



CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONNECTION

County Assists With Storm Recovery



CUMBERLAND COUNTY is one of 18 North Carolina counties to receive a federal disaster declaration after the April 16 tornadoes. According to preliminary estimates, 945 homes were damaged or destroyed and 40 commercial businesses. There was one fatality.

Emergency Services Director Kenny Currie estimates damages in excess of \$100 million in Cumberland County.

At 4:30 p.m. on April 16, the City and County activated a joint EOC in the basement of the

Law Enforcement Center. Currie said he was very proud of this collaboration and thanked the various city and county departments that contributed to storm response and to the non-profits groups who have helped. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) opened a Disaster Recovery Center at the Department of Social Services on April 21. The center is intended to be a one-stop shop for residents in the affected areas to meet with representatives from local, state and federal agencies and learn more about assistance available to them.

The center will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. until further notice.

Applications for FEMA assistance can be filed online or by phone, and those needing assistance in registering with FEMA can find help at the recovery center.

Disaster Food Benefits for Storm Victims

THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES was approved by the US Department of Agriculture to provide Disaster Food and Nutrition Services benefits to people affected by the tornados.

The Department of Social Services began accepting applications for the program on Friday, April 29. The five-day application window closes Tuesday, May 3. Hours are Monday and Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the DSS building at 1225 Ramsey St.

The program is open to individuals not normally eligible for Food and Nutrition Services benefits. Eligibility is based on available income and resources.

Residents in the affected areas of Cumberland County who are not currently receiving Food and Nutrition Services benefits may qualify for temporary disaster assistance for a one month period if:

- Your home or self-employment property was damaged or destroyed
- You have disaster related expenses
- You lost wages
- You had food loss as a result of a power outage of at least eight hours



— Storm Recovery *continued from page 1*

Those applying for Disaster Food and Nutrition Services benefits are asked to provide:

- proof of their identity
- proof of residency, such as a utility bill
- Social Security numbers and dates of birth for all members of their household.

DSS Director Brenda Jackson reports that between Friday, April 29, and Sunday, May 1, 1,463 people visited DSS and \$392,563 in benefits was issued in replacement and disaster food benefits.

The United Way is operating a Referral Phone Line. Residents can dial 211 to report any damages to property or unmet needs. This service is free of charge and will help establish a database to assist government and non-profit relief agencies.

Debris Collection

The tornadoes that hit Fayetteville left behind approximately 115,000 cubic yards of debris in the city. The City's debris contractor is operating throughout the city and making multiple passes through neighborhoods until debris is picked up.

The N.C. Department of Transportation is picking up storm debris on state-maintained roads within the corporate limits of Fayetteville and in the unincorporated areas of Cumberland County, specifically Beaver Dam and Linden. DOT is asking residents to separate debris into two piles:

- Vegetation such as trees and limbs cut into five- or six-foot pieces
- Building materials and furniture

Piles should be out of travel lanes and should not block storm drainage.

If you live on a private roadway or in a private subdivision, you can take vegetative debris to the Wilkes Road Treatment and Processing Facility and building debris to the Ann Street Landfill.



Ann Street Landfill Extends Hours



CUMBERLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE'S ANN STREET FACILITY at 698 Ann St. will be open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until further notice. The extended hours are to assist with storm clean-up operations. Normal fees will apply for the Ann Street landfill.

The Wilkes Road Treatment and Processing facility at 771 Wilkes Road will be open normal hours, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, to accept vegetative debris like tree limbs, stumps and leafy matter. Fees at the Wilkes Road facility for vegetative and woody debris from the storm damaged areas have been waived until May 13.

Citizens are reminded to let the scale house personnel know if the items they are bringing in are the result of storm damage.

For more information regarding landfill operations, call Karen Hall at 321-6929 or 308-6380.

Disaster-Related Stress

COUNTY EMPLOYEES FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS are among those who have been affected directly by the tornadoes. Others have friends or relatives who lived in the areas.

