



CountyLines

www.ncacc.org

NOVEMBER 2009 | VOLUME 35, NO. 11

Steering a path toward success

County officials' involvement with our steering committees more crucial now than ever

Over the past several years, our Association has earned a reputation as one of the strongest advocacy groups in the state. Our success in lobbying for Medicaid relief and for additional revenue options for counties generated headlines across the state in 2007, but we have had numerous other successes in the legislative arena during the past two years as well.

In some circles, success might breed contentment. But county commission-

ers know that if you stop to rest on your laurels, somebody else will pass you by. For a statewide Association like ours, it is imperative that we continue to remain proactive and that we also continue to develop future generations of leaders.

There are 576 county commissioners

Please see Perspective on page 2



President's Perspective
by Mary Accor

Mary S. Accor

Lee, Rowan voters OK sales tax

By Todd McGee
Communications Director

Voters in Lee and Rowan counties each approved quarter-cent sales tax referendums Nov. 3, bringing to 10 the number of counties that have passed the revenue option since it was granted to counties by the General Assembly in 2007. The sales tax option and a land

transfer tax option of up to 0.4 percent were part of the Medicaid relief package included in the state budget in 2007 after an extensive lobbying effort led by the Association to relieve counties of the Medicaid burden.

Voters in Lee County approved the measure by nearly a 2-1 margin, with 3,799 voters voting yes and 1,910 voted against the measure, according to

unofficial results. Commissioners in Lee County have pledged to use the revenues to pay for a much-needed \$19.5 million renovation and expansion at Lee County High School.

"The Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners were pretty unified in what the money would be

Please see Sales tax on page 4



Durham County Criminal Justice Resource Center Director Gudrun Parmer talks with two Fair-goers at the NCACC's State Fair booth on county government on Oct. 22.

Photo by Todd McGee

A 'Fair' education about counties

County volunteers and NCACC staff did "a whole lotta" educating at the N.C. State Fair, which was held Oct. 15-25 in Raleigh. For the fourth year, the NCACC sponsored a booth at the N.C. State Fair in order to help further its strategic goal of educating the public and the media about the role of county government.

The State Fair, which ran with a theme of "A Whole Lotta Happy," drew more than 875,000 people, and the booth enjoyed a steady stream of traffic at its prime location in the Education Building. Eighteen county officials volunteered their time to help staff the booth during State Fair hours.

Staff and county volunteers engaged Fair-goers who stopped by the booth to disseminate information about services provided by county governments.

As in years past, the County Match Game, which challenges contestants to match county names with their location on a state map that is blank except for county borders, proved popular. The computer game was developed by the NCACC Information Technology staff. Any participant who correctly matched at least 40 county names with their location on the map was entered into a drawing for a TomTom GPS unit.

The booth also included the looping North Carolina County Government video that the NCACC developed in 2008, as well as posters from county governments on their sustainability initiatives.

The NCACC thanks the county officials and employees who helped staff the booth. A listing of those officials is included on page 5.

So far, tax reform is just talk

Push to modernize the state's tax structure fails to gain broad support in General Assembly

By Jason King
Assistant Communications Director

Talk of modernizing the state's tax system began in the 1950s and continues today in the state capital, but legislators are unlikely to adopt a new tax code in 2010 – an election year – a sales tax expert told the NCACC Board of Directors during its Oct. 23-24 meeting in Guilford County.

Backers of an overhaul of the tax system in the Senate – namely Sen. Dan Clodfelter of Mecklenburg County – began pushing a plan during the 2009 session that would extend the sales tax to a number of "end point" services, thereby enabling the state to reduce the overall sales tax rate slightly. The proposal never gained any traction. There were briefly rumors in late summer of a special legislative session to address the issue – something else that failed to come to fruition. Currently members of the House and Senate Finance Committees are meeting jointly to study the issue.

Many economists argue that the state's current tax system is antiquated – designed during the Great Depression during a shift from an agricultural to a manufacturing economy, it has failed to change with consumers. Sales taxes on goods have spiraled to 7.75 percent (5.75 percent state and 2 percent local) in 91

Please see Tax modernization on page 3

Perspective

Continued from page 1

in North Carolina, and only 40 spots on our Board of Directors for commissioners. Fortunately, there are many other ways that commissioners can help develop policy goals and platforms.

One of the best ways for a commissioner to become more involved with the Association is to participate in one of our seven steering committees (Agriculture, Environment, Human Services, Intergovernmental Relations, Justice and Public Safety, Public Education, and Tax and Finance).

Beginning this year, steering committees will meet quarterly to gather and consider information on emerging county-related issues, to monitor the progress of the adopted legislative goals that emanated from their committee, and to examine pending or proposed legislation that could impact county government. Our steering committees offer commissioners the opportunity to learn more about important issues and to develop policy proposals to be considered by either our Board of Directors or by the membership at our Legislative Goals Conference, which will next be held in

January 2011.

Membership on steering committees is open to all county commissioners as well as county staff who might have a particular interest or expertise. You may serve on more than one steering committee. Association staff provides administrative and technical support to each committee.

Serving on a steering committee also will earn county commissioners credits through our Local Elected Leaders Academy (LELA) recognition program. In partnership with the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill and the N.C. League of Municipalities, the LELA program has three overall goals: to enhance the capacity of elected officials to lead and govern their boards, councils and communities; to equip elected officials with the knowledge and tools to practice and preserve democracy and representative government; and to prepare elected officials to assume future leadership responsibilities within their communities, associations and throughout the state.

If you are interested in taking on more of a leadership role within our Association and serving on a committee, contact the staff liaison for that committee to be added to our committee roster.

NCACC STEERING COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Agriculture (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-ag.html)

Chair: Ray Jeffers, Person County Commissioner
Staff liaison: Jason King, (919) 715-0045 or jason.king@ncacc.org

Environment (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-env.html)

Chair: Chuck McGrady, Henderson County Commissioner
Staff liaison: Todd McGee, (919) 715-7336 or todd.mcgee@ncacc.org

Human Services (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-hr.html)

Chair: Viola Harris, Edgecombe County Commissioner
Staff liaison: Rebecca Troutman, (919) 715-4360 or rebecca.troutman@ncacc.org

Intergovernmental Relations (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-igr.html)

Chair: NCACC First Vice President Brian McMahan, Jackson County Chairman
Staff liaison: Kevin Leonard, (919) 715-4369 or kevin.leonard@ncacc.org

Justice and Public Safety (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-cj.html)

Chair: Hubert Sealey, Robeson County Commissioner
Staff liaison: Anthony Allen, (919) 715-1430 or anthony.allen@ncacc.org

Public Education (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-ed.html)

Chair: NCACC Second Vice President Kenneth Edge, Cumberland County Commissioner
Staff liaison: Jim Blackburn, (919) 715-4372 or jim.blackburn@ncacc.org

Tax and Finance (www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-tax.html)

Chair: NCACC President Elect Joe Bryan, Wake County Commissioner
Staff liaison: Rebecca Troutman, (919) 715-4360 or rebecca.troutman@ncacc.org

Committee meeting schedules are online at www.ncacc.org/meetings.htm#ncacc-sc

2009-10 NCACC OFFICERS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mary Accor, President, Cleveland County Commissioner
Joe Bryan, President Elect, Wake County Commissioner
Brian McMahan, First Vice President, Jackson County Chairman
Kenneth Edge, Second Vice President, Cumberland County Commissioner
Terry Garrison, Past President, Vance County Commissioner
David F. Thompson, NCACC Executive Director

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

1: **Phil Faison**, Camden County
2: **Jerry Langley**, Beaufort County
3: **Christine Mele**, Pamlico County
4: **F.D. Rivenbark**, Pender County
5: **Robert Wright**, Hoke County
6: **Dan Andrews**, Harnett County
7: **Robert Carter**, Northampton County
8: **Barry Richardson**, Warren County
9: **Amy Dalrymple**, Lee County
10: **Jimmy Maske**, Richmond County
11: **Darrell Frye**, Randolph County
12: **James Klein**, Lincoln County
13: **Barbara Beatty**, Catawba County
14: **Ken Richardson**, Alleghany County
15: **Renée McDermott**, Polk County
16: **Charlie Messer**, Henderson County
17: **Dana Jones**, Cherokee County
18: **Leon Inman**, Stokes County

NACo DIRECTORS

Lee Kyle Allen, Craven County
Kay Cashion, Guilford County
Billy King, Cumberland County
Betty Lou Ward, Wake County
Danny Wright, Vance County

AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

Kitty Barnes, Catawba County
Jo Boggs, Cleveland County
Tony Cozart, Granville County
Owen Etheridge, Currituck County
Virginia Tillett, Dare County

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP AND REPRESENTATIVES

Mike Cross, Legislative Goals Committee Co-Chair, Chatham County
Bobby Greer, Legislative Goals Committee Co-Chair, New Hanover County
Ray Jeffers, Agriculture Steering Committee Chair, Person County
Chuck McGrady, Environment Steering Committee Chair, Henderson County
Viola Harris, Human Services Steering Committee Chair, Edgecombe County
Hubert Sealey, Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee Chair, Robeson County
Ann Holton, RMP Board of Trustees Representative, Pamlico County
Harry Jones, County Managers' Representative, Mecklenburg County



CountyLines

is published monthly by the NCACC
215 N. Dawson St., Raleigh, NC 27603
Phone: (919) 715-2893
Fax: (919) 733-1065
e-mail: ncacc@ncacc.org

www.ncacc.org

Executive Editor: David F. Thompson
Editor: Todd McGee
Assistant Editor: Jason King

CountyLines is provided to county officials as a benefit of NCACC membership. Subscriptions are available to non-members at \$20 per year, plus applicable sales tax. To request subscription information, make changes in an existing subscription, or request display or career opportunities advertising information, or offer an idea for a story, e-mail communications@ncacc.org.

One week not enough for national celebration of county government

More counties will have the opportunity to participate in National County Government Week activities in 2010, when the observance expands from a single week to the entire month of April – henceforth to be known as National County Government Month (NCGM).

NACo's Executive Committee decided to expand National County Government Week to a month to give counties more options to schedule activities that raise public awareness and understanding of county government. NCGM will be held in April in 2010 and in future years. The theme for NCGM in 2010 is "Healthy Counties."

"By designating each April as National County Government Month, counties will have greater flexibility to plan and schedule their own county government activities," said NACo President Valerie Brown, a Sonoma County, Calif., supervisor. "Counties aren't expected to hold public awareness activities throughout the month, but can schedule activities any time during the month."

Brown urged county leaders to begin planning now for the April 2010 celebra-

tion. Her suggestions include holding open houses or public tours of county facilities, visiting local schools and business groups to discuss available county services, and highlighting exceptional county services and programs.

"County governments are integral to America's health system and provide many essential services for their residents," Brown said. "I know counties are most proud of their healthcare services and healthy living programs."

First celebrated in 1991, National County Government Week was created by NACo to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation's 3,068 counties. The community outreach events help residents and businesses better understand how counties serve the community.

A booklet of ideas and suggestions on how to celebrate NCGM will be available in January. For more information about NCGM, visit the "Public Awareness Campaigns" section of the NACo Web site.



Board takes a look at advocacy

Association seeks to build upon legislative successes

What have you found to be successful when you make a request of your local legislator? How can the NCACC utilize newer technologies and forms of communication to enhance its advocacy efforts? These were but two of the questions that members of the NCACC's Board of Directors were asked during an exercise on successful advocacy held during the Oct. 23-24 Board meeting in Guilford County.

The brainstorming and work session concluded a meeting that featured several presentations and uses of newer technologies designed to help advocacy staff revamp the Association's advocacy efforts and further an NCACC strategic goal to enhance the ability of county officials to represent counties and the NCACC on local, statewide and national issues.

Two experts on successful advocacy – Andy Willis, Governor Beverly Perdue's senior advisor for governmental affairs, and N.C. Rep. Dale Folwell of Forsyth County – addressed the Board.

Willis told Board members that you must be clear and concise when lobbying, and act as an educator of an issue.

"When I was with the Fiscal Research Division for about seven years, we learned to despise lobbyists. We did not like them," he said. "But toward the end of my tenure there I realized that lobbyists and advocates have a very, very important role in the process: primarily to educate the legislators on the issues."

Rep. Dale Folwell addressed the Board during the Oct. 23 dinner and talked about how advocacy groups approach him to talk about potential legislation.

"They don't care what I know until they know that I care," he said.

In other matters, the Board:

- authorized staff to move forward with a proposal to bring Risk Management claims in-house. Claims services are currently provided by Sedgwick. The transition will not only result in a better level of customer service but will help the Pools control claims more effectively, said Risk Management Director Lester J. Nixon.



NACo Health Policy Advocate Paul Beddoe addresses the NCACC Board of Directors from Washington, D.C., via video conference. The presentation fed into an exercise that in part asked Board members how the Association can use technology to enhance its advocacy and communications efforts.

Photos by Jason King

According to Nixon, internal claims management will not only result in an annual savings of \$350,000, it will allow for greater member education, support a philosophy of member-driven services, enhance risk control services, facilitate



District 16 Director Charlie Messer of Henderson County participates in an exercise Oct. 24 designed to identify successful advocacy practices.

greater interaction between members and the Pools, and reinforce the Pools' member-owned identity.

