

**CHATHAM COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
2009 HUMAN RELATIONS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and the Chatham County Human Relations Commission (CCHRC) believe in the dignity and worth of each individual regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, gender, national origin, age, or ability; and

**WHEREAS**, we promote a spirit of goodwill, tolerance, and mutual respect among individuals, groups, races, and persons of differing social and economic status as well as religious beliefs; and

**WHEREAS**, we work steadfastly to build strong communities through the celebration of diversity and the elimination of discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that our residents are protected from discrimination by federal laws including, but not limited to, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Equal Educational Opportunity Act of 1974, as well as a wide range of state laws; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that our residents are entitled to all of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Constitution of the United States without distinction of any kind; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of North Carolina, Article I, Section 1, reads, "We hold it to be self-evident that all persons are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness"; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Chatham County have made tremendous progress in human relations in the years since the establishment of the Chatham County Human Relations Commission and recently with the establishment of the Office of Human Relations; and

**WHEREAS**, we look forward to continued progress in facing the challenges before us including, but not limited to, educational disparities, housing disparities, health disparities, hate crimes and biases, immigration issues, and employment issues and opportunities.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Chatham County Board of Commissioners appreciates all who contribute to the advancement of mutual understanding, fairness, justice, and equal opportunity and, upon the recommendation of the CCHRC, bestows special honor and recognition for their service to the following individuals:

**2009 Robert A. Siler Lifetime Achievement in Human Relations Award**

(Honoring an Individual Who Has Demonstrated a Lifelong Commitment to Better Human Relations in Chatham County) - Margaret B. Pollard

**2009 Margaret B. Pollard Outstanding Community Service Award**

(Honoring Past and Present Contributions to Better Human Relations in Chatham County by Chatham County Residents)

Larry Brooks  
Alphia Cheek  
Marcia Espinola  
Vanessa Farrar  
Betty Fox  
Capt. Charles Gardner  
George Gregor-Holt  
Harvey Harman  
Nancy Harman  
Karl Kachergis  
Nona Mensah  
Ivan Remits  
Gabriel Soltren  
Roy Stawsky  
Brenda Thompson

**2009 Samuel B. Obie Commendable Community Service Award**

(Honoring Past and Present Contributions to Better Human Relations in Chatham County by Non-Chatham County Residents)

Rev. Sampson Buie  
Chief Gary Tyson

**2009 Jerry L. Markatos Diversity in Media Award**

(Honoring Past and Present Contributions to Inclusive Reporting and Media that Reflect Accuracy and Fairness toward Diverse Segments of the Population in Chatham County)

Paul Cuadros  
Jeffrey Starkweather

**2009 Carl E. Thompson Distinguished Civic Service Award**

(Honoring Past and Present Contributions to Better Human Relations in Chatham County while Serving as Elected Officials)

Pam Baldwin  
Helen Buckner  
Norm Clark  
Tim Cunnup

John Grimes  
Ernest T. Hanner  
Uva Holland  
Gary Phillips  
Randy Voller  
Betty Wilson

**2009 Margie E. Ellison Making a Difference Community Action Award**

(Honoring Past and Present Contributions to Better Human Relations in Chatham County Communities through Grassroots Organizing)

Delcenia Turner  
Cassandra "Shirille" Lee  
Rosa Sutton  
Rebecca Loflin

**2009 Javier Benitez Outstanding Pastoral Service Award**

(Honoring Past and Present Contributions to Better Human Relations in Chatham County through Pastoral Care and Action)


Rev. Carrie Bolton  
Rev. Norma Bryant  
Rev. Barry Gray  
Rev. Mansel McCleave  
Rev. Juanita Milliken  
Rev. Daniel Pantoja

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners hereby joins all of North Carolina in proclaiming **February 2009** as **Human Relations Month** in Chatham County and urges all citizens to commend this observance to their neighbors.

Adopted this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2009.

  
George Lucier, Chair

ATTEST:

  
Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners