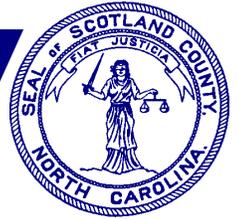


Scotland County

Monthly



NOVEMBER 2010

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

Hundreds attend dedication of Wagram Recreation Center

Hundreds of people packed the gymnasium and filled the bleachers at the Wagram Recreation Center to witness the dedication of the new facility.

Chairman J.D. Willis said it was an excellent day when a community can come together to celebrate the successful conclusion of a project three years in the making.

Willis recounted how he had met with a group of citizens in Wagram and the Sandhills area to discuss recreational needs and form an organizational group committed to moving the project forward.

Following a series of public input sessions, it was determined that a multipurpose building would fulfill the recreational needs of the community and surrounding area.

It was agreed the multipurpose center would house a basketball court.
see Center, page 2



Chairman J.D. Willis welcomes attendees to the dedication of the Wagram Recreation Center.

\$250K awarded for system to collect methane gas

Scotland County was one of six counties selected to receive Federal Recovery Act funds through the State Energy Office. The \$250,000 awarded to the County will help build a gas collection system so methane can run an engine/generator for electricity generation.

The County is reviewing whether to accept the funds since payment for the \$86,000 balance of the total \$336,000 project would be the County's responsibility.

County Manager Kevin Patterson said the methane gas collected will help offset the cost of the light bill at the landfill.

Patterson will discuss the project with Lumbee Electric to see if a cost-savings plan can be negotiated.

The Commissioners agreed not to spend the \$86,000 difference until they receive assurance from Lumbee Electric there would be satisfactory return on the investment.

A total of \$3.3 million in federal Recovery Act funds was distributed to the six counties for the development of projects to convert methane gases from landfills into fuel to produce electricity.

Money for the program is from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Grant funds will be used to support design, planning, permitting, equipment purchases, contracting, installation and other items directly necessary for the successful installation and operation of landfill energy systems, including landfill gas collection, gas conditioning or end-use equipment such as boilers, generators or turbines.



Christmas on Main November 21. Gorgeous weather. Crowded stores. Snowmen and Santa Claus. Perfect day.

Working Lands Protection Plan receives State certification

Scotland County received certification from the NC Department of Agriculture for its Working Lands Protection Plan (WLPP). The Plan was officially endorsed November 1 by the Board of Commissioners. Nearby Cumberland County also received certification.

The Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center at Mount Olive College and officials with the BRAC-RTF Working Lands Protection Program are the principal researchers and authored the plans.

"The region's working lands will help maintain the operational readiness of Fort Bragg and reduce the problems posed by development and other land uses that are incompatible with the Army's training and operational objectives," said BRAC-RTF Executive Director Greg Taylor.

The plan outlines the importance of agriculture and identifies ways to support that industry and also identifies ways to reduce development that may be considered incompatible with the mission of Fort Bragg through preservation of working farms and forests.

Certification qualifies counties and organizations within the counties for priority status when pursuing funding from the State trust funds such as the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund, NC Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund and the NC Tobacco Trust Fund, for working land preservation projects.

see Plan, page 2

Wagram Recreation Center celebrated

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court, walking track, fitness room, classroom and general meeting space.

Commissioner Guy McCook, who also serves as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, was among the speakers to celebrate the achievement.

McCook said collaboration and partnership made the development of the Wagram Recreation Center possible. He added that the continued success of the Center depends on community support and volunteers to help out during the facility's hours of operation.

McCook also thanked the Parks and Recreation staff for their work in moving the project along and for the services they provide with the minimum of resources.

At the conclusion of the dedication, attendees toured the facility and the gymnasium basketball courts were open for free play.

The Wagram Recreation Center was funded by a \$500,000 Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant. The Board of Commissioners matched the grant amount. *See page 4 for hours of operation.*



Youth head for the basketball courts after the dedication of the Wagram Recreation Center.

Indoor soccer games begin in Wagram

The Wagram Recreation Center will be the site for adult and youth soccer in December.

Adult co-ed games will be 5v5 and play on Fridays, December 3, 10 and 18, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Players must wear tennis shoes.

