

Scotland County Monthly



JANUARY 2007

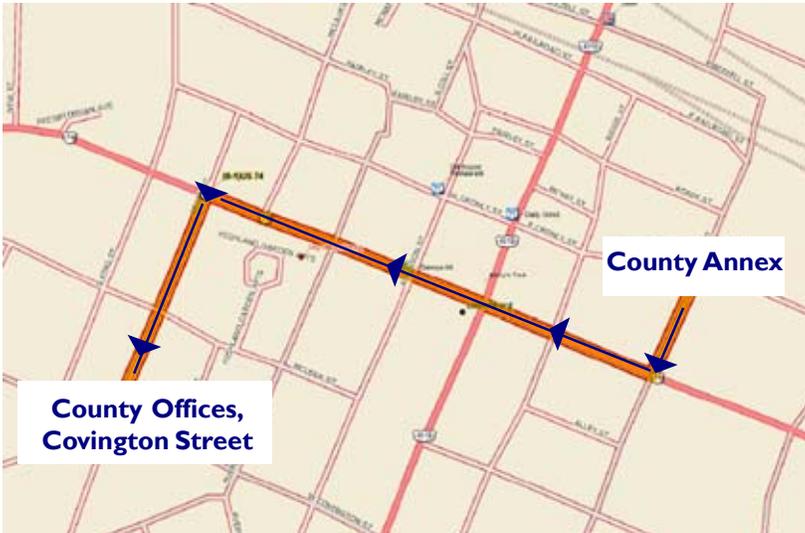
A newsletter for Scotland County employees

County offices settle in at Covington Street

An Open House at the Covington Street offices will be 4:30 to 6 p.m. Monday, February 5. County employees and citizens are invited to attend.

The County Administrative offices, Finance, Planning and Zoning, IT, Engineering and Inspections are now located at the corner of Covington and Peden Streets, less than a mile from the Annex on East Cronly Street.

To get to Covington Street, travel one block south from the Annex to Church Street (US74) and head west. Turn left on Pedens Street and travel two blocks to Covington Street. The new offices are on the southwest corner. Soil and Water Conservation, Elections and Cooperative Extension remain at the Annex.



Legislative issues addressed



Photo by Matt Kendall/Chamber of Commerce
Chamber of Commerce Chairman and Scotland County Commissioner Guy McCook discusses local economic opportunities.

A breakfast hosted by the Chamber of Commerce provided area leaders and County citizens the opportunity to meet with local legislators.

Senator Bill Purcell and Representatives Doug Yongue and Garland Pierce were on hand to answer questions and discuss issues of concern to the community as a whole.

Priority issues identified by those in attendance included advocating for the extension of I-74 through the County, securing sufficient funding for the construction of the Richmond Community College Scotland Campus, receiving a State commitment on permanent Medicaid relief and making a successful bid for the 21st Century Small Communities Program in the coming year.

Board of Commissioners annual retreat begins 12 p.m. February 7, Commissioners Chamber

FirstCarolinaCare expands dependent definition for coverage

FirstCarolinaCare, Inc., has expanded its definition of dependent as part of a plan to include children up to age 26 in its health coverage. The change became effective January 1, 2007.

The previous dependent definition included dependents aged 19 through 24, provided they were full-time students.

Under FirstCarolinaCare's new dependent definition, a child may remain enrolled up to age 26 without the requirement of full-time student status. The dependent also must not be eligible for coverage as an employee under another employer-sponsored health plan.

The decision to increase the dependent eligibility age is one way FirstCarolinaCare is attempting to reduce the growing number of uninsured in its service area. Young adults account for nearly half of the increase in the uninsured in the United States.

Extension staff now responsible for conference room reservations

The conference room at the County Annex is still available for meetings, business and social gatherings.

But effective January 2, the Cooperative Extension staff assumed responsibility from the County Manager's office staff for making conference room reservations.

Anyone who wishes to reserve the conference room should call Cooperative Extension first at 277-2422 to secure a verbal confirmation on the availability of the space.

Immediately follow the verbal confirmation with an email to the Cooperative Extension staff member who made the reservation.

Cooperative Extension Director Cathy Graham said this method would prevent any confusion and ensure that the conference room and/or kitchen are not double-booked.

Scotland Place provides a source for information services to older adults

Information and referral is an important role for Scotland Place Senior Center.

Number, Please!, a resource guide of agencies that offer information and assistance to older adults and their caregivers in Scotland County, is available at Scotland Place.

When citizens call with questions about how they can secure assistance for their parents or for themselves, Scotland Place staff can provide them with information on who to call.

Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) volunteers, on an individual basis, answer questions on Medicare and the new Medicare Prescription Drug program.

A variety of classes and activities are held weekly at Scotland Place so older adults have a place to gather for fellowship and fun.

Bingo, for instance, has been played weekly at Scotland Place almost since the doors opened, while the Crochet Club and the Quilt Club are the newest activities.

Social Security Administration serves all citizens, but is of particular interest to those on or close to retirement. In an effort to provide better access to the Social Security Administration, the Lumberton office agreed to move its Laurinburg Social Security branch to Scotland Place.

Effective January 2007, Social Security now has office hours at Scotland Place the first and third Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The local Social Security office was previously located in a space on 15-401 South.

A Social Security staff person will be available for walk ins. No telephone calls will be taken at this facility. However, forms will be available for persons to pick up during regular office hours at Scotland Place.

Scotland Place Senior Center offers monthly trips to a variety of locations throughout North Carolina and South Carolina. Upcoming trips include the Richard Petty Museum, Reynolda House and Concord Mills. [See page 4.](#)

EMS thanks local heroes



Paramedic Supervisor Dennis Currie, right, presents a framed Certificate of Appreciation to Sue and Howard Clark.

Citizens Howard and Sue Clark received an EMS Certificate of Appreciation for assisting paramedic Dennis Currie on New Year's Eve.

Currie was responding to a third call in the Quick Response Vehicle when a tire on the vehicle went flat on Sneads Grove Road. When Currie pulled off the road the Clarks stopped to help.

After loading the EMS equipment into their car, the Clarks transported Currie to the scene of the emergency. They then helped Currie carry the equipment into the home where the emergency call originated.

The Clark's unselfish assistance allowed Currie to do his job, despite a vehicle failure, so he could render emergency aid in a timely manner.

EMS presented the Clarks with a small token of thanks for their assistance in the form of a framed Certificate of Appreciation.

"Their help allowed EMS personnel to do the job they are expected to do, even in the face of a vehicle failure," said EMS Director Roylin Hammond.

He added, "We are much indebted to the Clarks for their help and extend a heartfelt thank you to them for their unselfish assistance." According to the certificate, the Clarks demonstrated "a true example of community spirit and love for your fellow man."

Solutions to spam issue being studied

by Kevin Patterson, Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager

The County's ISP, Schoollink, which provided limited spam filtering, discontinued the service claiming it was receiving numerous complaints about the number of false positives where valid emails were rejected.

So Schoollink changed its spam filters and instead of being included in the \$25,000 Schoollink receives as the ISP for the County and Scotland Memorial Library, Schoollink now intends to charge for the new email filter.

As a result, the County's IT department is currently planning on renovating an existing server that might be used as a spam filter. IT will work on the new server and other methods to reduce the volume of bogus emails. [see Spam, page 4](#)



Teresa Eddins, was administered the oath of office as Deputy Clerk in the Register of Deeds. Eddins worked in the Register of Deeds office several months before taking

the oath. **Dontae Roland** and **Mac Tucker** were named co-employees of the year by EMS staff. Celebrating employment anniversaries at EMS are **Pat Lathrop**, 26 years; **Mike Edge**, 20 years, **Darren Floyd**, 12 years; **Lee Chavis**, 10 years; **June Hunt**, 4 years; **Terri Tacquard**, 2 years; **Buffie Hunt** and **Bo Watson**, 1 year.

Our condolences to the family of **John Q. Byrd**, who served as County Manager for 26 years. We extend our sympathy to **David Morrison**, Cooperative Extension, on the January 6 death of his father Ernest Morrison.

Friday we'll see RED

County employees are encouraged to wear red Friday, February 2, as part of National "Wear Red" Day. According to the National Health and Wellness Observances and the American Heart Association, Wear Red Day is designed to create awareness of heart health and women. For more information go to www.americanheart.org.

Message from the Manager



John A. Crumpton

January was an extremely busy month. It seems business slows in November and December with the holidays, and as soon as the new-year begins all the issues facing the County come to the forefront.

None is more important than economic development.

Three significant meetings took place in January that demonstrate the commitment by the Chamber of Commerce, City of Laurinburg and

County have in promoting economic growth.

First was the Chamber Annual Banquet where guest speaker Commerce Secretary James Fein discussed economic issues in the State.

Second was the Legislative Breakfast with the local State delegation to the General Assembly.

Third was the joint meeting between the City and County, which focused on economic issues for the community.

I am confident that the County, City and Chamber have put a good plan in place that will lead to more jobs and growth in the community.

Unfortunately, nothing is a quick-fix, and change will take time.

Everyone involved in the new Economic Plan, developed by the Chamber and endorsed by the City and County, is committed to the plan for the long-run.

Administration offices have moved from the Courthouse Annex to Covington Street. Thank you to everyone involved in the move. Support by staff, particularly Public Buildings staff, ensured the move went as smoothly as possible.

The next step now is to assist a few departments in their move from the Courthouse to the Annex.

Congratulations to Parks and Recreation on the completion of the latest phase at the Rec Complex. The softball fields and concession building look great.

Thanks to Shannon Newton, Jim Blackwell and the entire Public Works/Landfill staff who worked so hard to get this phase completed.

Budget time is upon us. The Commissioners meet February 7 to begin the budget process. The Commissioners intend to lower the tax rate. So everyone must consider ways to hold expenses at the current budgeted level.

I also encourage everyone to adopt the slogan "Shrink to Greatness." Think small, think lean and think out of the box.

We must be creative and develop a budget that cuts the tax rate and keeps that rate steady for the next several years.

Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments since

November 16, 2006: **Katherine Bailey**, Health; and **Brian English, James Lavinier, James Pegues, Jeffery Cooper, Jennifer Clark, Scott Jacobs, Shep Jones, Steve Smith, Tyrone McKoy** and **William Edge**, Sheriff.

EMStatistics

1,972 total calls to 911

EMS Report for December:
Responded to 447 Medical/Trauma calls

Treated 57 motor vehicle accident patients

Administered 66 wellness/blood pressure checks

Sold 50 blue address signs

Top five complaints for EMS Response

63 breathing problems

60 sick person (specific diagnosis)

57 traffic accidents

32 falls/back injuries (traumatic)

27 transfer/interfacility/palliative care

27 chest pain

Weather Observations

(EMS Recordings)

Temp (high) 75 on 12/18

Temp (low) 19 on 12/9

Wind (mph) 32 on 12/1

Rainfall (inches) 1.16 on 12/25

Compiled by Tommy Hatcher

911 Report Highlights:

404 EMS

263 Sheriff's Department

212 Laurinburg Police

Department

64 Fire Department

655 hang-up calls

99 wrong numbers

40 open line calls

1,165 cellular calls

Sign placement signifies milestone at the Rec Complex



The sign for the Scotland County Recreation Complex is a recent addition on Turnpike Road signifying completion of Phase Two, which will open late summer of 2007. Phase Two features an 18-hole disc golf course, paved walking trail, softball-baseball fields, picnic shelters, playground and a parking lot. Phase One incorporated the construction of an entrance road and Splash Pad.

the Birthday list for February

1 Betty Blue Gholston (Commissioner) and Kristin Owens (EMS); **2** Katherine Mohn (Jail); **3** Lisa Tew (Health) and Lindsay Stone (Jail); **5** Randy Dover (Jail); **6** Debra Holcomb (Register of Deeds); **8** Al Blades (Parks and Recreation); **10** Nam Namangolwa (DSS); **11** Ron Sapp (Health); **12** Joyce McDow (Commissioner) and Matthew Locklear (EMS); **14** Yvonne Deberry (DSS); **16** Patricia Brown (Register of Deeds); **17** Joe Knott (DSS); **18** Eddie Smith (Sheriff) and Darren Floyd (EMS); **19** Sandy Skamperle (DSS); **20** Teresa Jacobs (DSS) and Glen Lockey (Public Works); **23** Hyder Massey (Public Buildings); **24** Ann Kurtzman (Administration); **25** Frances Moody (Health) and Jim Blackwell (Public Works); **26** Robin Quick (Health). A belated birthday wish to Jannett Garcia (Health), January 18.

A workshop on cooking terms assists students with end-of-grade testing

A workshop on cooking terms for more than 50 third-grade students was offered by Scotland County 4-H and Covington Street School.

The third-grade students of Shannon Braswell, Lori Carlyle and Katie Balchak were provided a hands-on training on 23 cooking terms found on the end-of-grade-test.

One station was set up to introduce students to the following cooking terms — utensils, materials, rise, mixture, sifter, toss, whisk, blend and combine.

A second station covered the following topics — serving, serving size, yield, calories, measure, double, half, ingredients and optional.



Third grade students make trail mix by measuring and combining different ingredients.

Following instruction on these 18 words, the students rotated through three additional stations, one of which brought the students to the kitchen for training on the remaining five words — stove, boil, preheat, oven and bake. Another station taught proper hand-washing practices and utilized a black light to illustrate, while the third station entertained the students with a story of Mr. Bun, told by Brenda Gilbert, and Stone Soup, read by Jan Schmidt.

"I was asked by Mrs. Braswell if 4-H could offer students a workshop

on understanding cooking terms they would encounter on the end-of-grade test," said Sharon English, 4-H Agent. "The result was the development of a hands-on opportunity for the students to experience these words through touch and visual examples and to help prepare them for understanding their meaning on the end-of-grade test."

This was a pilot program for Scotland County 4-H and will be offered to schools and youth serving organizations throughout the community.

Trips scheduled for older adults

Scotland Place Senior Center finalized its schedule of day trips for older adults through the month of July.

Thursday, February 22, Richard Petty Museum, Randleman, NC, \$6 for transportation, event fee \$5. Depart 9 a.m. Lunch at Randleman Restaurant — Roscoe's.

Thursday, March 22, Reynolda House and Gardens, Winston-Salem, \$6 for transportation, event fee \$9. Depart 8 a.m. Lunch at Mayberry Ice Cream and Sandwich Shoppe.

Thursday, April 26, Sandhills Horticultural Gardens, Pinehurst, \$6 for transportation. Depart 9:30 a.m. Lunch at John's BBQ.

Thursday, May 24, Swan Lake — Iris Gardens, Sumter, SC, \$6 for transportation. Depart 9 a.m. Lunch at Applebee's.

Thursday, June 28, NC Museum of Art, \$6 for transportation. Depart 8:30 a.m. Lunch TBA. Temples and Tombs: Treasures of Egyptian Art from The British Museum will be featured. The exhibit presents 85 renowned masterworks and seldom-seen treasures from The British Museum's collection of ancient Egyptian art. Sculpture, relief, papyri, jewelry and cosmetic implements, as well as funerary items in a variety of media, will provide a glimpse of more than 3,000 years of Egyptian history, from the Old Kingdom's Third Dynasty (ca. 2686 BC) to the Roman occupation of the fourth century AD. This exhibition is organized by the American Federation of Arts and The British Museum.

Thursday, July 26, Concord Mills, Concord, NC, \$6 for transportation. Depart 8 a.m. This is a popular shopping entertainment destination of the Carolinas and the most popular visitor attraction in North Carolina. Return 5 p.m.

Meals on your own, unless noted. Trip capacity is 26. Payment confirms your seat. Trip registration starts the 1st Tuesday of the month for that month's trip: February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3.

Spam can be managed with some effort

continued from page 2

For those who use Microsoft Outlook to manage your email, help is available. To create your own email filter, go to your Inbox. Select Tools from the menu. Select Rules Wizard. Select New on the right side of the dialog box for a step-by-step process of creating a new rule for your email.

Highlight "check messages when they arrive." Then select "from people or distribution list." When you check the box to the left it will show up in the box on the bottom of the window. Click on the blue wording in the line, and your address book will show up. Select the individuals or distribution lists you wish to add to the rule. Click on the "from" button. This will move the name to the right side of the box. When you are finished click ok. Then click next. Now you can select where you want these emails to go.

The most common options are "move it to a specified folder" or "delete it." If you want to move it to a white list folder, select "move to a specified folder." When you see this in the bottom box, click on the blue text. This will let you select which folder to send the emails to or to create a new folder.

After you select the folder, you can create any exceptions. Select "run this rule on messages in ..." and finish. Your messages should move as you expect. You can follow this basic principle and filter based on subject line to delete emails with terms like; casino, enlargement, business opportunity or I love you.

This will take some time and a little effort on your part. Once the rules are established, emails can be managed in less time.

No spam filter is perfect. The IT staff are working to provide you with quality technology to streamline your work.