

Scotland County Monthly



SEPTEMBER 2008

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

Officials break ground for Wagram Recreation Center

The Town of Wagram will have its own recreation center early next year. The 11,000 square-foot facility will house a basketball and volleyball court, shuffleboard court, walking track, fitness room, arts and crafts space and offices.

The Wagram Recreation Center at the corner of Marlboro and First is adjacent to the new town hall currently under construction.

Wagram Recreation Center construction is made possible with \$500,000 from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) and matching funds from Scotland County.

Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton said Laurel Hill and Gibson each have community centers, which were refurbished for public use when Scotland County Schools vacated its old facilities in those locations.

Chairman J. D. Willis said this is a great day in the Town of Wagram. Willis explained that the presence of a Recreation Center will improve the quality of life for citizens of that municipality.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Vice Chairman Page Pratt said the citizens of Wagram asked for one thing above everything else, and that request for a facility the entire community could use and benefit from.

Pratt added that PARTF, in approving the grant, ranked Wagram's request very high in importance. PARTF provides dollar-for-dollar matching grants to local governments for parks and recreational projects to serve the public.

Know when to turn around

Whether it's flooding brought on by a hurricane or heavy rains never attempt to drive through water on any road or highway. You don't know how deep the water is. You can't see the surface of the road. You don't know if the road is washed out under the water.

You could lose your life by simply trying to save time. It's not worth it to you or your family. Turn around — don't drown.

The sign to the left was created by the National Weather Service for a very specific reason. **See page 4 to find out.**



Recreation Complex named for local philanthropist, leader

The Recreation Complex on Turnpike Road was officially named for a local man who did much to improve the quality of life for Scotland County citizens through his leadership, generosity and community involvement.

The James L. Morgan Recreation Complex was unveiled to family, friends and local and elected officials who wanted to express their gratitude and celebrate the legacy of the late James L. Morgan, known affectionately by most as Jimmy.

Throughout his life and up until his death August 27, 2007, Morgan quietly gave to the community he loved.

In the giving, he enriched the lives of all ages, particularly those served in the areas of recreation and the arts.

That commitment was no different when the Parks and Recreation Foundation began seeking community support for the Complex, a new focal point for athletic and recreational activities in the County.

The Morgan family took the lead, and their gift accounts for the largest portion of the \$662,750 raised thus far. Campaign goal for the fundraiser is \$800,000.

A photo of the unveiling can be found on page 3 along with news of another donor.

Voter information is on-line

Voters who might not know where to vote in the November 4 General Election or who want to review the ballot can find this information and more on the scotlandcounty.org website.

Just click on 'Board of Elections Information' at the top of the page. From there, a link to Sample Ballot Search by Voter allows individuals to review the ballot, their voting history and to verify their precinct location.

A separate link provides a downloadable request for an absentee ballot, which must be received by the Elections Office no later than October 28. A link for important dates beginning October 10, which is the voter registration deadline, can also be found on the Elections page.

A 2008 Candidate Listing provides names of State and local officials who filed for candidacy, their addresses, telephone numbers, party affiliation, office they are running for, term of office, filing date and whether the candidates are incumbents.

Of course, the Elections staff is available to answer questions personally. Just call 277-2595.

Dordal encourages County to capitalize on its strengths

Scotland County is expected to benefit from increased workforce programs as the region readies itself for large-scale economic and infrastructure changes as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

“There will be opportunity to attract defense contractors and high-tech-related companies to the region, and everyone will benefit,” said BRAC-RTF Executive Director Paul Dordal.

More than 19,000 jobs are expected to be created in the 11-counties that are part of the All-American Defense Corridor, 11,000 of which will include jobs outside the Fort Bragg gate. “This will present a wide range of job opportunities for thousands of people,” Dordal said.

Dordal traveled to Scotland County from Fayetteville-based headquarters to give a presentation on the impact BRAC would have in the region and for Scotland County, specifically.

Dordal predicted that BRAC would bring a regional population increase beyond the normal predicted growth of between 25, 000 to 30,000 by 2013.

