

Week of May 26, 2008:

- Jeff Simpson, Bill Trueblood, and I met with David Denton and Norman Watts from Wildlife Resources along with two gentlemen from the NRA on Tuesday to discuss a proposed shooting range behind Fun Junktion. We discussed the type of ranges that would be built such as a pistol range, 100 yd. and 200 yd. rifle range and trap shooting for shotguns. They really like the site and its proximity to Elizabeth City. The next step is for them to sketch out the area that would be needed and make a formal presentation to the Board. Our staff will be providing them with GIS maps and dimensions for them to use. I will keep you updated as we receive more information.
- We had our first construction conference for the old library renovation project on Wednesday. Footings have been poured for the Register of Deeds vault and steel studs are being installed for offices in the tax area. Work is continuing on the plumbing including the change order that was authorized by the Board recently. We have also finalized the design of the high density shelving for both offices. The project is scheduled to be complete by the middle of December.
- Rodney, Rich and I travelled to Raleigh on Thursday to meet with DOT staff about the proposed new location of the second connector road to the bypass. We had a very productive meeting and a number of items will need to be updated due to the change in location. The thoroughfare plan that was updated in 1998 for the county needs to be reviewed. The purpose and need statement will be a challenge. We need to get this project on the RPO priority list. DOT needs to have a new scoping meeting. We also need to forward copies of any letters or resolutions that discussed the original request for two connector roads to the bypass.
- We also met briefly with Representative Owens while we were in Raleigh to discuss the Riverview Acres dredging project. Bill needs to include this as a line item in the budget due to the amount. He stated that he would try to get as much as possible for the project.
- I have made all of the budget revisions in preparation for the budget work session on Monday at 6:00 pm.
- Sheriff Randy Cartwright was named Rotarian of the Year for the Elizabeth City Morning Club today and Rotarian of the Year for our district which includes 5 clubs. Congratulations to Sheriff Cartwright.
- It appears that funding for the JCPC programs have been restored in the State budget. The county provides a 10% match for these programs and the funding is crucial for juvenile crime prevention programs.

The following are reports from some of our other departments:

Emergency Management

Don't forget the "**We're Ready, are You**"? Event tomorrow, May 31st at the USCG Support Center from 10am to 3pm. This will be a great opportunity for everyone to interact with local, state and federal agencies that respond to assist our citizens during major disasters. There will be live demonstrations, displays, brochures and take-home items available outlining preparedness plans you can take to ensure you are prepared should an emergency occur in our community. The USCG will demonstrate a helicopter rescue at 11am and our local Emergency Medical Service's State Medical Assistance Team III (SMAT) and Elizabeth City Fire Department will, in conjunction with the NC HazMat Regional Response Team conduct a Level A HazMat response and full decontamination demonstration at 12 noon and again at 2pm. The Elizabeth City Fire Department will also be presenting a puppet show at 10:30am and 1:00pm. In addition, at 11:30 am Secretary Bryan Beatty of NC Crime Control and Public Safety will be on hand to sign a MOA between the USCG Support Center and NC Emergency Management to formalize the use of certain USCG facilities during times of disasters for an incident base, helibase, staging area and camp for disaster relief personnel.

This event is free and open to the public. Attached is a copy of the brochure listing the exhibitors, along with a map of the event area that will be available at the gate.

Cooperative Extension:

Agriculture:

A soybean and cotton variety test were installed during the week
A mold problem was research at Central Elementary School
A pest alert was sent to potato farmers.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

An aging with gusto planning meeting was held to plan for this year's event.
Healthy eating across North Carolina was held for 26 seniors at the Virginia Dare Building.
CPR/First Aid training was held for 10
107 4th graders were reached at two elementary schools on healthy eating
164 day care children learned about eating and dieting properly
15 different breastfeeding moms were visited or contacted for counsel during the week

4-H and youth:

A 4-H camp orientation meeting was held for 62
Science education series was held in preparation for the upcoming camp
4-H embryology was completed for elementary school teachers this week

Other:

The Donald Baker tournament was held at THE PINES on Wednesday. These resources will benefit the endowment fund for scholarships and programming.

The Nixonton Ruritans held a dinner for community winners of the livestock show and sale.

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