The transition will result in 19 new positions – 15 in Risk Management, one in information technology and three in finance – and will require the remodeling of the Association's space at the Quorum Center. The proposal calls for the transi-

tion to become effective Jan. 1, 2011.

- received an update on three appellate-level cases that the Board had authorized NCACC participation.

In Beaufort County Board of Education v. Beaufort County Board of Commissioners, the state Supreme Court declared that jury instruction in the case was inadequate, stating that the financial resources of the county and the fiscal policies of the county should be reviewed when resolving school budget disputes. This clarification is advantageous to counties, according to NCACC General Counsel Jim Blackburn.

In Tonter Investments v. Pasquotank County, a three-judge panel of the Court of Appeals upheld Pasquotank County's zoning authority with respect to a 10-acre exemption in the general statutes that relates to subdivision regulation.

A challenge to Union County's Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance for school facilities has yet to be ruled on by the Court of Appeals. The county's position in Union Landowners Association v. Union County was upheld by a trial court.

- approved the expenditure of up to \$15,000 for defense in the case Sugar Creek Charter School et. al. v. State of North Carolina. Seven counties – Cleveland, Edgecombe, Halifax, Mecklenburg, Nash, Rutherford and Union – and the boards of education located in those counties have been named defendants in the lawsuit, which challenges the constitutionality of the general statutes prohibiting state and county funding of charter schools.

Since four of those counties – Cleveland, Edgecombe, Nash and Rutherford – are members of the Association's Liability and Property Pool, the NCACC will be able to participate in the initial defense of the lawsuit.

Tax modernization

Continued from page 1

counties. Most services are minimally – if at all – taxed.

Dr. Roland Stephen, assistant director for policy and research at the Institute for Emerging Issues at N.C. State University, reiterated to NCACC Board members that the expected growth in the state's population will be heavily centered around urban areas, creating a dramatic need for new schools in certain counties. An aging population – particularly a problem in rural counties – will put a higher strain on Medicaid expenditures. These and other factors magnify an unfairness and inadequacy of the state's revenue structure, according to Stephen.

"It's not keeping up, certainly on the sales tax side, and it's complicated," Stephen said of the tax system. There's an imbalance among sources of revenue, Stephen said, and there are narrow bases on sources due to loopholes, exemptions and credits. The more narrow the bases, the higher the rates will be, he added.

Despite an estimated budget deficit of \$3 billion, legislators did not expand the sales tax base in the 2009-11 biennium budget, instead bumping up the statewide sales tax rate by 1 percent and imposing additional income taxes on single taxpayers making more than \$60,000.

Dr. Bill Fox, a national sales tax expert with the University of Tennessee who provided overview of national sales tax history, recent experiences and projections for future growth to the Joint Interim House and Senate Finance Committees on Tax Reform on Nov. 3, said his research has shown this to be a poor strategy.

"It's high tax rates that cause most of the mischief in taxation and change our behavior about spending," he said.

"Keep the sales tax base broad and keep the rate low. Don't try to keep exempting the base to get fairness."

Stephen agreed and said that lowering the rates will reduce the volatile nature of the sales tax revenue stream.

"These high rates distort decision-making," he said. "One of the things you really want to work on is to lower those rates, get the volatility down and lose those distortions."

According to Stephen, there are a little more than 180 services that are taxed by one state or another. The average state taxes about 55 services. North Carolina taxes just 33.

Taxing those services and reducing the overall rate will be beneficial for local governments, Stephen said, due to lower risk and a more certain structure of revenues.

"I believe local government in North Carolina has an overwhelming interest in some sort of structural reform," he said.

Does Your County Need Raleigh Representation?

- Appellate • Property Tax Commission • Legislative
- State Regulatory Agencies

IRW

ROSE | RAND | WALLACE
ATTORNEYS, P.A.

Raleigh Contact: Jeff Gray
(919) 832-4040

Wilson Contact: Jim Cauley
(252) 291-3848

www.rrwattorneys.com

"Our clients are institutions, and so are we ..."

McGill
ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERING • PLANNING • FINANCE

ASHEVILLE, NC (828) 252-0575
HICKORY, NC (828) 328-2024
PINEHURST, NC (910) 295-3159

www.mcgillengineers.com

Application deadline for state farmland preservation grants is Dec. 4

County governments pursuing farmland preservation projects can apply for funding assistance from the N.C. Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund. Applications and guidelines for the 2010 funding cycle are available online at www.ncadfp.org or by calling (919) 733-7125. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Dec. 4.

“The General Assembly appropri-

ated \$2 million to the trust fund for the 2010 fiscal year, and we’re looking forward to helping communities across the state work to preserve working farms and farmland,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

The trust fund’s purpose is to support projects that encourage the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural and forest lands to foster the

growth, development and sustainability of family farms.

Grants can be awarded to secure agricultural conservation easements on lands used for agricultural production; to support public and private enterprise programs that promote profitable and sustainable agricultural, horticultural and forestland activities; and for the development of agricultural plans.

NACo webinar provides help on Five Star grants

NACo will host a webinar Dec. 10 from 2 – 3:15 p.m. to provide an overview of its Five Star Restoration Grants program. The grants support community-based wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects. Visit www.naco.org for more information.

Sales tax

Continued from page 1

used for, so there weren’t any squabbles about where the money would go,” said Lee County Manager John Crumpton. “This time, the Board of Education and the county commissioners pretty much turned this over to a citizens group to run, and they went out and recruited people door-to-door to be a part of it. Having the citizen involvement is probably what carried the day.”

The local chapter of Americans For Prosperity got involved in trying to defeat the referendum and received more than \$12,000 from the national organization to finance the campaign, said Crumpton. Even though the organization mounted an expensive – and according to Crumpton, misleading – media campaign against the sales tax, citizens overwhelm-

Successful quarter-cent sales tax referendums

Alexander County, January 2008
Catawba County, November 2007
Cumberland County, May 2008
Haywood County, May 2008
Lee County, November 2009
Martin County, November 2007
Pitt County, November 2007
Rowan County, November 2009
Sampson County, November 2007
Surry County, November 2007

www.ncacc.org/revenueoptions.html

ingly supported the measure.

In Rowan County, more than 55 percent of those voting approved the measure. Commissioners have pledged to use the revenues to pay for a new annex at the county jail and to pay for new

telecommunications equipment.

“When I came 18 months ago, we talked about the need for new jail facilities ... and we talked about the need to update all of our radios,” said County Manager Gary Page. “We also had problems with dead spots in the county. We had trouble advising emergency services people where to go. To fix that problem with the radios, we were going to need to build three new towers.

“These were public safety issues. The jail and radio equipment are something that everybody benefits from.”

Combined, the jail and emergency communications equipment will cost about \$18 million, Page said. He estimated that the sales tax will generate approximately \$2 million per year – enough to pay the debt service for the next 10 years.

Page said the county did not have

a formal organization supporting the effort, but he said that he and the members of the Board of Commissioners spoke to dozens of civic clubs, and appeared on radio call-in programs and local TV newscasts to encourage citizens to support the effort. He also said that the county explained to the local fire departments that the county would not be able to afford the equipment upgrades without an additional revenue stream.

“The firemen were all supportive. They knew the only way they would get replacement radios and not have to raise their individual fire taxes was to support this,” said Page.

Lee County previously tried to pass the measure in May 2008. It was the first time that Rowan County commissioners had put the option on the ballot.

Voters in Harnett County rejected the measure.



LOCAL ELECTED LEADERS

Academy

Strategic Leadership Education for County and Municipal Elected Officials

Local Finance: Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements

DECEMBER 2, 2009	CHAPEL HILL, SHERATON
JANUARY 13, 2010	WILMINGTON, HILTON RIVERSIDE
JANUARY 29, 2010	CONCORD, EMBASSY SUITES
FEBRUARY 17, 2010	GREENVILLE, HILTON
FEBRUARY 24, 2010	ASHEVILLE, DOUBLETREE BILTMORE
MARCH 3, 2010	KITTY HAWK, HILTON GARDEN INN

As stewards of the public trust, local elected officials must put in place the funding and infrastructure their community needs to thrive. This engaging, one-day workshop is designed to help county commissioners and city council members understand how to read annual financial statements. Elected officials will learn the right questions to ask and how the decisions they make will affect their community’s future. Participants are encouraged to invite their managers, administrators, and finance directors to attend as well.

The workshop will conclude with a 2-hour segment on ethics that meets the new statutory requirement for city and county elected officials.

This Regional LeaderShop is a program of the Local Elected Leaders Academy and is offered regionally to encourage participation and to minimize travel time. Elected officials are eligible for recognition through the NC Association of County Commissioners and the NC League of Municipalities. Scholarships are available through the Local Elected Leaders Academy.

To register online or to request scholarship information, visit www.sog.unc.edu/courses/1641/, or contact Gail Wilkins at wilkins@sog.unc.edu or 919.962.9754.

Visit www.lela.unc.edu for an up-to-date calendar of educational programs offered through the Local Elected Leaders Academy. To learn more, contact Donna Warner at 919.962.1575 or warner@sog.unc.edu.

Legislature bolsters emergency management laws

By **Todd McGee**

Communications Director

Dealing with natural disasters and other emergencies was on the minds of many legislators this past session. As a result, the General Assembly approved a series of bills emanating from the recommendations from the Joint Select Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Management Recovery.

The bills address several issues identified by the committee. The new legislation gives local governments more authority in dealing with emergency situations, allows counties to form joint emergency management agencies with other counties and municipalities, and allows the governor to establish mutual aid agreements between the state and counties. The Division of Emergency Management – established in the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety – is given the responsibility for carrying out or overseeing many of the changes.

The overriding goals of the legislation were to improve coordination between state and local governments, to provide standards, and to provide for better training opportunities for local emergency management personnel.

H380 (Strengthen Local Emergency Management) makes several changes to the state's emergency management

general statutes affecting counties. It identifies the Division of Emergency Management as the state agency responsible for making sure that local emergency management plans are consistent with state laws. It charges the division with reviewing local emergency management plans at least biennially to ensure compliance with state and federal standards.

The bill also removes the \$1,000 per year limit on financial assistance from the state and instead says that each county that forms an agency that meets federal and state requirements is eligible for "financial assistance, including State and federal funding appropriated for emergency management planning and preparedness, and for the maintenance and operation of a county emergency management program."

If a state appropriation does not include a funding formula for county emergency management agencies, the Division of Emergency Management shall determine the amount allocated to each county. The division is allowed to consider the "professional competencies of local emergency management personnel" and the "degree to which local plans and programs meet State standards and requirements promulgated by the Division." The bill also authorizes local governments to form joint emergency management agencies so that small local

governments can collaborate and share resources.

H377 (Authorize Emergency Management Certification Program) authorizes the division to establish a voluntary Emergency Management Certification Program "to strengthen and enhance the professional competencies of emergency management personnel in State and local emergency management agencies."

The bill establishes a four-tiered emergency management certification program and creates the Emergency Management Training and Standards Advisory Board "to provide oversight of training and certification programs." The certifications must be renewed every five years.

H379 (Allows Mutual Aid Agreement Between State and Local Government) clarifies that the governor may establish mutual aid agreements with political subdivisions in the state with the concurrence of the governing body. Mutual aid agreements are a critical mechanism for securing intergovernmental cooperation and assistance during emergency situations. Previously, mutual aid agreements were not authorized by state statutes, although many local governments already had them in place with the state.

S256 (Clarify Local Government Evacuation Authority) allows cities and counties to order evacuations during certain emergencies and gives them the authority to "control ingress and egress of a disaster area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein." The bill also

clarifies that the emergency management immunity statutes apply to local governments and local government personnel during these situations.

S258 (Authorize Voluntary Medical Registry Program) asks the division to establish a model registry for use by cities and counties to identify medically fragile persons who would be in need of special assistance during an emergency or disaster. Any health information obtained would be considered confidential and would not be covered under public information statutes. It authorizes cities and counties to coordinate the voluntary registration of functionally and medically fragile persons.

"These bills were a result of collaborative efforts by the Joint Select Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery, stakeholders from the Division of Emergency Management, the School of Government, county managers and NCACC staff," said Association Policy Advocate Anthony Allen. "Everyone agreed in this process that the laws needed to be strengthened and put into place before another emergency happens."

In 2008, Allen and NCACC General Counsel Jim Blackburn served on an emergency management study committee that made recommendations on strengthening North Carolina's emergency management capabilities. The report was submitted to the Joint Select Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Management Recovery and the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Natural and Economic Resources in December 2008.



Everyone is dreaming of a wonderful retirement

Help make those dreams come true with the NC 401(k) Plan

The NC 401(k) Plan can be an important addition to your compensation and benefits package because it helps your employees achieve their goal of a financially secure retirement by offering them:

- **Pre-tax and Roth (after-tax) contributions**
- **A wide range of investments**
- **GoalMaker[®], an optional, easy-to-use asset allocation program, available at no cost**
- **Lower total Plan costs than ever before***

To learn more about enhancing your benefits package with the NC 401(k) Plan, contact your Regional Retirement Education Manager, visit www.NCPlans.prudential.com, or call **1-866-NCPlans** (1-866-627-5267).

*The State combined administration of the NC 401(k) Plan and NC Deferred Compensation Plan with Prudential Retirement. The size and scale of both Plans was used to negotiate lower fees with institutional fund managers and the Plans' recordkeeper, resulting in the potential for significantly lower investment related fees, depending on the employee's account size.