“We don’t know exactly where people will live,” Dordal said. He added, “At the last relocation fair, there was a lot of interest in Scotland County, so do whatever you can to attract those people.”

Included in the region’s population growth will be senior decision makers with Forces Command, who earn average salaries of \$83,000. “These are people who do not live on the post,” Dordal said.

The BRAC-RTF executive listed areas where Scotland County could build on its strengths.

St. Andrews Presbyterian College and Richmond Community College have the tools to train a workforce.

There is a possibility Laurinburg-Maxton Airport could be the location of an intermodal distribution center, which handles the transfer of cargo from one form of transportation to another.

Scotland County could achieve HUBZone certification, a program that promotes economic development and employment growth in distressed areas by providing access to more federal contracting opportunities.

Blood Drive is October 30

The County will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. October 30 at 507 West Covington Street. The Blood Drive was rescheduled from the canceled August 19 event.

Employees who wish to schedule a preferred time can email Susan Butler at sbutler@scotlandcounty.org. Appointment times are in 15 minute increments beginning with 12:30 and ending at 4:45. Employees must present a photo ID when they come to donate. The goal is 30 units.

All presenting donors will be eligible to enter a drawing for a \$1,000 Gift Card. Thank you in advance to all donors who plan to support the Blood Drive.

Introductions & transitions

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

Willis recognized for longevity

Chairman J.D. Willis, pictured below, was recognized by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) for 20 years of service as an elected official.

Commissioner Joyce McDow presented Willis with a framed certificate.

Willis served on the Board of Commissioners from 1984 to 1998 and from 2002 to the present. He served as Chairman for 10 years and as a Vice Chair for two years.

McDow accepted the award on behalf of Willis at the NCACC Annual Conference in New Bern.

Nearly 400 county officials from 92 counties registered to attend the conference, an educational event that features workshops and speakers covering such issues as mental health services, environmentally friendly government facilities and practices, economic development initiatives, immigration law, water resources and alternative energy sources.



Grandparents receive help on roles in caring for grandchildren

by Matt Smith, Parks and Recreation

Grandparents discussed the roles they play in the development of their grandchildren during a recent Grandparents Support Group meeting at Scotland Place Senior Center.

Gina Penland, LCSW, a representative of First Health of the Carolinas, provided information on understanding the behavior of children and the development of children.

Penland discussed the role of grandparents as disciplinary and parental models for the children.

The next Grandparents Support Group will be 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. October 20 at Scotland Place

The participants then discussed the problems affecting their loved ones and brainstormed on ways to keep their grandchildren safe from the ever growing problem of substance abuse and behavior problems.

Penland provided a resource list of agencies, websites and books for grandparents and one for grandchildren. Many questions shared by the group are available by tapping in to the resource list.

Sharon English and Juanita Bowen discussed opportunities for grandparents and grandchildren to better their relationship with one another through participation in Cooperative Extension activities.

The Grandparents Support Group, sponsored by the Family Caregiver Support Programs of the Lumber River Council of Governments, Scotland County Parks and Recreation, Department of Social Services and Cooperative Extension, provides information for grandparents and their grandchildren to strengthen their family bond.

By teaching discipline, providing recreational activities and by establishing home and school routines, the group strives to help grandparents better communicate with their grandchildren.

Post Scripts

An August 4 **Health Department** fundraiser brought in \$1,075 to benefit **Relay For Life**. The Health Department raised the money by selling homemade chicken salad, pimento cheese and chicken and pastry bowls. **Deborah Rogers** was instrumental in getting the event organized, but she could not have done it without the unwavering help of all staff. ❁ Congratulations to **Terry Williams**, Soil and Water Conservation, on the September 11 birth of grandson Ryan Gainey. ❁ Joshua R.



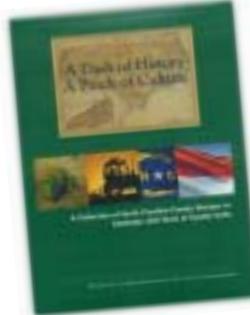
Library Director Leon Gyles meets with the community during a drop-in reception in his honor, hosted by Scotland Memorial Library.

