



# Connection

VOLUME III, ISSUE III

JULY 2006

## The Sedentary Can Get Smart – and Get Lunch, Too!

**T**hose county employees who participated in the Health Fair last February can get ready for another benefit of being willing to learn more about how to achieve good health.

The Cape Fear Valley Health System is offering an opportunity later this summer (dates to be scheduled, probably late July or early August) to enjoy a low-fat healthy lunch, learn more about nutrition and exercise possibilities for those of us who lead a sedentary lifestyle.

All this will take place in the gymnasium of the HealthPlex facility between noon and 2 p.m. on the scheduled days. Following the luncheon and presentations, a tour of the wonderful HealthPlex facility will be offered for those who are interested.

It's not easy for people who work full-time to eat right every day and to find a way to exercise effectively. At this program, you will get some information about where in our community a person can exercise – for free! – and a booklet with menu selections for local restaurants, and tips on how to make the right food choices.

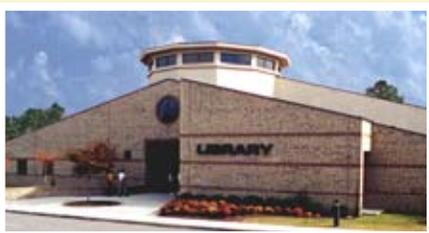
This is another way that county administration and the Cape Fear Valley Health System are working together to provide county employees with every opportunity to become healthy or to maintain your already good health.

Watch for information later this summer about this opportunity. Those employees who participated in the Health Fair last February are eligible, even if not overweight or diagnosed as living a sedentary life style. Also, the next Health Fair will be scheduled in August. If you haven't already participated, plan to attend the next Fair and learn how you can become a healthier person!



**CAPE FEAR VALLEY**  
TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE

## New Budget Year Brings Changes and Progress



*The Hope Mills Branch Library will stay open later with the new Budget plan.*

**T**he Fiscal Year 2007 budget was adopted by the Cumberland County Commissioners on June 5. It includes a 3.5% salary increase for county employees. A contribution of 1% of salary to a 401K account for employees will continue.

Another aspect of the new budget relevant to county employees is that it maintains the current tax rate. No tax increase was needed to continue funding county government, including the salary increases for county government employees and for the sheriff's deputies, or to increase the hours of operation for the Hope Mills library.

Constructing a realistic and effective budget is no small task. It involves the hard work of many county employees. A budget functions as a kind of road map for county government so, in a way, we've now embarked on a year-long journey together.

It's an annual cycle, and the entire process will repeat itself a year from now. If you've got friends who work in Finance or Administration, be glad for them that the job – at least for this year – is done, and give them a pat on the back!

July 1, 2006 brings not only the start of our new fiscal year, but it's when we change administrators for our healthcare as well. By the time you read this newsletter, it is expected that you'll have your new Cigna card.

# COUNTY MANAGER'S MESSAGE



**W**e will be well into summer by the time this newsletter is delivered. I hope each of you will have some leisure time to enjoy some of what this season brings us – a trip to the beach, a bountiful garden, or maybe just a little time to sip some iced tea on the porch.

The FY2007 budget, adopted by the commissioners last month, included a 3.5% increase in salaries for county employees. The commissioners know, as does the management team, that county employees are hard-working, effective, and contributory to the quality of life we enjoy in this community. Economic realities being what they are, the commissioners did all that they could to address the levels of pay for county employees. They want you to know, and so do I, that your work is valued and appreciated.

Your wellness continues to be of interest to management. I invite you to read the article elsewhere in the newsletter about the offer the Healthplex is extending later this summer for those employees who were found to be overweight and living a sedentary lifestyle at February's Health Fair. Take advantage of every opportunity to learn how to live healthier. You'll be a happier person if you are a healthy person.

Again, to all – have a pleasant and productive summer!

## Team Work/Team Building At Animal Control

**O**ur hard working, dedicated group of employees at Animal Control spent Sunday afternoon, June 4, 2006 at B&B Bowling Lanes sharing time and raising money for the injured animal fund.

