one of the state's leading professional associations in the aging field. Your NCAOA membership benefits will easily surpass the cost of annual dues, and include:

- Advocacy The NCAOA employs a Lobbyist that works daily to promote legislative priorities such as increased HCCBG and other funding sources for Senior Centers. More often than not, lobbyists are the difference in revenue streams coming to the aging field or being routed elsewhere.
- Training The NCAOA offers Aging Boot Camps and an Annual Conference featuring leading professionals in the aging field. You receive an instant discount with your active membership.
- Partnerships Your NCAOA membership comes with a complimentary membership to the North Carolina Senior Center Alliance.
- Award Opportunities Member only opportunities to receive one of the NCAOA Excellence in the Field of Aging Awards.
- Marketing and Communication Our members receive electronic updates and newsletters with urgent advocacy and legislative updates and more.

If you have questions about whether your membership is due in August or January- please use the email below to receive confirmation for when you should renew. If you not yet a member of the North Carolina Association on

Aging or the North Carolina Senior Center Alliance- this is a wonderful time to begin! I can't think of a time when we have needed to ban together and pool resources, ideas, and information more than we need to do so now! Being of a member of these groups gives you access to many free resources and networking opportunities. In addition, there are leadership opportunities (which you know helps you in SCOPE), and even grant or award opportunities. For more information about the benefits of membership- check out the websites listed below; and to register or renew please use the link below:

Registration/Renewal:

https://events.r2o.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg? oeidk=ao7eh79hjf725dc5de6&oseq=&c=&ch=

NCAOA:

https://ncaoa.us/

NCSCA:

https://ncscalliance.com/about

Submitted by: Billie Jo Lister, Vice-Chair, D, 828-265-8090 ext. 895 or email: billie.lister@watgov.org





NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

"5 Minute Challenge"

Each newsletter cycle, a prompt will be sent to you requesting that you complete the following 4 steps:

1-take a picture of something happening in your center at that very moment, even if working remotely, totally acceptable;

2-write a caption in (preferably) 20 words or less to describe what the picture reflects; 3- include your name, status with NCSCA, if any, region, and name of the center; 4-submit the picture and information to

katherine.irby@darenc.com.

It is a very simple way to share and highlight your hard work while giving fresh ideas to our fellow senior center folks!!



Dare County Center resumed annual celebrations in late 2021.

Participants enjoyed being able to attend the Dare to Scare 5K, Veteran's Celebration, Annual Toy Drive and 12 Days of Christmas with Dare County Seniors.



Christmas Party at the New Hanover County Senior Resource Center





Celebrating the holidays at the Pitt Council on Aging and looking forward to 2022!







Hertford County Office on Aging's Crochet Class worked all year to make hats and scarfs which served as Christmas gifts for the Ahoskie House residents and the Easter Seals gang.



JING





Seniors dressed to impress in all shades of white as they danced with Santa and watched an unbelievable African Dance group performance at our Snow Ball event.

The evening was simply spectacular!





Walnut Cove Social Club



Those who participate in this gathering can be found having tons of fun! They talk about family: good, bad, and indifferent. They laugh with each other—it's like having a house full of kids! They work together on various projects and drink a lot coffee each week.

Anytime you are around Walnut Cove, come join in the fun. You are guaranteed to be offered a hot cup of Joe upon arrival and leave with a smile on your face!



VOLUNTEERS = CHRISTMAS CHEER



A Rowan County volunteer picked up gifts to distribute for the Rufty-Holmes Senior Angel Tree.

Twenty-two older adults had an ornament on the tree with wish-list items.

An overwhelming 45 shoppers, filled with Christmas cheer stepped up and gave a total of 66 gifts!







Deborah Ballew, Kayla Noyes deliver Holiday goody bags to home delivered meal recipients in Highlands, NC. Items were donated by Macon County residents.



Eastern Wake Celebrates

What a wonderful Holiday Celebration we had at Eastern Wake Senior Center Saturday. We all enjoyed reuniting, socially distanced, of course, the company of long missed, long standing elder members of our center and community. We have all felt their absences deeply. Covid-19 reared its ugly head almost two years ago, and although it has put many in despair, the majority of our members have weathered the storm and came outsinging! Our choir has been led by Roberta Hole, 94, for more than a decade. Together again, they alls ang with glee for first times ince Christmas of 2019.

The bitter's weet of endings and beginnings was the flavor of the day. Not only did Norma Farrell warmly provide the delicious mulled cider under the breezeway Saturday, but in September, she retired into a life of bliss with her hus band of 40+ years. We also welcomed our new Coordinator Divya Venkataganes an, Master of PublicHealth degree candidate, WNC Falls Prevention Secretary, Interprofessional Education and Practice Distinguished Scholar, and sweet as N.C. honey, to our Senior Center family. Divya will be leading the way to fulfill Resources for Seniors' mission in our community. Together they greeted everyone, and presented each of our volunteers with an Eastern Wake Senior Center personalized, magnetic pin or an embroidered t-shirt.

Our fundraiser crafts alewas as uccess by making \$315 in sales in two hours! Our ladies are the best at pumping out the best sellers! Thank you Martha Coley and Paula Reich, our prized crocheters and sales persons for the event.

We are looking forward to more togetherness to provide in-pers on exercise, crafting, and making beautiful music in the new year and above all... ... kicking COVID to the curb.









Submitted by: Jennie Griggs, J, Wake Senior Center



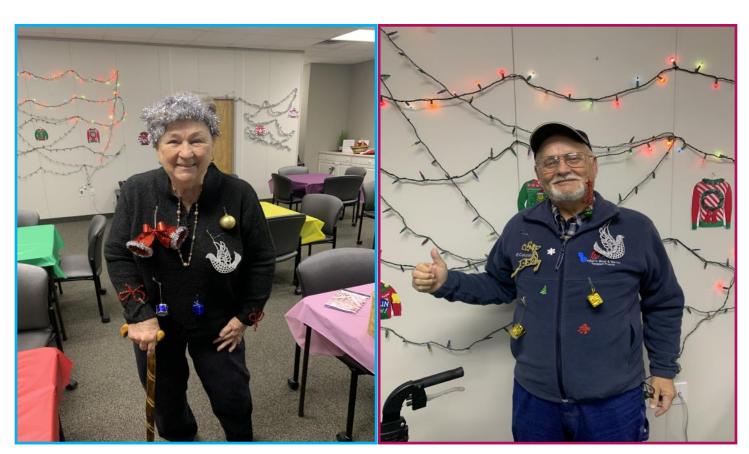






No need to fret if you don't have an ugly sweater for the party – we'll fix that with a few decorations!

The Davidson County Senior Center in Lexington held an Ugly Christmas Sweater Social and staff offered a few "fashionable accessories" to those participants in need of a quick fix.





Friends of the Northern Wake Senior Center... 1st Annual Jingle Bell Fun Run& Walk



An active crowd came out to participate in the 1st Annual Jingle Bell Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, December 11. 2021.

The Walk was hosted by the Friends of Northern Wake Senior Center, a non-profit organization that raises

funds for the Senior Center. After a spirited holiday warm-up, the runners and walkers took off on the 2.2 mile course. The participants all wore jingle bells, which made a merry sound up and down Franklin Street!

Sponsors for the walk were SING (Senior Information Networking Group of Wake Forest) and Always Best Care Senior Services; we thank them for their support. We also had wonderful items to raffle off, thanks to generous donations from our own craft group at the Senior Center, Page 158 Books, and Angus Barn.

Many people told us they plan to come again next year!

More than \$700 was raised for the Northern Wake Senior. Special thanks to our sponsors and Northern Wake Quilters who provided time, and donations for our raffle prizes.

Additional thanks to Linda Thomas for leading the warmups and most importantly to each of you who participated. This was a great family, intergenerational community activity.



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE GEARING UP TO SERVE LUNCH AT THE CRAVEN COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES CHRISTMAS PARTY.

MANY THANKS FOR THE MANY HANDS THAT CREATED MANY SMILES!