Youth indoor soccer dates and times are December 4 and 18, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., for boys and girls in grades five to seven and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for grade eight and high school boys and December 11, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., for boys and girls in grades five to seven and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for grade eight and high school girls.

Players must wear tennis shoes. Cleats or shoes with aggressive tread will not be allowed in the gym. A fee is charged for each day players attend. All players will be required to sign a waiver. Youth drop-off is not allowed. Pre-registration is required.

For more information on adult and/or youth indoor soccer contact the Wagram Recreation Center at 369-0686 or Parks and Recreation at 277-2585.

Commissioners endorse local land Plan

continued from page 1

According to Cooperative Extension Director Cathy Graham, who made the WLPP presentation to the Commissioners, because Scotland is a Tier I County, there would be no match requirement for the grant.

She added, "Funds could be used for the development of agriculture enterprises, conservation easements and any type of agricultural agreements and would not restrict farmers and foresters from developing their land or their ability to manage any of their assets."

Up until State certification of Scotland and Cumberland counties only four other counties had been endorsed and certified out of 11 counties in the region and 17 counties statewide.

Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments as of September 16, 2010: **Adam Holland** and **Jimmy Hall**, DSS; **Kevin Hudson**, Jail; and **William Grant**, part-time with EMS.

PostScripts

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) appointed Commissioner **Joyce McDow** to serve on the legislative goals committee and Commissioner **Bob Davis** to serve on the environmental committee. ✂ As of December 6, the County will welcome two new Commissioners — **Carol McCall** and **John Cooley**. McCall is a retired County employee and Cooley served on the Board of Commissioners from 1998 to 2002. They replace outgoing Commissioners **J.D. Willis** and **Betty Blue Gholston**, respectively. ✂ Congratulations to **Cathy Graham**, Cooperative Extension, on her new position as Director of Robeson County Cooperative Extension. **Sharon English**, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent, will serve as Interim Director of the Scotland County Cooperative Extension.

Our condolences to ...

Holly Russell, Parks and Recreation, on the death of her sister Christy Lynn Russell.

the Birthday list for December

2 Kimberly Cheek (DSS) and Peggy Robinson (Health); **4** Lloyd Goins (Jail); **5** David Newton and Gyivan Collins-Jackson (Sheriff) and Wendy Stanton (DSS); **6** Tracie Patterson (EMS); **7** Guy McCook (Commissioner); **8** James Nichols (Jail); **9** John Willenburg (Public Buildings), Richard Goforth (Cooperative Extension) and Robert Jones (Transportation); **10** Gina Paul (EMS); **11** Tammy Kellogg (DSS); **13** James Pegues (Sheriff); **15** Morrison Lockey (EMS); **17** Amy Grissom (DSS) and Kathie Cox (Health); **18** Nicole Peek (Health); **19** Louise Williams (Library) and Ronetta Hunt (EMS); **20** Earl Haywood (Sheriff), Gail Wright (Administration) and Wanda Hassler (Health); **21** Teresa Gorden (DSS); **23** Barbara Ledbetter (DSS), Charles Crifasi (Jail) and Hattie Ray (Elections); **24** Sandra Leonard (DSS); **26** John Alford (Commissioner); **27** Holly Storey (EMS) and Elfreda Chavis (DSS); **28** Gary Hutchinson (Jail); **29** Maisha McLaurin (DSS); **30** Tracy Johnson (DSS); **31** Danielle Wilkins (Health).



Sylvia McLean compiled and edited *Memories and Documents about Old Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church and Her People*.

The Register of Deeds has added another resource to its collection, one that would help people trace their ancestors through church membership roles.

A copy of *Memories and Documents about Old Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church and Her People* was given to the Register of Deeds by Sylvia McLean, who compiled and edited the data from oral and written sources.

McLean, who serves as church historian, said it was important to publish the book so the historical documents would not be lost.

“For those who are interested in tracing genealogy, the membership roles in particular may be of help,” explained McLean.

The material in the book is presented according to when it was written and not the order that it occurred.

Beginning with some brief minutes notations in 1797, the book continues through 200 years of historical documentation, ancestral anecdotes, personal letters and memberships.

McLean said there is great historical and genealogical significance in the membership lists, particularly those leading up to and immediately following the War between the States. “The membership roles are particularly appealing to the general public.”

