



# CountyLines

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JANUARY 2010 | VOLUME 36, NO. 1

## Nation's capital welcomes county officials in March

County officials from across the nation will convene in Washington, D.C., March 6-10 for the National Association of Counties' 2010 Legislative Conference. The focus of the conference is federal activity that affects county governments.

The NCACC has scheduled three events specifically for North Carolina attendees. The N.C. Caucus will be held on Monday, March 8, from 4 – 5:45 p.m., and will be immediately followed by a North Carolina reception until 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 10, the NCACC will sponsor its annual congressional breakfast from 8 – 9:30 a.m. at the Capitol Hill Club. All 13 U.S. representatives from North Carolina, as well as Sens. Richard Burr and Kay Hagan, have been invited to attend and speak.

This year's keynote speaker for the Opening General Session on March 8 is TIME correspondent Joe Klein. Klein may be best known as the author "Anonymous" of the novel Primary Colors, inspired by the 1992 presidential race.

The General Session on March 9 will focus on national health reform.

The conference is being held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. Online registration is available. For more information on the conference, visit [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) and select "Legislative" from the "Conferences & Events" dropdown menu along the top of the page.

For descriptions of highlighted workshops, see page 7.



### All in the family

In at least three counties in North Carolina, politics doesn't make for strange bedfellows. Cleveland County Chair Jo Boggs, pictured above administering the oath of office to her husband Gary Boggs, mayor of the Town of Fallston, is one of at least three county commissioners whose spouse also holds office within the county. Harnett County Chairman Tim McNeill's wife is Donna McNeill, who serves as chair of the Harnett County Board of Education. Beaufort County Commissioner Ed Booth's wife, Eltha Booth, is a longtime member of the county Board of Education. The Bible that Boggs used to swear in her husband is the same Bible used by her father, Loren Quincy Powell, who served 28 years as the Mayor of Troutman. Boggs has also used the same Bible each time she has been sworn in to the County Board of Education, where she served for 10 years, and the Board of Commissioners.

Photo courtesy Jo Boggs

## It's our turn to listen

Association will provide a platform for youth concerns in 2010

**W**e've all heard the old saying, "children are better seen, not heard." My presidential initiative this year is to make sure we actually hear our children.

My goal is to heighten awareness among county leaders about the issues impacting youths and also to encourage county officials to help youths become engaged with and aware of county government.

At our December meeting, the NCACC Board of Directors approved a plan for a program to encourage county commissioners to examine issues that affect North Carolina's young people, culminating with a series of sessions and



President's Perspective  
by Mary Accor

*Mary S. Accor*

speakers at our 2010 Annual Conference, which will be held Aug. 26-29 in Pitt County.

The program will begin in earnest this April at our district meetings. We will invite local youths to address attendees and discuss issues that are important to them. While as elected officials we may think we know about the issues that are important to the next generation, it is always refreshing to get their perspective.

At our Annual Conference we will convene a youth summit. Working with Cooperative Extension at N.C. State University, we will invite high school juniors and seniors from across the state to attend. These students will hold a summit to identify key issues and concerns faced by our next generation and will make recommendations to our NCACC Board of Directors. We will consider these recommendations as we begin putting

Please see Perspective on page 2

## 11 ethics seminars in the offing

Three opportunities to be held in conjunction with NCACC district meetings in April

Three of the six NCACC district meetings scheduled for this April will include a two-hour seminar on ethics that will help county officials meet a new statutory requirement. Ethics training will also be offered in conjunction with three N.C. League of Municipalities district meetings, the four remaining Local Elected Leaders Academy (LELA) Regional LeaderShops on Local Finance: Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements, and a School of Government webinar scheduled for March 25.

There is no charge to attend the ethics training seminars held in conjunction with the NCACC and NCLM district meetings, however separate registration is required. The ethics training held during the Regional LeaderShops are for registrants of the LeaderShops.

The NCACC district meetings scheduled for April 13 in Haywood County, April 14 in Cleveland County and April 21 in Beaufort County will include the ethics component. The remaining NCACC district meetings will be held April 8 in Halifax County, April 22 in Duplin County and April 27 in Forsyth County. The ethics training will be offered from 1:15 – 3:30 p.m. All district meetings will run from 5 – 7:30 p.m. and will include dinner.

The registration form for the NCACC district meetings is online at [www.ncacc.org/districtmeetings\\_0410.html](http://www.ncacc.org/districtmeetings_0410.html). County and city elected officials who wish to attend an ethics training seminar held in conjunction with an NCACC district meeting must complete the registration form available online at [www.ncacc.org/ethicstraining\\_2010.html](http://www.ncacc.org/ethicstraining_2010.html).

NCLM district meetings to be held April 15 in Columbus County, April 15 in Randolph County and April 20 in Johnston County will include the training. The ethics training will be held from 1:15 – 3:30 p.m. County officials who wish to attend an ethics training seminar held in conjunction with an NCLM district meeting must register through the NCLM. For more information on the NCLM offerings, visit [www.nclm.org](http://www.nclm.org).

Please see Ethics training on page 8

# New executive counsel no stranger to NCACC

Many county commissioners and county staffers will instantly recognize the NCACC's executive counsel. Sharon Scudder, who joined the Association in the new position Jan. 4, recently served as the litigation defense counsel and contract general counsel to the NCACC's Risk Management Pools during her time with the law firm of Teague Campbell Dennis & Gorham.

Her new role will allow her to spread her wings and reach all parts of the Association's operations. She will continue her work with the Risk Management Pools and will assist the Government Relations team and Legislative Counsel Jim Blackburn on county advocacy issues at the General Assembly.

"In my previous position at Teague Campbell, I loved the type of work I was doing for the NCACC. It was very different from the work I was doing for commercial clients," she said. "This position gives me the opportunity to get to know all facets of what the NCACC does. I feel like this is where I belong. I want to build my career in local government.

"I derived more meaning from representing counties and local government



Sharon Scudder

entities in litigation so I jumped at the opportunity to get involved."

Scudder focused her practice in government and municipal law while in the private sector. She went the extra mile, so to speak, in order to broaden her understanding of county government by completing the Essentials of County Government course offered through the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill and by attending the N.C. Association of County Attorneys' summer conference.

"Sharon will bring a multitude of skills and experience and an outstanding track record of success to the Association," said NCACC Executive Director David F. Thompson. "Her expertise in legal research, writing, advocacy and

education will benefit our endeavors in each of these areas and will enable her to contribute to the success of our Risk Management Pools, our advocacy efforts and our educational programs."

Scudder has multiple college degrees and earned distinction at each institution of higher learning she attended. She received her Juris Doctorate degree from Campbell University, where she ranked second in her class. She ranked first in her class at Radford University while pursuing a Master of Arts in communication sciences and disorders. She also earned a B.A. in chemistry and a B.S. in science education from North Carolina State University, where she graduated Cum Laude.

## McGee plays leadership roles in state, national groups

In his position as NCACC communications director, Todd McGee bears witness to the many demands placed on the president of a statewide association. He can now somewhat empathize with past presidents of the NCACC, having wrapped up a one-year term as 2009 president of the N.C. Association of Government Information Officers (NCAGIO), a nonprofit group of public affairs professionals in state and local government agencies that is dedicated to the principles of open government.

McGee began his term with two goals: increase membership and transform [www.ncagio.org](http://www.ncagio.org) into a useful resource for members.

"I think we have succeeded on both fronts," he said. "The thing that I'm most pleased with is that our membership has grown by 20 to 30 professionals over the past year."

Although Web site development and maintenance is not part of the president's duties, McGee did just that by starting

new sections on the site for updates on legislation involving public information and for career opportunities.

McGee attributed the growth of the membership to not only improvements on the Web site, but also to an active Board of Directors that focused on recruitment, positive word of mouth from current members, and the quality of speakers at monthly meetings.

Dedicated in part to the professional enhancement of its members, NCAGIO holds an annual seminar and monthly meetings for members to come together and share information and news related to the public information profession.

With the help of Dr. Elmer Oettinger at the Institute of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill, NCAGIO held its first semi-



Todd McGee

nar in January 1970. The organization currently has more than 130 members.

During his term, McGee pushed to lower the fee for the annual seminar by half, which he accomplished by switching the venue to the inexpensive Quorum Center in downtown Raleigh.

"Our conference was very well attended considering the budget restraints members are dealing with," McGee said.

In addition to his work with NCAGIO, McGee is also active with the National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO). He was elected as NACIO second vice president during the NACo Annual Conference in July. NACIO officers serve two-year terms in each seat, putting McGee in line to become president of the organization in 2013.

As a NACo affiliate, NACIO holds a seat on the NACo Board of Directors. The NACIO past president fills that seat, meaning if all goes according to schedule, McGee would give N.C. another seat on the NACo Board in July 2015.

## Perspective

Continued from page 1

together our legislative goals package in the fall.

Throughout the year, the Board of Directors and NCACC staff will be working with representatives of various state agencies and organizations that work with young people to examine what kinds of programs and services are being offered for youths and to determine better ways in which all levels of government can help meet their needs.

