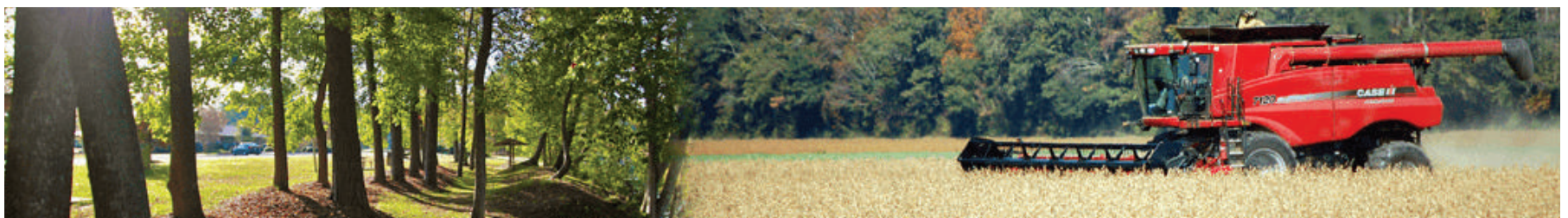
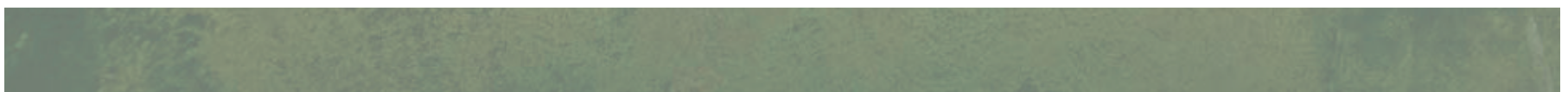
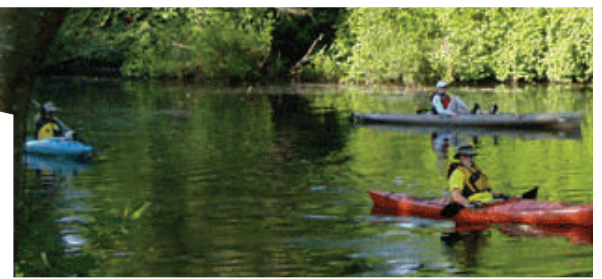
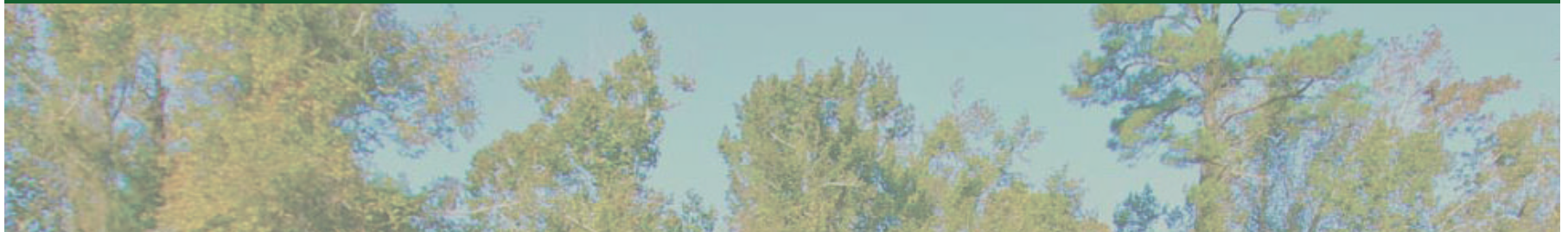


December 2018

CITIZEN NEWS

A Special Newsletter by the Camden County Board of Commissioners



CITIZEN NEWS

A Special Newsletter by the Camden County Board of Commissioners



Photo courtesy of The Daily Advance

Pictured L-R: Commissioner Garry Meiggs, Commissioner Tom White, Commissioner Clayton Riggs, County Manager Ken Bowman, Commissioner Randy Krainiak, Commissioner Ross Munro

Welcome to "Citizen News"

We are pleased to introduce you to the Camden County "Citizen News," a valuable tool of information for you, our citizens, as we strive to continue keeping you informed. In this newsletter, you will find information on the services available to you through the County departments and staff, the Board of Commissioners, the elected constitutional officers, to include a directory of contact information for all departments.

The "Citizen News" has been designed as an easy pull-out insert to the Daily Advance for your convenience when you need to know exactly where to get answers, to address matters of interest or concern to you, or to contact your Commissioner.

We recognize the importance of keeping our citizens informed and engaged in our community. We hope this will prove to be a valuable resource for you and we welcome your comments on ways we can improve sharing information throughout the community.

We invite you to attend our Board of Commissioners meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., on the second floor of the Historic Camden Courthouse.

Citizens may speak on any subject during the "Hearing of the Citizens" portion of the agenda. Handicap accessibility and elevators are available around the back of the Courthouse to the left of the Register of Deeds.

Thank you to our Camden County businesses who helped make this edition of the "Citizen News" possible. We also thank our citizens for their support of these businesses.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service to you. Camden County - Board of Commissioners

Camden County Board of Commissioners

Tom White, Chairman
Commissioner At Large
150 Billets Bridge Rd.
Camden, NC 27921
252-336-4744

tomwhite@camdencountync.gov

Clayton D. Riggs, Vice Chairman
Shiloh District
876 S Sandy Hook Road
Shiloh, NC 27974
252-336-4303
criggs@camdencountync.gov

Garry Meiggs, Commissioner
South Mills District
1081 North NC 343
Camden, NC 27921
252-771-5634
gmeiggs@camdencountync.gov

Randy Krainiak, Commissioner
Courthouse District
173 South NC 343
Camden, NC 27921
252-338-3326
rkrainiak@camdencountync.gov

Ross B. Munro, Commissioner
Commissioner at Large
111 Ivy Neck Rd.
Camden, NC 27921
252-619-3134
rmunro@camdencountync.gov



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Elizabeth City, NC 27909

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252.338.0258 fax

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Causeway Marina

causewaymarina@embarqmail.com



Camden County Government

Board meeting video recordings are broadcast on Mediacom Channel 18, the county's cable access channel and are available on the county's web site. Web Site: www.camdencountync.gov Facebook: www.facebook.com/

Camden County Office Directory (All area codes 252)

Animal Control:
338-5046

Board of Elections:
338-5530

Camden County Heritage Museum/Historic Jail:
771-8333

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners:
338-6363 ext. 100

Clerk of Court:
336-4000

Convenience Site (Camden Township):
338-3865

Convenience Site (Shiloh Township):
336-4507

Convenience Site (South Mills Township):
771-2918

Cooperative Extension:
331-7630

County Manager:
338-6363 ext. 102

Dismal Swamp Welcome Center:
771-8333

Economic Development:
338-6363 ext. 103

Emergency Management:
335-4444

Finance:
338-6363 ext. 107

GIS:
338-1919

Health Department:
338-4460

Human Resources:
338-6363 ext. 106

Library:
331-2543

Parks & Recreation:
338-1919 ext. 239

Planning & Community Development:
338-1919 ext. 263

Public Works:
338-6363 ext. 105

Register of Deeds:
338-1919 ext. 244

Schools Central Office:
335-0831

Senior Center:
335-2569

Sheriff's Office:
338-5046

Social Services:
331-4787

Soil & Water Conservation:
338-1919 ext. 262

Tax:
338-1919 ext. 225

Tourism:
771-8333

Water & Sewer:
338-1919 ext. 236

Fire Stations:
South Mills VFD:
771-2772

South Camden VFD:
338-3722

Message from County Manager

Ken Bowman

For residents and visitors alike, Camden County is a place of unique opportunity and beauty. Camden County Government works every day to deliver quality public services to our citizens. Camden is a growing rural community in Northeastern North Carolina that hasn't lost its serene atmosphere. The quiet neighborhoods, outstanding schools, and beautiful rivers and sounds, make Camden County a very attractive place to live and work for families as well as retirees.

