



FOCUS ON CURRITUCK

A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

October 2006

DECISION 2006: BALLOT TO INCLUDE REFERENDUM ON EXPANDING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Voters in Currituck County will decide on November 7 if the Board of Commissioners should increase from five to seven members.

Commissioners are giving voters this option in response to citizens' requests for more representation. Additionally, if voters pass the referendum, an extra voting district will be created.

Currently, voting district lines follow the four township lines: Crawford, Fruitville, Moyock, and Poplar Branch. There is one commissioner from each township/voting district and one elected at-large. Should the board expand to seven members, two would be elected at-large and one would be elected from each of the five districts, with members having to reside in their respective voting district.

The Commissioners and county staff consulted with legal experts in elections law when formulating how the expanded board and additional district would be formed. The law firm of Tharrington Smith out of Raleigh drew up potential district maps, and the Commissioners chose the one they felt best provided equal representation.

COUNTY BUYS LAND FOR HORSE, RECREATION PARK

The Currituck County Board of Commissioners, **responding to the recreational needs of tourists and local citizens**, has approved the purchase of nearly 100 acres located on Gabbard Lane near Spot Road. The property will be used primarily as an equestrian park but will also provide facilities for 4-H programs, rodeos, kayaking and canoeing, and other recreational activities.



The six parcels of land were purchased by general warranty deed from Bob and Laurie DeGabrielle, R&K Horse Farm, and K&R Trust for \$3.2 million. The total appraised value is \$3.8 million. The DeGabrielles donated to the County one of the parcels, which is approximately 25 acres.

The land, which includes stables and indoor and outdoor riding arenas, was bought using occupancy (lodging) tax, a tax **paid by tourists, not local taxpayers**. Purchasing this land should not delay the construction of the proposed community/senior center, which will also be funded by occupancy tax revenues. *See HORSE on page 2.*

Did You Know ?

The Focus on Currituck newsletter is printed and mailed to your home for just \$0.55 per issue. That's a cost of only \$2.20 per year.

So, for less than the price of a fast-food meal, you get up-to-date information about YOUR local government, mailed directly to your home.

The make-up of the districts is as follows:

District 5:

- Fruitville Township
- Gibbs Woods
- Also includes sliver on Tulls Creek Road - along Tulls Creek Road until it intersects with Caratoke Highway, continues South on Caratoke Highway until Taylor's Road and then eastward to encompass Belle's Island

District 4:

- All of Moyock Township, except Gibbs Woods

District 3:

- All of Crawford Township, except the portion in District 5

District 2:

- Northern boundary is the Intracoastal Waterway
- Southern boundary is a canal that intersects with the Highway, follows Highway to Waterfront Drive
- Also includes Poplar Branch (Outer Banks area)

District 1:

- Southern boundary of District 2 to the Wright Memorial Bridge

See BALLOT on page 2.

The CHOICE is Yours!



- Make sure that your first **CHOICE** is to vote on Election Day, November 7. Polls will be

open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm.

- You may **CHOOSE** to vote One-Stop Absentee from Thursday, October 19 through Saturday, November 4, at the Election Board Office, 2826 Carotoke Hwy. The

office will be open daily, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, except for one Saturday, November 4, when it will be open from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

- You may **CHOOSE** to vote absentee by mail. An absentee ballot may be requested through October 31. Call the Election Board office at 232-2525 for more information.

See CHOICE on page 2.

Focus On Currituck: A Report to the Community is an award-winning publication of the Currituck County Public Information Department. It received a 2005 State award from the N.C. Association of Government Information Officers.