“Most genealogists will tell you that your best resource for information is public records through the Courthouse and Register of Deeds and through the churches,” explained McLean.

“Since Old Laurel Hill is the oldest church in this area and it



**NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS
WILL BE SWORN IN BY
SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE
RICHARD T. BROWN
9 A.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2010
MAIN COURTROOM
SCOTLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
212 BIGGS STREET, LAURINBURG**

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND

**A RECEPTION WITH
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE HELD IN THE LOBBY OF THE
SCOTLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE CEREMONY**

has the oldest records, people constantly call or write asking about ancestors who were members of the church,” she added. “It’s time-consuming trying to go through the records. This book provides most of the general information,” McLean said.

“Often people have an oral history of a family member who belonged to Old Laurel Hill. They call Register of Deeds to ask about records.”

The Church is currently working on a database for name searches that will provide membership information. The book also is available through Old Laurel Hill Church for \$6, which covers the cost of the publication and postage.

Carver students have a field day

Text and photo by Martha Norfleet, Soil and Water

Approximately 175 Carver Middle School sixth grade students attended the 24th Annual Environmental Field Days at Lumber River State Park October 27. The event was sponsored by Scotland Soil and Water Conservation District.

Students enjoyed a day outdoors gathering information on natural resources and how to protect them for future generations. The environmental stations presented instruction on air and water quality, forestry, animal wildlife, bees, woodpeckers, recycling and wildlife enforcement.

Pictured are students visiting Kevin Crabtree's Animal Wildlife Station and Loren Dunn's Water Quality Station.



2011 Cafeteria Benefit Plan enrollments continue

The mandatory 2011 Cafeteria Benefit Plan enrollments continue December 1 and 2 in the Commissioners Chamber. Time schedule for each of these dates is 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. A make-up session will be Tuesday, December 7 at 2:30 p.m. in the West Covington Street conference room and at the Sheriff's Department at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. The meetings are mandatory because there are additional benefits and benefits that are changing. The County must show that it offered every employee an opportunity to enroll. An enrollment form from each employee or a signed waiver form must be submitted to Human Resources Manager Susan Butler.

Barbara Mack recognized for innovative ideas

Barbara Mack, former Health Department PHN Supervisor, was recognized as an "All-Star" at the North Carolina Public Health Association Annual Education Conference in Wilmington, October 29. Mack's nomination stemmed from her innovative ideas in promoting the Family Planning Outreach Initiative. Pictured, Health Department RN Kitty Johnson and Health Director Ron Sapp join Mack, center, in celebrating her award.



2011 4-H County Council officers elected

With a combination of advisory council votes and youth votes, newly elected 2011 4-H County Council officers are, pictured left to right, DeAngelo Byrd (President), Hannah Ammons (Vice-President), Shaunee McLaurin (Secretary-Treasurer) and Langston Byrd (Reporter). Sommore Terry (Historian) is not pictured. The current 2010 4-H County Council Officers will remain in office through Scotland County 4-H Achievement Night December 6.



Four DSS employees honored for 65 years of service

Four employees with 65 years combined service were recognized by DSS. Pictured from left to right

are Jeannie Freeman, Sandra McNeil, DSS Director Robby Hall and Debbie Tardif. Freeman was recognized for 10 years of service, McNeil for 20 years of service and Tardif for 25 years of service. Carolyn Isbell (not pictured) was honored for 10 years. The four were recognized during the agency's November 18 holiday dinner held for all DSS employees and DSS retirees.



Soil presentations begin at seven schools

The Soil and Water Conservation District in November began soil presentations for third, fourth and fifth grade students. Scheduled presentations will continue through January 2011. Third graders will create soil profile cards, fourth graders will paint with soils and fifth graders will participate in the power of a raindrop. Currently about 600 students from seven elementary schools are enrolled for the various activities.

Participating schools are Covington Street, Laurel Hill, North Laurinburg, Shaw, South Scotland, Wagram and Washington Park. Each student received an activity booklet, door hanger and bookmark to enhance their learning experience. Pictured, Wagram Primary School third grade students display soil profile cards they created.



Wagram Recreation Center hours set

Now that the Wagram Recreation Center is officially opened, hours of operation are set for Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be free play in the gymnasium 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays.