

Scotland County

Monthly



JUNE 2013

A newsletter for the Scotland County community

2014 budget eliminates employee furlough

The approval of the fiscal 2014 budget eliminates the three-day furlough to employees.

That means the 1.25 percent salary reduction to employees will be restored effective July 15 and will be seen in the August 31 paychecks.

The \$37,438,486 total general fund budget maintains the tax rate at \$1.03 per \$100 valuation.

The Commissioners on June 20 unanimously voted to approve the budget.

Included in the budget are three new positions. Public Buildings will add a skilled carpenter who will be assigned to improving the appearance of County facilities.

The need for a skilled carpenter position was addressed by Commissioners during a day-long tour of the County.

Commissioners were responding to what they perceived was a drab appearance of County facilities, particularly in the public areas, a lack of consistent paint colors and damage and deterioration to doors.

The carpenter also would be responsible for minor repairs throughout County buildings.

The Commissioners agreed it would be more efficient to hire a dedicated carpenter than to contract the work.

The second position is a permitting technician who would work at Covington Street and would provide administrative support for Environmental Health staff, who would relocate to Covington Street.

County Manager Kevin Patterson said this would create an efficiency and enhance customer service if Environmental Health was located under the same roof with that of other permitting services — Inspections and Zoning.

Patterson said that consolidated permitting would be modeled after Harnett County permitting services, which has been successful and proven efficient.

The third position is for an attendant at the Wagram Recreation Center. The Commissioners, in approving the budget, reduced the position from full-time to part-time.

Currently, there is one full-time employee at the Wagram Recreation Center, which is open 49 hours and five days a week, Tuesday to Saturday.

Terrell Manning hosts special event

Green Bay Packers linebacker and Scotland County native Terrell Manning will visit his hometown July 20, and he won't be alone.

Manning will be accompanied by Philadelphia Eagles safety Earl Wolff, Broncos linebacker Nate Irving, Chargers wide receiver Keenan Allen and Redskins cornerback David Amerson.



Terrell Manning, a bleacherreport.com image

The visit is part of the 1st Annual Terrell Manning Football Camp, the proceeds of which will benefit the Scotland High School weight room.

Held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the James L. Morgan Recreation Complex on Turnpike Road, the football camp is for children ages 7 to 14. Fee for the campers is \$5, and they will receive a free camp shirt.

Manning and the other professional players will meet and greet the public from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The event is free for registered campers and \$10 for non-campers

who would like to meet the players and eat lunch.

The players also will be available for autographs. Raffle tickets for prizes will be \$5 each.

Born and raised in Laurinburg, Manning is a 2008 graduate of Scotland High School, where he lettered three times in football. Before continuing his career with the Green Bay Packers he was linebacker for NC State University.

New Health Director appointed

David Jenkins, an environmental health specialist with the New Hanover County Health Department, will be the new Scotland County Health Director come August 1.

The appointment of Jenkins was made official during the June 25 reconvened meeting of the Board of Health.

Jenkins will replace Interim Health Director Wayne Raynor, who has served in that post since October 2011.

Jenkins comes to Scotland County with 13

years experience in public health. Along with his environmental health background, Jenkins also is versed in mosquito and vector control.

He holds a bachelor's degree in marine biology and earned a master's in public administration. Jenkins said he earned his master's so he could one day work as a health director. A native of Nash County, Jenkins has lived in Wilmington for much of his life.



David Jenkins with public health employees Lynda McMillan, center, and Judy McMillan.

Our condolences to ...

Angelita Locklear, DSS retiree, on the June 9 passing of her mother. **Willette Jones**, DSS, on the June 10 passing of her brother-in-law, Alexander Jones. **Charles Nichols**, Administration, on the June 7 passing of his grandmother. **Carrie Rorie**, DSS, on the June 15 passing of her mother-in-law, Doretha Rorie.