Keep in mind that application of asset allocation and diversification concepts does not ensure safety of principal and interest. **It is possible to lose money by investing in securities.**

Separate accounts are investment options available under group variable annuity contracts issued by Prudential Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company (PRIAC), Hartford, CT, a Prudential Financial company.

NC 401(k) Plan Regional Retirement Education Managers are Registered Representatives of Prudential Investment Management Services LLC (PIMS). Securities products and services are offered by Prudential Investment Management Services LLC (PIMS), Three Gateway Center, 14th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102-4077. PIMS is a Prudential Financial company. Prudential Retirement is a Prudential Financial business. Prudential Retirement is a registered service mark of The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Newark, NJ and its affiliates.

PRUDENTIAL RETIREMENT

INST-20090126-A029568
Ed. 01/2009

Save Well. Live Well.

NOAD051
Printed 01/2009



The NCACC would like to thank the county commissioners and employees who helped staff the NCACC's State Fair booth on county government, which was open during Fair hours Oct. 15-25.

WE'RE "A WHOLE LOTTA HAPPY" FOR YOUR HELP!

COUNTY OFFICIALS

Joe Bowser, Durham County Commissioner
Susan Green, Durham County GIS Mapping Division Manager
Robert Hill, Durham County EMS Paramedic I
Joyce Logan, Durham County Tax Division Supervisor
Gudrun Parmer, Durham County Criminal Justice Resource Center Director
Kimberly Simpson, Durham County Tax Administrator
Mike Smith, Durham County EMS Director
Teresa Williamson, Durham County Tax Division Supervisor
Brian Alligood, Granville County Manager
Lynda Smith, Halifax County Health Director
Tammy Holder, Harnett County Tax Department
David Hunt, Orange County Deputy Clerk/Information Specialist
Norwood Blanchard, Pender County Commissioner
Lance Metzger, Montgomery County Manager
Laura Morton, Montgomery County Clerk to the Board
Lisa Rolan, Montgomery County Finance Director
Angela Kearney-Dunlap, Warren County Clerk to the Board
Elaine Vann, Washington County Register of Deeds

NCACC STAFF

Anthony Allen	Todd McGee
Richard Barnes	Lisa Nolen
Alisa Cobb	Sheila Sammons
Donald P. Czysz	Judy Stancil
Kathy DeMay	Rebecca Troutman
Jennifer Ketner	Jo-Ann West

"A WHOLE LOTTA HAPPY"

Proposed ozone standard could impact up to 55 counties

By Todd McGee

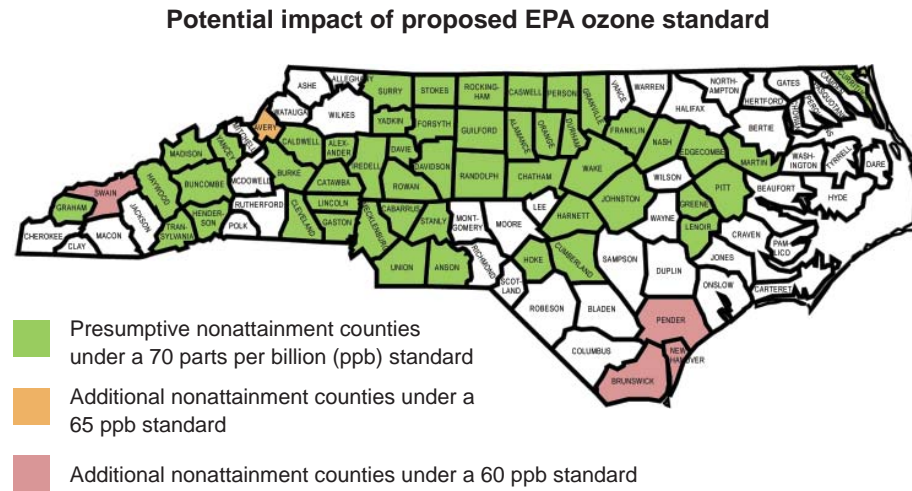
Communications Director

Depending on how far Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson lowers the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone, 55 North Carolina counties could be at least partially included in designated nonattainment zones when the new rule is made permanent in August 2011.

The NCACC Environment Steering Committee, which is chaired by Henderson County Commissioner Chuck McGrady, heard this news during its Nov. 5 meeting at the Albert Coates Local Government Center in Raleigh.

Jane Spann of the EPA and Bebhinn Do of the Division of Air Quality within the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reported on proposed changes to the NAAQS currently being considered by Jackson.

The reconsideration affects both the "primary" ozone standard, designed to protect public health, and the "secondary" standard, designed to protect the environment. EPA issued the ozone standards on March 12, 2008, and set both standards at a level of 0.075 parts per million (ppm). The 2008 standards did not follow the recommendations from



Source: NC DENR DAQ, www.ncacc.org/committees/esc/NCDAQ_Do.ppt

Note: Some counties are only partially covered by standard

To view the handouts from the meeting and a listing of committee membership, visit www.ncacc.org/committees/scmembers-env.html.

the EPA's panel of science advisors, the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC), which had recommended that the standard be reduced anywhere within a range of 0.60 ppm to 0.70 ppm.

Jackson is expected to announce her proposed changes in December. There will be a public comment period before the final rule is released, tentatively set for August 2010. Areas will then have

one year to come into compliance.

Do gave a presentation on the state's attainment status. She noted that the bad ozone days in 2009 were down dramatically from previous years. She attributed it to cooler temperatures and more rain, but also said that reduction strategies are working and that some utilities have implemented scrubbers that have reduced the amount of ozone-causing pollutants

released into the air.

In other matters, several representatives from the N.C. Groundwater Association provided their perspective on the role that private wells can play in the state's water supply system.

"Nothing is more important to the state of North Carolina than the future of its water," said Jerry Merrill, president of the NCGWA. "North Carolina's water has become North Carolina's oil."

According to Merrill, N.C. ranks third in the nation in number of private wells dug per year, behind only Michigan and Pennsylvania.

Members also discussed the recent changes to laws affecting county landfills and what counties are doing to comply, and received an update on the Compost Operation Stakeholder Advisory Group from steering committee member Allen Hardison, the NCACC's appointee to this advisory group. The group was created from H1100 (Stormwater Controls for Compost), which was signed into law July 17. The advisory group will hold its first meeting Dec. 9 in Raleigh.

The Environment Steering Committee also set dates for its next two meetings in 2010: Feb. 10 and May 5. Each day is a Wednesday. Meetings will be held from 1 – 4 p.m. in the Albert Coates Local Government Center auditorium.



RISK MANAGEMENT POOLS

While insurance companies have customers, the NCACC Risk Management Pools have members who are involved in developing risk management products and the provision of those products.

Rather than being driven by profits, the Pools are driven by service to members.

Ask about becoming part of our MEMBER-DRIVEN ORGANIZATION.

Contact us at (919) 719-1100, or visit www.ncacc.org/rmp.htm.

A MEMBER-DRIVEN ORGANIZATION

If you rent facilities, stop and smell a TULIP

A TULIP (Tenant Users Liability Insurance Protection) can save counties a lot of grief

Does your parks and recreation department have facilities that it rents to the public for a small fee? If so, often the normal protocol is to have the county attorney draft a simple one-page, short-term lease agreement that is executed each time the facility is used by a member of the public.

In that lease, the user agrees to be responsible for any liability that might arise out of their actions while using the facility and to hold the county harmless from responsibility. Some agreements will go further and require that the user provide some evidence of insurance in force, usually in the form of a certificate.

Depending upon the specifics, it is possible that an individual's personal

liability coverage, which normally is a part of their homeowner's policy, may in fact provide the coverage needed, but it is difficult to get a certificate of insurance for personal lines of insurance, especially issued to a county. If your lease agreement requires naming the county as an additional insured, it is even less likely that a personal lines insurance company's underwriter will be willing to do so.

The lack of a certificate of insurance will put you in a difficult position if someone is seriously hurt while at your facility. Securing someone's insurance information after a significant bodily injury occurrence is almost always more difficult than if it is requested before it happens.

So how do you, as the risk manager for your county, address the problem of being sued by an individual attending an event at your facility? The degree of risk is often difficult to establish, since normally it is a function that you have little or no control over and you are not present while it is taking place. Unfortunately the county often ends up being the only party involved that has any insurance in the event of an occurrence.

A simple and affordable solution is

to require evidence of proper insurance through the renter's mandated purchase of a Tenant Users Liability Insurance Protection policy, commonly called a TULIP. This short-term liability coverage is designed for an event that cannot be covered by the tenant's current insurance or if the tenant has no other insurance. A TULIP policy can meet the contractual responsibility of the premise lease agreement, be specific in its design to cover the exposures of the event and is far less expensive than purchasing a standalone special event policy in the county's name.

The per event cost should be borne by the individual using your facility. The average minimum premium is \$100 to \$150 per event for a \$1 million per occurrence liability limit. Examples of events include weddings, festivals, club meetings, class reunions, concerts, arts and craft fairs, festivals and other similar events. The county is normally automatically included as an additional insured, and host liquor liability coverage is available if alcohol is being served.

If you are a member of the NCACC Liability & Property Pool, your county or entity is automatically provided coverage

for such events. The intention of this article is to illuminate a potential exposure that can be significant from the tenant's perspective. If properly addressed, the utilization of a TULIP policy can insulate your own loss experience from being negatively impacted through the actions of a member of the public by affording coverage for the tenant. If the tenant has their own TULIP insurance coverage for their event, there should be dollars available in front of yours providing protection at no additional cost to you.

If you are not in the Pool, we recommend asking your insurance carrier how they would respond in the event a loss arises out of the use of one of your facilities. If you are self-insured or utilize a large self-insured retention (similar to a very large per occurrence deductible), the use of a TULIP is potentially crucial. Regardless, a TULIP is a great, cost-effective tool to make sure the tenant using your property has the insurance coverage they need. It may not keep you out of the courthouse, but at least you will have company should the unfortunate occur.

Michael Kelly serves as Property and Casualty Program Specialist for the NCACC's Risk Management Pools.

Managing Your Risk

by Michael Kelly
NCACC Risk Management

Management needs to be on board with health and safety plan

By Bob Carruth

Risk Control Manager

Last month, I provided an overview of ANSI Z10, the voluntary consensus standard approved in 2005 for health and safety management systems. This standard provides for a common platform to implement and maintain a health and safety management system. This month, we will look at the management leadership and employee participation portion of the standard in more detail.

S 3.1.1 of the standard reads: "Top management shall direct the organization to establish, implement and maintain an OHSMS [Occupational Health & Safety Management System]."

It is widely known that a health and safety program in any organization will not succeed without the support of the top management. These are the key components:

Health and safety policy: It is rare that you find a manager who does not care about the well-being of his or her employees; a person of this mentality does not last long in a management or leadership role. The real issue in most organizations is how the intent of the

manager is communicated to the organization. What is needed is a short, concise statement, signed by the senior manager – whether that is the county manager or the chair of the board of commissioners.

The statement should lay out, at a minimum, four basic commitments: continual improvement of the health and safety process; employee involvement; safety policies to be followed; and laws and regulations regarding health and safety to be complied with.

Once approved, the statement should be published and distributed throughout the organization so all employees can see the organizational intent, thereby establishing a base from which the rest of the program can be built.

Responsibility and accountability: In addition to publishing a health and safety policy, management is also responsible for establishing and maintaining the momentum of the process. Many organizations' health and safety processes have been sidelined, primarily due to inadequate or inconsistent attention. Things tend to move from a state of order to disorder. That's why management systems exist – to counter this. Without constant monitoring and attention by se-

nior management, the safety process will tend to lose its momentum over time.

Responsibility includes the commitment of resources to the process, including financial, human capital and time. Many studies have shown that the investment in an effective health and safety process can pay dividends in the form of lower insurance costs, improved productivity and increased employee morale.

An effective health and safety process must also establish clear roles, responsibilities and accountabilities. These include clear, measurable accountabilities for department heads and supervisors, metrics that will be used to measure success, how a commitment to health and safety is measured as part of the annual evaluation process, and who is responsible for particular elements of the overall process.

Finally, the health and safety process must be integrated into other management processes. It is much simpler to use existing management policies, processes and protocols for the management of the health and safety program. This also reduces the pitfall of "we just don't have enough time right now to spend on our safety process." If it is seen as an integrated part of the overall management goals and priorities, there will be time.

The other aspect of this first section involves employee participation in the management of the organization's health and safety program. Although senior management support is the most critical component in the success of the organization's health and safety process, employee participation runs a close second.

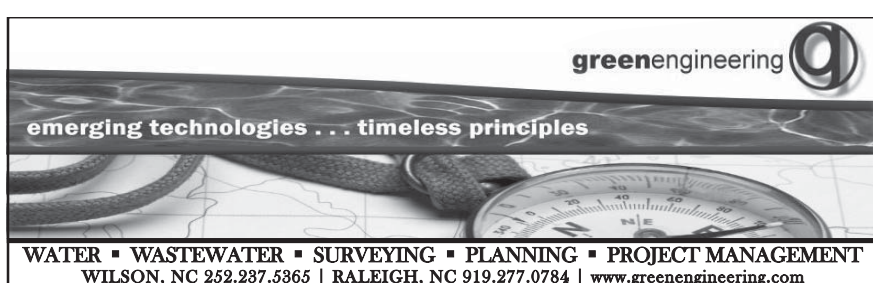
Employees should be involved in

the overall planning, implementation and auditing of the health and safety process in the organization. This can be done by including them on safety committees, task forces and audit teams.

Employees should be provided with information regarding the safety performance of the organization. OSHA already requires that employees be notified each year of the organization's safety performance; notification is also required for any chemicals that are used in the workplace. Other information that could be provided to employees includes the outcome of any incident investigations, reports of safety inspections, or minutes of safety committee meetings.

Finally, management must be diligent in identifying and removing barriers that prevent full participation by employees in the health and safety process. Most of the time, these barriers are due to competing priorities placed on the time of a department or employee. Management must be diligent to keep communication lines open to employees in regards to the health and safety system, as well as making participation in safety-related activities a priority.

Although these items are essential to establish the foundation for an effective health and safety process, they are often overlooked. Many times, organizations that have recurring safety-related issues can improve their safety performance by addressing these strategies up front to clarify and establish a future roadmap for success. Next month, we will look at the second component of an effective health and safety management system: planning.





300 S. Brevard St., AT&T Plaza 1522
Charlotte, NC 28202
Phone: (704) 417-7622
Fax: (704) 510-7470
Contact: Carlos Sanchez
E-mail: cs6325@att.com
Web site: www.att.com

The merger of AT&T and BellSouth creates a next-generation communications provider with proven infrastructure, global breadth, solid financial resources and a record of strong management. Government agencies will benefit from innovative integrated services, streamlined customer care and greater convenience in buying communications services. The new company is consolidating Cingular's ownership under the new AT&T banner, allowing the integration of the companies' wireless and wireline Internet Protocol (IP) networks. This integration will allow convergence of new voice, data and video applications and give business customers access to one of the world's most advanced IP networks.



421 Fayetteville St., Suite 900
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: (919) 235-4346
Fax: (919) 235-4352
Contact: Dan Dowell

E-mail: ddowell@energysystemsgroup.com
Web site: www.energysystemsgroup.com

ESG is the premier provider of energy solutions and performance contracting services in North America. We are committed to delighting education, healthcare, government, commercial and industrial facility owners through innovation, dedication and expertise in delivering energy improvements that enhance facilities and finances. ESG designs, develops, implements, finances and operates innovative, customer-focused energy and operation solutions that enhance our client partners' facilities, productivity, comfort and finances so they can focus on meeting their core mission. In 2003, ESG was one of the first energy service companies to earn the prestigious Energy Service Provider (ESP) accreditation.



2301 Valencia Terrace, Charlotte, NC 28226
Phone: (toll free) 1 (866) 300-3545
Contact: Stephen J. Allan, President
E-mail: sol4logov@bellsouth.net
Web site: www.s4lg.com

Planning & Operations Consulting Services for Local Government. Areas of emphasis include: 1) Fire, Rescue, EMS, & 911/Communications strategic planning, staffing analysis, station location analysis, and deployment; 2) Facilities Space Planning & Needs Assessment Studies, emphasizing Jail, Law Enforcement, and Courts facilities; 3) Operations Consulting, including process improvement, operations consolidation, and efficiency studies. "Your solutions, not someone else's answer."



Capital Management & Engineering

111 W. Central Ave., Suite 207
Mount Holly, NC 28120
Phone: (704) 827-2766
Fax: (704) 827-2746
Contact: Myron George
E-mail: mggeorge@cmepc.net
Web site: www.cmepc.net

Capital Management & Engineering specializes in helping our clients successfully plan, manage and implement their capital improvement projects and programs. Our services include: project and program planning and promotion; consultation for capital projects financing; scheduling and financial tracking; public involvement and education; environmental planning and permitting; design and design reviews; property and right of way acquisition; construction administration and oversight; and utility coordination. We represent our clients with integrity and knowledge of the many political, social and technical issues inherent in such extensive and complex endeavors.



105 Tech Lane, Liberty, SC 29657
Phone: (864) 343-0500
Fax: (864) 343-0503
Contact: Chris Barnhill
E-mail: chrisb@keymarkinc.com
Web site: www.keymarkinc.com

KeyMark is an award-winning document management solution provider and Value Added Reseller of Hyland Software's OnBase enterprise content management (ECM) system. OnBase has been implemented by over 500 government entities including four of the 10 largest counties in the U.S. With our integrated solution, local governments are able to connect silos of information, comply with state and federal regulations, provide accountability and transparency, and mitigate the effects of turnover and election staff changes. Our scalable solution allows you to implement at the department or enterprise level giving you the freedom to grow and expand to best serve your constituency.



15 Overland Industrial Blvd.
Asheville, NC 28806
Phone: (828) 670-3535
Fax: (828) 670-3513
Contact: Don Hallingse
E-mail: dhallingse@scana.com
Web site: www.psnenergy.com

PSNC Energy, a wholly owned subsidiary of SCANA, is franchised to serve a 28-county service area in North Carolina and distributes natural gas to approximately 470,000 customers in 95 cities and communities ranging from the Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill areas in the north central part of the state; the Concord, Statesville and Gastonia areas in the Piedmont; and the Asheville, Hendersonville and Sylva areas in the western part of the state.



2359 Perimeter Pointe Parkway, Suite 150
Charlotte, NC 28208
Phone: (888) 254-4290
Fax: (704) 426-6044
Contact: Dr. Marvin Schrum
E-mail: mschrum@communityeyecare.net
Web site: www.communityeyecare.net

Community Eye Care, an endorsed benefits provider of the Association, is a vision benefits company based in North Carolina. The company currently administers voluntary vision benefits for many of North Carolina's county governments. The Community Eye Care vision plan entails no cost for the County, and it enables county employees to substantially reduce their expenditures for routine eye care. With over a thousand eye care providers across the state, access to care is excellent in both rural and metropolitan areas. Community Eye Care has truly become North Carolina's Vision Plan.



1400 Old Mill Circle, Suite A
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
Phone: (336) 768-8217
Fax: (336) 768-2185
Contact: Doug Ryan

E-mail: doug.ryan@mbaactuaries.com
Web site: www.mbaactuaries.com

MBA Actuaries is a full-service, independent consulting firm. We offer a wide range of actuarial, management and strategic consulting services to organizations and individuals that need to evaluate, quantify and manage risk. Our diverse international clientele includes insurers, re-insurers, captives, self-insurers, rating bureaus, regulators and government agencies, as well as investment bankers, accountants, lawyers, brokers and risk managers. Our people excel in projects involving complex, new and unusual situations. Call us to discuss how MBA Actuaries can help you make sense of uncertainty. We look forward to hearing from you.



Municipal Code

P.O. Box 2235, Tallahassee, FL 32316
Phone: (800) 262-2633
Fax: (850) 575-8852
Contact: Dale Barstow, VP of Sales
E-mail: info@municode.com
Web site: www.municode.com

Municipal Code has served North Carolina Municipalities for over 50 years. Our well known services include: codification, recodification, supplementation, republication, legal review, code on the Internet, posting raw ordinances to the web, electronic only supplements. MCC Innovations (www.mccinnovations.com), a division of Municipal Code, helps create transparency in government with electronic solutions for records management, document management, and legislative management.



P.O. Box 3136, Winston-Salem, NC 27102
Phone: (336) 831-1073
Fax: (336) 777-3520
Contact: Angie Hutchins
E-mail: angie.hutchins@datamax.com
Web site: www.datamax.com

Interstate Credit Collections (ICC) has been a highly effective debt collection service since 1906 when we began as the collection division of the Retail Merchants Association in Winston-Salem. Today ICC works closely with hundreds of businesses of all types and sizes including city and county governments to collect everything from parking fees and property taxes to fees for noise ordinance and fire inspection violations. Our approach is firm but fair. Our process can include reporting accounts to the credit reporting agencies. We provide tailored collection solutions that deliver superior debt recovery. The result is a powerful partnership that generates millions of dollars each year for our clients.



8601 Six Forks Road, Suite 400
Raleigh, NC 27614
Phone: (919) 522-3940
Fax: (919) 882-1608
Contact: Dianne Mazo Jones
E-mail: DJones@mgtamer.com
or DianneMazo@aol.com
Web site: www.mgtamer.com

MGT of America, Inc. is the premier cost accounting consulting firm for state and local government. North Carolina cities, counties and state agencies receive from MGT client-focused consulting services focused on the development of OMB A-87 and Full Cost allocation plans, indirect cost rates, jail rates, user fee studies and management studies. As an employee-owned mid-sized firm, MGT is small enough to provide exceptional service with reasonable fees yet large enough to meet, and exceed, our client's cost allocation and cost accounting needs.

SFL+A Architects

333 Fayetteville St., Suite 225
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: (919) 573-6350
Fax: (919) 573-6355
Contact: Mike Wawrzyniak
E-mail: mwawrzyniak@sfla.biz
Web site: www.sfla.biz

SFL+A Architects was founded as a "service-oriented firm" in 1982. For more than 20 years that founding principle has not changed. SFL+A Architects creates aesthetically pleasing, sustainable and appropriate spaces for people to live, learn, work, play, pray and actually enjoy being. Our determination to provide architectural excellence through unsurpassed quality is driven by a commitment to communities and the people in them. Today, SFL+A Architects is a growing firm with offices in Fayetteville, Charlotte and Raleigh. It is our desire that each space we have the privilege to design reflects the goals, style, and strength of the comprehensive whole, the "big picture."



1667 K Street NW, Suite 480
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: (202) 775-1796
Fax: (202) 775-0214
Contact: Howard Marlowe
E-mail: howard.marlowe@marloweco.com
Web site: www.marloweco.com

For more than two decades, Marlowe & Company has provided effective, result-driven representation in Washington, D.C., for government entities and nonprofit groups from across the country. Our clients value our distinctive service, which is built on a solid foundation of knowledge and results. At the heart of every relationship with our clients is the personalized service that makes Marlowe & Company unique in Washington. We provide the level of attention and advocacy that you need in order to succeed in today's competitive environment.



38 Orange St., Asheville, NC 28801
Phone: (828) 232-6109
Fax: (828) 253-5612
Contact: Jessica Martin-Lane
E-mail: jessica@martin-mcgill.com
Web site: www.mcgillengineers.com

Throughout its 25-year history, McGill Associates has prided itself on its reputation as a responsible and respected engineering consulting organization by demonstrating professionalism, integrity, responsiveness, reliability and technical excellence. McGill Associates has offices in Asheville, Pinehurst and Hickory, N.C., Greenville, S.C., and Knoxville and Sevierville, Tenn. The firm provides civil and environmental engineering, planning, landscape architecture and finance services to clients in North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia and Virginia.



1564 E. Parham Road
Richmond, VA 23228
Phone: (804) 726-9748
Fax: (804) 726-9752
Contact: John Anzivino
E-mail: janzivino@springsted.com
Web site: www.springsted.com

Expertise. Insight. Accomplishment. These three words summarize what Springsted will offer as your public sector advisor. Springsted provides a wide range of financial advisory, human resources and organizational management, economic development and housing, budget and financial analysis and investment services for clients based in real world experience. With a staff of dedicated professionals, many of whom came from government management positions, we will partner with you in building strong communities through effective planning and creating innovative yet practical strategies, funding successful projects, implementing sensible changes, and managing investments, organizations and staff. We improve performance for our clients, assisting them in building a legacy for their community.



700 E. Ritchie Road, Salisbury, NC 28146
Phone: (704) 638-4050
Fax: (704) 638-4067
Contact: Randy Welch
E-mail: rdwelch@duke-energy.com
Web site: www.duke-energy.com

Duke Energy is a leading energy company headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. Our purpose is to create superior and sustainable value for our customers, employees, communities and investors through the production, conversion, delivery and sale of energy and energy services. We are committed to health, safety, the environment and our communities. We believe in ethically and honestly doing what we say we will do. We respect every individual, and we embrace diversity and inclusion. We work to achieve superior business results, stretch our capabilities and foster win-win relationships. We have the courage, creativity and discipline to lead change and shape the future.



11430 N. Community House Road
Gibson Building – Suite 225
Charlotte, NC 28277
Phone: (704) 540-3755
Fax: (704) 540-3754
Contact: Dan Mace
E-mail: dmace@moseleyarchitects.com
Web site: www.moseleyarchitects.com

As a respected and well-established full service design firm, Moseley Architects' 240+ professionals are located among six locations in the Southeast, including Charlotte and Raleigh. Our practice is devoted exclusively to assisting local governments in the design and construction administration of cost effective, efficient public buildings, specializing in justice facilities, K-12 schools and higher education. Our planning services include stakeholder and user group facilitation, sustainable design planning, security consulting, staffing and transition services. Moseley Architects has emerged as a leader in sustainable and high performance design. We designed the first LEED Gold school in the world (Third Creek Elementary in Iredell County) and the first LEED Certified correctional institution in the world in Butner.



3301 Benson Drive, Suite 601
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone: (919) 325-3000
Fax: (919) 872-1471
Contact: David A. Duke
E-mail: david.duke@wasteindustries.com
Web site: www.wasteindustries.com

Throughout its 34-year history, Waste Industries has provided its customers with responsive, cost-effective and environmentally sound solutions to their solid waste disposal and recycling needs. Waste Industries, Inc. currently operates more than 40 collection operations in the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida. Waste Industries, Inc. is a recognized leader in the industry and continues to be one of the fastest-growing waste and recycling service companies in the Southeast.

