



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
GOVERNOR PAT McCrory



Governor McCrory meets with recipients of the Governor's Awards for Excellence

Monday, November 25, 2013

Governor Makes Economic Development Tour of California, Hosts Q&A Session from Facebook Headquarters



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On Monday, November 18, Governor McCrory was in California for several economic development meetings. Two companies the governor visited were Facebook and Google.

While at Facebook's Menlo Park Headquarters, the governor toured the campus and met with executives and employees from North Carolina before signing the real Facebook wall and hosting a Q&A session on his page.

The governor spent nearly 30 minutes taking questions ranging from Medicaid and tax reform to predicting a win for the Panthers on Monday Night Football.

Lifesavers, Educators Among State Employees

Presented Governor's Award for Excellence



Educators, wildlife officers, law enforcement officials and office workers were among the state employees from all across the state to be honored Tuesday, November 19 with the Governor's Award for Excellence at a ceremony at the North Carolina Museum of History. Ten of the award recipients were credited with helping save the lives of others or preventing serious injuries.

"These award winners epitomize the best in public service," Governor McCrory said in a statement. "Going the extra mile is something they do every day whether they are in the office, in the field, and when required, when they're off duty. We're fortunate they have chosen to work for the people of North Carolina."

Awards were presented in seven categories: customer service; efficiency and innovation; human relations; outstanding state government service; public service; safety and heroism; and

Spirit of North Carolina. The award recipients represent five state agencies and five institutions in the University of North Carolina system.

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Coach Smith Presented with Nation's Highest Honor



Governor McCrory congratulated Coach Dean Smith on Wednesday, November 20, for receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"Congratulations to former UNC-Chapel Hill Basketball Coach and Hall of Famer Dean Smith on being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom today," said Governor McCrory. "He has made our state proud on and off the basketball court not only through wins and national championships but also by championing civil rights. Congrats Coach Smith!"

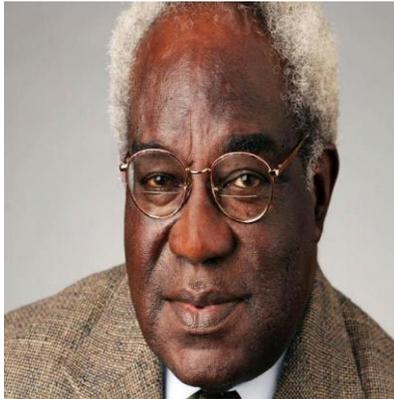
Photo credit: North Carolina Collection,

UNC-CH.

Dr. Julius Chambers Honored with Spirit of North Carolina Award

Dr. Julius L. Chambers was honored posthumously by the state of North Carolina with the presentation of the Spirit of North Carolina Award on Tuesday, November 19. Dr. Chambers died in August 2013.

The award was presented at the Governor's Award for Excellence ceremony at the North Carolina Museum of History.



Dr. Chambers is only the second person to receive this special honor which is presented to state employees who have mentored others in the pursuit of excellence and whose achievements are of the highest caliber. The award is given by the executive branch to employees who exemplify the state motto of "To be, rather than to seem."

"Julius Chambers was a pioneer in education and civil rights and he advanced both fields while in direct service to the people of North Carolina," said Governor Pat McCrory. "His public service and life's work enriched North Carolina and our nation."

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Department of Health and Human Services Marks 40th Anniversary of Office of Rural Health

Governor Pat McCrory proclaimed Thursday, November 21 as Rural Health Day in North Carolina, in honor of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Rural Health and Community Care.

DHHS Secretary Aldona Wos helped to unveil a portrait of the late Governor James Holshouser as part of the anniversary celebration. Former Governor Holshouser created the office in 1973 to assist underserved communities by creating and supporting a network of rural health centers across the state.



"Governor Holshouser was a visionary and compassionate leader who was committed to improving the lives of his fellow North Carolinians," said Governor McCrory. "The Office of Rural Health was groundbreaking at its inception. Over its 40-year history, it has continued to be a national model of innovation and caring."

The original mission of the Office of Rural Health was to establish a network of rural health centers in our state. Today, as the Office of Rural Health and Community Care (ORHCC), it serves citizens in all 100 counties in the state by recruiting medical, dental and psychiatric providers to medically underserved areas; helping to secure free and low-cost medications for patients who cannot afford them; and coordinating grants to safety net organizations that increase access to preventive and primary care services for uninsured or medically indigent populations.

Beginning in January 2014, the Office also will manage the implementation of the Governor's Statewide Telepsychiatry Initiative to bring psychiatric assessment and treatment services to hospital emergency departments struggling with a lack of available mental health practitioners.

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Six North Carolinians Receive the North Carolina Award, State's Highest Civilian Award



Governor Pat McCrory congratulated recipients of the state's highest civilian honor Thursday, November 21 at the North Carolina Awards Program in Durham. Secretary Susan Kluttz of the Department of Cultural Resources joined the governor in acknowledging the exemplary North Carolinians.

"The talent and determination seen here tonight is a reminder of the great minds and strong leaders who come out of North Carolina," said Governor McCrory. "The advances these award winners have made in science, literature, education and more prove not only a love for North Carolina but a love for all of mankind."

The six recipients were:

Myron S. Cohen, a UNC-Chapel Hill professor whose multinational research team demonstrated that treatment of HIV infection with antiretroviral drugs stopped HIV transmission.

John E. Cram, an art collector and entrepreneur who founded the Village Art and Craft Fair, which helped to transform Asheville into a cultural destination.

John M. H. Hart Jr., a New York Times bestselling author whose novels, inspired by the Tar Heel state, have been translated into more than 30 different languages.

Phillip J. Kirk Jr., a former state senator, chief of staff to two governors, secretary of the Department of Human Resources, director of the North Carolina Council for Business and Industry, and chairman of the State Board of Education.

John Harding Lucas who engineered the merger of the white North Carolina Education Association and the black North Carolina Teachers Association.

Walt Wolfram, an internationally acclaimed linguist who founded the North Carolina Language and Life Project, a national model for sociolinguistic engagement.

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Soap Produced by Prison Inmates Contributes to Philippines Typhoon Relief Effort

Bar soap produced by inmates at the North Carolina Correction Enterprises Janitorial Products Plant at Warren Correctional Institution is being sent to the Philippines as part of the relief effort after Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda. A truckload of soap was loaded on Thursday, November 21 and shipped from the prison's manufacturing plant to provide for those impacted by the tragic typhoon.

For several years, Correction Enterprises has manufactured soap for MPACT (Mission to Provide a Cleaner Tomorrow), an Ohio-based nonprofit Christian ministry that promotes hygiene care and education in developing nations. MPACT works with World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization, to distribute its soap internationally. The two organizations have teamed up to distribute bar soap as part of the relief effort in the Philippines. Thursday's shipment represented the second half of an order of approximately 580,000 two-ounce bars of soap.



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