



# CONNECTION

## MEET YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Recently, two county employees stepped into an elevator in the courthouse, on their way home after a long day. A gentleman joined them in the elevator and as they made their way down to a lower level, he turned to the employees and smilingly inquired about the work they'd accomplished that day. Their answers to his questions about their jobs were very brief. When the gentleman stepped out on the first floor, the two employees watched the doors close and one turned to the other and said, "Who was that guy?"

"That guy" was a county commissioner. The employees, one of whom was more senior than the other, should have recognized him because he has served more than one term. Thus, this story idea was born to publish the photos of our seven county commissioners so that every employee can have an opportunity to affix the memory of these faces. That way, you will at least know if you are speaking with a county leader, who has a genuine and valid interest in the job you hold and the work you do, should you find yourself in an elevator with one of them!

County commissioners have a special place in the hierarchy of county government as the elected leaders of the county, at the helm of this particular ship of state. They have a genuine interest in the work you do and a genuine interest in knowing that you have what you need to get your work done.

If you think you have nothing in common with a commissioner, think again. They, too, work very hard at their jobs – just like you do!



KENNETH S. EDGE  
Chairman



J. BREEDEN BLACKWELL  
Vice Chairman



JEANNETTE M. COUNCIL



JOHN T. HENLEY, JR.



BILLY R. KING



EDWARD G. MELVIN



DIANE WHEATLEY



## WAY TO GO, FIRE ANTZ!!

Cumberland County is rightly proud of the Fire Antz, who recently won the Southern Professional Hockey League's President's Cup for their championship season. We congratulate the team and its leadership, and wish them many more successful seasons.

# COUNTY MANAGER'S MESSAGE



The highlight of National County Government Week for me this year was the ceremony that honored Cumberland County employees with as many as 20 years, and in one case, as many as 40 years of service with Cumberland County government. There were 67 employees who were honored for such longevity this year, and as I looked out at the assemblage of these dedicated and loyal employees, I was reminded how absolutely fundamental to good government our county employees are.

The Chairman of the Commissioners, Kenneth Edge, mentioned at the ceremony that he thinks of county employees as "quiet heroes." I agree with his characterization because I know that, every day, in so many ways, our employees accomplish the mission of providing services to our citizens that contribute to a better quality of life for us all. I know, too, that on some days, in some situations, it does take heroic discipline to overcome the obstacles and impediments, and the distractions, from doing those jobs with excellence. But our workforce continues to get it done, some years with fewer people and fewer resources, always with limitations on what can be counted upon to get the job done. For all that, I thank you and want each of you to know that I am grateful for your efforts and your loyalty.

I look forward to the 2008 ceremony honoring our employees with long service. To choose to spend one's professional life in service to our citizens is an admirable decision. Whether it's 20 years, or 40, that we acknowledge every year with National County Government Week, such public service is worthy of being honored. I salute you, with admiration and appreciation.



Clockwise from Top Left: Chairman Kenneth Edge speaks on behalf of the Board of Commissioners; Sergeant Ronald Nelson receives his 20 Year Service Pin; After the ceremony, a reception was held for the honorees; The County awarded 67 employees, many seen here, with Service Pins for 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service.

# March of Dimes Awards Department of Public Health

The North Carolina chapter of the March of Dimes has awarded a \$12,000 grant to Cumberland County Department of Public Health to support The SISTA (Sisters Informing Sisters about the Topics on AIDS) Project. According to Lisa Moore, State Program Services Committee Chair, The SISTA Project is the first one funded in this Region of North Carolina by the March of Dimes.

Phyllis McLymore, Project Coordinator, states that the project will target 60 minorities women between the ages of 15-24 living in economically disadvantage communities and public housing developments. Project participants will participate in a five session HIV risk reduction and social skills intervention for heterosexuals. The sessions include: Ethic/Gender Pride, HIV/AIDS, Assertiveness Skills Training, Behavioral Self-Management Training, and Coping Skills.