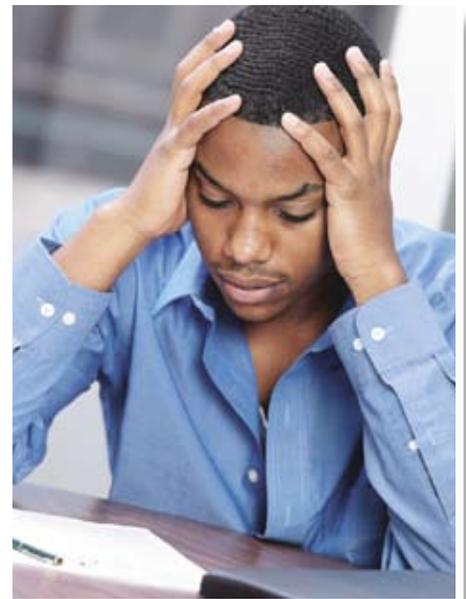
We had a great time together with both co-workers and family members. Everyone brought not only a great attitude but lots of spirit as well. Some of our members had not bowled in over 20 years (Debbie) and when she brought out her own ball and shoes we knew we had a champion in the rough!!!! Kitty, who claimed she had only bowled a couple of times in her life, rolled the ball down the lanes like a professional. Suzanne came ready for action and alternated between rolling the ball down the lanes like a pro and then rolling the ball with both hands. Ann was a champ throughout and bowled like she was getting ready to win the lottery. Now Amanda barely hits 5' tall and rolled the ball like there was no tomorrow.

Together we raised over \$200.00 (Ann was the high fund raiser) for the injured animal fund and had a great time doing so. The personnel at Animal Control provide a tremendous service to the community and with it have hearts as good as gold. They believe in our mission and it shows in their work.

Thank you for a great time at the bowling lanes – and “Thank you” for a job well done every day!

## A Source of Help When You Need It

**T**he Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can help you and your family members address personal or work-related concerns. Let the professional EAP staff work with you to solve your issues. In speaking with your EAP professional, all information is held confidential. Your supervisor does not have to know you have used the program unless you choose to share that information. Any troubling issues, such as child concerns, mental health issues, marital problems, substance abuse, as well as others, are appropriate to bring to your EAP professional. To initiate the assistance of the Employee Assistance Program, please call 222-6157. Help is available on the other end of the line!



# County Employee Kudos

## Great County Employees Doing Great Things



*Brooks*

- Congratulations to Legal Secretary **Myra Brooks** in the County Attorney's office. She graduated on May 25 from the Legal Technology course at FTCC. Working full-time and going to school is a challenge, but Myra says that functioning in both capacities actually helped her do better in both. She graduated at the top of her class with a 3.8 GPA. Her boss, County Attorney Grainger Barrett, is very proud of her accomplishment; it was he who brought it to the attention of The Connection.

- **Deborah Owens**, Community Development, also graduated on May 25 from FTCC, with her associate's degree. Concentrating in a pre-social work curriculum, Deborah intends to ultimately earn a Master's Degree.

- Animal Control Officer **Irvin Thomas** competed in the April 2006 Power Man Run in Chapel Hill, placing 5th in his age group of more than 20 other competitors. He also speed skates and cycles competitively! Obviously someone who values physical fitness, Officer Thomas is also a father who

attends school in his off-duty time. Quite a guy, our Officer Thomas, and his colleagues admire him for all his accomplishments.

- The Regional Administrator for the US Department of Labor, Helen Parker, visited the Workforce Development Center's Military Spouses Project on May 11. During her visit, she met with Patrick Hurley, Director and Geneva Mixon, Project Coordinator and was given an overview of project highlights. She also toured the facilities at the Spring Lake Family Resource Center.

- **Patrick Hurley**, Director of the Workforce Development Center, was invited by the US Department of Labor to present at the National Rapid Response Summit in St. Louis in May. Mr. Hurley addressed workforce development preparations for BRAC with emphasis on the training needs of military spouses.



