



2012 Annual Report To the Citizens of Camden County

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Georgia's Coastal Community of Choice



Meet your County Commissioners



Willis R. Keene, Jr., Chair
District 1
Term Expires: 12/31/2016



Chuck Clark
District 2
Term Expires: 12/31/2014



Jimmy Starline, Vice-Chair
District 3
Term Expires: 12/31/2016



Gary Blount
District 4
Term Expires: 12/31/2014

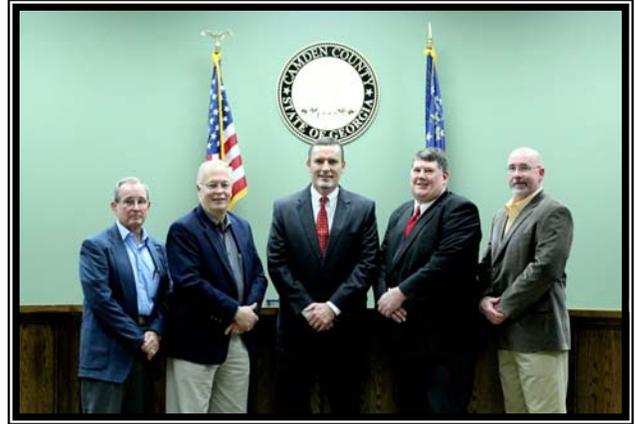


Tony Sheppard
District 5
Term Expires: 12/31/2016

Working Together to Make a Difference in the Community

The Board of County Commissioners are voted by

and represent the citizens in five commission districts. Serving four-year, staggered terms, the Board serves as Camden County's legislative body and acts as fiscal representatives of the County. The Board makes policies, adopts laws, sets budget limits and sets tax rates. The Board appoints a County Administrator to oversee the day-to-day operations of the County, advise the Board and implement policies. The Board of County Commissioners serve as ambassadors and liaisons to many local, regional and state boards and committees that cover a variety of important matters affecting Camden County residents and businesses. Topics covered by these boards include the economy, transportation, regional and local planning, the environment, tourism, juvenile issues and the arts. Members of the Board of County Commissioners are actively engaged in working for the good of the community.



Moving Camden Forward While Enhancing the Quality of Life for Citizens

Camden County is truly "Georgia's Coastal Community of Choice". The county's prime location along the Atlantic gives its citizens the attraction of small, quaint coastal towns. Camden County is best known for its rich history, natural scenic beauty and Southern hospitality. Work and leisure depend on the sea, the forests and the mild climate, which averages seventy degrees year around. Fishing and boating on the county's waterways are exceptionally popular activities in which residents take part. Many other recreational opportunities exist throughout the county including several golf courses, parks and trails. The Public Service Authority provides a variety of high quality leisure activities, services and facilities for the citizens of Camden County to enjoy and enhance their quality of life. The County is proud to be a Work Ready Community, a Storm Ready Community and also a Camera Ready Community.

Moving Camden Forward Together



I am pleased to present the 2012 Annual Report! This report is intended to inform Camden County citizens about the accomplishments of your county government over the past year.

The County continues to navigate through what has been declared the worst economic downturn and recession since the Great Depression.

The County remains in a far better position to manage the slow economic recovery due to the financial leadership and prudent fiscal policies and practices of the Board of County Commissioners.

Camden County was recognized during 2012 on a national level for its public/private partnerships and leadership in providing innovative, effective and fiscally responsible model programs for its citizens. The following awards were realized during 2012.

*“Leadership
that
Listens!”*

- National Achievement Award, National Association of Counties
- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Government Finance Officers Association of the United States

Searching for better ways of doing County business continued to be a huge success in 2012 the cumulative total since the inception of this initiative has resulted in over \$8 million dollars in savings/cost avoidance to the taxpayers.

With the continued support of the citizens of Camden County, Board of County Commissioners and dedicated employees the County’s future remains bright.

I look forward to working in partnership with each of you in 2013 to ensure Camden County remains *Georgia’s Coastal Community of Choice*.

Yours for a better Camden County,

Steve L. Howard, CPM, CPPO
County Administrator

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VISION

Helping to make Camden County the best place to be by preserving and enhancing the history and quality of life while promoting smart growth and providing efficient, effective and responsive government.

MISSION

It is the mission of Camden County Government to provide responsive, innovative and cost effective services, promote smart growth, effectively communicate with the community, improve infrastructure and technology, preserve the health, welfare, safety and environment while maintaining the outstanding quality of life that makes our county a desirable place to live and work.

VALUES

The Board of County Commissioners and employees of Camden County are committed to the following values.

INTEGRITY

We act with honesty and fairness and always strive to do the right thing.

RESPECT

We treat everyone with respect. We recognize the dignity that is inherent in all people and celebrate the strength that comes from the diversity of people and ideas.

SERVICE

We take pride in our role as public servants and are dedicated to service excellence. We are committed to responsive, quality, service, delivered with timeliness, courtesy and fairness.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are accountable and responsible for our actions and accept the consequences of our decisions.

TEAMWORK

We value teamwork and promote the principles of partnership, consultations and open communication.

BALANCE

We encourage the achievement of a healthy balance in the working and personal lives of employees, believing that this contributes to the vitality of individuals, our organization and our community.

Camden County was founded on February 5, 1777. The 2nd County developed in Georgia and is the 7th largest in land size in Georgia. Camden County is the 3rd State Senatorial District, the 180th State House District and the 1st United States Congressional District.



FUND ACCOUNTING

County finances are organized by funds, with each one having a specific purpose and in some instances restriction (s) on how money can be used. Camden County has a General Fund, (7) Special Revenue Funds, (3) Capital Project Funds and (2) Enterprise or Proprietary Funds.

Despite the current challenging economic circumstances, Camden County maintained fiscal stability, with ZERO DEBT SERVICE and an “Aa3” credit rating by Moody’s. Revenues and expenditures are balanced with no millage rate increase.

The accomplishment of achieving a balanced budget is no small task: discipline, innovation and commitment is key. To the taxpayer we must commit our best effort, nothing less is acceptable.

The comprehensive annual financial reports, quarterly reports and budgets are available for review online at www.co.camden.ga.us under the Finance Department tab.



MILLAGE RATE HISTORY

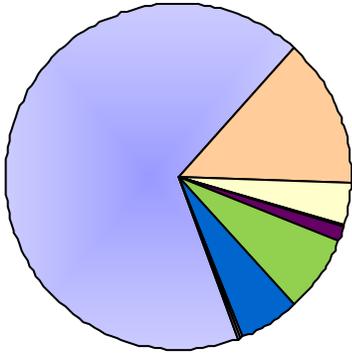
State law requires that property taxes be based on 40% of market value which is known as the assessed value. All real and personal property is valued as of January 1st of each year. The County Tax Assessor’s Office assesses all property with the exception of vehicles and public utilities which are assessed by the State of Georgia. A homestead exemption is allowed for each taxpayer for at least one year ending at \$4,000 of the assessed value. In addition, there are exemptions for many other areas of property relief, with the largest being the frozen vales based on property values from 2006. The assessed property listing is submitted to the Tax Commissioner

TAX YEAR	STATE	SCHOOL	UNINCORP TAX DISTRICT	COUNTY
2012	0.25	15.50	0.67	11.70
2011	0.25	15.00	0.67	11.70
2010	0.25	15.0	0.00	11.70
2009	0.25	14.75	0.00	11.70
2008	0.25	14.75	0.00	11.70
2007	0.25	14.75	0.00	12.00

to prepare the tax digest from the assessed values. Once the final digest is prepared, the Board of Commissioners set a millage rate based on the revenues required to satisfy the budget. Once adopted, millage rate and digest are submitted to the State of Georgia - Department of Revenue for compliance and approval. A comprehensive millage rate history is shown in the chart above. Municipalities within Camden County impose a millage rate established by their governing body which is NOT reflected in the County tax bill. The Board of Education establishes a millage rate which does appear on your County tax bill. This diagram does not include any exemptions that may be available.

Fiscal Year 2012 General Fund

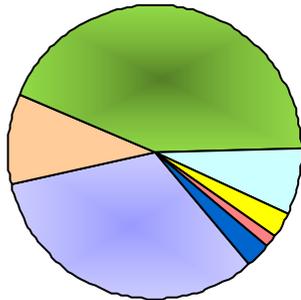
General Fund Revenues - \$26,226,896



- Property taxes
- Sales taxes
- Excise and Special Use Taxes
- Licenses & Permits
- Intergovernmental
- Charges for Services
- Fines & Forfeitures
- Investment Income
- Miscellaneous

Camden County Revenues General Fund Activities Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2012	
Revenues	2012 Actual
Taxes	
Property taxes	\$ 17,616,579
Sales taxes	3,623,265
Excise and Special Use Taxes	1,066,760
Licenses & Permits	89,546
Intergovernmental	355,625
Charges for Services	1,901,479
Fines & Forfeitures	1,414,049
Investment Income	69,936
Miscellaneous	89,657
Totals	\$ 26,226,896

General Fund Expenses - \$23,447,224



- General Government
- Judiciary
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Health & Welfare
- Culture & Recreation
- Housing & Develop
- Debt Service

Camden County Expenses General Fund Activities Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2012	
Expenses	2012 Actual
General Government	\$ 7,652,276
Judiciary	2,313,920
Public Safety	10,190,847
Public Works	1,656,311
Health & Welfare	634,646
Culture & Recreation	368,441
Housing & Develop	630,783
Debt Service	-
Totals	\$ 23,447,224

2012 Achievement Award & Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Camden County was acknowledged this year for two key awards.



The National Association of Counties (NACo) awarded Camden County the National Achievement award for implementing an innovative county government program to better serve area residents. THE CAMDEN COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL—PROTECTING THE PUBLIC & CONTROLLING COSTS, received recognition for promoting quality, efficient, responsive management and administration. The mission of the Camden Criminal Justice Council (CCJC) is to identify possible improvements in the criminal justice system, develop system-wide solutions, propose actions, execute strategies and generally improve the criminal justice system. The CCJC is committed to:

- public safety,
- communication
- cooperation.

The goal of this is to enable Camden County officials involved directly and indirectly in the criminal justice system to assertively manage the local system.

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting was awarded to Camden County, Georgia by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The Camden County Board of Commissioners has received this national award for the last twelve consecutive years.



ADMINISTRATION

Camden County Administration includes the Office of the County Administrator and the Customer Service Desk. The Customer Service unit includes two staff members who collect and disseminate mail and operate the County's Switchboard phone system. In 2012, the department directed nearly 20,000 calls and assisted 5900 visitors to the appropriate office. Additionally, this department performs clerical assistance to the Board of Equalization and Curbside, when necessary.

ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The County Attorney, Brent Green, is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to provide legal services to the Board, the County Administrator, as well as other elected county officials, county departments and other advisory boards. The County Attorney reviews and prepares contracts, ordinances, resolutions and other written instruments. Additionally, he represents the Board of County Commissioners in litigation and manages outside legal and lobbying service providers. When called upon and where no conflict of interest exists, the Office provides legal counsel to other constitutional officers of the County.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

The Office of the County Clerk provides an official, historical record for present and future generations of the Board of County Commissioners. The County Clerk assists the Board through preparation of meeting agendas and informational notebooks, as well as prepares minutes for all Board of County Commissioner meetings. The County Clerk assures compliance with the Open Meetings/Open Records Act and provides requested information as part of public record. The County Clerk serves as the official custodian of all contracts, leases, resolutions, ordinances and all actions taken by the Board of County Commissioners.

The County Clerk facilitated 21 regular meetings, 9 Solid Waste Authority meetings, 2 special called meetings, 1 special called tribunal, 8 work sessions and 14 public hearings in 2012. Additionally, 49 open records requests and 65 Online Fix It Forms were submitted and processed by the Office of the County Clerk in 2012.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

The Office of Strategic Initiatives increases savings, effectiveness, and efficiency for Camden County Government. With a staff of one employee, this department coordinates closely with other departments and external agencies on a regular basis. Strategic Initiatives continues to coordinate the Public Safety Communications Upgrade Project, a constant improvement initiative called Better Ways of Doing Business, an employee incentive program entitled Suggestions to Assist in Reduced Spending, a Tax Concern Advisory Committee, compliance with legislative issues and Immigration laws, and special projects that do not fit into other departments. Two of the major accomplishments in 2012 include the design of a radio system and associated cost benefit analysis and stabilizing the Curbside Collection program.



Photo by: Deborah Luffman

In addition, the Curbside Collection and Customer Service Departments were realigned under the Strategic Initiatives Director to leverage the capabilities of each department. The FY 2013 Strategic Initiatives budget includes a 20% offset from the Curbside Collection budget to account for time spent to improve and manage that program. The Curbside program has increased service levels, streamlined operations and greatly improved financial statements.

CURBSIDE COLLECTION

The Curbside Collection Office is a one-person department serving as a single point of contact for the Unincorporated Curbside Collection. The collection of garbage and field work is performed by Advanced Disposal, Inc. which is the sole service provider. Office staff is supplemented by employees from Customer Service and Strategic Initiatives, as needed. This office has a broad range of responsibilities including account management, billing, payment, service orders, and complaints. Advanced Disposal Inc, Public Works, and the Solid Waste Authority are each a partner that has a role to play in routine field work. Each request is documented and distributed electronically to the proper service provided to ensure timely completion. The rate of \$14.50 per month continues to be consistent with the level of service provided and has not changed since July 2011. This year the program has increased the collection rate and decreased the amount of write-offs. Policies & Procedures have been updated to incorporate a greater customer focus. Daily tasks have been streamlined to increase levels of service and decrease costs while maintaining a consistent level of staffing.

FINANCE & BUDGET

The Office of Finance and Budget performs a vital function and is responsible for the financial services and general financial operations of Camden County Government. The Office of Finance & Budget is tasked with utilizing County resources in an effort to provide true stewardship of the public's funds, while continually striving to improve business processes countywide, providing timely, accurate financial information to internal departments and citizens, and enhancing fiscal accountability.

Services provided by the Office of Finance and Budget include financial planning, the management of County debt, investments, and cash flow, payroll administration, the maintenance of fixed assets, and the preparation of financial reports to measure results. The County's financial reports are open to the public and available online at the County's website at www.co.camden.ga.us under the Departments tab click on Finance & Budget.

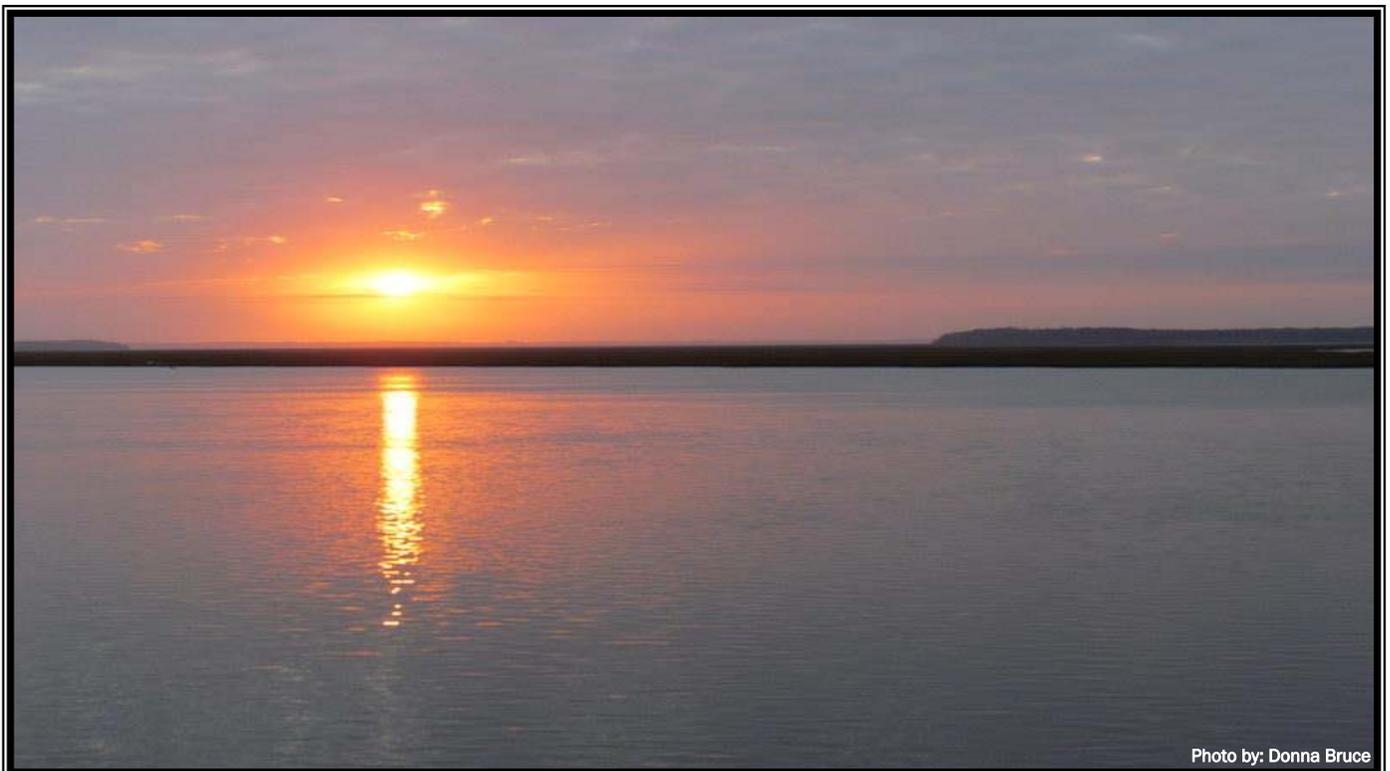


Photo by: Donna Bruce

SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Services brings together three internal service areas that support daily operations of the County. Continuous review of these areas creates continuity and insures efficiencies for departments, employees, and ultimately the citizens.

The areas that fall under the Support Services umbrella include Risk Management, Human Resources, and Information Technology.

In order to be effective in multiple complex areas, Camden County employs a team approach to risk management as well as decisions affecting employee benefits and information technology. Direction comes from the Board through the County Administrator. Through the Department of Support Services, Human Resources explores the impact of programs on the employees, while the Office of Finance and Budget provides financial analysis and perspective. The team is rounded out by a panel of competent, experienced agents, consultants, and carriers who are subject matter experts in their fields and provide years of experience and knowledge on which to draw.



Technology is the infrastructure of our organization and determines the level of success achieved in communication, accessibility, and responsiveness. Support Services works with the Information Technology team to insure that Camden County has the most reliable, innovative and state-of-the-art equipment and software.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources division of Support Services provides responsive and innovative programs which maintain an effective, efficient, and motivated workforce committed to customer service. Organizational development was a major focus for the Human Resources team in 2012.

2012 Accomplishments:

- **Expansion of Onsite Clinic** – In February a second location of the Living Well Employee Onsite Clinic (LWEOC) opened on the south end of the County and physician hours increased from four hours bi-weekly to four hours weekly.
- **Cooperative Partnership** – In conjunction with expansion to two locations and extended physician hours, the LWEOC began seeing employees and dependents of the City of St. Marys and Public Service Authority.
- **Dual Option Health Plan** – In May a second, high deductible health plan (HDHP) with a health savings account (HSA) option was introduced as an option during open enrollment.
- **Health & Safety Fair** – In October employees attended the fourth annual Joint Health & Safety Fair along with employees of the City of St. Marys and the Partnership Service Authority. Over 30 vendors provided information on health & wellness topics and performed various screenings at no cost.
- **Performance Evaluations** – In December employees performed self evaluations in preparation for implementation of supervisor performance evaluations.
- **Organizational Training & Development** – Employees accessed multiple training opportunities throughout 2012. Formats included lunch and learns as well as supervisor training and explored topics such as *Conducting Effective Performance Reviews*, *Progressive Discipline*, and *Family Medical Leave Act*.

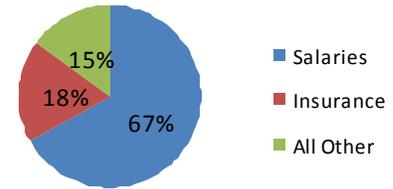
RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Management is reducing risks by identifying, assessing, and prioritizing potential losses coordinating resources in the most effective, economical and mitigating way possible. Key areas of risk management for Camden County include property, liability and workers' compensation protection and a comprehensive employee benefits package.

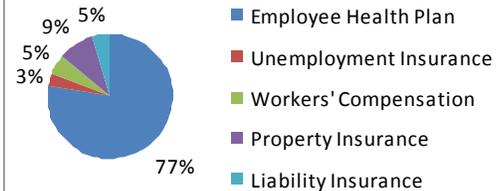
The key areas of risk management for Camden County account for nearly twenty percent (20%) of the General Fund budget, therefore, effective mitigation is essential.

In addition to employing a team approach to risk management, Camden County continues to use two other primary strategies for reducing and controlling risk, the Living Well Onsite Clinic and the Living Well Employee Wellness Program.

General Fund Expenditures



Total Insurance Expenditures



2012 Onsite Clinic Statistics (1/1 - 12/31)

	County	Total ¹
Number of Visits:	1,714	2,169
Average Monthly Visits:	146	181
Savings to Health Plan ² :	\$72,000	\$101,000
Savings to Employees ² :	\$94,000	\$132,000

¹Total statistics include City of St. Marys and PSA employees and dependents.
²Savings are approximate and net of operating costs.

2012 Wellness Program Statistics (1/1 - 12/31)

Primary Wellness Incentive: **20%** Health Insurance Premium Discount
 Number of Employees Receiving Discount: **208**
 Number of Annual Physicals: **208**
 Employees Attending Lunch & Learns: **94**
 Number of Employees Lost 10% of Body Weight: **21**
 Number of Employees Lost 5% of Body Weight: **7**
 Number of Tobacco Free Employees: **114**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology (IT) division of Support Services is responsible for Camden County's Local Area Network (LAN) which includes its virtual server environment, nearly 200 desktop and laptop computers, 134 printers and other peripheral devices, and multiple software programs. Currently, maintenance, expansion, upgrades, and repairs of all County equipment are managed by a team of two employees therefore; efficiency and effectiveness are essential components to success.

2012 Accomplishments

- Capital Improvements**
 Replaced 29 aging computer workstations countywide. Upgrading computers on a regular basis is critical for several reasons: maintaining high productivity, increasing energy efficiency, and avoiding excessive maintenance costs.
- Upgraded Court Network**
 This upgrade created a one-gigabyte connection to the central network path. For users located in the courts this greatly improved connectivity both internally and externally.
- Upgraded Firewall**
 This upgrade gives IT the ability to better manage applications, users, and content using three unique identification technologies: App-ID™, User-ID, and Content-ID. These identification technologies allow safe and secure application usage, and significantly reduce total costs through device consolidation.
- Completed Virtual Server Project**
 Creating a virtual data center has many advantages several of which include lower hardware costs, easy hardware reuse and redeployment, server configuration in minutes, and streamlined provisioning and maintenance.



Photo by: Melissa Carter

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The Capital Improvements office coordinates all phases of capital improvement projects including project task at development, evaluations, planning, and implementation for all County departments. The division also serves the Facilities Management division with in-house project assessments, design, and coordination of general maintenance. Staff acquires funding through grants and other programs to support these special projects.

2012 Accomplishments

- A ribbon cutting ceremony held to acknowledge the renovation, project completion and re-opening of the Atkinson Memorial Building in Woodbine. This renovation project was made possible by a public partnership between the Camden County Board of Commissioners, the Sheriff's Office and the State of Georgia Department of Corrections—Inmate Construction Crew.

The Atkinson Memorial Building was originally built in 1947 and served as the Atkinson Memorial Hospital. In the same year the hospital was constructed, a service was held and the building was dedicated in memory of Dr. Burrill Atkinson, grandfather of Dr. Sam Atkinson of the hospital. Before the hospital was built, the County Agricultural Building stood in its location. Throughout the years, the Atkinson Memorial Building served as the original courthouse, a school and as the Tax Commissioner's office. The Atkinson Memorial Building is the only example of the International Style of construction in Woodbine's National Register Historic District.

Today The Atkinson Memorial Building, is home to a Florida/Georgia Multi-County Re-Entry Partnership program [non-profit 501c(3)] as well as the State Probation Office. The public-private partnership for delivery of service at this facility will strengthen the County's efforts on criminal justice coordination.



(Pictured from left: Commissioner, David L. Rainer, Chair, District 5; Robert Cummings, Director of the Camden County Re-Entry Program; Commissioner Chip Keene, Vice-Chair, District 1; Major Barry Johnson, Chief Deputy of the Sheriffs Office)

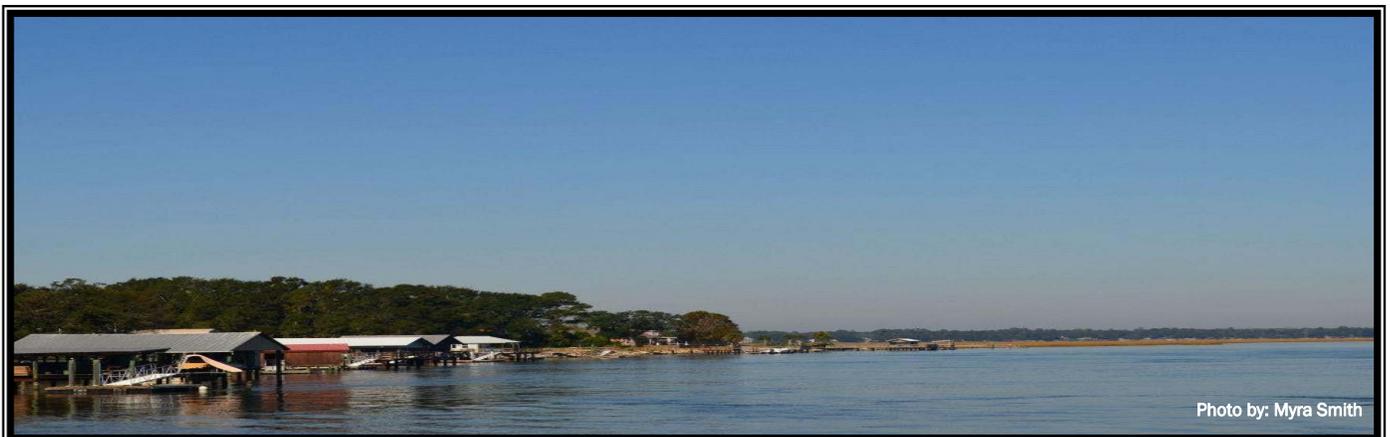


Photo by: Myra Smith

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

The Facilities Management division provides in-house construction services and general maintenance and repair of all public buildings and facilities including electrical, carpentry, plumbing, painting, and ventilation systems.

2012 Accomplishments

- Facilities Management division were able to utilize the funding provided by GEFA Energy Grant to Upgrade the HVAC System at the Sheriff's office for online monitoring to implement energy conservation measures to save money.
- Thanks to the joint efforts of Facilities Management and The Department of Corrections Inmate Labor Force renovations were completed on the Department of Labor Building.
- The Facilities Management division has been working extensively to re-plumb and repair the fire alarm system in the Kingsland Health Building on Charles Gilman Jr. Drive in anticipation of the New Gateway Behavior Center and Employee Wellness Program to be opened in 2013.

In addition to major projects, the Facilities Management division completed 1,004 work orders in 2012. The Facilities Management team is responsible for the general upkeep and repairs of over forty county buildings and facilities, with more than 457,000 square feet. In addition to assisting with special projects, this department oversees the exterminating, security, elevator and janitorial contractors. As well as being responsible for energy management, implementing energy conservation measures when appropriated and oversee the HVAC control program.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Planning and Development is responsible for issuing County alcohol beverage licenses, occupational tax licenses, building permits, land disturbance activity permits and performs various inspections. Planning and Development also serves as the local issuing authority for erosion and sedimentation control permits and inspections flood zone determination for building construction and flood insurance rate purposes.

Office personnel administer, coordinate and enforce all zoning, land use and subdivision related activity, changes and nuisance complaints governed by the Unified Development Code (UDC) of Camden County, as well as administer and enforce the Camden Alcohol Beverage Ordinance and the Camden Occupational Tax Ordinance.

Planning and Development personnel conducted 437 requested building inspections in 2012. Additionally, staff responded to 37 code enforcement complaints throughout the county. In 2012, 16 Single-Family permits were issued, 1 Commercial permit, 15 Building Additions and 12 Mobile Home permits.

2012 Accomplishments

A special election held in March 2012, approved for the governing authority of Camden County to be authorized to permit and regulate package sales by retailers of malt beverages, wine and distilled spirits, for off premises consumption on Sundays. A series of public hearings were held regarding this matter. In April 2012, the Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved amendments to the Official Code of Camden County, Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages, Section 6-10, Hours of Sales to include the addition of paragraph 5 authorizing licensed retailers within the unincorporated district to sell alcoholic beverages for off premises consumption on Sundays between the hours of 12:30 PM and 11:30 PM.



PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Public Safety encompasses three external service divisions that support the daily operations of the County. The areas that fall under Public Safety include Fire Rescue, Emergency Management, and Animal Control.

Camden County Fire Rescue (CCFR) provides Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the entire county, with the exception of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. CCFR also provides fire protection services to the unincorporated areas of the county and the City of Woodbine.

CCFR has an average EMS response time of 5 minutes to cover 689 square miles and an average fire response time of approximately 7 minutes to cover 652 square miles. The service delivery is unique because it provides the two services of fire fighting and EMS combined into one organization. This has proven to be cost effective and allows for greater utilization of resources to come together during emergencies that, if separate, would create duplication. The combination of service delivery enables emergency personnel to be cross trained and fluid in their mitigation of incidents.



Community Functions

Public Education

Camden County Fire Rescue (CCFR) provide CPR classes as a vital public service to the community. These classes bring awareness and a life saving skill set to the public in the event it is ever needed. CCFR's goal is to work with other organizations to have as many citizens as possible educated to render assistance if ever needed in a public emergency.

Borrow An AED Program

The Fire Rescue department implemented the Borrow An AED program in 2011 in partnership with the AED Alliance and it received funding through a grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. This program is a result of the inspiration from a local tragedy in May of 2009 where an AED at a youth sporting event could have made a difference in survival. After this tragedy the programs intention is to have AED's at events where they can be utilized by the public while emergency services are on the way. The AED's are economical, self contained, low maintenance, and are extremely reliable. These attributes make it easy to offer this program to the community as an additional service for our citizens and visitors.

This program is a FREE service to the citizens of Camden County and the AED's can be checked out at the Fire Rescue Headquarters located at 125 N. Gross Rd. Kingsland, GA 31548.



Pictured is Phyllis Keffer assisting Monica Dylas, a local scout leader, in checking out an AED for their outdoor camping trip



Pictured L to R is Firefighter/EMT Stuart Sullivan, Becky Cohn and Harold Cohn. The Cohn family has been instrumental in the efforts to spread the world about the "Borrow an AED" Program

CAMDEN COUNTY FIRE RESCUE

Camden County Fire Rescue is dedicated to the safety and protection of the community's quality of life from all hazards through our professional staff, rapid response teams, and placing others before oneself.

A Few of Many Success Stories



On January 24, 2012 personnel responded to this teen after he suffered a cardiac arrest while playing basketball. A quick response by crews yielded a full recovery and a very gratifying moment for all. Pictured to the left (L to R): FF/Paramedic Patrick, LT. Donald Doyle, Survivor and Mother, FF/EMT Kevin Moore

In September 2012 emergency crews received a call to a patient that went into cardiac arrest while driving down Highway 17. A quick response from crews was intrical in their resuscitation of the victim pictured to the right. Several weeks later the patient recovered and visited with the crews to thank them.. Personnel from L to R: Firefighter/EMT Stuart Sullivan and Captain Sheila Vickers



In February of 2012, Camden County Fire Rescue received the approval from the Board of Commissioners to re-establish the volunteer firefighter program. This program is vital to Camden County and benefits everyone in the community. It will serve as an opportunity in many capacities, one of them being an opportunity for citizens to give back to their community while providing a savings in staffing expenses. It will also serve as a career path for those who would like to become a career firefighter someday.

In March the program kicked off by hosting five recruitment drives at various fire stations. During the recruitment drives information was discussed regarding the scope of the program as well as benefits and incentives available to volunteer firefighters. The recruitment campaign included media, public advertising, and local business support for 2012 which yielded over 40 interested people. During May and June the first registered volunteer firefighter class was conducted

yielding a graduating class of seven with more classes are planned to expand the certified volunteer ranks. During basic training volunteers become familiar with basic fire behavior, personal protective equipment, and many other skills necessary to combat fires. In 2012 over 300 hours were logged by the volunteer firefighters that included station stand-by time, training hours and emergency responses.



