



### BOC Adds Two Seats in November Election

Voters in the November 4, 2008 election will participate in a historic occasion for Currituck County government. With this election, the Board of Commissioners will expand from its current five-member format to include seven commissioners.

This expansion not only reflects the county's continued growth, but will also ease the burdens and time constraints placed on individual commissioners within a smaller Board.

In addition to duties directly related to serving as a county commissioner, each member sits on various other boards associated with Currituck County and the northeastern N.C. region. Each commissioner participates in these organizations outside the framework of the regular Board's responsibilities – in addition to private businesses and interests – and can frequently attend various meetings several nights per week.

By adding two seats on the Board, commissioners will enjoy more time and focus for critical issues. This expansion creates a more effective and responsive local government, with more elected officials available to address citizen and county concerns.



Currituck will soon fill two more seats at the "big table" in the Historic Courthouse.

### Precincts Helped by Student Participation

A program at Currituck County High School provides real-world experience for students as they contribute time and energy to the election process. The Student Election Assistant Program grants an opportunity for students to work at polling locations as election assistants and gain a first-hand view into politics.

Selena Jarvis, an Advanced Placement U.S. Government teacher at CCHS, directs the program. Jarvis also serves as a Precinct Judge at Powells Point, and said her work through the school sparked her interest in serving as judge.

"Helping my students get involved actually got me involved as well," said Jarvis. "It's a great program. The students really learn a lot."

Students perform various duties at the polls, including recording voter names, marking off voters, assisting with curbside voting, directing voters to voting machines, and the setup and cleanup of polling locations. Each student arrives for work on Election Day at 6:30 a.m., and stays until approximately 8:30 p.m., Jarvis said. They do get paid for their services.

Diane Ferebee, Chief Judge at the Moyock Precinct, views the program as a good learning tool and said the ones placed at her location have made a positive contribution.

"We've had great success with the high school students," said Ferebee, who added that students complete training in all precinct worker tasks.

According to Jarvis, a key aspect of the program is the exposure to the political process. This often leads to further involvement in politics. Jarvis said several of her former students have worked on political campaigns while in college.

"If they get interested when they're young, I think they'll be lifelong voters," she said. "They become very politically active as a result of this program because they see how important it is."

The program included approximately 15 students in the spring Primary Election, and Jarvis expects at least that many in November.

### MEET OUR ELECTION PRECINCT OFFICIALS

Currituck County is very fortunate to have an outstanding group of men and women serving as officials at each of the 11 voter precincts. The Elections Dept. would like to introduce you to a few and encourage you to meet others on Election Day.



**Leslie Knopfler** is the Chief Judge in Poplar Branch and is serving her second two year term. As a seasoned traveler, she has seen many countries and politics.

"I could live anywhere in the world and I choose to live in Currituck," she said.

"I'm thrilled and amazed each time the polls open. It gives me a real sense of community."

**Kitty Read** knows almost everyone in the small community of Gibbs Woods, where she has served for 11 years. Kitty is well known for her delicious crabcakes - though she doesn't eat them herself. She tries to stress to her neighbors to become involved in the county despite being somewhat

removed from the mainland by Currituck's unique geography.

"I wish more people would get involved. We don't have enough young people in it yet," she said.

**Spence Castello** is serving as a precinct official in his first two-year term at the Coinjock precinct. Many residents may know Spence is head of the Currituck County Inspections Department, but did you know that he took a trip this summer to New Mexico on his Harley-Davidson?



Meet more Election Precinct Officials on page 5.

### LOOK INSIDE FOR ...

BOC CANDIDATE STATEMENTS, PG. 2-3

SPOTLIGHT ON ELECTIONS DEPT., PG. 4

ELECTIONS' STATE RECOGNITION., PG. 4

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE, PG. 4

SHERIFF'S OFFICE AWARD, PG. 5

RECYCLING PROGRAM UPGRADES, PG. 5

EXTENSION NEWS, PG. 6

PARKS AND RECREATION, PG. 6

FLOOD INSURANCE INFO, PG. 7

LIBRARY EVENTS, PG. 8

SOCIAL SERVICES, PG. 8

Candidates for the Currituck County Board of Commissioners speak on the following topics:

“With increased membership, what will be the biggest challenge facing the new seven-member Board of Commissioners; and What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing Currituck County?”

