



CONNECTION

VOLUME V, ISSUE I

JANUARY 2008

County Employees Generous Once Again

The 2007 United Way campaign among Cumberland County government employees raised more than \$44,000 for the local United Way. Though short of the \$50,000 goal, this significant financial contribution is very much appreciated by the United Way and the agencies that will be funded by them in the coming year. Thanks to all the generous employees who participated in this county initiative, and to the department reps who helped administer the fundraising campaign in a timely and professional manner.

As an example of a department that responds with enthusiastic generosity year in and year out, the REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE had 100% participation and contributed \$1,192.00 toward the final total of \$43,642.00.

Furthermore, there were 24 County employees who contributed the Fair Share, an amount equal to one hour's pay per month. And two of those employees were Marquis donors, contributing more than \$1,000 over the year.

FAIR SHARE DONORS:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Kenny Currie | 13. Angela Covington |
| 2. Sara VanderClute | 14. Sgt. Ronald Nelson |
| 3. Butch Raynor | 15. Dr. Rita Gunter (Marquis Donor) |
| 4. Kenneth Young (Marquis Donor) | 16. Vince Wagner |
| 5. Nichole Farrell | 17. Mary Farr |
| 6. Kim Honan | 18. Patania Eiland |
| 7. Ronald Hill | 19. Todd Hathaway |
| 8. Sandra Napier | 20. Sebrina George |
| 9. Timi L. Tapley | 21. Bobbie Redding |
| 10. Cassandra Tyndall | 22. Earl McNeill |
| 11. John Holmes | 23. Calvin Shipman |
| 12. Joe Deaton | 24. Jo Katherine Dessaw |

KIM HONAN and JOE DEATON were the lucky winners of the drawing from among the Fair Share donors for two ½ days off, with pay. That's the county's way of saying thank you to the Fair Share donors. United Way will deliver a handy discount card to all Fair Share donors early in the New Year.

Thanks again to all who helped, the United Way is very appreciative and Sara VanderClute, who coordinated the campaign for county employees, is grateful, too!



Register of Deeds employees are honored by Robert Hines, Executive Director of the local United Way, for 100% participation in the 2007 campaign.

Food Drive Reaps Help for the Hungry

On Tuesday, December 4, 2007, the county delivered to the Salvation Army and Fayetteville Urban Ministry's shared warehouse more than a ton of food and clothing collected from generous county employees. This annual effort kicks off in November and as the holiday season approaches, employees drop off their individual contributions in boxes located in most county buildings.

The food and clothing is appreciated by the Fayetteville Urban Ministry and the Salvation Army and certainly will be by the needy people who are the ultimate recipients.

Along these lines, even as we acknowledge the generosity once again of county employees, it has been pointed out that it is important to take note of the expiration date on foodstuffs that are donated. If it's expired, throw it away, don't pass it on.

COUNTY MANAGER'S MESSAGE



We're off on a brand new year, which we all know will be filled with challenges and opportunities for those of us in county government. With the failure of the ¼-cent sales tax to pass in Cumberland County last year, budgeting for the next fiscal year will demand careful scrutiny of every need confronting the county. I know I can count on each of you to be ever-mindful of keeping costs down in doing the county's business.

We will all need to call on our best character traits in dealing with the disruption that will occur as our parking lots are renovated; the public at large and employees who work in the court house are going to be inconvenienced. Let's all try to deal with this inconvenience goodnatureedly and with a measure of humor. The disruption won't last forever, and the parking lots will be much more functional and safe when the project is complete. The work will begin early in 2008 and should take about nine months to complete.

As we embark on 2008, I wish each of you a healthy and prosperous New Year.



CUMBERLAND COUNTY KUDOS

Great Employees Doing Great Things!

Chapel Hill, NC, November 16, 2007. SCOTT WILLIAMS, Information Systems Manager for Cumberland County Social Services, has successfully graduated from the 2007 Certified Government Chief Information Officers Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Government.

The CGCIO program is the first local government specific program for CIOs in the nation and began in 2005. The program is designed for local government Information Technology Directors and Chief Information Officers whose responsibilities require a broad understanding of management, leadership, and enterprise topics. The course is approximately 240 hours in length. Course instruction covers enterprise issues, strategic technology planning, communication, project management, emerging trends, risk assessment and management, acquisition management, change management, leadership, security, grantsmanship, and financial trends.

Scott Williams is one of the 32 public sector employees who successfully completed the course this year. Over the course of its three-year existence, the CGCIO program has graduated over 100 public sector IT professionals.

North Carolina won a \$2 million bonus from the federal government for efficiency in processing applications for the FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM (formerly the Food Stamp Program). This is the second performance bonus North Carolina received. The program is funded and regulated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, administered by the N. C. Division of Social Services and applications are processed by county departments of social services. There are 883,722 North Carolinians receiving food assistance through this program. Over 16,000 families a month in Cumberland County are supplemented through this program. Your Department of Social Services has an accuracy rate of 97% which was a significant help to the state in achieving the bonus GREAT JOB STAFF!

The CUMBERLAND COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER is raising the standard again this year. To date, there have been 744 animals either adopted or owner-claimed as compared to 591 this time last year. If we continue at this rate, and we don't plan on stopping, we will continue to surpass our previous records.

This is happening because of the outstanding staff serving our citizens. Thank you for a job well done, keep up the good work.

New Year, New You?

Wonder what kind of New Year resolutions your colleagues are making? We ambled around the 5th floor of the Courthouse and a few folks were willing to share what they aim to do in 2008. Good luck to each of them, and to any others who are making resolutions to improve their health and their life.



MONICA GROSS
Tax Department
"I intend to eat healthier."