While the hope is that the students will come away with a better understanding of the complexity of the issues facing counties, I also hope that county leaders will benefit from their interactions with the students. As elected county commissioners, we know that the decisions we make today will determine what kind of communities our children inherit.

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is published monthly by the NCACC  
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# Conti: Transfer of secondary roads 'not practical'

Any attempt to transfer responsibility for the state's secondary road system to counties is not coming from the Department of Transportation, according to DOT Secretary Gene Conti, who addressed the NCACC Board of Directors on Dec. 17.

S758 (Transfer Secondary Roads to Counties) was introduced by Sens. Dan Clodfelter and Bob Rucho of Mecklenburg County this past spring, but the legislation was never heard in the Senate. Conti said he hopes the legislation does not move forward in 2010.

"That was a piece of legislation introduced by the two senators from Mecklenburg, and we did not support it," said Conti. "We are not about to abandon our responsibility for secondary roads and turn that over to you. That doesn't make common sense and is certainly not practical."

Conti admitted that the revenue

streams dedicated to transportation issues in North Carolina were not keeping pace with the demands being placed on his department. He said the DOT is looking to streamline as many of its practices as is possible in an effort to reduce costs, and that the department wants to work with local governments to identify and prioritize local transportation needs.

"We are making a lot of changes," he said. "Governor Beverly Perdue made it clear to me when she asked me to serve that the North Carolina DOT was going to change the way it does business. We are going to change the way we make decisions. We have asked the Board of Transportation to get out of the project selection business and really help us focus on broad policy initiatives. We have certainly made a lot of progress."

The DOT has created several working groups with various partner organizations, including local governments,

to examine the issues surrounding the state's transportation system. Conti said he wanted the DOT to get a "better dialogue with local governments" throughout the state.

"It just seemed important that we create some mechanism that can maybe lead to some solutions," he said. "We asked this organization, the League (N.C. League of Municipalities), the councils of governments, MPOs and our federal partners to join with us" to study transportation issues.

Conti said the group of about 18 individuals has been divided into three working groups, each of which will focus on a specific area – the federal reauthorization of highway spending, land-use and transportation or communications between agencies.

"We think it is a good opportunity for some collaboration and coordination and problem-solving," he said.



N.C. Department of Transportation Secretary Gene Conti spread holiday cheer during his appearance at the Dec. 17 meeting of the NCACC Board of Directors.

Photo by Jason King

# Proposed ozone standard could impact up to 55 counties

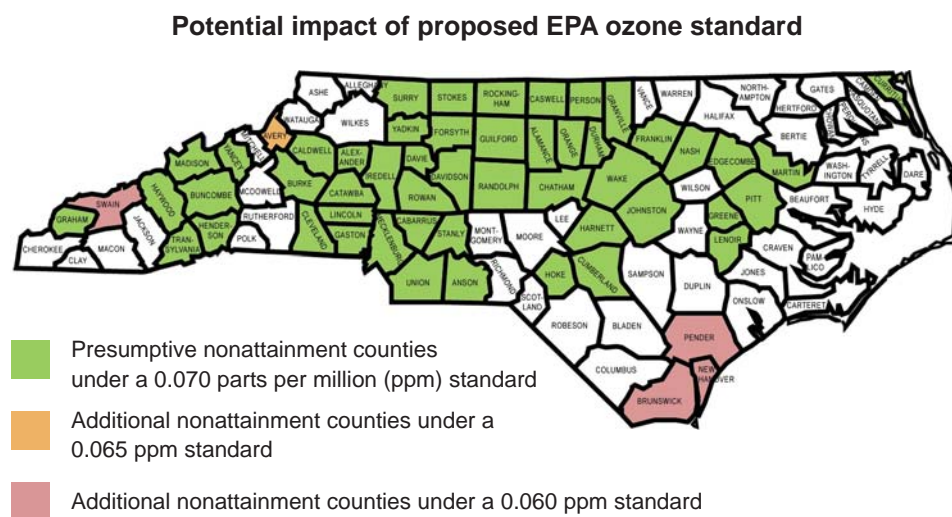
The United States Environmental Protection Agency on Jan. 7 proposed the strictest health standards to date for smog and also created two standards – a "primary" standard designed at protecting public health and a "secondary" standard to protect the environment.

The EPA will take public comment for 60 days after the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register. The agency will also hold three public hearings on the proposal: Feb. 2 in Arlington, Va., and in Houston; and Feb. 4 in Sacramento.

The agency is proposing to set the "primary" standard at a level between 0.060 and 0.070 parts per million (ppm) measured over eight hours. Children are at the greatest risk from ozone, because their lungs are still developing, they are most likely to be active outdoors, and they are more likely than adults to have asthma. Adults with asthma or other lung diseases, and older adults are also sensitive to ozone.

If the lower end of the range is used, as many as 55 North Carolina counties could be designated as non-attainment, according to a Nov. 5 presentation made to the NCACC Environment Steering Committee by Bebhinh Do of the Division of Air Quality within the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Do also reported that the EPA would



Source: NC DENR DAQ, [www.ncacc.org/committees/esc/NCDAQ\\_Do.ppt](http://www.ncacc.org/committees/esc/NCDAQ_Do.ppt)  
 Note: Some counties are only partially covered by standard

have to begin the attainment designation process again if any new standards are adopted, and that the EPA would expedite the process. The EPA is expected to adopt the new standards in August 2010, and states would have until August 2011 to make the final designations for attainment or non-attainment status.

EPA is also proposing to set a separate "secondary" standard to protect the environment, especially plants and trees. This seasonal standard is designed to protect plants and trees from damage occurring from repeated ozone exposure, which can reduce tree growth, damage leaves, and increase susceptibility to disease.

In September 2009, EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced that the EPA would reconsider the existing National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), which were set in March 2008 at 0.075 ppm. As part of its reconsideration, EPA conducted a review of the science that guided the 2008 decision, including more than 1,700 scientific studies and public comments from the 2008 rulemaking process. EPA also reviewed the findings of the independent Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, which recommended standards in the ranges proposed by Jackson.

Depending on the level of the final

standard, the EPA estimated that the proposal would yield health benefits between \$13 billion and \$100 billion per year by reducing premature deaths, aggravated asthma, bronchitis cases, hospital and emergency room visits and days when people miss work or school because of ozone-related symptoms. The EPA estimated that it will cost anywhere from \$19 billion to \$90 billion to make the upgrades necessary to meet the new standards.

Ground-level ozone forms when emissions from industrial facilities, power plants, landfills and motor vehicles react in the sun.

"EPA is stepping up to protect Americans from one of the most persistent and widespread pollutants we face," said Jackson. "Smog in the air we breathe poses a very serious health threat, especially to children and individuals suffering from asthma and lung disease. It dirties our air, clouds our cities, and drives up our healthcare costs across the country. Using the best science to strengthen these standards is a long overdue action that will help millions of Americans breathe easier and live healthier."

In 2008, the Bush administration lowered the standard from 0.84 ppm to 0.75 ppm, but the EPA's own panel of scientific advisors had recommended lowering the limit further.

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# Stressed families flood DSS lobbies

As economy continues to sag, more individuals seek assistance through county social services offices

Every day, millions of individuals are hanging on with help rendered through the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Program.

FNS is a federal food assistance program that helps low-income families. With an overall purpose of ending hunger and improving nutrition and health, FNS helps eligible low-income households buy the food they need for a nutritionally adequate diet. Through this USDA-regulated entitlement program, eligible households receive benefits loaded monthly on plastic Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards that they are able to use to purchase food items from, primarily, local merchants. This program is means-tested and therefore certain income-related requirements must be met through an eligibility determination process handled within local departments of social services (DSS).

Current North Carolina income limits and monthly allotments can be found in the chart at right.

In North Carolina, the undeniable proof that families within our communities are struggling can be found on any given business day by stepping into the human services lobby of any DSS facility. It is widely known that one sure sign of a depressed economy is a rise in food assistance applications. This is certainly true in our state, and the numbers tell the story.

Statistics show all North Carolina counties have experienced tremendous increases in FNS eligible recipients over the past several years. In December 2004, 796,668 individuals statewide were receiving FNS benefits. In November 2009 – five years later – that number soared by 38 percent to 1,285,157 individuals. While that's a significant change, increases in recipient totals within just the past 12 months are even more notable.

Over the past year alone, there has been an 18 percent hike in the state's recipient count (1,048,072 individuals were receiving this assistance in November 2008). This one-year increase is close to 50 percent of the total recipient increase realized during the five-year period stated above. This translates to an average statewide increase of more than 9,700 families per month within the past year.

What do such statistics indicate? It is certainly solid evidence of growth among not only the unemployed but the working poor as well. Sadly, it is proof that families are indeed suffering.

A noticeable surge within the past few years in the number of new re-

INCOME REFERENCE CHART as of October 1, 2009		
FNSU (Household) SIZE	MTHLY GROSS INCOME	MAX. MTHLY BENEFIT ALLOTMENT
1	\$1,174	\$200
2	\$1,579	\$367
3	\$1,984	\$526
4	\$2,389	\$668
5	\$2,794	\$793
6	\$3,200	\$952
7	\$3,605	\$1,052
8	\$4,010	\$1,202
Each add. member	(+406)	(+150)

ipients of such assistance has been the experience of social services agencies throughout the state. This, unfortunately, is a trend not expected to slow down anytime soon. A startling excerpt from a recent article in *The New York Times* reveals this program as one that "now helps feed one in eight Americans and one in four children." Additionally, a recent article in *The Washington Post* states that "the number of Americans who lack dependable access to adequate food shot up last year to 49 million, the largest number since the government has been keeping track."