**Stanley D. Griggs**



**Democrat  
Candidate for Commissioner -  
At Large**

“The biggest challenge facing the new seven member board will be working together, however with honest creative debate, independent thinking with the overall goal of arriving at decisions in a fair and

equitable matter will meet that challenge. The diverse geography of our county creates different problems that require unique solutions. With ALL seven Commissioners working together ALL problems can be solved. On November 4 the voters have an opportunity to elect commissioners that solve problems, not create problems. Elect commissioners with a vision not an agenda. Elect commissioners that have compassion and integrity, not domineering and arrogant. I have those positive qualities that will make an effective commissioner, and I respectfully ask for your vote and support.

I feel the biggest challenge facing the county will be the economy, managing the county budget with declining revenues and increased cost. Investing in infrastructure that is needed to attract economic growth that will diversify the county tax base will be a challenge but a necessity. Large budget items such as quality Schools, Public Safety, Utilities, DSS, and others will continue to drive the budget process. However, a diversified tax base and conservative budget planning will continue to provide quality services and help keep county taxes low.”

**Paul O’Neal**



**Republican  
Candidate for Commissioner -  
At Large**

“One of the biggest challenges of the Board being expanded to seven members will be to work together as one cohesive unit for the betterment of Currituck County. Each member brings their own personality, perspective and priorities to the

Board and we must come together to do what is best for the County and its citizens.

Another big challenge I see facing the new Board is going to be how we grow. By having seven members we can hear from more areas of the County and get a better picture of what the needs of each part of the County are. I believe we should follow the Land Use Plan as was recommended by our Citizen’s Task Force and adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 2006. Managed growth keeps taxes low, services high, protects the environment, preserves open space, keeps school classroom size at or below State mandates, keeps crime rates low, and helps maintain the quality of life most people expect from living in our County. Currituck is a great place to raise a family or retire, let’s make sure we leave our children and grandchildren a legacy we can be proud of.”

**Vance Aydlett, Jr.**



**Republican  
Candidate for District 1**

“Working together by understanding non-partisan consensus building and remembering the board is empowered by the citizens to develop strategic plans and solutions to issues that are best for all county residents as a whole, I

believe is the biggest challenge that will occur due to the increase of commissioners. I do believe there is some advantage to the increased number of commissioners. The increase should offer more representation to our citizens and allow them better access to have their input heard.

I believe the biggest challenge facing Currituck County continues to be growth and the ability of our governing body to maintain enough foresight to insure future growth does not exceed our ability to provide services while keeping a tax rate for our citizens that is low and affordable. Central sewer is now on the table and I am not necessarily against it as it may help our mainland economic development process. However we must take it slow and insure it doesn’t negatively impact the county or our citizens. As we continue to look forward and develop a vision for the future we must also remember our past and insure the historical heritage of our county is not destroyed.”

**Michael Cherry**



**Democrat  
Candidate for District 1**

“The biggest challenge for me will be fighting to keep The Board of Commissioners communicating amongst itself, with the Planning Board, the various Advisory Boards, County Staff, and The Public. Better communication within our own county government

and with the citizens of the county is the key to our future success.

We have a large list of issues to deal with throughout the county, and they all stem from past, current, and future growth. Dealing with growth has always been and will always be our biggest challenge.

Each area of the county has its own unique pressing issue, and we need to address them all. In order to properly deal with these issues, we need to work together as a team.

We must always put We the People first and never lose sight of the fact that it is our duty to represent all of the citizens of Currituck County.”

Candidates for the Currituck County Board of Commissioners speak on the following topics:

“With increased membership, what will be the biggest challenge facing the new seven-member Board of Commissioners; and What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing Currituck County?”

**John D. Rorer**



**Republican  
Candidate for District 2**

“Challenges related to having additional board members may depend on the new commissioners elected. Past board decisions featured little open debate and almost no compromise since the four to one majority prevailed by simply voting along partisan lines. If voters elect

more of a majority, nothing will improve. However, if the voters choose to balance power by electing commissioners who have no historical family, political or special interest ties, then the board may start open discussion and build consensus to effect decisions. This will certainly improve representation of all our citizens but it may prove challenging for those incumbents unaccustomed to having their personal agendas publicly scrutinized.

