

Week of January 25, 2010:

- The Board of Commissioners held their annual retreat on Monday at the Weeksville Lions Club. A lot of topics were discussed and direction given to staff to proceed on issues such as Mental Health and numerous special project items. The Board also reviewed and updated goals from the last retreat and established goals for me to follow in the upcoming year. I would like to thank all of the staff that participated in the retreat and helped to prepare for it. I would especially like to thank the Weeksville Lions Club for allowing us to use their facility again.
- Mike Etheridge and I along with Pat McDowell and Don Bunch met with the landfill contractor, Mr. Whaley to discuss the status of the project and plan for expansion of the C&D hill along with implementation of the erosion control plan for the site. We had a productive meeting with the contractor and he also met with Mike at the site later that day. We have had so much rain since the contract began that a number of areas have eroded and need to be repaired. We received our approved erosion control plan today and will begin addressing some of the eroded areas.
- I attended the JCPC meeting on Wednesday. The request for proposals will be advertised soon for the upcoming budget year. We have been told to expect a 5% reduction in state funds for juvenile crime prevention activities.
- I attended the Soybean Festival on Thursday. Norris Tolson with the BioTech Center was one of the speakers. 50,000 acres of soybeans were harvested in Pasquotank County last year with total sales of \$20,250,000.
- A Red Cross public shelter will open tonight at 8:00 p.m. at the Knobbs Creek Recreation Center on Ward Street in Elizabeth City in anticipation of winter weather. If you require transportation assistance to the shelter, call Pasquotank-Camden Emergency Management at 338-0935. To receive updated weather information, call the Pasquotank-Camden Emergency Hotline at 331-7474. Various models call for a potential snowfall in our area of up to 14 inches. County departments have implemented their normal precautions and plans for the snow event. Depending on the amount of snow, we will decide in the morning if the Convenience sites and Library will be closed on Saturday.
- The 24 hour pump test was completed on the Ownley well today for the R.O. Water Plant project. The flow rate was calculated at 1050 gallons per minute. We had planned for a rate of 950 gallons per minute. This was the first well to complete the 24 hour pump test.

The following are reports from some of our other departments:

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

I met with our District Representative from the State Board of Elections, along with the Chowan and Perquimans County Director, at the Perquimans County Board of Elections office on Wednesday. The State Board, in an effort to enhance statewide training for county Boards of Elections, is seeking input from election directors.

As a reminder, candidate filing begins on February 8th, at 12:00 noon, in the Board of Elections office. According to G.S. 163-278.8(f), filing fees over the amount of \$50.00 must be paid for with a verifiable form of payment, (check or money order).

The Board of Elections is scheduled to meet Tuesday, February 2, 2010, at 8:00 a.m., for their regular monthly meeting.

Emergency Medical Service

- We had a mass casualty incident on Tuesday which involved a school bus and a pick up truck. The whole incident went very well. We had multiple agencies involved and we all integrated together very well.

- Jerry Newell and Jeffrey Davis attended a tabletop exercise on Friday at ECSU. We all worked together with ECSU employees to see how we would integrate together in the event of a major event on campus.
- We received our information this week for our EMS System renewal and EMS license renewal. We will be working on that between now and April to renew.
- We are in preparation mode for a winter storm this weekend.

Social Services:

Program	Applications Taken	Applications Processed	Reviews	Terminations/ Changes
Adult Medicaid	66	60	125	144
Family & Children's Medicaid	238	228	204	475
Food & Nutrition Services	309	306	254	478
Work First Family Assistance	49	32	3	60

*Includes 1095 SSI cases

Applications in all programs except Work First Family Assistance decreased in November. The Food & Nutrition Services increased again during November while Work First Family Assistance decreased and Medicaid remained relatively stable.

All except 8 of our North Carolina Health Choice for Children cases (12 children) have Citizenship and Identity already in the case file. The match report that the State is preparing for interface with Social Security requires social security number file and if there are any discrepancies in the child's information, we must correct the information by January 11, 2010 to interface with Social Security to take place. All of our cases made the initial match and do not need corrections. Our staff reports to prepare for this and it has paid off.

Thirty-one staff were initially displaced from their office because of the water damage. Staff remained upbeat and kept with their primary focus being to serve clients. Three of the conference rooms were designated for units. Computers and printer were relocated to the conference rooms to make the displacement as convenient as possible. Staff who were sure others knew when their offices would be available for interviews. Everyone pulled together to keep the agency running served.

Interpreter Contacts: 21 Total

Spanish	20
Vietnamese	1
Other	0

Cooperative Extension:

Agriculture

32 farmers attended “Farmers Forum – Meeting the Challenges for 2010”. Farmers who attended received credits for the pesticide license.

2 farmers were visited to discuss alternative crops and production systems

Home visits were made to 7 county residents on pest control, pruning and lawn maintenance.

4-H and Youth

2 adult volunteer leaders met to discuss plans for the upcoming year

New volunteer training was held for 3 adults who will be starting new clubs in the upcoming year.

An electricity workshop was held for 4 teachers who will begin using the 4-H Electricity curriculum in their classroom in the coming months.

The grain lesson was presented to approximately 40 students at Central Elementary.

Northside After School and Central After School had lessons on vegetable consumption using the 4-H curriculum. Approximately 30 students were reached at both schools.

Family and Consumer Sciences

36 Virginia Dare and Harriot Heights residents participated in a “Steps to Health” program.

Eat Smart Move More was done for 3 individuals.

The last session of an eight week series was conducted for 6 participants for the Parenting Matters curriculum

7 adults were assisted with the Medicare Part D Program.

4 EFNEP home visits were conducted. The programs were “Making Smart Drink Choices”, “Shop for Value – Check the Facts” and “Fix it Fast – Eat at Home”.

EFNEP lessons “Get the Best for Less” and “Fix it Fast – Eat at Home” were conducted for 8 participants.

Other

375 attended the annual Soybean Festival that was held on Thursday, January 28 at the K E White Center. Mr. Norris Tolson President and CEO of NC Bio-Tech Center was one of the key note speakers.

Randy Keaton
P.O Box 39

Elizabeth City, NC 27907-0039
252.335.0865 (phone)
252.335.0866 (fax)
keatonr@co.pasquotank.nc.us