Things to remember

- No one who sees a disaster is untouched by it.
- It is normal to feel anxious about your family's safety.
- Powerful emotions of sadness, grief, and anger are NORMAL reactions to an abnormal event.
- We each have different needs and different ways of coping, but usually acknowledging and expressing our emotions will help us heal.
- Common responses to stress
- Feeling numb or "flat"
- Feeling irritable and easily frustrated
- Difficulty in stopping thinking about what happened or having "flashbacks" about the event
- Difficulty sleeping or loss of appetite
- Difficulty with concentration and attention span
- Physical symptoms caused by anxiety such as headaches or stomach problems
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Crying easily or having mood swings
- Fears of crowds, strangers, or being alone



Ways to ease your stress

- **ACCEPT YOUR REACTIONS AS NORMAL.** Most healthy people will experience some of these stress reactions. The reactions will subside with time and as you re-gain your normal routines.
- **TALK ABOUT THE EVENT AND YOUR FEELINGS.** Choose the time and people you want to talk with. Family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and pastors are often the most helpful. Pretending you are OK when you are not will only make things worse.
- **ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.** Be accepting of their feelings even if you are surprised by them. Answer their questions as honestly as you can and reassure them about your safety and theirs.
- **RETURN TO YOUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.** Returning to school, work, and social activities can all help you re-establish normalcy for yourself and your family.
- **EAT HEALTHY FOOD, EXERCISE, AND REST REGULARLY.** Recovery takes some time and you will help yourself get through the stress most quickly by taking care of your physical health.
- **LIMIT YOUR ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE.** Overusing alcohol or drugs will keep your feelings "numb" and delay your recovery.
- **ASK FOR PROFESSIONAL HELP IF YOU WANT IT.** If the tips here don't help you, you might want to get someone else to assist you. Getting counseling when you are under stress after a disaster is not admitting to weakness. It also does not mean you have an illness.

Employee Assistance Program

DARLENE WEAVER, A COUNSELOR WITH EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, reminds storm victims that help is just a phone call away. Contact her at 910-222-6157.

The EAP program is available to immediate family members, and all information will be held confidential.



JAMES MARTIN

County Manager's Message

CITIZENS ACROSS OUR COUNTY are recovering from devastating tornadoes that struck on April 16. One person died in the storm, and as we deal with the devastating aftermath of close to 1,000 homes and businesses damaged or destroyed, we realize we are fortunate that more lives were not lost. Emergency Services Director Kenny Currie credits the National Weather Service for alerting citizens of the impending storms, and I am sure we will all be a little more alert to weather warnings and watches in the future.

I am proud of how our county departments responded to this disaster and how they continue to work in the recovery phase, assisting citizens from the storm-damaged areas as they try to rebuild. To those county employees who experienced the tornadoes first-hand, our thoughts and prayers go out to you. To all who have assisted in disaster relief efforts or donated to these causes, your contributions have been invaluable.

Strategic Plan

Cumberland County has a new strategic plan that includes updated mission and vision statements, as well as core values. There are five main goals, each with separate objectives. This plan will be our roadmap for the next year, and I hope you will take to time to read the plan and understand the path we have laid out for the future. The goals focus on health and public safety; economic development; infrastructure; communications; and excellent customer service.

The complete plan with action steps for each objective is posted on the county's web site - http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/commissioners/mission_vision.aspx. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Communications and Strategic Initiatives Manager Sally Shutt.

Budget

It is budget time and this year we face many difficult challenges. I will present the recommended budget on May 31 at 7 p.m. It will be televised on Time Warner Channel 7.

Chairman Edge Selected for County Leadership Institute in Washington, DC



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES has announced the selection of Kenneth Edge, Chairman of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners, as one of 22 county leaders from across the United States to participate in the eighth annual County Leadership Institute, a rigorous four-day program offered in partnership with Cambridge Leadership Associates.

Chairman Edge will take part in the program at IBM's Institute for Electronic Government in Washington, D.C., from June 5 to 9.

"The county officials who participate in the institute get information, ideas, and perspectives they can't get anywhere else," said Larry Naake, executive director of NACo. These county leaders not only discuss the core principles of public service leadership with prominent experts, they also collaborate intensively with each other to develop new ways to attack real-life issues of importance to the citizens of their counties.

"I'm honored to be selected to participate in the County Leadership Institute," Edge said. "I hope to bring back innovative solutions and best practices that can be implemented here in Cumberland County."

The institute has graduated 165 members from 40 states and 138 counties across the country. Known for enhancing the capacity of county officials to identify and implement innovative solutions to the complex challenges facing county government in the 21st century, this year's program will focus closely on the demands of personal leadership in a new era of government.