Currituck’s biggest future challenge may depend on the economy. High fuel prices and inflated land values make Currituck less attractive to development. Managing growth, although highly politicized, may not become the pressing issue, but the mid-county bridge will certainly cause a paradigm shift like the rezonings for Corolla that changed our beach lifestyle forever. Traffic management, services for commercial development, and displacement of residents near the mainland terminus will permanently change our lifestyles again. Cooperatively planning to respond to this imminent challenge may be far more productive than debating Land Use Plan semantics.”

**Jerry W. Wright**



**Democrat  
Candidate for District 2**

“For more than twenty-five years we have talked and debated the reasons for increasing our county board from five to seven members. Similar size counties, Dare and Pasquotank, changed many years ago.

Having served on Currituck’s County Board of Commissioners in the early nineties, I see some advantages in the increased board size. One being the ability to use committees for some issues and the other to be able to better communicate with the public. The biggest challenge facing the board is how to incorporate the two new members to make the entire board effective at performing their jobs. With the increasing time it takes to do this job, it’s important we become more competent.

Currently our economic climate and how it affects our county and citizens should be our biggest concern. Good fiscal policy is a must and should head up our list of priorities.”

**J. Owen Etheridge**



**Republican  
Candidate for District 4**

“The single biggest issue facing Currituck is the same one it has been for sometime. How to manage and balance the inevitable growth we face while maintaining the “High Quality of Life so many find attractive and our residents expect, deserve and enjoy” is the task we face.

Proper Planning and Management of the inevitable growth is perhaps the greatest challenge and responsibility of Currituck County’s Government. If properly accomplished Managed Growth based on a prudent, common sense and balanced approach can be beneficial to all involved.

The recent rash of rezonings based on speculation instead of need can’t continue without experiencing the consequences of either higher taxes, diminished services/facilities or a combination of both. The recent havoc market speculation has had on the oil markets should be ample warning of what might happen if this type of land speculations continues. Managed Growth is a reasonable, proactive approach to Land Use Planning, Currituck should be using.

I anticipate and hopeful that the two new additional commissioners will simply bring fresh perspectives and new ideas to the BOC. They should also provide a more diverse and expanded voice for the people of Currituck County.”

**Johnny Messina**



**Democrat  
Candidate for District 4**

“I do not see a challenge because, there will be no difference in responsibility regardless of the number of commissioners. The commissioners’ responsibility is to look out for the well being, and best interest of the county and its citizens whether there are five

or seven commissioners. I believe quality is more important than quantity. We need honest, fair, commissioners on the board that will work together as a team and not allow personal differences to interfere with important decision making.

I believe the biggest challenge facing Currituck County is, by far, the navy attempting to locate an OLF in the Hales Lake area. The OLF will have catastrophic affects on all of Currituck, with its noise and air pollution both day and night. Currituck’s quiet, rural, way of life will be shattered and the economic growth of the entire county will be at stake. It has already had a drastic effect on home values and sales in Moyock, due to the fact that the Hales Lake site is on the Navy’s short list. The presence of an OLF will create a negative impact, with Currituck County not reaping any of the tax benefits that Oceana Naval Air Station receives.”

## SEPTEMBER IS CITIZENS VOTER REGISTRATION AWARENESS MONTH!

### Voter Registration Drives

- Sept. 16, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon, Currituck Senior Center
- Sept. 17, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon, Knotts Island Sr. Center
- Sept. 18, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon, Powells Point Comm. Bldg.

You may also register to vote by mailing a registration form to the Elections Office, P.O. Box 177, Currituck, NC 27929. To download a registration form, go to [Currituckgovernment.com](http://Currituckgovernment.com).

### September 15 - October 28

You may request an absentee ballot to be mailed to you. Send a signed written request with name, address, date of birth & phone #.

### October 16 - November 1

Early One-Stop Voting period, held at Elections Office from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily.

Office is open one Saturday; Nov. 1, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



**DID YOU KNOW?** The State Board of Elections recognized Currituck County in June for achieving a perfect match of voter history and election return data. This accuracy is a result of the outstanding effort and attention to detail of the Currituck Board of Elections and all precinct workers. Congratulations to all involved!