This grant is one of many that the March of Dimes awards in pursuit of its mission to prevent birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. "We will use the March of Dimes grant as seed money to meet our goal in helping to reduce the number of new HIV infections that occur each year in Cumberland County", said Phyllis McLymore, Project Coordinator.

The March of Dimes is a voluntary health agency whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes funds programs of research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies and in 2003 launched a campaign to address the increasing rate of premature birth. For more information, visit the March of Dimes web site at [marchofdimes.com](http://marchofdimes.com) or its Spanish language Web site at [nacersano.org](http://nacersano.org).

Sandy McMillian, public health nurse at Ben Martin Elementary School, teaches a class on dealing with asthma. Her class was filmed by UNC-TV on March 6 and was aired on March 14. She's promised to give us advance notice if the program airs again.



## Taking Customer Service To A New Level!



Jucenia Prioleau of the County's Tax Mapping Office was rewarded with her professional and helpful approach to her work with a mention in the Fayetteville Observer's Cheers and Jeers feature on April 23.

According to citizen Sharon Rickman of Hope Mills, Ms. Prioleau was not only professional in her approach to resolving a problem, she even followed up with a courtesy call. This was much appreciated by Ms.

Rickman, who characterized our own Jucenia as "a jewel." Colleagues of Jucenia on the 5th floor also appreciate her warm smile and sunny demeanor and are happy that she was focused upon in such a nice, unexpected way.

## DEDICATED VOLUNTEER HONORED



The staff of the Family Violence CARE Center honored retired Command Sergeant Major William Black last month.

Mr. Black has been a volunteer with the Family Violence CARE Center for nine years. He has helped both victims and abusers in Domestic Violence court weekly.

Mr. Black, who is admired for his wit and his ability to calm the families with whom he interacts, brings his 31 years of military experience and 8 years with the juvenile detention center. Mr. Black is also the father of Social Work Supervisor, Crystal Black.

## Apple Pie Contest

Alrightie now, all you Betty Crocker wannabes, here's your big chance to show off your cooking skills, as well as a great way of supporting our troops! The search is on for the best apple pies in Cumberland County.

The event will be held during Glory Days on May 28, 2007 beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Metropolitan Room in downtown Fayetteville. For a list of the rules and a pre-registration form contact Linda Zema at 910-425-8094 or 910-308-1374. Cash prizes will be awarded.



# CUMBERLAND COUNTY CARES

In March, the Cumberland County Commissioners presented the inaugural "Cumberland County Cares" award to Pamela Boose, a dedicated volunteer with the Headquarters Library.

This award, which will be presented monthly at the evening meeting of the commissioners, is intended to honor those individuals, groups, or agencies that do so much to improve the quality of life here in Cumberland County. These diverse contributions to our community, whether made by an individual or an agency, are made quietly and without fanfare, but they make such a positive difference to us all.

In April, the award was made to Contact of Fayetteville, Inc., a telephone counseling group of volunteers who have helped many a troubled soul through a difficult time. The award presentation is photographed and featured on the county's website.

The form to nominate a potential Cumberland County Cares award recipient is on the website at [www.co.cumberland.nc.us](http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us), and nomination forms are also available at the commissioners' meetings.

# It's Workforce Development Professionals Month!



The Board of Cumberland County Commissioners joins with the State of North Carolina, the North Carolina Commission on Workforce Development, the North Carolina Employment and Training Association and the North Carolina Society for Human Resource Management in proclaiming the month of May as

"Workforce Development Professionals Month". This is to honor all individuals in Workforce Development organizations and partnerships who play such a vital role in our economy.