As Camden's County Manager, my responsibility is to implement the policies and vision of the Board of Commissioners to ensure the day-to-day operations run efficiently and effectively. The County Manager serves as Chief Executive Officer of Camden County government, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners.

This office performs the administrative functions of the local government, which support the activities of the Board of Commissioners. Some of my duties include preparing the county wide budget, recommending new and revised policies to the Board of Commissioners, implementing county programs and services, and representing the County in collaboration with other governmental units, state and local agencies.

I am pleased to lead professionals that value our service delivery and our county's quality of life. As your county manager, my team and I are committed to quality public service, building and strengthening our collaborative partnerships and proposing fiscally sound budgets that support our vital services. Our goal is improving the quality of life for every Camden County resident.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you each day. If we can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.



Administration Staff



Standing L-R - Stephanie Jackson Human Resource Risk Management Specialist; Charlie Bauman, Economic Development Director; Stephanie Humphries, Finance Officer; Seated - Karen Davis, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners & Assistant to the County Manager; Sally Norfleet, Finance Specialist.

Economic Development

Camden Commerce Park Gains First Tenant

WAO Garage, a Chesapeake Va. based enterprise, recently announces property purchase and development plan for the Camden Commerce Park. The company plans to construct an 8,000 square foot facility on about six acres of property and employ up to ten workers. The total value of the investment exceeds over \$700,000.00 including land, building and machinery. WAO Garage restores collectible vehicles and expects to expand the business over time and as market demand increases. The Camden location was specifically targeted given the proximity to the customer base in northeastern North Carolina and in southeastern Virginia. As well, the cost effectiveness of purchasing property and developing the building in Camden County were pivotal in committing to the Commerce Park site. Randy Finck, Principal & Owner of the company, also cited the exceptional work on the part of the County in demonstrating key benefits available to WAO Garage as a result of committing to the community. Mr. Finck also mentions his interest in working with Camden County Schools to establish a program enabling students to be involved in the automotive industry. It is expected that WAO Garage will begin construction in early 2019 once road and other infrastructure supporting his business is complete. Operational start up is targeted for next summer.

Camden County to Benefit From U.S.D.A. & North Carolina Grants

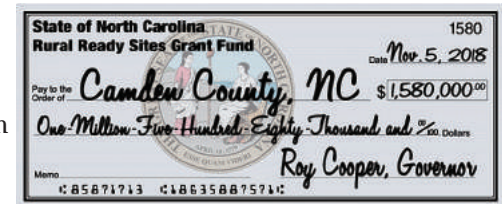
Camden County was recently notified that it will receive, and benefit from, two significant grants; one Federal and the other from the State of North Carolina. Both grants total approximately \$3.4M. The grants are intended for specific economic development & infrastructure related projects and a County wide broadband connectivity and enhancement initiative.

A U.S.D.A. grant in the amount of \$1.8M will be directly awarded to a regional internet service provider, Eastern Shore Communications, for specific broadband technology improvements in Camden identified by the company and the County. A recent study of general internet connectivity revealed significant challenges County wide, and specifically in underserved and unserved areas of the community. The study also found that Camden's school age population is unable to consistently access broadband services which directly impacts individual academic success. Having dependable internet access and service is also a key asset consideration when local companies are considering expansion or when companies from elsewhere are evaluating the County as a location opportunity. Both the County and Eastern Shore Communications will be pursuing an implementation plan with a top priority being the broadband challenged areas. Importantly, the County continues to work with all commercial entities providing internet service in the community and has made broadband improvement a top priority for its citizens and businesses.

In another instance, Camden County will directly receive about \$1.6M in grant funds from the North Carolina Rural Ready Sites program implemented by Governor Roy Cooper. These funds will be used to complete certain road and infrastructure projects in the Camden Commerce



Park and to address needed improvements to the South Mills Wastewater Treatment Plant servicing the County. The grant was pursued by County staff with the funding being immediately applied to the identified projects in accordance with established State grant procedures. The N.C. Department of Commerce will also continue to provide guidance to the County in this process. The partnership serves as an example of how State and local government can work together and achieve mutually beneficial results.



N.C.S.U. Economic Development Leader Visits Camden County

Mr. Tom White, Director, Economic Development Partnership for North Carolina State University, met with a joint meeting of the County Board of Commissioners and Economic Development Commission in November to discuss mutually beneficial programs. Mr. White heads up the Office of Partnerships & Economic Development on behalf of NCSU. The mission of the office is to connect corporate and governmental partners with researchers and other resources at NCSU in order to foster innovation and stimulate growth. The joint gathering learned about active outreach and engagement projects with local communities across the state to support economic development. The objective of the event was designed to strengthen Camden County's joint partnership opportunities not only with NCSU, but also with Elizabeth City State University and the College of the Albemarle. Significantly, Dr. Joe Ferrell of Camden County Schools participated in the exchange given the County's efforts under the purview of its Business Advisory Council. The Camden County Business Advisory Council is a state sponsored initiative to assist the community in developing work skill sets and career interests among the student body of Camden County Schools. As a result of the meeting, a commitment was made by the Board of Commissioners directing County staff and the Economic Development Commission toward building and maintaining a wide variety of partnerships ultimately benefiting Camden County's economic development efforts.

Charles Bauman, Director of Economic Development

Board of Elections

The Board of Elections conducts elections in Camden County. There is a 4-member Board that meets once a month and a Director that provides for the day-to-day administration of the office and conducts elections.

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



L-R Elaine Best, Director of Elections; Cindy McPherson, Election Specialist



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ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES

- **Courthouse Precinct - Camden County Public Library,**
104 Investor's Way, Camden, NC, 27921
- **Shiloh Precinct - South Camden Fire Department #11,**
1061 NC Hwy 343 South, Shiloh, NC, 27974
- **South Mills Precinct - South Mills Ruritan Building,**
400 Main Street, South Mills, NC, 27976
- **Camden County Board of Elections Office,**
117 NC HWY 3423 N, Camden NC 27921
Phone: (252) 338-5530

Finance

The Camden County Finance Department is comprised of three employees covering accounting, finance and human resources functions. The head of the Department is the Finance Officer who is appointed by the County Commissioners per North Carolina General Statutes. Finance Officer, Stephanie Humphries joined the County as Finance Officer in January 2015. Stephanie has a Bachelors Degree in Accounting, an MBA, and is a Certified Local Government Finance Officer. In addition to duties such as internal control, cash management and adherence to state statutes, the Finance Officer supervises two employees. The Human Resources & Risk Management Specialist, Stephanie Jackson, has been with the County since 2002. She holds a Bachelor's Degree and handles employment practices, benefits and Property/Liability Insurance which includes aspects of Employee Safety. Sally Norfleet has been the Finance Specialist since 2017 when she came to the County from the County School System where she also worked in the Finance Department. She holds both a Bachelor's Degree and an MBA and handles accounting functions such as accounts payable, revenues and payroll.

Planning Department



L-R – Back - Dave Parks, Permit Officer/Flood Plain Manager; Barbara Rhoads, Chief Bldg. Inspector; Front - Keith Truman, Bldg. Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer; Dan Porter, Planning Director; Amy Barnette, Permit Clerk.