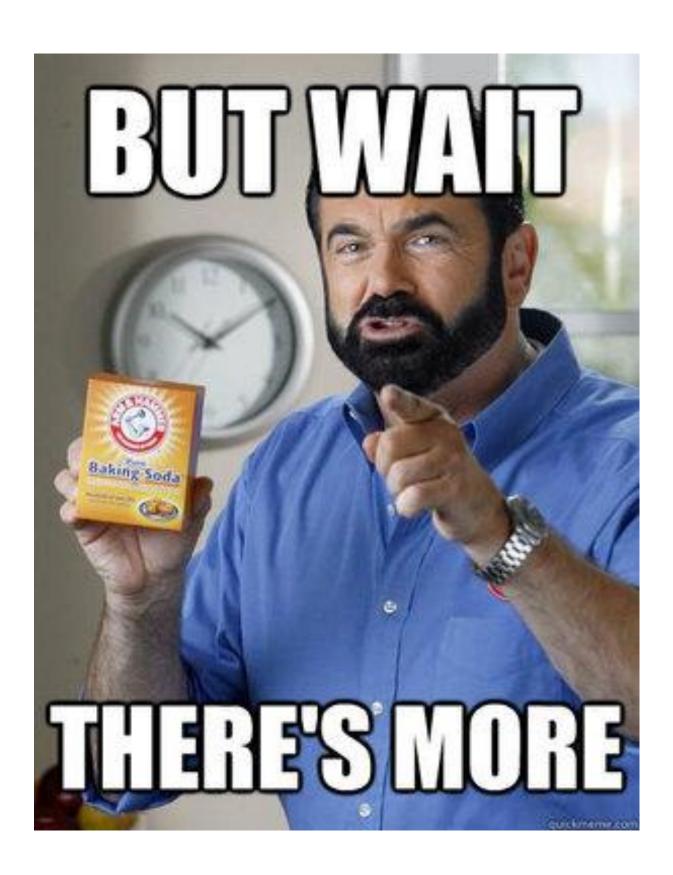
Submitted by: Alissa Andrewsbrown, P, Craven County Senior Services



Want to toot your horn?? Send your Center information to katherine.irby@darenc.com **before March 28, 2022 at 5 P.M.** in order to be included in the Spring 2022 edition.

Late submissions will not be accepted.













50th Anniversary: March 2022

Since 1972, the national Senior Nutrition Program has supported nutrition services for older adults across the country. Funded by the Older Americans Act, local senior nutrition programs serve as hubs for older adults to access nutritious meals and other vital services that strengthen social connections and promote health and wellbeing.

This March, ACL will mark the 50th anniversary of the Senior Nutrition Program with activities, materials, and more – all centered on the theme, "Celebrate. Innovate. Educate." With this theme, we celebrate the many accomplishments of the national and local programs; we acknowledge innovative approaches used to support seniors; and we look at how education can help

communities understand and use nutrition services.

We hope you will join us by promoting senior nutrition programs and this important milestone! Visit our anniversary webpage for the logo, a customizable flyer, social media images, and other artwork – with more to come! Don't forget to use the hashtag #SNP50 on social media.



Davidson County Senior Center wins prestigious award

Davidson County Senior Services Lexington Senior Center is the winner of the sixth annual Ann Johnson Senior Center Award for excellence in the field of aging. The award was presented to Christie Smith and Nancy Earnhardt with Senior Services at the J. Smith Young, YMCA Events Center during a senior Christmas celebration Tuesday, December 7.

Senior Services Director, Thessia Everhart-Roberts received notification of the award in November by Weyland Prebor, Special Projects Lead with the North Carolina Senior Center Alliance (NCSCA). What would in any other year be a local presentation by an affiliate with the NCSCA, due to the pandemic and travel restrictions, the award, an acrylic representation of the state of North Carolina plaque, was shipped to Everhart-Roberts.

The Ann B. Johnson award is presented to one senior center annual that is making significant contributions that address and elevate issues important to the field of aging through advocacy or other methods that make a positive impact affecting older adults.

The award was named after Ann Johnson for her dedication, hard work, and vision that helped pave the way for seniors and those who work with older adults. Johnson was a dynamic force in the service for older adults for nearly half a century pioneering the development of senior centers and adult day care programs. She served on the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging under four governors and was chairman of the council from 1997 until near her death.

So why was Davidson County's Lexington Senior Center distinguished?

Serving more than 1,500 unduplicated clients this year through a variety of classes, events, and programs the Senior Center strives to empower, engage, and encourage the aging population. During the past year, the center has transitioned to a national wellness center model and is increasing its holistic approach to wellness-based classes and activities while continuing to provide ongoing events and educational opportunities.