2007 North Carolina Youth Summit - Pat Hurley, and staff members Sonya Thompson, Lorria Troy and Jessica Yager attended the 1st Annual Youth Summit in North Carolina. Close to 200 youth attended from across the state. Interactive workshops included: "My Future - The Real World", "Putting Your Best Foot Forward", and "Success Through Empowerment: Tools for Life". The youth participants completed the summit by developing a strategic plan that will be presented to North Carolina legislators. The summit was held April 20 - 21, 2007 in High Point.

## Prescription Help For Those Who Need it Most



The Cumberland County Medication Access Program has been in existence for almost five years. Developed to help the uninsured residents of Cumberland County obtain medications they need for chronic conditions, the program has been funded by grants and in-kind

donations. The program has been selected as an Outstanding County Program by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and lauded by other communities in other states as an example of how to deal with the challenge of getting medicine to people who need it.

As of March 30, 2007, CCMAP has filled 100,020 prescriptions valued at \$19,068,720. Furthermore, the program assisted approximately 700 patients enroll in the appropriate Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy and Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans. In addition to providing medication assistance services to the indigent, CCMAP has also provided pharmacy services to the inmates at the Detention Center since 2004. This has saved Cumberland County taxpayers more than \$200,000.

Amanda Smith is the CCMAP Pharmacy Supervisor, and she is located in the Health Department building at 227 Fountainhead Lane.

## Help Cumberland County Be A Great Host

Later this summer, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is holding their annual conference right here at the Cumberland County Civic Center. Several hundred delegates are expected, many of whom will bring their spouse and family along.

Cumberland County most recently served as the host of this event in 2001, and our visitors enjoyed seeing what Cumberland County is all about. More important than any of the activities planned for our visitors is simple, fundamental hospitality. For that reason, a corps of volunteer county employees has been formed to assist in greeting our visitors and various other tasks that will help them feel welcome and guide them to the right place at the right time.

More volunteers could be used, so if you wish to participate in this way, call Carolyn Strong in Administration, 678-7726. She can tell you where volunteers are needed and the cool shirt you'll wear as a volunteer!

# LIBRARY NEWS

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PAM BOOSE, Winner of the Inaugural “Cumberland County Cares” award

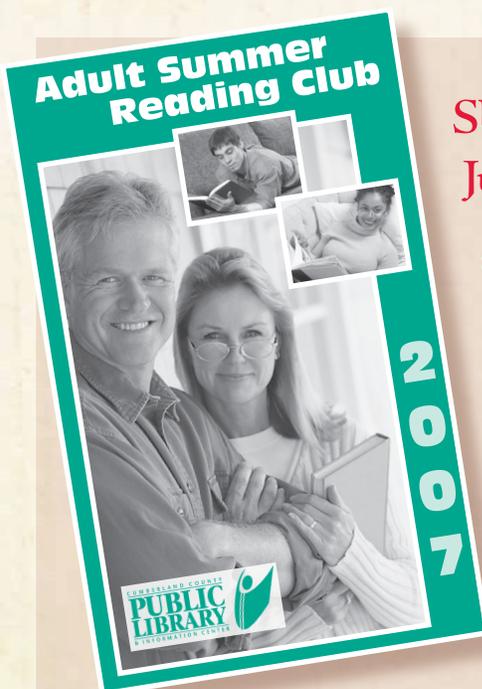
On March 19, the Cumberland County Commissioners recognized one of Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center’s truly dedicated team members. Pamela Boose was honored as the first recipient of the “Cumberland County Cares” award. She received a plaque from Chairman Kenneth Edge at the commissioners’ meeting that night.

Boose has been a volunteer since 1997 and gives 20 hours a week to the library. She has donated more than 5,000 hours to the system during that time.

“Pam is a shining example of an energetic, hard-working and trustworthy volunteer,” said Donna Lampkins, circulation manager at Headquarters Library. “We have come to depend on Pam when help is needed in many areas of the library.”

Boose works in various library departments, including the Local & State History Room where she types in information from the 1880s on deaths and marriages. She also assists in the Community Relations department. She recently stamped hundreds of paperback books, labeling them as part of The Big Read.