*Thomas*

- **Pat Hurley**, along with **Gwen Hampton**, Senior Aides Coordinator, accepted from the American Legion Department of North Carolina's Employer of the Older Worker Award for the Cumberland County Senior Aides Program. This is the fourth year in a row that the Senior Aides Program has been so honored.

- Congratulations to **Martha Waldrep** on receiving the Raymond L. Riddle, Jr. Investigator of the Year award. She was recently nominated for this award by her Program Integrity co-workers at the Cumberland County Social Services Department. The annual North Carolina Program Integrity Training Conference was held in Kill Devil Hills on April 5-7, 2006. Martha is a true professional, dedicated to her work as an investigator for over 11 years. She is well known in the agency for her knowledge, skills, courtesy, compassion, and concern for others. Martha's yearly fraud establishments range from \$205-270,000 annually. We are very proud of Martha's accomplishments and her commitment to the reduction of fraud and abuse in our public assistance benefits programs in Cumberland County.



*Waldrep*

- **Callie Gardner** accepted an award from the Criminal Justice Partnership Board at a May conference in Boone. The award was for the success of the Criminal Justice System Support Unit of the Cumberland County Day Reporting Center.

- **Tyrone Fisher**, Area Specialized Livestock Agent with North Carolina Cooperative Extension was honored recently at an annual conference with the Extension's R.E. Jones Program Award. The award is given by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Program at NC A&T State University for excellence in Extension programming.

Cooperative Extension agents, based in all 100 counties and on the Cherokee Reservation, deliver unbiased, research-based information to North Carolinians from the resources and expertise at our two land-grant institutions, NC State University and NC A&T State University. Fisher serves Cumberland, Harnett, and Lee counties.

- **Peggy D. Elliott**, Cooperative Extension Office Support, was selected as the recipient of the 2006 North Carolina Extension & Community Association, Inc. Scholarship. Each year the North Carolina Extension & Community Association, Inc. gives out scholarships to one Youth and one Adult recipient. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist students in obtaining a degree at any North Carolina college, in any field of study, with priority given to Family and Consumer Sciences studies. Peggy will be returning to college in the fall of 2006 to obtain her second A.A.S. degree. Her focus is to upgrade her skills to pursue the Certified Professional Secretary certification

# News From County DSS

Cumberland County Department of Social Services observed County Government Week in April. Twelve DSS employees were honored at the ceremony recognizing employees with more than 20 years of service and displays were set up in the main lobby of the DSS building supporting the theme of "Protecting Our Communities." Employees were also encouraged to celebrate the week by participating in "Tacky Tuesday," "Dress Your Best Wednesday," and "Tip Top Thursday". On Friday, the apparel was "County Pride Day" and employees wore county shirts, county emblem caps, and service pins. A great week of fun and activities was enjoyed by all!

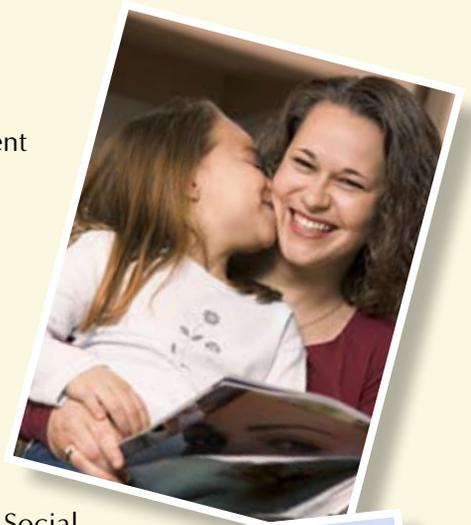
- The Cumberland County Department of Social Services received an award from Ms. Sherry Bradsher, State Director of the Division of Social Services for having a Food Stamp accuracy rate of 99.09%. Cumberland County Department of Social Services manages approximately 15,000 Food Stamp cases PER MONTH. The award was presented at the Food Stamp Accuracy Convention in Greensboro. All Cumberland County Income Maintenance staff are to be commended.

- The NC Association of County Directors of Social Services' Economic Services Committee elected **Betty Dumas-Beasley**, Income Maintenance Supervisor III at the Cumberland County Department of Social Services to serve as co-chair. The committee helps develop or change policy for Food Stamps, Medicaid, and Work First programs for all 100 counties in the state.