Following the onslaught of the Coronavirus pandemic and the Shelter in Place Executive Orders, realizing high-risk individuals may be isolated in their homes without needed essentials, Senior Services, with the Senior Center taking the lead, developed a hotline to several additional services to provide assistance. The services titled, "Expanded Services" included meal boxes of frozen prepared meals and shelf-stable, grocery shopping and delivery, pharmacy pick-up and delivery, pet food, transportation and distribution of incontinence products and nutritional supplements. The program served persons that were not already clients of the department who receive Meals on Wheels, Transportation, In-Home Aide, and Senior Center services but those that had needs and were not receiving services. April 2020-June 2021, when the program ended, 286 seniors in the community had been provided 1,100 shelf-stable/frozen meals, 2,547 wellness phone calls, 205 grocery/pharmacy



trips, 153 friendly visits, and 279 incontinence supplies, nutrition supplements, and household cleaning items.

Senior Center staff advocated the media, elected officials, and the community for needs involving high-risk older adults. The results were an outpouring of donated items of incontinence supplies, nutritional supplements like Ensure and Glucerna, cleaning supplies, and other miscellaneous items so much that the center had to dedicate a conference room as a stockpile.

While the center was closed due to the pandemic, staff became increasingly aware of people living alone, unable to leave home for periods of time experiencing isolation which led to depression and anxiety. Tackling this issue, efforts began to find creative ways to keep seniors engaged and to provide social interaction. Senior Center staff developed virtual programming through social media, email, and mailed packets. Education classes such as Indoor Plants 101, Living Healthy at Home, and cooking classes were held via video and conference calls, allowing seniors to interact with instructors and other seniors. Activity packets were distributed monthly that included brain games, jokes, and puzzles to enable seniors without internet access the ability to still participate and interact. Exercise classes such as Ahoy and Fit-Wise were broadcast live and prerecorded on social media. Educational videos were recorded and distributed on relevant topics such as stress and emergency management to help seniors feel empowered during this time.

Expanding on the concept of social interaction, the centers Resource and Benefits counselor coordinated and organized staff to make daily/weekly wellness calls which provided a listening ear and reassurance. Furthermore, senior center staff banded together and provided what was appropriately titled, "Bandwagon Tours." The tours, or friendly visits, were conducted in the driveway of seniors being visited and included staff with noisemakers, signs of encouragement, and small gifts. Visits provided a much-needed face-to-face, socially distanced interaction for the seniors like Lynn, who was self-isolating due to a relapse in breast cancer just weeks after the Stay-at-Home order was put into place. Lynn was brought to tears when staffed pulled up and later expressed her gratefulness in a thank you letter.

Davidson County's Lexington Senior Center is without a doubt top-tier when it comes to tireless efforts and dedication to helping seniors and a deserving contender for this prestigious award.

















North Carolina Senior Center Alliance (The Alliance) Spring Advocacy 2022-HCCBG Funding

The NCSCA Advocacy subcommittee is pleased to present the 2022 Spring Advocacy Event. Use this packet to guide your senior center towards a successful advocacy event. The 2022 Spring Advocacy event is a perfect opportunity to enable older adults to advocate for themselves by sending a thank you card to their federal legislator(s) expressing how the extra Home and Community Care Block grant (HCCBG) funding during the <u>Covid</u> Pandemic has affected your senior center and / or you.

It is vital that federal lawmakers understand how impactful senior centers are in our communities and their significant contribution to the quality of life for older adults. That's why we need all of YOU to help express your gratitude to legislature.

This **approved** advocacy event will count towards SCOPE. *However*, it is imperative that you thoroughly read and follow all of the instructions outlined below.

Simply including the printed instructional packet and tools you have received from the Advocacy Subcommittee WILL NOT COUNT TOWARDS YOUR SCOPE REQUIREMENT if you fail to provide documentation that your senior center actively participated.

Timeline:

- January 31, 2022- Request Your 2022 Spring Advocacy Packet (contact sandyf@darenc.com to request)
- 2. February 1-25, 2022 Begin advertising (Include selected date for writing the thank you cards (anytime in March or April a day that works best for you or add it to a special spring event you already have planned).
- April 22, 2022 Mail thank you cards to representatives.
- 4. May 2, 2022- Document in SCOPE Self-Assessment Instrument.