McGirt, son of **Mike McGirt**, Public Buildings, graduated from Great Lakes Naval Academy in Illinois. Joshua transferred to Lakeland Air Force Base in Florida where he will train to become a Master at Arms. ❁ **Rhonda Saffel** celebrated a 21-year employment anniversary with the Tax Department September 19. ❁ Melissa Whelpley, daughter of **Dixie Whelpley**, Tax, graduated August 29 from the Regional Fire Fighters Academy in Fayetteville.

Recipes from 100 counties available in new cookbook

A Dash of History, A Pinch of Culture, a collection of North Carolina county recipes is now available for order through the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC).

Featured in the book is a baked bean recipe submitted by Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Science Agent Sharon English.



The cookbook is one of a long list of commemorative products, events and activities to celebrate the Association's 100 years of county unity and its anticipation of another century of service.

The book contains a wide variety of recipes contributed from individuals from all 100 counties.

Its table of contents includes appetizers and beverages, soups and salads, vegetables and side dishes, main dishes, breads and rolls, desserts, cookies and candy and this and that, miscellaneous recipes that defy a category.

A limited number of cookbooks are now for sale for \$20 each. The price includes shipping and handling. Go to <http://www.ncacc.org/ncacccookbook.html> to place an order.

the Birthday list for October

1 Elliott Brown (Health); **2** Leon Butler (Commissioner) and Quinton Williamson (Jail); **3** Shannon Newton (Parks and Recreation) and Kaye McMillan (DSS); **4** Patsy Whitehead (Health) and Timothy Haggans (Public Works); **7** Jeffery King (Sports Complex); **8** Robert Bowen (Administration); **11** Lee Chavis (EMS); **12** Brooks Watts (Library) and Matt Smith (Parks and Recreation); **13** Tammy Odom (Health) and Kim Brayboy (Tax); **17** Jenny Oxendine (EMS); **18** Russell Lester (EMS) and Joe Peele (Sheriff); **19** Tessie Cousar (Health) and Marion Locklear (Sheriff); **20** Ashley Gibson (EMS); **21** Frances McLean (DSS); **22** Rachel Beach (EMS) and Alicia Krout (Parks and Recreation); **23** Cory Baldwin (EMS), Teresa Herring (Health) and Beverly Wranosky (DSS); **24** George Britt (Sheriff); **25** Debra Maske (Health); **26** Danny Sprouse (Health); **27** Charles Nichols (Administration) and Belinda Norton (Library); **28** Edna Sherrer (Health), Vicki Locklear (Tax) and Margaret Uncapher (Library); **29** Thomas Milligan (Inspections); **31** Tommy Hatcher (EMS) and Antonia Rainer (DSS).

Sneads Grove Recycle Center is temporarily closed. Palmer Road site extended hours in the interim are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Recreation Complex name unveiled



Jim Morgan, left, son of the late James L. "Jimmy" Morgan, and Board of Commissioners Chairman J.D. Willis unveiled the sign that displays the official name of the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex. The unveiling ceremony was conducted during a reconvened meeting of the Board of Commissioners, scheduled especially for this event. Photo by Tim Martin.

And Campbell's Soup shows its support



Campbell's Soup Manager Mark Cacciatore signs a check on behalf of the Maxton plant in support of the Campaign for Youth of Scotland County. Campbell's Soup will be instrumental in naming the first baseball field at the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex. Cacciatore said the gift will connect the company to the community now and for years to come.

EMStatistics

EMS Report for August:

Responded to 405 Medical/Trauma calls

Treated 42 total traffic accident patients

Administered 92 wellness/blood pressure checks

Sold 11 blue address signs

911 Report Highlights:

407 EMS

373 Sheriff's Department

301 Laurinburg Police Department

29 Fire Department

826 hang-up calls

104 wrong numbers

72 open line calls

1,700 cellular calls

2,423 total calls to 911

Top five complaints for EMS

Response

74 breathing problems

48 sick person (specific diagnosis)

42 chest pain

42 traffic accidents

29 transfer/interfacility

Weather Observations

(EMS Recordings)

Temp (high) 99 on 8/3,26

Temp (low) 60 on 8/1

Wind (mph) 29 on 8/28

Rainfall (inches) 1.39 on 8/10

Compiled by Tommy Hatcher

Three honored

by Matt Smith,

Parks and Recreation

Doris Ann Donovan was among multiple Scotland County residents honored at a SHIIP volunteer appreciation lunch September 4.