Directory of Associate Members

Corporations can show their support of North Carolina county governments by joining the NCACC's Associate Member Program. The program is designed to foster a positive relationship between North Carolina's 100 counties and the organizations and firms that offer services needed in today's complex county governmental system. The Association uses the funds generated by the program to improve or create member services. For more information and a list of benefits, visit www.ncacc.org/assocmembers.html.

Directory continued on page 10.



P.O. Box 863, Lewisville, NC 27023
Phone: (336) 409-1849
Fax: (336) 766-1279
Contact: Barry Britt
E-mail: Barry.Britt@emsbilling.com
Web site: www.emsbilling.us

Based in Clemmons, N.C., EMS-MC is the largest, most established third-party EMS billing company in the Southeast. Our performance-driven results have helped make our clients some of the most successful EMS providers on the East Coast. As exclusive EMS specialists, we understand the intricacies and demands of our industry. We deliver a simplified billing alternative with proven cost-effectiveness, streamlined efficiency and unparalleled customer service. Most importantly, we offer billing and support services that are customized to each client. From subscription plans to fiscal reporting, everything we provide is exclusively designed with the customer in mind. We're serious about solutions so you get paid, not just promised.



109 Candlewood Road
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
Phone: (252) 937-2500
Fax: (252) 937-2525
Contact: Tim Oakley
E-mail: toakley@oakleycollier.com
Web site: www.oakleycollier.com

Oakley Collier is a design-oriented architectural firm dedicated to providing quality service to our clients. The success of our firm can be attributed to our philosophy of communication: simply put, we listen. By doing so, we are able to produce an end result for our clients that not only satisfies specific program requirements, but also meets budget and time constraints. Our services include: site evaluation; feasibility studies; land use studies; regulatory code compliance studies; programming and interior design; spatial needs analysis; detailed cost analysis; schematic design; design development; construction documents; specification review and preparation; bidding and negotiation services; construction administration; project closeout; and record drawings.



1230 W. Morehead St., Suite 400
Charlotte, NC 28208
Phone: (704) 731-7000
Fax: (704) 731-7095
Contact: Rob Johnson
E-mail: rjohnson@mbaj.com
Web site: www.mbaj.com

MBAJ Architecture makes a positive difference in the communities we serve through excellence in architectural planning and design. We provide creative solutions and effective stewardship of resources. Founded in 1981, we serve counties across North Carolina from our offices located in Shelby, Charlotte and Raleigh. We have a wealth of experience in all types of county facilities. Our services range from pre-funding feasibility studies to post-occupancy evaluations for both additions and renovations of existing facilities and for new buildings. We would welcome the opportunity to share with you our successful past projects and learn about your needs for the future.



P.O. Box 2943, Hickory, NC 28403
Phone: (828) 464-2414
Fax: (828) 464-6922
Contact: Bill Schrum
E-mail: schrumb@repsrvnc.com

Republic Services of North Carolina, LLC is a wholly subsidiary of Republic Services, Inc. Republic Services, Inc. is the second largest provider of services in the domestic non-hazardous solid waste industry. We provide non-hazardous solid waste collection services for commercial, industrial, municipal and residential customers through 400 collection companies in 40 states and Puerto Rico. We also own or operate 242 transfer stations, 213 active solid waste landfills and 78 recycling facilities. Our NC operating units include: GDS, Republic Waste Services, A-1 Sanitation, Allied Waste, BFI, Foothills Environmental Landfill, Upper Piedmont Environmental Landfill, Uwharrie Environmental Landfill, East Carolina Environmental Landfill, and CMS Landfill.

Directory of Associate Members



6200 I-55 South, Jackson, MS 39272
Phone: (800) 248-0280
Fax: (800) 432-9331
Contact: Terrell Grantham
E-mail: tgrantha@duro-last.com
Web site: www.duro-last.com

Duro-Last® Roofing, Inc. is a national roofing manufacturer that produces a prefabricated thermoplastic single-ply roofing system for flat or low-sloped buildings. Since 1978, Duro-Last has installed over a billion square feet of roofing membrane on buildings throughout North America. Energy-efficient and extremely durable, the Duro-Last roofing system is also leak-proof, virtually maintenance-free, and resistant to chemicals, fire, punctures and high winds. Additionally, Duro-Last has met or exceeded all major fire and wind code requirements and regional approvals throughout the country, reinforcing its reputation as The Proven Performer®. Duro-Last has locations in Saginaw, Mich. (corporate headquarters); Grants Pass, Ore.; Jackson, Miss.; and Sigourney, Iowa.



P.O. Drawer 2367, 2500-C W. Nash St.
Wilson, NC 27894-2367
Phone: (252) 291-3848
Fax: (252) 291-9555
Contact: Jim Cauley
E-mail: jcauley@rwwattorneys.com
Web site: www.rwwattorneys.com

Rose Rand Wallace Attorneys, P.A. is a full service law firm with a statewide presence capable of handling your most sophisticated or everyday legal needs. Our Eastern North Carolina clients can enjoy the benefits of the expertise of an urban law firm while receiving the personalized attention their legal matters deserve. Attorneys at Rose Rand Wallace Attorneys, P.A. serve as counsel to numerous local governments in North Carolina due to our attorneys' expertise with regard to legal issues that affect local government. Our attorneys are closely involved in the governmental, judicial, political and civic activities of Eastern North Carolina and the Research Triangle. The firm's clients are located not only in and around the state, but also include regional and national firms that do business across the United States.

R.W. Greenfields

136 Dars Lane, Tuckasegee, NC 28783
Phone: (828) 293-5453
Fax: (828) 293-1585
Contact: Richard Worth
E-mail: rwgreenfields@verizon.net

Balfour Beatty Construction

5420 Wade Park Blvd., Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27607
Phone: (919) 233-5007
Fax: (919) 233-5002
Contact: Hal Routh
E-mail: hrouth@balfourbeattyus.com
Web site: www.balfourbeattyus.com

At Balfour Beatty Construction, our vision is to differentiate ourselves so significantly that we change the industry. How? By making service delivery our top priority, one relationship at a time. Whether you're building a hospital or a hotel, a school or a skyscraper, an airport or an office park, you can depend on Balfour Beatty Construction to provide more. More talent. More leadership. More teamwork. More personal attention. More of what you expect (and deserve) from your construction partner.

Nationwide® Retirement Solutions

On Your Side®

5900 Parkwood Place, Dublin, OH 43016
Phone: (804) 647-0247 or (877) 677-3678
Fax: (800) 648-0184
Contact: Debbie Turner
E-mail: turned11@nationwide.com
Web site: www.nrsforu.com

As an NCACC partner, Nationwide is committed to the success of counties through its Deferred Compensation Program. Nationwide offers flexible solutions to build unique programs; service when, where and how county leaders want it; education that motivates employees; and a promise to deliver.



263 Third St., Fifth Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70801
Phone: (910) 572-1658 or (704) 467-7774
Fax: (910) 572-1636
Contact: Diane Davis
dianedavis@unifiedrecoverygroup.com
Web site: www.unifiedrecoverygroup.com

Unified Recovery Group is a full service disaster recovery specialist. UNIFIED provides its clients with a comprehensive plan for recovery that includes debris hauling, reduction, hazardous waste mitigation, asbestos abatement, demolition, and specialized support in the FEMA eligibility and reimbursement process. Whether preparing for a possible disaster or faced with its aftermath it is critical to obtain a disaster recovery company with extensive knowledge and resources to address the task at hand. UNIFIED's founders and personnel bring forth years of experience in providing full disaster recovery services. Our vast fleet of company owned and employee operated equipment is unrivaled in the disaster recovery industry. We have the knowledge, resources, equipment and manpower to get any size job done right and in a timely manner.

AECOM

1305 N. Center St., Hickory, NC 28601
Phone: (828) 327-2971
Fax: (828) 327-4958
Contact: Gene Haynes
E-mail: gene.haynes@aecom.com
Web site: www.aecom.com

AECOM is a global provider of professional technical and management support services to a broad range of markets, including water, transportation, facilities, environmental and energy. With 43,000 employees around the world, AECOM is a leader in all of the key markets that it serves. AECOM provides a blend of global reach, local knowledge, innovation, and technical excellence in delivering solutions that enhance and sustain the world's built, natural, and social environments. AECOM serves clients in more than 100 countries and had revenue of \$5.2 billion during its fiscal year 2008.



1053 Bullard Court, Raleigh, NC 27615
Phone: (919) 871-6001
Fax: (919) 871-1041
Contact: Ricky Tharrington
E-mail: ricky@asrnc.com
Web site: www.asrnc.com

Association Services, an independent insurance organization that specializes in voluntary benefits programs made available by county governments to their employees through payroll deduction, has been endorsed by the NCACC. Voluntary benefits are increasingly becoming an important part of county government benefits programs. It has been reported that as much as 80 percent of an employee's insurance needs will be purchased at the work site. This is particularly true with middle income employees for whom traditional ways of buying insurance has been reduced or eliminated.



6000 Fairview Road, Suite 310
Charlotte, NC 28210
Phone: (704) 369-2971
Fax: (704) 369-2974
Contact: Jerry Fitzgerald, CCIM
E-mail: jfitzgerald@commercialcarolina.com
Web site: www.commercialcarolina.com

Commercial Carolina, a member of the Cushman & Wakefield Alliance, is a full service commercial real estate firm based in Raleigh. With offices in Raleigh, Charlotte and Greensboro/Winston-Salem, N.C., and Greenville, Charleston and Columbia, S.C., the firm's multi-market coverage provides a unique perspective not offered by other firms in the region. Commercial Carolina has been chosen by national, regional and local clients to advise and execute office, industrial and retail real estate strategies on their behalf.



SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLANS

150 Fayetteville St., Suite 980
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: (919) 664-7101
Fax: (919) 743-5310
Contact: Tim Bryan
E-mail: tim.bryan@prudential.com
Web site: ncplans.prudential.com

The NC 401(k) Plan, a state-sponsored supplemental retirement savings plan for public employees and educators, is the largest state 401(k) plan in the United States, with more than 218,000 participants and more than \$4.2 billion in assets. Currently, there are more than 450 local employers within the plan who are contributing to the plan. Employers are better able to attract and retain high-quality employees by having this competitive 401(k) plan available to employees. The newest addition, the NC Deferred Compensation Plan (457) is a complementary component for supplemental retirement savings and is now also available to NC employers. We also have 18 local Retirement Education Managers located throughout the state who are available to conduct group and individual meetings with both employers and employees.



811 Broad St., Fifth Floor
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Phone: (423) 553-5635
Fax: (423) 553-5645
Contact: Stephanie Bennett
E-mail: stephanie.bennett@southernhealthpartners.com
Web site: www.southernhealthpartners.com

Southern Health Partners provides full-service medical programs for small to medium-size county jails. We focus on providing on-site care and reducing transports while improving quality of care.



10710 Sikes Place #125
Charlotte, NC 28277
Phone: (704) 846-1977
Fax: (704) 846-2108
Contact: Glenn Ware
E-mail: gware@warebonsall.com
Web site: www.warebonsall.com

Ware Bonsall Architects provides professional architectural, planning and security consulting services to North Carolina counties. We specialize in planning and designing detention centers, courthouses, law enforcement centers and county office facilities. Our experts will assist you from the inception of the planning process through design, construction and final occupancy to develop a facility that responds to your functional, philosophical, schedule and budget needs. Ware Bonsall Architects was started by Glenn Ware and Paul Bonsall – architects who each have over 25 years of experience planning and designing public facilities.

Nine new district directors join Board

Representatives from the NCACC's odd-numbered districts caucused at the 102nd Annual Conference in Catawba County to select district directors to two-year terms on the NCACC Board of Directors.

Three of those directors are featured here. District 3 Director Christine Mele of Pamlico County, District 5 Director Robert Wright of Hoke County, District 7 Director Robert Carter of Northampton County, District 11 Director Darrell Frye of Randolph County, District 15 Director Renée McDermott of Polk County, and District 17 Director Dana Jones of Cherokee County were featured in the October issue of *CountyLines*.

District Directors are expected to maintain contact with other commissioners in their districts. This allows directors to know and to understand the issues that affect their counties and provides a means for communicating with members. District Directors should inform Association staff and other members of the Board of Directors about matters of interest or concern in their districts.

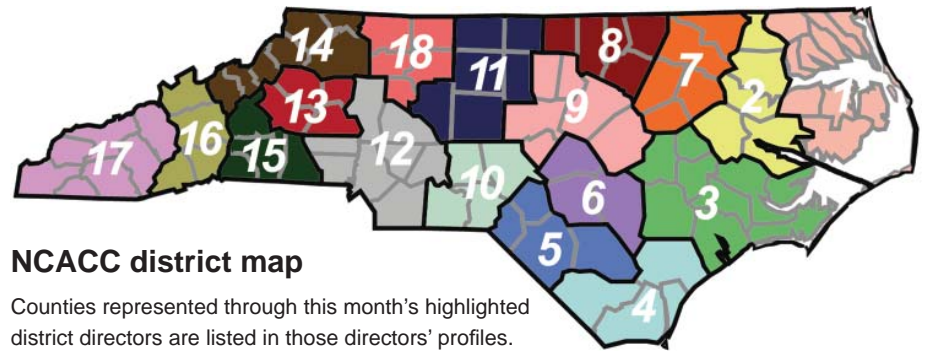
Advocacy: As part of the Association's grassroots advocacy program, District Directors serve as a primary con-

tact when legislative action is needed. At times, they may be asked to find out what other commissioners in their districts think about specific legislative proposals.