## County DSS offices feel the impact

In North Carolina, Catawba County's first signs of the economic downturn became apparent in late 2000 when large manufacturing companies began either closing their doors or moving their work overseas.

"We've seen a phenomenal amount of traffic in all of our programs, but we're seeing a huge increase in our food assistance program," said Catawba County DSS Director John Eller.

In July 2000, Catawba County had 4,956 food assistance recipients with \$4.54 million issued to local families in food assistance federal benefits in the 2000-01 fiscal year. Today the county has 23,420 food assistance recipients and is on track to issue \$35.5 million in food assistance federal benefits for the fiscal year. Eller said people who have never needed assistance before are making up much of the increase.

Smaller Washington County has also experienced increases. According to Washington County DSS Director Jerry Rhodes, during November 2009 a total of 21.8 percent of the county's population (based on an estimated county population of 13,600), was participating in the

FNS Program. Furthermore, he reported that FNS applications during the first four months of the 2009-10 fiscal year were 7.1 percent higher than for the corresponding period of the 2008-09 fiscal year.

In Vance County, 28 percent of citizens currently receive these services – one of the highest percentages in the state.

There is at least one positive aspect tucked within this bleak picture: The billions of dollars in federal funds that these EBT benefits represent trickle down fairly rapidly to local North Carolina businesses. This in turn stimulates local economies in a dramatically positive manner.

Throughout each business day, food suppliers from larger companies such as Food Lion to smaller, local merchants within business communities can attest to such economic stimulation. In November 2009 alone, a whopping \$165,924,116 in federal FNS electronic benefits was allotted to eligible N.C. families who, in turn, circulated those funds via expenditures throughout the state at local grocers.

Will local DSS offices be overburdened as the stress of financial concerns begins to hit families even harder? The sagging economy and high unemployment is forcing many first-time users of social services to ask for help feeding their families or paying their medical and utility bills. Within the past couple of years, it has been a struggle for local agencies to increase their workforce to the levels needed to properly handle the influx of cases.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds have been and are currently being used to supplement administrative expenses, however these are temporary, time-limited funds scheduled to end within the next nine months, if not earlier. Another stumbling block in North Carolina has been the recent loss of state administrative aid to counties.

Strengthening food assistance programs to improve economic security for low-income families, improving access to food assistance programs, and stimulating the economy are objectives shared throughout states, including North Carolina. To adequately address them requires proper administrative support. And, as indicated above, supporting this particular program can actually result in a major boost to the economy – something all counties could use today.

*This article was contributed by the N.C. Association of County Directors of Social Services, an affiliate member of the NCACC.*

# Climate change workshop set for March 2-3

The Association is partnering with several other organizations for a two-day workshop to examine the impact that significant changes in our climate could have on North Carolina and its local governments. "Planning for North Carolina's Future: Ask the Climate Question" will be held March 2-3 in Raleigh and is designed to accommodate those who are involved in planning, policy and decision-making at a local, regional or state level in North Carolina.

Elected officials can earn six credits toward their commitment to continuing education through the Local Elected Leaders

LOCAL ELECTED LEADERS  
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Academy (LELA) recognition program by attending.

Potential changes that could happen in North Carolina include: sea level rise; more frequent and intense heat waves; increased air and water temperature; increased storm intensity and frequency; and altered rainfall patterns resulting in both droughts and floods.

These threats could have significant impacts to North Carolina's coastal resources, transportation and other infrastructure needs, water supplies, agriculture and public health.

The workshops will examine how local and state governments should plan for changing climates and will focus on community-level responses involving public infrastructure, land-use planning and environmental reviews of development projects.

Speakers include Tom Karl, a Nobel Prize-winning member of the International Panel on Climate Change, who will share key lessons from his book, "Global Climate Change Impact in the United States." Scott Shuford, Onslow County planning and development director, will roll out his book, "Planning for a New Energy and Climate Future," which is being published by the American Planning Association.

Other workshop sessions will examine what other states are doing, looking at climate change from a local risk management perspective, and the importance of communication and education in developing plans.

For more information on registration and workshop sessions, visit [www.climatechange.nc.gov](http://www.climatechange.nc.gov). For more information on the LELA recognition program, visit [www.ncacc.org/lela.html](http://www.ncacc.org/lela.html).

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# NCACC participating on DOT advisory group

Members of the NCACC Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee expressed an over-arching sentiment that the current transportation funding structure was not satisfactory, could not be maintained and must change during their Nov. 30 meeting in Raleigh.

The comments came during a presentation on an N.C. Department of Transportation initiative forwarded by Secretary Gene Conti to refocus the NCDOT's efforts on establishing a closer working relationship with local government officials. To that end, a Transportation Policy Advisory Group has been formed to represent various aspects of local government, including representatives from the Association. NCACC Director of Government Relations Kevin Leonard serves as a member of the group.

Susan Coward, DOT's deputy secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs and Budget Coordination, said the advisory group has announced plans to form working groups that will seek input from local elected officials about how to better communicate and educate local DOT officials about transportation operations and needs at the county and municipal levels.

Committee members illustrated specific situations in their counties about challenges with NCDOT and various local construction projects. Leonard noted it is this type of specific detail that

is being sought by the advisory group to assist them in their efforts on improving communications.

Committee members also heard from a panel of speakers about economic development. Mark Clasby of the Haywood County Economic Development Commission; John Peterson of the N.C. Economic Developers Association; and Mike Wilkins of the N.C. Biotechnology Center spoke about the county role in and the importance of economic development.

Wilkins, a former Person County commissioner, provided an overview of specific steps the county board took to improve the county's economic development action plan.

Wilkins said the county engaged in an eight- to 10-year process to invest in county infrastructure, such as an airport, roads, water and sewer, and other basic needs to offer a complete economic package to potential relocating industries. He added that the county developed a Rapid Response Team made up of county leaders – the board chair, school superintendent, Chamber of Commerce leadership, etc. – in order to bring to the same table all parties that were needed to make a decision for a potential new employer.

Committee members also had an opportunity to talk about economic development in general. Discussion included remarks by Durham County Vice Chair

Ellen Reckhow, who said the local match required by the One NC Fund award is unfair and may be uncalled for in certain situations.

NCACC Deputy Director Patrice Roesler reviewed the Association's position on annexation during a review of annexation legislation introduced during the 2009 session. Many of the Association's goals were included in H524 – require joint utility service plans, increase required degree of urbanization, require water/sewer within three years, provide that counties can deliver utility services to annexed area, and set June 30 as effective date for involuntary annexations. Goals not included in the version of H524 passed by the House include: Require reimbursement for loss of sales tax and require a referendum if public utilities are already in place (the bill does, however, include a provision that a referendum is required if 15 percent of registered voters sign a petition).

It is not known whether the Senate will take action on H524, but Roesler pointed out that the bill's sponsor, Rep. Bruce Goforth, hails from the same county as new Senate Majority Leader Martin Nesbitt (Buncombe).

Members set the dates for the next committee meetings as Tuesday, Feb. 23, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Tuesday, May 18, from 1:30 – 5 p.m. in Raleigh.

# Randolph/Montgomery program spotlighted on Capitol Hill

The Randolph/Montgomery Juvenile Day Reporting Center and Restitution Program was spotlighted on Nov. 16 in Washington, D.C., at a Congressional Briefing on Juvenile Justice Reentry Services.

Pam Smith, director of the local program, and Program Manager Denise Smith were invited by the National Alliance to End Homelessness to speak on their perspectives concerning juvenile justice reentry and the positive outcomes the local program has achieved. The Randolph/Montgomery program was the sole program invited and was lauded for its impressive work with juvenile offenders and offered as a national best practice model.

The briefing was an opportunity to review research, policy and best practices in the community in order to encourage the replication of reentry services nationwide. Policy analysts offered a review of federal law and appropriations in support of reentry services and recommended ways to bolster national policy to offer meaningful reentry services to juveniles who exit secure facilities.

For information on the Randolph/Montgomery Juvenile Day Reporting Center and Restitution Program, call (336) 683-8210.



## LOCAL ELECTED LEADERS

# Academy

## Strategic Leadership Education for County and Municipal Elected Officials

### Local Finance: Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements

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/](http://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/1641/), or contact Gail Wilkins at [wilkins@sog.unc.edu](mailto:wilkins@sog.unc.edu) or 919.962.9754.

Visit [www.lela.unc.edu](http://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](mailto:warner@sog.unc.edu).

