

Scotland County

Monthly



SEPTEMBER 2010

A newsletter for Scotland County employees

D.C. fly-in intended to bring positive results to County

County Manager Kevin Patterson, Commissioner Guy McCook and an entourage of community representatives took advantage of a fly-in to Washington, D.C., in order to meet with federal elected officials and advocate for Scotland County projects.

The group met with Senator Richard Burr, Representative Larry Kissell, Senator Kay Hagan's staff and representatives from the Department of Education and the USDA.

"We discussed grant opportunities including the \$400 million Race to the Top grant through the Department of Education," Patterson said. "We will see how we can leverage some of those funds for the County school system."

Patterson said funding opportunities for the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport runway improvements, I-74 and expanding water/wastewater assets also were discussed.

"There always will be grant opportunities out there," Patterson said on the prospect of the County receiving any funding to support the projects.

"Appropriations will be extremely tight with the heated mid-term elections," Patterson explained.

"We're not going to get an appropriations bill passed before November. So we probably won't see any resolutions until February when the government starts passing its budgets."

Patterson added there is hope the Department of Defense budget will pass, which could provide the \$1.1 million needed for the Airport runway project.

"Senators Burr and Hagan recommend funding the project," Patterson said. "That doesn't guarantee it, but it's a lot further along than its ever been before."

Patterson said the group attended lively panel discussions by economists and military personnel on the recession, the war in Iraq and whether to continue or sunset the current tax structure back to before the 2002 tax cut levels.

The fly-in, an annual event where elected officials and interest groups have opportunity to discuss local needs, took place September 16 to 17.

Health Fair brings positive reaction from employee participants

Employees had opportunity to gauge their overall wellness at one of four health events held in September. Scotland Memorial Hospital personnel checked glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol, height, weight, body mass index (BMI) and bone density (for women 50 and older) during the County's annual Health Fair.

For some participating employees, the results assured them they were taking the right steps toward maintaining and continuing a healthy lifestyle. For others, it was a wake up call to pay more attention to some results that were less desirable. Here's what some employees had to say about their experience at the Health Fair:

...*"My numbers were better at the Health Fair than they were at the doctor's office, which made me happy."*

[see Health, page 2](#)

Deeper water port discussed during visit to Wilmington

County Commissioners and staff visited the Wilmington Port Authority to gather information on how transoceanic commerce drives the economy locally, nationally and globally.

The group met with Chief Executive Officer Thomas Eager and Director of Distribution Services, Business and Economic Development James Yokeley to gather information and tour the Port Authority.



On a crane 140 feet above ground are, left to right, James Yokeley of the Wilmington Port Authority, Commissioner John Alford, County Manager Kevin Patterson, Commissioners Joyce McDow and Guy McCook, Economic Developer Greg Icard, Commissioner Bob Davis and Clerk to the Board Ann Kurtzman.

Both executives said Scotland County is a key component to the movement of transoceanic cargo because of its proximity to the ports in Wilmington and in Charleston, SC.

They agreed that Laurinburg/Maxton Airport would be an ideal location for an intermodal facility (a site suitable for the transportation of goods involving more than one form of carrier, whether it be truck and rail or truck, ship and rail).

[see Port, page 4](#)

<p>EMStatistics EMS Report for August: 911 Report Highlights: 412 EMS 416 Sheriff's Department 332 Laurinburg Police Department 32 Fire Department 1,028 hang-up calls 90 wrong numbers 48 open line calls 23 NC Highway Patrol 2,000 cellular calls 2,591 total calls to 911 Top five complaints for EMS Response</p>	<p>87 sick person (specific diagnosis) 47 traffic accidents (total patients) 40 chest pains 33 transfer/interfacility/palliative care 27 breathing problems Weather Observations (EMS Recordings) Temp (high) 98 on 8/31 Temp (low) 65 on 8/30 Wind (mph) 19 on 8/14 Rainfall (inches) 1.31 on 8/5 Compiled by Michael McQueen</p>
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Employees share thoughts on results from Health Fair

continued from page 1

...“Cholesterol, the good, bad and ugly. I learned which one makes the total number rise. Participating each year helped increase my awareness of the different readings. If the total count is high, I can do things on my own to help bring the count down. I can walk for exercise, limit salt intake and cut out late night meals. I think this was the first year I found out my BMI or paid attention. I can't wait for next year to see an improvement.”

...“I would have been shocked if I hadn't had a doctor's appointment a few weeks ago. However, I did not know my BMI and was appalled when I found out. I intend to spend more time on ME now.”

...“I have had problems with my cholesterol being high and, since we started these screenings, I have been extra careful to watch what I eat and eat more of the things I need to help control it. I had a lot better report this time than I did last time. It's still not exactly where it needs to be, but a whole lot closer. I feel the screenings do help in between doctor visits. I also think exercise is the key to a lot of health issues — more of it would benefit your overall health. I have been walking a lot for the past two years and I feel a lot better than I did before I started the program. We all just need to keep moving.”

