

# Scotland County Monthly



OCTOBER 2008

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

## Annex ready again for full occupancy

Rehabilitation of the Cronly Street Annex is mostly completed. Steady downpours in July caused the roof to leak and displaced a number of State and County employees.

Cooperative Extension returned to the Annex last month after it spent six weeks in temporary offices at 507 West Cronly Street. Public Defender staff, which relocated to the Courthouse, still have not returned to the Annex.

Despite water damage to the building, Adult Probation and the Elections office chose to stay put through the clean up and rehabilitation.

"The carpet in the Public Defender and Adult Probation is being professionally cleaned for the second time since June," said Facilities Manager Jim Blackwell. "This will insure that all reasonable efforts have been made to clean the carpet properly."

Blackwell added, "County staff cleaned and waxed the new vinyl tile in the hallways. With this cleaning all offices, including to Public Defender, are ready for occupancy."

For more than a year up until July when rain damage forced the offices to move elsewhere, renovations had been underway at the Annex. The water damage occurred when heavy, repeated thunderstorms moved through the area while the roof was being replaced.

Blackwell identified renovation projects that occurred in the past 18 months which represent approximately \$300,000 spent to retrofit the building.

Carpeted surfaces were professionally cleaned twice. Gypsum board in wetted areas was replaced and some new walls constructed. A new vinyl roofing system was installed.

All rooftop air conditioning units were replaced with a state-of-the-art high energy efficient non Freon unit with maximizer filtration units. Vinyl flooring or carpet were placed in almost the entire facility. Soiled or marked ceiling tiles were replaced. Most of the ceiling insulation was replaced.

Blackwell listed other projects scheduled for completion in the near future. All lighting fixtures will be replaced with a state-of-the-art high energy efficient fixtures. An energy management control system will be installed within the next few weeks.

"With these final additions the Annex will be the most energy efficient and environmentally friendly building of all County facilities, and it will serve as the pilot project for future energy efficient renovations of all County buildings," Blackwell explained.

He added, "A County staff member will walk through the Annex each day to monitor for any potential problems."

"I would like to thank all agencies for their patience during a difficult time, especially during the leaks from the storms and the recovery process that followed," Blackwell said. "We now are ready to bring this project to a close and move on to other building projects."



**Sharon English and Randy Wood unpack in the Annex conference room after Cooperative Extension returned to its offices last month.**

## Recycle centers accept greater plastics variety

Changes at the recycle centers have made it easier for customers to dispose of their plastic containers.

"Plastic bottles numbered one through seven can be mixed in the rollback bin," said Solid Waste Enforcement Officer J.R. Horne. "The plastics don't have to be separated and the lids can stay on them."

Wagram Paper Stock, the company that picks up the plastic recyclables, now has the capability to mechanically sort three through seven plastics. "The lids are now recyclable items," said Horne.

Horne hopes to one day stage a bin for plastic shopping bags. "We haven't gotten to that point yet," he said. "We are regularly looking at being able to integrate more recyclables if Wagram Paper Stock can handle them."

"We will generate a container for recyclables if it is within reason to do that, especially for things we get in large quantities so we don't have to put it in the landfill," Horne explained.

When changes in the recycle program do occur, [see Recycling, page 3](#)

## Economic development web page redesigned



An updated, redesigned economic development web page has provides more in-depth information on buildings and sites available to industrial and manufacturing prospects.

County Manager Kevin Patterson said the site [see Industrial, page 4](#)

# County Manager, Chief Deputy take Operation Lifesaver sojourn

by Steve Smith, Office of the Sheriff

County Manager Kevin Patterson and Sheriff's Chief Deputy Steve Smith accepted an invitation from Norfolk Southern (NS) to participate in an Operation Lifesaver (OLS) train. The two rode the OLS Special from Salisbury to Greensboro and back.

During the trip, presentations were made by OLS volunteers that included program overviews, video and visual presentations on rail safety and information for city, county and law enforcement officials.

Two NS passenger cars were coupled to an OLS painted locomotive. The locomotive featured a camera mounted on the nose of the engine.

Officials and guests seated in the passenger cars were able to see the view that an engineer would see approaching grade crossings.

The primary purpose of the trip is to promote grade crossing safety and safe responses to rail-related incidents.

In 1972, when Operation Lifesaver began, there were approximately 12,000 collisions between trains and motor vehicles annually.