## 2010 chairs and vice chairs for county boards of commissioners

COUNTY	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR	COUNTY	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR	COUNTY	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR
Alamance	Linda Massey	Eddie Boswell	Franklin	Penny McGhee-Young	Sidney Dunston	Pamlico	Paul Delamar III	Ann Holton
Alexander	Larry Yoder	Ryan Mayberry	Gaston	Mickey Price	Allen Fraley	Pasquotank	Marshall Stevenson	Lloyd Griffin III
Alleghany	Ken Richardson	Randy Miller	Gates	Graham Twine	H. Kenneth Jernigan	Pender	Jimmy Tate	Norwood Blanchard
Anson	Anna Baucom	Ross Streater	Graham	Sandra Smith	Bruce Snyder	Perquimans	Mack Nixon	Tammy Miller-White
Ashe	Judy Porter Poe	Larry Rhodes	Granville	Tony Cozart	R. David Currin Jr.	Person	Johnny Lunsford	Jimmy Clayton
Avery	Kenny Poteat	Phyllis Forbes	Greene	Denny Garner	Jerry Jones	Pitt	Kenneth Ross	David Hammond
Beaufort	Jerry Langley	Stan Deatherage	Guilford	Skip Alston	Steve Arnold	Polk	Cindy Walker	Ray Gasperson
Bertie	Norman Cherry Sr.	Lewis Hoggard III	Halifax	James Pierce	J. Rives Manning Jr.	Randolph	J. Harold Holmes	Darrell Frye
Bladen	Billy Ray Pait	Delilah Blanks	Harnett	Timothy McNeill	Beatrice Hill	Richmond	Kenneth Robinette	John Garner
Brunswick	William Sue	Phil Norris	Haywood	Kirk Kirkpatrick III	Bill Upton	Robeson	Noah Woods	Tom Taylor
Buncombe	David Gantt	Bill Stanley	Henderson	William Moyer	Mark Williams	Rockingham	Harold Bass Sr.	Bobby Stanley
Burke	Bruce Hawkins Sr.	Ruth Ann Suttle	Hertford	Johnnie Ray Farmer	DuPont Davis	Rowan	Carl Ford	Jon Barber
Cabarrus	H. Jay White Sr.	Liz Poole	Hoke	Tony Hunt	James Leach	Rutherford	Brent Washburn	Margaret Helton
Caldwell	Ben Griffin	Clay Bollinger	Hyde	George Thomas Davis	Barry Swindell	Sampson	Jefferson Strickland	Billy Lockamy
Camden	Phil Faison	Sandra Duckwall	Iredell	R. Godfrey Williams	Marvin Norman	Scotland	J.D. Willis	Betty Blue Gholston
Carteret	Doug Harris	Holt Faircloth	Jackson	Brian McMahan*	Tom Massie	Stanly	Tony Dennis	Gene McIntyre
Caswell	George Ward Jr.	Kenneth Travis	Johnston	Wade Stewart	Allen Mims Jr.	Stokes	Jimmy Walker	Ernest Lankford
Catawba	Kitty Barnes	Lynn Lail	Jones	Joseph Wiggins	Sondra Ipock-Riggs	Surry	Paul Johnson	James Miller
Chatham	Sally Kost	George Lucier	Lee	Richard Hayes	Doc Oldham	Swain	Glenn Jones*	Genevieve Lindsay
Cherokee	Jonathan Dickey	W. David Sumpter III	Lenoir	George Graham Jr.	Claude Stroud	Transylvania	Jason Chappell	Kelvin Phillips
Chowan	Eddy Goodwin	Emmett Winborne	Lincoln	Alex Patton	Bruce Carlton	Tyrrell	Tony Sawyer	Gordon Deaver Jr.
Clay	Hub Cheeks	Harry Jarrett	Macon	Ronnie Beale	Jim Davis	Union	Kim Rogers	Tracy Kuehler
Cleveland	Jo Boggs	Johnny Hutchins	Madison	Vernon Ponder	Eddie Fox	Vance	Danny Wright	Eddie Wright
Columbus	Edwin Russ	Giles Byrd	Martin	Ronnie Smith	Butch Lilley	Wake	Tony Gurley	Betty Lou Ward
Craven	Perry Morris	Johnnie Sampson Jr.	McDowell	David Walker	Barry McPeters	Warren	Barry Richardson	Ulysses Ross
Cumberland	Billy King	Kenneth Edge	Mecklenburg	Jennifer Roberts	Harold Cogdell Jr.	Washington	Tracey Johnson	Jean Alexander
Currituck	S. Paul O'Neal	Oswald Vance Aydtlett	Mitchell	Lisa Sparks	Kevin Street	Watauga	Jim Deal	William Winkler III
Dare	Warren Judge	Allen Burrus	Montgomery	Jackie Morris	Dolon Corbett	Wayne	Jack Best	J.D. Evans
Davidson	Max Walsler	Sam Watford	Moore	Robert Lea	Cindy Morgan	Wilkes	Zachary Henderson	Gary Blevins
Davie	Richard Poindexter	Ken White	Nash	Robbie Davis	Billy Morgan	Wilson	Frank Emory	R.S. Boyette
Duplin	Cary Turner	Frances Parks	New Hanover	Jason Thompson	Jonathan Barfield Jr.	Yadkin	Chad Wagoner	Kevin Austin
Durham	Michael Page	Ellen Reckhow	Northampton	Fannie Greene	James Hester	Yancey	Walter Savage*	Jerri Storie
Edgecombe	Leonard Wiggins	Charlie Harrell	Onslow	W.C. Jarman	Paul Buchanan			
Forsyth	David Plyler	Debra Conrad	Orange	Valerie Foushee	Bernadette Pelissier			

\* Board chairman elected separately by voters.



## 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](http://www.ncacc.org/rmp.htm).

**A MEMBER-DRIVEN ORGANIZATION**



**NACo 2010 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE**

MARCH 6-10, WASHINGTON, D.C.  
MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK HOTEL

**EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

*Note: This is not a complete listing of workshops.  
For the full list and complete descriptions, visit [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) and click on the "Legislative" link from the "Conferences & Events" dropdown menu.*

**MONDAY, MARCH 8****BLOCK I: 9 – 10:15 a.m.****SUSTAINABILITY INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Are you interested in opportunities for regional planning projects for transportation, housing and the environment through federal sustainable communities programs? Come to this workshop and learn about the types of county sustainability projects that are eligible for federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Sustainable Communities Initiative and the Livable Communities Act of 2009.

**TRANSPORTATION ISSUES ARE HOT ... OR AT LEAST WARM**

The Obama administration and Congress continue to work on proposals to develop new approaches to improving our nation's highway, transit and airport infrastructure, much of it owned by county governments. They are also working on the thornier issue of how to pay for what many believe is a need for more federal investment. Meanwhile, high-speed rail has caught fire and more money than ever has been made available to get those trains traveling fast or at least a little faster than they presently move.

**FEDERAL INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS FOR PROTECTING YOUR COUNTY**

County governments continue to face major difficulties navigating through the maze of federal grant programs and initiatives for homeland security even as federal agencies annually revise their grant application requirements. At this workshop key federal and congressional officials will provide valuable insight into future federal spending priorities and assist you in determining available grants, application deadlines and filing requirements.

**DOES RENEWABLE ENERGY MAKE SENSE FOR YOUR COUNTY?**

Is your county looking for ways to demonstrate your commitment to renewable energy to your constituents? This workshop will showcase energy projects from across the country, demonstrating why some are successful and others not. Learn how you can move toward your renewable energy goal by accessing government incentives, conducting risk analyses and applying different approaches.

**BUDGET CLIFF AHEAD – RECOVERY FUNDS AND COUNTY FISCAL STABILITY**

Despite signs of an economic recovery, state and local revenues continue to decline, and states are anticipating ever-larger budget shortfalls in 2010 and 2011. Funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are plugging some gaps, but most recovery funds are intended to be spent by September 2010. Attend this workshop to hear experts present a national picture of government budgets, discuss the impact of recovery funds, explore the future fiscal stability of states and localities, and offer several management strategies for handling the continuing budget crisis.

**BLOCK II: 10:45 a.m. – noon****OUR NATION'S CHANGING HEALTH SYSTEM: IMPACT ON RURAL COUNTIES**

Local health systems serve as integral economic drivers in rural counties, and, as changes to the delivery and financing of health services move forward, rural areas face both implementation challenges and opportunities. In this workshop you will learn how emerging federal health policies impact rural counties, particularly in the areas of access to care, health information technology, workforce development and financing.

**HOW MONTANA COUNTIES SAVE ON INMATE HEALTH CARE COSTS**

Rising inmate medical costs are creating nightmares for counties struggling to balance existing budgets and program needs. Yet the Montana Association of Counties, using a NACo program that provides inmate medical insurance and medical claims management, expects to realize at least a 25 percent savings on inmate medical costs. This unique program, with particular benefits to small, rural counties, provides data for planning and budgeting, and access to insurance and medical claims services.

**LOWER RECIDIVISM AND REINVEST THE SAVINGS IN COMMUNITIES**

At this workshop you'll learn about the impact of two current legislative efforts designed to reduce recidivism rates and return savings to county governments. Reauthorizing the Second Chance Act will support policy implementation and provide services for counties with a goal toward reducing recidivism rates, while the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Act of 2009 intends to reinvest justice savings back into the community. See how this legislation may impact your county and join in a policy discussion around justice reinvestment and incentive funding.

**IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH THROUGH BETTER LAND USE PLANNING**

Healthy communities are important to everyone. How we design our communities directly impacts how much people walk and how much time they spend in their cars – both having a profound impact on their health. The workshop will discuss how factors such as neighborhood walkability, vehicle miles traveled and exposure to pollutants can be quantified to determine the direct health impacts resulting from your land use planning decisions.

**HOW THE ARRA AND MEANINGFUL USE CRITERIA IMPACT COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) introduced major changes in how the nation's mental health system is funded, including county mental health services. Come to this workshop for an update on the impact of ARRA related to Medicaid funding and learn about the grants and incentives that are available for the implementation and use of healthcare information technology.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 9****BLOCK III: 10:45 a.m. – noon****ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE FACE OF RECESSION AND A NETWORKED WORLD**

Counties are facing a short-run economic crisis due to the deepest recession since 1930s. In the longer run, counties will face economic challenges and opportunities as the global communications network grows in capability and eliminates many advantages of physical location. In this workshop panelists representing diverse counties from Alabama, Michigan and Maryland, each facing different challenges, will discuss three different strategies for continued economic growth and development. Hear how Howard County developed a broadband consortium; how Oakland County is responding to the decline in the automobile industry; and how Madison County supported the relocation of a major military command by constructing new county infrastructure. See how these examples suggest a model for economic development in your county.

**LEVERAGING LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL INVESTMENTS IN TRAINING AND JOB CREATION**

In today's transitioning labor market, emerging fields and new industries present both challenges and opportunities for employers and employees. County governments are instrumental both in creating jobs and building sustainable local economies. At this session, learn about federal investments in education and training that are available in areas of healthcare, green energy and technology. See how you can use partnerships with state and federal organizations to strengthen your county's workforce, both now and in the future.

**HEALTHCARE REFORM AND THE FEDERAL BENEFITS DEBATE FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS**

As administrators of local jails and social services, counties have a particular stake in the recent healthcare reform debate on health services and costs for individuals awaiting trial as well as for those who have been convicted. Historically counties bear the burden of paying for healthcare and providing services for people in jails and for those re-entering the community when they lose their federal benefits. This panel will discuss the legislative efforts and issues surrounding healthcare reform for "justice involved individuals," and will demonstrate the cost-savings benefits of reform in both the justice and veterans' systems.

**HOW TO INFLUENCE CONGRESS WITHOUT LEAVING HOME**

Effective lobbying comes from good "grassroots" participation. What this means, basically, is people expressing themselves from their home or office on matters that affect their lives and livelihood. As a county leader, you can make a difference. NACo has professional lobbyists on staff, but a key element for the success of our advocacy is your participation. In this workshop discover how you can get the attention of Congress by lobbying effectively from home.

**BLOCK IV: 2:45 – 4 p.m.****WHAT USDA GRANT AND LOAN OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

USDA grant and loan programs are available this year to help fund rural development projects, create innovation and utilize new technologies. Learn about an array of USDA programs that fund forest products, green initiatives, renewable energy projects, rural water and wastewater infrastructure, rural community facilities, broadband infrastructure, rural business programs and rural housing. You will hear from policy experts about how to apply for available funds and how to advocate for enhanced funding.

**COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES**

Is your county home to veterans, service members and military families? Increasingly, these constituents are seeking health and family services in their communities, and counties are responding by offering a spectrum of services, assistance with benefits and program information. The opportunity for partnering with the federal government gives counties greater options for comprehensive, accessible healthcare programs. Hear from this panel of healthcare experts and veterans about recent returning service member needs, federal policy issues and the actions your county can take to respond to these needs.

**ADDRESSING POVERTY THROUGH TANF REAUTHORIZATION**

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is up for reauthorization in 2010. The Obama administration and congressional leaders have indicated that the reauthorization process needs to improve TANF's ability to reduce poverty. This could mean more flexibility on education and basic skills training, post-employment support services, and changes to child support and child welfare. At this workshop, committee staff, administration officials and county representatives will share their views on TANF changes.

**FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE: AN UPDATE ON YOUTH LEGISLATION**

As administrators of many juvenile justice systems and social service programs, county governments have a critical role in juvenile justice legislation. In 2010 both the Youth Promise Act and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act are up for reauthorization. Join this discussion to learn more about these two acts and their effect on juvenile justice programs in your county.

**CLIMATE CHANGE: IS CAP AND TRADE THE WAY TO GO?**

One of the most controversial topics being discussed on Capitol Hill is how to address climate change. A much-debated approach is to use a cap-and-trade mechanism that will mandatorily reduce greenhouse gases. Come to this workshop to learn about the potential benefits and risks of cap-and-trade.

# Career Opportunities

**COUNTY MANAGER** – Sampson County, North Carolina, pop. 65,853, is seeking an experienced professional as the chief administrator for approximately 700 employees in 24 departments, with a total annual operating budget nearing \$100 million. Manager reports to a five-member Board of Commissioners. Located in the temperate coastal plains at the apex of I-40 and I-95, Sampson County is strategically located in the military defense corridor serving Fort Bragg, Seymour Johnson AFB and Camp LeJeune. A state leader in agriculture, the county was named the #1 Best Place to Farm in the nation in 2005. In the past four years, the County has undertaken a \$130 million capital improvements project that included a law enforcement and detention center, three high schools, a new Health and Human Services building, a Cooperative Extension Building, and a new Animal Shelter, with an additional elementary school planned for construction Fall 2010. Having recently completed a county water distribution system, the county has also received loan and grant funding to begin the first phase of a water supply/well project. For more info, see [www.sampsonnc.com](http://www.sampsonnc.com). Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in business administration, public administration or related field (MPA preferred) and minimum of five years local government managerial experience, or equivalent combination of education and relevant experience. ICMA certification is preferred. Applicants must have demonstrated communications, organizational, strategic and consensus-building skills. Salary and benefits package commensurate with qualifications and experience. Send résumé and letter of interest to: Jefferson B. Strickland, Chairman, Sampson County Board of Commissioners, 406 County Complex Road, Clinton, North Carolina 28328. Closing date: January 29, 2010. EOE.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR** – Brunswick County, a rapidly growing coastal county in southeastern North Carolina seeks an experienced and professional leader to manage its Emergency Services Department. Brunswick County's permanent population of 104,000 more than doubles during the summer months due to the influx of visitors attracted by over 40 miles of pristine beaches and 40 golf courses. The county is also home to a nuclear power plant and a military munitions terminal. Brunswick County provides a unique opportunity for a dedicated individual with a broad knowledge base and a proven track record in the provision of high quality emergency services. The Director is responsible for the administration, planning and direction of three divisions: Emergency Management, including Fire Marshall and Fire Inspection Services, Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Communications/911 System. Each Division is under the direct supervision of a Deputy Director. The Director serves as coordinator for all volunteer fire and rescue departments in the County. The Emergency Services Department consists of a total of 100 plus full-time employees and a total annual operating budget of \$9.4 million. Provides technical and management expertise in the areas of emergency preparedness, disaster recovery, emergency medical services, hazardous material response, fire suppression and prevention and other public safety concerns. Must possess excellent decision making and communication skills and work collaboratively with County departments and units of government at all levels and other external agencies and stakeholders. Serves as Emergency Operation Center Manager during disaster operations. Demonstrated experience in disaster planning and recovery and working with state and federal emergency management agencies required. Must be a leader with ability to manage and motivate people in an environment that encourages clear and open communications. Minimum Training and Experience: Requires a Bachelor's degree in Emergency Management, Public Safety, Emergency Medical Services, Public Administration or Business Administration with five to seven years supervisory experience in emergency services including budget preparation and administration and grants development and management; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities to successfully carry out the responsibilities of the position. Additional Certifications in Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Services and Hazmat Operation preferred. Salary range \$64,623 to \$103,397. Please send résumé and application (PD107) to: Employment Security Commission, 5300-7 Main Street, Shallotte, N.C. 28470 by February 5, 2010. Applications accepted until filled. Brunswick County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – The Carteret County Economic Development Council, a private non-profit economic development group, is seeking applicants for the position of Executive Director due to current director's impending retirement. The Director works under the administrative direction of the Carteret County Economic Development Council Board of Directors. The position requires a Bachelor's degree in business administration, marketing, economics or related field supplemented by training and considerable professional experience in economic development; experience in successfully managing public/private organizations, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Master's Degree preferred. Duties include interaction and communications with management/owners of existing industry, citizens, state and federal officials, the NC Department of Commerce, NC Rural Center, NC's Eastern Region and other economic development organizations. The incumbent represents the council at local, state and national events, attends workshops and conferences related to economic development, prepares technical reports, prepares and administers a board approved budget, prepares marketing materials and grant applications, serves on committees and boards that support the council's mission, and monitors and takes action on environmental rules and regulations. Work requires planning and timely execution, independent judgment, financial, socio-economic, legal and regulatory experience. Candidates must have a thorough knowledge of effective principles, practices, methods and techniques of economic development and good understanding of challenges affecting economic development in a coastal environment. Additionally, candidates must have excellent written and verbal communications skills, including public speaking, strong professional public relations and marketing skills, along with the capacity to effectively manage economic development activities involving a mix of both public and non-profit private sector organizations. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. Applications will be received until Jan. 30. Submit applications to the attention of the Search Committee: Carteret County Economic Development Council, Inc., 3615 Arendell St., Morehead City, NC 28557. Equal Opportunity Employer.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY** – Onslow County Government is accepting applications from practicing attorneys for the position of County Attorney. This position will provide general legal services (policies, regulatory and compliance requirements, litigation, employment law, etc.) to Onslow County Government (County Commissioners, County Manager, County Departments and Boards). This position will report to a 5-member Board of County Commissioners and requires availability for evening meetings. Salary and benefits package commensurate with qualifications and experience. Minimum Education and Experience Requirements include any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from a law school accredited by the American Association of Law Schools with five or more years experience as a practicing attorney, preferably with local government law experience as well as strong interpersonal, research, verbal and written communication skills. Must be licensed to practice law in the State of North Carolina and possession of all other qualifications as required by State Statute. Application deadline is 5:00 pm on March 1, 2010. Application form, résumé with three professional references and cover letter identifying the applicant's strengths and salary history must be submitted to Onslow County Administration, Attention: Jeff Hudson, County Manager, 4024 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville, NC. For further information contact Onslow County Administration at 910-347-4717 between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm, Monday-Friday. Onslow County Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR** – Columbus County is seeking a full-time Economic Development Director to be responsible for encouraging the expansion of existing industries and the establishment of new industries in the County. Graduation from a four-year college or university with course work in planning, economics or a specialty area related to economic and industrial development; ideally five (5) or more years of experience in planning, industrial development and/or a related field; or an equivalent combination of experience and training. For a more detailed description or to apply online visit: [www.columbusco.org](http://www.columbusco.org). Salary negotiable. Closing Date: Open until filled. Columbus County is an EOE.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR** – Vance County is currently seeking a self-motivated, energetic individual to fill the position of Economic Development Director. Excellent communication skills, management ability, and marketing experience are essential. The candidate should have a proven track record for industrial growth through expansion and retention of existing industrial bases, and attraction of new industries and business into the county. The ability to work effectively with business leaders, government officials and community, regional and state organizations are imperative. Graduation from a four year college or university with a degree in business, planning, economics, or related field supplemented by experience in economic development and considerable professional experience in industrial or economic development; or an equivalent combination of training and experience. Economic development certification and training including preferred. Salary: \$54,936 – \$87,900, Negotiable DOQ. Open until filled. Submit résumé with a Vance County application (available at [www.vance-county.org](http://www.vance-county.org)) to Vance County Human Resources as directed on application. Vance County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## ADVERTISING POLICY