The commissioners have launched “Cumberland County Cares” as a way to focus each month on volunteers -- individuals, groups or agencies -- and to publicly thank and acknowledge their contributions to the community. Edge is asking citizens to submit nominations for the award to Marsha Fogle, the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, at P.O. Box 1829, Fayetteville, N.C. 28302, using the downloadable form on the county’s Web site, [www.co.cumberland.nc.us](http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us).



## SUMMER READING CLUBS @ YOUR LIBRARY June 4 – July 28

Children, teens and adults can all join in the fun of reading and discovery this summer by joining the Summer Reading Club 2007 at the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center.

Children ages birth to 5th grade are invited to participate in “Get a Clue @ Your Library,” a fun-filled detective-themed adventure that includes prizes, fascinating free programs and story times designed to keep them learning and discovering all summer long. Some programs feature a magician, while others cast a spotlight on such children’s favorites as Curious George, and Maisy, based on the popular pre-school book series.

Teens in grades 6 through 12 are invited to “Solve the Mystery @ Your Library.” They can win prizes, make crafts, meet special guests, and enjoy much more during the summer months. Here’s the chance to get together with friends, make new ones, and stay cool.

The Adult Summer Reading Club wants to inspire you to read, listen to audiobooks or participate in a book club, and receive a tote bag for your books in the process!

Please visit the library’s Web site at [www.cumberland.lib.nc.us](http://www.cumberland.lib.nc.us) to see a complete listing of all Summer Reading Club events. Be sure to register for the Summer Reading Clubs at all library locations beginning June 4. Hurry! Prizes are limited.

# Cumberland County Voluntary Agricultural District Program

Cumberland County continues to have a strong agricultural industry. However, Cumberland's farmers are dealing with increased pressures from urbanization.

Many urban dwellers are moving into rural settings, but do not understand or appreciate that living next door to a farm may include such issues as noise, odors, dusts, insects or early morning/late night schedules of farmers. This has resulted in nuisance suits being filed by new rural residents against their farm neighbors in some areas of North Carolina. To help prevent some of these problems the State of North Carolina has enabled counties to adopt Voluntary Agriculture Districts.

The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners approved the program in November of 2006 for implantation in Cumberland County.

The objectives of Voluntary Agriculture Districts are:

- To encourage the preservation of farmland
- To provide farmers protection from nuisance suits

## *How to Apply*

A voluntary agricultural district in Cumberland County must be comprised of at least 5 acres of horticultural land or 10 acres of agricultural land or 20 acres of forest land and be participating in the Present Use Value Taxation Program.

To make an application, contact the Cumberland County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at 910-321-6880 to receive an application. Complete the application and return it to the Cooperative Extension office. The application will be reviewed by staff members of Cooperative Extension, Soil and Water Conservation, or the Farm Service Agency. The application will then be presented to the Cumberland County Farm Advisory Board for acceptance or denial. If the application is approved by the board, the farm will become a participating farm in the Voluntary Agricultural District Program.

## *Notification*

For farms participating in a Voluntary Agricultural District, county records at both the Tax and Register of Deeds offices will show, on their maps, farms which are a part of any voluntary agricultural district. When title searches are done for property purchases, those farms will be identified as neighboring existing farms in Cumberland County. This will serve as prior notification to the purchaser that they are purchasing a home or land located in close proximity to an operating agricultural enterprise.

Additional information concerning the Voluntary Agricultural District Program may be obtained by contacting the Cooperative Extension office at 910-321-6880.



## AGRICULTURE HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

The Cumberland County Agriculture Hall of Fame honors persons who have contributed outstanding service to agriculture, home economics, youth development or rural communities. Membership in the Hall of Fame has been awarded to one-or-more persons annually since 1989. The Agriculture Hall of Fame is located in the auditorium of the Cumberland County Center of North Carolina Cooperative Extension in the Charlie Rose Agri-Expo Center.