The Camden County Planning Department's mission is to listen and understand the needs of the community and citizens as set forth through policy direction of the Board of Commissioners, and to implement those policies. The goal is to maximize the economic benefits of public and private investment, balanced with protecting individual property rights and the environment. The tools we use are land use regulations that address how property is divided for sale – Subdivision regulations, and the types of property uses – Zoning Regulations. These regulations are published in the Unified Development Ordinance(UDO). A third tool is inspection of building construction as regulated by the North Carolina Building Code. The Department also maintains and maps an updated database connecting each parcel of land to a wide variety of characteristics including size, shape, value, ownership, utility location, and many more through the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) software.

Additionally the Department conducts special studies and plans to advise the community and Commissioners on alternatives to manage development and growth. The overall guidance is provided in the Camden County 2035 Comprehensive Plan, which was completed in 2012. Please call or visit the Planning Department before making investments in property purchase and/or development. We can help avoid future problems and even offer some creative solutions.

The Department's most current undertaking is a 3 year project to revise the Unified Development Ordinance to be more user friendly and align with the Comprehensive Plan. This effort has included interviews with key stakeholders, public work sessions, and review by the Planning Board, other committees, and the Board of Commissioners. A public hearing to obtain citizen comments and result in approval of a revised UDO is/was scheduled for November 14, 2018

One of the most important functions of the Department is to distribute information and regulate development in the FEMA designated flood zones. In 2017 Camden was awarded a class 7 rating in the FEMA Community Rating System for its required and voluntary efforts related to flood information and compliance. This rating results in a 15% savings on flood insurance premiums for property owners.

For more information about the new Unified Development Ordinance or other activities of the Planning Department visit the website at <http://camdencountync.gov/departments/planning-zoning> , or call one of our friendly staff at 252-338-1919.

Dan Porter, DirectorExt.263
Dave Parks, Permit Officer Ext.232
Barbara Rhoads, Building Inspector Ext.227
Matthew Meads, GIS Technician Ext.261
Amy Barnette, Permit Clerk Ext. 235

Library

The Camden County Public Library offers a multitude of services for Camden citizens. Our staff is prepared to help you in any way you need, from helping create resumes to finding your next great read! Open seven days a week, the library also has a host of online resources that you can access from home. We have computers available on-site for the public to use: printing, copying, and faxing services for a small fee, and a meeting room that can be reserved at no charge. Check out some of our programs and stop by and see us!



Author Ralph Webster holds a book signing at the Camden Library hosted by the Camden Book Club and the "Wine, Women & Books" Club of Elizabeth City.



L-R Freda Gordon, Circulation Supervisor; Rachel Bryant, Children's Specialist; Cheryl Carollo, Library Assistant; Kathryn York, Library Assistant; Julianna Baughman, Library Assistant; Kim Perry, Librarian

Library Schedule Change Effective January 1, 2019

Monday	9:00 a. m. – 7:00 p. m.
Tuesday	9:00 a. m. – 7:00 p. m.
Wednesday	9:00 a. m. – 6:00 p. m.
Thursday	9:00 a. m. – 6:00 p. m.
Friday	9:00 a. m. – 6:00 p. m.
Saturday	10:00 a. m. – 4:00 p. m.
Sunday	CLOSED

- Weekly Storytimes for children from birth to 8 years old
- Monthly Adult Book Club meetings
- Monthly Makerspace programming for children 10 and up
- Monthly Lego Club for children of all ages
- Holiday programming
- Author events

All library programming is free to the public and listed on both the Camden County website and the library's Facebook page. Located at 104 Investors Way in Camden, you can call us at (252) 331-2543.
Kim Perry, Librarian



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Public Works

Public Works includes several departments. Building and Grounds is responsible for maintenance of the County owned buildings, mosquito spraying and solid waste convenience sites. The Wastewater department is responsible for the treatment and disposal of the wastewater. The water department is responsible for the wells and treatment of the drinking water. The Distribution/Collections Department is responsible for the water and sewer mains, main repairs, pumps stations, new tap installation, locates utilities and sampling.



David Credle
Public Works Manager
330 US Hwy 158
East Camden, NC 27921
252-338-6363 x105
After Hours: 252-207-6874



L-R Greg Gregory, Maintenance Technician; Tommy McDaniel, Supervisor; Briley Forbes, Maintenance Technician

The maintenance department performs a wealth of duties in order to make sure the appearance of Camden County is pleasing not only to the tax paying citizens but to all who travel through our beautiful county.

Parks & Recreation Department



L-R Brad Stafford, Maintenance; Tim White, Recreation Director; Ben Carter, Superintendent (not pictured)

Purpose

On May 16, 2006 the Camden County Board of Commissioners voted to create the county's Parks and Recreation Department. The department is responsible for the stewardship of the county's parks for the enhancement of the county, the enjoyment of its citizens and for initiating, partnering, and conducting recreational programs and activities for all Camden County residents.

Mission Statement

The Camden County Parks and Recreation Department is committed to coordinating and providing a wide variety of healthy, wholesome activities as well as preserving and maintaining the county's parks, facilities and open spaces.

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Programs and Responsibilities

Camden County Parks and Recreation offers a variety of programs and events with focus on providing opportunities that contribute to the enhancement of life for citizens of all ages. We partner with local non-profit organizations, other county and state agencies as well as the Camden County Public School system to provide enjoyable and cost-effective recreation, sports, youth and adult programming and special events.

There are three parks located in Camden County: Camden Community Park, One Mill Park and Treasure Point Park. Also, located in Camden are the Dismal Swamp Trail and the Senior Boardwalk Trail. The county also has three public boat access areas: Milltown Boat Ramp, Sawyer's Creek Boat Ramp and the One Mill Park Boat Ramp.

Upcoming Programs/Events

- Camden Youth League Spring Soccer Registration - January 10, 2019
- Camden Youth League Baseball & Softball Registration – January 10, 2019
www.camdenyouthleague.com (to register or for more information)
- 18th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration –
January 21, 2019 – Unity Walk 10:45am, Program 11:30am

Timothy C. White
Parks and Recreation Director
PO Box 190
117 North NC 343
Camden, NC 27921
(252) 338-1919 ext. 239
www.camdencountync.gov



Register of Deeds



L-R Ashley Jennings, Deputy Register of Deeds; Tammie Krauss, Register of Deeds; Shelly Johnson, Deputy Register of Deeds

Lemuel Sawyer was the first Public Register for Camden County. He was appointed in April 1779. I, Tammie Krauss, am currently the 34th Public Register and am honored to serve the citizens of Camden County. The office is governed by Chapter 161 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Registers serve as the custodian of all real property and vital records. Images for real estate records are available online. They are available to research by



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name beginning November 1st, 1983 to current. Before this date you must research by viewing the old index books that are available online. Our birth, death, and marriage records are available for research using our public workstation located in the office. Military records are also maintained in this office but only records over 80 years old may be viewed by the public. Notary public officials that are commissioned in Camden County must come in our office for their certificate and take the oath. Our office does not provide forms nor can we prepare documents for recording. We are not trained to do title search and will suggest you contact an attorney for any legal questions. We look forward to serving all citizens of Camden County.

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.

