

JULY 2016



Scotland County, NC

A newsletter for the Scotland County community

Cascades donates property for Wagram Industrial Park

Cascades Inc., a North American leader in the recovery, manufacturing and converting of green packaging and tissue paper products, donated a portion of the vacant land near its tissue converting facility in Wagram.

The land will be transformed into an industrial park with the aim of developing and marketing to attract future industries.

The 341-acre property comes with a water permit that allows for seven million gallons per day (MGPD) along with a seven MGPD wastewater treatment permit. The permits are an asset to the property where three or four sites are expected to be created for multiple tenants.

Chair Carol McCall said, "We are thankful for the generous donation from Cascades. It demonstrates the company's confidence in Scotland County as we work together to bring employment opportunities to our citizens."

"Our partnership with Cascades is another show of successes in business development and industrial recruitment in the County's continued commitment to strengthen the tax base and growing jobs," McCall said. "The ability to take this property and convert it into productive use works for all parties, and the community will be better served for that effort."

Economic Development Director Mark Ward agreed. "This announcement demonstrates the commitment our local industries have to improving our community.

"We appreciate that Cascades continues to assist with diversifying our industrial base, as well as provide the citizens of Scotland County with additional employment opportunities," Ward said.

He added, "We are constantly working toward attracting new industries, and the property known as Wagram Industrial Park will be a major asset to the County. We are positioning ourselves for growth and we continue to look for ways to maximize our efforts and continue on the path to success."

Commissioner Bob Davis, who is Chairman of Scotland County Economic Development Corporation, added, "We all know the importance of jobs in our community, and we are excited about the opportunities for our citizens that will result from Cascades' donation."

"Cascades has a long tradition of involvement in the communities where it operates," said Jean Jobin, President and Chief Operating Officer, Cascades Tissue Group.

He added, "It was only natural that we invest in this community that welcomed us and now works with us toward the achievement of shared objectives."

In August 2014, Cascades announced the installation of a new state-of-art tissue converting facility for a total cost of \$55 million. The start-up occurred at the end of 2014.

The total annual capacity for the new converting plant is approximately 10 million cases on six converting lines with the capacity to produce various tissue products including bathroom tissue, kitchen towels, paper napkins and hand towels for both the professional and consumer products markets.

See page 2 for information on the site evaluation.

New Health Director takes helm August 1

Kristen Patterson was selected by the Board of Health to assume the responsibilities of Scotland County Health Director effective August 1.

Patterson is a Scotland County native who currently resides in Hoke County where she is employed by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services as a Public Health Advisor.



Kristen Patterson

Patterson comes to Scotland County with 13 years of experience in the public health field.

As the Senior Public Health Advisor assigned to Scotland and Robeson counties, Patterson provides technical guidance and investigative assistance to the staff and community within these counties.

She also is an active member of the Scotland County HIV Task Force and serves as an adjunct professor for Miller-Motte College in Fayetteville.

In 2007, Patterson earned a Masters in Health Service Administration from Central Michigan University-Fort Bragg and in 2001 received her Bachelor's degree in Physical Education and Exercise Science.

Patterson replaces Wayne Raynor, who has served as Interim Health Director since March 2015.



Representative Garland Pierce stopped by the Health Department's first-ever Open House, which attracted a crowd. For more information, see on page 4.

Wagram Industrial Park a community asset

Scotland County is now in possession of 269 buildable acres adjacent to the Cascades facility that is an ideal site for industrial recruitment. The site's asset is the former West Point Stevens water/wastewater treatment plant.

According to an evaluation conducted by the Duke Energy Site Readiness Program in conjunction O'Brien/Atkins design firm and McCallum Sweeney Consulting, a location and consulting firm, the Wagram Industrial Park would be ideal for data centers, food and beverage processing concerns and paper products companies.

Other features that make the site attractive to industry are its proximity to US-401 and the future I-74 and that it is about 100 miles from the Port of Wilmington.

Electric, water, wastewater and telecommunications infrastructure are available at the park, and permits for the on-site water and wastewater treatment plants are currently in place.

A buildability study demonstrated how the acreage could be utilized as one large industrial site or subdivided for multiple users.

The evaluation team also discussed information for industrial prospects that could be perceived as weaknesses such as below average job growth and high school and Bachelor's degree attainment.

The team noted that investing an estimated \$5 million to provide rail service to the site could be a favorable attribute, especially since heavy utilities are already available. A Gulf & Ohio mainline is less than five miles from the property.

Randy Broome of Duke Energy said the project evaluation of the site is important because it helps communities win new projects to help their economy by bringing jobs, capital investment and power users.

"We need more prospects and leads, and we need more product, sites and buildings," Broome said.

"When McCallum Sweeney evaluates a site they truly do that through the eyes of an industrial prospect, and they're looking at projects for real prospects all the time."

Mark Sweeney of McCallum Sweeney discussed site selection and economic development. "There are fewer projects than there were eight years ago so it's more competitive than ever. Economic development should be considered a business and the product you're selling is your community."

Sweeney stressed the importance of getting the site certified so it is a ready site that would fit in the timeline required by the client. The evaluation was made possible through a grant to the County.

