



News Release

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Extension Director, Livestock Agent Receive Statewide Awards

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Director Lisa Childers has received the Carol Birkhead Outstanding County Extension Director Award in recognition of her leadership, citizenship and contributions to the County. The statewide award was presented to Childers recently at the N.C. Cooperative Extension Annual Conference.

Childers was nominated by her staff, peers, volunteers and County administration. The award was created in memory of former Hoke County Extension Director Carol Birkhead to honor directors for outstanding service and achievement. In 2006, Childers received the Lois Brit Outstanding Extension Agent award while working as a family and consumer sciences agent in Harnett County.

Childers has been Cumberland County's extension director since 2010, after previously serving as Harnett County Extension director. The Fayetteville native is a graduate of South View High School. She earned a bachelor's degree from Campbell University in 1999 and a master's degree in agriculture and extension education at N.C. State University in 2005.

"I am truly honored to receive this prestigious award," Childers said. "I am fortunate to work with a great team and I look forward in continuing to serve this county through our many Cooperative Extension programs."

Livestock Agent on Statewide Award-Winning Team

Cooperative Extension Livestock Agent Liz Lahti was one of nine agents in the Cooperative Extension Services South Central District to receive The Grange Search for Excellence Award for their efforts to support the N.C. Farm School and Military Farm School.

The Search for Excellence Award promotes and identifies professional excellence within all facets of the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service. The N.C. Farm School is an outreach program for farmers or prospective farmers to teach them about farming, marketing and the business of farms. The program also helps military veterans or those who are about to separate from military duty to enter agriculture.

"I'm honored to be chosen to work with these agents and I'm happy to be a part of this team and contribute," said Lahti.

Lahti, a native of Hudson Valley, New York, has been with Cooperative Extension since 2014.



Childers



Lahti