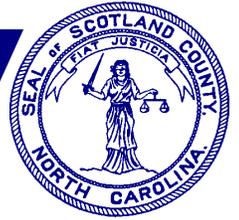


Scotland County

Monthly



MAY 2009

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

Landfill takes low-tech approach by recycling yard waste

The County's landfill on Patterson Road is recycling yard waste for reuse. The process also reduces the landfill's intake volume of yard waste.

"For the past four years we have been stockpiling and composting yard waste received at the landfill," explained County Engineer Jim Blackwell. "It is now decomposed to a state where we can screen the different materials into a fine organic topsoil, a coarser mulch and large pieces such as limbs and blocks."

Blackwell added that using the recycled material reduces the need for the County to buy outside materials.

"The topsoil will be used at the landfill and other places where there is a need for organic material," said Blackwell. The coarser material will be used for plant beds and boarders."

As for the large pieces, they will be stockpiled and the process will start all over again.

"We can take material that in years past would have been put in the landfill and instead turn it into a recycled material that we can use

see Recycle, page 2

Movies in the Park debuts

It's showtime in Scotland County with the launch of Movies in the Park, an event offered free to the community the third Thursday of each month through September.

County and City employees and their families are invited to the Movies in the Park debut June 4 at the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex, 1206 Turnpike Road.

Hosted by the Board of Commissioners and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, *Kung Fu Panda* will be featured at 9 p.m.. Music provided by Music Master precedes the movie at 8 p.m.

All scheduled movies carry a "G" or "PG" rating. Movies in the Park will open to the community June 18 with *Madagascar II* followed by *Hotel for Dogs*, July 18; *Bolt*, August 20; and *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, September 17.

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs but please leave your coolers and pets at home. Refreshments will be available at the Splash Pad concession stand.

Enjoy an hour of music at 8 p.m. and a movie at 9 p.m. *Journey to the Center of the Earth* will begin at 8:30 p.m.



Wrapping up County Assembly Day at a reception are, left to right, Commissioner Bob Davis, Senator Bill Purcell, Commissioner Guy McCook, Speaker of the House Joe Hackney, Commissioner Joyce McDow, Representative Doug Yongue and Commissioner John Alford.

County Assembly Day meetings prove fruitful for local elected officials, staff

Scotland County elected officials and administrative staff met with local legislators in Raleigh to discuss community needs and request support for development of local projects.

Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Guy McCook and Joyce McDow, County Manager Kevin Patterson and Economic Developer Greg Icard identified the runway upgrade at Laurinburg-Maxton Airport as a critical needs project during personal visits with Senator Bill Purcell and Representatives Garland Pierce and Doug Yongue.

The visiting officials also asked State legislators to support Scotland County's opposition to proposed legislation that would transfer the responsibility of secondary road maintenance to counties.

Patterson explained that the secondary road legislation, if approved, would translate into an additional 20 cents on the tax rate, a financial burden the County could not afford. The majority of counties along with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) oppose the bill.

The Commissioners, Patterson and Icard were in Raleigh for the annual

County Assembly Day hosted by NCACC. The event provides county elected officials and staff from across the state a forum to meet with State legislators one-on-one to advocate for local priority projects and to voice support or opposition to proposed legislation that directly affects counties.

Commissioners McCook and McDow, Patterson and Icard continued on from Raleigh to Washington, D.C., where they personally met with Representative Larry Kissell and with officials from the offices of Senators Kay Hagen and Richard Burr.

Patterson said the local delegation again requested support for a runway upgrade at Laurinburg-Maxton Airport. Patterson added that the need for funds to develop a WestPoint Stevens water transmission study and for a Scotland Place Senior Center expansion that would incorporate and Emergency Operations Center also was discussed.

Rettig elected to serve on State transit board

SCATS Transportation Coordinator Gracie Rettig was elected to the North Carolina Public Transit Association's Board of Directors.



Gracie Rettig

She will serve with 17 other Directors from transit systems throughout North Carolina. Rettig was elected by the 140 members of the NCPTA to serve in this position. Her election was announced at the 2009 NCPTA Spring Conference held in Wilmington in May.

Rettig is pictured with the 2008 NCPTA Safety Award for transit systems that drive less than 499,999 mile each

year and are accident free.

This is the second year in a row that SCATS has received this award.

"The entire staff at SCATS is responsible for earning the Safety Award," said EMS Director Roylin Hammond. "It is achieved through an active safety training program and a very conscious effort on the part of all our SCATS drivers."

Yard waste recycled



A screen separates the yard waste by size.

continued from page 1

as organic material in different areas of the County," said Blackwell.

A track hoe feeds the partially decomposed yard waste on to a screen that separates the material by size.

Blackwell said, "It will take about a month to screen the material."

He added, "Decomposition of a new stockpile would take about three years."

"This is just another low-tech method of recycling organic material," he explained. "It's the same way every homeowner could composte their own leaves, pine straw and grass clippings."