Post Scripts

The following individuals joined Scotland County departments between May 16 and June 15: **Thomas Poe**, Jail; **Janis Lambert**, DSS; **William Lash**, Public Works and **Lillie Sellers**, temporary in Wagram Recreation Center.

Bobby Horne gets new truck for his solid waste enforcement duties



Bobby Horne with his new truck, a 2016 Nissan Frontier SUV 4 by 4.

J.R. "Bobby" Horne's truck is his office. With his files, laptop and smart phone, he's ready to hit the road, and he does that frequently.

Given all the hours he spends in his truck and the mileage he puts on it, as Solid Waste Enforcement Officer it was time Horne got a new vehicle.

Now he drives a 2016 Nissan Frontier SUV 4 by 4, which replaces a 2007 Chevrolet Colorado that is now being used at the landfill.

The new truck has more cab room. "The Nissan had the better deal and we could get more truck for the money," Horne said.

He added that the extra room is a good thing, especially when he has to take someone with him to check on some dumping. "It's just better for me with the room capacity I've got now."

Horne said he gets supplies to the recycle centers weekly. Now he has room for the supplies delivery in one trip instead of running back and forth to the landfill.

Horne sometimes spends more than six hours a day working from his truck. "It varies from day to day and from call to call. I could get a call in my office and have to go out and I might not have been in the office but 30 minutes. I may be in the office half a day trying to catch up on some paperwork. And then again, I may not be in the office for three days."

Horne is grateful for the more spacious accommodations the new truck affords. "I can catch all my calls and emails in my truck. "Everything I can do in my truck I can do in my office."

the August birthday list

1 Willie Hunt (Public Works) and Kimberly Foy (Jail); **2** Benita Mullis (Health), Lori Parks (Administration) and Kelly Jacobs (Sheriff); **4** Hazel McPhatter (Cooperative Extension); **5** Michael McQueen (E-911 Center); **6** Gwendolyn Clark (DSS); **8** J.R. Horne (Public Works); **9** Jimmy Covington (Library); **12** Janet Mudd (DSS); **13** Catherine Bailey (Health); **14** Kevin Strickland (EMS); **15** Dell Parker (Elections) and Samantha Ruiz (Administration); **17** Elvis Edwards (Public Buildings); **19** Lorianne Knight (EMS); **20** James Pruitte (Morgan Complex) and Stephanie Palmer (DSS); **21** Jennifer McArthur (DSS); **24** Margaret McCaskill (EMS); **25** David Blalock (Sheriff); **28** Tenita Bullard (IT); **29** Lillie Sellers (Wagram Recreation Center), and Mitch Johnson and Lorilei Taylor (Sheriff); **30** Kimberly McRae (DSS); **31** Katherine Caulder and Carolyn Walls (DSS) and Mark Dombrosky (IT).

**Scotland County Memorial Library celebrates
75 years of service to the community
August 28, 2016**

Hurricane forecast stated

Weather-based websites for hurricane forecasts might prove confusing. Predictions vary. None appear to be in agreement.

"It depends on whose website you look at as to what's going to happen," said EMS Director Roylin Hammond. "The bottom line with all those predictions is it only takes one."

Hammond cited Hurricane Andrew in 1992. as an example "It nearly cut Florida in half."

Since hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30, Hammond convened the annual hurricane preparedness meeting to update those who would be activated in an emergency weather event on what might be expected. "We just want to be prepared," Hammond said.

The forecast is for 12 named storms along the eastern seaboard in 2016. Six hurricanes are predicted, three of which might fall in the category of a major hurricane with winds ranging from 111 to 130 mph.

Hammond said Scotland County is fortunate to have a prepared statewide emergency management system.

In order to make the point of the State's preparedness, Hammond showed a 15-minute video about Hurricane Katrina, the eleventh named storm and fifth hurricane of the 2005 hurricane season that breached nearly every levee in metro New Orleans and caused an estimated \$108 billion in property damage.

A five-person emergency response team was dispatched from North Carolina to assist New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Along with the devastation, the team discovered that three people were responsible for emergency management in a city where a good portion is below sea level.

"The State emergency management team helped New Orleans begin to get out of the fix they were in," said Hammond, who closed the hurricane preparedness meeting on a hopeful note. "I appreciate our doing what we haven't had to do for a very long time. All that could change tomorrow. I always say this every year. I hope I don't see you again until next year."



Animal Control Officers Marc Brown, left, and Adam Liles with their new trucks. Photo by Benita Mullis, Health

Truck replacements an upgrade for Animal Control services

The Health Department purchased two new Ford F-150 trucks in June to replace older failing equipment, specifically two older Chevrolet Colorados.

The Board of Health and Board of Commissioners approved the use of some "old" Health Department Medicaid cost settlement funds for purchasing the vehicles at a price tag of about \$27,000 each. New kennels installed on the trucks were about \$10,000 each.

The F-150s are equipped with four-wheel drive and durable V6 engines with fairly good fuel economy at 16 mpg local mileage and approximately 21 mpg highway.

The vehicles are also king cab style and a vast upgrade from the Colorados. The trucks have new aluminum kennels with inside lighting mounted in the beds for animal transport at night. They have separate storage areas in the kennels for equipment and supplies.