CINDY TUCKER
County Manager's Office
"I want to be more aware of people who need help in the coming year."



DANELA JOHNSON,
Communications Center
"I want to read the Bible with my granddaughter more often."



MATT ROONEY
Planning
"I want to continue to walk at least 10,000 steps a day."

Changing of the Guard

At the December 3, 2007 meeting of the Cumberland County Commissioners, outgoing Chairman Kenneth Edge was presented a plaque commemorating his tenure as chairman in 2007. The new Chairman for 2008 is Commissioner Breeden Blackwell, and the vice-chairman is Commissioner Jeannette Council.

Time's Up! Pay Those Taxes!

For whatever reason – the holiday hubbub, the "I forgot!" excuse, or resistance to the whole idea of taxes – there are citizens, including county employees, who find themselves delinquent in January for having failed to pay their property taxes. Don't let that happen to you – this year, you've got until January 7 to pay your taxes and not be considered delinquent. Pay up – don't make your colleagues in the tax department have to ring you up and utter the word, "delinquent."

January is also the month that people have to list their personal property – and that includes dogs and cats. Another item of personal property that must be listed is the new boat and motor you got – the tax office tells us that many times people buy a new boat, motor and trailer all together and think that the DMV bill they get for the trailer is all that they owe. Not so! Boats and motors must be listed as personal property.

Kudos to Kathy Pittman and all her colleagues who worked so hard to make E-payment of tax bills available to citizens. There are several options available, check out the tax admin webpage and you'll see how to pay with an E-check or with your credit card. Very 21st Century!

WELCOME ABOARD!

There are some new faces in the top posts of some departments as we begin the New Year.

JODY RISACHER has been appointed to be the new library director, filling the position of the recently-retired Jerry Thrasher. She has served as the deputy director since 1998, and has 24 years of public library experience. A member of the Heritage Tourism Committee of the Army Community Heritage Partnership, Ms. Risacher is also a former member of The Fayetteville Observer's Community Advisory Board.

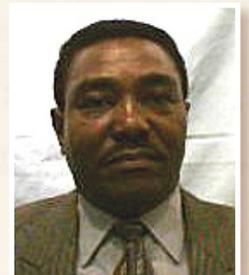
Welcome to BOBBY HILL, the new director of the Veterans Services department.

Also, KENNY CURRIE is the new interim Emergency Management director. Best of luck to both gentlemen as they take up their duties

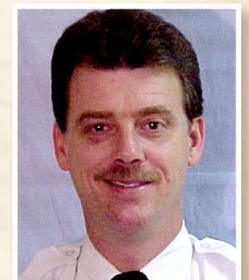
The Department of Public Health welcomes Regina McNeill, the new wellness coordinator for the county wellness program.



RISACHER



HILL



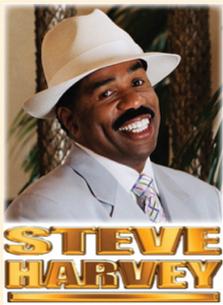
CURRIE

COMING UP @ THE CROWN CENTER



JANUARY

Date	Event	Venue	Time
4	Monster Trucks	Crown Coliseum	7:30 p.m.
5	Monster Trucks	Crown Coliseum	7:30 p.m.
11	Tim Wilson	Crown Theatre	8:00 p.m.
11	FireAntz vs. Knoxville	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
12	Blood, Sweat & Tears	Crown Theatre	8:00 p.m.
12	FireAntz vs. Jacksonville	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
18	FireAntz vs. Twin City	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
19	FireAntz vs. Richmond	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
26	Reba and Kelly Clarkson <i>2 Worlds 2 Voices Tour</i>	Crown Coliseum	8:00 p.m.
31	FireAntz vs. Huntsville	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.



FEBRUARY

Date	Event	Venue	Time
1	FireAntz vs. Knoxville	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
2	Gun and Knife Show	Crown Expo	9:00 a.m.
2	Steve Harvey Show	Crown Coliseum	8:00 p.m.
3	Gun and Knife Show	Crown Expo	10:00 a.m.
4	The Producers <i>A Mel Brooks Musical</i>	Crown Theatre	7:30 p.m.
8	Sexual Healing	Crown Theatre	7:30 p.m.
8	Professional Bull Riding	Crown Arena	8:00 p.m.
9	Professional Bull Riding	Crown Arena	8:00 p.m.
9	Sexual Healing	Crown Theatre	7:30 p.m.
9	FireAntz vs. Huntsville	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
10	FireAntz vs. Richmond	Crown Coliseum	4:00 p.m.
13	Ebony Fashion Show	Crown Theatre	8:00 p.m.
14	FireAntz vs. Jacksonville	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
16	Gary Puckett & The Letterman	Crown Theatre	8:00 p.m.
16	Bridal Expo	Crown Expo	TBD
17	Bridal Expo	Crown Expo	TBD
23	FireAntz vs. Twin City	Crown Coliseum	7:35 p.m.
24	FireAntz vs. Knoxville	Crown Coliseum	4:00 p.m.
27	Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey	Crown Coliseum	TBD
28	Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey	Crown Coliseum	TBD
29	NC RV Expo	Crown Expo	10:00 a.m.
29	Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey	Crown Coliseum	TBD



Visit www.AtTheCrown.com for more information!



CUMBERLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT... WORKING FOR YOU!

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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/)



HAILEY CABELL, the beautiful daughter of ROBYN CABELL in Tax Collections, looks like she's enjoying her time with Santa Claus. One last glimpse of Christmas 2007, as we all look forward to a great new year. Hailey, too!

THERE 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.

County Holiday

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY

Monday, January 21