

Scotland County

Monthly



AUGUST 2011

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

\$1 million grant award will fund construction of business incubator

The Scotland County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) was awarded two separate grants totaling \$1 million dollars to build the Laurinburg/Scotland County Business Incubator.

The U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration announced funding in the amount of \$800,000 with the GoldenLEAF Foundation providing support in the amount of \$200,000, which was awarded in April.

SCEDC Chair Joyce McDow said, "We are thankful that the Economic Development Administration as well as GoldenLEAF granted this important funding, and we appreciate their assistance."

She added, "By working with new and existing partners, we are building the foundation for economic growth in Scotland County. While this has been a long process, we have persevered and now see the results of our efforts. Economic development continues to be a top priority in Laurinburg and Scotland, and we are pleased that our efforts have been recognized through the award of this grant."

SCEDC Vice Chair Tommy Parker praised Economic Developer Greg Icard for his hard work and effort in pursuing the funds for a business incubator to benefit the County and City of Laurinburg. "This will be a great opportunity to assist local entrepreneurs and start-ups grow their ideas into sustainable businesses."

Icard said, "This grant funding allows us to bring to fruition efforts to help create an environment in Scotland County that is conducive to entrepreneurs and small businesses. It enables us to be more proactive

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Growth potential witnessed at Bladen incubator visit

Local officials got a close up look at the entrepreneurial business growth possibilities available when a community has its own incubator space.

Vice Chair Joyce McDow, Commissioner Carol McCall, County Manager Kevin Patterson and Economic Developer Greg Icard visited the Bladen County incubator and industrial park to meet with successful entrepreneurs.

The visit took them to the Elizabethtown Industrial Park where the Bladen business incubator is located along with its free standing industrial and business buildings.

The group toured one business where the owner turned his procurement and sales of auto parts to the military into a multi-million dollar enterprise while leasing incubator space.

Incubator space, which can range from 4,000 to 7,500 square-feet, provides businesses with a place to operate for several years before they move to a more permanent location. The businesses also are provided access to counseling, mentoring, training and start-up capital during the initial period.

Another company, Del-Ton, Incorporated, grew to a \$9 million business. Del-Ton began as a seller of gun parts. The business expanded from its 4,500 square-foot incubator space with loading bay to an independent standing 10,000 square-foot facility when demand for its product transitioned

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Concession building construction commences at soccer field

A concession/restroom building is ready for construction adjacent to the soccer fields at the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex.

Soccer players, their coaches and local officials gathered for a groundbreaking at the site July 28.

The Parks and Recreation Foundation helped raise \$120,000 through individual and business donations to build the concession.

Foundation Chairman David McLamb thanked the community for the generous donations and for making the quality of life for children in the County a priority

The building at the soccer fields will be similar to the one at the Splash Pad. It will have a concession, restrooms and a space for changing.

The concession facility is expected to be completed in September when soccer season begins.



Soccer players and their coaches join local officials for a ribbon cutting at the site where a concession stand will be built. Standing, far right, is Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton and Commissioner Guy McCook, third from right.

Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton said the concession building represents a convenience to players, their families and spectators with restrooms nearby and a place where snacks and beverages can be purchased.

The building also will represent another naming opportunity at the Morgan Complex.

News of Note

Taylor-Made barber has staff connection

Richard Taylor, son of Jennifer Taylor, Health, opened his own business Taylor-Made as a licensed barber. Born and raised in Scotland County, Richard is a State certified barber who has been cutting hair for eight years. His new business is located across the street from Scotland High School beside the Hess station. One of the first customers to Taylor-Made was Robert Bowen, Administration, pictured, right



Animal Control Ordinance revisions approved

The Board of Commissioners approved revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance in August that would address the mistreatment and mishandling of domesticated livestock. A subcommittee appointed by the Board of Health developed the revisions. The revisions require owners of domesticated livestock to provide reasonable access to shelter and fresh drinking water. It also outlines confiscation, violations and appeals procedures regarding domesticated livestock. The study of revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance was activated after a group of citizens and equine enthusiasts raised concerns about the treatment of horses in parts of the County.

World Breastfeeding Week celebrated

To celebrate and promote breastfeeding during World Breastfeeding Week 2011, the Scotland County WIC Program purchased billboard advertisement through Lamar Advertising. The billboard is located on US 74 eastbound, on the left hand side, just before the East Laurinburg exit. The billboard, pictured below, depicts a positive breastfeeding promotion message and will be on display through October 2011.



Diabetes health fair set for September 20

Community-wide diabetes health fair *Living the Sweet Life!* will be held Tuesday, September 20, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the W.R. Dulin Center on the Scotland Memorial Hospital campus. The event, co-sponsored by Healthy Carolinians/Health Department and Scotland Memorial Foundation, is free to the public. A panel of expert speakers and exhibitors will be on hand to provide diabetes education/information and giveaways, along with free health screenings (foot checks, A1c and PVR). Food and refreshments will be provided. For more information, please contact Kathie Cox, 277-2440.

Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments as of May 16, 2011: **Brian Knight**, Jail; **Jamie Hunt**, Parks and Recreation; **Justin McNickle**, Splash Pad. **Corrie Patterson** transitioned from full-time to part-time with EMS.

Our condolences to ...

Heather Moody, DSS, on the recent passing of her father.

County, City partnerships a Leadership group topic

The 2011 Leadership Scotland class learned the similarities and the differences between City and County operations and how the two entities share in the responsibility of providing water to a community.

They were just two topics discussed in a question and answer session with County Manager Kevin Patterson, standing left, and City of Laurinburg Human Resources/Risk Manager Bob Bell.



“We talked about economic development opportunities and some of the challenges the community faces,”

Patterson said. “Consolidating City and County government was also discussed.”

Patterson outlined how the two governments are different the that most services are not redundant.

Leadership Scotland is a Chamber of Commerce initiative that allows people in the private and public sector to learn more about business, industry, education and health activities in the County

Health Fairs scheduled

Scotland County will host Health Fairs again this year, sponsored by FirstCarolinaCare, Inc.

Diabetes, cholesterol and blood pressure screenings will be available free for all employees and dependents covered under the health plan (dependents must be at least 18 years old). Flu shots will also be available through the Health Fairs.

Two-hour fasting is required prior to testing. Please take all prescription medications. You may drink water and/or black coffee.

Health Fairs are Tuesday, September 13 and Wednesday, September 14, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., the Health Education room, Thursday, September 15, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., Covington Street conference room and Friday, September 16, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Sheriff's.

Thanks to all those who donated during the August 17 Red Cross Blood Drive. Although the County fell slightly short of its 25-unit goal with the collection of 22 pints. Those who took the time to donate are Red Cross heroes.

Hasty Realty cuts ribbon at Main Street location



Commissioner Guy McCook, center, is surrounded by his family and staff as he cuts the ribbon at Hasty Realty's new location.

More than 100 people attended the ribbon cutting at the new location of Hasty Realty.

Hasty Realty, the County's oldest real estate firm, moved from its previous location at the corner of Atkinson and Covington Streets to its new space at 500 South Main Street.

Founded in 1973, Guy McCook, broker and owner of Hasty Realty, also serves as a County Commissioner.

the Birthday list for September

1 Felisa Locky (DSS); **2** Jennifer Clark (Sheriff); **5** Richard Taylor (Jail) and George Butler (Sheriff); **6** Anita Nelson (DSS) and Denise Cox (EMS); **7** Holly Russell (Parks and Recreation); **8** Debra Kersey (Health); **10** Djuna Hale (Jail) and Jeannie Freeman (DSS); **11** Kimberly Villanueva (DSS), Deborah Rogers (Health) and James Laviner (Sheriff); **12** Tina Swinney (Jail); **13** Roger Dial (Public Buildings); **14** Carlotta Rivers (Health); **15** Robert Hewitt (Jail); **16** Nancy Hughes (Tax); **18** Susan Butler (Administration); **20** Twanna McCrimmon (DSS), Cardra Burns and Heather Wyke (Health) and Leon Gyles (Library); **25** Alisa Freeman (Health), Falana Jackson (DSS) and Dale Phillips (Parks and Recreation); **26** Joshua Byrd (EMS); **29** Lynda McMillan (Health).

1st furlough day is Friday, September 2

Grant used for business incubator

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and aggressive in job creation as well. This has been a year-long endeavor that highlights our long-term, multi-faceted and strategic approach to bringing jobs to our community."

SCEDC will construct a business incubator with the grant funding that will be used to house start-up companies and entrepreneurs within Scotland County. In addition to reduced lease rates for space, other services will be provided to ensure success of companies in the business incubator.

Partners such as the Small Business Center at Richmond Community College and the Small Business Technology Development Center at the University of North Carolina Pembroke will be available for counseling companies located in the business incubator.

Icard extended his appreciation to the Southeast Development Commission for their assistance in working with the Economic Development Administration.

Site of Bladen incubator toured

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to assembling and later machining of AR-15 rifles under its own label.

The group also visited an NCDMV call center in the industrial complex.

Icard said, "An operation like this could be another positive for an incubator because existing public or private entities look to lease space for expanded operations."

Completion of the Scotland incubator is planned for spring 2012.



Commissioner Carol McCall, County Manager Kevin Patterson, Bladen Economic Developer Chuck Heustess and Vice Chair Joyce McDow at Del-Ton.

HIV/AIDS awareness promoted

by Alisa Freeman, Health

H.E.A.R.T. (HIV Education and Resource Team) of Scotland County held its annual Walk-A-Thon June 25.

The event helped raise awareness about HIV/AIDS in Scotland County and also raised money for the HIV-positive clients who live in the County.

The walk began at the intersection of Church and Main streets in downtown Laurinburg and ended at Hammond Park.

While in the park, participants enjoyed games for all ages, face painting, raffle prizes, snacks and music provided by local DJ Pete Johnson from Breath of Fresh Air.