Diane C. Sawyer, Director

John R. Nixon, Information & Communications Officer

Daniel F. Scanlon, II, County Manager

Post Office Box 39, Currituck, NC 27929

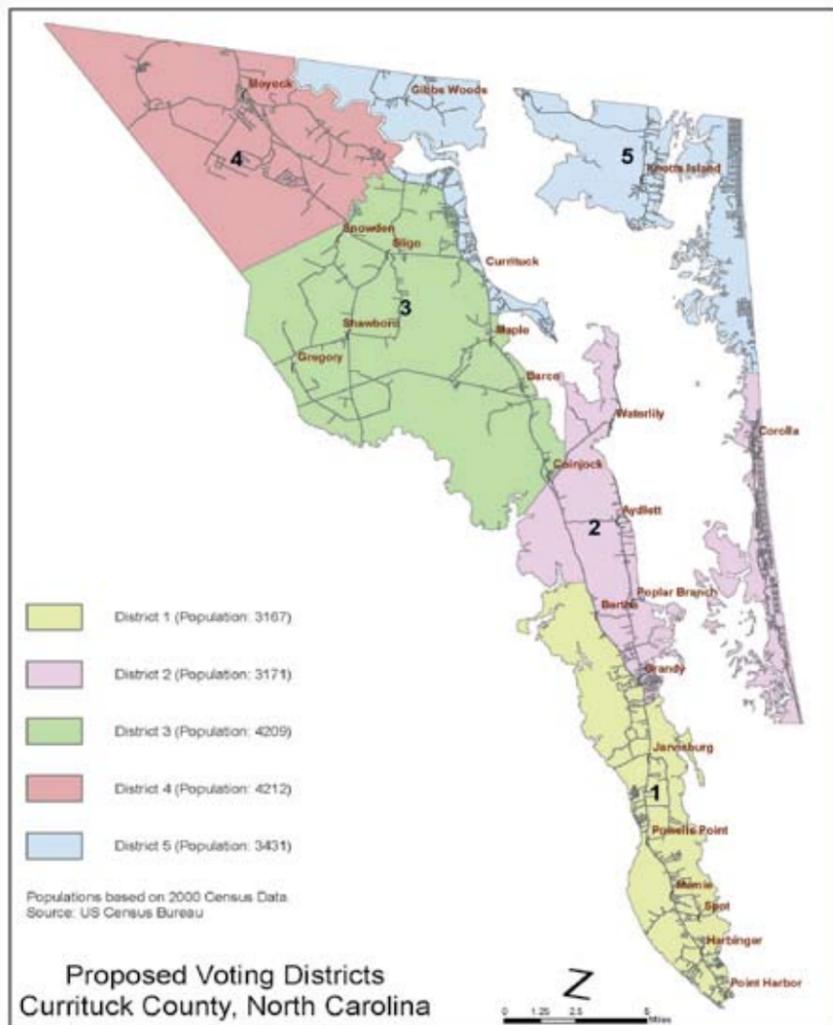
Phone: (252) 232-0719

Website: www.currituckgovernment.com

E-mail: contactus@co.currituck.nc.us

Revised Voting District Map and New Horse Park

Proposed Voting Districts for Seven Member Board of Commissioners



BALLOT from page 1. The wording of the referendum is: "Shall the structure of the Currituck County Board of Commissioners be altered to expand the number of Commissioners from five to seven and to provide that five of the Commissioners must live in particular districts and two may reside anywhere in the County?" Voters will choose to cast their ballot "for" or "against."

It should be noted that if voters decide to expand the Board of Commissioners from five to seven members, they will also be voting to establish these new voting district lines.

Successful passage of the referendum would allow voters to elect the two new members in the primary and general elections in 2008.

Even though the Board would expand from five to seven members and voting district lines would be redrawn, citizens county wide will continue to vote on all members of the Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Education will not be impacted by this vote; that board will remain at five members, one from each of the present townships and one at-large.

CHOICE from page 1.

- Make your **CHOICE** for local offices: Clerk of Court, Sheriff, the Board of Commissioners At-Large, Moyock, and Poplar Branch, the Board of Education At-Large, Crawford, and Poplar Branch, and the Soil and Water Conservation District.

- Make your **CHOICE** on the county referendum whether to increase the size of the Board of Commissioners from 5 to 7 members.

- Make your **CHOICE** also for district, state, and federal offices.

- **CHOOSE** not to wait in line. Have any changes to your address, name, or party affiliation made by October 13.

- **CHOOSE** to volunteer to work as an assistant at your polling place on Election Day, call the Board of Elections office at 232-2525 for more details.

The **CHOICE** is yours
-VOTE- November 7!



A look inside the 28,800 square foot indoor riding arena at the new Currituck Equestrian Park in Harbinger.

HORSE from page 1. - Currituck County has a large number of horse enthusiasts. It is estimated that there are over 1,100 horses in the County with a value of stock attributed to these horses equaling \$4,936,000.

The demand for public facilities that provide horse owners access to events and recreational activities is growing. This publicly owned facility will provide horse owners with a wide variety of recreational and educational opportunities. These are expected to include: clinics for training, shows, a cross country course, trails, and multi-purpose events.

The horse park also has the potential to be user fee based and generate the income needed to operate.