Representation: District Directors are encouraged to foster constructive intergovernmental relationships in their counties. This includes participating in civic education programs in the schools and community organizations, or at colleges and universities in the area. District Directors may also represent the NCACC with other interested parties or organizations at the local level, such as municipalities and regional planning organizations.

Mentoring: District Directors can serve as mentors to newly elected commissioners from their districts, especially in the year following county elections, by offering encouragement, helping them to understand county government, and sharing experiences. And most importantly, District Directors should encourage new commissioners to become involved in NCACC programs, activities and committees.

For a full listing of district directors and members of the Board of Directors, see page 2.



NCACC district map

Counties represented through this month's highlighted district directors are listed in those directors' profiles.

- District 2:** Beaufort, Bertie, Hertford, Martin and Pitt
- District 3:** Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne
- District 4:** Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender
- District 5:** Bladen, Hoke, Robeson and Scotland
- District 6:** Cumberland, Harnett and Sampson
- District 7:** Edgecombe, Halifax, Nash, Northampton and Wilson
- District 8:** Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance and Warren
- District 10:** Anson, Montgomery, Moore and Richmond
- District 11:** Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Guilford, Randolph and Rockingham
- District 12:** Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union
- District 14:** Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey
- District 15:** Cleveland, McDowell, Polk and Rutherford
- District 16:** Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania
- District 17:** Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain
- District 18:** Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin

PHIL FAISON

District 1 Director
Camden County

Represents Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties

Occupation: General contractor specializing in upscale modular homes, office buildings.

Political history: Elected to first term on Board of Commissioners in 2006; served as vice chair first two years, elected chairman in 2008. Member of NCACC Agriculture and Public Education steering committees.

Top local priority: "Diversifying the tax base in the county by successfully getting a \$2 million Golden Leaf grant to provide sewer to the northern end of Camden County for commercial development."

Why did you run for office? "Because of both community encouragement and encouragement from members of the Board of Commissioners at that time."

Born: Dec. 27, 1953



Education: B.S. in psychology from Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College), 1978

Family: Daughter, Marla, 17

What are you most proud of from work in public service? "Moving the county into the 21st century and changing the culture of our board."

Interesting story from tenure on Board of Commissioners: "Traveling to Washington, D.C. and visiting Capitol Hill and the Pentagon with Currituck County Commissioner Gene Gregory to fight the OLF."

AMY DALRYMPLE

District 9 Director
Lee County

Represents Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee, Orange and Wake counties

Occupation: Home school teacher, farmer

Political history: Seated to Board of Commissioners for first term in December 2008

Top local priorities: Education and economic development

Why did you run for office? "I've always been active in community causes. I've done a lot with education. I was on a steering committee for a bond issue for elementary schools about 10 years ago. I've been involved in issues in the county, and I was encouraged by a lot of citizens in the county."

Born: Oct. 7, 1964, in Lee County

Education: "I'm a proverbial student - I'm still in search of a degree. ... I still go back to school from time to time." Has taken classes at Central



Carolina Community College, Campbell, UNC-Chapel Hill

Family: Husband, Tommy; four children, Robert (20), Catherine (18), Matthew (10), Jenni (8)

What are you most proud of from work in public service? "The one thing I'm proud of as far as working on the board so far is feedback from citizens. They know I'm an independent thinker and a hard worker. That makes me feel good that they recognize that."

BARBARA BEATTY

District 13 Director
Catawba County

Represents Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba counties

Occupation: Internal auditor; cost accountant; manufacturer sales representative; sales account executive

Political history: Elected to fourth four-year term on Board of Commissioners in November 2008; NCACC Public Education Steering Committee member; numerous local boards and commissions

Birthday: July 9



www.wkdickson.com

WK DICKSON
community infrastructure consultants

Transportation Planning & Design

Environmental & Water Resources Engineering

Community Planning & Development

Geospatial Technology

Raleigh • Charlotte • Wilmington • Hickory

ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL – The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is seeking candidates for the position of Associate General Counsel. The Association is one of the most successful and active statewide local government associations in the nation and was established for the betterment of North Carolina's 100 county governments. The successful candidate will perform difficult professional work providing legal inquiry services, assisting with legislative analysis, and lobbying on behalf of North Carolina counties before legislative, executive and judicial branches of government. This person will have frequent contact with legislators, legislative staff, county commissioners, county staff and other lobbyists, and will be expected to interact effectively to form positive relationships and coalitions on behalf of the Association for the purpose of advancing pending legislative and administrative actions. The candidate will be expected to oversee the development of amicus briefs, provide written/oral legal opinions, advice and educate county officials on legal matters, and serve as an in-house legal resource. The ability to lead meetings and develop and deliver presentations is also required. The position requires a Juris Doctorate and considerable experience working with government relations and legal issues facing local and/or state government. Salary is negotiable depending on qualifications and experience. Please submit cover letter and résumé to elizabeth.floyd@ncacc.org. Please indicate position title as e-mail subject. This recruitment is open until filled. EOE.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – Watauga County is accepting applications for Finance Director. Duties include performing professional, managerial and administrative work in planning, organizing and executing the financial activities of the County. The position requires a thorough knowledge of general ledger, accounts receivable, accounts payable, budgeting, payroll, purchasing, financial planning and reporting, capital improvement planning and investing. Work is performed in accordance with established County finance procedures, local ordinances, North Carolina General Statutes governing the responsibilities of local government fiscal operations, generally accepted accounting principles and GASB. The ideal applicant will have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with associates, government officials and the general public. Graduation from an accredited college or university with major course work in accounting or business administration and extensive, progressively responsible experience in finance administration or accounting is required. CPA preferred. County benefit package includes health and dental insurance; 5% supplemental retirement contribution; paid holidays; vacation and sick leave. Salary range \$65,617 – \$101,705 DOQ. Apply at the Employment Security Commission, 207 Winkler's Creek, Boone, NC 28607, 265-5385. Application deadline is Monday, November 30, 2009. Watauga County is an EEOE.

PUBLIC UTILITIES DIRECTOR – Halifax County, NC. (Posting #: 811000-1218) – General population approximately 57,000 with the largest city being Roanoke Rapids, located at the northern end of the county and near the VA/NC border straddling I-95. This position serves as the chief administrator of the Public Utilities Department, working in a broad range of general administrative and management functions to ensure compliance with OSHA, EPA, NCDENR, NC General Statutes, and all other government agency's rules and regulations. Some of the major responsibilities of this position include planning, organizing, and directing all activities and functions of all divisions of the Public Utilities Department and managing daily operations of the county-wide water system, wastewater system, and solid waste management collection and disposal. Requires any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with major course work in sanitary or civil engineering or related field and progressively-responsible experience in the management of a public utility system or regulatory environment. Ideal candidate will possess experience with a local government (county or municipal) public utilities system. Note: As a department/agency head, residency in Halifax County or agreement to become a resident within six (6) months from the date of acceptance of this position is required. Deadline for application material is Tuesday, December 15, 2009 (postmarks not accepted). For additional information or to request application material, visit www.halifaxnc.com or contact Human Resources at 252-583-1688.

CLERK TO THE BOARD – Granville County government is seeking applications from qualified individuals for the position of Clerk to the Board. Job duties include serving as a custodian of public records, executing legal documents by affixing the proper signatures of Board officials and attesting to their compliance with general statutes and county ordinances and serving as administrative support to the County Manager and the Board members. Requirements – Graduation from a two year business school or community college with a major in business or secretarial science and minimum of 5 years of experience in office management or executive secretarial work including experience in related county work or in the safekeeping and care of public records; or equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Preference will be given to applicants who have extensive experience in local government administration. Salary range is \$31,383 to \$55,499. Applicants should submit a résumé in addition to a Granville County application to the Employment Security Commission, 518 Lewis St., Oxford. Granville County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

AREA DIRECTOR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – Sandhills Center LME, a progressive Regional Management Entity serving Anson, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, and Richmond Counties. \$95,760 – \$171,674. The CEO will manage and oversee the operations of the agency and will be responsible for: establishing priorities, and the development and implementation (with Board approval where required) of operational policies and procedures. The CEO shall be present at all meetings of the Board of Directors for the purpose of providing reports and other information necessary for the Board to conduct its business. A Master's degree in Business, Hospital Admin., or Public Administration or a Human Services (or closely related field) and six years experience in a community, business or governmental program in a governmental and/or mental health/developmental disabilities/substance abuse setting with three of the years in an increasingly responsible supervisory position required. Closing date for all applications is 5 p.m. December 31, 2009. Post offer/pre-employment drug testing will be conducted. For more information about Sandhills Center job opportunities visit our website at www.sandhillscenter.org. Send a NC State Application and Résumé to the Department of Human Resources, Sandhills Center, P.O. Box 9, West End, NC 27376. AA/EOE.

DATA PROCESSING DIRECTOR – Rockingham County is now accepting applications for the position of Data Processing Director. This position performs highly responsible work of an administrative nature in planning, developing, directing, and monitoring the County's computer information system. Supervision is provided to a staff of technical professionals, whose department goals include maintaining data integrity, providing a stable network, and providing timely hardware and software support to County departments and affiliated agencies. A small staff of GIS personnel is also under the direction of this position. Essential functions include designing, installing, and overseeing operation of a computer network; advising department heads and others about design and managing implementation of information systems to meet needs; and administering information technology projects, including designing scope and determining costs. This position is responsible for designing software applications; diagnosing problems, hardware and program failure or errors of operation, and designing and implementing solutions; and preparing computer programs and operational routines, or altering existing programs to maximize performance capabilities. In addition, the development of department policies, procedures, and budgets is also included. The minimum education and experience requirements are: Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Public Administration, Business Administration, or related field and five years of experience in programming and system analysis; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Knowledge of geographic information system (GIS), webpage development and maintenance, and prior supervisory and public sector experience is preferred. This position requires good analytical, problem solving, communication, administrative, and interpersonal skills. Salary range is \$62,623-\$93,935. A Rockingham County application must be submitted to: Employment Security Commission, 8340 NC 87, Reidsville, NC 27320. Applications can be obtained online at www.co.rockingham.nc.us. This position is open until filled. Rockingham County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

AREA DIRECTOR – Onslow Carteret Behavioral Healthcare Services (www.ocbhs.org). The Area Director/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible to the Area Board of Directors for the overall planning, management, leadership and operation of the LME. The Area Director/CEO will direct and supervise staff and programs, create and monitor budgets, and serves as liaison with government officials at the State and local levels. The Area Director/CEO will serve on State, regional, and local community committees, task forces, and planning groups regarding MH/DD/SAS services and work with a network of providers and consumer and family advocacy groups. The Area Director reports to the Onslow Carteret Behavioral Healthcare Services Board of Directors and shall be present at all meetings of the Board of Directors for the purpose of providing reports and other information necessary for the Board to conduct its business. Knowledge, Skills and Abilities: An extensive knowledge of management and administration within a public system of mental health, developmental disability and substance abuse services is essential. The Area Director/CEO must have strong interpersonal, communication, problem-solving and analytical skills. The Area Director/CEO must be able to understand and apply the policies and procedures in every aspect of the delivery of MH/DD/SAS. Accuracy and attention to detail are essential as well as the ability to identify and solve problems in an effective manner. The Area Director must be able to accurately assess the skills and abilities of others and insure the application of those skills and abilities in the overall management of the Area Program. The Area Director/CEO must have the ability to establish appropriate and respectful relationships and partnerships with persons served and their families; assist clients in gaining the skills necessary to address problems; work with a multi-disciplinary team approach; set limits and maintain a helping role and intervene appropriately to meet the needs of persons or families served; and works within the established professional guidelines developed by the profession and treatment plans developed for persons served. The Area Director/CEO serves a wide range of consumers across the catchment area and must be sensitive and able to respond appropriately across the cultural differences present in the service population which can include members of the local armed forces and their dependents. Training requirements include awareness of the cultural diversity of persons served. Minimum Education and Experience: A Master's degree in Business, Hospital, or Public Administration or Human Services (or closely related field) and six years experience in a governmental and/or mental health/developmental disabilities/substance abuse setting with three of the years in an increasingly responsible supervisory position. Minimum training and experience requirements are in accordance with GS 122C-121(d). Special Requirements: In order to drive an OCBHS vehicle the applicant must have a valid driver's license, be in compliance with OCBHS insurance regulations, and must have no more than 3 points over a 3-year period or have any DWI convictions. The applicant must maintain client confidentiality in accordance with Federal, State, and Area Program guidelines. Employment offers will be contingent upon receipt of a satisfactory police/law enforcement or clerk of court background check, three satisfactory professional references, and TB test. Hiring Range: \$87,079 – \$113,203. Applications with transcripts along with names, addresses, and phone numbers of three professional references must be submitted to Onslow Carteret Behavioral Healthcare at 165 Center Street, Jacksonville, NC 28546 by 12/18/09. Applications may be hand-delivered, faxed to (910) 219-8073, and must be followed by an original or mail to the address above. OCBHS is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V.