The kennels also have fresh air delivery systems for animal comfort during transport.

"We have been getting compliments from the general public and some of our County leadership,"

said Interim Health Director Wayne Raynor. "The general public should be proud of the functional, dependable and professional look of this new equipment, which helps our staff do their jobs very well."

EOC is popular meeting place

Since the Emergency Operation Center opened in August 2014 it has received more than 250 requests for meeting room reservations from local and State agencies.

There is an online calendar where people who wish to reserve space can do so if it is not booked for a specific day. "Once we get the requisition we try to fill it on a first come, first serve basis," said E911 Director Mike Edge.

"Use of the Emergency Operations Center has been very well received,"

Edge said. It's been used by police departments, State Highway Patrol for recruitment purposes, DSS, Health Department, County Human Resources and the Board of Commissioners.

"We have multiple set ups so we can try to accommodate whatever group is coming in," Edge added. A Public Buildings and Grounds staff member assigned to the Emergency Operations Center handles set up and take for the large and small meeting rooms.

"They have access to the web calendar so they can go in and arrange the rooms however they need to be," Edge explained. "It gets a little bit hectic, especially if there are several different groups coming in during the course of a day where the rooms have to be arranged one way for the first group and another way for the second group."

Edge said the EOC has been filling a need in the community. "It's the only building where you can seat 100 people if needed."

To reserve space at the EOC, go to Public Safety from www.scotlandcounty.org, click on Emergency Management and then EOC Event Calendar.



The 2016 Hurricane Preparedness meeting is just one of numerous events held at the EOC.



Public health open house attracts crowd

You might know something about public health and the role it plays in the community, but the Health Department set out to present the big picture on all the services it provides.

During its first-ever open house July 21 the halls of the agency were decked with informational posters and filled with people who stopped by to meet staff, visit exhibit booths and learn about the services provided.

Every unit within the agency was represented with staff on hand to discuss services and distribute small gifts, brochures, snacks, fruits and vegetables.

Commissioner Betty Blue Gholston said she had an excellent experience. "I saw different services I didn't know the Health Department was doing. I enjoyed all the information from all the booths. Everybody was friendly. It was exciting to be here."

Health Educator Kathie Cox said, "We're trying to promote public health and get people interested in what we do. We want to get rid of the myth that people go to public health just for STDs, immunizations or pregnancy tests. It's not"

"It's environmental health, health education, social work, child health. There are many disciplines involved in public health. We're trying to create a great environment to change people's perspectives about what we do here," Cox explained.

For instance, at the women's health booth Nurse Carlotta Rivers said, "We want to promote women getting into prenatal care early regardless of whether they come here or choose the private sector provider."

Social Worker Felicia McCall addressed safe sleeping for babies. "We always try to make sure babies are on their backs while sleeping — no bed sharing, no sleeping with adults or other siblings. They can share the same room but make sure you put them on their backs alone to reduce the risk of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome)."

WIC Processing Assistant Frances Moody said, "We stress eating fruits and vegetables and drinking plenty of water and help with Medicaid qualifications for children up to age five,"

Kristen Patterson, who begins her duties as the new Health Director August 1, attended the event. "It gives people in the community an opportunity to see the Health Department, to get to know the programs available."

Patterson added. "There are a lot of people in the community who do not actually know what the Health Department offers, so this is great. The turnout is great, and if this is done on a more frequent basis, I think more people will come out."

Photos: Top left: Commissioner Betty Blue Gholston. Center: Visitors could select free fruits and vegetables. Bottom: The food pyramid was on display.



Police demonstrate the dangers of leaving a child in a hot car

The Laurinburg City Police Department demonstrated the dangers of a hot car during the Health Department's open house.

A thermometer inside the car registered the temperature of its interior at 147 degrees. So you have to be mindful if you're keeping your child or a dog inside a car.

"There are situations where someone leaves a child in a car to run into a store and then stay in the store a little longer than expected," said Cpl. Al Marcano with the Laurinburg Police Department. "147 degrees is the temperature you need to warm a piece of pizza."

According to Cpl. Josh Byrd with the Laurinburg Police Department, "We're demonstrating the temperature inside the vehicle when the windows are rolled up. Normally it increases by 30 or 40 degrees from the outside temperature. This is a regular car with non-tinted windows. The thermometer is actually sitting on the console in the vehicle. Sometimes when we do this, we'll have a display of s'mores just to show people how hot it is inside the car."

If a child or a dog was inside the car for 45 minutes, Byrd said, "I assume they would have died by now. Who could take 150 degrees for 30 minutes? That's how critical it is to not leave your children in the car." The bottom temperature, which is registering 116 degrees, said Byrd, is the temperature inside of a car seat. That means if someone was carrying their child around outside in a car seat on a day when the heat index is above 100 degrees, it would be much hotter for the baby in the car seat. "116 degrees is how hot it would be for that baby," Byrd said.



The top temperature at 144 degrees is how hot it is inside the car. The bottom temperature at 113 degrees is how hot it would be for a baby in a car seat outside the vehicle.