

# Scotland County Monthly



APRIL 2008

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

## Extension's Report to the People takes guests into the field

Cooperative Extension changed its Report to the People format this year by taking guests out to the field where the staff works daily.

Report to the People guests were treated to a half-day tour with stops to areas where Cooperative Extension staff and field agents work with the community to help change the way things are done for the better.

At East Laurinburg Alternative Academy, Principal Gary Dwyer and the school's at-risk students showed visitors their vegetable garden and discussed lessons learned from the hands-on experience of gardening.

While touring Haynes Stone Farm guests were shown how Extension staff provided farmer Haynes Stone with a nutrient-rich recipe using hay that kept his livestock healthy and fed during the drought.

Students at Laurel Hill Primary attested to the educational benefits and the excitement of participating in a 21-day embryology project that resulted in the birth of baby chicks.

*see Report page 3*

## Butler featured in video to promote FirstCarolinaCare



*Human Resource Manager Susan Butler, left, and John Vaughn and Jill Emerson of FirstCarolinaCare, make preparations for a promotional video.*

Human Resource Manager Susan Butler will be featured in a short promotional video about the County's health provider FirstCarolinaCare (FCC).

FCC intends to show the video to prospective clients, particularly larger accounts similar in size to Scotland County.

FCC Account Manager Jill Emerson said employees from the City of Rockingham and Quail Haven also will be interviewed for the video.

FCC Sales Representative John Vaughn supplied the equipment and conducted the interview with Butler, which lasted about 15 minutes. Once edited, though, Butler will be on screen for about two minutes.

Emerson said FCC invited Butler to participate because she has worked with FCC for a number of years and she has a good feel for FCC and how it does business.

FCC will enter its fourth year of providing health care insurance to County employees.

## Baseball Extravaganza a hit

More than 790 County youth and their families stopped by the Recreation Complex April 19 to participate in Baseball Extravaganza 2008.

At least 500 people were in attendance for the opening ceremony for the dedication of the new park, introduction of teams and drawing of names to throw the first pitch.

The following day, a large crowd of children and their families returned to the Recreation Complex for the annual Sunday in the Park organized by Child Care Directions and agencies that serve the County's youth.

*See page 4 for Baseball Extravaganza 2008 photos*

## Bill Clinton makes historic visit



It was a historic moment for Scotland County when Bill Clinton made his way to the podium at St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

The visit by the former president marks the first time Scotland County was paid a visit by one of the the highest elected officials in the country.

Bill Clinton, on the campaign trail for his wife, presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton, spoke to a crowd of more than 2,000 people who gathered on the St. Andrews campus.

The former president commented, "My Scottish-Irish ancestors would be proud of me being at St. Andrews."

Laurinburg was among the campaign stops Bill Clinton made that day, which included Pembroke, Monroe and Charlotte.

# News of Note

## Cookbook includes local recipes

Three recipes that represent the flavor and flair of Scotland County will be included in a cookbook set for publication June 1. Baked beans, easy punch and coconut cream cake were submitted by Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Science Agent Sharon English. The recipes will be among 300 in the cookbook representing three recipes from each of the 100 counties in the State. The cookbook will be published by the NC Association of County Commissioners in recognition of its first centennial. The cookbook will include recipes for beverages, appetizers, breads, salads, soups, main courses, vegetables/side dishes and desserts. Contributing individuals and their home counties will be recognized in the book, too.

## Job growth at WestPoint expected

Nearly 70 jobs are expected to be added to the WestPoint Stevens work force of 130 by the end of the year. The former manufacturing facility will become a distribution center run by Hellman World Wide Logistics. The name of the center will change to WestPoint Homes.

## Prescription discount card on the rise

Area pharmacies filled 296 prescriptions in March 2008 for 112 people using the NACo prescription drug discount card. Card users saved more than \$2,800 on prescriptions filled with the card. Price savings per prescription was \$9.47, or 28.41 percent.. In March 2007, 164 prescriptions were presented to pharmacies from 66 people using the discount card. This represented a total savings of \$1,659. Price savings per prescription in March 2007 was \$10.12, or 23.04 percent. The discount prescription card has been available to County citizens since September 2006. There is no fee or registration requirement. The free cards can be picked up at DSS, the Health Department, Scotland Place or any County office.