Purchase of the land supports the County's Land Use Plan policies, which encourage park development, open space preservation, and the addition of water access sites. The policies were prepared by a committee of citizens and endorsed and validated through several public surveys.

Operation of the horse park will be overseen by the County's Parks and Recreation Department and the NC Cooperative Extension Service. Staff employed at the park will coordinate events and programming, organize on-site demonstrations and educational clinics, promote equine tourism, and handle the maintenance and operation of the park.

Note: By law, occupancy tax funds cannot be used for the operation of schools or for school construction, nor can they be used to upgrade or expand the County's mainland water system or fund any other non-tourism related projects.

Did You Know ?

That both current and prior issues of Focus On Currituck are available to the public at currituckgovernment.com?

Click on "Government" then "Departments" then "Public Information." From there, access the "Community Reports" link on the right-side.

Currituck County Board of Commissioners

S. Paul O'Neal, *Chairman, Poplar Branch Township*
Paul R. Martin, *Vice-Chairman, At-Large*
Eldon L. Miller, Jr., *Moyock Township*
Ernie Bowden, *Fruitville Township*
J. Owen Etheridge, *Crawford Township*

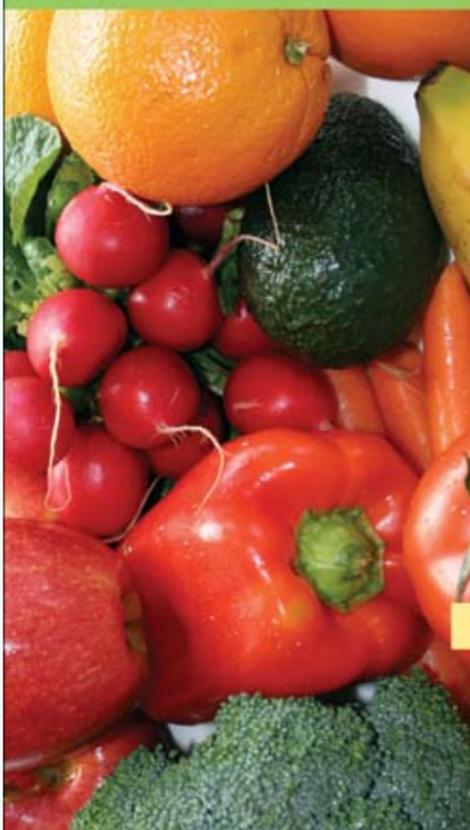


Send an e-mail to the Commissioners at commissioners@co.currituck.nc.us.

Board of Commissioner meetings are aired on Mediacom Channel 18 every Monday and Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Cooperative Extension Tips and News

Eat Smart, Move More Health Tip



Enjoy More Fruits and Veggies

What are low in calories, full of essential nutrients and can help reduce your risk for chronic diseases? Fruits and vegetables! Make fruits and vegetables half your plate at every meal and for every snack. Fresh, frozen, dried, canned—it all counts. Shake things up by enjoying a variety of colors to stay healthy and fit. Your body will thank you.

For more tips on how to eat your fruits and veggies every day where you live, learn, earn, play and pray, visit

www.EatSmartMoveMoreNC.com



This message brought to you by
NC Cooperative Extension Service Currituck County Center

COUNTY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW EXTENSION BUILDING

Currituck County's Cooperative Extension Service Center will soon have a new home.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held on August 11 at the site, located on U.S. 158 just west of Central Elementary School. County staff, elected officials, and several local citizens took part in the celebration to mark the start of construction.



Photo: Brenda Kleman

The \$6.7 million center will include classrooms, a demonstration kitchen, conference rooms, botanical gardens, an Extension library, offices, and labs. In addition, the building will contain an auditorium that will be used for large public meetings and events. The auditorium is being named in honor of Shawboro's Elizabeth Sanderlin, who worked as a home extension agent in Currituck County in the 1950s and 1960s and helped start the County's roadside vegetable markets.

Construction on the facility is expected to be completed in October 2007.

At a recent Board of Commissioners meeting, Dan Scanlon, County Manager, gave an update on the master plan for the entire building site, which will include a community center. The center is proposed to feature recreational space with a swimming pool, basketball courts, exercise rooms, and health center. Space in the building is also being dedicated for a senior center, complete with a large dining area and classrooms.

Christmas Parade



The Currituck Extension & Community Association will again sponsor the 17th annual Christmas Parade and 54th annual Tree Illumination on Saturday, December 9, 2006, at 10:00 am.