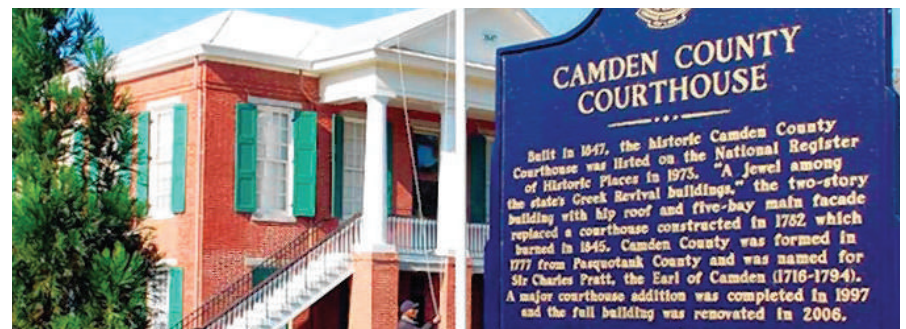
Online search: www.camdencountync.gov

tkrauss@camdencountync.gov

Phone: 252-338-1919 Ext. 244 Fax: 252-338-1758

Mailing address: P.O. Box 64 Camden NC 27921

Physical address: 117 North NC 343 Camden NC 27921



Sheriff's Office



Motto:

Keeping Citizens Safe in Camden County

Mission Statement:

The primary mission of the Camden County Sheriff's Office is to provide a safe and secure environment for Camden County residents and visitors. Our goals are to seek, understand and address the underlying issues that lead to calls for service. We will accomplish these goals through community involvement policing along with an aggressive enforcement of state and local laws. It is our belief that these collaborative efforts and enhanced problem solving techniques will significantly improve the quality of life for Camden County residents and will enhance the experience of our visitors.

Mission Goal:

This office will fulfill its mission by protecting and serving in a compassionate, patient, and courteous manner with integrity, honesty, accountability and loyalty to the citizens we serve.

This Sheriff's Office is responsible for providing law enforcement twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, three-hundred sixty-five days a year for the entire county in investigating crimes such as break-ins, larcenies, rapes, murders, assaults, missing persons, suicides, providing peaceful solutions in civil disputes, spousal disputes and property owner disputes, protecting the public and their personal interests from the criminal element, serving all civil and criminal processes, collecting money on judgments, retrieving property for failure to pay debts, providing security for courtroom sessions, providing security for public functions, traffic control at wrecks and fire scenes, enforcing traffic laws, investigating illegal drug and alcohol abuse, providing preventive measures in drug abuse with a Narcotic K-9, providing School Resource Officers in the schools for crime prevention and as role models.

Expenditures within the Sheriff's Office support office supplies, gas and oil and funds for repairs for the patrol vehicles, travel for trips for training, prisoner/mental patient transports, training funds for conference registrations and materials, telephone and postage for inter-office phone services and cell services for personnel and postage for daily mail and jury duty notices, and purchase of new patrol vehicles.

This Sheriff's Office is a revenue seeking office in paying for equipment and personnel. Revenue is sought through grants and solicitation of funds from private organizations to pay for programs to promote crime

prevention and community policing efforts in building strong relationships. Seeking grant funds is a very competitive process. Therefore, without grant funds, equipment and personnel costs must be relied upon from the taxpayers of Camden County. This Sheriff's Office collects fees for serving civil processes, fingerprint requests, copies of reports, concealed weapon permits, weapon purchase permits and solicitation permits. The Sheriff's Office enforces traffic laws stopping numerous violators including licenses that are revoked for failure to pay fines and those violators are brought in to pay fines. A strong effort is placed on drug enforcement to not only rid the county of drugs and keep children and adults safe and drug free, but for the NC Dept. of Revenue to attach a tax stamp on the drugs and bring back 75% of the tax for the county revenues to support our drug investigation fund.

A huge thank you to Rodney Meads, who was appointed Sheriff by the Board of Commissioners to fill the unexpired term of former Sheriff Tony Perry, who retired in early 2018. We are appreciative of Rodney's experience and dedication and for his contribution in preparing this article.

Kevin Jones, Sheriff

Phone: 252-338-5046

Fax: 252-335-4300

Email: kjones@camdencountync.gov

Web Site: www.camdensheriff.com

Facebook: Camden County NC Sheriff's Office

Physical Address: 117 North NC 343

Mailing Address:

PO Box 57, Camden County Courthouse Complex, Camden, NC 27921



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Associate Agent

lyneth.merritt@nationwide.com

Cell: 252-333-2073

Dana D O'Neal

Licensed Customer Service Representative

oneald4@nationwide.com

Cell: 252-312-9000

Tel: 252-331-7774 • Fax: 252-331-7877

Social Services Department



L-R – Back – Craig Patterson, Director; Nekia King, Finance Officer; Amanda Beale, Income Maintenance Worker; Monica Skinner, Income Maintenance Worker; Dawn Jernigan, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Alexis Taylor, Public Information Assistant; Front – Faith Goss, Adult Protective Services; Gloria Toledo, Income Maintenance Worker; Gail Forrester, Income Maintenance Worker; Eya Lewis, Child Protective Services; Lauren Langwell, Public Information Assistant; Not pictured Sarah Lane, Child Protective Services; Linda Bonner, Income Maintenance Worker; Channin Paul, Income Maintenance Worker

The mission of the Dept. of Social Services is to provide meaningful and essential human services that will aid the residents of Camden County to be protected from abuse and neglect, strengthened by having their basic needs met and empowered to manage their daily activities with dignity.

Social Services are active in:

- Providing protective services to the most vulnerable of our community: the children, the aged and the disabled, to ensure that they live free of abuse and neglect.
- Providing supportive economic services to those who qualify through Food and Nutrition Services, Subsidized Day Care, WorkFirst, Crisis Intervention, LIEAP and Emergency Assistance.
- Providing stabilizing services through Medicaid and Medicaid Transportation, ensuring that individuals have medical insurance coverage and the opportunity to participate in necessary treatment.

On Dec.1st, 2018 the Low Income Energy Assistance Program or LIEAP will begin for persons age 60 and older or have a Disabled Person living in the home who is receiving services through DAAS. Beginning on January 2, 2019 thru March 31st, 2019, applications may be received from any resident of Camden County. Benefits will be provided to those qualifying households.

Please contact 252-331-4787 for more information about any of the programs listed above. To make a Child Protective or Adult Protective services report please call 252-331-4787 and ask to speak with a Social Worker. If it is after 5:00pm or a weekend/holiday please call 252-335-2307

Clerk of Superior Court



L-R – Angela Wood, Deputy Clerk; Amber Jennings, Deputy Clerk; Paula Harrison, Clerk; Jennifer Gray, Asst. Clerk; Karla Brooks, Deputy Clerk; not pictured Elaine Pritchard, Asst. Clerk

The Clerk of Superior Court's Office is a state agency. Our office proudly serves the citizens of Camden County as well as other individuals throughout our state and beyond. Issues from criminal court including traffic citations, civil matters such as money owed and domestic issues, estates, foreclosures, adoptions and juvenile cases are all handled in the Clerk's Office. Public terminals are available for research and genealogy. Our staff is always happy to answer procedural questions but is prohibited by law from offering any legal advice. The Administrative

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Office of the Courts offers many forms online at www.nccourts.gov. This website also provides citizens a site where local forms can be found and completed without the assistance of an attorney for issues such as a simple divorce or child custody.

