

Week of February 25, 2008:

- Repair work began on the Albemarle District Jail this week. The contractor began pumping grout into empty concrete blocks where grout should have been placed originally. Demolition also began on some concrete floors that are too thin. Demolition also began on some walls that were constructed incorrectly. The architect finished the documentation on quadrant 2 and sent that to the contractor today. I have been in contact with the contractor, architect, and our attorney today regarding payments for work that has been completed previously. We are trying to determine the amount of any payments that are due to subcontractors who completed work just prior to the shutdown or delivered materials to the site. We will be having a conference call early next week to settle these issues.
- I attended the JCPC meeting on Wednesday. The General Assembly placed the JCPC program in a non-recurring status this year which means they will run out of funds at the end of this fiscal year without any further appropriation. This makes it difficult on the programs that are funded with these grant funds to plan beyond July 1st. Counties are being urged to contact their legislators to ask that these funds be placed back into the state budget. Pasquotank County programs receive \$130,000 from the JCPC program.
- I attended the Oxford Heights Community Watch meeting on Wednesday night to update the residents about the drainage activities that the County has been undertaking. I discussed the recent completion of the drainage districts, the hiring of Greg Johnson to review all subdivisions, the preparation of a drainage manual, and the Knobbs Creek Drainage Study.
- We are advertising for bids for grass-cutting at numerous county locations. Letters have gone out to contractors that have previously expressed interest and an ad will be placed in the Daily Advance. Bids will be received March 18th.
- We will opening bids on Tuesday, March 4th at 2:00 pm for the renovation on the old Library building. Our architect has reported that 9 general contractors have picked up bid packets. We have also received numerous inquiries about looking at the building.
- The contract with Waste Management for disposal of our solid waste was signed and sent back to them this week. We have scheduled the closing on the equipment loan for the purchase of the trucks and equipment for March 12th. Mike Etheridge reported that some of the trailers are scheduled to be delivered next week. The fueling station is now operational and we will start using it to fuel our trucks next week.
- Griffin Swamp Rd. from Salem Church Rd. to Ramsey Rd. will be closed for pipe replacements beginning Tuesday, March 4th at 7:30 am until Thursday, March 6th at 5:00 pm.

The following are reports from some of our other departments:

FINANCE OFFICE

The Water System is debt free today. Their last debt payment was made yesterday, February 28th. As of February 29th the County has received a total of \$23,434.55 from NC Department of Revenue from the garnishment of tax refunds. The bulk of these funds went to pay delinquent taxes, however \$5,800 of the amount received was for delinquent EMS bills.

PASQUOTANK-CAMDEN LIBRARY

March is Women's History Month

The Library is pleased to promote awareness of and appreciation for the contributions of women to the history and culture of the United States. As part of the celebration, the library will showcase posters, display books, and distribute brochures and quizzes of famous American women.

WEEKLY STATS (Feb 22 - 28)
Total Patrons visiting the library = 3,274
Average number of patrons per day = 546
Total Items checked out = 3,733
Total number of Library Cards Issued = 71
Total number of faxes transmitted = 9
Total number of faxes received = 3

Cooperative Extension:

Agriculture

The master gardener's held a pruning session and a grounds demonstration (5 attended)

A commercial pesticide certification class was held. Proper application of pesticides were highlighted (12 attended)

Several visits were made in wheat fields to look at diseases and insect concerns. Due to the mild winter, powdery mildew and Hessian fly have been sited in the area.

A meeting was held to discuss the downtown market for Saturday mornings.

A livestock judging session was held (14 attended).

Market lambs were secured for some of the exhibitors from Blacksburg, Va. In preparation for the upcoming show and sale.

4-H and Youth

The cumulative record and record books were completed to be submitted for state entry on March 1.

A planning session for the "kids in the garden" was held. This is done for all 3rd grade students in the school system.

A 4-H wildlife club meeting was held. A shooting sports demonstration.

Family and Consumer Sciences

A Healthy Carolinians session was held for area health agencies

Nutrition and wellness session session were conducted in two public housing communities. 30 plus attended the session.

Four duration calls and 2 home visits were made for breast feeding moms.

59 Eat Smart Move More participants were reached at 4 different day care centers.

Randy Keaton