The route will be Highway 168 north from Knapp School to the Currituck Governmental Center.

The official lighting of the tree will be held immediately following the parade. Refreshments will be served and Santa will be available for children to visit.

ECA hopes to help other families have a merry holiday by collecting non-perishable food items for the needy. All items may be brought to the Governmental Center for collection. They will be distributed to needy families in Currituck.



New Changes to Medicare

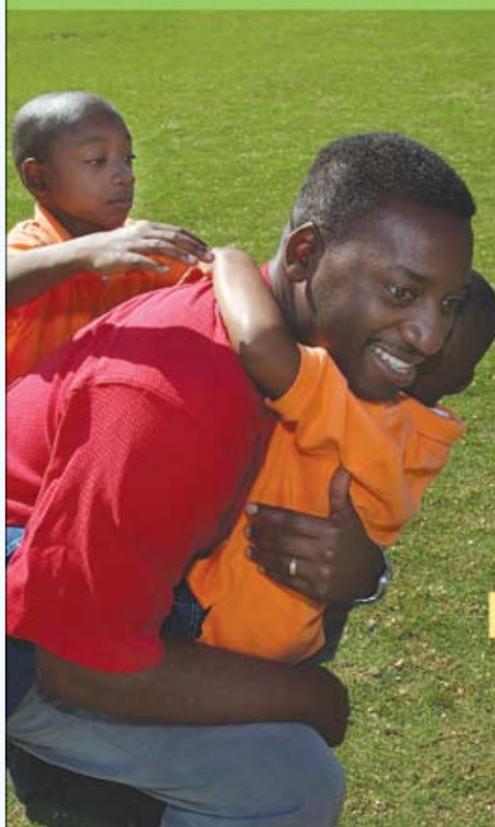
One of the newest changes to Medicare was the addition of the Prescription Drug Plans in 2006. If you are having a problem with your plan, you can file a formal complaint. For more information on the process, contact Georgia Kight at 232-2261.

The new open enrollment period to enroll or change prescription drug plans will be November 15 – December 31, 2006. These changes will be effective January 1, 2007. For assistance understanding these plans and enrolling, you can contact the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Center at 232-2261. Georgia Kight, Family & Consumer Science Agent is the Senior Health Insurance Information (SHIIP) Coordinator; additional SHIIP volunteers are Sheila Gregory, Corky Miller, Alysia Bailey, and Erlene Jones. If you are interested in learning more about how you can become a SHIIP volunteer, call the Currituck Extension Center.

Many Medicare beneficiaries have received a letter from Medicare or Social Security concerning whether they will qualify for the extra help in 2007. The extra help pays for some of the costs of prescription drugs. If you receive a notice about the extra help in 2007, you should complete the application in a timely manner so your assistance is not delayed and will be effective January 1, 2007. If you need assistance with this application, our SHIIP volunteers will be available to help you.

Call for an appointment at 232-2261.

Eat Smart, Move More Health Tip



Tame the Tube—and Get Moving

Many of us say we don't have time for physical activity, yet we spend 3 to 4 hours in front of the TV. Not only are we inactive while watching television, we often snack on high-calorie foods at the same time. Trade TV time for physical activity. Walk or bike with your family after dinner. By planning TV time, you'll have more time for physical activity.

For more tips on how to tame the tube where you live, learn, earn, play and pray, visit

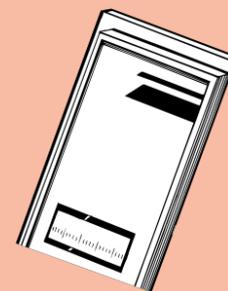
www.EatSmartMoveMoreNC.com



This message brought to you by
NC Cooperative Extension Service Currituck County Center

Staying Warm and Informed

Need Help With Heating Costs This Winter?



Currituck County residents who need help paying for their heating bills this winter can apply at the Department of Social Services. There are two forms of help available:

- The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) gives low-income families or individuals a one-time cash payment to help pay their heating bills. The application period is from November 6th through November 17th. In February, all eligible households receive a check in the mail. Households that receive food stamp benefits may be automatically eligible to receive an energy check, without an application. Those households receive a notice in the mail. Others are required to apply.

- The Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) helps low-income households who are in a heating or cooling related emergency. CIP will pay heating bills to prevent these utilities from being cut off for lack of payment and can help with reconnect fees. CIP can also pay for specific items such as utility deposits (water bills not included), repairing a broken heater or replacing broken windows. The maximum payment is up to \$300. There is not a specific application period for CIP. If funding is available, applications are taken Monday-Thursday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm; and Friday from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.