Paula J. Harrison

Clerk of Superior Court
PO Box 219
Camden, NC 27921
(252) 336-4000
(252) 336-4001 (Fax)



Magistrates



L-R – Blake Cooper, Magistrate; Sheila Gordon, Chief Magistrate; Lee Gregory, Magistrate

Magistrates are Judicial Officers of the District Court who have jurisdiction in both criminal and civil cases. We act as the front-line protectors of the peoples' constitutional rights. Some of our main duties include: Authorizing and issuing Arrest Warrants, Domestic Violence Protective Orders, and Involuntary Commitments. Performing Marriages. (By Appointment Only) Conducting Bond Hearings to set Bail and Conditions of Release. Deciding on Evictions and cases involving up to \$10,000 in damages. Determining (Probable Cause) if a person should be charged with driving while impaired. Accepting guilty pleas for traffic violations. Office Hours for Walk-Ins Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Magistrates are on-call 24/7 and can be reached for Non-Emergency matters by calling the office 336-4019 OR after normal business hours by calling 331-1500. **PLEASE CALL 911 FOR ALL EMERGENCY MATTERS**

Tax Department

The tax department lists, assesses, and collects property taxes on real, personal and public utilities. The tax department is responsible for the assessment and the appraisal of all properties in Camden County for property tax purposes. Our office manages tax records on about 7,900 parcels in the county. Personal property, includes unlicensed motor vehicles, boats, motors and mobiles homes, has to be listed by the taxpayer during our listing period which is January 1st to January 31st. Any business or farm equipment also is listed as personal property. Anything listed after those dates will still be accepted, but there is a late listing fee of 10%. Real estate is on a permanent listing system and is valued and assessed under the Machinery Act based upon its true, or market, value in its highest and best use. Our last county revaluation took affect 2015. Generally our county revaluations are done every eight years. Conveyances of real property in the county are subject to a 1% land transfer fee of the amount purchased. When vehicle registration renewal is due the taxes are paid at the NC Division of Motor Vehicles. Taxes are due September 1st of each year and interest starts on January 6th. Our office offers tax relief exclusions such as elderly exclusion or disabled exclusion as well as farm use application for deferment. Some online tools we offer is our GIS mapping which provides basic information about property in Camden County. GIS also offers you the ability to print the tax property card. You can access GIS by going to our county website listed below and click the GIS link. We have online bill pay where you can pay your taxes online. You can call 877-885-7978 or go to our website listed below and click the PSN link to pay. Majority of our information in the tax office is public information.

Lisa S. Anderson,
Tax Administrator
www.landerson@camdencountync.gov
252-338-1919 ext. 225 or 252-338-1919 ext. 266



L-R – Jessica Gallop, Tax Specialist; Dellie Spaulding, Tax Specialist; Dawn Lowry, Sr. Customer Service, Water; Terri Smith, Tax Specialist; Lisa Anderson, Tax Administrator; Betty Griffin, Customer Service Representative; Kim Minton, Tax Specialist

Board of Education



L-R Dr. Jason A. Banks, DDS; Kevin Heath, Sissy Aydlett, Chris Purcell, Christian Overton

The Camden County Board of Education meets on the second Thursday of every month at Camden County High School, located at 103 US 158 West in the Media Center. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend. Anyone wishing to address the Board of Education must first contact the Superintendent's office at 252-335-0831 to be added to the agenda.

Christian Overton

Chair, Term: 2020
1293 Hwy 343 South,
Shiloh, NC 27974
252-336-4608
caoverton@camden.k12.nc.us

Kevin Heath

Term: 2020
136 Lauren Lane,
Camden, NC 27921
252-312-4825
kheath@camden.k12.nc.us

Chris Purcell

Term: 2022
116 Billets Bridge Road,
Camden, NC 27921
757-651-5498
cpurcell@camden.k12.nc.us

Dr. Jason A. Banks, DDS

Vice Chair, Term: 2022
143 Lauren Lane,
Camden NC 27921
252-435-3132
jbanks@camden.k12.nc.us

Sissy Aydlett

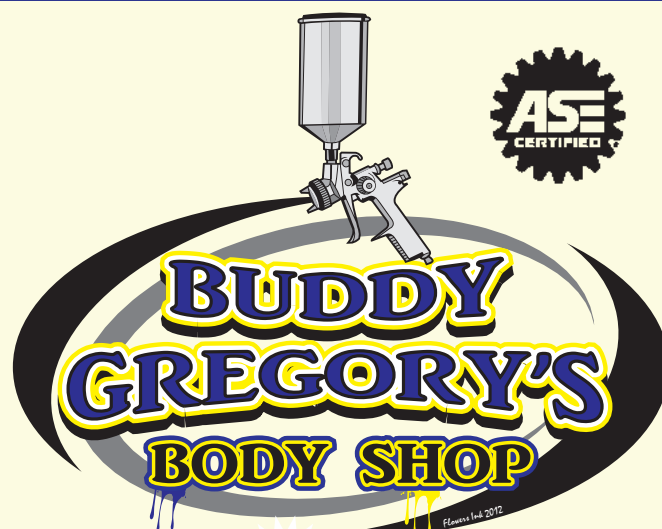
Term: 2022
110 Sleepy Hollow Road,
Camden, NC 27921
252-339-6221
saydlett@camden.k12.nc.us



Dr. Joe Ferrell
Superintendent

Superintendent's Message

On behalf of the Camden County Schools Board of Education, I am pleased to share with you that all of our schools met or exceeded expected growth on state assessments last school year, that we continue to show a positive graduation rate from our high schools, and that we continue to provide a safe and supportive environment for our students and staff. As the school year progresses, I encourage you to be involved in your child's education, take the time to know what they are working on at school and at home, join the parent organizations at your child's school, and communicate with teachers on a regular basis. We are pleased to partner with you to make a difference in the lives of all students



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and thank you for trusting us to educate your child. If I can ever be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact me at jferrell@camden.k12.nc.us or 252.335.0831. Let's make it a great 2018 -2019 school year!

Camden County Schools
174 North Highway 343
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-0831
webmaster@camden.k12.nc.us
http://camden.k12.nc.us

School Information:
Timothy T. Lazar, Principal
Grandy Primary School
174 NC Highway 343 North
Camden, North Carolina 27921
252.331.4838

Monique Hicks, Principal
Camden Intermediate School
123 Noblitt Drive
Camden, North Carolina 27921
252.335.7808

LeVar Mizelle, Principal
Camden Middle School
248 Scotland Road
Camden, North Carolina 27921
252.338.3349

Amber M. Davis, Principal
Camden County High School
103 US Highway 158 West
Camden, North Carolina 27921
252.338.0114

Amber M. Davis, Principal
Camden Early College
High School
103-A US Highway 158 West
Camden, North Carolina 27921
252.335.7219

Camden County Heritage Museum & Historic Jail

Pictured are Alex and Sandra Leary, Anne Jennings and Brian Forehand, Friends of the Camden Museum, who have worked hard in the new Museum, which opened to the public last Sept.

A long list of active creators and volunteers of this group have given countless hours of time to share Camden's history with the public, both in the new Museum's creation and continued operations. They have also dedicated many hours to the schools and Museum of the Albemarle over the years.



The Camden County Heritage Museum began with a group of passionate Camden historians and their desire to have a home for Camden artifacts and stories. With the support of the County Manager and County Commissioners, this vision has become a reality. The continued dedication of these passionate individuals has allowed a legacy of Camden stories for generations to come. Explore Camden County's history through interpretive panels, artifacts and knowledgeable docents. The Historic Jail is a well preserved reminder of incarceration in the early 1900's.

Scheduled Hours:

Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Private and group tours at other times by appointment

Contact: camdenmuseum1777@gmail.com

Friends of the Camden Museum, Inc.