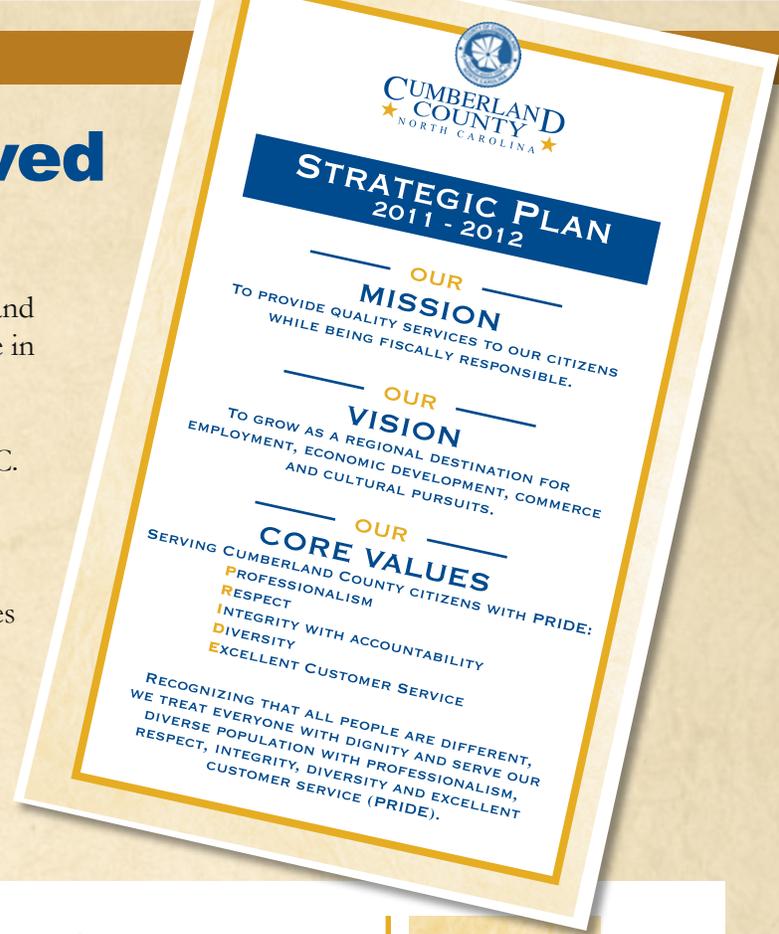
Strategic Plan Approved

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, along with county management and department heads, started a strategic planning initiative in January 2011. Ed Emory, Dr. Stan Dixon and Dr. Wanda Sykes facilitated the strategic planning through a partnership with the Cooperative Extension and N.C. State University.

The Commissioners formally approved the 2011-2012 Strategic Plan in April.

The county's mission, vision, core values, goals and objectives are included in this edition of the County Connection.

The complete plan with action steps for each objective is posted on the county's web site - http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/commissioners/mission_vision.aspx.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2011 - 2012

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL 1:

ENSURE A SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING NEEDED SERVICES TO OUR CITIZENS IN A TIMELY MANNER.

Objective 1: Assist with reducing youth crimes and gang involvement by providing youth development program opportunities.

Objective 2: Assist with efforts to reduce crime by repeat offenders.

Objective 3: Improve emergency response services to citizens.

Objective 4: Promote a healthy community by providing educational, health and human services programs and resources to citizens.

Objective 5: Strengthen the County's green and energy-efficiency initiatives.

GOAL 2:

PROVIDE ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE CONSISTENT WITH ORDERLY GROWTH OF A DYNAMIC COUNTY.

Objective 1: Explore strategies to address the County's need for more office space, and ensure facilities are well-maintained.

Objective 2: Improve transportation services in rural areas and promote expansion of van, rail and air systems.

Objective 3: Increase gateway and other beautification efforts to create a more aesthetically appealing community.

Objective 4: Continue efforts to provide safe water to all citizens.

GOAL 3:

PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY CREATING AND RETAINING JOBS, AND PROVIDING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, QUALITY EDUCATION, CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES.

Objective 1: Ensure effective economic development incentives and practices are in place to attract and retain business and industry.

Objective 2: Promote economic development through the preservation of natural resources, farmland and the county's agricultural industry.

