

SCOTLAND COUNTY MONTHLY

DECEMBER 2003

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

Recreation Complex gets boost from additional \$150K federal grant

An additional \$150,000 in federal money for the Community Recreation Complex has been secured through the efforts of U.S. Rep. Robin Hayes.

Hayes has demonstrated continued interest in the forward momentum of the complex and is responsible for assisting Scotland County in securing an estimated \$500,000 toward its construction over the past two years.

A splash park at the site is expected to be up and running by summer 2004, the result of Hayes' assistance in securing a \$300,000 HUD grant.

The entire complex when completed will have cost an estimated \$10 million and include four softball fields, four soccer fields, outdoor lighting, a pool, indoor sports center, walking/biking trail, concessions, parking for more than 200 vehicles and a civic center.

Nearly \$1.75 million has been raised so far for the complex, which will be built in phases as funding becomes available.

Practical hints to protect yourself during flu season

As flu season hit full force early and strong, demand for the vaccination depleted the national supply.

In Scotland County, an alternative, FluMist, is available at the Health Department for individuals ages of 5 and 49 who are in good health. The fee is \$20.

Without meaning to, we can infect those around us with the flu and other numerous airborne illnesses when tiny droplets of moisture come out of the nose or mouth when people cough, sneeze or talk.

There are practical measures we can take in this season of high flu activity by just by practicing good health manners.

Wash your hands often and well with soap and water or an alcohol hand sanitizer.

Cover your mouth and nose with tissues every time you sneeze or cough. Then put all used tissues in the trash.

Avoid touching your eyes nose and mouth.

Protect yourself and others if you begin to display flu-like symptoms by staying home from work, school, daycare or any other community activities.

Register of Deeds anticipates efficiencies with Resolution



Register of Deeds Jane Callahan and Commissioner Sam Snowdon become familiar with Resolution during one of two workshops for attorneys, realtors and appraisers.

The Register of Deeds went live with a new COTT Computer System upgrade featuring Resolution. The Resolution point of sale begins at the Register of Deeds counter and combines fees, imaging and indexing that will fulfill all recording needs whatever the volume.

The program features imaging with increased document integrity, efficiency, multiple-user access, Internet access, faster document retrieval, improved security and room for growth. It helps reduce storage space and paperflow. The County's real estate records will be available via the Internet before July 2004.

A document, once recorded at the Register of Deeds counter, is given a book and page number. Scanning the documents will enable the Register of Deeds to return documents to the recorders within 24 hours.

The upgrade is funded through the Automation and Preservation Fund, which allows all Register of Deeds statewide to collect 10 percent of their recording fees on an annual basis.

NOTE: Healthy Carolinians will sponsor Scotland County Great Ex-STEP-tations 2004 — Promoting Better Health Through Walking. The walking promotion kicks off January 8, 5 to 7 p.m. at Scotland Memorial Hospital's Healthy Resolutions Fair. For a small fee, registrants will receive a t-shirt, pedometer and walking log to count steps and measure progress. Co-sponsors are Scotland Memorial Foundation, Scotland County Health Department, Dr. Kurt Jute and Dr. William Stroud.

Learn to navigate the GIS

Although the County's GIS (Geographic Information Systems) website has been online for about a year, it has yet to be fully tapped as a valuable resource.

For instance, a viewer can look up any address or property in the County to find out who owns the parcel without having to pay a visit to the Tax Office or Register of Deeds.

To get started, click on www.scotlandcounty.org. Click on GIS and then Data Viewer. A map of Scotland County appears along with tools on the left, right and bottom of the map.