An elderly or disabled person who wishes to apply may call the Department of Social Services

for assistance, or send a representative to apply for him/her.

The Department of Social Services will take applications for the LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIEAP) from November 6, 2006 through November 17, 2006 at their office from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm each day.

(Note: Offices will be closed on November 10th in observance of the Veterans' Day holiday.)

Applications will also be taken at the following locations:

LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Powells Point Senior Center	11/8/06	10:30 am – 11:45 am
Knotts Island Senior Center	11/14/06	10:00 am – 11:45 am
Currituck Senior Center	11/15/06	10:30 am – 11:45 am

NOTE: Applicants should take information about income, such as wage stubs for the month of October, information about savings accounts or checking accounts and other assets, as well as the name, date of birth, and social security numbers of each household member.

Please call the Currituck Department of Social Services at 232-3083 if you have any questions.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO PARKS RULES AND REGULATIONS

At the August 7, 2006 meeting of the Currituck County Board of Commissioners, the Board approved revisions to the County's Park Rules and Regulations.

The following are some of the changes made to County Park Rules and Regulations:

Sec. 10-129. Firearms.

Firearms and hunting are not allowed in County parks. Firearms used for hunting are permitted, provided they are kept in a locked case at all times while on park grounds.

Sec. 10-131. Kite-flying.

Kite-flying at Maple Park only is not permitted. Kite-flying at all other County parks is permitted.

Sec. 10-132. Water-Related Activities.

Fishing is permitted at all County parks. Catch and release fishing only is permitted at Maple Park. Swimming and wading are prohibited in all County parks. Boating and motorized water activities are permitted in those County parks that have boating access ramps.

Sec. 10-133. Vehicles.

All vehicles including bicycles must be parked in parking spaces provided. Bicycles,



Photo: Sound Park in Point Harbor

roller skating, roller blading, and skateboards are allowed in designated areas only. Go-carts, motorized trail bikes, all-terrain vehicles, minibikes, etc., are prohibited at County parks. Remote-controlled cars, planes, and boats are prohibited at Maple Park only.

Sec. 10-141. Waterfowl and Wildlife.

Park patrons are encouraged to observe the parks' waterfowl and other wildlife. However, handling, feeding, harassment, and/or the capture of wildlife is prohibited on County parks.

The public is encouraged to become knowledgeable of these changes, as there are now penalties for violations.

Under Section 10-143, Violation of Park Rules and Regulations, the new regulation states, "Violation of any of the park rules and regulations set forth in this Article may result in the expulsion of the park patron with the possible denial of future privileges to use the County parks. In addition, violation of any of the park rules and regulations shall be a Class 3 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$500.00 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days for each separate violation. Each day any violation of this ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense, unless otherwise specified."

In addition, Section 10-137, Commercial Activity, "(a) Except as indicated in subsection (b) of this section, no person may engage in commercial activity, which includes but is not limited to the sale or attempted sale or advertisement for sale of any goods or services on recreational premises. (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to county-sponsored activities or other events specifically authorized by the county manager."

If you have additional questions, please contact the Currituck Parks and Recreation Department at 232-3007. For a complete list of Currituck County's Park Rules and Regulations, go to currituckgovernment.com, and look under the Parks and Recreation Department.

COMMUNICATIONS' RENOVATIONS NEARING COMPLETION

Renovations to the County's Communications' Building and Call Center are nearing completion. Over the past year, the facility has been upgraded with new equipment and reorganized for more efficient use.

Improvements in the Center's operations are outlined below:

Dispatching

A new, Motorola Gold Elite software-based dispatch control center greatly enhances current operations with benefits ranging from more effective communications to improved security. The software-based radio dispatch control center is displayed on 23" monitors, and combines fast, powerful service, in an easy to use package.

Call Taking

The current phone system is being upgraded to Positron Simon Phones. These new phones offer ergonomic designs, with graphical, color touch screen displays. They come with complete self running diagnostics to alert the operator of any error conditions and flash memory cards for the operating system to help ensure no hard disk failures.

The system seamlessly integrates with Positrons Life Line ANI-ALI Controller to ensure a fully redundant system with no single point of failure.

Ergonomics

The CAD, phone and radio systems will be fitted into new Watson dispatch consoles. These consoles combine unparalleled structural integrity, full sit-to-stand ergonomic adjustability, improved environmental controls, easy technology access, power, voice, and data integration, and simple, logical, effective wire management. For optimal viewing capabilities, the CAD and mapping systems will be displayed on three 20" monitors each with individual task lighting.

In addition, a backup Communications Center has been added to the Waterlily fire station. In the event Communications has to evacuate their building, or in case of radio/phone failures, Communications can reposition in Waterlily until the issue is resolved.

For more information on Currituck's new communication technologies, call 232-2216 or visit currituckgovernment.com.



The Moving Wall: October 25-29 at Veterans' Park

The Moving Wall

Veterans Memorial Park, Coinjock, North Carolina
Wednesday, October 25-Sunday, October 29



*"In honor of the men and women of the armed forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam War.
The names of those who gave their lives and of those who remain missing are inscribed in the order they were taken from us."*
Preamble of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Opening Ceremony: Wednesday, October 25, 6:30 P.M.

Closing Ceremony: Sunday, October 29, 2:00 P.M.

For More Information Visit www.currituckgovernment.com | www.themovingwall.org

Sponsored by The American Legion Post 288 & The County of Currituck

Upcoming Library Activities and Events...

OCTOBER COMPUTER CLASSES AT THE CURRITUCK COUNTY LIBRARY

One-on-one Introduction to the Library Catalog – Instruction is available anytime during regular Library hours. Participants will learn to use the Library's computer catalog to access resources in the Library collection. This class now includes an introduction to our new service: patron review & patron placed holds.

Computer Basics for Beginners - Monday, October 23, 2006, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Participants will learn to use the keyboard, the mouse and other basic techniques.

Introduction to Windows (NEW) Monday, October 23, 2006, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Participants will be introduced to basic features of the windows software.

Introduction to E-mail – Monday, October 16, 2006, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Participants will learn the basic skills of sending and receiving E-mails.

Microsoft Word Level I – Tuesday, October 24, 2006, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Participants will learn to create, edit, format and print a short document.

Microsoft Word Level II – Tuesday, October 24, 2006, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Participants will learn to create a one-page document, correspondence, envelopes and mailing labels. They will also learn to use graphics, font styles and colors.

Microsoft Word Level III - Thursday, October 26, 2006, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Participants will learn to create multi-page documents, use clip art and more. Prerequisites - Microsoft I & II or equivalent skills.

Microsoft Word Level IV – Thursday, October 26, 2006, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Participants will learn to create tables, newsletters and more. Prerequisites - Microsoft I & II or equivalent skills.

Microsoft Publisher (NEW) – Tuesday & Thursday, October 17 & 19, 2006, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Participants will learn basic skills in creating flyers, brochures, cards and other promotional documents. Microsoft Word Levels I, II and III or equivalent skills required.

****Computer User's Group – A Computer User's Group is being formed for group discussion and learning sessions on topics related to computers and technology. If you are interested in attending these sessions, please call the Library for more information.*

Space is limited. Call the Library to register - 453-8345



CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

The Currituck County Public Library invites you to its annual Open House to be held on December 18 – 20. Come and enjoy Christmas music, decorations and refreshments throughout each day.

Currituck Public Library Keeps Up With the Times

An anonymous Latin writer once wrote "Times change, and we change with them too." That is true of Currituck County's Public Library. What started in 1930 in a Model A Ford with a rumble seat has emerged in 2006 into the main library in Barco, the center of the County with a satellite in Corolla. Plans are now underway to open a satellite in Moyock.

In the earlier years a car and a driver stopped by homes; now patrons can use a multi-purpose facility where local citizens, tourists, and other visitors can access books and computers, attend seminars and book talks, and attend meetings – Library sponsored and community sponsored. For the 2005-2006 fiscal year, 38,146 patrons visited the main branch in Barco where 61,666 books were circulated. At the Corolla satellite, 17,671 people circulated 6,164 books. The doors are always open.

What began as a gift from Joseph P. Knapp has emerged into a program that strives to meet the needs of patrons through the support of the *Friends of the Library* (a volunteer group that assists with activities, fund raising, and program support), Currituck County, the State, and the Currituck County Public Library Foundation.

The Foundation was established to receive private donations such as an endowment in honor or memory of someone or other gifts and bequests that may be made in the form of cash, securities, other assets, or planned gifts of life insurance. These gifts are usually tax-exempt donations. No gift is too small – or too large.

The Foundation also supports other projects. The newest project is the reprinting of *Moyock, A Pictorial and Folk History, 1900-1929* by Marion Fiske Welch. This book will be available in the spring of 2007.