Objective 3: Provide quality cultural and recreational services.

GOAL 4:

EDUCATE, INFORM AND ENGAGE EMPLOYEES, CITIZENS, ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT COMMUNICATIONS.

Objective 1: Increase citizen engagement as evidenced by increased applications for county boards and committees and attendance at public forums and meetings.

Objective 2: Enhance communications systems and transparency so citizens can readily access information.

Objective 3: Improve internal communications.

Objective 4: Develop and promote the County's strategic plan to employees and the public.

Objective 5: Enhance collaboration between county government and other boards, committees and commissions.

GOAL 5:

EMPLOY MOTIVATED, PROFESSIONAL AND WELL-TRAINED PERSONNEL WHO OFFER EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE WITH PRIDE – PROFESSIONALISM, RESPECT, INTEGRITY WITH ACCOUNTABILITY, DIVERSITY AND EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE.

Objective 1: Optimize service delivery through innovation, automation and technology to enhance current services and create new service opportunities.

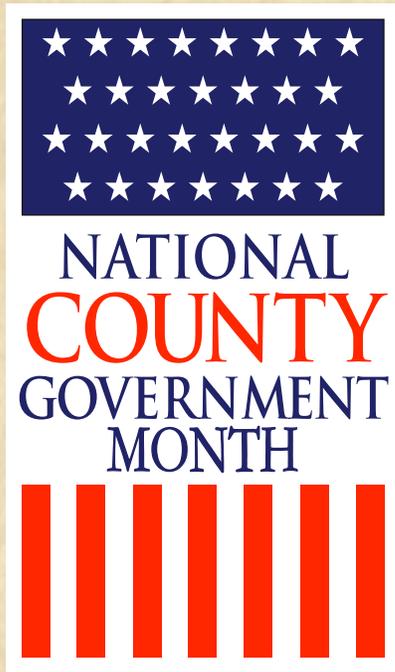
Objective 2: Encourage citizen engagement and provide feedback opportunities through various outlets as it relates to service delivery.

Objective 3: Implement staff development and training programs that include classroom and online delivery methods.

Objective 4: Recognize employees for their achievements.

Objective 5: Explore competitive pay based on labor market analysis and update classification system.

DSS Holds Events for National County Government Month



IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH, the Department of Social Services celebrated with several events for DSS employees.

- On Monday, April 11, employees with 20, 25, and 30 years of service were invited to the Countywide recognition ceremony. Lunch was also provided for all DSS employees where those with 5, 10, and 15 years of service were recognized.
- On Tuesday, April 12, a strategic planning kick-off carnival was held to energize employees about the new county strategic plan.
- The DSS wellness program kicked off with an honorary walk around the complex on April 13 to recognize family, friends, and loved ones of staff who have served or are serving in the military.
- The North Carolina Social Services Association hosted a talent show for DSS employees on April 14.
- On April 15, an ice cream social was held and staff members were encouraged to wear attire from their favorite sports team.

Thanks to the Department of Social Services and all of their employees for helping to make National County Government Month a success!

County departments show their colors for County Government Month



BILL DUKE, Assistant Director for Adult Services at DSS, had the winning display for their County Government Week celebration.



WILLIAM TAYLOR, of the Cumberland County Community Development Department, wears his ribbon proudly during County Government Month in April. County veterans were presented the red, white and blue ribbons in honor of their military service.



Grants Available for Urgent Home Repairs

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT has announced the availability of funding for urgent home repairs.

Qualified, uninsured homeowners in Cumberland County may be eligible to receive a grant of up to \$7500 for urgent repairs.

Residents who have experienced storm related damage to their homes and are experiencing immediate health and safety risks can call the Community Development Department at 910-323-6112.

This particular assistance is limited to residents with storm related damage that reside in Eastover, Falcon, Godwin, Hope Mills, Linden, Spring Lake, Stedman, Wade and the unincorporated areas of the county.