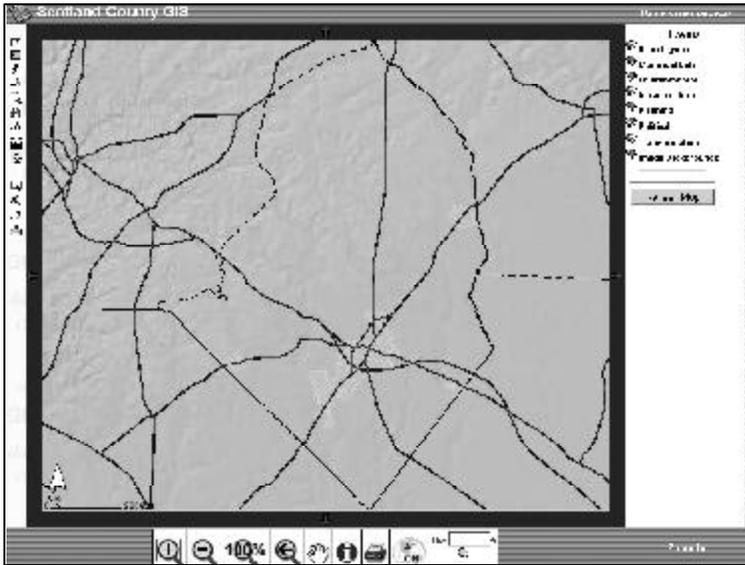
The bar at the bottom holds the Map Tools. From left to right is the tools enlargement and how they work.

The plus sign allows you to take a closer look at a portion of the map. Click on it, and then drag a box around an area you want to zoom to, or single click to zoom in 2X.

The minus, or zoom out, will perform the opposite. Just drag a box to define zoom extent or single click to zoom out 2X.

Third from the left, the 100 percent, returns the map to the initial zoom level. Click on it and then click on the map. A click on the hand tool is used to move the map.

The "i" identifies a specific parcel or a block of parcels. By zooming in, parcel numbers will appear on the map. Click on the "i" and then click on a parcel number to identify the owner. Print displays a "printer friendly" version of the map display. Click on "lat/lon" and a box appears at the top of the map. Click on the parcel of interest and then click on the lightning icon in the latitude/longitude block. Place and click on the parcel of interest to plot latitude/longitude. The final tool allows the viewer to view to scale.



If you reside in Scotland County, experiment with the map tools. Locate your parcel, identify the latitude and longitude and make a printout. (Gone too far in the wrong direction? The north/south/east/west directional arrows on the border of the map help guide the way).

New staff directory available

Tommy Hatcher has created the County staff directory in a Microsoft Excel file. There hasn't been a comprehensive staff directory for several years, which is why the EMS dispatcher tackled the project.

Hatcher has already emailed an Excel document to all department heads.

"What I would like someone in each department to do is fill out the information in the area directly below the EMS information and return it to me by email in Excel," Hatcher explained. "Everyone who replied is listed in the new directory."

Hatcher combined all the information into a single master list and sent the the new, updated directory to department heads via email. "Please forward it to your people or print it if needed," he said.

"Once in an Excel document, it is much easier to maintain, so share as much information as you like," Hatcher said. "A suggestion for everyone is to save the document and create a short cut to it on your desktop."

Missing from the directory for the time being is the Health Department, which will get a new phone system once it locates offices in the expanded West Boulevard facility early in 2004.

Hatcher invites comments and/or suggestions to improve upon and keep the directory current. He can be reached at thatcher@scotlandcounty.org.

Notes from the County Manager

Greetings. It's resolution time. Losing that extra pound or two, increasing physical activity, boning up on nutrition are favorites.

Resolutions can be made at any time. Commitment and follow through is what really counts.

Resolve to wear a seatbelt whenever you get in a car. Make sure your family is buckled up, too. Rather than drink and drive, assign a designated driver or resolve not to drink.

Resolve to improve your community. Volunteer with or make a donation to your favorite service organization. Resolve not to litter. Resolve to keep your community clean even when it's not a community clean up day. Resolve to do a good deed if the opportunity arises.

Keep your body and spirit happy. Resolve to see your doctor and your dentist, too. If you have a pet(s), resolve to nurture them. With 365 days to work with, resolve never to run out of resolutions.



Scott Sauer

the Birthday list for January

1 Dr. Matthew Block (Health); **3** Lacy Blue (Transportation) and Tiffanee Conrad (Cooperative Extension); **4** Angelita Locklear (DSS); **6** Gladys Holmes (Health Administration) and Deborah Tardiff (DSS); **7** Mike Clark (EMS), Wiley Luther (Sheriff) and Larry Locklear and Frank Fairley (Public Buildings); **8** Deanna Snead (EMS); **8** Violet Moore (Health), Sandra Lockey (EMS) and Russell Baker (Board of Elections); **14** Shanta Hicks (DSS); **16** Doug Yongue, Jr. (Health); **17** Herman Gillis (E911 Wire); **20** Regan Bishop (DSS), Paul Lemmond (Sheriff) and Hiram Jones (Inspections); **21** Jonathan Edwards (Sheriff) and Donna Deese (Health); **22** Karen Chavis (DSS); **23** Missy Collins (Health) and Elizabeth Gibson (Jail); **25** Jane Murray (Health); **26** James Monroe (Sheriff); **30** Willette Jones (DSS); **31** Nicole Yarborough (DSS).