Brenda Hunt, CEO of B.A.R.T. (Borderbelt AIDS Resource Team) spoke briefly about the growing rate of HIV infection in Scotland County and the surrounding area.

Hunt explained how this sometimes devastating disease has no specific gender or age group that it affects. She emphasized that education is a major factor in prevention.

H.E.A.R.T. wishes to thank the following sponsors for making the event possible: We Care For You Home Health Agency, Laurinburg Police Department, B.A.R.T., 3 Brothers Market and donations from H.E.A.R.T. members. Appreciation also is extended to City Councilwoman Joy Ellison for her attendance in support of this effort.

H.E.A.R.T. meets every third Thursday of the month in the County Health Department Education Room.

If interested in attending a meeting or being a part of H.E.A.R.T., please attend the next meeting on August 18 at 12 p.m.



The H.E.A.R.T. Team concluded its walk at Hammond Park.

Tennis Center lists immediate needs

The Tennis Center, Parks and Recreation and the Scotland County Tennis Association (SCTA) are putting out a call for help in maintaining the tennis facilities.

To maintain the soft and hard courts in good condition, it is anticipated that within the next several years the courts will have to be completely resurfaced.

Estimations to resurface all six hard courts and the four soft courts will range from \$55,000 to \$60,000.

The Tennis Center and its partners realize this is a considerable sum of money, especially taking into account the dire economic environment and government budget cuts.

The Tennis Center, Parks and Recreation and SCTA are now making plans to raise the money.

Any ideas, suggestions or direct contributions toward this goal would be greatly appreciated.

Meanwhile, funding cutbacks are making it difficult to adequately keep up with basic maintenance and amenities upgrades for the Tennis Center.

A partial list of some items the Tennis Center needs and their approximate cost is included at the end of this article.

Anyone willing and able to donate money to obtain specific items can do so by contacting the Tennis Center.

10 tons HarTru (top dressing for all soft courts for one year)

1 Ton = \$135

120 feet Windscreen / \$250 each

Community Tennis Activity Board / \$400

Quick Start Tennis Nets (to be used in elementary school physical education classes) / \$200 each

Court Nets / \$165 each

Soft Court Lines / \$260 per court

Set of Patio Table and Chairs / \$200

Water Cooler and Stand / \$240 each

Court Benches / \$185 each

Courtside Score Cards / \$50 each

Vacuum Cleaner / \$100

Hard Court Squeegee / \$70 each

**~ Now celebrating 70 years ~
Happy Birthday
Scotland County Memorial Library!**

Commissioners meet with U.S. elected officials at Fayetteville trade show

Vice Chair Joyce McDow, Commissioner Carol McCall and Economic Developer Greg Icard attended a North Carolina Defense Trade Show where exhibitors and visitors were able to take advantage of network opportunities to benefit their businesses.

While there, McDow and McCall met with U.S. Rep. Larry Kissell and U.S. Senators Kay Hagen and Richard Burr, hosts of the 10th annual event.



Commissioners Joyce McDow, left, and Carol McCall, discuss the economy and other issues with U.S. Rep. Larry Kissell.

McCall reminded Kissell of the rising unemployment rate in Scotland County. She asked him for his focus on the County.

"I also encouraged him to visit us and to use his office in any way that can help with economic development," McCall said.

"Rep. Kissell indicated he knows things are difficult in the County and now that the recent debt ceiling crisis is over, he and Congress can get back to governing and getting things done for people," she added.

Icard saw the trade show was an opportunity for Scotland County elected officials to learn more about

Department of Defense contracting and procurement.

With a local incubator in the planning stage, Icard was able to talk personally with potential clients who are interested in developing a new or start-up business.

The trade show, held at Fayetteville Technical Community College, featured more than 60 exhibitor booths including national defense contractors, North Carolina businesses, government agencies and a full schedule workshop series.

McPhatter receives Leadership Award

Hazel McPhatter, 4-H Youth EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program) Associate, received the 2011 Leadership Award from the South Central District Association of North Carolina Association of Extension Assistants, Associates, & Technicians (NCAEPAAT). McPhatter received the award August 12.

McPhatter has worked as a 4-H Youth EFNEP Program Associate in Scotland County for 10 years.

County Extension Director Randy Wood said of McPhatter, "Hazel is a tireless worker who performs her duties with the utmost efficiency and enthusiasm. Despite an extremely busy schedule, she is a team player and is always willing to pitch in and give help to any co-worker in the office.

"Hazel also provides leadership and supervision to several youth volunteers/interns and adult volunteers throughout the year.

I continue to hear positive feedback on her excellent teaching abilities and her expertise in the area of nutrition."



Hazel McPhatter

Employee mail order prescriptions high

Chairman Bob Davis accepted a certificate on behalf of the County recognizing employees for logging the largest increase in use of mail order prescriptions of all county members.

The increase occurred while the County received health insurance coverage from CIGNA through the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Davis, pictured, presented the certificate to Human Resources Manager Susan Butler.