- Hats off to the Cumberland County **DSS's Child Welfare staff**. They scored 100% (as in "It doesn't get better than this!") on the biennial Child and Family Services review, an audit by the state. Cumberland County is the first large county to achieve this distinction. Child Welfare section of DSS, the Department of Mental Health, the courts, judges and community worked together to make the first Family Treatment Court graduate successful. After all groups worked for two years to develop and implement a program, the first program graduate has her two children back in her custody and has sustained freedom from drugs and alcohol for 15 months.

Each participant volunteers to be part of the program, and they see a judge about 21 times in a year. By staying sober, avoiding drugs, and being truthful with the court, they can get their children back sooner. If they violate the rules, they can risk jail time.

All the professional who worked on this program did it as "extra duty" with no additional funding or extra personnel. A good team effort for the citizens of Cumberland County!



## DSS Observes National Foster Care Awareness Month

Annually, May is designated as National Foster Care Awareness Month. The Department of Social Services chose this special time to say "Thank you" to foster parents throughout the community for the sacrifices they make on behalf of children who are in desperate need of safety and stability.

Among the activities mounted by DSS in May were community presentations, exhibits, an a picnic held at Lake Rim Park. The memory of two foster parents were honored – Cynthia L. Winston, foster parent for five years and the Rev. William (Bill) Smith, a foster parent for more than 15 years. His wife, Mattie, continues to serve in that capacity.

A luggage drive was sponsored by Jane Cannon, Debbie McFayden, Rachel Giacchetti, Rosalind Loyd and the Public Relations Committee of the Fayetteville Realtors' Association. The Fayetteville Association of Realtors contributed a special gift of 100 new suitcases for foster children.



# Need Assistance? You Could Be Eligible

Cumberland County's Community Development Department offers financial assistance for home repairs to substandard housing to those who are, by virtue of household size and income, eligible for this aid. You can call the Community Development office (363-6112) to inquire if your household is eligible.



If your home is located in Cumberland County (outside the City limits of Fayetteville) and in need of rehabilitation, and you do meet the eligibility requirements, you could receive financial assistance in the form of a loan for home repairs. Rates and terms are extremely affordable. Check it out!



## Yes! We Can Do That!

Sometimes the solution to a particularly challenging problem is right there, under our nose. So it is with the County's wonderful Print Shop, which is much more than the name would indicate. Under the leadership of Angie Cunningham, the Print Shop has achieved some extraordinary triumphs. A talented graphic artist, Angie not only oversees the printing of so many important things we need to do the county's business, she also designs them to be functional and attractive.

The Print Shop is also fortunate to have two excellent Printing Technicians on staff – Leo White and Mike Hemrick have a combined total of more than 50 years of printing experience! Leo and Mike bring a high level of skill and knowledge to the Print Shop, and their work is already improving the quality level of published items around the County.

### *Here's a list of some of the things the Print Shop can do:*

- Color printing including four-color process
- Quick color copies
- Labels and adhesive forms
- Tickets and ticket books
- Bookmaking (with plastic combs and tape bind)
- Invitations and announcements
- Calendars, brochures, newsletters
- Cards, envelopes, letterhead
- Carbonless forms, door hangers
- And much more...

### *And on the Graphics side:*

- Graphic design and layout
- Photography services
- Logo and artwork design
- All types of Illustration
- Typesetting and scanning
- Full color posters, up to 24" x 36"
- Displays for trade shows
- Newspaper and magazine ads
- And much more

***Management has requested that all Departments check with the Print Shop before outsourcing anything. If for some reason your job cannot be done in-house, there is a good chance the Print Shop can still save you money, by suggesting vendors who have the best pricing, and also by doing pre-production work for free!***

## Words Mean Things, And One Size Does Not Fit All



Words are important tools in helping us express thoughts that we want to share with others. In the English language, we have many words with different meanings that can sound very much alike. But not exactly!

One such example are the words "moot" and "mute."