Most of the yard waste came from curbside pickup in the City

the Birthday list for June

1 Lisa Locklear (Health); 2 Linda Locklear (Tax); 4 Andrea Anderson (DSS) and Travis Stone (Sheriff); 5 Dorothy Fields and Melinda McKoy (DSS), Barbara Mack (Health) and Stephanie McDonald (Cooperative Extension); 6 Leroy Davis (Public Buildings); 7 Bryant Higgins (Public Works); 8 Sherry Lane (Library); 11 Carolyn Allen (DSS); 12 Sharon Davis (Transportation); 13 Ronnie Tunstall (EMS); 14 Reginald Franklin (EMS), Kevin Rader (Sheriff) and Eva Locklear (DSS); 15 Vincent Price (EMS); 16 Annie Locklear (Health) and Benjamin Hunt (EMS); 18 Crystal McNair (Jail); 20 Leon Butler (Public Buildings); 21 Linda Holland (Administration) and Tina Bormet and Garrett Dial (EMS); 22 Greg Icard (Administration); 24 Pamela Reed (DSS); 25 Annie Freeman (Cooperative Extension); 27 Jonathan Dunn (Sheriff), Evangela McArthur (Health) and Bessie Bell (DSS); 28 Glenn Tucker (EMS), and Sheryl Primus and Tenasha Goins (DSS); 29 Vicki Barnes (DSS); 30 Randy Wood (Cooperative Extension).

Legion Park designated historic site



Historic Properties Commission Chairman John Stewart, third from right, presents a certificate to American Legion Board of Directors President Bill Riggins, center, designating Legion Park as a local historic site. Also pictured are, left to right, Jerry Weinreis, Robert Starner, Jimmy Bennett, Al Lechliter, Riggins, Dan Skamperle, Carl Ikner, C.L. Witmore, Stewart, Jim Walker and Jim Blue.

Legion Park received the designation of local historic site by the Scotland County Historic Properties Commission.

The designation legitimizes what many in the community have known all along — that Legion Park, having served continuously as a center of family-oriented activity and athletic events, is worthy of historic recognition.

Members of American Legion Post 50 met with Historic Properties Commission representatives on the infield of Legion Park to accept the certificate of designation.

Over the past year Legion Park has been the focal point of an upgrade and facelift.

The communitywide effort included support from the County, City, School System, American Legion Post 50 and service-oriented agencies. Support was provided through public and private funds and in-kind services.

Legion Park has been in continuous use since it was built in 1945. Scotland County Schools have hosted athletic events at Legion Park since the 1950s.

A critical component to the Legion Park project is to restore the original advertising signs on part of the interior wall with fresh paint and to maintain the World War II-era quonset hut as an original Legion Park fixture.

Brief microburst proves damaging

*Text and photo
by Roylin Hammond, EMS*

Just after 8 a.m. Monday, May 11, the Scotch Meadows area of Scotland County experienced what the National Weather Service refers to as a microburst, which is a sudden, violent downdraft of air over a small area.

But the people who live in the area didn't think there was anything "micro" about what happened.

Strong winds and a severe thunderstorm left the area soaked with rain, hundreds of downed trees, roads



blocked, power outages, barn roofs blown away, horse trailers turned upside down, damaged homes and storm debris scattered over a wide area.

Fire, Rescue, Law Enforcement, NCDOT and utility company personnel responded to the incident.

Fortunately, there were no injuries to area residents although one horse was badly cut by a piece of flying tin.

Church hosts preparedness fair

The Church of Latter Day Saints hosted an Emergency Preparedness Fair for Scotland and six other counties.

Scotland County sent EMS, 911 and Emergency Management equipment and personnel.

A severe weather presentation was made. Tommy Hatcher, 911 supervisor, sold address signs and EMS Director Roylin Hammond talked about the County's Emergency Operations Plan.

The Sheriff's Department, Scotland County Rescue Squad, Laurinburg Police Department, First Health of the Carolinas and the Red Cross also attended.

RCC groundbreaking makes local campus name and completion date official



Officials who broke ground at the new RCC site include Senator Bill Purcell, Representatives Doug Yongue and Garland Pierce, Commissioners Betty Gholston, Joyce McDow, Guy McCook and Bob Davis and County Manager Kevin Patterson.

The groundbreaking made it official. The Richmond Community College Scotland campus has a name and an intended completion date.

The April 27 groundbreaking celebrated the start of construction of the Diane Honeycutt Center of Richmond Community College. Dr. Honeycutt, former RCC President, is now President Emeritus. Anticipated completion date is late spring 2010.

A Scotland campus for Richmond Community College was nearly 10 years in the making beginning in 2000 when the City of Laurinburg received a Brownfields grant from the EPA, which was used for an environmental site assessment of the old hospital property.

Elected officials from the City and County and RCC representatives recounted the milestones achieved since 2000 to some 50 people who attended the groundbreaking.

Commissioner Joyce McDow said the project "was a long time coming." McDow, who also serves on the RCC Board of Trustees thanked elected officials and key people in the community for their hard work on the project.