Name: 2022 Spring Advocacy Event

What did the Senior Center Do? Secured the Alliance Advocacy Packet, set date, gathered thank you cards from seniors and mailed to our Federal Legislators. OR At our annual Spring banquet, we provided thank-you flyers, spoke to the group about the importance of advocacy and allowed time for them to complete thank you notes to federal legislators, then we mailed them.

Who was advocating? (X#) of seniors wrote thank-you cards to their Federal Legislators that our staff mailed.

<u>Purpose:</u> To give seniors a chance to thank their federal legislators for increasing funding the Home Community Care Block Grant.

What Group or Individual Benefited? The seniors in our area and across the state. Be sure to have documentation of the event such as pictures, copies of the thank you cards, advertisement or the event, etc.





Expectations When Using the NC Senior Center Alliance Facebook Page

Social media is a great way to learn different ways to promote your center, as well as innovative new programs that you can try. We love hearing your tips, success stories, and creative ideas, and encourage you to share these on our NCSCA Facebook (*NC Senior Center Alliance*) page!

Examples of these may be an article in newspaper/publication highlighting a creative program, an announcement of event from which centers across the state can access and benefit, or tips on how your center overcame a challenge that other centers may struggle with.

To make sure these posts are highlighted and our mission is fulfilled, we ask that you please limit posts that pertain solely to your own senior center (such as exercise videos, announcements for local events, etc.) or other information that does not directly benefit senior centers (such as memes, quotes, etc.)

Thank you for helping us ensure we remain an excellent resource for marketing and communication within this strong network of senior centers in our state!





Know Your Committee Members.....Reach Out and Touch Base!!

Your NCSCA Committee Members are here to help YOU thrive. Please feel free to contact any of the members listed in the chart below for any questions you may have or to just to introduce yourself!

North Carolina Senior Center Alliance Committee

Membership Roster

Sandy Pace, Chair (R)	Billie Lister, Vice Chair (D)	Christy Southall, Treasurer (K)
Dare County Senior Center	Membership/Communication	Special Projects Subcommittee
PO Box 1000	Subcommittee Lead	
Manteo, NC 27954		Franklinton Senior Center
	Lois E. Harrill Senior Center, Watauga	602 East Mason St.
252.475.5625	132 Poplar Grove Connector, Suite A	Franklinton, NC 27525
	Boone, NC	919.494.5611
sandyf@darenc.com	828.265.8090	
		csouthall@franklincountync.us
	Billie.Lister@watgov.org	
Town Evnings, January (2022	Term Expires: January 1, 2023	Term Expires: January 1, 2023
Term Expires: January 1, 2023		, , , , ,
Betsy Griffin, Secretary (P)	Thessia Everhart-Roberts (G)	Kim Crawford (A)
Lenoir County Council on Aging	Website Administrator	Advocacy Subcommittee
112 E. Blount Street		
Kinston, NC 28501	Davidson County Senior Services	Macon County Senior Services
252.527.1545	555-B West Center St. Ext.	108 Wayah Street
	Lexington, NC 27295	Franklin, NC 28735
director@leniorccoa.org	336.242.2946	828-349-2058 ext2727
	Thessia.everhart@davidsoncounty.gov	kcrawford@maconnc.org
Term Expires: January 1, 2024	Term Expires: January 1, 2023	Term Expires: January 1, 2023
Rich Zeck (Q)	Amber Smith (O)	Roxanne Powell (E)
Training/Mentoring Subcommittee Lead	Advocacy Subcommittee	Mentoring/Training Subcommittee
Pitt County Council on Aging	New Hanover County	Burke County Senior Services
4551 County Home Road	Senior Resource Center	501 North Green St
Greenville, NC 27858	2222 South College Rd.	Morganton, NC 28655 828.430.4147
252-752-1717	Wilmington, NC 28403	020.430.414/
	910.798.6401	
rzeck@pittcoa.org	asmith@nhcgov.com	roxanne.powell@burkenc.org
Term Expires: January 1, 2023	Term Expires: January 1, 2023	Term Expires: January 1, 2023



		North Carolina Senior Center Alliance —
Weyland Prebor (C)	(N)	Thomas Goble (L)
Special Projects Subcommittee		Marketing Subcommittee Lead
McDowell Senior Center		Jo Story Senior Center
100 Spaulding Road	PLEASE CONTACT SANDY PACE	City of Roanoke Rapids Parks &
Marion, NC 28752		Recreation
828.659.0823	AT 252-475-5625 OR ANOTHER	701 Jackson Street
	COMMITTEE MEMBER IF YOU	Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870
Wprebor@mcdowellseniorcenter.org	WOULD LIKE TO SERVE IN YOUR	252.533.2849
	REGION!	
		tgoble@roanokerapidsnc.com
Term Expires: January 1, 2022		Term Expires: January 1, 2023
Marie Faircloth (M)	Nancy Hulbert (J)	(B)
Advocacy Subcommittee	Special Projects Subcommittee	
	, ,	
Sampson County Dept. of Aging	Garner Senior Center	PLEASE CONTACT SANDY PACE
405 County Complex Rd	205 East Garner Road	AT 252-475-5625 OR ANOTHER
Bldg. B, Ste. 104	Garner, NC 27529	
Clinton, NC 28328	919-661-6893	COMMITTEE MEMBER IF YOU
910-592-4653		WOULD LIKE TO SERVE IN YOUR
mfaircloth@sampsonnc.com	nhulbert@garnernc.gov	REGION!
Term Expires: January 1, 2023	Term Expires: May 1, 2023	
Nan Buehrer (F)	Jennifer Barraclough, Member at	Katherine Irby, Member at Large (R)
Advocacy Subcommittee, Co-Lead	Large (F)	Marketing Sub-Committee,
	Advocacy Subcommittee	Newsletter Lead
Rufty-Holmes Senior Center		
1120 S. MLK, Jr. Avenue	South Iredell Senior Center	Dare County Senior Center
Salisbury, NC 28144-5692	202 North Church Street	PO BOX 1000
704-216-7715	Mooresville, NC 28115	Manteo, NC 27954
	704-662-3337	(252)475-9273
director@ruftyholmes.org		
	jbarraclough@iredellcoa.org	katherine.irby@darenc.com
	Term Expires: January 1, 2024	
Term Expires: January 1, 2023	, 2027	Term Expires: May 1, 2023
CL a.a	Dialet	
Step Volunteer	Right	Up! Help.
Volunteer	То	Help.



Maynell Harper, Member at Large (K)

Advocacy Committee

Person County Senior Center 87 Semora Road Roxboro, NC 27573 366-599-7484

maynell.harper@personseniors.org

Term Expires: May 1, 2023

Member at Large

PLEASE CONTACT SANDY PACE
AT 252-475-5625 OR ANOTHER
COMMITTEE MEMBER IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO SERVE IN YOUR
REGION!

Morgan Doughtie, Member at Large

(L) Special Projects Subcommittee, Marketing Sub-Committee

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morgan.doughtie@nashcountync.gov

Term Expires: May 1, 2023

EX-OFFCIO MEMBERS

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Leslee.breen@dhhs.nc.gov

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Orange County
Department on Aging
2551 Homestead Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
919.245.4255

Jtyler@orangecountync.gov

NCDAAS Representative Selena Royal (Ex-Officio)

N.C. Division of Aging and Adult Services Mail Service Center 2101 Raleigh, NC 27699 919.855.3414

selena.royal@dhhs.nc.gov

If you are interested in becoming a Committee Member or assisting on a sub-committee please send an email or give a Committee Member a call TODAY!!

EDITOR'S NOTE: North Carolina Senior Center news matters to us. NCSCA newsletters will be sent to the email address that we have on file.

Please submit your news article or other content you would like to share to: Katherine Irby via katherine.irby@darenc.com Microsoft Word is the preferred platform, please do not use PDF. Please DO include photographs (.gif or .jpeg) when possible--everyone loves pictures!

The next deadline is **March 28**, **2022 at 5 p.m.** in order to be included in the Spring 2022 Edition. Late submissions will not be accepted.

When lacking content supplied by our members; we will utilize outside sources to ensure that we continue to build and grow healthy seniors together while nurturing our own NCSCA network though idea sharing, personal and professional updates and any other pertinent news! Thank you!



Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

-MARK TWAIN



Like the NC Senior Center Alliance Facebook page



Check out our website www.ncscalliance.com

For more information on the NCSCA visit: www.ncalliance.com or email: ncscalliance@gmail.com

s.com or email. ilcscallance@gmail.cc

or you may contact

NCSCA Chair, Sandy Pace, by calling 252-475-5625 or via email at sandyf@darenc.com

NCSCA NEWSLETTER

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