## the Birthday list for May

**2** James McQueen (DSS); **3** Katherine Medlin (Sheriff)  
**4** Teresa Vick and Tosha McQueen (DSS); **5** Rhonda Saffel (Tax); **7** LaCarrol Rhone (DSS); **9** James McQueen (Transportation); **10** Mike McGirt (Public Buildings); **11** Nancy Bostick (Administration) and Trina Locklear (DSS); **12** Crystal Norton (Register of Deeds) and Kody Stanley (Parks and Recreation); **14** Dontae Roland (EMS); **15** Tracey Ansley (Sheriff), Roxanne Douglas (DSS) and Jonathan Taylor (EMS); **17** Melanie Clark (EMS), Dewey Oxendine (Public Buildings) and Scott Jacobs (Sheriff); **18** Clarence McPhatter (Commissioner) and Rebecca Griffin (DSS); **20** Billie Phillips (Tax) and Tony Smith (Sheriff); **21** Gregory Tucker (Jail) and Gwen Terry (DSS); **24** Michelle Campbell (DSS) and Pearlene Leggett (Health); **25** Gail Jackson (Sheriff); **26** Jennifer Taylor (Health) and Jackie Locklear (Jail); **29** Dennis Currie (EMS) and Myra Hill (DSS); **31** Wayne Mace (EMS).

## Census Dress Rehearsal relies heavily on mail-in responses

Significant changes have occurred recently that will affect the outcome of the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal in Scotland County and the greater nine-county region selected to participate in the Dress Rehearsal.

Due to some technical problems with the hand-held computers they will not be used by enumerators in the field. In fact, there will be no enumerators in the field to follow-up with those households that did not mail the questionnaire back to the Census Bureau in the postage-paid envelopes. Results from the Dress Rehearsal will depend heavily on the mail-in response of the short form.

Because there is not enough time to correct the problem with the hand-held computers, they will be used only for a part of the official 2010 Census — to update addresses.

Most of you by now have received your 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal questionnaires in the mail.

If you have not already done so, it is important to fill out the questionnaire, which asks only for the names, ages, birth dates, sex and ethnicity of the people who live in your home.

Completing the questionnaire will not take long, and the pay-off is huge because it brings federal and state dollars into Scotland County. Every person counted brings that money back to the community.

You are encouraged to complete the questionnaire as soon as possible and return it to the Census Bureau in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. All information is confidential.

Remember, your response will ensure that Scotland County receives its fair share of federal and state dollars to support needed services for its citizens and to fund critical improvements to the infrastructure.

## Expectations high for spec building



**Chairman J.D. Willis, left, and Mayor Matthew Block, share the ribbon-cutting duties at the completed spec building at the Laurinburg/Maxton Airport. State, County, City, Town of Maxton, Chamber and Airport officials gathered for the event. Officials expect the building to attract a large business or manufacturing operation to the area that would create jobs and invest in the community. Photo by Tim Martin, Administration**

## Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments since February 16, 2008: **Charles Nichols**, Administration; **James Sweet**, Sheriff; **Robbie Locklear** and **Trina Locklear**, Social Services. **Jonathan Terry**, part-time with Parks and Recreation.

## Transportation receives lift van



A second 2008 Ford model van was delivered to Scotland County Area Transit System (SCATS). It will replace a 1997 lift-equipped Dodge van that will now be used as a backup vehicle.

The new Ford van is the first lift van SCATS will operate that features an internal rear lift system. It is capable of transporting three wheelchair patients at

one time and will be used daily to carry patients to dialysis and other scheduled medical appointments.

The NC DOT Public Transit funded 90 percent of the cost of the van with 10 percent funded by the County.

## Post Scripts

Sheriff **Shep Jones** graduated from the Sheriff's Leadership Institute. Jones was among 34 sheriffs from across the State who received the four one-week

training programs over a period of two years. Funded through a grant from the Governor's Crime Commission, the training is sponsored by the NC Sheriff's Association. ⌘ Celebrating anniversaries of employment at EMS are **Randy McArthur**, 13 years, and **Dontaè Roland**, three years. ⌘ Justin Baldwin, son of **Cory Baldwin**, EMS, was accepted to the John P. Sousa National Honors Band clinic in New Orleans this June. The Band will present a concert the last weekend of June. The John P. Sousa Band invites the top 100 applicants from across the United States to participate.

