I hope each of you are having a great summer. We have had a very busy but great summer. We are about to finish up our 4-H classes and then on to our regular work.

The County Manager will be moving to our office area in August. Veteran’s Services will be moving back downtown in the county manager’s office space to be closer to the Register of Deeds. We have had to give up one office for this to happen. We will have more changes to occur later in the year. I will keep you posted.

Trip to Lake Waccamaw

What a great day we had at Lake Waccamaw!! I really do think this was the best one of all.

We have decided the September and November area meeting’s crafts will be designated to making Christmas ornaments for the four girls cottages. I have 30 glass ornaments from our area meeting that we can work on in September. **We need each club to bring four group pictures of your club and they need to be small enough to roll up and put in the ornament.** That way each cottage can have an ornament with your club’s members on their trees.

Some of you may want to make or donate new ornaments for the cottages and that would be great or your club may want to make ornaments together.

I received an email from Tom Lamont the day after we went and he sent us this list. He said one thing they really, really need are large size clothing for one of the girls at the Jaycee Cottage. These are the sizes of clothing articles needed for her: Pants: size 16 regular, Skirts/dresses: 16, Shirts: 16/2X, Shoes: 11, Socks: size 10/11, panties: 9, Bra: 40C or 38D.

**Wish List for Jaycee Cottage**

Thank you for all that you do for us. It is truly a blessing.
1. Curtains (valance type) for living room, dining room, kitchen, game room and tp area.
2. Matching dinnerware set for 20 (including glasses).
3. Office equipment.
4. Microwave.
5. Bedroom dressers and nightstands for tp area.
6. Pictures (County-Girlish for hallway, kitchenette area.
7. WII games, (super Mario, racing) etc. Wands, dance pad, steering-wheel.
8. DVD VCR for living room and game room.
9. File cabinets that lock.
10. Fast food gift certificates.
11. Outdoor bench and planters.
12. Outdoor wreath.
13. Holiday decorations.
14. Computer set that can be set up for the kids to use in the game room.
15. Placemats for dining room.
16. Season pass to amusement area.
17. Area rugs for office and tp area.
18. Beach chairs for the cottage.
19. Plants.
20. Complete aquarium for cottage.
21. PG movies.
22. Christian books, educational books, art and craft supplies.
23. California king size bedding for tp area.
24. Twin bed and bedding for tp children’s area.
25. Dishwasher.

Thanks again for a really good day!!!!

**Greg’s Retirement Reception**

You will find attached a flier regarding Greg’s retirement reception. Please try to stop by and wish him well. He is our longest member with Cooperative Extension. We are surely going to miss him.

**County Council Meeting**

We will have a county council meeting on Thursday, August 13th at 10:00 am. Please try to make sure that each club has a representative present. All county council members need to be present.

**Leader Training**

There will be no leader training in August since September is our area meeting.
Area Meeting

We are going to make a slight switch in September. Of course, when we were putting this year’s calendar together – we did not know that Robin would be pregnant and due in September. Therefore, she and I have decided to change presentations in September. She is going to do “Relatives as Parents” for your area meeting and the leader training for your October meeting will be “Understanding Reverse Mortgages” and I will do that.

I hope this does not confuse you but with her due date being the 24th of September I am afraid that she may not be around to do the leader training.

We will work on our Christmas ornaments during the meeting for our craft.

We will also have a baby shower for Robin during our meeting. By her doing the presentation I can work on the food for the shower.

Some of the ECA members have been asking me for a list from Robin. Here is what I have been able to get from her:

Baby gowns (they lots and lots of onesies) Burp cloths, Crib sheets, Towels, Washcloths.

They are registered at Babies R Us and Target.

They are going use cloth diapers and breastfeed. Therefore, they are not going to need disposable diapers, baby wipes and bottles.

They are registered at a couple of places in Wilmington and some on-line places so if you are interested in those please let me know.

Out of the office

Robin and I will be out of the office August 5–7 to attend a training. If you need either of us please call the office and they will get in touch with us. We will be at Camp Caraway and they do not have good cell phone reception there so we may not be able to call right away. We will be back in the office on Monday, August 10th.
Administrative Assistant

We still have not been able to advertise for an administrative assistant. We will not be able to do that until the State budget has been approved. Nita and Debby continue to do a great job filling in the gaps left vacant by Cathy and Brenda. Hopefully that position will be filled by October.

Letter for Samaritan's Purse

I received a letter from Samaritan’s Purse thanking ya’ll for all of the medicine bottles. I will give the letter to your secretary at the August meeting.

Christmas Wreaths

We will be selling Christmas wreaths again this year. The pre-sale forms will come out in September. I should have them are the area meeting. Please start talking about the wreaths to your friends. We are going to put information in the paper and on G–10 this year in hopes to sell more.

State Meeting

The annual ECA state meeting will be in October in Concord, NC. Right now there are three of us going. If you would like to at least see the registration information when we receive it let me know.

Senior Expo

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, September 12th from 9am to 2 pm. There will be great information here for you.
Farmers’ Market

Visit your local Farmers’ Market. They are open Tuesday and Saturday from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm at the market here by our office and on Thursday from 12 noon to 6:00 pm behind Best Buy on Western Blvd Extension.

SPOTLIGHT
ONSLOW COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

The Onslow County Beekeepers Association was organized January 14, 2003 to promote beekeeping and increase the skill level of area beekeepers through cooperation and education. Monthly meetings are held the second Tuesday at 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Onslow County Multipurpose Complex. Meetings are open to area beekeepers and persons interested in learning about beekeeping. A short course which teaches basic entry level beekeeping skills is conducted at the Multipurpose Complex in November each fall for a nominal fee.

Contact the Cooperative Extension office at 455-5873 to enroll for the course. The Onslow County Beekeepers Association maintains an active membership of 40-45 members who are actively involved in promoting beekeeping through area schools, the county fair, festivals and public events. Individuals needing assistance with honeybee swarms or advice on how to deal with honeybees in structures can contact Jeff Morton with the Cooperative Extension office at (910) 455-5873.

Recipe Corner
Almost-Famous Garden Salad
Ida McNamara

(The Food Network Kitchens imitation of Olive Garden’s salad)

Prep-time – 15 min – total 15 min. serves 4

For the Dressing
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
3 tablespoons Miracle Whip
1 tablespoon lemon juice
2 tablespoons grated parmesan cheese
¼ teaspoon garlic salt
¼ teaspoon dried Italian seasoning

For the Salad
1 10-ounce bag American salad blend
¼ red onion, thinly sliced
4 small pickled peppers, such as pepperoncini
1 small vine-ripened tomato, quartered
2 tablespoons sliced black olives
½ cup large croutons
1 tablespoon grated parmesan cheese

Combine all the dressing ingredients and 1 to 2 tablespoons of water in a blender or food processor; puree until smooth.

Then, place the salad blend in a large bowl and top with the remaining salad ingredients. Drizzle with the dressing.

Peggie L. Garner
County Extension Director

Employment and program opportunities are offered to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.