117 NC 343 North, Camden, NC 27921

For Camden County Tourism information contact:
(252) 771-8333 or dscwelcome@camdencountync.gov

Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Center

The Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Center is a NC DOT Tourism office/ Rest Area on US Highway 17 in South Mills. The Dismal Swamp State Park is adjacent to our property and part of the NC State Park system. The Welcome Center staff offer maps, brochures, directions, and suggestions for tourism options throughout the state, including our local region.



The facility is located on the historic Dismal Swamp Canal, an alternate route on the Intracoastal Waterway. A 150' dock offers boaters a convenient stop while transiting the waterway. Staff responds to numerous inquiries regarding the waterway and our history. A small gift shop provides souvenirs, t-shirts and books to enhance our visitor's experience.

Staff is managed by Camden County and assists in the County's tourism efforts. They join the Tourism Development Authority and Dismal Swamp State Park to produce two large tourism events each year. Paddle for the Border is held the 1st Saturday in May and a joint effort with the City of Chesapeake. The 7.5 mile paddle fills every year and requires pre-registration. Dismal Day is held on the 4th Saturday in October, offering a family fun 5-K run, educational and historical exhibits, vendors, wagon and



Camden Square
133 W. Hwy 158
Suite C
Camden, NC
27921

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Norma: 252-562-3215

Restaurant: 252-338-0255

boat rides and live animals.

Our staff's goal is to meet the needs of our visitors, provide the resources to assist in making their visit to NC, the Albemarle Region and Camden County a unique and wonderful experience. The Rest Area/Welcome Center was noted in USA Today and Architectural Digest as one of the best in the nation in 2018. Come see what our travelers are talking about!

Donna Stewart, Director - DS Welcome Center and Tourism

NC Cooperative Extension



L-R- Austin Brown, County Agriculture Agent; Cameron Lowe, County Extension Director; Amy Twiddy, Administrative Assistant; Not Pictured Ali Huber, 4H Agent; Olivia Jones, Family & Consumer Sciences Agent; Erica Banks, 4H Program Assistant

What is NC Cooperative Extension Anyway?

While the name North Carolina Cooperative Extension may not roll off the tongue or stick in our memory it is an organization you'll want to remember. In short, NC Cooperative Extension is a partnership of county, state and federal governments that have joined together to provide all citizens with access to the wealth of knowledge generated by public universities. In Camden, Cooperative Extension functions as somewhat of a "branch office" of North Carolina's land grant universities. Agents and program staff serve as the link between people and needs in the county and the ever-changing discoveries that are made in university laboratories and research centers.

All that sounds like really "pie in the sky" kind of stuff. And speaking of pie, Cooperative Extension in Camden has all kinds of resources on nutrition and food safety to help you make a delicious pie! Olivia Jones, the Family and Consumer Science Agent delivers many educational programs which help improve the lives of families. In addition to nutrition programs Olivia teaches food preservation and canning; physical activity programs and more. Programs are offered to clientele of all ages – the young and the young at heart.

Speaking of youth, training up the next generation of citizens is a responsibility NC Cooperative Extension in Camden takes very seriously. The 4-H Department consists of 4-H & Youth Development Agent, Ali Huber and a JCPC Grant Program Coordinator. This team works to facilitate hands-on learning opportunities and positive youth development experiences for youth between the ages of 5 and 19. They utilize a network of certified and trained volunteers and staff to deliver educational summer camps, 4-H clubs, public speaking programs, workshops, school enrichment programs, leadership development opportunities, risk prevention programs, and more. Membership in 4-H is free.

The clover isn't the only thing that is green in Camden County. Agriculture is a strong industry in Camden, with the latest statistics valuing cash receipts at over \$38 million dollars for 2016. A total of 49,310 acres of land are currently in agriculture production. Field crops dominate the local agriculture scene with the majority of acreage utilized to produce corn, soybean, and winter wheat, while Irish potatoes and cotton are produced annually as well.

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension-Camden County Agriculture Agent utilizes various means to promote the profitability and sustainability of Camden County farms. Efforts include on-farm research to test crop varieties and agronomic practices, personal consultations, annual commodity specific crop production meetings, collaboration with agents in the area to annually hold two Northeast Ag Expo field days, and Camden Crop News newsletters. In addition, pesticide education courses are offered to promote the use of pesticides in a manner that is safe to the environment and applicators. The caretakers of those farm fields that define our community can count on Austin Brown, Camden County Agriculture Agent for the support they need to keep Camden green and growing.

Keeping all these programs and people organized and marketed well requires a highly competent support staff. County Administrative Professional, Amy Twiddy provides support to the entire staff while ensuring an efficient, professional, and highly accountable office. Cameron Lowe, County Extension Director, facilitates leadership and staff development and also offers a variety of community development programs. Resources available for businesses and individuals include team building and staff development training, leadership education, Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator facilitation, group process facilitation, disaster preparedness and recovery information and more.

So, remember the name: "NC Cooperative Extension" – cooperating with government and communities and extending the resources of the universities to citizens.



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The Camden County Center of NC Cooperative Extension extends to county residents the educational resources of NC State University and NC A&T State University. Both universities commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation.

Cameron S. Lowe - County Extension Director

Center for Active Adults



L-R – Jeanette Sherrick, Kitchen Coordinator; Jasmine Wilson, Director; Wendy Corcoran, Asst. Director/Wellness Programs

Our mission is to serve the senior citizens of Camden County. To strive to educate, inform and draw awareness to issues that challenge our senior citizens on a daily basis. Our mission is to create a friendly atmosphere to ensure a comfortable environment, in which our seniors can thrive in. Our mission is to enhance socialization, condemn isolation, and promote activities and enjoyment. Our mission is to help our seniors' lead productive lifestyles and introduce them to new aspects of life. Our mission is to promote a "Celebrating Life" lifestyle that ensures that seniors recognize that age does not define them as people. Our mission is ultimately to ensure that our senior citizens are protected, maintaining a healthy diet and leading productive lifestyles.

We invite all of Camden County residents age 55 years and older. The Center offers educational programs, nutritious meals Monday through Friday, and recreational activities. We can arrange transportation to and from the center through the Inter-County Public Transportation (ICPTA).

Come Celebrate Your Life at the Camden County Center for Active Adults!!

Services/ Referrals Offered

- Health Screenings (Blood Pressure Checks)
- Fitness and Health (Exercise Room, Group Exercise, Healthy Food Demonstrations & Holistic Wellness Education)
- Insurance Counseling (Medicare A, B, C, and D)
- Free Tax Preparation and Counseling (During tax season)
- Legal Services (NC Legal Aid & Camden County Clerk of Court)
- General Transportation (ICPTA)
- Medical Transportation (Senior Center Staff)
- Caregiver Support System (Resource medium for caregivers)
- Home Repair & Modification (EIC & Camden County Planning Dept.)
- Medicaid Benefits (application assistance & Co-located with DSS)
- Social Security Benefits (application assistance)
- Job Placement (resume, application assistance and placement of seniors through the SCSEP)
- Congregate Meals (Monday-Friday 12pm)

- Home Delivered Meals (Homebound seniors of Camden County)
- Adult Day Care (Referral to Day Break)
- Mental Health (Referral to Trillium)
- Disaster Preparedness/ training (Christy Saunders Emergency Management/trained staff)
- Durable Medical Equipment (available for rental at center)
- Long Term Care facilities/AAA Ombudsmen (1 staff member on CAC board)
- Report suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation (Mandated reporters/ Co-located with DSS)
- Senior Games (house application & application assistance)
- Energy Assistance (Operation of Heat Relief (Fan program) & DSS)
- Food Distribution (Food pantry application assistance and Albemarle Food Bank commodities pick-up)

The Center has some exciting trips planned for 2019.