...“I found out my cholesterol had improved from my last doctor's visit. But my good cholesterol still was not good enough. I didn't like what the scale said (of course) but I am healthy enough to do something about it. I tried the strawberry cream cheese (something new) and I absolutely loved it and also the smoothies.”

...“I am thankful for the Health Fair. I plan to eat healthier.”

The Health Fair was organized by Human Resources Manager Susan Butler and Risk Manager Tiffany Flowers under the auspices of the NC Association of County Commissioners Health Plan. Scotland Memorial Hospital provided the clinical support.

Library, St. Andrews promote One Book, One Community

No *Strange Fire* author Ted Wojtasik will make two public appearances related to the St. Andrews Presbyterian College One Book, One Community series.

His first appearance will be at St. Andrews Writers' Forum 7 p.m., Thursday, October 14 in the Morris Morgan Theatre of the Morgan Liberal Arts Building at St. Andrews.

The second appearance by Wojtasik, visiting instructor in English and creative writing at St. Andrews, will be a book discussion 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 19 at Scotland County Memorial Library.

Residents in Scotland County are invited to join the St. Andrews community in the common reading project in order to foster a larger sense of cohesiveness built around the intellectually stimulating activities of reading, writing and open discussion.

Free copies of the novel were made available at Scotland County Memorial Library September 6.

No Strange Fire focuses on the Nebraska Amish and a series of barn fires that result in the death of a young member of the community. Loosely based on historical events in 1992, Wojtasik lived among the Amish for several months in order to accurately portray the lives of the characters in the book.

St. Andrews partnered with Scotland County Memorial Library and the Scotland County Schools to help coordinate the 2010 One Book, One Community program.

Damage Assessment class prepares for the “Just in Case” event

On August 31, as Hurricane Earl was far out in the Atlantic Ocean, Scotland County held a “Just in Case” Damage Assessment class. The last Damage Assessment held in Scotland County was in the 1990s.

The class was attended by staff members from Inspections, the Tax office, City of Laurinburg Planning and Zoning and GIS, the American Red Cross and Scotland County Emergency Services.

The class was taught by Steve Powers, the Area 8 Emergency Management Coordinator, with assistance from Emergency Management staff from Raleigh.

The County has been lucky in the last 10 years in that it has not been impacted by any natural disaster.

“It's just a matter of time before some event will come our way again,” said EMS Director Roylin Hammond. “The class was held to keep the County prepared for the future.”



photo by Roylin Hammond, EMS

One Stop Vote

October 14 and 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
October 18 to 22, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
October 25 to 29, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
October 30, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

231 East Cronly Street Conference Room

New bookmobile prepped for service



Scotland County Memorial Library's new bookmobile was parked outside the Commissioners Chamber September 7 so elected officials, staff and the public could inspect the vehicle inside and out. The bookmobile features an outline of the County and a bagpiper on the side panels. There were 2,900 books in the previous bookmobile collection. The new bookmobile will allow the Library to add at least another 1,200. The bookmobile will be on a "limited" availability schedule through early October so the Library can verify the bookmobile's ability to visit all its scheduled stops since the new vehicle is about five feet longer than the old one.

Voter information available on web

The Elections office has added numerous information items to its website at www.scotlandcounty.org/ElectionsBrochures.htm in preparation for One StopVote and November 2 Election Day.

New to the website are ballot styles, absentee ballot instructions, a detailed, candidate listing, special voter guide, 2010 general election judicial voter guide, how to mark the ballot at the polls and how to rank candidates in instant runoff voting.

Predecessor Knott meets successor Hall



DSS Director Robby Hall, left, and former Director Joe Knott smile for the camera. Knott attended a reception for Hall where community and County employees could meet him. Hall assumed the DSS Director responsibilities September 16. Knott retired July 30.

Citizens participate in litter pick up

44 people agreed to pick up litter the last two weeks of September as part of the Spring Litter Sweep sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce Image Committee.

Solid Waste Enforcement Officer Bobby Horne assisted.

In all, 76 supply packages of vests, gloves and litter bags were distributed among the participants.

During the actual Litter Sweep event September 17, Horne picked up 20 bags filled with trash and debris along Railroad and North Main streets to McGirts Bridge Road.

Throughout the remainder of September, Horne checked on an estimated 20 designated sites where filled litter bags would be left for pick up by participants.

the Birthday list for October

1 Elliott Brown (Health); 3 Kathryn McMillan (DSS) and Shannon Newton (Parks and Recreation); 4 Timothy Haggans (Public Works) and Keith Deese (Sheriff); 5 Priscilla Bryant (Health); 8 Robert Bowen (Administration), James Thomas (Public Buildings), William Grant (Sheriff) and Bobby Lowery (DSS); 11 Linda Gibson (Health) and Roy Chavis (EMS); 12 Liston Watts (Library); 13 Kim Brayboy (Tax); 18 Russell Lester (EMS) and Darryl Locklear (DSS); 19 Marion Locklear (Sheriff); 21 Frances McLean (DSS); 22 Rachel Beach (Inspections) and Alicia Krout (Parks and Recreation); 23 Corey Baldwin (EMS), Teresa Herring (Health) and Beverly Wranosky (DSS); 25 Debra Maske (Health); 26 Danny Sprouse (Health); 27 Charles Nichols (Administration) and Belinda Norton (Library); 28 Edna Sherrer (Health), Vicky Locklear (Tax) and Margaret Uncapher (Library); 29 Thomas Milligan (Inspections) and Carl Dawkins (Public Buildings); 31 Antonia Rainer (DSS).