By 2006, the most recent year for which statistics are available, the number of train/motor vehicle collisions had been reduced by approximately 76 percent to 2,897.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) within the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) is responsible for collecting information about highway-rail grade crossing and pedestrian/trespasser incidents.

The FRA in March released a new report on the demographics of pedestrians who trespass on railroad tracks. Trespassers account for the largest number of rail-related fatalities in the US, approximately 500 per year.

The FRA report contains three years of reported trespasser fatalities, coming up with a profile of the "average" trespasser. Based on the best information available from those who elected to participate in the study, the average trespasser is most often a 38-year-old Caucasian male under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, with a median household income of \$36,000.

The report includes a state-by-state breakdown and "strongly recommends additional demographic analysis to reinforce and expand on these results in order to develop targeted educational and outreach programs and law enforcement initiatives to reduce the number of rail trespassing incidents." The report is available at [http://www.fra.dot.gov/downloads/safety/tdreport\\_final.pdf](http://www.fra.dot.gov/downloads/safety/tdreport_final.pdf).



County Manager Kevin Patterson, left, and Chief Deputy Steve Smith in front of the Operation Lifesaver locomotive.

# Sneads Grove recycle site closed for now

Sneads Grove Recycle Center remains closed after rain from Tropical Storm Hanna flooded the area and damaged the guardhouse in September.

Meanwhile the Palmer Road Recycle Center is operating on an extended schedule to accommodate Sneads Grove customers.

Palmer Road Recycle Center added Mondays and Fridays to its days of operation, which normally are Wednesday and Saturday. Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Solid Waste Enforcement Officer J.R. Horne encouraged Sneads Grove residents to use Palmer Road until the damage at the Sneads Grove can be assessed and fixed.

"Palmer Road has the exact same set up as Sneads Grove," said Horne.

He added that Palmer Road would be the alternative site for those who live northwest of Sneads Grove while Livingston Quarters would be the likely alternative to people who live southeast of Sneads Grove.

Horne said Tropical Storm Hanna left Sneads Grove Recycle Center sitting in several inches of water on the site and in the guardhouse.

The water has receded enough in the last two weeks to allow County staff to go in, assess the damage and determine the best method to make repairs.

Horne added, "It is still not known when Sneads Grove will be reopen although staff is in the process of getting it back on line."

## the Birthday list for November

1 David Salzlein (Sheriff); 2 Roylin Hammond (EMS), Carol McCall and Nicole Robinson (DSS) and David Locklear (Sheriff); 3 Wanda Sheppard (Tax); 4 Teresa Eddins (Register of Deeds); 5 Lynn Poe (Inspections); 6 Adam Sessoms and Rick Best (Sheriff) and Ernest Stephens (Inspections); 8 Brian Lowry (Health) and Leondra Dial (EMS); 9 Lendo Mason (Transportation); 10 Evelyn Thomas (DSS Board); 11 Dr. Paul Fuchs (Health Board); 12 Judy Dubois (DSS) and Wayne Gay (Sheriff); 14 Kelvin Howell (Sheriff); 17 Randy McArthur (EMS); 18 Robert Sampson (EMS) and Joy Nolan (Public Works); 19 Angela Townsend (DSS); 20 Deborah Starr (DSS); 23 Shep Jones (Sheriff) and James Jacobs (DSS Board); 24 Adam Liles (Health); 26 Chad Branham (EMS); 27 Larry Herring (Health); 28 Betsey Ellerbe (Health), Janna Wegner (Elections Board) and Carolyn Isbell (DSS); 29 Brady Lawson (EMS) and Corrie Haskins (Cooperative Extension); 30 Corrie Patterson (EMS), Michealle Reece (Health) and Jennifer Goff (DSS).

### How does Operation Lifesaver work?

Trained and certified volunteer speakers provide free safety presentations for people of all professions and age groups to help them make safe decisions around tracks and trains. Educational brochures and videos, coloring books for children and training information can be found at Operation Lifesaver's website [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org).

### How can more information about Operation Lifesaver and rail safety be obtained?

Visit [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org) to find out more about rail safety for motorists and pedestrians. Free presentations are available for anyone who lives or travels near train tracks. To schedule a presentation, contact your Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator.