Pictured Top Row L to R Instructors: LT Jason Miltion, Capt. Shannon Herrin, LT Scott Heglund, FF/EMT Daniel Richards, FF Joe Hutchins
Pictured Botton Row L to R Students: Ray Connell, Jamie Marr, Coleman Groover, Kevin Schrick, Shawn Necaise, Steven Wiley, Vila Alegandro

CAMDEN COUNTY FIRE RESCUE



FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

The designation of Firefighter of the Year was presented to Firefighter/EMT John Christian. Firefighter/EMT Christian joined the ranks of CCFR in January of 2010. He immediately began to pursue his passion for fire prevention by assisting the fire marshals office as a collateral duty. In keeping that passion alive, John has focused his fire prevention efforts toward our fire investigation program by becoming a certified arson investigator and taking on additional duties to assist our department. In our community it is vital that we investigate fires to determine the causes. Knowing the causes of fires affords us the opportunity to be better prepared to prevent fires of a similar nature.

FIRE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The designation of Fire Officer of the Year was presented to Lieutenant Donald Doyle. Lieutenant Donald Doyle joined CCFR as a firefighter in January of 2006. Donald's desire to protect and serve drove him to return to school, earning his Georgia Paramedic certification in September 2010. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in December 2010 to serve as a leader within the department. Donald has taken on many collateral tasks necessary to support fire department operations and has inspired his crews to go above and beyond the call of duty.



DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Employee Recognition & Quarterly Awards

- Capt Jeremy Wright – CCBOC Employee of the Year!
- Chief Charles Lowther – Safety Warrior Award
- Capt Lisa Boyett – Humanitarian Award
- FF/Para Austin Mays – Rising Star Award
- FF/EMT Joe Hutchins – CCFR- MVP



Pictured L to R: Capt. Lisa Boyett, FF/EMT Joe Hutchins, FF/Paramedic Autsin Mays, Administration Division Officer Charles Lowther, Capt. Jeremy Wright

Firefighter Recruit Class 2012-09 Graduates

CCFR held its only recruit class of 2012 in early January. The class encompassed 240 hours, taking six weeks for completion and covered numerous aspects of the departments operations. The class consisted of classroom and hands-on drills with competency testing each week. Recruits are required to become familiar with CCFR equipment and simulated situations to test their retention of life saving skills. Also, the class is focused around team building and trust relationships which are the core values of surviving situations in which they will risk their lives.



Pictured L to R: FF Steven Davis, FF Mark Laricos, FF Matt Carver, FF Robert Jeffries, FF Nick Sima, FF John Verbeck

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The Emergency Management Agency (EMA), a division of Public Safety, is responsible for the management of all emergency preparedness program areas. Using the provisions of Georgia statutes, EMA is responsible for developing and implementing comprehensive disaster planning, mitigation, and response activities within Camden County. EMA develops and maintains emergency plans for all types of natural and manmade hazards. Additionally, EMA provides analysis and recommendations necessary to make decisions that will effectively save lives and protect property in such emergencies.



Camden County is designated by NOAA's National Weather Service as a Storm Ready county due to the efforts of EMA and public safety officials to ensure that Camden County has an action plan that responds to the threat of all types of severe weather.

2012 Accomplishments

Tropical Storm Debby had a double impact effect on Camden County. As the initial storm threatened our area with high winds and torrential downpours, EMA monitored the storm and sent severe weather alerts to public safety officials and the general public. In addition to downed trees and power lines, Tropical Storm Debby caused severe localized and widespread flooding across north Florida and south Georgia.



As Camden residents began the task of cleaning up the after effects of Tropical Storm Debby, EMA shifted its focus to the upstream flooding issues caused by the storm and began warning the citizens along the St. Mary's River of the potential for severe flooding. Nearly a week after Tropical Storm Debby, Camden County residents began to see roads go under water as well as their homes begin to be threatened by the rising water of the St Mary's River. All of this was a direct result of Tropical Storm Debby.

Due to the storm, 53 homes were affected by the flood waters as well as Highway 40 and some County roads were to forced to closed due to the flooding. Additional, 37 homes experienced major flooding resulting in damage inside the home. Camden and Charlton Counties declared a local state of emergency. The State of Georgia did not have enough uninsured losses to be able to receive federal assistance. EMA was able to secure assistance from the Small Business Administration to help residents receive low interest, long term loans to help assist in recovering losses caused by flooding. EMA coordinated the efforts of local faith-based organizations to organize volunteers to assist homeowners with cleanup of their homes and assist with minor repairs.



The 2012 Hurricane Season came with many challenges. The season brought 19 storms named storms, with 10 storms reaching hurricane strength (74mph+). During the season, no storms reached Category 4 or 5 hurricanes in the Atlantic/Gulf. Hurricane Michael, a Category 3, remained over the open Atlantic never making land fall. Normally there are only 12 named storms a

year with usually only 6 making it to hurricane strength. The year 2012 produced the least number of major hurricanes in a season since 1997, however, we learned it doesn't take a major hurricane to cause big damage. Several storms caused both devastating floods, along with high winds resulting numerous power outages throughout the area. With assistance from GEMA staff EMA taught Preliminary Damage Assessment classes to both County and City staff in order for damage assessment teams be formed. EMA also taught CPR and First Aid classes to several local organizations. As part of an ongoing effort to organize and coordinate all public safety divisions within Camden County, EMA planned and conducted full scale exercises simulating construction and traffic accidents to help test the readiness of our first responders.

ANIMAL CONTROL

The Animal Control division of Public Safety is comprised of two animal control officers and one administrative support employee. The department is responsible for responding to incidents involving domesticated animals, primarily dogs and cats, within St. Mary's, Woodbine, and the unincorporated areas of the county. The service consist of officers working weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and limited service with on-call staff after hours. During normal operating hours, officers respond to complaints ranging from stray animals to bite incidents. After hours, the response is limited to emergency-only situations and may be delayed due to on-call staffing.

Additional services provided by the Animal Control division include a trap loan program. This is available upon request to trap stray cats or dogs that have been elusive. The traps can be requested during regular business hours and will be delivered based on availability.

Community Partners

The County has entered into a contractual agreement with The Humane Society for the purpose of acquiring, establishing, maintaining, and operating a shelter for animals received by officers. This may include quarantine, reclaim, euthanasia, and adoption services. The Animal Control division transports hundreds of animals annually to the shelter which all receive a disposition depending on the circumstances. The Humane Society also serves as a quarantine area for suspected rabies cases.

The office of Environmental Health is also a partner in the efforts to prevent, monitor, and eradicate rabies in Camden County. The partnership with Environment Health is essential in meeting the mandates by the state to respond to incidents involving rabies. The purpose of these mandates is to protect the public from outbreaks and potential exposures. The Animal Control Division has an instrumental role in assuring the animal in question is quarantined in an approved manor to rule out rabies infection, in extreme cases Environmental Health may require the animal to be tested for rabies infection.

Key Points to Remember if you own a Pet

- Keep vaccinations up-to-date for all dogs and cats
- Be sure your pet receives and wears their rabies vaccine nation tags
- Microchip your pet to ensure his/her records can be easily found
- Spay or neuter your pets to help reduce the number of unwanted pets

The Animal Control division receives thousands of calls a year for requests to respond to incidents involving animals of all kinds. The number of calls has been decreasing each year. During 2012 Animal Control averaged 10 calls per day.



PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works encompasses three internal and external service divisions that support the daily operations of the County. These divisions include Roads, Fleet Maintenance and Mosquito Control.

The primary function of the Roads division is to maintain, repair and drain 165 miles of paved and 135 miles of unpaved public roads owned by Camden County. The Roads division maintains traffic and safety signage along county roadways and maintains more than 4,000 drainage culverts.

2012 Accomplishments

An official dedication and opening ceremony for Horse Stamp Church Road Interchange for Exit 22 on Interstate 95 was held on May 7, 2012. *"I am proud to announce the completion of this project. This would not have been realized today without the efforts, dedication and support of so many. Their work on this project lasted over a decade, but the legacy of their accomplishment will last for many decades to come."* said Steve Howard, County Administrator. Local officials, project managers and engineers gathered together more than a year and a half ago in November 2010 to officially 'break ground' for the construction of this project. Construction was originally expected to take an estimated 24 months; however, the interchange was successfully completed in only 18 months.



This \$10.9 million dollar project was funded by the Georgia Department of Transportation's State Transportation Improvement Program Grant. Seaboard Construction & Roger's Bridge were awarded the contract for this project. Moreland Altoeblli & Associates performed the services of Project Justification, Concept Design, Right-of-Way, Environmental Permitting and Final Design. Craig Brack and Camden County Joint Development Authority originally administered this project with Camden County Public Works finalizing the project coordination with Moreland Altobelli & Associates. Construction was overseen by Georgia Department of Transportation. The interchange was dedicated in memory of Sergeant Carlton "Dan" Jenkins. Sergeant Jenkins made the ultimate sacrifice and was killed in the line of duty on August 28, 2000 after serving for more than ten years of active law enforcement in Camden County. This memorial will honor his service to Camden County Citizens and the State of Georgia.

The County Public Works department completed the second component of the Georgia Coast Rail-Trail project in Woodbine. The trail was constructed along the old railroad bed south of the first component which opened to the public in June 2010. Public Works was able to recover railroad rock from this project which was used to offset and cover the cost of the County's participation in order to make this a budget neutral event as approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

The County Public Works department was able to complete the paving projects on Bullhead Bluff Road, Berry Street, Shirley Lane and Canal Landing as well as the resurfacing of Clark's Bluff Road with funds from the Georgia Department of Transportation LMIG Grant.

The Public Works department made an improvement with the usage of LIDAR in analyzing flood plain areas and exploring ways to improve drainage throughout the county. This combined with the new aerial photography from the Tax Assessor's Office gives an up-to-date snapshot of Camden County. The Public Works department also knows education is important to Roads, and this was realized by recertification in the areas of Soil & Erosion (EPD), Spill Response (EPD), Project Certification (GDOT) and Public Works Management (APWA). The Road department was very involved and made improvements in Soil & Erosion Code Enforcement, FEMA Flood Plain Management and completing Information on entering Camden County in the ISO "Community Rating System" in order for approved Flood Insurance discounts on residents policies.

FLEET MAINTENANCE

The Fleet Maintenance division of Public Works is staffed by four mechanics and is responsible for keeping all County equipment in the best, most efficient and safe operational mode.

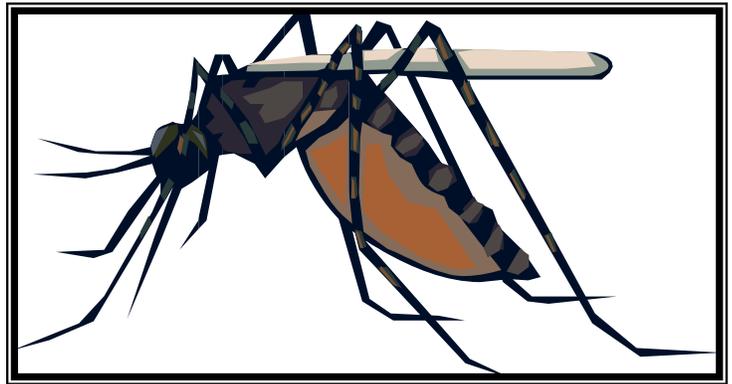
Fleet Maintenance division completed 531 work orders during 2012. These work orders involved repair issues and maintenance of the Road Department's heavy and light equipment, Fire and Rescue units and administration vehicles and the remaining fleet vehicles of the county.

- Heavy Equipment service and repairs—229 work orders
- Fire & Rescue Fleet—169 work orders
- Light Equipment and remaining fleet vehicles—133 work orders

Public Works tracks the maintenance records of each piece of county equipment and vehicles that are maintained and generate the work orders for service of this equipment.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

The Mosquito Control division of Public Works sprays approximately 3,575 gallons of mosquito control pesticides annually to all incorporated and unincorporated public areas of the county. By utilizing five sprayers (three electrical powered and two gas powered), staff is able to spray the entire county in its rotation approximately every 10 days. Staff typically sprays in the early morning hours to allow the pesticides to settle. Which sprays approximately 300 feet.



The season began early with one of the largest mosquito populations seen in recent times. With the proactive approach of the Mosquito Control program, administering scheduled rounds applying fog mist and distributing larvicide tablets, Camden County had no reported cases of West Nile Virus and Encephalitis in humans in 2012.

Ways To Prevent Mosquito Breeding:

- Empty, drain, remove, cover or turn upside down things that can hold water. Throw out old tires, tin cans, bottles, jars, buckets and other containers or keep them upside down so no water can enter them.
- Empty any small plastic wading pools weekly. Store it indoors when not in use. Properly maintain your swimming pool and keep it covered so as not to collect water.
- Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets. Don't let runoff water from your air conditioner collect in shady areas.
- Don't dump grass clippings, branches or other items in storm drains or ditches.
- Fill holes in trees with sand or mortar.

Some mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water where they hatch in a day or two. Other mosquitoes lay their eggs in old tires, tin cans and other such water-holding containers. The mosquitoes may remain un-hatched for weeks, months or until they are covered with water. Mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle. Adult flying mosquitoes are hungry and ready to eat.

You can take these simple steps to reduce the number of mosquitoes breeding in your backyard.

SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

The Solid Waste Authority (SWA) is responsible for the management of two landfills in Camden County: the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and the Construction & Demolition (C&D) landfills. The landfill operation has been an enterprise fund since 1992 and is not dependent on ad valorem taxes.

Camden County's landfill operation is best known for its resourcefulness. Daily activities at the landfill include receiving, compacting, and covering waste with bulldozers. Both landfills utilize the resources available placing emphasis on the natural beauty that surrounds them.

The department continues to look at alternative ways to boost revenues and continues to operate without affecting its goal of maintaining environmentally sound facilities that are in compliance with the rules of solid waste management for the State of Georgia.

In an effort to save money and be more cost efficient, the Solid Waste Authority continues to refurbish its own equipment or buy quality used equipment instead of buying new equipment for its operations. This effort has saved the Solid Waste Authority more than a million dollars over the past several years.

2012 Accomplishments

- In an effort to save money, Solid Waste Authority shopped around to purchase used tires for the landfill heavy equipment and saved roughly \$2,300. The Solid Waste Authority managed to save 60% by using recovered parts for repairs from a purchased surplus of heavy equipment. The department was also able to acquire a building from another department at no cost other than relocating the facility. By using on site crushed concrete for road maintenance the Solid Waste Authority saves \$8 to \$10 per ton over the use of Crush and Run or ground up asphalt. The department also receives concrete and is paid \$11 per ton, Solid Waste uses about 400 to 500 tons plus, per year.

- The County successfully refinanced the outstanding principal amount of the revenue bonds for the remaining ten years. Mike Fender, Director of Finance & Budget, said, *"By waiting until now, we were able to capture the best possible market value in years. Camden County currently has only one debt issue, the revenue bonds paid for by the receipts from the Solid Waste Landfills. The debt was originally created to purchase the original Gilman Paper Company property adjacent to the County landfill, a venture that has proven to be prudent."* Jimmy Starline, Chair of the Solid Waste Authority, said, *"Due to the financial leadership and prudent fiscal policies implemented by the Solid Waste Authority and Board of County Commissioners, this cost savings opportunity has been achieved."* The landfill, known as the Construction and Demolition Landfill (C&D), received "clean" construction type materials. The County had to obtain a current credit rating based on the strength of the entire County's operations. Moody's credit rating service presented the County with a rating of Aa3, a rating that makes the County stand out among other Counties in the State of Georgia for its financial stability. Mike Fender added, *"This is no easy task when you consider that we are talking about all the Counties in Georgia like Cobb and Gwinnett Counties that have a better rating due to their sheer size and taxing ability. Our rating comes strictly from proven financial strength, with virtually no debt and a strong fund balance in a declining economy."* The total savings on the refinancing of the bonds will amount to \$619,880 which is approximately \$62,000 per year or \$1,200 per week, over the next ten years. *"This is a great news that benefits the citizens of Camden County and its customers! I applaud the efforts of all those involved to make this a reality,"* said David L Rainer.



Each June the Annual Fishing event is held at the landfill. The Department of Natural Resources provide the fish while Advance Disposal provide the prizes for this event.



JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Camden County experienced a year of positive economic trends in 2012 as the community continued to rebound from the effects of the Great Recession. The past year showed improvements across a broad cross-section of economic indicators, including employment, wages, retail sales, and more. The number of persons employed in December 2012 was 19,085 persons; an increase of 520 jobs since the beginning of the year. As a result, the unemployment rate fell from 9.6% in January to 8.9% in December.

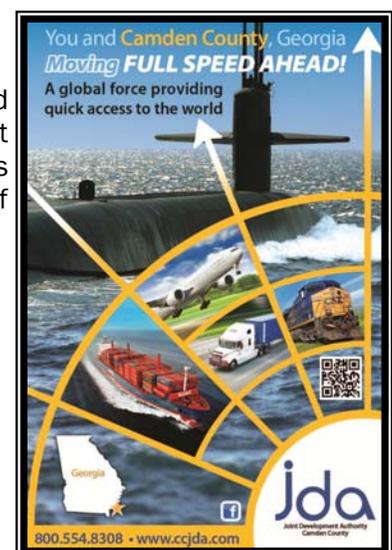
Average weekly wages rose from \$730 per week in January to \$750 per week in December; indicating an income improvement of 2.7% since the beginning of the year. The consumer price index (rate of inflation) rose 1.7% nationwide during 2012, which indicates wage rates in Camden rose slightly more than the rate of inflation. Retail sales in Camden County also improved in 2012. Retail sales for 2012 were up 4.1% over 2011. The community experienced its best holiday retail shopping season (November and December) since 2008.

The new year offers many opportunities and challenges for our community. Some important projects underway in Camden include:

- A new technical college campus to provide much needed technical training to the regional workforce. The community will be donating a site and is developing infrastructure to serve that site. The Governor recently included design/build funding for this project in his proposed FY 2013/2014 budget.
- The NSB Kings Bay - Camden County Joint Land Use Study has been funded, a contractor selected, and the project will commence in February. This study will bring the military and civilian communities together for long-range planning and enhanced cooperation in the future.
- The largest truck-stop operator in the nation has acquired and is renovating a prime facility located at Exit 1 along I-95. This new facility will open soon and create new employment, additional retail sales, and enhance the appearance of an important gateway to the community.
- An industrial site fronting the railroad along U.S. Highway #17 in Camden County received the valuable GRAD (Georgia Ready for Accelerated Development) designation in 2012. The site is owned by Forest Investment Associates. There are only twenty-one other GRAD sites in the entire state.
- The City of Kingsland has established a tax allocation district to help recruit a tourism/festival retail project to the community.
- The City of St. Marys is planning and marketing a prime redevelopment site located along the St. Marys River in the downtown historic district, which could bring new vitality to the downtown area.
- Industrial, maritime, and aerospace projects are being explored at prime vacant sites in our community.

Like other communities, we have challenges as well. Resources are tight and diluted among multiple entities; the drop in property values during the Great Recession has negatively impacted the tax base; and we need to foster enhanced teamwork and collaboration among our local, state, and national partners. Just as important, we need your involvement and support. Many of the projects listed above will require community input and support. Please engage in upcoming meetings and participate in making Camden a better place for everyone.

At the JDA, our mission is to promote Camden County (and its cities) to expand and diversify the economy and stimulate the creation of quality employment opportunities to provide a better quality of life for citizens. Camden County is a navy community and we are moving *FULL SPEED AHEAD* toward a future of great opportunities.



PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY

The Camden Community Recreation Center (CCRC) is the central hub for the Public Service Authority (PSA). The CCRC houses a fully equipped work out room, a group exercise room, one racquetball courts, a basketball court, a gymnasium for gymnastics, locker rooms, a pool, a fully equipped kitchen, and a community room. PSA is responsible for the maintenance of 27 other parks and recreational facilities throughout Camden County.



Enhancing the *quality of life* for Camden County citizens.

2012 Accomplishments

As a member of GRPA, PSA sent teams to compete in competitions in our district. This year, teams were very successful. The 11-12 age group baseball team went to Bainbridge to compete in the state baseball championship and were undefeated bring home the 2012 Midget Major Baseball Championship. In football, the 9-10 age group won runner up for the district. The football teams competed in the annual Turkey Bowl in Waycross, where the 7-8 age group and 9-10 age group teams both brought home championship trophies.

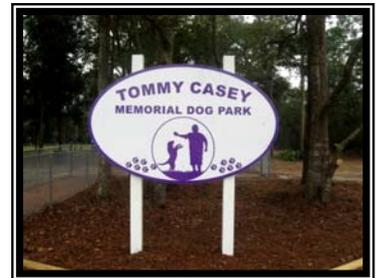
The Programs Department, working together with America's 2nd Harvest of Savannah, hosted 7 mobile food pantries for families in need. The combined total of families served by the mobile food pantry in 2012 was 3,419.

The Health and Fitness Department added new classes and instructors to increase variety in the aerobics schedule. CCRC made equipment updates in the weight room converting some underused space into a spin studio also, CCRC held several special events, to include the 2 hour long "Burn" classes and a "Lunch Crunch". The aerobics instructors teamed up to do expos at venues throughout the county, such as performing at Relay for Life and the annual health fair. CCRC continues to promote its senior fitness program, "Off Our Rockers" which maintained its popularity in 2012.

During 2012, gymnastics classes continued to thrive. The competitive gymnasts continue to represent Camden County bringing home several state Championships last year. Recreational classes, especially "Mommy an Me" and Cheer Tumble were some of the most popular classes in 2012.

The department of Parks & Maintenance installed a new facility and made several upgrade to parks throughout Camden County..

- The Tom Casey Memorial Dog Park, located on Ashley Street in St. Marys.
- With the help and fundraising of Scott and Tracy Thompson/Paige's Helping Hands, they were able to install a new handicap accessible play ground at Howard Peoples Park in Kingsland.
- Park & Maintenance also enjoyed a work day with the St. Marys Kiwanis club at the St. Marys REC Park, where the whole facility got a new paint job.
- Hauling over 100 loads of clay to our ball fields around the county
- Beginning the replacement of the old wooden boat dock at Temple Landing with a new aluminum dock and walkway.



Appointed Boards-Assessors' & Registrars' Office

TAX ASSESSORS' OFFICE

The Tax Assessor's Office is responsible for the preparation of the annual real and personal property tax digest in Camden County. Once the tax digest is determined, it is provided to the Tax Commissioner who ensures the taxes owed on each property are collected.

2012 Accomplishments

The Tax Assessor's office revised residential housing pricing schedules to better reflect current economic conditions throughout Camden County and the State of Georgia. We also continued to implement Senate Bill 346 which states "arms length" sales prices shall be the value tax assessment for the following year.

Field and office personnel received training from the Georgia Department of Revenue to build their skills for the purpose of providing the best service and the most accurate appraisals to the Camden County citizens to whom we are foremost accountable.

The Tax Assessor's Office created and implemented a standardized field appraiser guide for residential properties. For the second year the Tax Assessor's Office mailed over 32,000 assessment notices which included estimate of taxes for the current year.

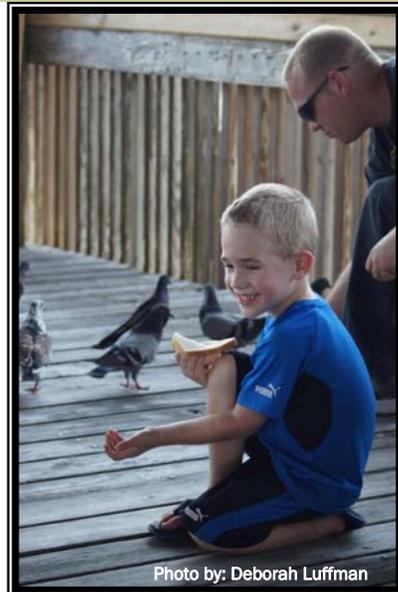


Photo by: Deborah Luffman

REGISTRARS' OFFICE

The Registrars Office is responsible for registering and maintaining all voter registration records for Camden County. The office supplies all municipalities with information on new election laws and ensures that electors lists are made available to the public. Prior to an election the Registrars Office recruits and trains poll workers to provide a more efficient, accurate, and professional voting experience for Camden residents.

2012 Accomplishments

In 2012 The Registrars' Office worked diligently performing 3 successful elections and 1 runoff, which proved to be a busy year.

- In March, the Presidential Preferential Primary (PPP)
- July—the General Primary Elections,
- August— the District 5 Runoff
- November— the General Presidential Election.

The total registered voters increased to 32,321 in 2012 from 30,679 in 2011.

The Registrars' Office completed 16 hours of required Voter Registration Training. And worked to implement a new voter registration system.

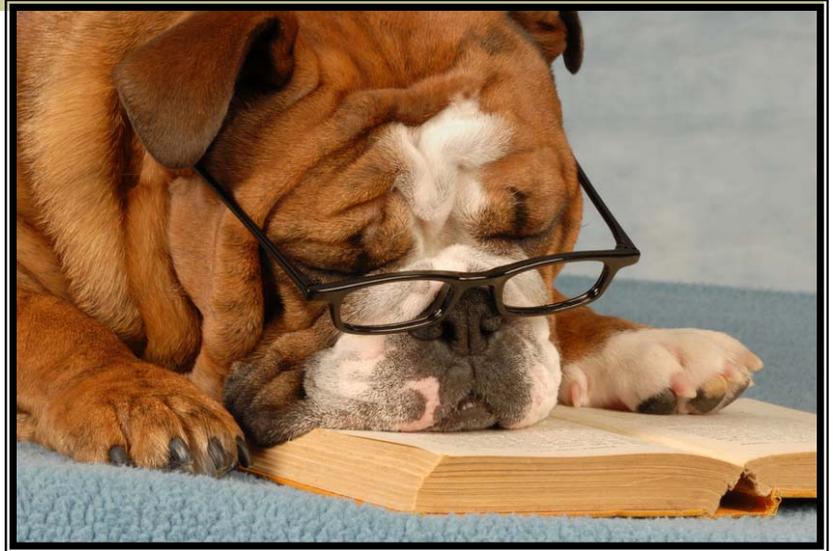


Photo by: Melissa Carter

PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Public Library, located in Kingsland, offers access to services and resources that connect the people of Camden County to ideas and information which sustain and enrich their lives. A diverse, highly qualified staff continually assesses community needs and interests to support, encourage and inspire customers.

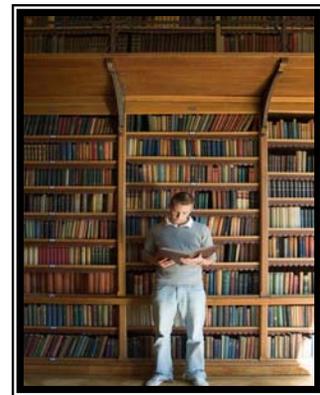
The Public Library provides easy access to books and other reading materials, online resources, cultural events, and family programs throughout the year.



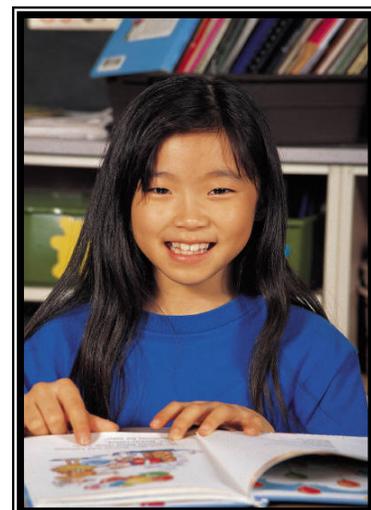
2012 Accomplishments

More than 308,000 patrons visited the Public Library in 2012 to read, study, check out materials, use the internet and attend informational programs, job training, workshops and multicultural events. Over 155,000 reading materials were circulated throughout the year.

The Public Library offers programs throughout the year including book clubs for all ages to encourage reading at all levels. Summer reading programs for students and children's reading programs such as, Book Babies (ages 6 months to 23 months), Toddler Time (ages 2 to 3 years) and Story Time (ages 3 to 5 years).



To learn more about the Public Library services, please contact (912) 729-3741, or stop by and visit at 1410 Highway 40 East, Kingsland, Georgia.



BRYAN-LANG HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

The Bryan-Lang Historical Archives, located in Woodbine, is a historical research facility that serves as the repository of historical documents, books, microfilm, microfiche and photos about the people and culture of Camden County. Which includes relevant history of the surrounding areas and beyond.



The historical collection presently includes 3,200 family history files and 1,200 county history files that describe the people and culture of the area. The 5,000 volumes in the book collection include many that are rare and out-of-print. More than 2,000 microfiche sheets and microfilm rolls offer historical newspaper, census and vital records information and a collection of 6,000 photos provides a pictorial history.

2012 Accomplishments

In 2012, more than 200 attended education programs.

The Archives partner with the College of Coastal Georgia in its 2012 Service Learning Program. This pilot program brought 55 college freshman history students to the Bryan-Lang in January through April. During their service learning, the students spent 290 total hours in the Archives working on projects under the direction of the Archivist.

An educational outreach program sharing the official records of the Kingsland Home Guard during World War II was presented to the Guale Historical Society in March. The Home Guard collection was acquired by the Archives in January of 2012.

An African American Genealogy Workshop was held in the Archives in April. This event brought 30 participants into the Archives to learn research strategies for meeting the particular challenges of African American research.

In May, the annual Rodney Sheffield Memorial Scholarship in history in the amount of \$500 was awarded to Marena Galluccio at Camden County High School Scholarship Night.



Pictured L to R: Judy Buchanan and Marena Galluccio

In June, Archives director Judy Buchanan attended the 45th Annual Georgia Archives Institute in Atlanta. The Institute is a two week event of intensive training and internship.

The *Friends of the Archives* quarterly newspaper was inaugurated in July. The newsletter was a goal of the Strategic Plan completed in 2011 and is distributed by mail and email to researchers and subscribers.

Several events were held in October. The Bryan-Lang celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a reception and open house at the Archives. The Annual Book Sale was held in October and the Woodbine Elementary 4th Grade made its annual visit with 60 students for their first visit.

The University of Georgia (UGA) Cooperative Extension office fully utilizes resources allocated by the Board of County Commissioners in conjunction with state and federal funding. Extension programming improves lives by providing lifelong learning opportunities for the people of Camden County. Extension education is completely dependent upon unbiased research-based education in the areas of agriculture, the environment, communities, youth and families.



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**

Program Highlights 2011-12	
4-H Contacts	9,137
Ag./Nat. Res. Contacts	5,496
4-H Club Meetings Annually	423
Extension Education Programs	172

2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Camden County Extension Office worked in collaboration with other local governments Charlton, Clarke, Glynn, and Nassau Counties to develop and implement a youth development mentor program for the N.G. International School in Gujarati region of India. The trainings and student led interactions will have a huge impact on the 800 plus school in India. The delegates received a good understanding of District Project Achievement, participated in a mock club meeting complete with parliamentary procedure and toured several UGA Extension Offices and one IFAS office. In addition, the delegation toured Burton 4-H Center during a camp. The delegation toured over 1000 Georgia miles, visited three Extension Offices, observed five district project achievement presentations and received face-to-face instruction from three 4-H Agents and one County Extension Secretary. A website was developed by the Office of Georgia 4-H Global Programs <http://www.georgia4h.org/globalprograms/partners/default.htm>



Camden County experienced a 35% decrease in the number of chilling hours this year with 466 total chilling hours. This is eye-popping when you consider that the average chilling hours from the previous three years is 772. This extreme warming trend increased soil temperatures at the 4inch depth into optimum crabgrass seed germination range a full two months earlier in 2011-12. Each crabgrass plant can produce 700 tillers and over 200,000 seeds and plants are to produce seeds at a height as low as ½ inch. It is absolutely imperative that the landscape professional get their pre-emergence out before crabgrass seeds germinate. In response to the dramatic warming trend the past winter, The Camden County developed training for landscape professional specifically designed to address application methods for pre-emergence. A total of 25 landscape professionals were trained in the interactions between climate and weed pressure as well as the effects of soil temperature on seed germination. An alarming 95% of those in attendance indicated that they applied pre-emergence herbicides in February during the 466 chilling hour winter. The participants received researched-based information concerning the importance of applying pre-emergence herbicides before weed seeds germinate. Scientific information concerning optimum soil temperatures for crabgrass seed germinations was provided. Online resources for climate data (including soil temp) were also provided the day of the training.



Improving Lives In Camden

Extension training participants benefited in the following three ways from this program 1) It is estimated that participants who attended this training will actually realize a more efficient use of the \$50,000.00 that they spend collectively on pre-emergence herbicides annually, 2) participants will be able to reduce or even eliminate their crabgrass control program in two years, a collective savings of \$50,000, 3) participants were given the tools to access real-time scientific data to make management decisions through the UGA weather monitoring system.



Camden County developed the first ever 4-H Associate position in 2012. Kimberly Huyer was selected from a large pool of qualified applicants. Kimberly is a Georgia native. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and is a certified teacher for grades Pre-K through eighth. She has worked as an elementary and middle school teacher. She has also served as a volunteer leader for Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia. As a 4-H Program Associate, Kimberly is able to visit schools throughout Camden County and implement 4-H curriculum that is designed to correlate with state standards and to complement in-school instruction.

