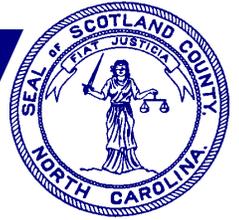


Scotland County

Monthly



OCTOBER 2009

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

Recycling program significantly reduces transport of solid waste

Experiencing a 70 percent decrease can be a good thing. Case in point, the pilot recycling program.

"We've removed a large amount of recyclables from the waste stream, not only at 507 West Covington Street but at Parks and Recreation facilities," said County Engineer Jim Blackwell.

"The majority of the waste coming to these facilities ends up to be some type of sports drink or soda, something which normally is in an aluminum can or in a plastic bottle," Blackwell said. "All of these items are recyclable along with the packaging they come in — the cardboard, the shrink wrap."

Blackwell attributed some of the waste stream reduction to putting locks on County recycle, solid waste and cardboard containers, which resulted in a drop in illegal use of the containers by anyone other than County services.

"It was surprising the amount of garbage that was coming into our containers that was not generated inside the County buildings," Blackwell said.

He added that repeat offenders, once identified, would receive citations from Solid Waste Enforcement Officer Bobby Horne.

At 507 West Covington Street, contents of the County's four-yard recycle container are picked up every week while the 95-gallon solid waste container is not even full in a week's time.

"The only remaining items in our waste stream are paper towels from our restrooms and food waste," Blackwell said.

Blackwell estimated that 75 percent of all the waste coming through County buildings is being recycled. "That's staggering," he said. "The State goal is 25 percent with the hopes of getting to 40 percent, and the County is recycling 75 percent."

The recycle program has been extended to the government complex at 1405 West Boulevard, Scotland Place, Maintenance Shop, Transportation and EMS.

Blackwell expects cost savings from recycling. "We're spending annually at County facilities, not including the Courthouse, approximately \$10,000 just to get rid of the waste. The City collects the recyclables at no charge."

He added, "We're looking at a 65 percent reduction in solid waste costs." Blackwell expects next year's bill to be closer to \$2,500 to \$3,000.

Blackwell also sees education in recycling as having a ripple affect. "If every employee left here and did the same kind of thing at home and taught recycling to their children, we stand to impact a lot of people."



County Engineer Jim Blackwell and Solid Waste Enforcement Officer J.R. Horne collected a week's worth of waste from the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex and Legion Park. They placed 14 bags from the Morgan Complex and eight bags from Legion Park in the back of a pickup truck. Blackwell and Horne then removed all recyclable materials from the bags, the majority of which included plastic bottles, aluminum cans and popcorn boxes. Blackwell and Horne conducted this exercise to see how many bags of solid waste they would take to the landfill. See page 4 for the answer.

\$650K grant to help fund expansion at EMS building

EMS will receive a \$650,000 federal Homeland Security grant. That amount, coupled with \$200,000 in 911 funds, will be used to expand the emergency services building on West Boulevard.

The expansion will house the County's Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and be the site for the Commissioners Chamber.

County Manager Kevin Patterson said he does not expect the expansion to take place for at least a year.

Moving the Commissioners Chamber to a new location would free up space for DSS.

Surplus sold on GovDeals

Like 71 other North Carolina counties before it, Scotland County is now selling its surplus assets on GovDeals.

A multi-tiered government on-line auction service, GovDeals boasts 170,475 registered bidders around the world who have opportunity to view and bid on items surplus by Scotland County.

Only government entities may sell on GovDeals from cities, counties and states to law enforcement, education and utilities.

County Manager Kevin Patterson said the positives of using GovDeals puts County surplus in a more competitive bid situation and more clearly defines how the County will dispense with its surplus.

Veteran's Day Ceremony

11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 11

Legion Park

Speaker: U.S. Rep. Larry Kissell

In case of inclement weather the ceremony will be held at the National Guard Armory

State increases fees for R of D documents

The North Carolina General Assembly recently made several changes to fees for the Register of Deeds Office.

Listed below is an explanation of the State fee increases and what State agency will benefit from the increased fees.

