



SCOTLAND COUNTY MONTHLY

JULY 2003

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

SCATS vehicle ads generate revenue

SCATS (Scotland County Area Transit System) has been generating nearly \$600 a month for the General Fund through billboard-like advertising on four of its vehicles.

Vehicles displaying the ads include one 24-seat passenger bus and three high-rise units for people with disabilities.

The Transportation Department received approval from the Board of Commissioners last fall to enter into a marketing agreement with Lumberton-based Higet Kracker Design.

Under the agreement, the Transportation Department receives 40 percent of the ad dollars generated in the first year, 50 percent in the second year and 60 percent in the third year.

Higet Kracker does all the footwork and all the marketing. "The only thing we do is make sure it meets everyone's approval," said EMS Director Roylin Hammond. "We don't need to be advertising beer, for example."

"This type of advertising is apparently working in lots of counties," Hammond said. Roughly 58 North Carolina counties with transportation systems generate revenue in a similar fashion.

Two sides of each vehicle are made available for advertising.



Debbie Davis McRae drives the 24-passenger SCATS bus, which features a different ad on each side.

When not in use a "this space available" along with a contact telephone number is posted similar to those found on highway billboards.

Hammond said the method of advertising is very effective. "Billboards are only seen by the people who drive by," he said. "The SCATS vehicles cover the County, and they are seen by a lot of people."

Donors needed for blood drive

The need for types O and B are critical now in the Carolina Blood Services Region. Employees are asked to keep that in mind during the County-sponsored Red Cross Blood Drive August 13.

According to a Red Cross Sponsor Alert, at least 1,500 donors are needed every day to meet patient blood needs in the Carolinas Region. The County's blood drive goal is 30 pints.

Type O, the most common, represents almost half the blood needed daily by patients. Type O negative can safely be transfused to patients of all blood types and often is used in trauma situations and for newborns when crossmatching cannot be done. Among the rarest blood types is B negative. One person in 67 has type B negative.

Employees who wish to donate blood are encouraged to spread the word or to bring a friend. The blood drive is scheduled for 1 to 5:30 p.m. in the County Annex.

Library Director brings home historical map and a message

Civil War buff Robert Busko was pleased with the discovery he made in a Savannah print shop.

He happened across a map of Cumberland County and Fayetteville, printed between 1890 and 1895. Richmond County, Laurel Hill and Spring Hill were prominent in the map's inset, which outlined Sherman's route through the region March 6 to 9, 1865.

Although Busko purchased the map, the circumstances under which he found it raised concerns for the Director of Scotland Memorial Library.

"It had once been bound, and I realized it had been an Atlas map taken out of a book," Busko said.

He explained that materials that come up missing at public libraries, school libraries and at even the Library of Congress can reach epidemic proportions. Although security systems help prevent loss, they are not necessarily foolproof.

THERE'S MORE INSIDE

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Resource guide now available

A senior information telephone line is now available at Scotland Place to provide resource guidance about local services for older adults and their caregivers. The service is available Mondays and Wednesdays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., by calling 610-1586.

A resource guide to agencies that offer information and assistance for older adults in Scotland County has been printed. It is available at Scotland Place and online as a PDF file at www.scotlandcounty.org. Click on Parks and Recreation and then click on Resource Guide for Older Adults.

Call Carol McCall at 277-2550 for additional copies of the resource guides.

Weigh to Go Teens enjoy beat

by *Melissa C. Hopkins, Cooperative Extension*

A strong beat emerged from the County Annex conference room two days a week beginning July 14. Laurinburg native Jenny Harrell stood before 25 high school girls, leading them through a series of aerobic movements in the first of eight sessions in the Weigh To Go Teens program.

"Weigh To Go Teens is a collaborative effort to target obesity in the youth of Scotland County," said Pam Riemer, Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Science.

The Scotland County Adolescent Wellness Council is administering the collaboration. Riemer and Hazel McPhatter, Program Assistant with the 4-H Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, represent the North Carolina Cooperative Extension portion of the collaborative effort.

Additional agencies involved include the Health Start Program at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Purcell Clinic, the Scotland County Health Department and Scotland Memorial Hospital.

"Obesity is an overwhelmingly common problem in our community — starting in childhood," said Dr. Currie Howard of the Purcell Clinic and head of the effort for the Adolescent Wellness Council.

"So many of our patients want to do something about their weight problems, but they don't know where to start. This program offers these girls a place to start," she added.

Each session includes a physical activity portion as well as a variety of other learning aspects, which include nutrition and self-development.

"Our teenagers will learn how to cook low-fat and low calorie meals and snacks," said Dr. Howard. "There also will be sessions with community members on abstinence, STD prevention and improving self-esteem."

Other sessions include appearance-related topics such as hair and makeup. "We really hope to make an impact with these girls," Riemer said. "It is our goal to get them to serve as ambassadors in the community to help both their peers and their families learn these same skills."

The pilot program sessions continue on Mondays and Thursdays through August 7.



Weigh to Go Teens enjoy the moves.
Photo by Pam Riemer

DSS safety procedures set

by *Jan Marie Fesmire, DSS*

Effective July 1, 2003 all DSS visitors are required to register with the reception desk when they arrive at the agency and will be issued a "Visitor Badge" to be worn while they are in the agency.

Visitors are classified as anyone who is not a DSS customer (because they are registered otherwise). This includes State and regional personnel, personnel from other DSS agencies, County employees (other than Health Department, DSS and Public Buildings employees), the community population not considered to be DSS customers and family members or friends of DSS employees.

Once the visitor registers with the receptionist, the party they came to see will be called to meet them at the reception area and take them to the appropriate area.

Visitors will be escorted to the exit when they leave the agency and the visitor badge retrieved for return to the receptionist along with notification of visitor departure time.

Implementation of the procedure assists the agency in identifying as many people as possible at any given time that might be in the building in the event of a crisis.

It also is intended to address the issue of providing a safer work environment for DSS employees.

Safety training for all employees of DSS was initiated approximately two years ago, using the *Working Safe Working Smart Curriculum*, written by William V. Griffin. Since then, training is conducted once yearly for all new employees.

As a result of the *Working Safe Working Smart* training, many safety issues were raised by employees.

A safety committee was formed to address the issues. The committee initiated work on a crisis management plan and manual for use in the event of crisis. Fire, tornado, bomb threat and hostage situation are among the many issues that were addressed.

With the initial plan in place, it paved the way for the the agency to implement safety procedures, such as the visitor registration.

Testing the procedures through drills for any given event are planned in an effort to fine-tune the procedures in such a way that everyone will be prepared should a crisis occur.

The ultimate goal is to assist employees in being safety conscious so they can be prepared and understand what steps to take in order to protect themselves and those around them in the event of a crisis.

EMStatistics

EMS Report for June:

Responded to 310 Medical/Trauma calls.

Treated 48 motor vehicle accident patients.

Provided 2 stand-by medical coverages and 3 department presentations

911 Report:

Received 1,316 total calls

256 EMS

290 Sheriff's Department
61 Laurinburg Police Department

30 Fire Department
294 hang-up calls

112 wrong numbers
134 open line calls

598 Cellular calls.

Report compiled by
Tommy Hatcher.

Notes from the County Manager

Greetings. I would like to thank everyone for keeping me in their thoughts and prayers during my recovery these past few weeks.

Although I am on the mend, there are others who suffer physical traumas which require a critical need for blood. Consider your role in "giving the gift of life."

Scotland County on April 13 will host a Red Cross Blood Drive. If you are able, please donate.



Scott Sauer

Scotland County Parks and Recreation Football, Cheerleading and Soccer signups are scheduled for August 4 to 8 at Scotland Place Civic Center on Turnpike Road from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Registration is 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the following sites: Tuesday, August 5, Laurel Hill Community Center Gym; Wednesday, August 6, Gibson Gym; and Thursday, August 7, Murray Park in Wagram.

Boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 13 are eligible to participate in soccer. Flag football participants must be 7 before August 1, 2003 and not turn 9 before August 1, 2003. Youth must turn 9 before August 1, 2003 and not turn 13 before the same date to participate in the Minor or Midget tackle program.

Football weight requirements are a minimum of 65 pounds and a maximum of 110 pounds for Minor League (9 to 10). Midget League (11 to 12) requirements are a minimum of 75 pounds and maximum of 145 pounds. Youth 9 and 10 who weigh over 110 pounds must play with the Midget League. Youth age 11 who weigh less than 75 pounds can play with the Minor League.

There are no weight requirements for Flag Football. All soccer and tackle football players must register in person even if they played last year.

First-time participants must bring a birth certificate and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Anyone who registers after the August 8 deadline will be placed on a waiting list.

Post Scripts

Bunny Anderson, Soil Conservation, was featured in an article on windbreaks in the Spring 2003 edition of *Inside Agroforestry*. Anderson helped develop a successful windbreak program for Marlboro County, SC, in the 1970s. ☼ The Health Department has fundraising plans for the Relay For Life. Among the events scheduled include a 50/50 raffle, grilled hot dog sale, Ice Cream Social, Lemonade/Tea Cake Sale, Magnificent Mondays Silent Auction, a BIG Silent Auction on August 1, Blue Jean Fridays and Blinky Pins. Anyone interested in purchasing a Luminaria, either in memory of or in honor of someone, may contact the Health Department. The cost is \$10. Congratulations to **Nicki Peek**, Social Worker, for being selected May Employee of the Month. Condolences to **Sylvia Hughes** on the death of her father. **Stephanie McDonald** was honored by staff with an after-work wedding shower July 11. McDonald will marry Antonio Patterson August 9. ☼ Library Director **Robert Busko** will attend the Digitization Institute III at the School of Library and information Sciences in Chapel Hill August 4 to 8. ☼ Celebrating anniversaries of years worked at EMS are **Cory Baldwin**, 19 years; **Ronnie Lynne Tunstall**, 9 years; and **Sheila Quick**, 9 years. Also at EMS **Tommy Hatcher**, **Gwen Ikner**, **Michael McQueen**, **Amy Ratley**, and **Deanna Snead** were certified in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) by the National Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch (**NAEMD**) in June. ☼ Cooperative Extension Agriculture Agent **David Morrison** lead a session during the Statewide Muscadine Meeting in Wagram July 25. Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent **Pam Riemer** received National ServSafe Certification, which allows her to instruct classes on food safety. The Cooperative Extension staff hosted an Extension County Needs Assessment luncheon July 16 in order to determine the needs of the Scotland County community.

Consider taking a 'hike for health'

Employees who invest just 15 minutes during their lunch break to a regular walking routine would likely decrease stress and feel better.

Consider a short hike around your place of work. If you wish to set goals, Barbara Mack, RN, of the Health Department, took a measuring wheel to the public buildings and one park. Here is what she calculated:

Location		Feet/Mileage
Hammond Park	3 Laps	1 Mile
County Complex	Parking Lot Perimeter -- 2 Laps	5,070 Feet. Add 200 feet for 1 Mile
County Complex	Building Perimeter -- 4 Laps	6,012 feet. About 1.12 Mile!
County Annex	Front door on Cronly Street, left on Main, left on Church, left on James, left to front door	1 Lap = 2,710 feet 2 Laps = 5,420 feet. 1 Mile +
County Annex	Front door on Cronly Street, right on Biggs, left on Roper, left on Main, left on Church, left on James, left to the front door	1 Trip = 3,458 feet 0.65 Mile

Library losses costly

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Robert Busko traces Sherman's route through Scotland County.

"People razor blade pages out of books," he said. "That might be what happened to this map." Busko added that the book might have been discarded, sold or stolen. "We don't know. We'll never know."

He explained, "Some things in the library are very valuable and we never know just how much until we need to replace them." Some books are rare or out of print, and the cost of replacement is sometimes beyond the means of a public library.

