

# Employee Newsletter



## Mark Your Calendar

- **Commissioners' Meeting Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM**
- **Dept. Head Meeting Jan 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30**
- **Blood Drive Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 12 – 5, Auditorium**
- **Dept. Head Meeting Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 8:30**

## From the County Manager

Well here we are again crossing the bridge from one year into the next. 2010 presented its own set of unique challenges for me as I guess it may have for you as well. But I hope that you agree with me when I say that it has been a rewarding and productive year for Edgecombe County. As I look through the door into 2011, I see the makings of new obstacles we

will face, as well as the lingering of old ones. However, I am confident to say, we are ready!

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!



## 4-H Program Highlighted at Farm City Breakfast



This year's keynote speaker at Cooperative Extension's Farm City Breakfast was Dr. Marshall Stewart, Associate Director, NC Cooperative Extension Service. This dynamic speaker spoke on the value of investing into the lives of our youth, not in just money, but in time and service.

4-H is a youth development program

serving young people ages 5 – 19. According to the NC 4-H website, there are more than 10,000 4-H programs across NC, and it is the largest youth organization in the US with over 7 million participants. Dr. Stewart noted in his presentation that in four years, of all the youth participating in 4-H across the state, only 1 has dropped out of school.

Lesla Walton is the 4-H Extension Agent in Edgecombe County, and you can learn more about the program by going to Cooperative Extension's website, listed on our department page.

## Quote of the Month

**“Don't let your new year's resolution go in one year and out the other!”**

*-unknown*



**Congratulations to Tarboro High Football Team, 2010 State 2-A Champs!**



## The Cold Snap Snapped Early in Edgecombe County

## How to Keep Your Cool When It's So Cold

With us being so used to relatively mild winters, this unusually cold and early winter weather we have been experiencing has many of us shivering and wondering, how to handle this cold. Here are a few tips to help out:

- Make sure all of your air filters in your home are replaced or clean. Your HVAC is working overtime and doesn't need the extra strain of a dirty filter.
- Keep plenty of spare blankets on hand and consider an alternative heating source in case your lights go out. Be sure to choose one that is safe.
- Keep extra food and household supplies on hand in case you get stuck at home due to bad weather.
- Prearrange accommodations for your kids for days when schools is delayed or closed.
- When outdoors, wear layers of clothes with a heavy jacket. Avoid getting wet or sweating.
- Wear a hat to conserve body heat. Dressing warm with no hat is like having a well insulated house and leaving the door open.
- When driving in icy or snowy conditions, use extreme caution. Err on the side of safety and stay at home if at all possible.
- And if you just can't beat the cold, learn to enjoy and appreciate time inside with family and friends.



## Don't Hide Your Plate!

Beginning December 1<sup>st</sup>, a new NC law went into effect that requires the state's name across the bottom of the plate as well as year and month stickers on a license plate to be fully visible. They can no longer be partially covered by a license plate frame. Vehicle owners can be cited for committing an infraction and fined \$100 for the violation.

The law was introduced in the 2009 session of the General Assembly and was supported by law enforcement officials because it increases the readability of registration information on the plates and helps indentify vehicles registered in NC.



## Happy New Year!



### Hoping to Retire One Day?

The NC Retirement System will hold a Retirement Planning Conference January 12<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 1:30 at Nash Community College, Business & Industry Center/Brown Auditorium; 522 N. Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mount. They will provide an orientation to new members, pre-retirement planning information for members closer to retirement and educational information for personnel officers. For more information and a list of other conference sites and dates, go to [www.myncretirement.com](http://www.myncretirement.com)