- January 3-12 – Carnival Cruise to Aruba, Curacao & Grand Turks
- May 20-23 – New York City
- September 22-17 - Niagara Falls

Stop by the Center and pick up a brochure or contact Jasmine Wilson for more details.

Jasmine S. Wilson, Director
Camden County Center for Active Adults
117 North NC 343
PO Box 54, Camden, NC 27921
Phone: (252) 335-2569
Fax: (252) 331-5621

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Why Camden County?

There are many reasons people choose to live, work and play in Camden County. Whether born and raised in Camden or a “come-here”, Camden offers the serenity of a small rural area where everyone knows everyone, free from the hustle and bustle of the large municipalities, and yet close enough to anything needed. The next article features citizens who are retired, work, live, or play in Camden County and/or have stories that are interesting to tell. If you know someone you would like to see featured in upcoming editions of the “Citizen News,” please contact Brenda Bowman at bbowman300@embarqmail.com

Spotlighting Camden’s “Persons of Interest”

By: Brenda Bowman

James Don Horton

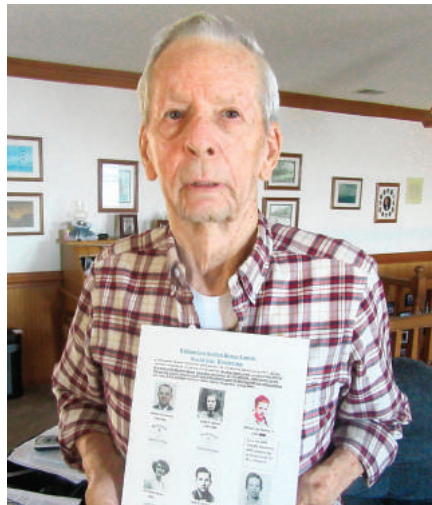
Don Horton is shown here holding photos of himself and his family, all six of whom are recognized as U.S. Veterans.

One of the most fascinating people I met while interviewing Camden Citizens for this newsletter was 86-year old Don Horton. At the early age of ten years, Don, along with his parents and siblings worked on U. S. merchant marine tugs and barges during World War II.

According to Don, six members of the Horton family have been recognized as US Veterans for their services and they are the only family of six on record who served as a group in the Merchant Marine. Don’s mother, Sadie Horton, and his sister Doris Jean Horton, are the only two females to gain US Merchant Marine Veteran status and Don is the youngest mariner to obtain veteran recognition during WWII. Don and his siblings would work on the barges during their summer breaks from school. Don’s older brother, Billy, was killed when his tug, Menominee, was shelled and sunk by a German submarine seven miles off the coast of Virginia. His father and mother then agreed to take the family together and work on the barges for the summer. Don’s father William was the Captain, his mother Sadie was the cook, his sister Doris Jean was assistant cook, and his brother Jack and he were deckhands. In 1950 Don graduated from High School and began working full-time with his parents. He later joined the Coast Guard, his mother stayed home and his father continued on the barge until 1953.

Don stayed in the Coast Guard until 1953, came home for a couple years, and then went back to the Merchant Marine on tugs going up and down the coast. In 1959 he took a job with the Department of Defense and retired in 1987.

The Merchant Mariners Act of 1988 granted veterans status to merchant mariners who served during WWII, however, the small group of merchant mariners who served on tugs and barges, like the Horton family, moving bulk materials for the war effort up and down the U.S. coast, were largely prevented from being recognized as veterans. Records for coastwise mariners in many cases were either not issued or destroyed.



“War in itself is three parts,” said Don. “First would be the war efforts overseas, our troops fighting; the second effort would be our production people in the states building the equipment; and the third is our Merchant Marine which carried the result of that production to the troops overseas. Many have said that the war would never have been won had it not been for our Merchant Marine. We delivered the goods, so to speak.”

That’s when Don Horton began an effort to get some 10,000 coastwise merchant seamen of WWII recognized for their service. He began working in North Carolina to get enough movement to get a bill introduced into Congress to provide alternative documents that will allow these people to be recognized. “In terms of the women who served, they never had an opportunity to be recognized. This issue had never been addressed. They served and they should be recognized.”

Don started by inviting “each of our county commissioners, our political chairperson for the county, the district chairperson and even the state chairpersons of the various political parties to send in resolutions or letters of support to our various congressional elements in Washington.”

With the support from the House Representatives from North Carolina, Congressman G.K. Butterfield, and Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr., a bill was introduced that would allow additional records to be used to replace those records that had been lost, destroyed or denied by the federal government. The bill that became law in 2016 provided a list of documents acceptable to satisfy the requirements for a merchant seaman for services performed during December 7, 1941, and December 31, 1946, in order to be recognized as having performed active duty.

Don’s home is filled with stacks of boxes of research documents as he continues his quest to ensure the others, most of whom have passed on, will get the proper status as a Veteran, which includes the benefits as allowed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

You may learn more about Don, his family, their experiences, as well as more about his continued efforts to get others recognized by visiting his blog at www.usmmv.blogspot.com.

Don has never left the water and resides on the Pasquotank River in Camden with his wife, Norita, and near their son. They also have a daughter in Charlotte. They lost two sons to Agent Orange as a result of their service in the Vietnam War. Camden thanks Don and his entire family for their service to our country.

Judy Ludford

“Staying Healthy in Camden County”

Camden County citizens show their neighborly kindness by looking out for “The Camden Runner.”

Meet Judy Ludford, age 55, who moved to Camden in 2010, to return near her roots and family in both Camden and Elizabeth City, especially her grandchildren in Camden County.

Judy started running after Bariatric surgery in 2014. Her doctor told her she had to do 30 minutes of walking each day. She soon realized that to keep up her heartrate, she had to begin running as well, so she ventured out past her own neighborhood into other Camden neighborhoods.

Since then she has been running in many local races, always placing and winning medals in her age division, and ran in the half marathon in Richmond



in 2017. She liked it so much, that she decided to run in the upcoming full 26.4 mile Richmond Anthem Marathon, which will be held on November 10, along Monument Avenue. This race is a popular race for qualifiers for the Boston Marathon.

To prepare, Judy has been running four times a week, to include a long run through Camden, which usually is 20 miles or more. Judy enjoys seeing and speaking to Camden residents along the way mowing grass, going to the mailbox, asking her how many miles she's going, how far she's gone, and offering water. On North River Road, a gentleman lets her fill her bottles with water from his spigot. On one occasion, a lady on Rt. 343 was going to her mailbox and when she saw Judy, she asked her to wait while she went inside to get her a bottle of water. On Run Swamp Road, another gentleman gave her two bottles of water. Also, a worker at the County Collection Site has provided her with water. She often stops at the Senior Center to refill and talk to local seniors waiting for the bus.

Judy has to consume a certain amount of water with each run but cannot always carry enough, so sometimes if she is too far away from home, and needs additional water, she will call her husband, Buzzy, who promptly drives to her to bring her refills.

If she runs over 20 miles on any given day, the next day she stops at Belcross Bakery and treats herself to a sweet potato biscuit or to Toppide for a "Hope Royal Cookie."

Judy works for the tagging program at the NC Marine Fisheries during Rock season October through April. On one of her runs on Palmer Road, she jumped a ditch to avoid a tractor, missed and fell in the ditch, and could not continue running due to cramps. A local contractor pulled up and said "Do you need a ride fish lady?" He recognized her from the Marine Fishery.

On one occasion, she lost part of her running belt and didn't realize it. A gentleman found it and knew it was hers and tracked her down to return it to her.

