Recently, the New Hanover County Parks and Recreation Department announced an expansion of its public access television programming. The NHC Government Access TV is expanding and will have the capability to offer more community programming.  Interested organizations are encouraged to advertise their play schedules on the NHC channel.  The Department is also looking to possibly do some short information segments on community activities/programs.

 “Spring Training” for the Carolina Mens Baseball League has been so successful that the New Hanover County Parks and Recreation Department has decided to use it as a prototype for adult amateur athletic participation. The County will be televising the Opening Day game between the Queensboro Riptide and the Novus Glass Seahawks that is scheduled to be played at Myrtle Grove MS, 901 Piner Road, Wilmington. Tara Duckworth the new Parks Manager for the County said, “ The Carolina Mens Baseball League is in the forefront in combating adult obesity. I have seen first hand the weight reduction results of adult baseball. We are hopeful that this can be the template for future adult fitness programs. It is a top priority for middle aged men to get out and exercise and what better way to shed a few pounds than hitting leather covered balls with a stick and then running around until you get home.”

Ms. Duckworth is scheduled to meet with CMBL officials to discuss the possibility of using federal funds under the American Health Care Reform Act to underwrite league operations. There is some $4.2 billion targeted for obesity elimination and first basemen and coaches are an obvious choice to benefit from such an effort. Frank Amoroso was quoted as saying, “It is our patriotic duty to play baseball and we would be willing to accept federal anti-obesity funds for the good of the country.” The League will be applying to design a pilot program based on its experience with out of shape ballplayers. Who knows what this can lead to on April first!