"County vital records fee remain the same," explained Register of Deeds Debra Holcomb.

She added, "There was some confusion after the news media stated that vital records fees would increase to \$24. This is just at the NC Vital Records on the State level not on the county level. Our paper certified copies of vital records will remain the same at \$10 per copy.

The increases are as follows:

Marriage License, effective September 1, 2009

The cost of a Marriage License increased from \$50 to \$60. Thirty dollars of each fee collected from the applicant will be used for NC Domestic Violence Programs.

Deeds, Deeds of Trust and Mortgages, effective October 1, 2009

The recording fee for the first page of a deed increased from \$12 to \$17 for the first page. A \$2 probate fee will be added, if applicable. Additional pages remain at \$3.

Added by State statute is a fee of \$5 for each deed recorded. The \$5, less two percent to cover the County's administrative costs, will be forwarded on a monthly basis to the NC Department of Cultural Resources, Archives and Records Management Program.

In plain words, a deed recorded for probate will be \$19 for the first page and \$3 for each additional page. Information regarding the fee increases may be found on page 187 of the General Assembly of NC Session Law 2009-451, Senate Bill 202.

Morrison rebuts



David Morrison did not retire without getting in the last words. After 31 years of service as an Agricultural Agent with Cooperative Extension, his colleagues, clients, family and friends gathered to give him a proper send off.

During a reception in his honor, Morrison was the object of a light-hearted roast. To his credit, Morrison, pictured left, gave as good as he got in a rebuttal.

The fee to record deeds of trust and mortgages increased from \$22 for the first page to \$28. A \$2 probate fee will be added, if applicable. Additional pages will remain \$3 per page. General Statute 161-11 was added requiring each County to forward \$5 from the recording of deeds and deeds of trust to the North Carolina General Fund.

In plain words, A deed of trust that will be recorded with probate will be \$30 for the first page and \$3 for each additional page. Information regarding these increases can be found on page 174 of the General Assembly of NC, Session Law 2009-451, Senate Bill 202.

Note: Vital Records

The County fees for certified copies of births, deaths and marriage licenses remain the same. A certified copy of a birth, death, or marriage license will remain \$10 cash or money order per copy.

However, anyone who obtains a vital record from the NC State Vital Records Office, will pay an increased fee of \$24, effective August 24, 2009. Previously, the fee for vital records from the State was \$15.

The fee for additional copies of vital records at the State level remains at \$15 per copy. The fee was mandated by the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2009. (G.S.10.22130A-93.1).

the Birthday list for November

1 Charles Blue (Transportation); 2 Roylin Hammond (EMS) and Carol McCall and Nicole Robinson (DSS); 3 Wanda Sheppard (Tax); 4 Teresa Eddins (Register of Deeds); 6 Adam Sessoms and Rick Best (Sheriff), Ernest Stephens (Inspections) and Gregory Watson (Jail); 8 Brian Lowry (Health); 9 Lendo Mason (Transportation); 12 Wayne Gay (Sheriff) and Judy Dubois (DSS); 14 Kelvin Howell (Sheriff); 17 Randy McArthur (EMS); 18 Robert Samspon (EMS), Joy Nolan (Public Works) and Jonathan Smith (Jail); 19 Angela Townsend (DSS); 20 Deborah Starr (DSS); 23 Shep Jones (Sheriff); 24 Adam Liles (Health); 25 Martha Norfleet (Soil and Water); 26 Chad Branham (EMS); 27 Larry Herring (Health); 28 Carolyn Isbell (DSS) and Betsey Ellerbe (Health); 29 Corrie Haskins (Cooperative Extension) and Brady Lawson (EMS); 30 Corrie Patterson (EMS); Michealle Reece (Health) and Jennifer Byrd (DSS).

EMS puts new ambulance to work

by Roylin Hammond, EMS

EMS will be driving a new ambulance in a matter of days, a 2009 Horton ambulance on a 4500 Chevy chassis powered by a Duramax diesel engine.



The demo model Horton ambulance.

