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September Tarboro-Edgecombe Chamber of Commerce News Letter



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE TAR RIVER REGION



It's that time of year again when the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tar River Region release thousands of tiny rubber turtles into the Tar River for our Annual Turtle Race—and we need your help to make it a success!

Our goal is simple: every one of the 2,000 turtles needs a home through adoption. Each turtle you adopt supports our mission to serve over 1,800 youth in the Twin Counties, helping us shape brighter futures full of potential and promise.

On race day, these little racers will make a splash from the Peachtree Street Bridge at Rocky Mount Mills—no turtles harmed, just hearts uplifted. It's more than a race—it's a movement to invest in the next generation.

Teeny Tiny Turtles on the Tar



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE TAR RIVER REGION



September 6, 2025
AT 10:00 AM
ROCKY MOUNT MILLS



[Adopt your turtles here](#)

YOU ARE INVITED!

TWIN-COUNTIES EDUCATION & BUSINESS LEADERS' SUMMIT



**REGISTER
TODAY!**



**September 18, 2025
8 AM- 11 AM
Breakfast at 7:30 AM
Brown Auditorium,
Nash Community College**

**Edgecombe Community
College - Small Business
Center**

CURRENT CLIENTS!

We are now offering evening
and weekend counseling
sessions to better fit your
schedule!



scan this QR
code to book
your after hours
counseling
session



**We are now offering evening and weekend counseling sessions
to better fit your schedule!**

To book an appointment after hours, please use this link:

Link:

ECU Health Edgecombe Hospital

Oyster, Shrimp & Pig Roast

Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025

Edgecombe Community College, Tarboro Campus

MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US



Get ready for an unforgettable night of celebration, fun and community impact at the 2025 Oyster, Shrimp & Pig Roast happening Thursday, October 2, from 6-10:00 p.m. at Edgecombe Community College in Tarboro, NC. This lively annual event features mouthwatering seafood and barbecue catered by Washington Crab Co., high-energy live entertainment, dancing and plenty of good times to support a great cause. Proceeds benefit Rehab Services at ECU Health Edgecombe Hospital, helping provide critical care and resources to our neighbors in need.



Sponsorships are limited — so don't miss your chance to be part of one of Tarboro's most anticipated events of the year. **Scan the QR code to join us as a sponsor and let's make a difference together!**

ECU HEALTH
Edgecombe Hospital
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

We are pleased to announce the Annual Oyster, Shrimp & Pig Roast, which will be held at Edgecombe Community College on October 2nd. This event promises to be an evening of exceptional celebration, enjoyment, and community engagement. The proceeds from this event will support Rehab Services, providing essential care and resources to our neighbors in need.

Let's come together to make a difference!

[Click here](#) ECU Health Foundation Sponsorships or make a Donation

 *Edgecombe*
COMMUNITY COLLEGE *Foundation*

39th Annual

Golf Tournament

Thursday, September 25

Maccripine Country Club

Pinetops, NC

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • PRIZES

Shotgun Start 8:30 AM & 1:30 PM

Tournament Proceeds Benefit ECC Student Scholarships
and ECC Foundation Operations



edgecombe.edu/golf

Registration & Sponsorships:
252-618-6651
foundation@edgecombe.edu



Press Release from EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECC named one of the best vocational schools in the U.S.

Edgecombe Community College was among just 14 community colleges in North Carolina named as one of the top vocational schools across the U.S. According to *usatoday.com*, “the rankings were developed by Statista in collaboration with *USA Today*. Schools were judged on five primary metrics: graduation rate, graduates’ salary, years it takes to pay off net costs, social mobility and diversity.”

The schools were ranked using a star system, with five being the highest. ECC was one of seven schools in the state to receive a five-star score.

ECC’s short-term workforce and customized training programs are a reason for this ranking. There are a variety of programs enabling students to get their credentials in a year or less, such as forklift training, the notary public education course, welding and real estate pre-licensing, construction, collision repair, natural hair care, nail technology and more. In many cases, students have begun taking more than one course, or stacking credentials, to make them more attractive to potential employers.

For more information on the ranking in *USA Today*, visit <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2025/07/21/top-vocational-schools-in-us-ranked-2025/84497925007/>. For more information on ECC’s short-term training programs, visit <https://edgecombe.edu/continuing-education/short-term-training-for-careers/>.

EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Esports program
set to start in the
fall at Edgecombe
Community
College**

Edgecombe Community College has transformed a classroom space in the Charles S. McIntyre Building on the Tarboro campus into a room for Esports. It is equipped with 42-inch televisions, Sony Interactive Entertainment PlayStation 5 video game consoles, a Nintendo Switch, Xbox, window tinting, noise reduction barriers, as well as gaming center computers, tables and chairs. It is all in preparation for ECC’s Esports program set to begin in the fall.

“I think Esports will provide a team environment for students who otherwise simply play these games on their own,” says Denise Batts, information

technology instructor and ECC's gaming coach. "I believe it will provide students with more opportunity for scholarships and team building, provide the community with a better educated workforce pool, and give students more confidence in their skills."

Batts says players will compete against other colleges in the state. The team is already a member of the National Junior College Athletics Association of Esports. According to the NJCAA website, the organization is designed to meet the needs of two-year, technical and community colleges in collegiate Esports. And while Esports is not considered a curriculum program, students may still receive scholarships to help pay for their education.

Aside from being a professional gamer, the Esports industry also prepares participants for

jobs in web development, general management, coaching, marketing, journalism and more.

“Being a part of Esports provides an understanding of technology as it relates to connectivity, applications, and flexibility of a changing environment that is prevalent in all work environments,” states Batts.

To join ECC's Esports program, call 252-618-6526.

SmartAsset ranks ECC #3 among Best Community Colleges in America

Edgecombe Community College placed third in SmartAsset's 2025 analysis of the Best Community Colleges across the United States. Additionally, ECC ranked second in North Carolina. The ranking comes on the heels of recent announcements by USA Today and WalletHub naming the college among the best in the state in their publications.

SmartAsset, the online site for financial information and advice, evaluated 585 two-year schools offering associate's degrees with at least 500 full-time students. Ranking criteria aimed to capture a variety of important components for students, including tuition and fees, student-to-faculty ratio and retention rates of full-time students.

[Smartasset.com](https://smartasset.com) highlights that in-state tuition and fees for two semesters at ECC is only \$2,640. The college's student retention rate of 84 percent is the highest mark among all of the NC colleges, and ranks in the top 1 percent for all

colleges in the study. ECC's low student-to-faculty ratio of 10:1 also contributed to its lofty ranking.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC 2025 4-H SPORTING CLAY FUNDRAISER



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

9:00 AM Registration

Location

Rose Hill Sporting Preserve
3815 Rose Hill Lane, Nashville, NC 27856



Edgecombe-Martin County
Electric Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Registration Fees:

- \$500 - Team of four
- \$150 - Individuals
- \$600 - Sponsorship & Team of four

Event Limit: 30 Teams

Shells not included in registration fee, but will be available for purchase on event day.

Sponsorship

\$150

Logo will be displayed on main banner and at a station.

Prizes

Teams

- 1st Place \$600
- 2nd Place \$400
- 3rd Place \$200

Individuals

- 1st Place \$200
- 2nd Place \$100
- 3rd Place \$50

Register by mail at: PO Box 188, Tarboro, NC 27886

For more information, please call Monica Speight at 252-641-9502

Come out for the last summer live music
series of 2025
Featuring the Breakfast Club
September 18th

**2025 DOWNTOWN
TARBORO LIVE
MUSIC SERIES
COURTHOUSE SQUARE**

**LIVE MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS
BEER**

6-9 PM

... 3RD THURSDAY'S

FREE ADMISSION - BRING A CHAIR

MAY 15th - THE CASTAWAYS

**JUNE 19th - NO DOWNTOWN LIVE
JUNETEENTH @ M.A. RAY CENTER
& CLARK PARK, 2-8PM**

**JULY 17th - THE EMBERS FEATURING
GRAIG WOOLARD**

AUGUST 21st - CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

SEPTEMBER 18TH - THE BREAKFAST CLUB



Tarboro
Development
Corporation

**ALSO FEATURING
IMPULTZ ENTERTAINMENT**

For More Information Contact (252) 641-4242.



We are happy to announce
that this year's Tarboro
Christmas Parade will be held
on Sunday December the 14th
2:00 pm
Registration information will
be available soon!



TARBORO CHRISTMAS PARADE 2025

SUNDAY
DECEMBER

14TH

2:00 PM

Register online:
tarborochamber.com



Piller Member

Pillar Member



Aspire Members

Aspire Members



FROZEN BAKERY

LS Cable & System USA



Pacesetters

Barclay House of Tarboro

Wal-Mart of Tarboro

Edgecombe Martin EMC

Welcome to Tarboro & Homes Magazine

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Visit our Website



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