Introductions & transitions

Welcome employees who joined County departments since October 16: **Reggie Morrison**, part-time with EMS; **Larry Benton**, Public Buildings; **Regina Smalls** and **Shanta Hicks**, DSS; **Terri Phillips**, temporary with DSS; **Dennis Chavis**, Public Works; and **Linda Locklear**, Tax.



Approximately 145 Youth and volunteers in the Scotland County 4-H Program celebrated achievements of the past year during a recent banquet.

"The annual event recognizes the accomplishments of both 4-H members and 4-H volunteers," said Sharon English, Scotland County 4-H Agent.

"We are proud of our 4-H program and of our youth and volunteers who have worked hard this year in completing not only their individual goals but their goals for our community."

English explained, "Our clubs organized community projects such as recycling, beautification, providing meals for the underprivileged, and visiting and providing gifts for residents of local nursing homes."

"The program promotes clearer thinking, loyalty to one's own values, greater service and a better lifestyle," English added.

Recognized for their accomplishments were 50 youth ages 5 to 19. Each received a cash prize and a certificate or plaque. Some were singled out for outstanding achievements.

The Working Hands, Community Helpers, The Local Care Crew and the Helping Hands 4-H clubs won the 4-H Community Service Award for their recycling project.

The clubs collected cans at various sites in the County, promoted the importance of recycling through exhibits and workshops and shared the spirit of recycling with the community.

Our service to citizens put to test

As government employees, how we deliver service to the citizens is tested daily.

One citizen recently "tested" the service provided when he paid a visit to County Manager Scott Sauer to pay his \$241.89 taxes in bills and small change.

Administrative Assistant Lynn Poe was up for the challenge and agreed to count the money.

Poe, who worked in a bank for eight years before her employment with the County, sorted and counted the money in 55 minutes. She indicated that if she was still working at the bank, the job would not have taken as long.

"This takes a little longer than working in a bank because the leaning over slows you down," said Poe. She explained that tabletop counters for tellers are at a height appropriate for counting money.

She said coins accounted for \$39.89 of the total amount the citizen owed the County.

"It doesn't seem like much, but once you start counting and separating the coins, that's what slows you down," she said.



Administrative Assistant Lynn Poe sorts and counts \$241.89 in bills and change.

4-H youth, volunteers recognized

Left to right, 2004 County Council Cherrell Brown, Melissa Bethea, Ashton Carroll, Irene Davidson, and Sherries Campbell and 2004 Volunteer Leaders Jenni Blackwell, Alisha Brown, Starla Hunter and Delores Bethea.

Sherries Campbell was named 4-H Junior of the Year and Cherrell Brown was named 4-H Senior of the Year. Selections were based on a point system for accomplishments throughout the year. Brown received the I Dare You award. Nominated by fellow 4-H members, this award presents the challenge to "dare to be one's best, to live a four fold life and to serve others."

Following recognition of 63 volunteers in the 4-H Program, Cathy Graham, County Extension Director, said, "Our volunteers provide the foundation and support for the 4-H Program. Through their donations of both time and talents they provide invaluable guidance and leadership to the young people of our County."

A highlight of the evening was the installation of the newly elected 2004 County Council and Volunteer Leaders Association Officers. The new officers include, Cherrell Brown, President; Melissa Bethea, Vice President; Ryan Norton, Secretary; Ashton Carroll, Treasurer; Irene Davidson, Parliamentarian and Sherries Campbell, Reporter.

Newly elected Volunteer Leaders Association officers are, Jenni Blackwell, President; Alisha Brown, President-Elect; Starla Hunter, Vice President; Delores Bethea, Secretary; Lavonda Jones, Treasurer; Rodney Morrison, Parliamentarian; and Susan Ward, Reporter.

2004 District Volunteer Leaders Association President-Elect Ozzie Adams and District Reporter William Byrd and Clay Brooks, 2003 County Council President, provided entertainment.