It is the first ambulance on a Chevrolet chassis EMS purchased. In the past, EMS operated ambulances on either Ford or International chassis, but engine issues and the rising cost of larger chassis caused EMS to rethink its options.

The Horton ambulance is also a different and more expensive manufacture than the American Emergency Vehicle (AEV) units EMS purchased in the past.

EMS was able to purchase the more expensive unit because it was a demo model with 700 miles. The Horton was obtained

at the same price EMS would have paid for a new AEV model.

The new ambulance, when put in service, will replace a 1993 Ford 350 AEV unit EMS has operated for the past 16 years.

Student attend field day on environment



Text and photos by Martha Norfleet, Soil and Water

Some 180 Sycamore Lane Middle School sixth grade students attended the 23rd Annual Environmental Field Day at Lumber River State Park October 13. The event was sponsored by Scotland Soil and Water Conservation District.

Students enjoyed a day outdoors gathering information on the area's natural resources and how to protect the resources for future generations.

Environmental stations presented instruction on air quality, water quality, forestry, composting, woodpeckers, birds and recycling. A Safari Trailer on wildlife also was featured. Pictured, students visit the Recycling Station where Solid Waste Enforcement Officer J.R. Horne instructs them on all things recyclable. They toured the NC Wildlife Resources Commission Safari Trailer, bottom left.



Extension staff participate in Day of Caring

Scotland County 4-H participated in the United Way Day of Caring. 4-H staff, along with other Cooperative Extension employees and volunteers, donated their time to assist with 13 different projects across the County.

The objective of the Day of Caring is to involve employees in volunteering with a United Way-funded agency, giving them firsthand experience with non-profit organizations in the Scotland County area.

4-H Agent Corrie Haskins, right, and Cooperative Extension staff Umeko Terry, center, and Hazel McPhatter assisted with preparations for a Scotland Enterprises dinner and art show.

Text and photo by Annie Freeman, Cooperative Extension



Post Scripts

Ernest Stephens, Inspections, became a grandparent for the second time with the September 30 birth of granddaughter Aubrey Stephens. ❁ Congratulations to **Amanda Chavis**,

Cooperative Extension, on her October 2 marriage to Kevin Taylor. ❁ **Josephine Thompson**, Public Buildings, was recognized as Employee of the Month by the Health Department, an honor usually reserved for the agency's own employees. Thompson received a gift certificate and reserved parking space for the month of November. Public Buildings Supervisor Mike McGirt said he is very proud of Thompson and the recognition she received.

Sheriff's Department, Laurinburg Police compete in tug of war



Once the heavy events — caber toss, stone put, Scottish hammer throw, weight throw, weight over the bar and sheaf toss — were ended, the Sheriff's Department, left, and Laurinburg Police engaged in another old-fashioned, traditional event, the tug of war. The Sheriff's Department prevailed in the best out of three competition.

The tug of war occurred at the first-ever Highland Games held in Scotland County on the John Blue grounds earlier in October. More than 8,000 people, including about 40 clans attended the daylong event.

EMStatistics

EMS Report for September:

Responded to 411 Medical/Trauma calls

Treated 35 total traffic accident patients

Animal Control calls after hours/emergency 22

Sold 9 blue address signs

911 Report Highlights:

400 EMS

354 Sheriff's Department

297 Laurinburg Police Department

49 Fire Department

684 hang-up calls

76 wrong numbers

38 open line calls

1,559 cellular calls

3,487 total calls to 911

Top five complaints for EMS

Response

67 sick person (specific diagnosis)

42 falls/back injuries

40 breathing problems

37 transfer/interfacility/palliative

care

36 chest pain

Weather Observations

(EMS Recordings)

Temp (high) 91 on 9/24,25

Temp (low) 47 on 9/30

Wind (mph) 22 on 9/28

Rainfall (inches) .74 on 8/23

Compiled by Tommy Hatcher

Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments since August 16, 2009: **Nancy Cheek** and **Selena Locklear**, Health; **Anne Griffin**, **James Williams** and **Walter McLaurin**, Jail; and **Amy Grissom** and **Charles Stone**, DSS.

Traumatic puncture wounds puts EMS training session in high gear



Photo by Roylin Hammond

EMS reviewed traumatic puncture wounds in September as part of its Continuing Education program.

The training ended with a gunshot victim (simulated) walking up to the front door at EMS hollering for help.

EMS staff responded by treating the patient and loading him onto a unit for transport.

Local businesses recognize 4-H

by Corrie Haskins, 4-H Agent

Domino's Pizza and Golden Corral recognized National 4-H Week with a show of support for local 4-H programs.

The two eateries donated proceeds from sales on select nights during National 4-H Week, October 4 to 10, to benefit 4-H activities. The \$425 raised will be used for 4-H programming and events. Cinema 1 and 2 partnered with 4-H to show a free movie during the week of celebration.

In 2009, more than 2,600 youth participated in 4-H programs. There are numerous opportunities available for youth ages 5 to 19 as well as volunteer positions for parents and other adults.

4-H offers a hands-on approach to leadership and community service opportunities, local and statewide competitions and summer programs that focus on a wide range of projects. It builds life skills with a 'learn by doing' approach to build self-esteem and provide positive direction for youth.

2010 Census questions answered

Census questionnaires will be delivered to households in early 2010. It seems a long time away, but it's not.

Planning and successful execution of a nationwide complete count of U.S. residents takes time, especially when it comes to getting the word out about what the Census is and why it's important to count everyone.

Here are answers to the most basic questions:

What: The census is a count of everyone residing in the U.S.

Who: All U.S. residents must be counted.

When: Census Day is April 1, 2010. Questionnaire responses should represent the household as it exists on April 1, 2010.

Why: The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The Census shows state population counts and determines representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. *(More detailed socioeconomic information is collected annually from a small percentage of the population through the American Community Survey.)*

How: Census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households in March 2010. Many households will receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census workers will visit households that do not return questionnaires.

New software at Register of Deeds

The Register of Deeds advanced its Resolution Software to Resolution 3. That means the Land Records Management software will now utilize the latest Microsoft.NET technology for fees, indexing, imaging and search. The newer version of Resolution will provide increased flexibility, greater operational efficiency, ease of use for even the novice computer user, greater stability and definitive accuracy. Resolution 3 will go live November 4. To learn more about the new search, there are two training sessions November 2 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., 507 West Covington Street.

Library holds November book sale

Scotland Memorial Library will hold its book sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, November 7, at the main library, 312 West Church Street. Numerous bargains on hundreds of gently used books can be found. Paperbacks begin at 50 cents and hardbacks at \$1. Books are categorized for easy shopping. The Library accepts book/CD/DVD donations during regular hours. For more information, call 276-0563.

Basketball registration begins

Parks and Recreation basketball registration runs from November 2 to 7 at the following locations: Scotland Place, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Gibson Gym, Monday, November 2, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Laurel Hill Community Center, Wednesday, November 4, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wagram Primary School, Thursday, November 5, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Go to www.scotlandcountyparksandrecreation.org to register online. New participants must bring their birth certificates.

Relay for Life has another successful year

The Health Department was recognized with a Bronze Award for its Relay for Life fundraising efforts. The agency raised \$3,433 toward the more than \$286,000 the Relay event received in overall contributions. "I never thought in a million years that our total would be this great with the economy all around us," said Lynda McMillan, the Health

Department's Relay for Life coordinator. "A lot of sponsors were lost from last year and that hurt, but all in all, everyone worked overtime to get the results we obtained." McMillan applauded team captain Cardra Burns and those who braved the all-nighter and all day on Saturday to walk the track at Pate Stadium and support the team. McMillan also extended appreciation to Teresa and Curt Herring for the use of the camper. "It made a big difference for those staying at the camp site," McMillan said. She added, "It's not too early to begin fundraisers for next year in order to get a head start."

Answer from page 1 ...



Two bags went to the landfill. The rest were recycled.