The NCACC publishes career opportunities in CountyLines and on its Web site at [www.ncacc.org/classifieds.htm](http://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 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. Ads may be submitted, along with billing information, to Jason King via e-mail ([communications@ncacc.org](mailto: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 Friday, Feb. 5.** For more information, please call Jason King at (919) 715-0045.

## Ethics training

Continued from page 1

The School of Government's Regional LeaderShop on "Local Finance: Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements" concludes with ethics training. Remaining LeaderShop dates and locations are Jan. 29 in Cabarrus County, Feb. 17 in Pitt County, Feb. 24 in Buncombe County and March 3 in Dare County. For more information and to register for a LeaderShop, visit [www.sog.unc.edu/courses/1641/](http://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/1641/). There is a \$175 fee to attend the LeaderShop.

For commissioners who cannot attend a training session in person, the School of Government is hosting an ethics training webinar on March 25 from 4 – 6 p.m. Note that elected officials using this option must have their respective governing boards determine that the webinar is a "qualified source" under G.S. 160A-84(c). For information on the webinar, visit [www.sog.unc.edu/programs/ethics/training\\_opportunities.php](http://www.sog.unc.edu/programs/ethics/training_opportunities.php). There will be a fee to register.

In 2009, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2009-403 (H1452), enacting a new Part 3A of Article 5 of Chapter 160A, which requires governing boards of cities, counties, local boards of education, unified governments, sanitary districts and consolidated city-counties to adopt a resolution or policy containing a code of ethics and to receive two hours of ethics training by Jan. 1, 2011. Subsequent training is required of elected officials after each election.

The law states the required training may be provided by the NCACC, the NCLM, the School of Government or other qualified sources at the choice of the governing board.

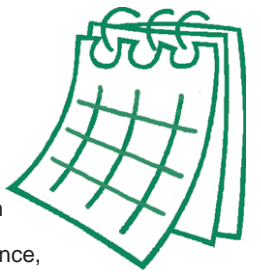
The School of Government is creating a template to guide units of local government in developing and adopting codes of ethics. For more information on the new ethics requirements, visit [www.ncacc.org/ethics\\_092409.html](http://www.ncacc.org/ethics_092409.html).

## Calendar of Events

For a complete listing of events, visit [www.ncacc.org/meetings.htm](http://www.ncacc.org/meetings.htm).

### ▼ FEBRUARY

- 3 NCACC Board of Directors meeting, Quorum Center, Raleigh
- 3-5 N.C. City & County Management Association Winter Conference, Sheraton RTP, Durham County
- 8-9 Institute for Emerging Issues Forum: "Creativity Inc.," Raleigh Convention Center
- 9 NCACC Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee meeting, Albert Coates Local Government Center (ACLGC), Raleigh
- 10 NCACC Agriculture Steering Committee meeting, ACLGC, Raleigh
- 10 NCACC Environment Steering Committee meeting, ACLGC, Raleigh
- 11 NCACC Human Services Steering Committee meeting, ACLGC, Raleigh
- 11 NCACC Public Education Steering Committee meeting, ACLGC, Raleigh
- 12-13 N.C. Association of County Attorneys Winter Conference, School of Government, UNC-Chapel Hill
- 17 Regional LeaderShop: "Local Finance – Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements," Hilton Greenville
- 18 NCACC Taxation and Finance Steering Committee meeting, ACLGC, Raleigh
- 23 NCACC Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee meeting, ACLGC, Raleigh
- 24 Regional LeaderShop: "Local Finance – Making Sense of Annual Financial Statements," Doubletree Hotel Biltmore/Asheville



# Entries for Outstanding County Program Awards due Feb. 26

With 100 counties and 100 talented county staffs in North Carolina, there are bound to be a lot of good ideas for ways to improve and expand services to citizens. The NCACC Outstanding County Program Awards (OCPA) competition, approved by the NCACC Board of Directors in 1991, is designed to recognize that outstanding work being done by counties across the state and also to share these ideas and innovations with other counties.

Now in its 19<sup>th</sup> year, the awards program honors counties and groups of counties (not individuals) for their support of excellence.

Entries involving multi-jurisdictional collaboration are strongly encouraged to apply. Programs entered into the LGFCU Employee Productivity Awards

Program also may be submitted for the OCPA program, but the focus is more directly on innovation and multi-county collaboration and, while productivity is encouraged, it is not the major factor in determining winners.

Projects/programs must have been implemented between Jan. 1, 2008, and Dec. 31, 2009. Applications must be postmarked, faxed or e-mailed to the Association by Friday, Feb. 26. Winning programs will be featured in an issue of *CountyLines*, and the winners will be honored during a meeting of their county's board of commissioners during National County Government Month in April.

To obtain an entry form, visit [www.ncacc.org/awards/ocpa/about.html](http://www.ncacc.org/awards/ocpa/about.html). Judging teams made up of elected

and appointed county officials review entries and select at least three winning programs in each of three categories:

- General Government includes programs related to environmental protection, economic development, libraries, arts, parks and recreation, human/race relations, and general county administrative services.
- Human Services includes programs related to social services, health, mental health and other programs to aid the elderly, disabled, low-income, youth, etc.
- Public Education/Participation includes any program that educates and/or seeks to involve citizens related to county programs or services. Programs can be audience-specific (news media, civic groups, youth, etc.) or directed toward the general citizenry.

Major criteria for the program are:

- Innovation: How unique is the project or program? What makes it different from others like it?
- Success: What were the objectives? How well were they met? How widespread is the impact of the project or program? What is the anticipated long-term impact?
- Effort and difficulty: How well did the project or program use available resources, given the limitations on such resources? What obstacles or challenges had to be overcome and how was this done?
- Collaboration: How did the project involve collaboration with other agencies, jurisdictions, nonprofits, businesses, etc.? How well was this collaboration achieved?

## Occurrence-based liability policies offer greatest protection

County liability insurance programs utilize two primary types of insurance policies – “occurrence-based” and “claims made.” Not understanding the differences between the two can produce sizable and unnecessary expenses.

Risk managers trying to choose between the two types of policies face a significant challenge when they solicit bids for their county's property and casualty insurance coverage. A claims-made policy may initially appear to be less expensive than an occurrence-based policy, but there are significant reasons for this. Standard insurance carriers will routinely utilize claims-made policy language in order to limit their long-term exposure to loss, which inversely increases yours.

Occurrence-based policies cover losses that happen during a given period of time (the policy term) and essentially continue to do so forever. As long as the loss occurred during the policy term, even if discovered a decade or more later, the occurrence-based policy that was in force at that time of the loss will respond, providing legal defense and coverage according to the policy language at that time.