DEPUTY FINANCE DIRECTOR – Guilford County is seeking a Deputy Finance Director to assist in the overall direction of the Finance Dept. Must have strong organizational and mgmt./suprv. skills. Must have extensive knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the principles and practices of gov't finance admin. including financial reporting budget preparation, cash mgmt., capital financing, and the application of gov't laws and regulations. BS degree in Acctg. or an acctg-related field required and a min. of 3 yrs of acctg. exp. including 1 yr. suprv. exp. CPA required. Prefer applicant with exp. in local gov't finance and/or audit exp. in a medium to large CPA firm and a min. of 5 yrs mgmt. exp. in a local gov't finance dept. or with major CPA firm. Apply at www.co.guilford.nc.us, 201 S. Greene St. Greensboro, NC (336) 641-4710. Position #06165. EOE.

ADMINISTRATOR – COMMUNICATIONS – Lincoln County. An employee in this position is responsible for supervising the operations of the emergency dispatch center. Plans, organizes, and directs emergency dispatch operations and personnel. Interviews, hires, schedules, evaluates, disciplines, counsels, and supervises department personnel. Maintains department equipment, troubleshoots minor problems, and coordinates repair and maintenance as necessary. Oversees and assists in training of personnel in acceptable E-911, radio, telephone, and emergency and non-emergency dispatch principles, practices, methods, techniques, and procedures. Monitors radio traffic and phone calls for quality assurance. Oversees or handles administrative duties: processes purchase orders, check requests, vouchers, payrolls, and employee forms; maintains office files and records; monitors office equipment and supply needs; prepares reports and correspondence; responds to complaints and resolves problems. Prepares the annual budget, monitors department expenditures, and makes budget projections. Develops and implements policy and procedure changes to improve department efficiency; maintains and updates policies and procedures manual. Ensures that the department meets the requirements of relevant regulatory agencies. Oversees administration of the addressing system; addresses all new structures within the county. Serves as Division of Criminal Information Agency Coordinator. Must have knowledge of modern office practices; knowledge of the principles and practices of emergency and non-emergency communications operations and administration; knowledge of applicable federal, state, and local laws, county ordinances, and department policies and procedures; knowledge of FCC-approved emergency codes and signals; knowledge of regulations and procedures of state and national crime information centers; knowledge of computers and communications. Must have skill in supervising and training others; skill in planning, organizing, and developing work schedules; skill in computer operation and data entry and retrieval; skill in oral and written communication and in dealing with the public. Baccalaureate degree in a course of study related to the occupational field. Experience sufficient to thoroughly understand the diverse objectives and functions of the subunits in the department in order to direct and coordinate work within the department. Must have a minimum of 3 to 5 years experience in E-911 communications or public safety or a related field. Grade 20 (\$41,362 – \$63,100). Applications available online at www.lincolncounty.org or send application to Lincoln County Human Resources, 115 W. Main St., Lincoln NC 28092. Position open until filled. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

HEALTH DIRECTOR – Montgomery County (population 27,000). Salary: Negotiable base on experience. Oversees department of more than 38 employees and a budget of over \$2.2 million. This position is responsible for the overall operation of the Health Department to include planning, organizing, implementing, directing, evaluating and providing leadership in a variety of health programs including various clinics, health education, environmental health, and WIC. This position is also responsible for budget/financial activities, contract management, community collaboration and representing the agency at both local and state level. The position requires the applicant to have excellent communication skills, positive interpersonal skills, understanding of principles and practices of public health, supervision and personnel management, budget and fiscal accountability. Applicant chosen must live in county or relocate to county. Requires a master's degree in public health administration and at least one year of employment experience in health programs or health services; or a master degree in public health discipline other than public health administration and at least three years of employment experience in health programs or health services; or a masters degree in public administration and at least two year experience in health programs or health services; or a master's degree in a field related to public health and at least three years of experience in health program or health services; or a bachelor's degree in public health administration or public administration and at least three years experience in health programs or services. Open until filled. Pre-employment criminal background checks and drug screen required. All applicants must submit a resume, transcripts and a completed Montgomery County application to: Angie Alderman at Montgomery County Health Department, 217 South Main Street, Troy, NC 27371. The application may be obtained at www.montgomerycountync.com. EOE.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

The County of Surry is accepting applications for Parks and Recreation Director. This position is responsible for administration and management of the County's parks and recreation program. The employee will plan, direct, and participate in an expanding and flexible program of parks and recreational activities for all population segments. Work will include developing long-range plans and special projects for recreation programs and facilities according to anticipated County growth, current needs, and future interests by receiving input from community groups, civic groups, local officials, and the general public. The Director develops and plans department work operations, prepares and administers grants, and manages special projects. The position supervises, either directly or indirectly, a staff of two full time employees and approximately ten part-time employees for Fisher River Park. Work requires extensive public contact and good organizational skills. Additional duties include preparing the department's budget recommendation, coordinating and monitoring the expenditure of funds, preparing requests for and administering grants, and other duties as required. The position works under the supervision of the County Manager and the Board of County Commissioners. Job Requirements: The position requires graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in recreation administration, physical education, or a related field, and considerable experience in the management of a parks and recreation program; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Thorough knowledge of programs, laws, and processes required in County or governmental recreation and administration is desired. Applicants should possess: a valid driver's license and be insurable at regular rates; the ability to communicate effectively in oral and written form; the ability to write policies, grants, and reports; the ability to organize and direct work of technical, labor, and professional employees; and the ability to maintain effective working relationships with officials, the public, and other employees. Salary Range: \$46,224 – \$78,660. Applications will be taken at the Employment Security Commission, 541 West Pine Street, Mount Airy, NC (phone 336-786-4169) until 5:00 pm on December 10, 2009. A complete list of duties and physical requirements will be available for review. In-house applicants should contact Sandra Snow, Human Resources Officer, at 336-401-8202. Surry County is a Drug Free Workplace. Surry County is an EEO Employer. Closing Deadline: December 10, 2009.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR – Johnston County. Economic Development Director needed for one of the fastest growing and most dynamic counties in N.C., population 157,000. We are located just minutes from part of the Triangle region which is considered one of the most desirable places to live in the country. Johnston County has attributes of small-town community life but is accessible to major cities, cultural centers, and universities. The Blue Ridge Mountains are less than three hours away and the coast two hours away. Position reports to the Board of Commissioners. Excellent communication skills, solid management ability, and pertinent marketing experience in North Carolina is preferred. The candidate should have a proven track record for industrial growth through expansion and retention of existing industrial bases, and attraction of new business into the County. The ability to work aggressively with business leaders and government officials and to effectively interact with community, regional and state organizations is imperative. The position requires considerable planning and timely execution of work. Decisions must be made quickly with accuracy when dealing with industrial management teams. Graduation from a four year college or university with a degree in business, planning, economics or related field supplemented by training in economic development and professional experience in industrial or economic development; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Salary depends upon qualifications. Application deadline 11 p.m. on 12/09/09. Please visit www.johnstonnc.com to complete an online application. Johnston County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

BUDGET & MGMT. ANALYST – Guilford County, NC, is seeking a professional to perform work in the review preparation & administration of the county's operating and CIP budgets. Requires three years experience in county/municipal budgeting, research, accounting and/or evaluation. Preferred candidates will have experience in long-range operating & capital budget planning and integrating strategic planning and budget planning processes. A four-year degree in business/public admin, accounting or other closely related field is required. Salary range \$47,789 – \$57,000. Apply online at www.co.guilford.nc.us. 201 S. Greene St., Greensboro, NC 27401. (EOE).

Development of system to boost county motor vehicle property tax collections moving forward

Each year, North Carolina's cities and counties lose millions of dollars in unpaid property taxes on automobiles because of how local governments collect the taxes. Because the vehicle registration process is a function of state government, and the collection of property taxes is a function of county government, several months pass from the time a vehicle is registered until the county sends the property tax bill. This delay allows many vehicle owners to avoid paying the taxes.

By some estimates, North Carolina local governments collect less than 90 percent of the property taxes due on motor vehicles. In some counties, that number is lower than 75 percent.

In 2005, the Association helped shepherd through legislation sponsored by Rep. Dale Folwell (Forsyth) to change this process to combine the vehicle registration process with the collection of property taxes. As a result of Rep. Folwell's tireless efforts, the legislation

unanimously passed both chambers.

Despite the overwhelming support, it has since been the target of several repeal efforts. While none of these efforts to undo this process have been successful, legislators have delayed the implementation date of this change twice in order to provide more time to build the infrastructure necessary to support this initiative.

The N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, the N.C. Department of Revenue, the NCACC and other partners are diligently working to develop a technology system to support this effort. The next step is to build a Statewide Situs Address and Tax Jurisdiction Database (SSAD).

The SSAD project will develop Web and batch applications that counties will use to maintain their SSAD data. Keane, a company that offers a broad range of application, infrastructure and business process services, has been hired to develop the database and has hired former NCACC President David Young

of Buncombe County to serve as its liaison to counties. Young helped organize a series of six meetings across the state in October and November to garner feedback from county information technology professionals and tax administrators on the database project.

"We need your feedback to make it as simple as possible," Young said during the Oct. 7 meeting at the Albert Coates Local Government Center in Raleigh. "This new system will vastly increase your collections."

Representatives from Keane, the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Transportation attended each meeting, as did representatives from numerous counties. The SSAD project is the first step on the road to implementation, and it will result in the DMV being able to calculate the property tax owed on a vehicle when a citizen registers a new vehicle or renews the registration on an existing vehicle.

Receive *CountyLines* via e-mail!

The Association is now offering *CountyLines* in its entirety online. Contact Assistant Communications Director Jason King at (919) 715-0045 or communications@ncacc.org if you would like to receive e-mail notification when each issue of *CountyLines* is available on the Web. Please indicate whether you currently receive the hard copy in the mail and whether you wish to continue receiving the hard copy.

Archived issues of *CountyLines* for the past two years are available online at www.ncacc.org/cntylines.htm.

ADVERTISING POLICY

The NCACC publishes career opportunities in *CountyLines* and on its Web site at www.ncacc.org/classifieds.htm.

CountyLines rates (monthly)

\$1.50 per printed line (minimum of \$25 per monthly ad) for North Carolina member counties and county entities; \$3.50 per printed line (minimum \$75) for all others.

Web site rates (one-time charge)

\$20 per ad (up to 400 words) for N.C. counties and county entities; \$50 per ad for all others. After 400 words, all ads will cost an additional \$5 per every 50 words.

General information and instructions

Ads published in *CountyLines* run in one issue only unless otherwise requested by the advertiser. Ads published in *CountyLines* are posted online at no additional charge and will remain posted on the Web site until the position's closing date or the position is filled, for up to six months. Advertisers are asked to notify the NCACC when their position has been filled. Ads may be submitted, along with billing information, to Jason King via e-mail (communications@ncacc.org), or faxed to (919) 733-1065. Non-N.C. member counties must provide a credit card number before ads will be posted. **The deadline for advertising in the next issue of *CountyLines* is Thursday, Dec. 3.** For more information, please call Jason King at (919) 715-0045.

NCACC STAFF NOTES

Bob Carruth has been promoted from Risk Control Specialist to Risk Control Manager for the NCACC Risk Management Pools. In his new role, he will manage the operation of the Pools' Risk Control Unit, develop safety policies and programs, identify liability exposures and provide recommendations and training to minimize Pool members' risk and further development of risk management programs. Carruth, a Cabarrus County commissioner who joined the NCACC staff in January 2009, succeeds Robert Poole in the position. ...

Kathy DeMay, longtime assistant to the NCACC executive director, is now working under the direction of Risk Management Director Lester J. Nixon. DeMay has served with the Association since September 2001. She will continue to serve in the interim as clerk to the NCACC Board of Directors. ... **David Johnson**, a student in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at N.C. State University, has joined the Association for a 10-week internship. Johnson's primary research assignment will focus on jails.

Calendar of Events

For a complete listing of events, visit www.ncacc.org/meetings.htm.

NOVEMBER

30 NCACC Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee meeting, Albert Coates Local Government Center, Raleigh

DECEMBER

2 Regional LeaderShop: Local Finance – Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements, Sheraton Chapel Hill (Orange County)

9-10 NCACC Risk Management Pools Board of Trustees meeting, Quorum Center, Raleigh

3-5 NACo Board of Directors meeting, Santa Rose, Calif.

17 NCACC Board of Directors meeting, Quorum Center, Raleigh

JANUARY

13 Regional LeaderShop: Local Finance – Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements, Hilton Wilmington Riverside (New Hanover County)

14-15 North Carolina Sea Level Rise Science Forum, Hilton North Raleigh (Wake County)

29 Regional LeaderShop: Local Finance – Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements, Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord (Cabarrus County)

FEBRUARY

3 NCACC Board of Directors meeting, Quorum Center, Raleigh

3-5 N.C. City & County Management Association Winter Conference, Sheraton Imperial RTP (Durham County)



County Briefs

Groundbreaking Wake County commissioner dies

Elizabeth Bias Cofield, who became the first woman and the first African-American to be elected to the Wake County Board of Commissioners in 1972, died Oct. 23 at the age of 89. She served three four-year terms as a commissioner.

She also became the first woman and first African-American to be elected to Raleigh's school board in 1969. She was a driving force behind the desegregation of the city's and county's school systems during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

New Hertford County courthouse in the works

Hertford County commissioners voted Nov. 2 to build a new courthouse. The county had been working with NCACC Associate Member Ware Bonsall on options to renovate the current courthouse, constructed in the early 1950s, or build a new one.