Criteria for nominating an individual into the Agriculture Hall of Fame are the individual's contributions to agriculture, home economics, youth development, or rural communities. Nominations should be submitted on a nomination form, which is available by calling (910) 321-6405. Completed nomination forms with supporting documents, not to exceed five pages, must be received by June 1, 2007. Nominations may be mailed to the Cumberland County Center, North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Charlie Rose Agri-Expo Center, 301 East Mountain Drive, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28306.

The nominating committee will review all nomination forms and select a nominee or nominees to be submitted to the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners for consideration and election into the Hall of Fame. The recipient(s) will be honored in November during the Farm-City Week celebration.

# COMING UP @ THE CROWN CENTER



## MAY

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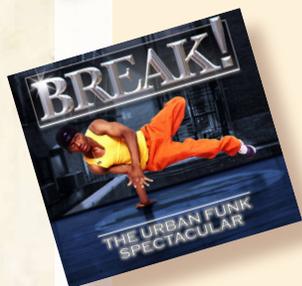
DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
1	Spring String Festival	Crown Arena	
4	Very Special Arts Festival	Crown Expo	
5	Guard vs Atlanta	Crown Coliseum	7:00 PM
10	NEXT! Senior Expo	Crown Expo	8AM - 2PM
12	BREAK! The Urban Funk Spectacular	Crown Theatre	7:30 PM
19	Guard vs Cincinnati	Crown Coliseum	7:00 PM

## JUNE

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DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
2	Gun & Knife Show	Crown Expo	
2	Guard vs Greensboro	Crown Coliseum	7:00 PM
3	Gun & Knife Show	Crown Expo	
23	Guard vs Atlanta	Crown Coliseum	7:00 PM

Visit [www.community-concerts.com](http://www.community-concerts.com) for more information





# CUMBERLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT... WORKING FOR YOU!

JAMES MARTIN, COUNTY MANAGER  
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
117 Dick Street  
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Phone: 910-678-7723  
Fax: 910-678-7717  
Email: [jmartin@co.cumberland.nc.us](mailto:jmartin@co.cumberland.nc.us)

## 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.

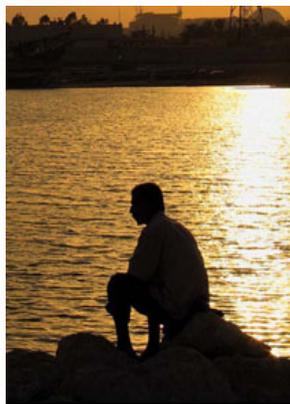
## VISION STATEMENT

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

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

## WHEN YOU NEED A FRIEND...

Everyone needs a real friend now and then. The kind of friend that can be trusted to keep a confidence, the kind of friend that truly wants you to be untroubled and unperturbed.



The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can be a friend to you and your family members. Whether you are being overwhelmed with a personal or a work-related concern, let your EAP professional work with you to solve your issues. Your supervisor does not have to be made aware you are using the program, unless you choose to share that information.

To initiate the assistance of the Employee Assistance Program, please call 222-6157. If you call, you'll find a friend who wants to help.

## Heart Association Schedules Heart Walk

The 2007 Heart Walk, which Cumberland County government has supported with fundraising and team participation for the past several years, is scheduled for Saturday, October 6 at FTCC.

This year, county government will be asking for employee participation in a fundraising effort to benefit the Heart Association and you will be getting details on how that will be structured in coming weeks.

This year, the Heart Association issues a call to action for Americans to start living a healthy lifestyle, to include walking into our daily routines. Cumberland County is already encouraging walking in our Wellness Plan, so we will be great partners with the American Heart Association as they aim to reduce heart disease, stroke and risk by 25% by the year 2010.

More information will be forthcoming soon.

*County Holiday*  
**MONDAY, MAY 28**  
*Memorial Day*