the Birthday list for July

2 Karen Jacobs and Joy Hine (DSS); **3** Shelia Jackson (Tax); **4** Tim Martin (Administration), Anita Jenkins (EMS) and Adam Holland (DSS); **7** Amy Locklear (Sheriff); **9** Amanda Martin (DSS); **10** Denise Locklear (DSS); **11** Chris Strickland (Jail) and Heather Moody (DSS); **12** Preston Jackson (Sheriff); **13** Kenneth Bedell (EMS); **14** Delana Vaughn (EMS); **15** Arline Swett (EMS); **17** Joshua Hayes (EMS); **19** Ashley Gibson (DSS), Billy Bostick and Josephine Thompson (DSS) and Christopher Lee (EMS); **20** Jessica Watson (EMS) and Marquitia Rainer (DSS); **21** Brandon Butler (DSS); **24** Kimberly Spry (Tax); Sarah Brown (Cooperative Extension) and Jackie Williams (Jail); **25** Mildred Williams (Veteran Services) and John Storey (EMS); **26** Tina Strickland and Tyquane White (Sheriff), Amy Miller (Soil and Water) and Jeffrey Wood (DSS); **28** Vincent Locklear (Public Works) and Atysha Locklear (DSS); **29** Kevin Patterson (Administration), Miriam Bounds (Health) and Tara Crowley (DSS); **31** Sharon Brandon (Register of Deeds) and Judy McMillan (Health).

PostScripts

Congratulations to **Rachel Beach**, Tax, on the June 12 birth of her grandson, Christopher (Nish) Davis. **✿** Caroline Paige Pridgen, a senior at Scotland High School, and Audrey Taylor Harrell, a senior at Scotland Christian Academy received the **N.C. Division of Veterans Affairs State Scholarships**.

Snakes Alive fact: A snake skin is shiny and may appear wet. In reality its is smooth, dry and silky, not sticky or slimy.

SCATS puts two new buses in service

Text and photo by Roylin Hammond, EMS



Scotland County Area Transit System (SCATS) recently took delivery of two new Ford cutaway 14-passenger buses, each with wheelchair lifts.

The vehicles, valued at \$101,000 together, are purchased with federal Department of Transportation grants through NC DOT at a funding rate of 90 percent. That means Scotland County made an approximate \$10,000 investment of local dollars in order to receive the two vehicles.

Before they were put into service in June the new vehicles were licensed, had radios and cameras installed and received identifying lettering on their exteriors.

The buses provide transportation service to Scotland County citizens. They replace a 2002 Dodge lift van with 155,000 miles and 2005 Ford conventional 12-passenger van with 170,000 miles.

The EMS phone really does ring off the hook

When it comes to emergency services, calls don't conveniently come in one at a time, they frequently come in multiples. Although there was one day in January 2012, an exception, when six multiple calls were received, the norm is usually two or even three multiple calls.

In a 2012 yearend report, there were 3,494 first calls followed by 1,622 second calls and 263 third calls.

In those circumstances, said EMS Director Roylin Hammond, "We'd be in a real bind without FirstHealth and Braveheart. If it weren't for them, Scotland County EMS would be taking those trips, and that would leave the County with one ambulance and a quick response vehicle."

Hammond said that when multiple calls come in, some people might have to wait. "That's all we can do. If FirstHealth is available or Braveheart they'll run a call for us. You just triage."

EMS responded to 5,495 calls in 2012. Total 911 call volume was 37,515. Of that, 14,935 were hang up calls, all of which still must be verified. The 37,515 figure also included calls for EMS, 5,344; Laurinburg Police Department, 4,722; Sheriff's Department, 4,372; wrong number, 915; children on phone, 786; information, 725; Laurinburg Fire Department, 632; and N.C. Highway Patrol, 389.

The reason for emergency services calls vary. The top five calls in 2012 were 968 for a sick person (specific diagnosis), 622 for transfer/intefacility/palliative care, 497 with breathing problems, 428 traffic accidents (total patients) and 424 accounted for chest pain.

In 2012, EMS responded to 3,795 calls that were residential, 409 associated with a business/industry and 406 involving traffic accidents (total patients).

It also responded to calls from nursing homes, doctor's offices, Scotland Correctional Institution and the Scotland County Jail. In 2012, EMS transported 3,932 patients to Scotland Memorial Hospital.

In 2012, 266 patients were transported to FirstHealth Moore Regional and 79 transported to Carolina Medical Center in Charlotte. "We would be in a real bind without the emergency transport they provide. FirstHealth really helps us out, and we (Scotland County EMS) would suffer if they weren't here," Hammond said.

Hammond said with the FirstHealth emergency vehicle stationed at Scotland Memorial Hospital, cardiac and stroke patients are directly transported to Moore County and Charlotte. "A lot more people than ever before are going up the road. That number continues to go up because the FirstHealth vehicle is available in Scotland County."

He explained that FirstHealth mainly transports those suffering from a heart attack or stroke. "FirstHealth is even available to transport walk-ins to Scotland Memorial Hospital who might require a level of care available at another facility."

