

## Juneteenth Marks a Historic Day of Freedom in America

**June 19 commemorates the end of slavery for thousands of Americans**

Each year on June 19, communities across the United States observe Juneteenth, a holiday that commemorates one of the most significant milestones in American history - the end of slavery for thousands of enslaved African Americans.

The name "Juneteenth" combines the words June and nineteenth, marking the date in 1865 when Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced that enslaved people were free.

Although President Abraham Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation more than two years earlier, on January 1, 1863, enforcement of the proclamation depended largely on the presence of Union forces. In remote areas of the Confederacy, including Texas, slavery continued until Union troops arrived and federal authority was restored.

On June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger delivered General Order No. 3, informing the people of Texas that all enslaved individuals were free. For an estimated 250,000 enslaved men, women and children in Texas, the announcement represented a life-changing moment and the realization of freedom that had been delayed for years.

In the years that followed, African American communities began gathering annually to celebrate the anniversary. Early Juneteenth observances often included church services, family reunions, music, food, educational programs and public readings about the history of emancipation.

Over time, the celebration spread beyond Texas as families moved to other parts of the country. Today, Juneteenth is observed nationwide through festivals, cultural events, historical presentations, community service projects and opportunities for reflection.

For many Americans, Juneteenth is both a celebration and a day of remembrance. It honors the resilience, perseverance and contributions of African Americans while also acknowledging the painful history of slavery and the long struggle for civil rights and equality.

The holiday gained national recognition in 2021 when Juneteenth National Independence Day became an official federal holiday. It is now observed alongside other important dates that commemorate the nation's history and ideals.

As communities gather this June, Juneteenth serves as a reminder that freedom is one of America's most cherished principles. The day encourages citizens of all backgrounds to learn more about the nation's past, celebrate progress and reflect on the continuing pursuit of liberty and opportunity for all.

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### DON'T FORGET YOUR SUNGLASSES!

UV rays can increase the risk of cataracts, macular degeneration and other eye diseases.

50% of UV damage to eyes is done before a person is 18 years old, so kids need sunglasses too!

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### TOWN OF MORVEN JOB NOTICE PART-TIME OFFICE DEPUTY CLERK



The Town of Morven is accepting applications to fill the position of a Part-Time Office Deputy Clerk.

Applicants must have high school diploma, a valid driver's license, be able to become a Notary Public, proficient in Microsoft Office, and have two years plus experience with an excellent phone manner.

Duties include, but are not limited to: general office work such as filing, customer service, taking daily water samples, record keeping associated with meter readings, and maintaining accounts in reference to water and sewer usage. The hours will be flexible and at the discretion of the Morven Town Council.

Applications must be received by the close of business on Thursday, June 18, 2026. Applications can be picked up at Morven Town Hall between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information you may call (704) 851-9321.

**The Town of Morven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**



### TOWN OF MORVEN Town Clerk Position Available

Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$36,000

**Applications are available at  
Morven Town Hall Monday-Friday 9am-4pm**

**Nature of Work:** Work responsibilities for the Morven Town Clerk include the preparation and maintenance of all Council records and other official municipal documents. Record various documents and vital statistics. Work involves extensive public contact in collecting various files and providing information. Work is performed in accordance with the charter, ordinances and general law, and requires initiative, judgement and ability to work effectively and independently with the public and other officials.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Attends Town Council meetings, prepares agenda, order and minutes of the proceedings and maintains, indexes and preserves all permanent Council and other Town records.
- Validates official documents; oversees posting of official notices, ordinances, and advertisements; records papers with the federal, state and county governments as needed; swears in municipal officials as necessary.
- Acts as the custodian of the official Town Seal.
- Maintains a public information service, and, in response to reasonable requests, furnishes information and material concerning the Town government.
- Accounts for all public monies received by him/her in such manner as the Treasurer may prescribe.
- Performs all duties and exercises all powers incumbent upon or invested in Town Clerks by state law.
- Prepares agenda, mails notifications, advertises, and attends meetings of the Board of Appeals; prepares and distributes minutes of Board of Appeal meetings.
- Acts as, or arranges for, a clerk for all municipal boards and committee meetings.
- Sets up and maintains a records retention and destruction system for the Municipal Center.
- Updates Charter, Code and Ordinances as necessary.

**Additional Requirements of Work:** Thorough knowledge and understanding of the state statutes relating to the duties and responsibilities of Town Clerks • Thorough knowledge of modern office procedures, practices and equipment • Ability to rapidly acquire and assimilate knowledge of the provisions of the Town Charter, Town ordinances, and state regulations relating to operation of the office and the Town government, with ability to communicate same to office staff, other Town officials and the public • Knowledge of bookkeeping • Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other Town officials, employees and the general public • Proficiency in the use of computers • Ability to organize and maintain records and prepare reports.

**Education, Experience and Training:** Associate Degree in Business or a High School Diploma with a minimum of three years of experience in record management and/or experience in municipal government; or any equivalent combination of education and experience • Considerable experience in clerical work of a responsible nature, including experience with public contact; accounting, business education, office procedures, Quickbooks and other computer programs. Should also be capable of being a certified Town Clerk.

**TOWN OF MORVEN** 301 East Main Street, Morven NC 28119  
**EOE**

### DMV Launches New Document Upload Tool

**You can now submit insurance and residency documents from your phone**

If you've ever reached the front of the DMV line only to discover your proof of insurance is sitting on the kitchen table at home, North Carolina's DMV has some good news. A new document upload tool may save drivers from making the dreaded second trip - and perhaps a few frustrated sighs along the way.

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles has launched a new in-office document upload tool that allows customers to securely submit required documents directly from their smartphones while at a driver license office.

The tool was initially designed to address the most commonly forgotten document - proof of insurance. After seeing its potential, NCDMV staff expanded the system to accept a variety of documents commonly required during driver license transactions.

Customers can now upload insurance cards and policies, phone bills, bank statements, leases, utility bills and other residency documents while standing at the service counter.

According to the NCDMV, customers uploaded more than 6,000 documents during the first two weeks after the tool was introduced.

"Within the first two weeks, customers have already uploaded over 6,000 documents using the new tool," said NCDMV Commissioner Paul Tine. "This early success shows that North Carolinians are ready for a more convenient, modern DMV experience."

Many residents already keep copies of important documents on their phones. The new system allows them to provide those documents immediately rather than searching for a printer or making a return trip to the DMV office.

Officials emphasized that original identity documents - including passports, Social Security cards and birth certificates - must still be presented in person because federal law requires DMV staff to examine those documents directly.

Paper copies of insurance and residency documents will continue to be accepted, but the upload tool offers an additional option that officials hope will save time and reduce frustration.

"This new feature is one more step in our work to reduce wait times, prevent repeat visits, and deliver better service to the people of North Carolina," Tine said.

The document upload tool is now available at all North Carolina driver license offices. For more information about DMV services and office locations, visit [NCDMV.gov](http://NCDMV.gov).

And while the DMV still can't help customers remember where they left their car keys, it can now help when an important document is hiding somewhere inside their phone.

### Stanfield Woman Turns 50¢ Into More Than \$1 Million

Some people dig through couch cushions hoping to find spare change. Angela Collins of Stanfield apparently found the couch cushion at the end of the rainbow. Collins is celebrating a life-changing win after turning a 50-cent play into a staggering \$1,073,621 jackpot through the North Carolina Education Lottery.

According to lottery officials, Collins tried her luck on May 11 while playing the online digital instant game "PowerMax Cash" and hit the game's massive Power Jackpot. The odds of winning were listed at 1 in 300 million - roughly the same odds as being struck by lightning while being chased by a goose and holding a winning scratch-off ticket.

Collins claimed her prize Thursday at lottery headquarters in Raleigh. After federal and state taxes took their very enthusiastic share, she still took home an eye-popping \$773,115.

The PowerMax Cash game allows players to wager anywhere from 50 cents to \$50, proving once again that sometimes pocket change can be surprisingly ambitious. The game features two progressive jackpots that can be won at any time. During special "Power Hours," the jackpots combine for even larger prizes. As of Thursday afternoon, the jackpot had already climbed back to more than 1.1 million dollars - because apparently the lottery refuses to calm down.

Digital instant games are available exclusively through the lottery's website and mobile app, where 74 different online games are currently offered.

Meanwhile, somewhere across North Carolina, countless people are now staring suspiciously at loose change and wondering if they, too, should give 50 cents a chance.



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