Conversely, claims-made coverage is designed so that the policy that will respond to trigger coverage is the policy that is in-force at the time the claim is made, regardless of when the actual loss happened. A traditional claims-made policy will have what is called a “retroactive date” that establishes how far back in time a loss can occur and still be covered. Normally the retroactive date is the first day of the first year an insurance carrier begins their period of coverage.

If you change to another insurance company in the future, the new insurance carrier will likely reset your retroactive date to the first day it took over as your county's new insurance carrier. It is possible the new carrier will be willing to set its retroactive date back earlier, depending upon the level of competition in the insurance market at that time.

It is a point of negotiation each time you change insurance companies. Since a claims-made policy has no guarantee of continued insurability, if you are canceled or voluntarily move to a different carrier, you may not have coverage in the future for activities in the past.

If the new carrier is unwilling to backdate its retroactive date to match the prior carrier's retroactive date, a gap in coverage may develop. One solution for this is to purchase what is commonly called an extended reporting option, or a “tail.”

Tail coverage is purchased from the carrier that is not renewing the policy and extends the time a county has to report and cover losses that occurred in its original policy period. Purchasing the “tail” allows you to still report and have coverage under the expired policy for these unknown losses even though the loss was reported after the policy expired.

Tail coverage varies in both cost and length of time it is offered. The maximum premium charge is normally described in each policy and is typically 100 percent of the expiring policy's annual liability premium for each 12-month period of extended reporting capability.

This hidden additional cost is very difficult to negotiate with an insurance company that is losing a county's business. There is little incentive for them to price favorably, and it is normally quoted at the full 100 percent of annual premium cost. This additional fee is essentially the barb in the hook that makes changing from one claims-made policy to another often very difficult, as well as expensive. Unless you plan in advance, this additional cost is unknown at the beginning

of the policy year, when there is still time to include it in your budget.

Some insurance carriers may offer “prior acts” coverage or something known as a “nose” in the insurance industry. Nose coverage is essentially the opposite of tail coverage in that it fulfills a similar need of addressing a gap, providing prior acts coverage for insureds that are usually migrating from a claims-made policy back to an occurrence-based policy. Normally it is provided by the new replacement insurance policy for a one-time additional charge based on a fraction of the annual liability premium.

Law Enforcement Liability, Employment Practice Liability and Public Officials Liability (also sometimes called Directors and Officers Liability) are often covered using claims-made policy forms. These routine county exposures can exhibit long-term, far-reaching liability issues. Using claims-made coverage limits the insurance carrier's exposure to loss and potentially increases yours. So what can a county risk manager do to address this?

The obvious solution to avoid the issues described is to seek and purchase these coverages through insurance markets that offer an occurrence-based policy form. There are in fact standard insurance markets that will do so. If your county is a member of the NCACC Liability & Property Pool, all of these described insurance lines are written on the occurrence-based policy form.

If you are not a member of the NCACC Liability & Property Pool and are unsure about your standard insurance carrier's policy, you can determine which applies to your county by reviewing the various policies for these three lines of coverage, noting the declaration page that lists the name of the insured, your address and the effective date. If you have a claims-made policy, the declaration page should exhibit clearly – often in red type – the following statement: “This is a Claims-Made Policy – Please

Read Carefully.”

Once you have confirmed that you are operating under a claims-made policy, delve further into the policy language to ascertain your retroactive date and the maximum cost for purchasing tail coverage should you ever decide to move to another carrier in the future.

The shorter the timeframe that your county has been insured under a claims-made policy form, the easier and less expensive it will be to migrate back to the more desirable, occurrence-based form. If it has been three years or less, you should be able to purchase nose coverage going back long enough to prevent any gaps.

In the future when seeking insurance bids, mandate in your bid specifications that these insurance lines are to be quoted and written on an occurrence-based policy. If the quoting carrier will not offer occurrence-based coverage, get in writing the quote to purchase the tail coverage up front and add that to your initial cost, as it is likely your county will make a change in coverage if underwritten through the standard markets – either being your choice or by force if your carrier decides to not offer a renewal. Their quote for the tail coverage will likely be less expensive up front if they believe there is a chance at that point to write your county's insurance.

Unfortunately, insurance coverage is one of those intangible products or services that is often purchased on the basis of price alone. Details of coverage (or lack thereof) often do not manifest themselves until an uncovered loss occurs, and by then it is too late. By taking a minute to review your county's insurance policies with the specifics of this information in mind, you could save thousands of dollars in the future.

*Michael Kelly serves as Property and Casualty Program Specialist for the NCACC's Risk Management Pools. He writes a regular column on risk management for CountyLines.*

### Appeals court rules against Union County APFO for schools

Union County has lost a challenge to its School Adequate Public Facility Ordinance. The North Carolina Court of Appeals ruled for the plaintiffs in Union County Landowners Association et. al. v. Union County, striking down the county's \$15,000-per-house fee.

The lawsuit was filed in 2006, and in September 2008, the county's appeal for Summary Judgment was granted in Superior Court. The NCACC supported Union County as a Friend of the Court in February 2009 following an appeal by the plaintiff.

The county has voted to seek a Supreme Court review of the Court of Appeals decision.

Union County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation.

### Randolph County to ask voters for additional sales tax

Randolph County voters will decide March 2 whether to pass a quarter-cent sales tax referendum. Commissioners decided in December to put the measure on the ballot, with the estimated \$2 million in annual revenue going toward community college facility renovations.

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.

New Hanover will hold a quarter-cent sales tax referendum in May. Buncombe County commissioners on Jan. 5 discussed the possibility of a referendum, but decided not to pursue it at this time.

### Hunt gets call 'to the bigs' in Carteret County

Richard Hunt was sworn in as Pete Allen's replacement on the Carteret County Board of Commissioners on Dec. 14. Allen received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine during the Board meeting, during which he announced his retirement after 25 years in local government.

Hunt will serve the remainder of Allen's term, which expires in 2010.

Upon winning the nomination of the Carteret County Republican Party Executive Committee for the appointment, Hunt told the *Carteret County News-Times* that resigning his seat on the Cape Carteret Board of Commissioners in order to accept the seat on the county board "is like moving from the little leagues to the big leagues."



### Hardison passes the torch in Martin County

Martin County saw a changing of the guard in its clerk to the board position at the beginning of the year, as Linda Hardison retired as clerk and assistant to the county manager at the end of December. Marion Thompson, who previously served as the county's payroll officer for nine and a half years, succeeded Hardison as clerk. Hardison, who joined the county in August 1990 and held the clerk to the board position for 13 years, served as president of the N.C. Association of County Clerks in 2008-09. The Board of Commissioners honored Hardison for her years of service to Martin County on Dec. 16. Pictured above are Commissioners Mort Hurst, Butch Lilley, Chairman Ronnie Smith, Tommy Bowen and Derek Price.

Photo courtesy The Enterprise of Williamston

### Buncombe implements county-wide zoning

The Buncombe County Board of Commissioners on Dec. 1 voted to immediately expand zoning county-wide.

The county first implemented community planning and zoning during the 1970s in the Limestone and Beaverdam communities. The board decided to expand zoning throughout the county to implement sound comprehensive planning policies that will help ensure orderly growth and development while also protecting and preserving rural communities and agricultural land, as well as scenery, natural resources, parks and open spaces.

The zoning districts and regulations are intended to guide development within the Metropolitan Sewerage District service area by concentrating commercial, industrial, and multifamily developments along major corridors, thus allowing single family residential communities to maintain their residential neighborhood qualities. In areas outside the MSD boundaries, properties have been designated Open Use, which regulates only those uses which could have significant impacts on communities and surrounding properties. The zoning designation for an affected property gives reasonable consideration to the character of the community and suitability for particular uses.

### McDowell manager appointed to retirement study commission

McDowell County Manager Chuck Abernathy has been appointed to the Future of Retirement Study Commission. State Treasurer Janet Cowell announced the members of the 13-member commission, comprised of government employees and retirees, human resources experts and private sector leaders, on Dec. 18.

The commission is charged with addressing the need for change by evaluating and making recommendations for the retirement benefits of state and local government employees hired in the future. The current benefits design has been largely the same since 1963, despite significant changes to the workforce.

The commission's inaugural meeting is scheduled for Jan. 25.

Abernathy also serves as the county's director of economic development.

### Vance's Wright, Pasquotank's Wood won't seek re-election

Vance County Chairman Danny Wright, co-winner of the 2009 Outstanding County Commissioner Award, and Pasquotank County Commissioner Matt Wood, a longtime NCACC District 1 Director, have added their names to the list of commissioners who have announced they will not seek re-election in 2010.

Wright, who has served on the Vance County Board of Commissioners since 1982, presided over the NCACC Board of Directors from 1997-98. He is a longtime member of the Association's Risk Management Pools Board of Trustees, and currently serves on the boards of directors for the NCACC and the National Association of Counties.

Wood will complete his third term on the Pasquotank County Board this year. He previously served two terms on the school board. In 2003 he was appointed the NCACC's District 1 Director, a position he held until August 2009.

### Holder appointed interim Sampson County manager

Sampson County has turned to veteran Assistant Manager Susan Holder to serve as interim county manager following the resignation of Rick Moorefield, the new Cumberland County attorney. Holder has served in various capacities – including assistant manager since 1999 – during her 19-year tenure in Sampson.