Total cellular calls to EMS have steadily increased. "With changes in technology we are part of the trend for everything to be wireless," Hammond explained. "There are more wireless phones and devices and less hard-wired traditional phones."

"Everyone has a phone in their pocket so the calls are instantaneous," Hammond said. "If something happens they just call. They don't have to find the phone anymore."

EMS still receives landline calls from doctor's offices, clinics and nursing homes. But outside of that Hammond predicted, "The time will come when most of our calls will be wireless."

Congratulations Class of 2013

High School

DSS: Jasmine Mechelle McRae, niece of Michelle Lynn McRae, graduated from Academy of Richmond County, Augusta, GA. Jasmine will attend Tuskegee University to study veterinary medicine. **Lucas Kyle Griffin**, son of Rebecca P. Griffin, graduated from Marlboro County High School. Lucas is enlisted in the U.S. Army and will be stationed at Fort Benning in Georgia. **Amaziah M. Easterling**, daughter of Nicole Jackson McLaurin, graduated from Scotland High School. Amaziah will attend Bennett College for Women in Greensboro in the fall. **Ariel Moody**, daughter of Heather Moody, graduated from Marlboro County High School. Ariel will attend Florence Darlington Technical College in the fall and will pursue a degree in physical therapy. **Tucker R. Yarborough**, son of Nicole Yarborough, was the valedictorian at his graduation from Marlboro County High School. Tucker will attend Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA, where he will major in molecular biology. **Christopher Dakota Graves**, son of Tanya Graves, graduated from Scotland High School. Christopher plans to apprentice with Gemma Renewable Resources, which searches for ways to create natural energy sources. In the future, he may continue his education/career by enlisting in the Marine Corps. **Destiny Rochelle Morrison**, daughter of Rhonda Cox, graduated from Scotland High School. Destiny will major in criminal justice at North Carolina A & T State University.

EMS: Erin Snead, daughter of Deanna Carlyle, graduated with honors from Scotland High School. Erin will attend UNC-Pembroke in the fall.

Health: Sequoia Cheyenne Locklear, niece of Ellen Locklear, graduated from Scotland High School. She will attend Kings College in the fall.

College/University

DSS: Brandon Jyrel McRae, son of Tosha L. McQueen, graduated from Winston Salem University with a degree in therapeutic recreation. **Hilary Gray Griffin**, daughter of Rebecca P. Griffin, graduated *summa cum laude* from Charleston Southern University, Charleston, SC, with a degree in early childhood education. Hilary will be a kindergarten teacher at Pate Elementary in Darlington, SC. **Bridgett Nicole Phillips**, daughter of Tina M. Phillips, graduated from UNC-Pembroke with a degree in biology. **Jasmine Rae Oxendine**, granddaughter of Tammy Kellogg, graduated from UNC-Pembroke with a degree in biology. Jasmine plans to attend pharmacy school at Campbell University.

EMS: Kendall Sandlin, daughter of Debra Sandlin, graduated from Fayetteville Technical College. Kendall plans to pursue a job in her new field as a dental hygienist.

Health: Laquanda Leaven, daughter of Frances Moody, received her doctorate degree in industrial engineering and graduated *summa cum laude* from A & T State University. She received honors from Alpha Pi Mu, in which she served as president, and an industrial engineering honor. Dr. Leaven will teach at A & T State University in the fall.

Inspections: Jessica Milligan, daughter of Thomas Milligan, graduated from Gardner-Webb University with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. Jessica plans to teach biology/science and coach softball at the high school level.

Staff

Sarah Craig received her MSW from Fayetteville State University. Sarah, a single mother of two, earned her degree in two years while working full time at DSS and battling breast cancer. Through it all, she still managed to graduate on time and with honors.

Snakes Alive fact: Poisonous snakes usually have a triangular or arrowhead-shaped head (except the coral snake). But several non-poisonous snakes may flatten their heads when threatened. This defensive behavior may give the appearance of being a poisonous snake.

News of Note

Summer tennis lessons available

Tennis lessons will be held each Monday and Wednesday at 9 am. in July and August. The lessons are for youth ages 5 to 16. Cost of the lessons are \$60/month for youth ages 10 to 16 for two days per week and \$40/ month for one day per week. For youth ages 5 to 9, lessons cost \$50/month for two days per week and \$30/month for one day per week. Contact the Tennis Center 277-2592 or Coach Jeanne Roller 280-1676 to sign up or to receive more information.

CPR certifications renewed



Mac Tucker, EMS, pictured left, renewed his CPR certification during an Emergency Services Training at the RCC Honeycutt Center. The training was held for all EMS and Braveheart workers and for some Rescue Squad volunteers.