The proposed \$7.9 million, 40,600-square-foot Judicial Center will include two courtrooms, and office space for judges, the District Attorney's office, Clerk of Court, Register of Deeds, and probation and parole officials.

Census spreading word through new Web site

The Census Bureau has launched a new Web site, 2010census.gov. The Web site is part of a large, integrated communications effort to reach every person living in America about the importance of the 2010 Census. A Spanish Web site was to be launched in November.

This Web site is the platform on which to build a national dialogue about how each person's participation helps paint a new "Portrait of America." Site features include the truth behind census myths and shared stories about how the census is easy, safe and important.

Projected sea level rise rates to be released during Jan. 14-15 forum

The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is hosting a free Science Forum on Sea Level Rise in North Carolina on Jan. 14-15 at the Hilton North Raleigh in Wake County.

The forum will be the vehicle through which the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) will release a preliminary report on the current and projected rates of sea level rise in North Carolina. Included in the report will be projected sea level rise ranges in 25-year intervals through 2100. The CRC, as well as other DENR agencies, can use these metrics as the foundation for policy development and adaptation planning.

To register, send an e-mail to Tancred.Miller@ncdenr.gov with the following information: name, title and affiliation, mailing address and telephone number. For more information visit www.nccoastalmanagement.net/slr.html.

Orange appoints Clifton manager

The Orange County Board of Commissioners appointed Frank Clifton as full-time county manager Oct. 6. Clifton, a former manager in Onslow and Cabarrus counties, had served as interim manager since June 15.

"The Board has high hopes and high expectations that Mr. Clifton will continue to lead the county forward as he has for the past few months," Board Chair Valerie Foushee said.

Haynes returns to Yadkin County

Jim Haynes, who recently retired as Richmond County manager, returned to Yadkin County on Sept. 29 to serve as interim manager. Haynes served as Yadkin County manager during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Parker-Evans steps in as clerk to Durham County board

Michelle Parker-Evans has been appointed Durham County's new clerk to the Board of Commissioners, effective Nov. 30. She succeeds Vonda Sessoms, who retired Aug. 30. Yvonne Jones has served as interim clerk since Sessoms' retirement.

Parker-Evans, currently senior executive assistant to the Durham city manager, has spent an extensive professional career spanning 23 years working with various public entities including the U.S. Department of State, the cities of Durham and Raleigh, and Durham County.

"We are grateful that Michelle Parker-Evans is returning to Durham County Government after serving in other capacities throughout the country," said Board Chairman Michael Page.

N.C. organics trading site online

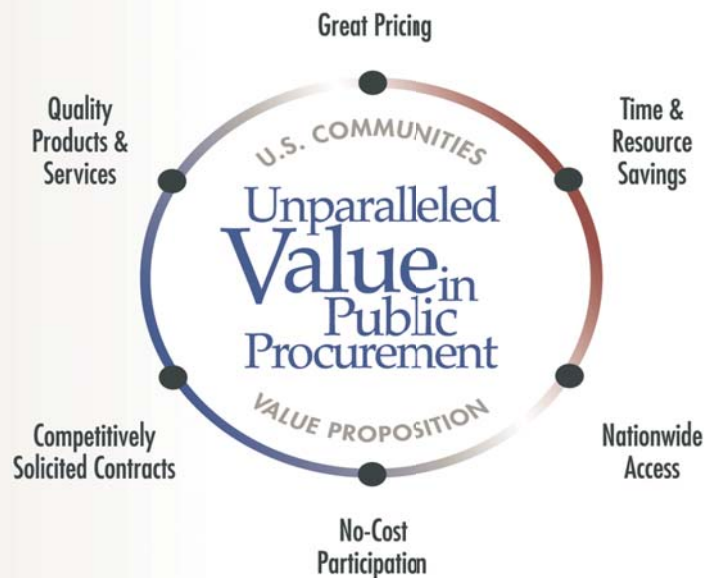
The N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance has announced a new online commodity trading Web site for organic materials to help expand the development of the biomass economy in North Carolina.

NC BiomassTrader (www.ncbiomasstrader.com) is a convenient, free online waste exchange for surplus and waste biomass materials such as waste vegetable oil, restaurant grease, wood waste, manures, food waste, forest products and byproducts, and agricultural products and byproducts. The trading site is available to individuals, organizations and businesses that have biomass commodities others need or that are looking for biomass commodities.

The Web site is a spinoff from the commodity trading site, NC WasteTrader.

Think of
US first
for PROVIDING SOLUTIONS

The Strategic Procurement Source for Public Agencies



GOVERNMENT PURCHASING ASSOCIATION
U.S. COMMUNITIES
Government Purchasers Saving You Money

Founding Co-Sponsors





Dunston takes the handoff

Person County's Jimmy Clayton passed the chairman's gavel to Franklin County's Sidney Dunston on Sept. 24 during the Kerr-Tar Council of Governments Annual Awards Banquet. Clayton was named the COG's Outstanding County Elected Official for 2009.

Photo courtesy Kerr-Tar COG

Revised Economic Developers Handbook released

The School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill and the N.C. Economic Developers Association have published the third edition of the Economic Developers Handbook. The handbook includes a history of North Carolina's economic development efforts; how local, state and regional developers participate; the role of elected officials; potential recruitment tools; an overview of financial assistance programs; and emerging trends.

The handbook is available for free download on the Economic Developers Association Web site, www.nceda.org.

Iredell Commissioner Keadle running for Congress

Iredell County Commissioner Scott Keadle is challenging U.S. Rep. Patrick McHenry for North Carolina's 10th District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Both McHenry and Keadle are Republicans and will appear on the May 4 Primary Election ballot. Keadle was elected to a four-year term to the Iredell board in 2008.

Durham chairman named to Governor's Crime Commission

Durham County Board of Commissioners Chairman Michael Page was appointed by Governor Beverly Perdue in October to the Governor's Crime Commission.

The Crime Commission advises the governor on matters related to the criminal justice system and makes recommendations for improving the justice system, protecting individual rights and promoting public safety. The commission has 42 members, each serving a three-year term. The governor appoints 25 members.

State publication on water and drought available online

State officials have created a publication to explain how people can protect the state's water supplies, the relationship between surface and groundwater, and the impact of drought.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources created "The Water Connection" and posted it in October to its Web site, www.ncwater.org.

Dockery named Columbus extension director

Dalton Dockery will take over as Columbus County cooperative extension director Dec. 1. Dockery has worked in Columbus, Bladen and Sampson counties during a 14-year career. He succeeds Jacqueline Roseboro, who retired in March after a 14-year career as extension director. Howard Wallace has been serving as interim extension director since Roseboro's retirement.

Moore OKs plans for new public safety and detention facility

Glenn Ware, an architect with NCACC Associate Member Ware Bonsall, presented to the Moore County Board of Commissioners on Oct. 19 plans for the design and development of a new public safety and detention center.

Commissioners approved the plans for the new facility, which will be built to accommodate 192 inmates but could be expanded to hold 500 to 600 inmates.



William "Pop" Woodard stands next to a plaque commemorating the achievements of his late wife, Valerie Woodard, who passed away unexpectedly in October 2008.

Photo courtesy Karen Graves/Mecklenburg County

SHORTS

Alexander: Chris Bowman was sworn in as sheriff Oct. 13. Bowman served as chief deputy to Hayden Bentley, who retired Sept. 30. ...

Buncombe: Former Commissioner Patsy Keever is mounting a challenge to Rep. Bruce Goforth for the 115th District seat in the N.C. House of Representatives. The two Democrats will appear on the May 4 Primary Election ballot. ... **Catawba:** The county honored Waste Education/Recycling Coordinator Amanda Kain as its Employee of the Year and the Leadership Team for Child Welfare Reorganization of Social Services with its Team Award on Oct. 20 during the county's Awards Night. ... **Granville:** The county launched a redesigned Web site in October that features a clean look. The site can be accessed at www.granvillecounty.org. ... **Greene:** The county and the Town of Farmville in Pitt County entered into a 40-year agreement to share the expense of a 1 million gallon water storage tower that will serve the town and the 10 water systems in Greene County. ...

Guilford: Commissioners appointed Mark Payne, formerly with Johnston County, as county attorney in October. ... **Orange:** Mike Nelson, a commissioner since 2006, announced in Octo-

ber that he will not seek re-election to the Board of Commissioners in 2010. Before being elected to the county board, Nelson served on the Carrboro Board of Aldermen before being elected to five terms as Carrboro's mayor. ... **Pender:** Former Commissioner Paula Chewning Walls died in an automobile accident Oct. 21. The 58-year-old served on the Board of Commissioners from 1990-94. ... **Rutherford:** Officials are requiring employees to take three days of unpaid leave before June 13, 2010, in order to help cover a \$350,000 budget shortfall caused by lower than expected sales tax revenues. ... **Stanly:** Melanie Holles was appointed library director Nov. 2. Holles, who previously served as acquisitions and outreach services librarian, has served with the county for the past 11 years. She succeeds Penny Welling, who retired Sept. 30 after 14 years as library director. ... **Wilkes:** The Board of Commissioners on Nov. 3 approved plans for a new \$15 million, 256-bed jail. ... Commissioners also voted to postpone the county's revaluation scheduled for 2011 to 2013. Tax Administrator Alex Hamilton told commissioners that real estate transactions have been so slow that it did not justify the cost of a revaluation.

Mecklenburg County honors late Commissioner Valerie Woodard

Members of the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners along with other elected officials and community activists gathered Oct. 22 to remember Valerie Woodard and mark the renaming of a county facility in her honor.

Woodard was in her eighth year of service to the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners when she died unexpectedly of a rare blood disorder on Oct. 3, 2008.

Woodard was the first African-American female elected to the Mecklenburg County board. She championed many social causes, including fighting poverty and homelessness, reducing the incidence of HIV/AIDS, and working for equal opportunities for women and minorities.

The county facility at 3205 Freedom Drive in Charlotte was renamed the Valerie C. Woodard Center.

The facility is a converted mall that houses the county's social services, information services and technology, and real estate services offices. The county will seek LEED certification for the facility, which incorporates several green-building features such as rainwater collection and storage, rain gardens, an under-floor air distribution system, extensive use of recycled materials throughout the building, and eco-friendly paints, carpets and furniture.

The second phase of the building's renovation was completed in April. The third phase will expand the size of the facility to 400,000 square feet.

Community, state honor Hertford's Davis

Long-time Hertford County Commissioner DuPont Davis was honored Oct. 10 as Roanoke-Chowan Community College's Citizen of the Year. He also received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from Governor Beverly Perdue, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the state.

Commissioner Davis, a past president of the NCACC, was recognized for his long devotion to R-CCC. The evening of entertainment and amusing stories about Davis doubled as a fundraiser for a scholarship that will be established in his honor.

"It was really inspiring to witness the positive impacts a dedicated county commissioner can have on their community and individual citizens through their leadership," said NCACC Executive Director David F. Thompson. "It certainly was a night to be proud of being associated with county government in general and Commissioner Davis in particular."

Nearly 300 people – including fellow commissioners from across eastern North Carolina – turned out to roast and toast Davis. Commissioners in attendance included Howard Hunter III of Hertford County, Billy King of Cumberland County, L.C. Hoggard of Bertie County and Robert Carter of Northampton County.

During the evening's festivities,



Hertford County Chairman Howard Hunter III (left) and Cumberland County Vice Chairman Billy King (center) were among county commissioners who attended to honor longtime Hertford County Commissioner DuPont Davis. Both King and Davis are past presidents of the NCACC.

Photo courtesy Justin McKeithan/Roanoke-Chowan Community College

Davis was roasted by friends and family alike. While the amusing anecdotes were all different, each one reflected Davis's love for Hertford County.

"DuPont and I go way back to the time when my hair was dark and he had more of it," Board of Education Member J. Wendell Hall said, according to

the *Roanoke-Chowan News-Herald*. "In all seriousness, what this guy says, he means. He says it like it is.

"People call him the king, they call him the Big Tuna, but whatever they call him, he is duly respected. He is a friend. He's a father. He's a church person and he is a person who believes in Hertford

County."

Hunter, who serves as chairman of the Hertford County Board of Commissioners, thanked Davis for his support.

"After I became a commissioner, DuPont took me under his wings and helped me meet people – some important, some not important and some just to watch out for," Hunter said. "I appreciate all the advice he has given me whether I wanted to hear it or not. He has more parables than the Bible."

"There is no one who cares more about the people of Hertford County than DuPont Davis," said Hertford County Economic Development Director Bill Early.

Besides his friends and colleagues, several family members also spoke during the evening. Two of his grandchildren – Daisha and Devon Davis – spoke of his love for family, while his wife of 40 years told Davis how much pride his family took in his accomplishments.

"Pine, I want to say to you tonight, you have made your children, grandchildren and family so proud of you. Congratulations on a job well done," said Earline Davis.

According to the *News-Herald*, more than \$15,000 was received in commitments for the scholarship fund during the ceremony.

The fastest way out of **debt?**

www.lgfcu.org/calculator

With LGFCU's personal loan calculator, you calculate how much you could save just by combining your debts. It's a tool that figures what you owe, then shows whether you can reduce that debt or shorten your payment time. Offering a little more light at the end of that financial tunnel.

It's a better way to manage debt. It's fast, it's easy, and it's private—no one sees your numbers unless you apply.

So go figure, at www.lgfcu.org/calculator.

LGFCU
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