Donovan, Senior Programs Director at Parks and Recreation, received a certificate of appreciation for her work with the SHIIP program and with Scotland County senior citizens.

Margaret Herring and Melba Sims were awarded for their volunteer efforts with the program. Herring received a 10-year volunteer pin along with Sims, who received a five-year pin.

SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, is a consumer information division of the State Department of Insurance.

It is designed to assist senior citizens with Medicare, Medicare Part D, Medicaid supplements, Medicare Advantage and long-term care insurance questions.

Health Fair participation on slight upswing

by Susan Butler, Human Resources

The 2008 Health Fair participation rate was up by seven participants from last year with 220 employees registered compared to 213 last year.

Employees who participated and were covered under the County's health plan received a \$30 incentive payment.

The 2008 Health Fair was sponsored by FirstCarolinaCare. Scotland Memorial Hospital's mobile unit was available along with FCC's mobile unit on two of the four Health Fair days.

Participants received a free health screening, which included testing for cholesterol, tryglicerides and blood glucose levels as well as blood pressure screenings. Women over 40 also received a bone density screening.

Winners of gift drawings each day are as follows:

Friday, August 15: \$20 Chamber gift certificates went to **Tosha McQueen** (DSS), **Mike Edge** (EMS) and **Holly Russell** (Parks and Recreation). The \$150 grand prize gift card to Dick's Sporting Goods went to **Vicky Barnes** (DSS).

Wednesday, August 20: \$20 Chamber gift certificates went to Charles Nichols (Administration), **Dell Parker** (Elections) and Linda Holland (Administration). Spa gift certificates went to **Joy Nolan** (Engineering) and **Louise Williams** (Library). The \$150 grand prize gift card to Dick's Sporting Goods went to Robert Bowen (Administration).

Friday, August 22: \$20 Chamber gift certificates went to **Leslie Scott** (DSS), **Donna Deese** (Health) and **Sandy McCrimmon** (Transportation). A Spa gift certificate went to **Hazel McPhatter** (Cooperative Extension). The \$150 grand prize gift card to Dick's Sporting Goods went to **Linda Harper** (DSS).

Tuesday, August 26: \$20 Chamber gift certificates went to **Marion Locklear** (Sheriff) and **Michelle McQuaige** (Jail). The \$150 grand prize gift card to Dick's Sporting Goods went to **Barbie Britt** (Jail).

Chamber gift certificates were donated by the Jack Ficklin Agency. Spa certificates were donated by BellaAqua Spa, who also did chair massages for employees at the August 22 event. The \$150 gift cards for Dick's Sporting Goods were donated by Scotland County.



Health Director Ron Sapp enjoys a chair massage compliments of Bella Aqua Spa.

Don't drive through it, be safe, turn around



The pictures of the bridge over Leith Creek on Dixie Guano Road were taken Saturday, September 6, after Tropical Storm Hanna. The bridge is located just south of East Laurinburg. NC DOT closed the road until Monday morning, September 8.

This bridge has flooded several times in the past when Scotland County and Laurinburg experienced heavy rains from tropical storms or hurricanes.

The majority of all deaths that occur from disasters in the United States are a result of drownings. In Hurricane Floyd, which flooded a large portion of eastern North Carolina, 59 people died. 57 of those deaths were directly related to drowning from inland flooding that occurred after the storm passed.

Flood waters are flowing from one elevation to another. When you see water flowing across a road, it is moving and moving with a great deal of force. 8 inches of water is enough to float an average automobile. Once the vehicle starts to float, the driver has no control of the vehicle and is at the mercy of the water. **Photos and text by Roylin Hammond, EMS.**