# Popular Government

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ON THE COVER: Santiago Avila sits on the concrete berm of a highway overpass, from which he can see his community, Dreamland, a mobile home park on the outskirts of Sanford, North Carolina. Dreamland represents both the good and the bad of such parks in North Carolina. Inset: Some mobile homes in Dreamland. Credit: Adam Rust/Community Reinvestment Association of North Carolina.

### Cover Article

#### **Transforming Trailers into Assets** *Peter Skillern and Tanya Wolfram*

In North Carolina, mobile homes are an important source of affordable housing, but their owners often do not enjoy the same rights and benefits as other homeowners. Why is this so, and what can be done to change it?

## Feature Articles

**Rewarding Greater Accountability with Increased Managerial Flexibility in Davidson County** *William C. Rivenbark and David N. Ammons* 

Some local governments in North Carolina are receiving attention for innovative strategies that link good management and sound methods of accountability to greater managerial discretion. This article focuses on the system in Davidson County.

#### Local Government and the Internet: Key Issues and Best Practices for Nontechnical Officials *Philip Young*

Local government leaders take on a host of responsibilities in using the Internet to serve their community. Users and viruses from all around the world can visit their cyber locations. How can they make their Internet "front door" accessible but secure?

#### Building Community Capacity to Meet Public Needs 28

Lydian Altman-Sauer, Margaret Henderson, and Gordon Whitaker

Local governments accomplish many public purposes by working through nonprofits. However, some attributes that make nonprofits attractive partners present challenges to their successful operation. Three SOG educators suggest ways for government to help nonprofits build their operating capacity.

### Departments

#### At the School

In Memoriam: Henry Wilkins Lewis (1916–2004) • In Memoriam: William McWhorter Cochrane (1917–2004) • School's Lobby Named for Former Governor Hodges • Meet the Foundation's Board of Directors, 2005 • Harris Becomes Director of Legislative Reporting Service • Wicker Scholarship Available to Student with Ties to N.C. Local Government • Mesibov Appointed University Ombuds

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## Popular Government

James Madison and other leaders in the American Revolution employed the term "popular government" to signify the ideal of a democratic, or "popular," government—a government, as Abraham Lincoln later put it, of the people, by the people, and for the people. In that spirit *Popular Government* offers research and analysis on state and local government in North Carolina and other issues of public concern. For, as Madison said, "A people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

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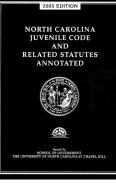
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Notary Public Guidebook for North Carolina Ninth edition, 2004 • \$16.00\* Revised and edited by Thomas H. Thornburg

North Carolina Juvenile Code and Related Statutes Annotated, with CD-ROM 2005 edition • \$55.00\*

Guidebook on the Law and Practice of Soil and Water Conservation in North Carolina 2004 • \$20.00\* Edited by Milton S. Heath, Jr.





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A convenient reference work containing laws, practices, and forms essential to notaries public in North Carolina. Also valuable for registers of deeds, clerks of superior court, and practicing attorneys. Includes updated text and forms since publication of the eighth edition, in 2000, and three new appendixes: "Requirements Pertaining to Change in the Status of a Notary Public," "Notary Public Glossary," and "Frequently Asked Questions."

An annotated compilation of North Carolina's Juvenile Code and selected other statutes relating to children. This new edition and the accompanying CD-ROM encompass all changes enacted by the General Assembly through the end of the 2004 session. Includes laws and procedures that apply to young people who are delinquent or who engage in undisciplined conduct. Also includes the mandatory reporting law and other laws relating to child abuse, neglect, and dependency, and termination of parental rights. Contains an index.

Contains various laws, rules, and regulations that guide and control the actions of North Carolina soil and water conservation district supervisors and staff in shaping conservation programs and operations of conservation districts. Also provides information on the governmental agencies and programs available to support the creation and maintenance of a comprehensive conservation program. Includes a case index, a subject index, and a proper name index.

# **Recent Publications**

Guidebook to Public Dispute Resolution in North Carolina John B. Stephens 2004 • \$45.00\*

Capital Budgeting and Finance: A Guide for Local Governments A. John "Jack" Vogt 2004 • \$65.00\*

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