



Employee Newsletter

MAY 2016



Retirement Statements

Retirement statements will be available around the middle of May at the Retirement System's website. You may access your account and statement by following the steps below:

1. Go to www.mynretirement.com
2. Click on ORBIT
3. Login to your account using your user name and password or if you have not set up an account, you may do so now. Please remember your user name and password as nobody at the retirement system can help you with that.
4. Click on View Annual Benefits statement on the left then click view annual statement

This statement shows lots of information that is useful and the website has several useful tools to use in retirement planning.

CONGRATULATIONS!!! to **Susan Mashburn** and **Wayne Rogers** who are retiring at the end of May. Both are employees of DSS. Susan has been a County employee for 28 years and 8 months and Wayne has been here for 8 years and a little over 4 months. Best wishes to you both as you embark on this latest part of life's journey.

Commissioners Board Meetings

Mon. May 2, 6:30 PM
Mon., May 16, 6:30 PM

Do you have a County purchase card?

If you purchase anything in the month of June using your County purchase card and you did not obtain a purchase order for that purchase before May 29th, you will be personally responsible for paying for that purchase. It does not matter how small the purchase, it must have been encumbered using a purchase order. The reason for this is that invoices with a June date that don't get charged until July or later and have not been secured by a purchase order result in budget violations. Therefore, if you make that purchase and didn't obtain a purchase order, the money will need to be repaid to the County through a payroll deduction. Also, for those of you who aren't department heads, before making ANY purchase ANY time, you should always check with either your department head or the person who processes invoices to make sure there is money budgeted and available for whatever you are purchasing.

Annual Open Enrollment!!!

Annual open enrollment for our insurance products will be on May 19th from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm in the upstairs Courtroom in the Courthouse. **This is the only time during the year you can make changes to your health, dental, cancer, vision and accident policies without having a qualifying event** (such as marriage, divorce, loss of job, birth, death, etc.). You may cover spouses and children on dental and/or vision without having the medical coverage, so those changes may be made now as well. Keep in mind that in order to make changes when you have a qualifying event, the change must be made within 30 days of the qualifying event. So if you get married, divorced, legally separated or have a child or have some other event that would be considered a qualifying event, you have 30 days to add or remove dependents to/from your health, dental, life, etc.

You may also make changes to any of our other benefits at that time, if you so choose. Our 401K rep will be here as well as a representative from the Local Government Federal Credit Union and Sam's Club. The meeting is mandatory.

Is there something you would like to see in the newsletter? Please email Melody at melody.johnson@cherokee-county-nc.gov with any suggestions

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Roy Dickey	1
Shanda Cheeks	2
Larry Payne	2
Lisa Stroud	2
Maria Ward	3
Brad Hoxit	6
Wade Burge	7
Paul Jones	8
Brooke Leatherwood	8
David Pipes	10
Deborah Palmer	11
JB Reeves	11
Jason Derreberry	13
James Phillips	13
David Hughes	14
Shannon Bruce	15
Candy Anderson	16
Stephanie Swanson	17
Brad Bailey	18
Mike Catuto	18
Cindy Coleman	18
Gary Davis	19
Nancy Hartsock	19
Clesia Wells	19
Jan Griggs	22
Susan Mashburn	22
Justin Radford	23
David Wood (sheriff ofc)	23
Randy Wiggins	24
David Crisp	26
Michael Ham	26
Donnie Roberson	26
Sara Barnett	27
Tyler Faggard	27
Bill Brendle	28
Chrystal Mimbs	28
Tracy Pollard	28
Robert Truett	28
Thomas Nelson	29
Nathan Sneed	29
Sam Davis	30
Jake Phillips	30
Wayne Rogers	31

Agnes 24 to 83

Water Safety

Did you know that drowning is the leading cause of injury-related death for children ages 1 – 4?

Children must be actively supervised around water. Small children can drown in a little as one inch of water!

Here are some safety tips for the water:

- When you are in a pool, always keep an infant and toddler within arm's reach.
- In a group, designate one person as the "Water Watcher" for a certain period of time to avoid lapses in supervision.
- Don't rely on swimming aids: water wings and noodles are a fun toy, but they never should be used in place of a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device.
- If you use an inflatable or portable pool, remember to empty it immediately after each use and store it upside down and out of children's reach.
- Educate kids about the hazards of drains and suction outlets, and teach them never to play around drains.
- When on a boat, the U.S. Coast Guard recommends that all children under 13 wear a life jacket at all times. Half of all recreational boating fatalities happen in calm water, and all are unexpected!
- Make sure the life jacket fits properly:
 - Check the label for size and weight limits;
 - Fasten the life jacket properly.
 - Check the fit by holding your arms straight over your head. Ask a friend to grasp the top of the arm openings and pull up. Make sure there is no excess room above the openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your chin or face.
- Recognize the signs of drowning: it doesn't look like drowning in the movies! Check out the link below to learn how to know when someone is in trouble in the water.

http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/family/2013/06/rescuing_drowning_children_how_to_know_when_someone_is_in_trouble_in_the.html?fb_ref=sm_fb_share_toolbar

Estate Planning Essentials Program

The Local Government Federal Credit Union offers an Estate Planning Essentials program designed to cover the basic estate planning needs of most members in a single visit with a participating attorney, right in your local branch. Documents that may be prepared for you during the program include:

- ◆ A Will, which may include trust provisions
- ◆ Durable Power of Attorney
- ◆ Healthcare Power of Attorney and Living Will
- ◆ HIPAA Authorization

The program is \$250 for an individual and \$350 for a married couple with similar estate planning needs.*

If your planning needs are more complex, we can refer you to a local attorney who can assist with your specific needs.

To participate, call or visit your local branch to learn more about the Estate Planning Essentials Program with a Trust Representative.

*Married couples may be charged as individuals if they have substantially different plans or if one will not have his or her documents prepared at the same time. Trust services are available through MEMBERS® Trust Company, a federal thrift regulated by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. Trust products are not credit union deposits, are not insured by the NCUA or any other federal government agency, are not obligations of or guaranteed by the Credit Union, MEMBERS® Trust Company or any affiliated entity, and involve investment risks, including the possible loss of principal. The material above is for educational purposes only and is not intended to provide legal or tax advice regarding your situation. For legal or tax advice, please consult your attorney and/or tax professional.

Attorneys participating in the Estate Planning Essentials Program are not employees or agents of the Credit Union (SECU, LGFCU, or NCPAFCU), MEMBERS® Trust Company or any affiliated entity. SECU Trust Representatives are not employees or agents of the participating attorneys. The Credit Union and MEMBERS® Trust Company are not providing legal services and are not responsible for the services provided by these independent professionals. The Estate Planning Essentials Program is an optional program for members. Credit Union members have the option to use an attorney participating in the program or select their own attorney.