On October 20, Judy took 1st Place, her first time "breaking the tape" in the Perquimans "Stride for Scholars Color Run 2018."

In racing, Judy says aging is an advantage because as years go by, she moves to different age divisions and looks forward to the new challenges each division brings.

According to her Garmin, Judy's fastest times are a 6-minute mile for one mile, 23 minutes for a 5K, 55 minutes for a 10K, just under two hours for a half marathon. Her goal is to just finish her first full marathon in Richmond on November 10.

Judy says she loves running by the dog pens because she feels that the dogs are cheering her on. She is never afraid to run alone because there is always a neighbor around the corner.

Doris Nixon

One of Camden's jewels is 93 year young, Doris Nixon, who epitomizes what it is to be a good neighbor and Ambassador for Camden County.

Doris moved to Camden, NC in 2002 (to be near her children, two grandchildren and five great granddaughters) where she enjoys the peace and happiness of her neighborhood, and where she has served as secretary for her homeowners association for many years.

She is a member of Camden United Methodist Church, and eagerly greets and invites newcomers to Camden and to church.

Doris was born in Perquimans County, NC. She married her childhood sweetheart, Ned Nixon, and lived the



wife of a farmer while being active in church and community events.

They had two children, Ned Nixon and Dr. Maureen Nixon.

Doris served as GA Leader of the Chowan Baptist Association and was on the first committee for the development of Camp Cale, a camp for youth in Perquimans County.

When her children were five and ten years old, Doris took a temporary position at Louis Selig Jewelers, Elizabeth City, NC, that turned into twenty-four years. She became the 119th Registered Bridal Consultant in America and the only one in the Albemarle area.

She wrote a weekly column published in the Daily Advance.

At the death of her husband, Doris moved to Richmond, VA to become the Vice President of the Jewelry/Gift division of the National Bridal Service, where she served as Director of Educational Services. She wrote a monthly column for over twenty-one years for the International magazine, GIFTS and DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES as well as being a monthly contributor to MODERN JEWELER and SOUTHERN JEWELER Magazines.

Doris led several trips to Europe for bridal store employees, visiting factories that made china, silver and crystal. Doris' love of travel took her to fifty-five countries, always seeking knowledge about bridal business and wedding traditions.

She was an Honorary Kentucky Colonel Guest of the Italian government, the Lladro factory in Spain, Lord Wedgwood in England; she spoke at Harrods (amazed that their Bridal Registry was twenty-eight pages.) She was a Keynote speaker at the New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Dallas, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Bahama Island and Jamaica Markets.

She was the first non-Japanese to address the Japanese Bridal Market

Doris wrote a Home Study Course, Weddings Beautiful, for training wedding planners. It is now taught in Universities in both Japan and China as well as in some fifty countries.

Doris did mission work in Belarus in the 1990's, making seven trips there and getting thousands of Bibles as well as medical supplies to the people. She served as an Elder in the Laurel Presbyterian Church, Glen Allen, VA and Cann Memorial Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth City, NC.

Doris is the author of four books that are available on Amazon. She loves sharing her stories with anyone who will listen.

Stephanie Humphries

Camden County has a Champion in our midst. Our very own Finance Officer, and part-time race car driver, Stephanie Humphries recently traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska to perform at the SCCA Solo National Championships. Stephanie placed first in CSPL Class making her one of only 76 crowned class champions during the event that saw an attendance of 1,375 drivers from the United States and Canada. She won the class by driving the fastest overall time after combining her fastest run (of three) from each of the two courses. According to a recent SCCA article "SCCA Solo (autocross) is a competitive motorsport activity where orange traffic cones are used to create a twisty course in large parking lots or unused portions of airports. One at a time, competitors traverse the temporary circuit to see who can be quickest without hitting any cones or going off course. Drivers range from those using daily commuter cars to professional racers wheeling purpose-



built vehicles. There is even a special class for those competing in race karts.”

Stephanie successfully broke all stereotypes of a typical accountant to race her way to first place at her very first National Championship attendance. As one of only 25 first-time champions crowned this year, there were even fewer who were crowned during their first ever visit to the National Championship event held annually during a week of practice and competition. She first started autocrossing in 2014 when she won several local Novice Championships against both male and female drivers with no prior training or experience in any motorsport activity. In the following four years, she spent time traveling to other regional club events between Maryland and South Carolina in an effort to broaden her exposure to different types of courses. In addition to getting acclimated to varying event attendance and skill level of competitors that each region offers, surface conditions change drastically from site to site and provide diverse levels of difficulty which require multi-faceted car control skills. Car setup is another factor in the ability to be competitive nationally. The ability of her chosen vehicle, a 2001 Mazda Miata to be competitive nationally she says is reflective of the hard work, blood and sweat of her co-driver and fiancé Brian Wells. After meeting in 2013, he encouraged her to come to an event he was competing in at the inactive Pungo Airfield in Virginia Beach, VA. At her willingness to give autocross a try, he offered her the opportunity to co-drive in his then 1990 Mazda Miata. She began competing in 2014 as a novice for the Championship series with two clubs that were holding competitions in the Hampton Roads area. Stephanie claimed both Novice Championships that year, as well as a state Novice Championship at the annual Virginia Autocross (Solo) Championship held at JAB Little Creek. Since then, she says she has been doing too much traveling to have collected sufficient points to clinch any local Championships but has won several first and second places during her travels. Having won a National Championship so early in her “racing career”, it seems her hard work and training has paid off.



EAST CAROLINA MONOGRAMS

133 US Hwy 158 West

Camden, NC 27921

(252) 333-1630

ecmonograms@gmail.com

You are invited to Worship in Camden County **CAMDEN COUNTY CHURCHES**

Antioch Baptist Church

218 Joys Creek Road
South Mills, NC 27976
252-771-5655

Camden United Methodist Church

197 NC Hwy 343 S
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-7565

Church of the Redeemer

207 Highway 343 S
Camden, NC 27921

Ebenezer Baptist Church

117 Main Street
South Mills, NC 27976
252- 771-2894

Geneva Baptist Church

806 NC Hwy 343 N
Camden, NC 27921
252-771-5550

Harmony Baptist Church

112 NC HWY 343 S
Camden, NC 27921
252-331-1002

McBride Church

228 Old Swamp Road
South Mills, NC
252-771-3176

New Beginnings Assembly of God (South Mills)

890 NC Hwy 343 N
Camden, NC
252-771-5447

New Mt. Zion Deliverance Center

118 HWY 343 S
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-5772

New McBride AME Zion

Founded in 1861
119 Bunker Hill Road,
South Mills, NC 27976
252-771-2921

New Shiloh Church

Trotman Road
Shiloh, NC 27921

New Sawyers Creek Church

312 Sawyers Creek Road
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-7759

Oak Grove Church

NC Highway 343 S
Camden, NC 27921

Our Fathers House Ministries

1160 NC Hwy 343 N
South Mills, NC 27976
757-377-3367

Pentecostal House of Prayer

410 Old Swamp Road,
South Mills, NC 27976
252-771-2259

Sawyer's Creek Missionary Baptist Church

312 Sleepy Hollow Rd
PO Box 237
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-2069

Sharon United Methodist Church

162 Sharon Church Road
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-2069

Shiloh Baptist Church

952 NC HWY 343 South
Shiloh, NC 27974
252-336-4280

South Mills Church of Christ

Culpepper Road
South Mills, NC 27976

Trinity Church

104 Main Street
South Mills, NC 27976
252-771-5069

Wesley United Methodist Church

197 NC Hwy 343 S
Camden, NC 27921
252-335-7565



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