Our condolences to the family of **John William Calhoun**, who passed away March 24. He was 89. Calhoun served four consecutive terms on the Board of Commissioners from 1976 to 1992 and served as Chairman from 1985 to 1989.

## Vision for community parks shared



**Commissioner Guy McCook, right, listens to suggestions from citizens at Hammond Park.**

Two community forums were held in the great outdoors — one at Hammond Park April 21, the other at Market Park April 22.

Commissioner Guy McCook, who serves on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, said long-range plans and improvements for neighborhood parks should be based on the needs of citizens who live closest to the parks and who use them most frequently.

McCook, Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton and Public Buildings Maintenance Supervisor Mike McGirt attended the forums.

The community forums began at 6:30 p.m. Community Forums at other parks will be announced at a later time.

## Report to the People takes takes guests on a tour

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**Haynes Stone, second from left, stands in front of a pile of feed made of hay and other ingredients.**

Guests learned about the healthy eating and fitness program developed for students at the Highland Charter School.

Irrigation and how it enhances yields and quality in production was the focus during the visit to Cooley's Strawberry Farm.

Cypress Bend Vineyard was the last destination for lunch and brief reports on grape production, countywide agricultural and poultry programs and leadership development, all of which are provided by Cooperative Extension staff.



**Strawberries are plentiful at Cooley's in Wagram, above. The vegetable garden flourishes next to the East Laurinburg Alternative Learning Academy.**



## EMStatistics

### EMS Report for March:

**Responded to** 449 Medical/Trauma calls

**Treated** 53 total traffic accident patients

**Administered** 95 wellness/blood pressure checks

**Sold** 24 blue address signs

### 911 Report Highlights:

**387** EMS

**328** Sheriff's Department

**269** Laurinburg Police Department

**97** Fire Department

**652** hang-up calls

**99** wrong numbers

**52** open line calls

**1,410** cellular calls

**2,189** total calls to 911

### Top five complaints for EMS Response

**76** sick person (specific diagnosis)

**60** breathing problems

**53** traffic accidents

**31** chest pain

**30** falls/back injuries (traumatic)

**30** transfer/interfacility/palliative care

### Weather Observations

#### (EMS Recordings)

**Temp (high)** 87 on 3/25,28

**Temp (low)** 25 on 3/5,18

**Wind (mph)** 33 on 3/2

**Rainfall (inches)** 1.03 on 3/16

*Compiled by Tommy Hatcher*

## Baseball enthusiasts enjoy Extravaganza



*Fred Fox, above, introduces the teams at the Baseball Extravaganza opening ceremony.*

*At right, local sports celebrities prepare to throw out the first pitch. They are, left to right, Tommy Britt, Brandi Deese, Hilee Taylor, Michael McNeill, Jimmy Martin and Hyder Massey.*



## Schenck named Elections Board member

Clerk of Court Philip McRae, left, administers the oath of office to Mark Schenck, who became the Republican representative to the Board of Elections.

Schenck replaces Joyce Hamby, who stepped down after her daughter Sandy Carter announced she would run for Clerk of Court. Schenck joins Democrat representatives Janna Wegner and William Bullard.



## English 'gets caught' — in a good way



*Sharon English and South Central District Extension Director Donald Cobb.*

When Family and Consumer Science Agent Sharon English got caught, it made everyone happy, even English.

English was the recipient of the *I Got Caught...Doing Something Great Award*, presented by the South Central Extension District.

English was praised for her work with more than 500 area school youth in the embryology and butterfly projects.

Teachers were particularly appreciative since the projects provided support to students in the required study of the life cycles.

English also led workshops on cooking terms where youth learned to read recipes, measure ingredients and practice food preparation hygiene. Recipients are recognized for leadership, customer focus, teamwork, quality of service, county relations, delivery of service to staff and clients, special projects and innovations.

## Arbor Day celebrated

Pate Gardner Elementary School students celebrated Arbor Day by planting seven pine trees on the school grounds.

By planting trees, the students become members of the Fourth Grade Foresters of North Carolina Program. Approximately 30 trees will be planted at area elementary schools this spring.

The program is sponsored by Scotland Soil and Water. Soil and Water Conservation Director Amy Richburg, pictured right, assists students in planting the trees.