The former has come to mean "no longer important" or "irrelevant" stemming from its roots in law, and the meaning of having been previously decided or settled. It is pronounced to rhyme with "loot" or "boot." Mute means "unable to speak" or "refraining from producing speech or vocal sounds." It is pronounced to rhyme with "cute."

Know any other words that sound almost alike but have very different meanings? Learn to know the differences so that you can express yourself clearly.

# News From Your Public Library

Wal-Mart presented the Friends of the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center with a \$1,000 community involvement grant on May 31. The money will be used to purchase books for participants in the library's Every Child Ready to Read program. Pictured left to right are: Sharon Kendrick, treasurer of the Friends; Barbara Mitchell, Community Involvement Associate for the Wal-Mart Supercenter on Skibo Road; and Sheila Rider, Youth Services Coordinator for the library.



## Library Employee Wins Outstanding Citizenship Award

Seen here, left to right, are Bobby Henderson, president of the Marquis de Lafayette Chapter of the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution; Franklin Horton, state secretary and former chapter president of the Society; our own **Arletha Campbell**, Library Associate II of the Local & State History Room at the Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center and recipient of the Outstanding Citizenship Award; and Richard Bishop, vice president of the chapter.

## We're Asking You To Name Our New Van! (Shiloh Nouvel Jolie-Pitt Is Already Taken!)

The Cumberland County library system is celebrating the advent of its new, smaller, more economical version of the beloved Bookmobile. It's a Ford Econoline Van that will be providing the Outreach Services that bring books and other materials to more than 130 customers throughout the county.

The library system invites all county employees to join in the celebration and participate in "Name the Van" competition. Hey, the grand prize is a CD player, donated by Systel! So give your best shot, get your suggestion for the van's new name to any library branch location by July 31, and you may win. Don't forget to include your name, address and phone number.

You've got a full month to get creative, so good luck!



# Hirings & Promotions @ Your Library

**T**he Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center has experienced several staff changes recently.



**Judy Brown** was promoted to manager at the East Regional Branch. Brown was the manager at the Spring Lake Branch Library from October 2002 until April 2006, and served as the youth services manager at the Cliffdale Regional Branch from March 2001 until September 2002. Prior to joining the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center system in March 2001, she was the head of

access services at the University of Kentucky for 13 years. Brown has also been a librarian in the Louisville Free Public Library and the Durham County Public Library systems. She received a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Kentucky and a master's degree in library science from the University of Kentucky.



**Gloria Nelson** is the new branch manager at the Spring Lake Branch Library. She has worked for the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center system since 1992, starting as a library associate. She was promoted to librarian in 1999 after graduating with honors from North Carolina Central University with a master's degree in library science. Before her most recent promotion,

Nelson was the reference & information services manager at the Headquarters Library. A native of South Carolina, she received her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of South Carolina.



**Mike Nelson** has been promoted to information services manager at the East Regional Branch Library. He moved to North Carolina from Orlando, Fla., where he worked in the Orange County Library System. He has been with the Cumberland County library system since October 2005, serving as the business librarian at the Headquarters Library. Mike Nelson holds a bachelor's degree in English

from Central Connecticut State University and a master's degree in library and information science from Florida State University.



**Sarah Sewell** is the new reference & information services manager at the Headquarters Library, having been a reference librarian at the Headquarters Library since June 2004. She graduated with a Master of Science degree in information sciences from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in May 2004.



**Joy Oliver** is the Cliffdale Regional Branch Library's new youth services manager. A native of Sacramento, Calif., she received her bachelor's degree in English Literature at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania and her Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of

Washington. Before moving to North Carolina, she worked as a children's librarian at the Central Library in Seattle.



**Sally Shutt** is the new marketing and communications division manager for the library. A Fayetteville native, she earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's degree in mass communication and media arts from Southern

Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill. She joined the library staff in November 2005 as a public information specialist.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY  
**PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**  
& INFORMATION CENTER



# *A Tribute to Lac-Yee (Lois) Warfel*

This lovely tribute to the late Lac-Yee (Lois) Warfel sprang from the sense of loss experienced by her colleagues upon learning of her death.