Post Scripts

Congratulations to **Judy Riggins** in the Board of Elections Office on the September 17 birth of grandson Morgan Alan Hansen. ☞ **Jane Callahan** attended District V of the North Carolina Association of Registers of Deeds meeting November 21. ☞ The following EMS staff are celebrating anniversaries of employment with the County: **Wayne Mace**, 14 years; **Roylin Hammond**, 10 years; **Pat Davis**, 6 years; **Vernon Jackson**, 1 year. ☞ We extend our heartfelt sympathy to **David Morrison**, Cooperative Extension, on the death of his mother and to **Shannon Newton**, Parks and Recreation, on the death of her father-in-law. ☞ In Health Department news: Congratulations to **Teddy Locklear** for receiving his Masters Degree in Public Administration from UNCP December 13. The **WIC Department** received a State WIC Division award for having the greatest percentage of improvement on women who breastfeed. **Linda Holland**, Purchasing Coordinator, was selected as the October Employee of the Month. Welcome back to **Melinda Salley**. **Angela Moore** RN completed certification in Adult Health Physical Assessment. **Lisa Locklear** RN completed certification as a Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinician and **Dawn McDonald** RN completed HIV testing and counseling training. Congratulations to **Barbara Mack** RN on the December 8 birth of granddaughter Meghan Mackinsey White, born to daughter Amy and husband Dan of Fayetteville, AR. Barbara will get to meet her new granddaughter over the holidays. Best wishes to **Nicki Peek** on her future endeavors. ☞ Congratulations to Library Director **Robert Busko**, named a 2003 recipient of the Ethel Fortner Award from St. Andrews Presbyterian College and to **Pam Riemer**, Cooperative Extension, who received her Master of Arts in Physical Education from UNCP.

4-H well-represented at annual event

Text and photos by Sharon English, 4-H Agent

Scotland County 4-H was well represented at the 4-H Volunteer Leaders Fall Day last month. The annual event, held this year in Robeson County, allows 4-H volunteers from all 14 counties in the South Central District to gather and elect officers for the 4-H District Leader's Association. In addition, volunteers participate in workshops.

Area 4-H Volunteers who attended were William and Precious Byrd, Hazel McPhatter, Pam Stephens, Ozzie Adams, Ida Stewart, Stephanie Jenkins, Bonnie Livosky, Walter Brown, Robert Wagner and Sharon English, 4-H Agent.

Two members of the Scotland County delegation were chosen to serve as officers for the upcoming year. Ozzie Adams was elected as incoming District President-Elect and William Byrd was elected to serve as District Reporter.

The District Volunteer Award for the 3 to 5 year category was presented to Robert Wagner, recognizing his outstanding service to youth.

The delegation focused on project records, cumulative records and application, resumé and interview (ARI); woodworking and cake decorating.

The county that serves as host for the upcoming year is based on the home county of the newly elected District President-Elect, which means Scotland County will be the host for the event in 2004.



Stephanie Jenkins, 4-H Superstars Club Co-Leader learns during a cake decorating class you can make your rose and eat it, too!



Wishing others holiday cheer

Pictured top left, Board of Elections Supervisor Judy Riggins, presented a holiday gift basket to Brenda Williams at the DMV.

Riggins brings baked goods, candy canes and doughnuts to DMV every year at this time to thank them for their part in obtaining voter registrations when people come in for their drivers licenses or photo IDs. This year, DMV staff returned the gesture by giving Riggins a basket brimming with fruit and nuts.

Meanwhile, Cooperative Extension Director Cathy Graham canvassed the County Annex distributing athletic and dress socks to male employees and stockings and tights to female employees.



Scotland County Monthly is published by the County Manager's Office to provide news and information to employees.
Comments, suggestions and story ideas are welcome.
Contact 277-3191 or akurtzman@scotlandcounty.org.

EMStatistics

EMS Report for November:
Responded to 362 Medical/Trauma calls.
Treated 61 motor vehicle accident patients.
Provided 3 stand-by medical coverages.
911 Report Highlights:

Received 1,381 total calls
324 EMS
254 Sheriff's Department
92 Laurinburg Police Department
31 Fire Department
332 hang-up calls
88 wrong numbers
97 open line calls
602 cellular calls.