The \$3.5 million budget for the new building was raised through local contributions, a federal Economic Development Administration grant, a gift from the Golden Leaf Foundation and a NC Community College System Facilities grant.

RCC President Sharon Morrissey said because bids came in under projected estimates, it is hoped that one general classroom will be added along with a mechanical upgrade for increased energy efficiencies. "We have planted the seeds for something new in Scotland County," said Dr. Morrissey. "Many people toiled in this garden for many years, and I want to thank them all."

Commissioners Betty Gholston, Joyce McDow, Guy McCook and Bob Davis, Senator Bill Purcell and Representatives Doug Yongue and Garland Pierce attended the groundbreaking.



Splash Pad opens for summer

The Splash Pad is now open weekends from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Beginning June 17 and continuing to August 17, hours of operation will extend to Tuesdays through Sundays with Tuesday through Saturday hours from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The fee is \$1 for children under 12 and \$2 for Scotland County residents 12 and older. The Splash Pad is available for private bookings. Call 277-2585.



Report to the People tells of positive community impact

An early morning fire at Cooperative Extension offices did not deter the agency from continuing with its annual Report to the People.

The fire, thought to be electrical in origin, resulted in smoke damage to Cooperative Extension offices and the neighboring conference room.

With the fire extinguished and experts on site to assess the situation, Cooperative Extension staff hosted citizens to a community tour — a first-hand look at how the agency has enriched the lives of its clients.

Washington Park Elementary School was the first stop for an update on 4-H Embryology. The 21-day program has been delivered to 784 students and 56 classrooms in the County so far.

Next, students at North Laurinburg School showed the group what they learned about healthy eating and fitness with the assistance of EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Program).

At Pha Lor Farm/Sunshine Farm, poultry grower Pha Lor explained how Cooperative Extension helped him develop required waste utilization plans. The plans allowed Pha Lor to receive a loan to purchase an additional farm.

Agricultural workshops assisted Z.V. Pate in peanut production, which is considered a viable alternative crop for the County's sandy soils. In 2008, an additional 1,000 acres of peanuts were planted in the County.

Adult Nutrition through EFNEP was discussed at Scottish Glenn Apartments. Class participants explained how meal planning, use of leftovers and product coupons helped them plan weekly meals, maximize family time and save money.

The tour concluded with lunch at the Dulin Center at Scotland Memorial Hospital. Livestock farmer Bill Bethea explained how the beef cattle short-course helped him improve his operation through marketing, herd health and financial management.

Greg Stanley, Director of Education at the Hospital, praised Cooperative Extension for its assistance in staff development, which helped the Hospital create changes in management and the work environment through team building, effective listening and enhancing communications.



Poultry grower Pha Lor, top left, with Poultry Agent Richard Goforth at Pha Lor Farm. North Laurinburg first graders and teacher Linda Tilson, above, dance their way to fitness.

Interoperable communications stressed in regional exercise

Paramedic Mike Edge and EMS Director Roylin Hammond were among 150 participants at a regional Emergency Management Communication Exercise.

The exercise was held at Camp Durant, a Boy Scout camp located in northern Moore County.

Participants represented 11 counties, eight State agencies, Amateur Radio (HAMS), Wake Medical Center, American Red Cross, the Charlotte Fire Department and even a North Carolina Highway Patrol helicopter.

After a morning of resource capability presentations, each participant tested their ability to communicate, by radio, with each of the other agencies present.

The exercise demonstrated the importance of interoperable communication equipment in situations where multiple jurisdictions respond to a single incident and must communicate with one another.

"It was a good experience for all who were able to attend and it stressed the availability of the many communications resources in our region," Hammond said.



Lynda McMillan, Health, is the proud grandmother of her 7th grandchild, Grant Michael McMillan, born May 6 to Michael and Brooke McMillan of Wake Forest. ❄️ **Gracie Rettig, Wanda Britt, and Roylin Hammond** attended the 2009 Spring North Carolina Public Transit Association conference in Wilmington. NCDOT and NCPTA collaborate to provide information, guidance and insight

regarding future trends in public transportation needs and possible funding sources. ❄️ Agricultural Agent **David Morrison** and Area Livestock Agent **Randy Wood**, Cooperative Extension, attended the South Central Agricultural Agents quarterly meeting at Cypress Bend Vineyards May 8. Owner Dan Smith provided a tour of the facilities and described how grapes are processed into wine. ❄️ Congratulations to **Jeannie Freeman**, DSS, on the May 20 birth of her first grandchild, Brayden Nehemiah Lowery.

Our condolences to **Joy Davis**, Library, on the death of her sister Mary Ward.

Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments since March 16, 2008: **Carl Dawkins, Gilbert Jones, Josephine Thompson, Keith Faulk** and **Leon Butler**, Public Buildings; **Tyquane White**, Sheriff; **Frances Pate**, Tax; and **Gina Paul**, part-time with EMS.