Death and loss are a part of everyone's life. We all will, at some point, experience the pain of losing a loved one, be it a friend or family member. What we may not expect is the sense of loss we can feel upon the death of a colleague.

All too often, we take for granted the special relationship that exists among people who work together. But people are bonded by working toward common goals and feeling like part of a successful team. Opportunities to share humor and kindness – as well as a good-natured gripe – are everywhere in the workplace. Gradually, what with all the hours spent in one another's company, true and lasting friendships can be formed among colleagues.

Be grateful for the co-workers you have in your life. They, and you, make up a network of human interaction that may well give you some wonderful experiences and memories. Just as it did for Lois Warfel and the people with whom she worked.

Lois obtained her BA in English at the Tamkang College of Arts and Sciences, Taiwan, China in 1976. She was proficient with Chinese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, French and English. She was hired at CCPL&IC January 14, 1991 part-time as a cataloger in the Foreign Language Department. She became full time in January, 1997. When the Foreign Language Department was closed, her position changed to Library Associate II in the HQ Circulation Department. In June, 2003, she found her calling in the Youth Services Department. She gave joy, fun and excitement to many children with her love of reading books.

We mourn her loss and honor her memory as co-workers and friends.

For her vibrancy and for her delight in the world around her,  
For her sense of fun and her caring ways,  
For her ability to give and receive friendship and love,  
For being such a source of strength in such a little package,  
We honor and treasure her memory - we celebrate her life.



Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.  
Thank you Lois, for leaving your footprints.

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[HTTP:// WWW.CO.CUMBERLAND.NC.US/](http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/)

***Cumberland County  
Government...  
Working for you!***



## **Cumberland County** NORTH CAROLINA

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

It is the mission of the Cumberland County Government to assure all our citizens a better quality of life by providing for the public safety, public health, quality education, clean environment and economic development while being fiscally responsible.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

Our vision for Cumberland County is that it be characterized by progressive leadership that provides for a prosperous, affordable, safe, and culturally inviting community.

## **Coming Up @The Crown Center**



### **July 11 Get Motivated Seminar**

Crown Theatre – throughout the day

### **July 13 Elvis Lives**

World Concert Tribute

Starring Kraig Parker – Crown Theatre, 8:00 PM

### **July 14 & 15 Monster Trucks**

On Sale June 9 – Crown Coliseum, 8:00 PM

### **July 16 Don Williams with Even Keel**

Crown Coliseum, 4:00 PM

### **July 28-30 Elmo's Coloring Book**

Crown Coliseum – On Sale June 12

Show Times:

July 28 – 7:00 PM

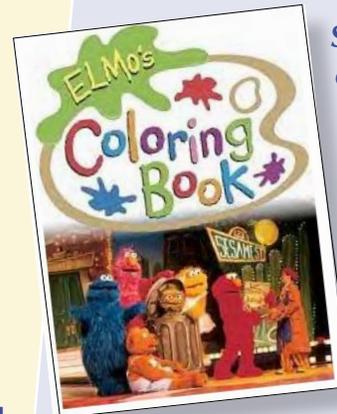
July 29 – 10:30 AM, 2:00 PM, 5:30 PM

July 30 – 1:00 PM, 4:30 PM

### **Sept. 14 Carrie Underwood**

Crown Coliseum 7:30 PM

Cumberland County Fair



Sesame Street Live is offering Cumberland County employees a discount of \$3 on tickets for the Elmo's Coloring Book show July 28-30 at the Crown Coliseum!

You must purchase your tickets in person, showing your county employee ID or a copy of this newsletter. Box office hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The discounted performances are on Saturday, July 29 at 10:30 a.m., and 2 and 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, July 30, the performances are at 1 and 4:30 p.m. The discount tickets are issued for the best available seats at the time of purchase on a first-come, first-served basis. The discount is not available on Gold Circle or Premium Seating. All children who have reached a 1st birthday will require a ticket.

**Call the Crown Center at 438-4100 for more information  
or visit our website at [www.crowncoliseum.com](http://www.crowncoliseum.com)**