## CANDIDATES FOR ADDITIONAL LOCAL ELECTIONS

### Register of Deeds

- Charlene Dowdy (D)

### Board of Education - Moyock District

- Amy J. Innes
- Mike Painter

### Board of Education - Fruitville District

- John Barnes

### Walnut Island Sanitary District

- Nora Gail Norris
- Hobert F. Millikan
- Loretta Robinson

**October 10  
is the deadline to register for the  
November 4 Election!**

REMEMBER: On Election Day, polls open from 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Contact the Board of Elections, 232-2525, for all information regarding voter registration, election districts and polling locations.

## A SPOTLIGHT ON ... ELECTIONS

RACHEL BOYCE

A strong interest in the political process led Rachel Boyce to her current position in Currituck County. As Deputy Director to the Board of Elections, Boyce aids Director Mary Etheridge in a myriad of important responsibilities as the November elections draw near.

These include voter registration, polling site preparation, training materials and tracking campaign finance reports submitted by electoral candidates. Boyce's time and effort, along with many others in Currituck County, ensure that Election Day runs smoothly for county voters.



"I've always liked being part of the political process," said Boyce. "It's a good feeling."

Since graduating from Elizabeth City State University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science, Boyce has known that her intrigue for politics would guide her professional career. As she nears the three-year mark of her tenure in Currituck County, she's also working towards a Master's of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies through the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In addition to her academic coursework, Boyce also plans to complete the requirements for a North Carolina Certified Election Administrator following the November elections. One requirement for that certification is to work during a Presidential election, which Boyce will do for the first time this year.

Though she exhibits a stronger interest than most in the political process, Boyce is quick to stress that she avoids partisan politics or publicly touting a specific candidate. This is to ensure her impartiality as an election official, she said.

"With my job, I make sure everyone knows I'm not affiliated with either party or a particular candidate," Boyce said.

Boyce expects the November 4 elections to draw a nice turnout of voters. The combination of local elections and a Presidential campaign will mean that Boyce, and all Election Day workers in Currituck, will be plenty busy.

"I think, in general, we anticipate these to be a large turnout. There seems to be a lot of interest in the national and local elections," Boyce said.

Though an election can make for a long day, Boyce said it's an enjoyable experience and she's happy to play a role.

"It's neat to say, Wow, I was a part of that," Boyce said.



Currituck County's Board of Elections, (l-r) Chris Hooper, Chair; Barbara Snowden, member; Mary Etheridge, Director; Annette Argandona, Secretary

## SHERIFF'S OFFICE WINS STATE LITTER PREVENTION AWARD

The North Carolina Department of Transportation honored the Currituck County Sheriff's Office in June with a First Place Award in the 9th Annual Litter Prevention Awards, administered by the NCDOT Office of Beautification.

Currituck was recognized for the excellent results of the Sheriff's CORP, a roadside cleanup initiative in which inmates at the county detention center participate in helping keep Currituck's roads litter free. Sheriff's CORP - Criminal Offender Reparation Program - was awarded the First Place Award in the government agency division and received a \$750.00 prize.

Currituck Sheriff Susan Johnson said she is proud that the Sheriff's CORP was honored, as this is the first year Currituck has entered a submission in the NCDOT awards contest. Sheriff Johnson gives significant credit to Sergeant Ralph Doughtie, who oversees the Sheriff's CORP activities.

"I want to thank Sergeant Doughtie, who is very persistent and takes his role very seriously in helping maintain the roadsides of Currituck County," Johnson said.

Under Sgt. Doughtie's direction, inmates are selected to participate in the roadside cleanup program. They can often be seen working along the county's roads in distinctive black and white striped uniforms. The Sheriff's CORP tries to maintain a working schedule of Monday through Friday on the county's main highways, and along secondary roads at least one Saturday each month.



## RECYCLING PROGRAM CONTINUES TO GROW

Currituck County is taking steps to help the environment by improving the recycling program available to county residents. These upgrades will not only increase the amount of materials that can be recycled in Currituck, but will also reduce the levels of trash being sent to landfills.

Already this year, Currituck's eight Recycling Centers have instituted programs to recycle dry-cell batteries and compact fluorescent lamp bulbs. The most recent addition to services has been oil filter recycling.

Beginning January 1, 2009, residents will notice recycling available for even more types of materials. In addition, the county government is negotiating the sale of certain materials to various companies, which could create a small revenue stream in the future.

Currituck has agreed to a deal involving white goods – washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, etc. – with United Salvage, of Halifax, N.C. The county is also working out arrangements with other businesses for glass materials and for a mixture of other goods, such as cardboard, newspaper and aluminum.

"Hopefully there will be more recycling at the sites than trash going out," said Brenda McQueen, Currituck Public Works Director.

Currituck's Recycling Centers collected 562.71 tons from July 2007 through June 2008. In addition, the curbside collection program in Corolla produced 925.5 tons in the same time period.

Residents should note that Currituck County does not recycle plastic bags, which can pose major problems with recycling machinery.



## CURRITUCK STUDENT AMONG FORBES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Currituck County's Erika Walsh received one of the 1st Annual Olivia Jule Forbes Scholarships presented by the Albemarle Area Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN). This scholarship encourages graduating high school seniors to continue their education in pursuit of their dreams in the medical profession. Walsh received a \$500 scholarship, as did Christopher Fightmaster of Pasquotank County. Walsh, above right, is pictured with Fightmaster and Amy Taylor, RN, President of the Albemarle Area Chapter AACN.

## MEET OUR ELECTION PRECINCT OFFICIALS

(continued from pg. 1)

Currituck County has a number of Election Precinct Officials who have served for at least 15 years. These workers have dedicated a large number of hours to making certain that voters enjoy a pleasant, stress-free process when participating in an election. The Currituck Board of Elections is very appreciative of these officials, as well as all workers in the county's Election Precincts.



**Carol Sue Slezak**, left, is the Chief Judge at the Indian Ridge precinct, where voting is held at the Shawboro Community Building. She has served as a precinct official for 15 years, and currently works at the Indian Ridge precinct with judges Jean Potter and Betty Romano.

**Diane Ferebee**, of Moyock, is the Chief Judge at the Moyock Precinct, where voting is held at Moyock Elementary School. When she started in the election process, Currituck County was still hand-counting ballots. She

recalled tallying the results of elections for a \$10 salary.

Now that Currituck has modern voting machines, the job is less tedious and she appreciates the help her judges and workers provide.

"It's a smooth operation," she said. "I love the process, and I have a lot of good help in Moyock."

Sandra Caffee also has 15 years experience as a Precinct Official in Currituck County. She is the Chief Judge at the Knotts Island Precinct, where voters cast ballots at the Senior Citizen/Ruritan Building. She is joined there by judges Laurel Hicks and Margaret Waterfield.



Diane Ferebee (L), Sandra Caffee (R)

In addition to Slezak, Ferebee, Caffee, Read and Knopfler, Currituck's remaining Chief Judges are: Beth Childers, Church's Island; Shirley Crank, Powells Point; Annie Ponton, Whalehead; Carol Keaton, Coinjock; Nancy Bass, Courthouse; and Cynthia Rhodes, Carova Beach.

The Board of Elections encourages you to meet your Precinct Officials.

## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

The **State of the Child Conference**, "It Takes an Entire Village to Raise a Child", will be held on Saturday, October 25, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. This event will feature motivational speaker Don Roberts of WAVY TV10, and include local agency exhibits and breakout sessions on gang violence, drug and alcohol problems, communication safety, and nutrition. To register, contact Ellen Owens at Cooperative Extension, 232-2261.

**Essential Life Skills for Military Families** is a free, fun and engaging 12-hour workshop series offering practical tips for creating strong, healthy and joyful relationships. It is designed for National Guard and Reserve Component couples. The sessions will be held the following Thursdays in October – October 2, 9, 16 & 23 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. each evening at the Pasquotank Extension Center in Elizabeth City. Call to pre-register.

**Medicare News** - Medicare beneficiaries may be eligible for the federal Extra Help low income subsidy program if he/she has limited income and resources. The Extra Help program can increase cost savings by paying for all or part of the monthly premiums, annual deductibles and provide lower prescription co-payments under a Medicare prescription drug plan. To qualify for Extra Help, the annual income must be limited to \$15,600 for an individual (\$21,000 for a married couple living together). Additionally, the total resources must be limited to \$11,990 for an individual (\$23,970 for a married couple living together). Please call Georgia Kight, 232-2261.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

**Flag football and cheering registrations:** on-site registration deadline will be October 4 at the Parks and Recreation building from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Call CCPRD, 232-3007, for info.