Introductions & transitions

Welcome to those individuals who joined Scotland County departments on July 16, 2010: **Berta Adams**, Jail; **Tanya Graves** and **Twanna McCrimmon**, DSS; **Amy Locklear**, part-time with the Sheriff; **Brian Krout**, temporary with Parks and Recreation and **Morris Currie**, temporary with Public Buildings.

Our condolences to ...

... former Public Buildings Supervisor **Hyder Massey**, on the August 30 passing of his wife, Mildred Massey, and to **Billy Bostick**, Public Buildings, on the September 11 passing of his grandmother, Viola McNeill.



Some Spring Litter Sweep organizers include, left to right, Solid Waste Enforcement Officer Bobby Horne and Lynn Massey, Leroy McIntyre and Matt Kendall of the Chamber Image Committee.

News of Note

Adult summer program emphasized nutrition



Adult EFNEP conducted a health and fitness summer program at Washington Park Youth Center. The nutrition summer camp for adults placed emphasis on healthy eating habits, kitchen safety and physical activity. At the end of the program, participants had a better understanding of how to prepare healthy and nutritious meals and the importance of food safety.

Church tennis leagues planned

The Tennis Center plans to start a fall church league. The league would be open to any church located in Scotland County. Those interested in participating, please talk to other church members and leaders and contact the Tennis Center as soon as possible about joining the league. Depending on interest, the Tennis Center will look at having adult men, women and/or mixed teams and youth teams. October would be the intended start date for the league. Contact the Tennis Center, 277-2592.

Get together hosted by Tennis Association

The Scotland County Tennis Association will host a "Get Together" for tennis players and watchers, and for those interested in starting up or getting back into tennis. The get together will be 5 p.m. Friday, October 29, at the Tennis Center. There will be friendly doubles to be played, new and old tennis friends to meet and food and liquid refreshments. There is no cost to attend, please bring a covered dish, snacks or drinks. Call the Tennis Center about food/refreshment ideas, 277-2592.

Bostick advocates use of discount prescription card

Deputy Finance Officer Nancy Bostick experienced firsthand how much could be saved using the NACo Prescription Discount Card. Because of her experience with the NACo prescription card, Bostick's story was featured in the *American River Messenger*, a daily newspaper serving Sacramento County, CA. When Bostick's sister, Samantha White, fell ill the cost of medications became too much to bear at \$1,000 a month. Because none of White's medications were available in generic formulations, Bostick had to find discounts on expensive, brand-name prescriptions. "I cannot tell you how much money we saved using the NACo Prescription Discount Card, but it was tremendous savings," Bostick said. "I firmly support the card and urge anyone who needs it to get the card." The NACo Prescription Discount Card does not have an application process nor does it attach fees for its use. There is no income or age requirements to use the card, which could save an average of 22 percent off the full retail cost of prescription medications and can be used any time a prescription is not covered by insurance.



Wool creations bring honors

A delegation of eight County 4-H'ers participated in the State Make It with Wool contest. In the preteen category, Sarah Ward and Brooklyn Woodside received honorable mentions and Marley Gamberg won 5th place. Hannah Ammons placed 5th in the Junior

category, along with Shaunee McLaurin, 4th, and Sommore Terry, 3rd. DeAngelo Byrd and Hannah Smith also participated in the contest, and Smith won an award for her entry in the Wearable Accessories category.

Officials visit NC port

continued from page 1

The two also discussed the future of transoceanic shipping in North Carolina.

The 2014 completion of the expansion of the Panama Canal will allow larger vessels to transport more cargo. That means there is a need for a deeper water port to accommodate the larger ships.

Eager and Yokeley said a Brunswick County site would be the only suitable location in the State for a deeper water port, and it is critical that an analysis be made to determine whether to develop a deeper water port there.

The Commissioners indicated they would ask the State delegation to consider supporting a portion of financing for the site analysis.

RCC dedication held



Commissioner Joyce McDow and Rep. Garland Pierce attended the August 31 dedication ceremony for the F. Diane Honeycutt Center, the Richmond Community College campus in Scotland County. More than 150 people attended the dedication to celebrate the culmination of a communitywide and State backed effort to locate an RCC campus in the County. A week after the dedication, Vice President for Continuing Education Steve Smith, below center, escorted County department heads on a tour of the RCC campus, which offers a nursing program and industrial training and workforce development.

