

\$20,000 Grant for Shared Services

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Staff Reports

Bridgeton News

CUMBERLAND COUNTY -- Cumberland County has been approved for a grant from the state to create a shared services arrangement for Cultural and Heritage services and programs in Cumberland and Salem County.

The \$20,000 grant comes from the Sharing Available Resources Efficiently Program (SHARE), administered through the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, a program providing municipalities, counties, and fire districts assistance for studying or implementing regional service agreements, or coordinating shared programs and services.

"This award will provide funds to identify and analyze a shared administrative arrangement for Cultural and Heritage services and programs in Cumberland and Salem counties," said state Sen. Stephen Sweeney. "Across the state, shared services have resulted in greater efficiency and significant cost savings."

In Cumberland County, the Culture and Heritage Commission oversees, among other programs, the yearly Winter Eagle Festival in Mauricetown, formerly the Raptor Festival.

"Establishing a shared services program is a critical part of any effort to find new efficiencies in government and help lower property taxes," said Assemblyman John Burzichelli. "This grant will ultimately help provide more efficient government and related services for Cumberland and Salem counties."

The SHARE program is available to local governments and non-profit organizations.