The **Special Olympics State Bowling Competition** was held in Raleigh, on July 19 - 20. In the women's doubles competition, Loretta Hardy and Tracey Stecyk won 4th place. In men's doubles, Dexter Dunton and Tim Sutton won the silver medal. The four man team, which included Justin Brown, Kasey Fairley, Jerry Ross and Derrick Saunders, won the gold medal for the second year in a row. Congratulations to all our participants.

**Youth basketball** registration will begin in November. The league is open to students between the ages of 7 and 16 as of January 1, 2009. The on-site registration deadline is November 29 at the Parks and Recreation building from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Call CCPRD, 232-3007, for more info.

The **Albemarle Youth Football League** all star game will be held at Currituck County H.S. on November 22, game time to be announced.

**10th Annual Wild Goose Chase 5K**, Saturday, October 4 at CCHS. The chase will begin at 9:00 a.m. Early Goose Registration is \$25 prior to 9/19, with registration \$30 after 9/19. Call 435-6131 or 757-421-2602.

## SENIOR CENTER

**Volunteers Needed.** The Currituck Senior Center needs volunteers to deliver meals to elderly shut-ins throughout the county. Currently, the center is looking for delivery persons in the Currituck, Moyock and Grandy areas. Help the Senior Center care for an important group of our community. If you would like to volunteer to deliver meals in your neighborhood, please contact the Senior Center at 232-3505.

Scenes from the 2008 Senior Center Volunteer Luncheon, held on June 17.



## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**4-H/SOS** will begin its 2008 Fall Semester on September 30. The registration will begin on September 15 and 16 at Currituck Middle School and Moyock Middle School.

The Support Our Students (SOS) Program is a community based program that provides support and guidance to Currituck's youth by involving them in constructive activities during after-school hours. SOS is open to all Currituck County Middle School students and registration is FREE! SOS offers academic/homework help, nutritious snacks, recreational activities, educational workshops and enrichment opportunities.



SOS is offered Monday – Thursday from 3:15 - 6:00 p.m. Students may ride the late bus and be dropped off at a location near their homes on Tuesday – Thursday, and do not have to attend SOS every day it is offered. Potential classes for the 2008 Fall Semester at CCMS include: TaeKwonDo, Make It & Take It, Money Talks, Fun with Webkinz, Eco Wonders, and Game Day. Potential classes for the 2008 Fall Semester at MMS include: Keyboarding (Piano), Guitar, Fun with Webkinz, Money Talks, Eco Wonders, Golf, Tennis, and Game Day. Please call Latoria Moore or Stephanie Minton at 232-2262, or email: [latoria\\_moore@ncsu.edu](mailto:latoria_moore@ncsu.edu) or [stephanie\\_minton@ncsu.edu](mailto:stephanie_minton@ncsu.edu)

## EVACUATION TIPS FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Have a Family Emergency Plan that all family members know well.
- Prepare an Evacuation Kit - should contain such items as water, food, flashlights, batteries, radio, cash, clothing, first aid supplies, medicines, and pet supplies. Have enough to last at least three days.
- Make sure your vehicle is fueled ahead of time.
- Secure your home and property before evacuating.
- Have current maps or GPS unit in case traffic is rerouted.
- Have documents and personal information in watertight package.
- If you take a cell phone, remember to take the charger as well.
- Pack activity and game items to keep children entertained. This will help to pass the time and relieve stress.
- As you travel, heed all law enforcement directives and stay tuned to local radio stations for traffic conditions and re-entry information.

For important information regarding storm safety, evacuation and re-entry, contact Currituck Emergency Management at 232-2115.

## CURRITUCK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Barry C. Nelms, Chairman, Poplar Branch Township  
Phone: 453-4153

Gene A. Gregory, Vice-Chairman, At-Large  
Phone: 336-4706

Janet L. Taylor, Moyock Township  
Phone: 435-6965

Ernie Bowden, Fruitville Township  
Phone: 453-3940

J. Owen Etheridge, Crawford Township  
Phone: 455-0586

E-mail: [commissioners@co.currituck.nc.us](mailto:commissioners@co.currituck.nc.us)

Board of Commissioner meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month. Live meetings are aired on Mediacom Ch. 18 and online at [www.currituckgovernment.com](http://www.currituckgovernment.com). Access archived videos online, or view Ch. 18 replays every Monday and Tuesday at 7:00 P.M.

## PLANNING DEPT. - FLOOD INSURANCE INFO

### Learn, Prepare, Prevent & Recover

Flooding is a fact of life for homeowners in coastal N.C., so each should learn to deal with this constant threat by visiting [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov), a website sponsored by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This site will calculate the risk of your property for flooding and provide tips on protecting your investment.

### Did You Know?

In a high-risk area, your home has a 26% chance of being damaged by floodwaters during the course of a 30-year mortgage, compared to a 4% chance of fire.

Homeowners must be aware that flood insurance is only offered through the federally mandated National Flood Insurance Program. Taking advantage of federal insurance today can help save money for tomorrow. A \$100,000 flood insurance premium is about \$400 per year.

Citizens with the NFIP Community Rating System receive a 15% discount on premiums. This is due to Currituck's effort to expand flood prevention in accordance with National Flood Insurance standards. This includes an improved digital mapping system and community outreach projects.



### Important Concerns For Homeowners

Do you know the projected flood elevation of your property? If not, check with the Planning Dept. to see if you live in a flood zone, and how much water is likely to come into your home during an extreme flood.

Are critical items located at least 12" above potential flood waters?

- Panel Board – electric fuses or circuit breakers
- Electric outlets, switches, light sockets, baseboard heaters and wiring
- Washer and dryer
- Furnace and water heater
- Outside air conditioning compressors, heat pumps or package units can be placed on masonry or pressure-treated lumber.

Are fuel tanks anchored securely?

Fuel tanks can tip over or float in a flood, causing a spill or fire. Make sure vents and fill-line openings are above projected flood levels.

Does your sewer system have a backflow valve?

This will prevent flood waters entering the sewage system.

For more information on these tips and permitting information prior to installation, talk to a professional homebuilder, contractor or building supply retailer, or call the Planning Dept. at 232-3055. Information can also be found at [Currituckgovernment.com](http://Currituckgovernment.com).

Additional information can be found at:

Federal Flood Insurance Program, [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)

North Carolina Emergency Management, [www.ncem.org](http://www.ncem.org)

## COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE COMING SOON TO COURTHOUSE

Currituck County's Communications Center will soon benefit from a more advanced tower upgrade.

Overall, the project involves combining the service currently provided by two smaller towers into one slightly larger free standing tower. Construction of the tower is slated to occur this fall, directly behind the Emergency Management offices and Communications Center at the Historic Courthouse.

Once complete, this tower will carry all of the control station radios antennas for Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Public Works, Animal Control, and the future statewide 800 MHz Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) radio system. Future uses include a platform for Wi-Fi, and microwave network connections to other county facilities.



## FLOOD INFORMATION

The need for flood insurance is determined by the property's location. Homeowner insurance policies do NOT include flood damage, so it is recommended that property owners secure flood insurance.

### Flood Plain Development

Property located in Flood Zones A, AE or VE on the Flood Insurance Rate Map is subject to regulations. Prior to development on these tracts, the owner must first contact the Planning or Inspections departments to see which permits may be required. Permits are required, but not limited to, mining, new construction, additions, alterations and changes in use.

### Flood Map Determinations

Flood Insurance Rate Maps result from the Flood Insurance Study of the existence and severity of flood hazards in Currituck County. The maps contain official delineation of flood insurance zones and base flood elevation lines, which show the location of the expected whole-foot water surface elevation within the 100-year flood zone. Currituck County is divided into zones, each of which has a specific flood potential as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Atlantic Ocean, Albemarle Sound, and Currituck Sound are the primary sources of flooding in Currituck County.

Call the Planning Dept. to learn if your property is located in a flood zone. You may also obtain information related to elevation requirements, selecting a qualifying contractor, and reviewing plans to retrofit your home.

### Drainage System Maintenance

Drainage ditches, streams, channels and canals must be kept free of debris that can cause each to lose carrying capacity. Debris from dumping, vegetation and sedimentation can build up and cause flooding. Dumping of debris in draining systems is unlawful in North Carolina. Keep drainage ditches on your property clear and functional.