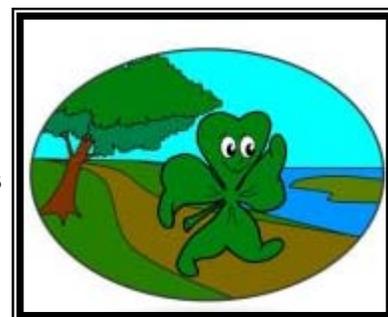
In the Fall of 2012, Kings Bay staff, military teens, 4-H staff, and community teens promoted and conducted Kings Bay Fun in the Sun Carnival at the Youth Center on Base. A fee of \$3 was charged to do all activities and receive a hotdog basket and cotton candy. The activities included games owned by Kings Bay Youth Center in addition to a dunking booth and two bounce houses. The games had small prizes purchased with grant funds. Kings Bay advertised through the Periscope Newspaper, Facebook and flyers from the Youth Center. The 4-H Advertiser in the Tribune & Georgian Newspaper and with Facebook, and in addition a local girl scout held a health and safety fair for free during the event in the Youth Center Gym. This was also advertised in the Tribune & Georgian Newspaper. In an effort to help children experiencing deployment, the Camden County 4-H fifth grade clubs collected items to be included in the Georgia 4-H Hero Packs.



These clubs donated 113 stuffed animals, 7 cameras, 14 photo books, 3 postage stamps, 4996 stickers, 454 pens, 360 pencils, 9 journals, 203 envelopes, 85 writing pads, 29 cards, 36 erasers, 67 markers, 7 notebooks and 2 folders. In February and March 2012, these fifth graders also wrote letters to these children. In addition, as part of the Engaging Youth Service Communities Winter Social, the entry fee was a disposable camera or five dollars to purchase extra cameras and supplies for the Hero Packs. The participants of the social donated 11 camera and \$270 to help children experiencing deployment with the support of the Hero Packs. In March 2012 during spring break, community and military teens filled the Hero Packs with the collected supplies and distributed 300 bags at the Kings Bay Military Kids Fest in April 2012 as part of the Month of the Military Child recognition. In Year 2, the Fun in the Sun Carnival included purchases expecting 300 people which is the average for various Kids Day Events at the youth center. Only 124 participants purchased wristbands at \$3 each. All other Kings Bay Youth Center and MWR Events are free. Kings Bay Youth Center Director, Sharon Grant, felt that this hindered us with doing a fundraising event for a charge. Overall the event raised \$286 to go to the Teen Center and activities for youth.



The Camden County 4-H program hosted the first annual "4-H Lucky Clover" 5K and One Mile Walk/Run on March 3, 2012. Fifty-six runners from Camden County, Brunswick, Statesboro, GA, Charleston, SC, and Fitzgerald, GA participated in the run to benefit the Camden County 4-H Program to provide scholarships for 4-H youth to attend leadership conferences, camp, reward trips and activities. To help facilitate the event 35 volunteers gave their time and efforts to help with event planning, donor requests, registration, date entry, time keepers, pointers, water stations, refreshments, set up, and clean up.



Supporting Our Military Community

NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE KINGS BAY

Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay (NSBKB) is home to the Tridents, Marine Corps Security Force Battalion and the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit. Local officials strive to cultivate relationships with the Department of Defense (DOD) and Homeland Security through local initiatives, as well as at the state and federal levels, in order to promote community support for NSBKB and its military missions in Camden County. NSBKB is the only naval base in the Atlantic Fleet capable of supporting the Trident II (D-5) missile. The base master plan specifically reflects future growth.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- SECNAV 2012 Achievement in Safety Excellence Award for Ashore
- CNO 2012 Safety and Occupational Health Safety Award for Ashore
- Sustained OSHA VPP Star Status since December 2006
- Kings Bay received the “Best of” Award for Exceeding Goals in Vital Command Programs
- Blue & Gold crews from SUBRON 16’s USS Georgia (SSGN 729) and SUBRON 20’s USS Alaska (SSBN 732) Awarded the Battle E Designation.
- 14 Ballistic-Missile Submarines assigned to the Atlantic- based Task Force 144 & Pacific-based Task Force 134, Awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation
- USS Alaska won the Omaha Trophy
- TRF Awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation

2012 EVENTS



March 2012 was an exciting month for the citizens of Camden County, as U.S. Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr. was welcomed. He leads the largest component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), comprised of 42,000 active duty, 8,200 Reserve, 8,000 civilian and 31,000 volunteer Auxiliarists. Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr. was honored by The Camden Partnership and the Camden-Kings Bay Council of the Navy League of the U.S. at the “*A Community That Cares*” luncheon. He is a 1975 graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy. Additionally, he holds a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College and a Master of Science in Management from Salve Regina College. Admiral Papp is the 13th Gold Ancient Mariner of the Coast Guard. The Gold Ancient Mariner is an honorary position held by an officer with over ten years of cumulative sea duty who has held the qualification as a Cutterman longer than any other officer.

The Coast Guard is “Semper Paratus” – Always Ready – to use its distinctive blend of military, humanitarian and law enforcement capabilities to save lives and property at sea, protect and maintain our ports and maritime transportation system, secure our borders, respond to natural disasters, protect our marine environment and defend our Nation. The Coast Guard is also America’s oldest continuous seagoing service and one of the Nation’s five armed services. “Camden County came very close to losing the Coast Guard’s Maritime Safety and Security Team (MSST) based in St. Mary’s,” said Sheila McNeill, President of The Camden Partnership. “It was through the advocacy and support of local residents that partnership members were able to educate legislators about the importance of Coast Guard funding and the team’s presence was secured. This is what we do and this is what partnerships can accomplish,” McNeill added. Approximately 85 members of the MSST continue to call Camden home. Along with the Maritime Force Protection Unit at Kings Bay, they comprise the entire Coast Guard presence locally. Admiral Papp was able to see first hand how we feel about and take care of the men and women of our military who get to call Camden County home during their respective tours here. “I am completely overwhelmed with the response I have received from the Camden County Community,” ADM Papp told the community. “In fact, with the power vested in me as the Commandant of the Coast Guard, I declare Camden County a Coast Guard County.”

Supporting Our Military Community

WASHINGTON FLY-IN

The Camden Partnership met with Senator Saxby Chambliss, Senator Johnny Isakson, and Congressman Jack Kingston along with their staffs to share concern for the future and affordability of the follow on for the SSBN the [Ohio Replacement Program \(ORP\)](#); for the Trident II D5 missile life extension program; for the exciting possibility of a new platform that will, hopefully replace the SSGNs, the [Virginia Payload Module Concept \(VPM\)](#); and the capacity that Kings Bay has for [mission growth](#). Howard Sepp, Administrator, Southeast Georgia Health Systems, Camden Campus briefed on the issue of [Local Health Services for Veterans](#) and Michael Wooten with the Camden County Board of Education briefed on [Sequestration's Impact on Education in Camden County](#). Chris Daniel wrapped it up and presented a model of a submarine to each congressional member.



JOINT LAND USE STUDY

A joint land use study is currently in the works in Camden County to determine how to maximize the use of the base and the land that surrounds it. Any recommendations will need the unilateral support of our military and our civilian leaders. In the coming years, the Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) will convene to examine our military facilities and make recommendations about which bases should close and where commands could be relocated. It is meant to keep costs low for our military, which will be even more critical due to significant defense budget cuts that are on the horizon. These things present both challenges and opportunities for our community. While we need to protect our commands at Kings Bay, BRAC also presents the potential for additional commands to be transferred there.

The Camden Partnership, which sponsored the reception for elected officials and military leaders, has been an enduring proponent of Kings Bay and the need for a strong national defense. Promoting good relationships between the key players is another way the organization is working to make Camden County an attractive place for the Navy to do business.

NAVY LEAGUE'S SEA AIR SPACE EXPO

The State of Georgia Department of Economic Development and representatives from TEAM CAMDEN exhibited at the Navy League's SEA AIR SPACE Expo held at the Gaylord Hotel and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland, right outside of DC.

The SEA AIR SPACE EXPO is the largest maritime expo in the world and hosts all of the Nation's sea services – the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines as well as over 150 defense contractors. More than 12,000 people attended the event over a three-day period.

This was an amazing opportunity for Team Camden. Exhibiting at Sea Air Space was a proactive approach to furthering economic development and providing true southern hospitality. We are poised for growth, have a qualified workforce, abundant resources, great quality of life, and capacity for more missions and development. The comments we received back from those we visited or those visiting our booth were equally impressive. They were impressed that an entire community could proactively come together and promote the assets and opportunities available to further economic development.



USS Alaska SSBN-732

RELAY FOR LIFE 2012

Camden County participated in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life. At this event, the HOPE Team camped out overnight and took turns walking around the track to raise money and awareness to help the American Cancer Society save more lives from cancer. With the help of each team member, fellow County employees, and residents and visitors of our community, Camden County's HOPE Team raised a total of \$100,600.00 per Kelley Spreader with American Cancer Society.



STAR OF HOPE

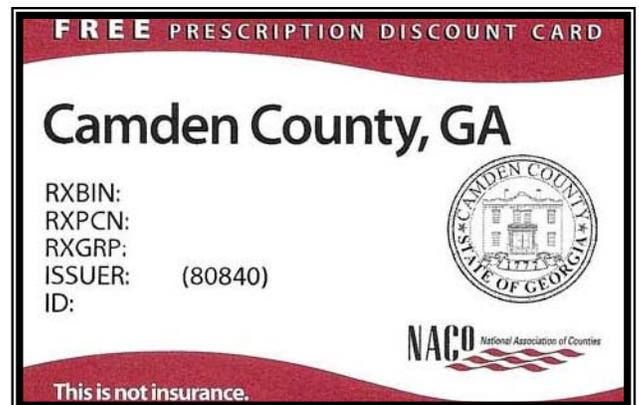
During 2012, the Sheriff's Office STAR of Hope Program provided 110 children with clothes and presents as well as provided 23 families with dinner and food boxes during the holiday season. \$9,100 was raised through donations and charity events throughout the community. Thanks to the County employees and citizens of our community several children were adopted. This would not have been accomplished if it were not for the help from Camden County Sheriff's Office, Camden Fire Rescue, The Hope Committee and the generosity of our local business and citizens.

NACo's Prescription Drug Discount Cards save Camden residents more than \$120,000

Since the inception of the FREE prescription drug discount card program available through the National Association of Counties (NACo), county residents have filled more than 9,800 prescriptions, averaging a savings of 28.43%, or \$12.28, per prescription, totaling more than \$120,000 in savings for all prescriptions filled.

Camden County launched the program in 2008 to help citizens cope with the high price of prescription drugs. The prescription drug discount cards offer a percentage savings off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs. Cards may be used by all county residents, regardless of age, income or existing health coverage and are accepted at all pharmacies located in Camden County.

The discount card program is administered by Caremark, Rx, Inc. Cards are available for pickup at all County offices, City Halls, the Health Department and libraries. County residents also have the convenient option of printing a card directly from the Web. Visit www.caremark.com/naco to print a personalized ID card and access other program tools.



Making a Difference in Our Community

“FILL THE BOOT”

Muscular Dystrophy Association Fund Raising

Firefighters around the Nation have a long standing tradition of supporting the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the many men, women and children affected by these devastating diseases. Each year Camden County Firefighters have demonstrated their commitment through the annual boot drive. In 2012, CCFR in partnership with St. Mary's Fire Department raised \$3,326 for the MDA to send local kids to camp and provide other necessary medical attention.



Pictured L to R: FF/Paramedic A Mays, FF M Lee, LT S Heglund, FF J Bennett, BC R Beckham, FF/Paramedic T Swann, FF/EMT G Hogan, LT R Haddock

9/11 Memorial Service and Public Safety Recognition Day



Local public safety personnel attended a 9/11 ceremony to honor our local first responders hosted by Captain Guffey, Commanding Officer of Naval Submarine Kings Bay



On the 11th anniversary of the terrorists attacks in Washington, D.C. & New York City, members from public safety organizations in Camden County, Georgia participated in a 9/11 memorial ride to pay tribute to the sacrifices made by the 3,000+ people who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, & Flight 93 on September 11, 2001.



FF/EMT Stuart Sullivan visits the 9/11 Memorial to pay respects on behalf of CCFR



Photo by: Larry & Donna Bruce

Recognizing Excellence

Camden County Government feels strongly about the importance of recognizing the efforts of its most valued resources, the employees. The employees work hard on a daily basis to serve the citizens and contribute to the quality of life in our community. Employees are motivated by many different things - appreciation ranking higher on the list than most. While budgets are slim and employees may not receive appreciation in the form of monetary pay raises, it is essential to continue celebrating the accomplishments of the most outstanding employees in other ways.

Employee of the Year

The distinguished honor of Employee of the Year for 2012 was presented to Jeremy Wright, with Camden County Fire Rescue. Jeremy is described by his peers as a leader who is committed to his job and to the Camden County organization. His overall training and dedication has greatly benefited the citizens of our community.

Jeremy uses his knowledge and acquired skills to be a great leader and positive role model in his department, putting forth confidence and instilling encouragement in his co-workers. He genuinely wants to make our community a better place. His enthusiasm to learn new things and desire to help others are two qualities that embody what it means to be Employee of the Year. Jeremy goes well beyond his job description to help and work with anyone who asks. He epitomizes a strong work ethic and is focused on doing the best job possible for the County and fellow employees.

Jeremy is dependable, a problem solver, meets all deadlines, continually expands and enhances job knowledge, is open to suggestions and focuses on maintaining accuracy in his position. His greatest strength is Teamwork, keeping moral high and always thinking of and sharing ideas on how to improve the efficiency of his department and the entire Camden County organization.



Employee of the Quarters

Throughout the year employees are encouraged to utilize the established Employee of the Quarter program to nominate and recognize the efforts of their peers. The Employee of the Quarter winners for Fiscal Year 2012 included: Matthew Turner (CCSO), Lisa Boyett (CCFR), Brianna Turner (CCSO), Jeremy Wright (CCFR). At the end of each year, one of the Employee of the Quarter winners is awarded the distinction of Employee of the Year at a formal Employee Awards Ceremony.

Matthew Turner, CCSO
1st Quarter



Capt. Lisa Boyett, CCFR
2nd Quarter



Brianna Turner, CCSO
3rd Quarter



Jeremy Wright, CCFR
4th Quarter



2012 Employee Award Recipients

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

The Employee Recognition Committee provides management tools to recognize ongoing employee dedication, a means to reinforce and acknowledge significant contributions and retain employee commitment. The committee educates Camden County citizens about the significant contributions County employees make to the quality of lives, encourages camaraderie among government employees and promotes careers in local government. Throughout the year, employees were given the opportunity to nominate one or more of their fellow co-workers for annual awards that are presented formally at an Employee Awards Ceremony which is made possible by the generous support of sponsors. Recipients of the awards below were chosen by members of the Employee Recognition Committee that is comprised of departments throughout our organization.

Leadership



Jackie Johnson
District Attorney

Humanitarian



Capt. Lisa Boyett
Fire Rescue

Rising Star



Austin T. Mays
Fire Rescue

Super Star



Kevin Chaney,
Sheriff's Office

Shining Star



Brenda Amerson
Finance & Budget

Thrifty Nickel



Cyrus Roberts
Solid Waste

Safety Warrior



Charles Lowther
Fire Rescue

Teamwork



Julie Swick
General Govt.

Department MVP

The MVP award is designed to recognize one individual whose attitude and day-to-day performance contributes to the overall mission of their department. The MVP is a team player who provides great customer service, always gives 110% and is both creative and committed to his or her job and Camden County Government. The recipients of this award were selected by those who know them best, co-workers within their own departments.

Department MVP's for 2012 are Irene Lindsay [C&D Landfill], Joseph D. Hutchins [Fire Rescue], Brianna Turner [Sheriff's Office], Kathy Strickland [UGA Extension], Susan Conaway [General Govt.], Donald Glover [Planning & Development.], Robert Strickland [Publix Works], LaWanda Garner [Tax Assessors], Equilla Jackson [Tax Commissioners]

Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control	(912) 576-7395
Board of County Commissioners	(912) 576-5601
Clerk of Superior Court	(912) 576-5631
Construction & Demolition (C&D) Landfill Site	(912) 576-9374
Curbside Collection	(912) 510-6881
Department of Family & Children's Services	(912) 729-4583
District Attorney	(912) 576-3704
Emergency Management Agency	(912) 729-5602
Environmental Health	(912) 729-6012
Extension Agency (4-H)	(912) 576-3219
GA Department of Driver Services (DMV)	(912) 729-1362
GA Forestry	(912) 576-5387
Health Department - St. Marys	(912) 729-4583
Health Department - Woodbine	(912) 576-3040
Juvenile Court	(912) 576-3226
Magistrate Court	(912) 576-5658
Mosquito Control	(912) 729-4823
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfill	(912) 729-4099
Planning & Development	(912) 729-5603
Probate Court	(912) 576-3785
Public Defender	(912) 673-9488
Public Safety - Fire Rescue Headquarters	(912) 729-3911
Public Service Authority (Leisure Services)	(912) 729-5600
Public Works - Roads	(912) 576-3028
Registrar	(912) 576-3245
Sheriff's Office	(912) 510-5100
Tax Assessor	(912) 576-3241
Tax Commissioner	(912) 576-3248



www.co.camden.ga.us

Camden County Government's website provides access to information about our community, as well as individual pages for each County department and their specific functions. It is our goal to make your award-winning government more accessible and responsive to the needs of citizens and those seeking information about us.



Camden County's website offers a "Notify Me" link on its home page. "Notify Me" offers the ability to receive real time notifications of Board of County Commissioners agendas and meetings, emergency notifications, press releases, job postings, and more! To subscribe, select the "Notify Me" green tab on the left-hand side of Camden County's home page.



The Community Outreach eNewsletter is published monthly in an effort to ensure we are meeting our goal of providing open government. It is our mission to provide the citizens of Camden County with a transparent government. These newsletters provide an opportunity for us to communicate information and provide a better understanding of current issues involving Camden County Government. Use "Notify Me" to subscribe to these monthly electronic newsletters.



CodeRED is a geographically based notification system in which residents provide their address and contact information for notification of the latest information and county recommendations in the event of such an emergency event. A link to register your information with the CodeRED emergency notification system is established on the County's home page. For more information about CodeRED, please contact EMA at (912) 729-5602.



Great customer service is the cornerstone of every successful organization! Click on the "Your Opinion Counts" icon to give us your feedback regarding your customer service experience with Camden County Government.

Social Media As more and more citizens in our community make the shift towards more modern social technologies to receive and share information and communication, it is imperative that the Board of County Commissioners include these technologies as part of its efforts to enhance customer service and community outreach, as well as increase citizen awareness. The Board of County Commissioners adopted a Social Media Policy that establishes operational procedures and guidelines for Camden County's use of social media platforms.



Connect with us through social media to keep up with what's going on in YOUR local government!



Contact us by mail:

Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 99
200 East 4th Street
Woodbine, GA 31569

**Board of County Commissioners
2013 Calendar**

January 1, County Business Offices are **Closed**
January 8, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
January 21, County Business Offices are **Closed**
January 22, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
February 12, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
February 18, County Business Offices are **Closed**
February 26, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
March 12, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
March 29, County Business Offices are **Closed**
April 9, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
April 23, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
May 14, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
May 27, County Business Offices are **Closed**
May 28, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
June 4, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
June 18, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
July 2, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
July 4, County Business Offices are **Closed**
August 6, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
August 20, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
September 2, County Business Offices are **Closed**
September 10, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
September 24, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
October 8, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
October 14, County Business Offices are **Closed**
October 22, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
November 5, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
November 11, County Business Offices are **Closed**
November 19, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
November 28 & 29, County Business Offices are **Closed**.
December 10, Commissioners' Meeting, **6 PM**
December 24, 26 & 26, County Business Offices are **Closed**

The Board meets at the Government Services Complex in Woodbine. Minutes of all commission meetings and public hearings are recorded and made a part of the record in the County Clerk's office. This calendar does not include any work sessions, public hearings, or special called meetings that are currently scheduled or that may be scheduled in the future.

- The 2013 BOCC meeting dates displayed in the above calendar were approved by the Board in December 2012; however, dates and times are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

“Showcase Camden County” Photo Contest

Camden County Board of Commissioners launched in January our 5th successful year of the “Showcase Camden County” Photo Contest.

This contest calls for photographers to submit their best photos of Camden County, Georgia to include its activities, people, attractions and events, as well as historic and scenic locations. Camden County’s natural landscapes and unique events provide limitless creative inspiration to individuals that enjoy seeing the world through the lens of a camera.

The contest calls for photos to be submitted under four categories: [Landscapes](#), [Nature/Wildlife](#), [Transportation](#), [Current Events/People](#). Contestants may submit two (2) entries per category which allows contestants to submit a total of eight (8) entries if they so desire. The photos that are submitted will be used by Camden County Government in its ongoing promotions. Appropriate credit will be given to photographers when their photos are used. After the deadline to submit photos, a winner will be chosen from each of the categories. An overall winning photo will be chosen among all of the submitted photos.



Winners receive public recognition during a Board of County Commissioner’s meeting. Winning photographs are featured on the County’s website, social media sites and in future publications. Additionally, each winning category participant will receive a sponsored \$50 Visa gift card which is not funded by the County. The overall winner will receive a sponsored \$100 Visa gift card which is also not funded by the County.

Our Winners are featured on the front cover of the report. Thanks to all those who submitted great photos, we had an outstanding number of entries. Congratulations to the following:



Jeff Berg
“Sunrise over St. Marys River”
“Landscape” Category Winner and
“Overall” Photo Contest Winner

Photos by: Melissa Carter
“Transportation”, “ Nature/Wildlife” and
“Events/People” Category Winner



“Pirate Ship”



“Wings”



“Submarine Vets”



Camden County Board of Commissioners

200 East 4th Street • P.O. Box 99 • Woodbine, GA 31569
Phone: (912) 576-5601 • Fax: (912) 576-5647

*Proud home of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay,
Cumberland Island National Seashore and Crooked River State Park*

www.co.camden.ga.us