The Foundation operates with its own board. Current officers are: Sheila Romm, President; Barbara Snowden, Vice-President; Tom Jones, Secretary; Nancy Bass, Treasurer. Contact Librarian Gerri Andrews at 453-8345 for additional information concerning the programs of Currituck County Public Library or the Foundation.

Currituck Library Forum

The 2006-2007 Forum Series begins in November. This year's program features the following presentations:



Kevin Duffus Topic: Lost Light

Friday, November 17, 2006	7:30 P.M.	Corolla
Saturday, November 18, 2006	2:00 P.M.	Barco

Billy Stevens Topic: American Popular Music Origins and Overview

Saturday, January 20, 2007	2:00 P.M.	Barco
Saturday, January 20, 2007	7:30 P.M.	Corolla

Janice Bardsley Topic: Japan's Royal Women

Saturday, February 17, 2007	2:00 P.M.	Barco
Saturday, February 17, 2007	7:30 P.M.	Corolla

Jim Bunch Topic: Germany's U85

Saturday, March 17, 2007	2:00 P.M.	Barco
Saturday, March 17, 2007	7:30 P.M.	Corolla



CHRISTMAS MAKE IT & TAKE IT WORKSHOP

The Currituck County Public Library will repeat its popular Christmas Make It and Take It Workshop on Saturday, December 2, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Participants will learn to make a variety of unique Christmas decorations, and all materials will be provided. Crafts for both children and adults will be taught. The workshop is free and open to the public. No registration required.

Call the Library at 453-8345 for more information.

New County Administration... What's Coming Up

New Assistant to the Manager Reaches Out to Community

During his first six months on the job as Assistant to the Manager, Greg Schwarga has been making every effort to meet citizens and ask their opinions on how to make Currituck County an even better place to live.

Schwarga's position was created with the purpose of providing administrative support to the County Manager, along with giving the public an additional contact person for information and assistance. He is the first to serve in this position.

Schwarga's job includes serving on committees and boards, providing administrative support to county departments, managing special projects, and overseeing construction of county buildings, including a new fire station on Knotts Island.

Having served as a school teacher and administrator with the Currituck County Schools for over 30 years, Schwarga is well suited for the job. He has extensive experience in working with the public and is knowledgeable of school construction and operating budgets.

"Greg's experience in education is proving to be helpful, especially as the County moves forward with the school district's ten-year capital plan," said Dan Scanlon, County Manager. "We're certainly pleased to have him as a member of our staff. His organizational skills and years of working in administration are proving to be an asset."

Schwarga has a Master's degree in Educational Administration from Old Dominion University and is based at the Historic Currituck Courthouse, but he works at least one day each week out of the Currituck Outer Banks government offices in Corolla.



According to Scanlon, one reason for adding the new position was to expand the administrative presence at the beach offices.

Schwarga is currently overseeing several projects on the Currituck Outer Banks, including the development of a bike path/multi-purpose trail along NC 12 and the Ocean Sands community. "It's going to be great for both visitors and residents when it's finished," said Schwarga.

He also is monitoring the construction of an additional beach bath/restroom facility to be located across from Heritage Park and is working to get milepost markers along NC 12 in Corolla. "Many of the beach residents have been asking that the County purchase milepost markers to make it easier for tourists to locate homes and businesses. It will also make it quicker for emergency responders to locate those in need," Schwarga said.

Another of Schwarga's projects was to send a letter to all Currituck Outer Banks property owners seeking their input on issues that affect the beach community. He is also setting up an electronic newsletter as another method to improve communications.

"I'm very pleased to be here working with the County," said Schwarga. "It's a challenge, but one that I'm enjoying, especially getting an opportunity to get back involved in working with the public."

Did You Know



Requests for the Currituck County Visitor's Guide are up 701% in Summer Season 2006 (April-August) from Summer Season 2005?

COMING UP IN CURRITUCK... CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Read Me a Story Day Care Provider Training on Nutrition & Fitness

Thursdays, October 19 & 26 at 6:30 pm
Must pre-register by calling 232-2261.

ServSafe Food Managers Certification Training

Tuesday & Wednesday, October 24 & 25
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

The Moving Wall

Wednesday through Sunday, October 25 - 29,
7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Veterans' Memorial Park
Coinjock, NC

Election Day

Tuesday, November 7
Election Results will be posted
on currituckgovernment.com

Veterans' Day Holiday

Friday, November 10
County Government Offices, Public Library Closed

Thanksgiving Holidays

Thursday & Friday, November 23 & 24
County Government Offices, Public Library Closed

Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 9, 10:00 am
Highway 168 north from Knapp School
to the Currituck Governmental Center.

