

MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

Mansfield At Front Of Economic, Emergency Preparedness

During his four terms as Lincoln County mayor, Jerry Mansfield has many times been recognized for his work on the economic development and emergency planning fronts.

Having also served as a former county commissioner, Mansfield changed career paths and was elected as county executive of Lincoln County in 1990. During his tenure, he has taken Lincoln County from a double-digit unemployment rate to its current 4.3 percent (October 2004). He continually strives to improve the economic welfare of his community and was instrumental in obtaining the "Don Sundquist Center of Advanced Technologies" in August 2001. The facility has become a bargaining tool when attempting to entice new industry into Lincoln County, as well as help current local industries obtain and maintain a highly technical skilled labor force.

Successful recruiting efforts resulted in the relocation to Fayetteville of Frito-Lay, VAW Aluminum AG (German), Franke (Swiss), Del-Met, Dimension International, Beowulf, Lampi, Nutri-Turf, Summa Technology and R&B Wire, which resulted in new industrial capital investment of more than \$263 million and more than 1,400 new jobs created.

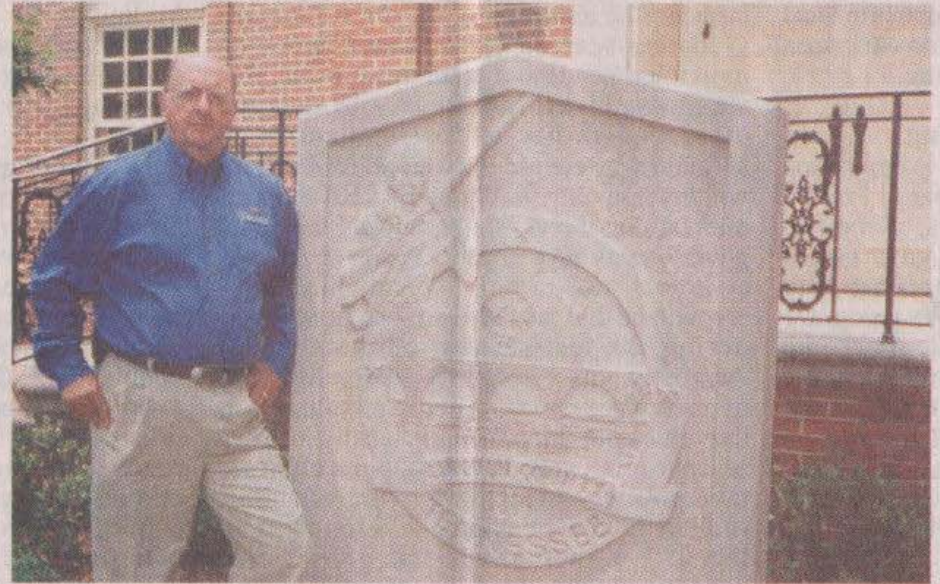
Because of his efforts

Fayetteville-Lincoln County has continued as one of only a handful of counties with more than 20 years under its belt as a Governor's Three-Star Community, as recognized by the state Department of Economic & Community Development.

With Mansfield's unrelenting efforts, along with the cooperation and knowledge of the state legislature and voters of Lincoln County, The Lincoln Medical Center opened its doors on Aug. 1, 2001. This addition to the community has attracted a number of highly trained professionals to the area, as well as resulted in a new assisted living facility.

He has chaired many civic and government agencies during his career, recently being selected to serve on the Governor's Tax Structure Committee, in an effort to revitalize the state's financial status at a very crucial time in our economic history.

Several of his projects have resulted in the construction of Motlow Community College - Fayetteville Campus, a new USDA Office Building, a new health department complex, a new archives building, a new child development center, a new senior citizen center, and the establishment of a college scholarship fund for deserving Lincoln County High School history students.



Lincoln County Mayor Jerry Mansfield stands outside the courthouse in Fayetteville.

Throughout his political career, Mansfield has ever been mindful of the need to ensure that Lincoln County be prepared for any type of disaster. In 2001 he was the only Tennessean to receive the coveted NACo "Building Disaster Resistant Communities Leadership Award" in Washington, D.C.

His ability to relate to all ages and types of individuals results in many speaking engagements throughout the community and state.

Even though he left the teaching field a number of years ago, he has never left the role of educator and mentor. He spends many hours regaling the local you with oft-forgotten stories of Lincoln County's colorful history.

After graduating from Middle Tennessee State University in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in animal science and a minor in history, Mansfield worked for the Lincoln County Department of Education as a teacher, principal and coach.