



Team Bladen

...because it takes ALL of us!

FEBRUARY 2015
Bladen County
Government Newsletter

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Co. Manager : Greg Martin
- Animal Control : Kory Hair
- Building Inspections:
 - Matt Chadwick
- Clerk of Courts:
 - Nikki Dennis
- Computer Operations:
 - Robin Hewett
 - Consolidated
- Human Services
- Health: Cris Harrelson
 - DSS: Vickie Smith
- Economic Development:
 - Chuck Heustess
- Elections: Cynthia Shaw
- Emergency Services:
 - Fire: Bradley Kinlaw
- EMS: David Howell, Jr.
 - Extension:
 - Ryan Harrelson
- Finance: Lisa Coleman
- Human Resources:
 - Amy Pharr
 - Library:
- Operations: Robert Mazur
- Planning: Greg Elkins
- Recreation: Grant Pait
- Register of Deeds:
 - Beverly Parks
- Revenue: Christopher Ellis
- Senior Services: Joan Allen
- Soil & Water: Dean Morris
- Sheriff: James McVicker
- Water: Randy Garner

KID'S VALENTINE PARTY



WHERE: BLADEN COUNTY PUBLIC
LIBRARY

WHEN: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLEASE CALL 910-862-6990 TO R.S.V.P.

A RESPONSIBLE GUARDIAN MUST
ACCOMPANY CHILDREN TO THIS EVENT.

Retirees Honored

On Monday, January 5, Bladen County commissioners recognized four county employees who recently retired from their county positions. **Connie C. Hyatt** retired after serving over 9 years, most recently in the Bladen County Library as the Children's Library Assistant. **Madison K. (Matt) Dennis** retired from the Bladen County Sheriff's Department with nearly 21 years of service and **Jimmy L. Stanley** retired with 11 years of service. **David Kent Gooden** retired from the Bladen County Solid Waste Department with nearly 9 1/2 years of service. All were presented plaques by Chairman Charles Ray Peterson and Vice Chair Russell Priest.



Additions to the Honors List at Bladen Community College

Six students have been added to the honors list for the Fall 2014 semester at Bladen Community College. To qualify for inclusion on the Dean's List, a student must be considered full-time and have maintained a grade point average of between 3.5 and 3.99. Congratulations to **Jordan Hayes**, daughter of Janice Hayes (Finance) and Jerry Hayes.



Welcome to new Bridger Memorial Library Assistant, **Kayla Parker**. She is the newest employee at Bladen County Public Library.



Congratulations to **Chandler** and **Matthew Strickland**, they graduated from North Carolina State University on December 18, 2014. Parents Carol Strickland (Health Department) and Greg.

FEBRUARY



philomathis

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2 GROUNDHOG DAY

3 PRAYER SERVICE, 8:15 A.M.

ELIZABETHTOWN PLANNING BOARD MEETING, ELIZABETH-TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 5:30 P.M.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING, 6:30 P.M.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, ELIZABETHTOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 7 P.M.

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12 CHILDREN'S VALENTINE PROGRAM, ELIZABETHTOWN LIBRARY, 6:30 P.M.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

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14 ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

15 NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION FREE HUNTING & BOATING EDUCATION COURSE, JONES LAKE, 1:00 P.M.—7:00 P.M.

16 PRESIDENTS' DAY & GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING, 6:30 P.M.

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18 GRANDPARENTS & KINSHIP CAREGIVERS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP, BLADEN COUNTY DIVISION ON AGING, 10:00 A.M.—11:30 A.M.

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21 NaCo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

22 NaCo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

23 NaCo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

24 NaCo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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28 FEBRUARY LUNCH & LEARN, noon & 1 P.M., POWELL-MELVIN AG. CENTER

The Elizabethtown Rotary Club is sponsoring an **8K TRAIL RUN** to benefit the **WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT**, on **Saturday, April 18, 2015**, at Brown's Creek Bike Trail, 2354 East Broad Street, Elizabethtown, NC. Pre-registration before April 10th, for \$35 per person. Contact Tiina Mundy at 910. 991. 5149 if you have questions.



MARTIN

Commissioners Recognize Employees for Years of Service

Bladen County Commissioners recognized several employees for years of service at their regular board meeting held on Tuesday, January 20.

Vertis McKoy - BARTS - 10 years

Robin Hewett - Computer Operations - 5 years

Mildred Beatty - DSS - 30 years

Dena Patrick - DSS - 10 years

Danette Sessoms - DSS - 10 years

Michelle Wright - DSS - 10 years

Yvonne Norris - DSS - 5 years

Delois Lucy - Division on Aging - 5 years

Bradley Kinlaw - Emergency Services - 5 years

Bonnie Drew - Health Department - 20 years

Laura Strickland - Health Department - 15 years

Amanda Butler - Health Dept - 10 years

Romall Watson - Health Dept - 10 years

Glorietta Barnes - Revenue - 10 years

Charles Wilkins - Sheriff - 10 years

Robert Bryant - Sheriff - 5 years

Bladen Government, Individuals Honored

The Lumber River Workforce Development Board held its annual Recognition Luncheon in December at the UNCP Regional Center with more than 100 guests and staff in attendance. The purpose of the luncheon was to honor outstanding participants and businesses who are involved in the Workforce Development Investment Act Program, also known as WIA. WIA is a federally funded program designed to address the employment and training needs of adults, dislocated workers and youth.



Alexis Lacewell, daughter of Charmoine Buie (DSS) received her award as the **WIA Teen of the Year**. Alexis currently attends Appalachian State University where she majors in Cell/Molecular Biology.



Bladen County Government was recognized as the **WIA Business of the Year**. Bladen County Manager Greg Martin received the county's award.

Sheriff's Department Promotes, Some Retire



Promotions

Sgt. R.J. Bailey

Cpl. Cley Carroll

Cpl. Daniel Clark

Investigator K. Rodney Hester

Investigator Matt Hester II

Retirees

Cpl. Matt K. Dennis

Cpl. Jimmy Stanley

Cpl. Charles Weathers



*A program of the National
Institutes of Health*

**WEAR RED FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015 “NATIONAL
WEAR RED DAY” AMERICAN HEART MONTH.**

Friday, February 6, 2015, is National Wear Red Day. It is observed the first Friday of every February known as American Heart Month. There is no better time to wear red, and raise awareness about heart disease in women.

People of all ages and backgrounds can get heart disease.

For more information or to comment contact www.cdc.gov or Bladen County Health Department Health Education at 910-862-6900

extension 5.



February is African American History Month

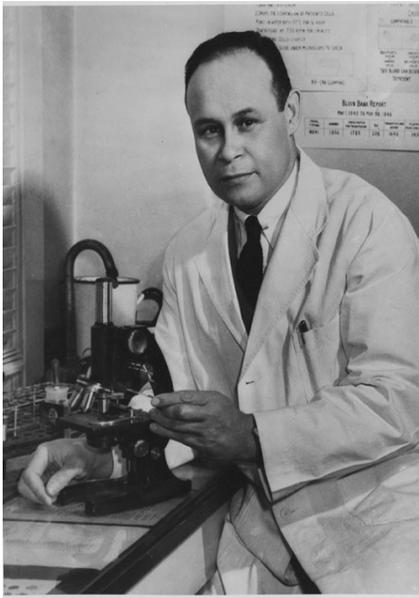
<http://www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/about.html>

The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society.

As a Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, like W. E. B. Du Bois before him, believed that truth could not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice. His hopes to raise awareness of African American's contributions to civilization was realized when he and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), conceived and announced Negro History Week in 1925. The event was first celebrated during a week in February 1926 that encompassed the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The response was overwhelming: Black history clubs sprang up; teachers demanded materials to instruct their pupils; and progressive whites, not simply white scholars and philanthropists, stepped forward to endorse the effort.

By the time of Woodson's death in 1950, Negro History Week had become a central part of African American life and substantial progress had been made in bringing more Americans to appreciate the celebration. At mid-century, mayors of cities nationwide issued proclamations noting Negro History Week. The Black Awakening of the 1960s dramatically expanded the consciousness of African Americans about the importance of black history, and the Civil Rights movement focused Americans of all color on the subject of the contributions of African Americans to our history and culture.

The celebration was expanded to a month in 1976, the nation's bicentennial. President Gerald R. Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." That year, fifty years after the first celebration, the association held the first African American History Month. By this time, the entire nation had come to recognize the importance of Black history in the drama of the American story. Since then each American president has issued African American History Month proclamations. And the association—now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)—continues to promote the study of Black history all year.



Charles Drew

Physician, surgeon, and medical researcher who was the pioneer of the Modern Blood Bank.



Madam C.J. Walker

First Female self-made millionaire who made her fortune by developing and marketing a successful line of beauty and hair products for black women under the company she founded.



Garrett Morgan

An entrepreneur and community leader who invented the gas mask, a traffic signal and a hair straightening chemical.



Valerie Thomas

Scientist who developed the 3-D optical illusion device.



Lewis Howard Latimer

he co-patented (with Charles W. Brown) an improved toilet system for railroad cars called the Water Closet for Railroad Cars & invented an improved light bulb



Patricia Bath

Ophthalmologist who invented the Laserphaco Probe, a medical device that improves on the use of lasers to remove cataracts