



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2013

Cooperative Extension

Contact: Lisa Childers, Director

Phone: (910) 321-6880

Email: lisa_childers@ncsu.edu

Cooperative Extension Dedicates ‘Fascinating Farm’ Exhibit At Fascinate-U Children’s Museum

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Cooperative Extension and Fascinate-U Children’s Museum dedicated the new exhibit “Fascinating Farm” at the museum May 14. The dedication follows a year-long project of planning and fundraising.

The exhibit is designed to teach children how food gets from the farm to their table. The exhibit is also intended to encourage healthier eating habits among children and increase awareness of agribusiness in Cumberland County.

The exhibit has an egg-laying hen, a pork place to emphasize the swine industry in the county, a farmers market, a pick-your-own vegetable plot, small barn and a cow with a re-circulating pump to show milk production.

The “Fascinating Farm” was first proposed by Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Director Lisa Childers, who approached the museum’s board of directors with the idea for an exhibit to teach children where their food comes from and to promote agriculture in the county.

Cargill, Cumberland Community Foundation, Cape Fear Farm Credit, Cumberland County Farm Bureau, Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District and Youth Growth Stock Trust all contributed funds to help pay for the exhibit. The cost of the exhibit was approximately \$47,000.

“With Fascinate-U Children’s Museum serving over 40,000 children and family members annually, it made it the ideal location for the farm exhibit to help us educate our youngest consumers about the importance of the farm,” Childers said. “The agriculture community in Cumberland County got behind this project making it a true community partnership that we can all be proud of.”

Fascinate-U Children’s Museum is located at 116 Green Street in downtown Fayetteville. Museum hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The museum is closed on Mondays. For more information, call 829-9171, or go online to <http://www.fascinate-u.com>. For more information about Cooperative Extension, call 321-6860 or go online to www.co.cumberland.nc.us/coop_extension.aspx.

-more-



Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Director Lisa Childers (holding plaque) is joined by Brian Johnson and Rod Lusk of Cape Fear Farm Credit; Soil & Water Conservation District Manager Kay Bullard; Wayne Collier Jr. and Bill Tew of Cumberland County Farm Bureau; and Skipper Jones of Cape Fear Farm Credit for the grand opening of the Fascinating Farm exhibit in the Fascinate–U Children’s Museum.

-end-