## CURRITUCK PUBLIC LIBRARY

On September 16 at 3:30 p.m. **TAG (Teen Advisory Group)** will kick off the first meeting of the '08-'09 school year. "Make it your way!" The library is looking for Middle School and High School students willing to shape the direction of teen services at the Currituck Library. Bring your ideas for books to buy, programs to present, and ways to raise money to make the Library teen section the coolest place in Currituck.

On October 18 at 2:00 p.m. **Teen Author Robert Fanney** will read excerpts from his popular fantasy novel "Luthiel's Song", as well as speak about the writing and publishing process. Signed copies of his book will be available for purchase. This free program is open to all.

The "**What should I read next?**" **Book Club** will hold its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, September 24 at 2:00 p.m., and will meet the fourth Wednesday of each month. Participants are invited to share favorite books. Audiobook listeners are also welcome. Join us and find your next great read.

**Babygarten** is an early literacy program to help parents lay a foundation of language skills. The Currituck County Library is the first in North Carolina to offer Babygarten. The Babygarten program will run from Tuesday, September 23 at 11:00 a.m. through October 28. Please call the library at 453-8345 to register. Pre-registration is required. Classes are 60 minutes and held for six weeks, four times a year. At each class, parents and babies will learn and recite rhymes, sing songs, read books, play, and learn about the parent's role in early literacy. There is a limit of 15 parent-caregiver pairs and babies should be between birth and two-years of age to participate.

**Scallywag's Scavenger Hunt** will be on Saturday, September 27, from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. School-age children, face painting, scavenger hunt, games & more. Call to sign up.

**American Girl: Kit Kittredge**, will be on Saturday, November 15, from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. School age children, travel back in time to the Great Depression era and learn what games and toys children played.

**Story Time** - children 3-5 yr, Tuesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

**Toddler Time** - children 18 mo.-2 yr, Thursdays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

For more program information, contact the Currituck Library at 453-8345.

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The **Currituck County Foster & Adoptive Family Association** would like to invite you to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Victory Chevrolet/CCFAFA Benefit Golf Tournament. This event will raise funds to Empower, Educate and Elevate the foster children in Currituck. Individuals and groups can register as sponsors for this fun and worthwhile event.

When: Friday, September 12, 2008; 12 noon (rain date 9/19)  
Where: Mill Run Golf Club, Moyock

The **Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)** gives low-income families or individuals a one-time payment to help pay their heating bills. Households that receive food stamp benefits may be automatically eligible. The application period is from November 3 through November 14 at DSS offices.

Applications will also be accepted at the following locations:

- Knotts Island Senior Center; Nov. 6, 10:00 – 11:45 a.m.
- Powells Point Senior Center; Nov. 12, 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.
- Currituck Senior Center; Nov. 13, 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

The **Crisis Intervention Program** may help in a heating or cooling emergency situation to prevent service being cut off, if funding is available. Applications are taken Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

For more information, call DSS at 232-3083.

## CURRITUCK ANIMAL SHELTER

Come see many wonderful pets available for adoption at the Currituck Animal Shelter, located at 204 Airport Road in Maple, beside the Currituck Regional Airport. Shelter hours are: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Thursday 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

For adoption information, contact the Animal Shelter at 457-0011; or the Animal Lovers Assistance League at 232-3696.



## COMING SOON ...

### Currituck County Government's New Monthly E-Newsletter!

Go to [Currituckgovernment.com](http://Currituckgovernment.com) to sign up  
for your FREE subscription.

Focus on Currituck: A Report to the Community is an  
NCAGIO award-winning publication prepared by the  
Currituck County Public Information Office.

Post Office Box 39, Currituck, NC 27929  
Phone: (252) 232-0719  
[www.CurrituckGovernment.com](http://www.CurrituckGovernment.com)  
e-mail: [contactus@co.currituck.nc.us](mailto:contactus@co.currituck.nc.us)

County of Currituck  
P.O. Box 39  
Currituck, NC 27929

# FOCUS ON CURRITUCK

## FALL 2008

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #37  
Nags Head, NC  
27959

## POSTAL PATRON

Currituck County is committed to equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in all programs and services, and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, age, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, creed, ancestry, disability, or veteran status.