# News of Note

## Local teams shine at tournament

A 25-team tournament October 11 to 12 at the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex and at St. Andrews Presbyterian College Baseball field saw three local teams win their respective divisions. Winning teams were Laurinburg Cardinals in the under-13 division, Laurinburg Elite in the under-12 division and the Stingers in the under-10 division. This is the 11th tournament held at the Morgan Complex. Tournaments this year have been predominantly boy's baseball and girls fast pitch softball.

## Youth basketball registration begins

Youth basketball registration November 3 to 8 at Scotland Place is for boys and girls ages 7 to 15. Registration fees are \$12. New players must show proof of age. For more information call Parks and Recreation, 277-2585.

## Baseball Museum trip planned for seniors

County seniors will have opportunity to visit the NC Baseball Museum in Wilson November 20. The 3,328-square-foot museum, located at Fleming Stadium, showcases baseball memorabilia from across the State that includes items from players such as Catfish Hunter, Gaylord Perry and Hoyt Wilhelm. The Museum also features a Walk of Fame, a collection of bricks to honor and keep the memory of North Carolina's most important ball players alive. Contact Parks and Recreation, 277-2585, after November 4 to register.

## Subs and Cream the site for Foster Cheer christmas tree

DSS Children's Services will sponsor its annual Foster Cheer to bring Christmas to an estimated 70 children currently in Foster Care. A Christmas Tree at Subs and Cream will feature paper ornaments with the names of children who need sponsors. The tree will go up December 1. Children's Services encourages the community to bring Christmas to the children.

## Library plans book sale November 15

Scotland Memorial Library will host a book sale Saturday, November 15, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Books will be sold for \$1 or less. The selection will include books the Library will no longer use plus book donations from the community. The sale will be held in the Library's small meeting room.

## 4-Hers ponder art of ice-creamology



**Dawson Clark**

Dawson Clark's 4-H Banana Split Blast was the winning flavor in an 'Ice Cream Cone-test' sponsored by Scotland County 4-H. The contest is part of the NC 4-H Centennial Celebration. The submission by Clark, son of Cooperative Extension's Annie Freeman, was one of the eight entries in the local contest.

Participants were asked to design and submit ice cream flavors by using one background flavor (examples: vanilla, chocolate, cheesecake, eggnog, lemon, strawberry, etc.), one inclusion (examples: chocolate chips, cookie pieces, M&M's, cherries, etc) and one swirl ingredient (examples: fudge, butterscotch, raspberry, etc.) The ice cream did not have to incorporate all three above components as long as the flavor was creative.

The state will choose a winning flavor to be produced by contest partner NC State Creamery and sold to raise funds for the NC 4-H. Entries will be judged on creativity, flavor acceptability, ability to manufacture, name innovation and name/flavor harmony.

## Students test the power of a raindrop

*Fifth grade classrooms at Covington Street School recently studied soil erosion with the help of Amy Richburg and Terry Williams, Soil and Water Conservation. Students participated in a hands-on activity called Power of a Raindrop. The presentation shows how erosion occurs if there is no ground cover on the soil. The classroom activities in soil and water are ongoing through mid-January for third, fourth and fifth grades.*



## Recycling features added

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the information is posted at the five recycle centers in the County as well as on the Scotland County website.

Changes at the recycle centers keep them in compliance with State regulations and requirements.

One State regulation, for instance, involves use of the bulky bin. "We will continue to accept residential construction and demolition waste, but we can no longer accept MSW items like televisions, furniture, couches, chairs and tables," Horne said.

"Those items will go to the compactor. These items can no longer be placed in the C and D landfill. They will go to the transfer station for MSW."

Horne noted another change in collection. "Leaves, limbs, pine straw and grass clippings are accepted, but boards are no longer accepted. They must be weighed and paid for at the recycle centers or they can be brought directly to the landfill."

Horne discussed other services. "Green, brown and clear glass can be mixed. Dog food and livestock bags should go in mixed household bins instead of the cardboard container. Packaging of all types should be removed from cardboard boxes before the boxes are flattened."

Microwaves are not accepted at the recycle center and, for safety purposes, propane tanks must be cut in half for them to be accepted.

Horne said, "Clothes for the swap shop should be clean and can be folded and placed on shelves or hung up. Clothing cannot be left in boxes or bags."

The swap shop also accepts reusable small appliances, toys and furniture "We don't want it if it is damaged or can no longer be used," said Horne. "We want things that can be used and recycled back into the community."

## Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments since August 16, 2008: **Roger Alford**, Jail; **Paula Gill**, part-time with EMS; **Cynthia Flores**, **Sarah Craig** and **Tenasha Goins**, EMS; and **Felisa McKeithan**, Transportation.

## EMStatistics

### EMS Report for September:

Responded to 375 Medical/  
Trauma calls

Treated 24 total traffic accident  
patients

Administered 88 wellness/  
blood pressure checks

Sold 8 blue address signs

### 911 Report Highlights:

359 EMS

324 Sheriff's Department

288 Laurinburg Police

Department

37 Fire Department

653 hang-up calls

100 wrong numbers

37 open line calls

1,396 cellular calls

2,014 total calls to 911

### Top five complaints for EMS Response

44 breathing problems

40 sick person (specific  
diagnosis)

37 chest pain

36 falls/back injuries  
(traumatic)

33 transfer/interfacility/  
palliative care

### Weather Observations

#### (EMS Recordings)

Temp (high) 93 on 9/7

Temp (low) 56 on 9/20,24

Wind (mph) 25 on 9/6

Rainfall (inches) 3.77 on 9/6

Compiled by Tommy Hatcher

## Students get election fever



**Dell Parker, standing center, watches as students discuss what they know about elections and voting.**

Board of Elections Director Dell Parker discussed the importance of voting with I.E. Johnson fourth and fifth graders while Elections Assistant Director Jerry Johnson took the same message to North Laurinburg students.

Parker and Johnson encouraged the students to go home and discuss the elections process with their families and to tell them how every vote does count.

"Ask your parents if they are registered. If not, encourage them to register so they can go to the polls and vote," Parker said.

How to register, where to find registration forms, absentee voting were additional topics Parker and Johnson covered.

Students volunteered what knowledge they have of the presidential candidates, who serves as Sheriff and what municipalities are located in Scotland County.

The students will run a mock election the same day as the General Election November 4.

The Elections office will provide a voting box so students can vote for either John McCain or Barack Obama as President and either Bev Perdue or Pat McCrory as State Governor.

Up until November 4, the students will study the candidates and report to their fellow classmates on where the candidates stand on issues.

**VOTE November 4!**

## Extension hosts district day



**Cooperative Extension hosted a district administrative team meeting at Cypress Bend Vineyard. Scotland County is a part of the South Central District with 14 other counties. Tina Smith, above left, co-owner of Cypress Bend along with her husband Dan Smith, talks about the history of the winery, which is located in Wagram. Commissioner Leon Butler, second from left, and County Manager Kevin Patterson, right, also attended the event.**

## Post Scripts

In Health Department news congratulations to **Brian Lowry** on the September 23 birth of daughter Amanda Grace and **Becky Snyder**

on the October 1 birth of granddaughter Gretchen Donna. Best wishes to **Donna Deese**, who accepted a position with the school system. The Health Department raised \$1,513 toward Relay for Life. The Child Fatality Prevention Team Public Awareness Committee presented a Back to Sleep training inservice for DSS and Domestic Violence staff. **Tina Ellis** presented the training. Tina and **Phyllis Clark** are trainers for the Babies Easy Safe Sleeping program, sponsored by the Division of Public Health and the Healthy Start Foundation. Following safe sleep guidelines for babies help reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). **Carlotta Rivers** completed the Maternal Health Enhanced Nurse Role, a six-month course offered by the NC Institute for Public Health through the Office of Continuing Education. The course includes didactic instruction along with physical and written clinical assessments. ☘ Celebrating a first anniversary of employment at EMS is **Henry Freeman**. EMS Director **Roylin Hammond**, Transportation Coordinator **Gracie Rettig** and Administrative Assistant **Wanda Britt** attended the 2008 Community Transportation Conference.

Our condolences to the family of **Robert "Bob" Sanford**, who passed away October 10. Sanford served as the County's Veterans Service Officer for 13 years until his retirement in 2002.

## Industrial sites detailed on web

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replaces one previously linked to [www.scotlandcounty.org](http://www.scotlandcounty.org) that was designed by a private marketing firm through a Laurinburg/Scotland County Chamber of Commerce contract.

"The former web page provided more general information about the community," said Patterson. "This one offers more detail on the available buildings and properties we have in Scotland County."

The economic development page, designed by IT Manager Tenita Bullard, also links the visitor to other websites of interest in Scotland County. The new look for the website is part of the larger role the County and the City of Laurinburg will play in economic development and industrial recruitment.