As an example, Busko said Scotland Memorial Library once had a 15-volume medical library set. Two of the volumes are now missing. "The collection is rendered useless. Chances are the book you need will be the one that is missing. We found that the set could not be replaced, so we had to look for something else to fill the hole."

He added, "I feel guilty buying this map, but I can't undo the damage that had already been done. This map yelled my name because it had 'home' on it."

"We want people to come in and touch the books. Libraries work when everybody agrees to share the resources," said Busko. "It has to be maintained. Otherwise, it ceases to be useful."

He added, "When people feel that their needs are more important than the needs of anyone else, that's when a public library becomes an easy target."

Introductions & transitions

Welcome employees who joined County departments since May 16: **Christopher Hunt**, Sheriff's Department; **Amy Tucker, Keith Hatcher** and **Sheila Quick** part-time in EMS; and **Jessica Maidment**, temporary in Planning and Zoning. Parks and Recreation employed the following counselors for June summer camp: **Anna Edwards, Chelsea Kurtzman, Heather Locklear, Jennetta Rainer, Jenni Blackwell, Lori Reynolds, Pamela Bennett** and **Roxanne Kurtzman**.

Young bakers cook up some goodies

Text and photo by Melissa C. Hopkins, Cooperative Extension

Twice a week throughout the month of July a group of young bakers spent two hours in the kitchen of the Cooperative Extension Office.

The bakers, led by Extension staff and volunteers, participated in the 4-H Summer Workshops. "We wanted to provide youth in the community with the opportunity to learn different baking skills," said Sharon English, 4-H Extension Agent.

The workshops were divided by age, with 5 to 9 year olds and 10 to 14 year olds. Each workshop provided new recipes for the young bakers to try. First came cookie lollipops, where cookies of different shapes were baked onto a stick and decorated with icing. Next came candy making, which included such treats as fudge, toffee bars and haystacks. The young bakers also made bread in the shape of animals and angel biscuits.

As Amelia Wood happily stirred fudge batter, her brother Caleb Wood commented, "My sister didn't want to come because she's never been here before. Now she's having a lot of fun."

Youth were taught about table setting and manners. The workshops maintained the full registration of 20 slots.

Hazel McPhatter, assistant with the 4-H Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, said, "It lets the children do some exciting hands-on projects."

The positive feelings from these workshops will hopefully carry over to an upcoming 4-H event, the 4-H Back to School Bake-Off on August 13.

"The children will learn some skills to help them prepare items for the bake-off, and also learn some tips and maybe some decorating ideas," said volunteer Judy Emanuel.

Bake-Off categories are pies, cakes, cookies and bread. Youth may enter two categories. For information, contact Sharon English at 277-2422.



Brian Beckwich measures flour with the assistance of **Sharon English**.

the Birthday list for August

1 Cordella Walker (Health), and Janice Stuckey-Boyd and Alvin Martin (DSS); **2** Jennie Lowe (DSS), Suzanne Miller (Health) and Christopher Bennett (Jail); **4** Bill McMillan (Administration) and Hazel McPhatter (Cooperative Extension); **5** Gene Jackson (Public Buildings) and Michael McQueen (EMS); **7** Richard Ammons (Sheriff); **9** Deloris McNeil (Health); **10** David Ellison (DSS); **11** Abby Massey (Health) and Pam Riemer (Cooperative Extension); **12** Tracy Rothwell (Jail); **13** David Quick (EMS); **14** Joan Alford (DSS) and Kevin Strickland (EMS); **16** Carolyn Faulk (Jail); **18** Nancy McPeek (Jail) and David Morrison (Cooperative Extension); **20** Michael Nobles (Jail); **21** Melissa C. Hopkins (Cooperative Extension); **22** Towana Harrington (DSS); **24** Michelle McQuaige (Jail); **25** Larry Goodwin (Public Buildings) and David Blalock (Sheriff); **28** Tenita Bullard and Linda Harper (DSS); **29** Mitchell Johnson (Sheriff) and Terena Taylor (Health); **30** Kimberly McRae (DSS) and Robert Wray (Sheriff); **31** Walter Ikner (EMS) and Mary Hambright (Health).

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.