



Gordon Welcomes Son; Earns Master's Degree



Latoya Gordon, Community Relations Specialist in Community Development, recently completed all requirements for her Master's in Multidisciplinary Human Services from Capella University and will graduate on March 10 in Atlanta. Gordon will also receive a graduate certificate in Social and Community Services. Additionally, her son Collin (pictured above), was born July 23, 2016. Congrats!

Davis Named 2016 Firefighter of the Year



Jason Davis (left) was recently named 2016 Firefighter of the Year, chosen by peers and recognized for his service with the FFD. Fire Chief Ben Major (right) presented Davis with the award.

Police Recognized for Great Efforts in Torch Run

Annually since 1981, Law Enforcement Agencies around the world participate in fundraising efforts for the Special Olympics through the Law Enforcement Torch Run. In 2016, the Fayetteville Police Department hosted multiple events to include a Plane Pull, the Torch Run, Tip a Cop at Red Robin, a Golf Tournament at Gates Four Country Club and a motorcycle ride from Fort Bragg Harley Davidson. In addition to these fundraising events, officers from the department sold Special Olympic Torch Run T-Shirts throughout the year with all proceeds going to the Special Olympics.



Recently, the Fayetteville Police Department was recognized for its efforts in 2016. At the Law Enforcement Torch Run kickoff event held in Pinehurst N.C., the FPD was honored as the 5th ranked fundraiser in the state out of over 500 other law enforcement agencies.



FPD receives our Top Ten Award at the Kick Off Conference in Pinehurst, N.C. Pictured from left to right: Sgt. Eddie Ketchum (FPD), Claudia Morgan (Co-Director Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics NC), Captain Robert Spatorico (FPD), Dustin Edmondson (Athlete Ambassador), Casey Phillips (Athlete Ambassador) and Robin Callaway (Athlete Ambassador).



Sgt. Eddie Ketchum and Captain Spatorico from the Fayetteville Police Department with the "EC Stars" Special Olympics Cheer Squad.

Marks Gets Hands-on As a Puppeteer



Angela Marks, GIS Analyst in Environmental Services, is a puppeteer who puts on puppet skits and productions for children. She owns over 200 puppets that she utilizes with her company With His Hands Puppets.

With His Hands Puppets provides a traveling puppet ministry dedicated to educating, empowering and entertaining people through many avenues. Marks provides a traveling puppet theater to inspire, encourage and uplift hearts. The puppet ministry produces Christian based shows, educational shows and themed shows and performances tailored to the needs of its audience.

With His Hands Gospel Puppets uses the interpretation of gospel music to bless its audience, bringing back memories of the sound of old time gospel and new contemporary.

Marks also does her skits for holiday shows, musicals, birthdays, retirements and church events. You can read more about With His Hands Puppets at www.withhishandspuppets.com.

Parker Helps Raise Money for Charities



United Way of
Cumberland County



FOR CHILDREN
OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Police Attorney **Michael Parker** is an auctioneer to help raise money for charities. He did the Handbag Auction for the United Way and is scheduled to do one on March 10 for the Partnership for Children. We would like to applaud Michael's kind generosity.

Strickland Promoted



Congratulations to **David W. Strickland** on his promotion to Fire Captain, effective Jan. 23. He has been assigned to Fire Station 16 on Cedar Creek Road and we wish him well in his new role.

Sears Earns Certification

Dean Sears in Signs & Markings earned his certified personal trainer certification, is currently working on his fitness nutrition specialist certification and will be working with the Cape Fear Heroes indoor football team as strength and conditioning trainer this spring.

City Employee Profiles

Branyun Bullard and Shauna Haslem, Engineering & Infrastructure



Branyun Bullard

Date Started: Aug. 5, 2013

Job Title: Interim Stormwater Supervisor; started as Stormwater Inspector

What I Do: Ensure the NPDES permit and oversee and conduct water quality inspections and sampling.

What I Like About My Job: I have always been interested in water. My first job was at a water and wastewater treatment plant. It's satisfying to know the complexity of water. It's a very fragile compound but very forceful, strong and destructive.

Family: Wife Tamra and two children, son Kaiden (2) and daughter Riley (2-month-old).

Hobbies: Music minister and youth director at my church. Enjoys hunting, fishing and music.

Shauna Haslem

Date Started: Sept. 19, 2011

Job Title: Public Information Specialist for E&I/Stormwater Educator

What I Do: The majority of my job is providing information about stormwater pollution and runoff, ways people can prevent pollution (dropping things in storm drains and putting trash in its proper place), educating residents, speaking to a lot of school classes, attending events and festivals and also handling other duties as it relates to public information for Engineering and Infrastructure.

What I Like About My Job: I love getting out in the community and letting residents know what they can do to protect the waterways and teaching people how to make a difference in their local communities.

Family: Husband Kalo and two children, daughter Emma (6) and son Trenton (2).

Hobbies: We are very involved in our church kids' ministry. We love the outdoors. One of my biggest hobbies is photography.





City Honors 82nd's 100th Year Anniversary and Employee Veterans

82nd Airborne Division Vets who now work for the City of Fayetteville: Council Members, Police, Fire/Emergency Services, Transit, Parks and Recreation, Fayetteville Regional Airport and more. Thirty+ people came out to take a group photo as we helped promote the 82nd Airborne Division's 100th year anniversary. Thanks for your service with the Army, and now with the City. All the Way!

Ranger James' Weird & Wonderful Program

Park Ranger Rusty James has begun painting a NC map of all his travels to weird and wonderful NC destinations. Last year, he was asked to put all his folk and geographic knowledge into a public program called the "Weird and Wonderful of the Fayetteville Area," which he had begun giving at venues around town. Who else but Rusty could give you directions to find the grave of the Spaghetti Mummy out towards Hoffman? James also recently conducted an interview about his program with the Fayetteville 180 social media website.

"One of the things I did on the map was make it as a memory of the places I have visited with my family across NC. I drew all the counties on the map and I am going through and drawing what I have done in each county," James said. "The orange line is the Blue Ridge Parkway and the red line is the Appalachian Trail. I have put on the map some activities that are offered in the counties, roadside attractions and a couple of local legends. I keep the map with me most of the time and I keep adding to it."

"When I was making my map, I started thinking about all the unique things about N.C., such as Whitewater Falls is one of the highest waterfalls East of the Mississippi at 800 ft. and the Wasilik Poplar is the second largest poplar tree in the eastern United States with a girth of 26 feet," James said. "Clingsman's Dome is the highest elevation on the Appalachian Trail and Mount Mitchell is the highest elevation east of the Mississippi. Other facts include Chapel Hill being the oldest state university, High Point is the furniture capital and Cape Hatteras is the largest lighthouse to be moved due to erosion. There are many more but I can't fit them all on the map."

"The program I made up for the City is activities that families, homeschoolers, visitors and others can do within an hour to two hour drive. Sometimes when people come to Clark Park, I tell them about the passport booklet for things to do in Cumberland County, but sometimes they talk about what they have already done a lot in our own county and want to know what there is to do outside of Cumberland County, which is why I made this program."



**Sexton Earns
MBA from
Methodist
University**



Congrats to **Birgit Sexton** in Finance who is graduating with her Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from Methodist University on Dec. 17.

Combs Hired as City Wellness Coordinator

John Combs was recently hired as the City's new Wellness Coordinator. He retired from the NCDOJ/Justice Academy last May, where he served for 17 years as the Program Director for the Physical Fitness/Wellness training programs. He developed and coordinated the Academy's first employee wellness program called "Fit to Live" and served on the DOJ Wellness Committee from 2007 until his retirement (as Co-Chair for some of this time). Combs has an M.A. in Health Education & Promotion from East Carolina and several fitness certifications, as well. Prior to that, he served as a police officer for 12 years with physical fitness being a part of his specialized instructor duties for the PD and community college basic law enforcement and detention officer training programs.



Since taking the new position, Combs has been researching and reviewing the numerous legal issues concerning benefits and compliance with EEOC, the Affordable Care Act and HIPAA as they relate to employee wellness programs. He has also made contact and had meetings with several outside entities and vendors that specialize in offering Health Risk Assessments (lifestyle management and health behavior), Biometric Screenings (i.e. blood pressure screenings, glucose and cholesterol checks, BMI, EKG, etc.), incentives and tracking mechanisms that can help us trend the health levels of our employees over time. Combs has assembled a Worksite Wellness Committee consisting of 14 employees from many different departments to assist the program with strategies and ideas, advocacy and possible incentives based on program participation.



Initial goals include: Initially, a Needs Assessment/Interest Survey via email to all employees, the results of which will assist the committee in determining what wellness/health activities and offerings our employees are most interested in, which in turn will assist Combs in placing the most time/effort/resources where they are most needed.

- Lunch 'n Learn sessions beginning in February on particular health topics (offered at least once per week), health risk assessments (HRAs), biometric screenings, functional movement screenings, face-to-face or phone health coaching (by me or others on an as-needed basis and by request), weight loss, smoking cessation, stress management techniques and risk factors classes, etc. Combs would also like to start walking groups again, along with some individual and team competitions, in conjunction with fitness events around town and in the surrounding areas. In addition, there will be a Health/Safety Fair offered in the Fall that will correspond with flu shot offerings.

From the Desk of the City Safety Officer



Soon the winds of March and something called March Madness will be upon us. I must be immune, I never get March Madness. I've seen some really bad cases though, mostly crying, whining and sometimes people breaking out in colors; it's a very strange illness. I'm just glad it doesn't last very long. And **NO** March Madness is **NOT** is not a work related illness.

I would also like to share some news about our Safety Program. The injury numbers for 2016 have been reported and the City of Fayetteville can do a little celebration dance! Total injuries fell by 6% in 2016. Lost time injuries were down 37%, which is really big! Lost time days showed a 52% reduction and restricted duty days dropped by 47%!



These are awesome numbers that some employers can only hope for. The numbers demonstrate to me that employees are paying close attention to their surroundings and supervisors are ensuring employees are safe at work. Thank you for working safe!

In the coming months, we will be offering training in Blood Borne Pathogens, CPR/First Aid, Respiratory Protection and Confined Space-Competent Person. Please visit the City Safety webpage, where you can see all the safety policies, links to commonly used documents and all upcoming safety training and events: <http://cofweb/safety.aspx>

Please remember that every day you decide to work safe or not...

...SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT!

Greg Schaefer, City Safety Officer
(910) 391-0428

Smith Is A DJ

Vera Carol Smith, Office Assistant II in Human Relations, is a DJ and sang in a band for six years. She has done work for the City in the role of being an emcee for various events through Parks & Recreation. She also worked through Parks & Recreation with the Summer Camp Program for Children at various recreation centers for several years. "What makes it interesting to me is that I am a senior citizen," Smith said.

Smith was also hired by the Fort Bragg Credit Union to be their guest entertainer at their Annual Customer Appreciation Dinner, hired by the Civil Service Retirees as a guest entertainer, hired by Parks & Recreation through the Senior Center to be guest entertainer at an Annual Christmas Banquet and also performed at the Double Tree Inn and at the Coffee House in Hope Mills as a solo performer.



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If you would like to contribute to Frontline, please email us at nwalls@ci.fay.nc.us.