In addition, commissioners have appointed the Law Offices of Daughtry, Woodard, Lawrence and Starling to fill in as county attorney on an interim basis.

### Moore County OKs designs for new government center

The Moore County Board of Commissioners took another step toward approving construction of a new government center Jan. 4 by approving architectural designs for a two-story, 89,000-square-foot facility. The center would include a 250-seat commissioner meeting room and a 50-seat planning board room.

In October, commissioners approved plans for a new public safety and detention center.

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**Wayne County's Anderson honored for transportation work**

Wayne County Commissioner Wilbur "Andy" Anderson was presented a prestigious transportation leadership award Dec. 10 from the Eastern Carolina Council during a ceremony in Craven County.

In a letter read by N.C. Rep. Efton Sager, Martin Lancaster, a former member of both the North Carolina and United States Houses of Representatives who retired as president of the North Carolina Community College system in 2008, commended Anderson on his work in planning for and implementing transportation projects across Wayne County.

"Andy has not limited his involvement to this one road, but to transportation issues of all sorts as they affect Wayne County and Eastern North Carolina," Lancaster said in the letter.

**Chatham County manager unveils five-year CIP**

Chatham County commissioners heard a proposal for a five-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for 2011-15 on Dec. 7. Following presentation of the plan and a public hearing, commissioners were scheduled to discuss the proposed CIP at a budget retreat in January.

County Manager Charlie Horne's proposal includes starting construction of the county judicial facility in early 2010 to alleviate overcrowding and unsafe conditions at the current courthouse, constructing a county-owned landfill in 2015, building a new jail in 2012, and postponing plans for a new high school.

**Wake County issues bonds to build Justice Center**

Wake County completed the pricing and sale of Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBs) on Dec. 9 to generate approximately \$160 million to finance construction of the new Wake County Justice Center in downtown Raleigh.

"The new Justice Center will efficiently accommodate our growth and the increased traffic in the court system for the next 30 to 50 years," said County Manager David Cooke. "Also, the Justice Center's proximity to the existing courthouse and the Public Safety Center will provide greater capacity and security for citizens, staff and judges."

The county obtained AA+, Aa1 and AA+ ratings on the 2010 LOBs from Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch, the highest rating available for appropriation-based debt. In addition to a rating on the LOBs, the rating agencies also affirmed the county's AAA rating on all outstanding debt.

**Dry conditions retreat from state**

Early December marked the first time in nearly three years that the entire Tar Heel State was free of drought or abnormally dry conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The entire state last experienced normal conditions in January 2007.

The drought map is online at [www.ncdrought.org](http://www.ncdrought.org). During most of the past three years, parts of the state have been color coded on the drought map, indicating conditions that ranged from abnormally dry to exceptional drought.

**SHORTS**

**Alamance:** Commissioners on Dec. 7 named Gerald York as tax administrator. York served with the Tax Department for more than eight years, most recently as tax appraiser. He succeeds Interim Tax Administrator Emmett Curl. ... **Catawba:** David Weldon, who worked in the county's Emergency Services Department for 18 years – including seven as director – has left the county to become area coordinator for the N.C. Division of Emergency Management. Counties in his area include Beaufort, Camden, Pasquotank, Hyde, Martin, Pitt, Tyrrell and Washington. EMS Manager Bryan Blanton is serving as interim Emergency Services director. ... **Durham:** General Services Director Mike Turner retired at the end of the year following a 33-year career with the county. ... **Granville:** The county courthouse will undergo entrance and interior renovations to improve safety and aesthetics. Corridors and lobbies on both floors and stairwells will receive overhauls, and wallpaper will be removed. Renovations to the second-floor superior courtroom include work to the stamped-tin ceiling and wall plaster. ... **Moore:** The Board of Commissioners delayed the county's scheduled 2011 revaluation to 2015. ... **New Hanover:** Tara Duckworth, who has worked for the City of Wilmington since 1994, took over as parks manager Jan. 12. She succeeded Neal Lewis, who retired after 16 years in the position. ... **Northampton:** Commission-

ers voted Jan. 4 to purchase 15 acres for a new social services facility. The county has accepted a \$200,000 grant and \$6.9 million loan offer from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development to fund purchase and construction of the facility. ... **Onslow:** The law firm of Lanier, Fountain, and Ceruzzi Attorneys at Law has been appointed interim county attorney. Former County Attorney Ron vonLembke resigned at the end of 2009 to accept a position out-of-state. ... **Rutherford:** EMS Director Barry Davis and Maintenance Director Barry Jones retired Jan. 1. Davis headed EMS since March 1988, while Jones oversaw the Maintenance Department since December 1993. ... **Sampson:** Raymond Spell was appointed interim parks and recreation director Jan. 4. ... **Warren:** Fred Papa will begin work as economic development director Jan. 19. ... **Wayne:** Commissioner Steve Keen was presented with an "Honorary Alumni Award" from East Carolina University in December. According to the school, Honorary Alumni status is an honor extended to individuals who did not attend the university but have adopted ECU as their own through uncommon and outstanding service, substantial and continuing commitment, and loyalty. ... **Yancey:** Gary Banks was sworn into office as sheriff in January. Banks succeeds his father, Kermit Banks, who retired Dec. 31. Gary Banks' grandfather, the late Donald Banks, is also a former Yancey County sheriff.

**Chatham, Orange boost access to services for seniors and disabled**

The Chatham-Orange Community Resource Connections for Aging and Disabilities collaborative officially launched Nov. 30. It is a collaborative program designed to help seniors and disabled adults have better access to information, referrals and various types of services.

"The goal is to improve communications so that these residents can better obtain critical information and necessary health and support in both counties and to enhance the transition period after being discharged from a hospital," said Angel Dennison, executive director of the Chatham County Council on Aging.

The collaborative project is funded by a grant from the Federal Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. The Chatham-Orange program received \$116,000 in grant funds through 2012 to establish and sustain the project. The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services is the state-level program manager.

The Chatham County Council on Aging is the lead agency locally, but several organizations, including the Orange County departments on Aging and Social Services and Chatham County DSS, serve on the governing committee.

More information about the Chatham-Orange collaborative is available online at [www.chathamorangecrc.org](http://www.chathamorangecrc.org).

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## Cleveland County celebrates legacy of longtime manager

Lane Alexander was one of those rare county managers who lived his entire life in the county he worked for.

Alexander, a longtime Cleveland County manager, died Dec. 11 at the age of 61 after a two-and-a-half-year battle with liver cancer. He was born in Cleveland County and lived there as a child, a teenager, and an adult, something the county considered to be irreplaceable.

Alexander began his career with the county as a purchasing agent before moving up the ranks to become assistant finance director, finance director and later assistant county manager, a position he held for 17 years under Joe Hendrick. Groomed by Hendrick to assume the county manager's post upon his retirement, Alexander held the position for 17 years before retiring in 2004. All told, he served 33 years with the county.

According to a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners on Jan. 5, "he set a standard of excellence in commitment to public service and leadership, dedicating himself not only to the growth, success and future of Cleveland County, but to preserving our history ... a dedication evidenced through his continued involvement in our community after his retirement."



Lane Alexander served as Cleveland County manager for 17 years.

Photo courtesy Cleveland County

"We knew each other for 35 years or more," current County Manager David Dear told *The Shelby Star*. "He was just a good friend and a great man."

His accomplishments include facilitating a smooth transition following a school merger and serving as a major voice in a partnership to bring a Wal-Mart Distribution Center to Shelby.

## Honeyblue back on familiar ground as NCACC Risk Control Specialist

Gerald Honeyblue is feeling at home once again. The NCACC's newest risk control specialist for the eastern third of the state once covered the same ground for five years for the Association's sister organization, the N.C. League of Municipalities. He began working with the NCACC on Jan. 4.

The return to the public risk management sector is also a welcome change for Honeyblue. Before joining the League, where he was part of the group that helped launch loss control services, he served four years as safety director for the City of Durham.

"I should have never left local government," the 30-year insurance veteran said of his move to the private sector.

Honeyblue's name could also ring a bell with several county managers. He completed the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at East Carolina University in 1998.

In his role with the Association, Honeyblue will spend 70 percent to 80 percent of his time in counties conducting risk profile evaluations, developing loss trend analysis reports and practical risk control services plans, and developing and presenting supervisory safety management training. He said he should be able to at a minimum visit with all



Gerald Honeyblue



Kelly Brown

Pool members in the eastern third of the state by the end of February.

Honeyblue is a native of Edenton in Chowan County. He received his undergraduate degree from Elizabeth City State University.

Contact Honeyblue at (919) 518-5331 or [gerald.honeyblue@ncacc.org](mailto:gerald.honeyblue@ncacc.org).

With Honeyblue working with members in the east, Craig Sappenfield, who joined the Association as a risk control specialist in March 2009, will shift his focus to the western third of the state. Stuart Darden will cover the Piedmont region.

**More staff notes:** Kelly Brown has been promoted to a full-time position in the NCACC's Finance Department. She had served in a temporary role as accounting technician since mid-October 2009.

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