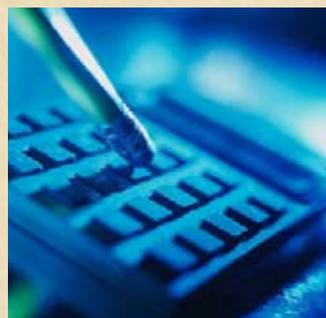
Public Information Office Wins Honors

THE NORTH CAROLINA CITY & COUNTY COMMUNICATORS (NC3C) presented their 2011 awards on March 31 in Fayetteville during their annual conference. Public information officers from across the state attended the three-day conference held March 30-April 1. The host committee included communications professionals from the City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County and the Public Works Commission

Cumberland County's public information office won second place in the electronic employee newsletter category for *The County Connection* and second place in the interview/talk show category for *Cumberland Matters*, which airs each Tuesday at 10 p.m. on Time Warner Cable's Community Channel 7. The show is also posted on the county's website, www.co.cumberland.nc.us.

Budget Presentations

Tuesday, May 31 Budget Presentation	7 p.m. Room 118
Thursday, June 2 Dept Head Appeals/Work Session	5:30 p.m. Room 564
Monday, June 13 Budget Work Session	5:30 p.m. Room 564
Tuesday, June 14 Budget Public Hearing	7 p.m. Room 118
Thursday, June 16 Budget Work Session	5:30 p.m. Room 564
Monday, June 20 Adopt Budget	6:45 p.m. Room 118



Budget presentations on May 31 and June 14 will be televised live on Time Warner Cable Channel 7. All meetings are open to the public. The Board of Commissioners will adopt the budget at their regularly scheduled and televised meeting on Monday, June 20.

Celebrating 100 Years of Family & Consumer Sciences!



IN 2011, NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION'S FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES PROGRAM will celebrate its Centennial Anniversary. Families face difficult issues every day, and for 100 years the Family & Consumer Sciences program has been there to help. FCS agents help families sort fact from fiction, providing educational programs that help families put research-based knowledge to work for economic prosperity, environmental stewardship and an improved quality of life.

Beginning with home demonstration canning clubs, Family & Consumer Sciences has always addressed the current needs for families in North Carolina. As families have grown more complex, so has Extension's approach to family and consumer sciences. Today, the focus

is on education programs for families in both rural and urban areas. Programs help families and consumers better understand budgeting, credit use, economic loss protection, health-care costs, financial planning and economic choices. Food quality and safety programs give food-service personnel, dietary managers, community volunteers and care givers the knowledge and resources they need for safe food preparation. Family and Consumer Sciences agents also work to improve people's awareness of health, safety and environmental issues; to expand support for groundbreaking rural health initiatives; to address elder care and aging issues; and to help families learn about the importance of nutrition and physical activity for better health.

You have the will, and they have the way. Contact the Cumberland County Cooperative Extension by visiting: <http://cumberland.ces.ncsu.edu>, and get the help you need today.



Soil & Water Conservation

CUMBERLAND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT provided free activity booklets to teachers who requested them for their classes to use for Earth Day and environmental awareness lessons in April. The grade level appropriate booklets, titled "Conservation Habits = Healthy Habitats," featured habitat, migration, a math activity, ideas for habitat

development, a read out loud section and habitat vocabulary words.

Over 5,850 booklets were distributed to public, private and home school educators teaching kindergarten through sixth grade.





FAMPO Hosts Conference

THE FAYETTEVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION hosted this year's North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Conference from April 27-29 at the Doubletree Hotel on Cedar Creek Road. Over 270 federal, state, and local transportation planners, engineers, and elected officials were in attendance. There were 50 speakers, including the North Carolina Secretary of Transportation Gene Conti.

CCAC Helps Find Homes for Pets



Last weekend, staff and volunteers from the Cumberland County Animal Shelter worked at the Fayetteville PetSmart in support of the Save-A-Life adoption program, placing animals with loving families in our community.

In addition to those animals adopted from the shelter that weekend, 86 cats and dogs were adopted at the Save-A-Life event – the highest number ever for the shelter in just a three day span.

“I just want to thank and congratulate all those who helped us place so many puppies and kittens with forever homes,” said Animal Control Director Dr. John Lauby. “I was proud to be among a group of dedicated people who gave up their weekend to help our animals get adopted.”

The event lived up to its name, and the Monday following the adoption event was the first Monday that the shelter did not need to euthanize any animals due to lack of space.

National Nutrition Month at CCHD

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT WIC staff celebrated National Nutrition Month during this past March.

A quiz was e-mailed to health department employees with a prize for the person with the most correct answers. Heidi Maxwell RD, LDN sent out weekly nutrition tips to the staff.

This year was also the WIC staff's 7th annual food drive for National Nutrition Month. This has always been a successful team effort. We were able to donate three huge boxes of non-perishable food items, some toiletries and a monetary donation in the amount of \$218.80 to Operation Blessing, a charitable organization that serves the less fortunate in our community.





Project Homeless Connect

A day to get connected to services in the community!

When: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
(Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.) (Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

Where: First Baptist Church, Moore Street
(In the Gymnasium)

How: Transportation to/from event by F.A.S.T

- Breakfast and Lunch Served
- Free Haircuts
- Prescription Assistance
- Medical and Dental Assistance
- Housing Assistance
- Identification Services
- Job Placement Assistance
- Government Assistance
- VA Assistance
- Senior Housing Assistance
- **AND MUCH MORE!**



*Sponsored by the Fayetteville/Cumberland County
10 Year Plan to End Homelessness Steering Committee
and
The Cumberland County Continuum of Care*

A Doctor Looks at WAR



Author Visit Dr. Michael C. Hodges

The Friends of the Library are pleased to present Dr. Michael C. Hodges of Fayetteville as he talks about his book, *A Doctor Looks at War*.

This event is part of the 31 Day Salute, a month-long celebration of performances, ceremonies, exhibits and activities to show enthusiastic appreciation, respect and support for those who serve and have served in our armed forces.

Tuesday, May 10 at 7 p.m.
Headquarters Library
300 Maiden Lane



CUMBERLAND COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
& INFORMATION CENTER



Friends of the Library

Book Sales

Stock up on all your reading needs with books and magazines donated by the Friends of the Library and local residents.

Books are in good condition, and the sale room is organized to make your browsing easy. Thousands of titles in good condition and unbeatable low prices— stock up now!

Entrance to the book sale is at Headquarters Library through the back door near the benches by the creek. Cash or check only.

Members Only Sale*

Tuesday, May 17

5 – 8 p.m.

Public Book Sale

Saturday, May 21

9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Headquarters Library
300 Maiden Lane

*Anyone not a member may join at the sale.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY
**PUBLIC
LIBRARY**
INFORMATION CENTER



FOURTH FRIDAY PRESENTS



BIG BAND MUSIC

WITH
SECOND TIME
AROUND

15-piece big band playing favorites from Glenn Miller, Les Brown, Benny Goodman and more, and tunes from more recent times, too!

Refreshments provided by SYSTEL®.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
& INFORMATION CENTER

Friday, May 27 at 7 p.m.

Headquarters Library, 300 Maiden Lane



COMING

THE CROWN
CENTER...

May

- TUE 3 Chevy Event
- SAT 7 FSU Graduation
- SAT 7 Love & Laughter Tour Featuring Fantasia & Lavell Crawford
- FRI 13 El Scion De Fiesta Car Show
- SAT 14 Max And Ruby : Bunny Party
- SAT 14 Troy University Graduation
- SAT 21 Salute To The Troops : Whips & Wheels
- THURS 26 Universoul Circus

June

- SAT 4 WWE Raw World Tour
- SAT-SUN 4-5 Gun & Knife Show
- SUN 5 Charlotte Blume Spring Festival 2011
- TH-FRI 9-10 CCS High School Graduation
- SAT 11 Fayetteville Force Vs. Richmond Raiders

Tickets Available At The Crown Center Box Office, Ticketmaster.com, All Ticketmaster Outlets And By Phone 1.800.745.3000.
Visit our website for more information www.atthecrown.com.



Cumberland County Government... Working for you!

JAMES MARTIN, COUNTY MANAGER
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE
117 Dick Street
Courthouse, Suite 512
Fayetteville, NC 28301
Phone: 910-678-7723
Fax: 910-678-7717
Email: jmartin@co.cumberland.nc.us

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide quality services to our citizens while being fiscally responsible.

VISION STATEMENT

To grow as a regional destination for employment, economic development, commerce and cultural pursuits.

Visit us on the Web: [http:// www.co.cumberland.nc.us/](http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/)

Be sure to follow us on



EVERYONE NEEDS A REAL FRIEND NOW AND THEN. The kind of friend who can be trusted to keep a confidence, the kind of friend who 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.

Upcoming County Holidays

**Memorial Day
May 30, 2011**