ServSafe experiences a first

Family and Consumer Science Agent Sharon English held a ServSafe Food Safety Certification Training for 24 food service managers. For the first time since ServSafe has been offered by Cooperative Extension, every student passed the test, receiving a five-year certification. Restaurants that do not have managers with this certification have two points deducted from their annual inspection. Food safety training is a critical step in preventing a foodborne illness outbreak, which can cost a business a minimum of \$75,000 per incident.

Youth have plenty to do this summer

4-H Summer Fun of Scotland County kicked off June 11 with a week of educational and cultural field trips for youth, ages 5 to 13. Following the first week, youth participated in DIY: WoodWorks. In addition to 4-H Summer Fun, four Scotland County youth participated in 4-H Congress, an annual educational event held in Raleigh, in which youth improve their knowledge of current issues through educational experiences such as speakers, discussion groups and workshops. They develop and exercise leadership skills through serving on committees and participating in certain programs and participate in the democratic process through campaigning for and electing state 4-H officers. Parks and Recreation also is providing a series of summer offerings for youth. Call 277-2585 for more information on the schedule or call Cooperative Extension, 277-2422, for its summer programs.

Health, dental rates rise

There is a rate increase for health and dental coverage for FY 2013-14. The rates are effective July 1.

There was an overall six percent increase in the health plan while the dental plan increased four percent. Coverage has not changed for either plan.

There also is no change for those who are on the high deductible plan, and the premiums are the same with no increase.

The County continues to pay 100 percent of employee only health coverage, and it continues to pay a portion of the employee dental premium at \$13 per person.

Those who enroll in the dental plan for the first time will have a 90-day waiting period before claims may be filed. Although premiums will be deducted in the July payroll, the effective date for the benefits will be October 1. This also applies if the employee is adding dependents.

Keep in mind that employees may cover unmarried dependent children up to age 26 for both the health and dental plans.

Covington Street students get the ice cream for being green



Top honors among schools for environmental stewardship in 2013 went to Scotland High School and Covington Street School. The two schools shared first place in the Green School Jam event, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and its Green Committee.

Laurel Hill Elementary School was awarded second place. Children at Covington Street School, pictured above, were rewarded for their efforts with an ice cream social.

Snakes at the Library attract young and old, curious and fearful

From the looks of the parking lot and the street next to Scotland County Memorial Library, something big was happening inside.

Indeed, Snakes Alive, once again proved to be a crowd pleaser. Ron Cromer, specialist in herpetology and lecturer, wowed children and adults with his entourage of tamed, harmless reptiles.

Snakes Alive is an educational science program designed to give clear, concise insight into the lives, habits and characteristics of reptiles, especially snakes.

During the two educational sessions, Cromer, as knowledgeable as he is on the subject, was upstaged by dozens of snakes, a few lizards and the intended star of the event, Rosie, the 13-foot python, pictured right, supported by Library Director Leon Gyles and numerous children. *(Yes, Rosie is that heavy and that long).*

Cromer invited and even encouraged Snakes Alive participants to put their hands on his non-poisonous reptiles, even to drape the longer snakes around their necks. The event was informative for all, including those who wanted to get up close for the hands-on experience and hold snakes without fear and those who chose to remain at arms length and take advantage of some distance learning.



Two events celebrate July 4

Carolina Breakers will be the featured musical group July 4 at Murphy-Brown Laurinburg After 5. Festivities begin at 6 p.m. at the Morgam Recreation Complex on Turnpike Road.



Admission is \$1 for adults while children 12 and younger get in free.

Relax and enjoy the evening. Bring a lawn chair and blanket. Vendors will be on hand to sell food and drink.

At Scotland High School Pate Stadium, the City of Laurinburg will host its annual Independence Day celebration with a fireworks display.

Stadium gates will open at 6 p.m. The fireworks will begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. High School Band Boosters will sell refreshments.

Yes, he really did do that!



Pictured is a good samaritan changing a tire for two Health Department workers at the Nic's Pik Kwik in North Laurinburg.

Social Workers Phyllis Clark and Felicia McCall were making home visits when the County vehicle they were in was hobbled by a flat tire.

Luckily, the two were able to limp into the Nic's parking lot where they placed a call for help.

Interim Health Director Wayne Raynor responded.

That's Raynor in the photo, on the ground, preparing to change the tire.

Staff at the Department of Public Health are grateful to Raynor for coming out personally to lend a hand.