Christmas Holidays

Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26
County Government Offices, Public Library Closed

New Year's Day Holiday

Monday, January 1, 2007
County Government Offices, Public Library Closed

CURRITUCK TO BE FEATURED ON THE GOLF CHANNEL

Near the end of September, The Golf Channel shot footage in Currituck County for a special called "Golf Getaways." The program features the County's beautiful golf courses and other activities that make the Currituck Outer Banks a great vacation destination.



In addition to shooting several golf courses, many attractions were taped for this feature, including: the Corolla Wild Horses, vacation rental homes, the beaches of Carova/Swan Beach, and Heritage Park.

The production of "Golf Getaways" is the result of a partnership between the State of North Carolina, The Outer Banks Golf Association & the Currituck County Department of Travel & Tourism.

"Golf Getaways" will air this fall on The Golf Channel to national, as well as, Canadian and United Kingdom audiences. In addition, an accompanying article will be run in *Golf Digest*, *Golf World*, and *Golf for Women*.

For more information on the golf program, please visit us online at www.visitcurrituck.com, or call the Currituck County Department of Travel and Tourism at 232-2708.

Currituck ... Community Update

CURRITUCK OUTER BANKS VISITOR'S GUIDE IN HIGH DEMAND: REPRINT IN PROGRESS



With nearly **100,000 copies distributed** in the last year, the Currituck Outer Banks Visitor's Guide has been a huge success. The high demand for the publication is causing the Department of Travel and Tourism to run a re-print earlier than expected.

As a result, area tourism businesses may submit their information for the new publication and/or update their current information in the guide for the coming season.

If you would like to submit/update your information in the Currituck Outer Banks Visitor's Guide, please contact the Department of Travel and Tourism by December 1, at 232-2708.

Did You Know ?

The Currituck County Board of Commissioners has been putting money away for the past several years to construct the Cooperative Extension Service facility and two elementary schools minimizing the potential to raise taxes! If they had not planned for the future and saved this money, Currituck taxpayers would need to pay an additional \$0.525* per \$100 of assessed valuation to cover the costs to construct these facilities. This would mean an additional \$1,030.00* of taxes on a \$200,000 home.

*Using Real & Estimated Cost Figures

RIBBON CUTTING HELD FOR WATERLILY FIRE STATION

Currituck citizens, government officials, and fire department volunteers recently celebrated the opening of the Lower Currituck Volunteer Fire Department's Waterlily Substation.

The ribbon cutting ceremony and open house marked the official opening of the 4,985 sq. ft. facility. The substation, which has 24-hour manned Emergency Medical Services and volunteer fire services, was completed at a cost of \$843,884, approximately \$158,600 under budget.

The new station is expected to help lower insurance costs for homeowners living in the service area.



Pictured cutting the ribbon are Paul O'Neal (center left), Chairman of the Currituck County Board of Commissioners, and James Moseman (center right), Fire Chief of the Lower Currituck Volunteer Fire Department.

NEW MILEPOST SIGNS IN COROLLA



In response to public requests, Currituck County Public Works is placing official Currituck Outer Banks Milepost Signs throughout Corolla. The new signs feature the familiar Currituck County Travel and Tourism logo, and will be posted every mile from the southern Currituck border with Duck, NC to the North Beach ramp leading to Carova.

The double-sided signs are to be posted on the west side of US 12, and will correspond with existing milepost markers on the beach throughout Corolla. While the new signs will aid visitors in locating various attractions and businesses, guests and locals should also be aware of their physical address to expedite the fastest, possible emergency service.

Cooperative Extension Wishes to Remind Families that National Family Week is November 19 – 25

All families are busy, so you may need to make eating together a family priority. Mealtime is a great opportunity for parents and kids to be together.

Adults are important role models for kids and can influence the foods children taste and learn to eat. It is easier to make healthy choices when meals are prepared at home and families sit at the table together to share that meal. It is a good time to talk about and model healthy eating, portion sizes and trying new foods.

A special program entitled "Crock Pot Meals," which helps prepare meals easier at home, will be held on Wednesday November 15 at 12:00 noon at the Currituck Extension Kitchen. Call 232-2261 to pre-register.



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