



Pender County Government Update

Department

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

4-H Youth Development

-Announced Pender County's Wreath & Garland Fundraiser -Attended ERS (NCSU's contact reporting system) Training -Attended Strategic Planning Session for Resiliency Task Force - Prepped for upcoming Resiliency Task Force Meeting -Prepped for upcoming presentation for County Commissioner Meeting -Met with Robotics 4-H Club Leader to plan recruitment event -Participated in Coming Together in the Cape Fear for Racial Understanding Dialogue Circle with other Extension Professionals from Pender, Brunswick, & New Hanover Counties -Attended 4HOnline 2.0 Training -Attended training on supporting LGBTQ+ Youth in 4-H Across Rural NC -Created PowerPoint presentation on Youth Adult Partnerships for NC 4-H Ambassadors Program
Consumer Horticulture & Local Foods

Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

-Photo competition and plant sale planning for April 2021 -Making of the Greens event in December. - Seed and plant swap next week -Weeding the teaching gardens around the Extension office, Burgaw library, Hampstead library, and Poplar Grove -Speaker's Bureau Events via webinar. See schedule - -Ask a Master Gardener booth at the Poplar Grove Farmer's Market on Wednesday's to answer questions -Zoom training about the new NCSU Extension Master Gardeners intranet through zoom -Working to update the Pender Extension Master Gardeners website -Recording horticulture education videos for Pender County teachers to use in classrooms versus face to face (covid)

Horticulture Agent

She and the 4-H Agent are working on growing milkweed in containers for a spring school project with monarch butterflies. Watching zoom webinars about the new Master Gardener intranet website and the Carolina Naturalist. -Home visits and answering phone calls, texts, emails, and Facebook posts -Mole crickets -Pruning figs and pear trees -Soil sampling

-Managing Master Gardener Volunteers program

-Pruning lemon tree

-Planting bulbs

-Asian Giant Hornets vs European Hornets:

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/european-hornetsutmmedium=social&utmsource=facebook&utmcontent=extension&utmcampaign=socialhub>

-The Master Gardener website:

<https://pender.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/lawn-garden/extension-master-gardener-volunteers/>

-Seed starting

CED/Agriculture / Community Development

Rain. 5" to 9" of rain fell across Pender County on Thursday with 1" to 3" earlier in the week. Soybean harvest is not going well. Many acres of wheat will likely have to be replanted due to flooding and saturated soils. Strawberry planting was complete with replanting of plants that did not survive being transplanted. Strawberry harvest will begin in late March or early April - put it on your calendars!! CED attended Zoom training in forestry, field corn production and NCSU administrative policy changes. Completed Woodland Owners Forestry Management training. Programs for timber owners will be scheduled in January/February 2021. Scheduling pesticide applicator recertification classes for Monday, November 23, 2020\ . NCSU extended the training deadline to November 30, 2020 due to covid. Anyone needing recertification credit hours call the County Extension Director at (910) 259-1390. Working on plans for online Zoom training for crop production winter meetings and forestry meetings. If you DO NOT have access to reliable internet service please let the Cooperative Extension office know so we can try to arrange in person programming - per state public health guidelines.

Admin Secretary

Processing NCSU and Pender County invoices / receiving phone calls

(1) - pesticide applicator license requirement call

(2) - referrals to Farm Service Agency

(2) - referrals to Environmental Health

(2) - calls about soil sampling procedures



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HEALTH - GENERAL

Staff continues to work hard with COVID testing and contact tracing. Their efforts are seven days a week and we are very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of public health workers-nurses, lab, data entry, and health educators. They continue to follow those recovering until they have recuperated.

Overall, there have been nearly 23,000 COVID tests on Pender County residents (there are duplicates as individuals may get tested more than once).

COVID rates were elevated due to an outbreak at Pender Correctional as there have been 201 offenders and three staff that have tested positive recently. The county's percentage of positive cases was 11.4%, much higher than the state rate. Today's percentage of positive tests is 5.9% compared to the state at 8%.

Messaging can be found on our website about being safe during the upcoming holidays, such as avoiding large crowds, wear a mask, wash your hands and maintain 6 feet distancing. If you are sick, do not visit friends and family.

We are working closely with the schools as K-5 returned to in-person classes four days a week. Staff has also been available to the School Board for data interpretation and trends.

Flu shots are available at the health department. As staff are able, there have been some flu outreach events across the county. There has been vacancies for two RNs and those positions have been filled with start dates in the coming weeks.

Health educators have been very busy assisting with COVID efforts. They maintain the county dashboard and update spreadsheets for epidemiological purposes. In addition, they have participated in Strategic Planning with a regional Resiliency Task Force. Other activities include helping with Powerful Families/ Powerful Communities; Trunk of Treat at the Burgaw Early College; and Medication Take Back Event.

NC WIC on-line referral form: <https://www.nutritionnc.com/wic/wic-referral.asp> is a new app to use in making referrals for any pregnant or breastfeeding women, infants and children that are eligible.

Megan Buchheister, Registered Dietician, has begun offering Medical Nutrition Therapy for adults and is taking referrals.

The Environmental Health staff completed 100% for food and lodging inspections in FY 19/20.

The Animal Shelter released 217 animals in October via adoptions, redemptions and transfers to rescues.

On October 26th, Pender County Animal Services employees, Jewell Horton and David Peay, put their Large Animal Rescue Operation training to work with a mutual aid request in Duplin County. They assisted getting a horse out of a swimming pool. The horse had been there for hours but was freed in less than 15 minutes after their arrival thanks to their training and Jewell Horton's vast equine experience.





Pender County Government Update

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LIBRARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact Michael Y. Taylor, Director, Pender County Public Library. mtaylor@pendercountync.gov Phone: 910-259-5113 or 910-604-4301 cell.

Library Presents Pulitzer Winning Author – Pender WWII Soldier Featured

On Thursday, November 19 at 7 p.m., Pender County Library is hosting Pulitzer-prize-winning author Joseph Pereira to present a live online video discussion of his new book *All Souls Day: The World War II Battle and the Search for a Lost U.S. Battalion*. The program is free and pre-registration is required to view the 60 minute online live program.

Pereira will share about this battle in Huertgen Forest that had the highest casualty rate of Americans in all of the European action. The story of a Pender County soldier is woven throughout the story among several others, as well as their families back home.

Pender County native First Lieutenant Julian Farior was among the fallen in the battle. His story is shared through letters to home, military records and family interview. The author's talk will include a discussion with his youngest brother, Dr. Stanley Farior, of Topsail Beach and Burgaw, NC. Dr. Farior will share about his own remarkable cathartic journey as an adult in the last decade to learn more about his brother's death.

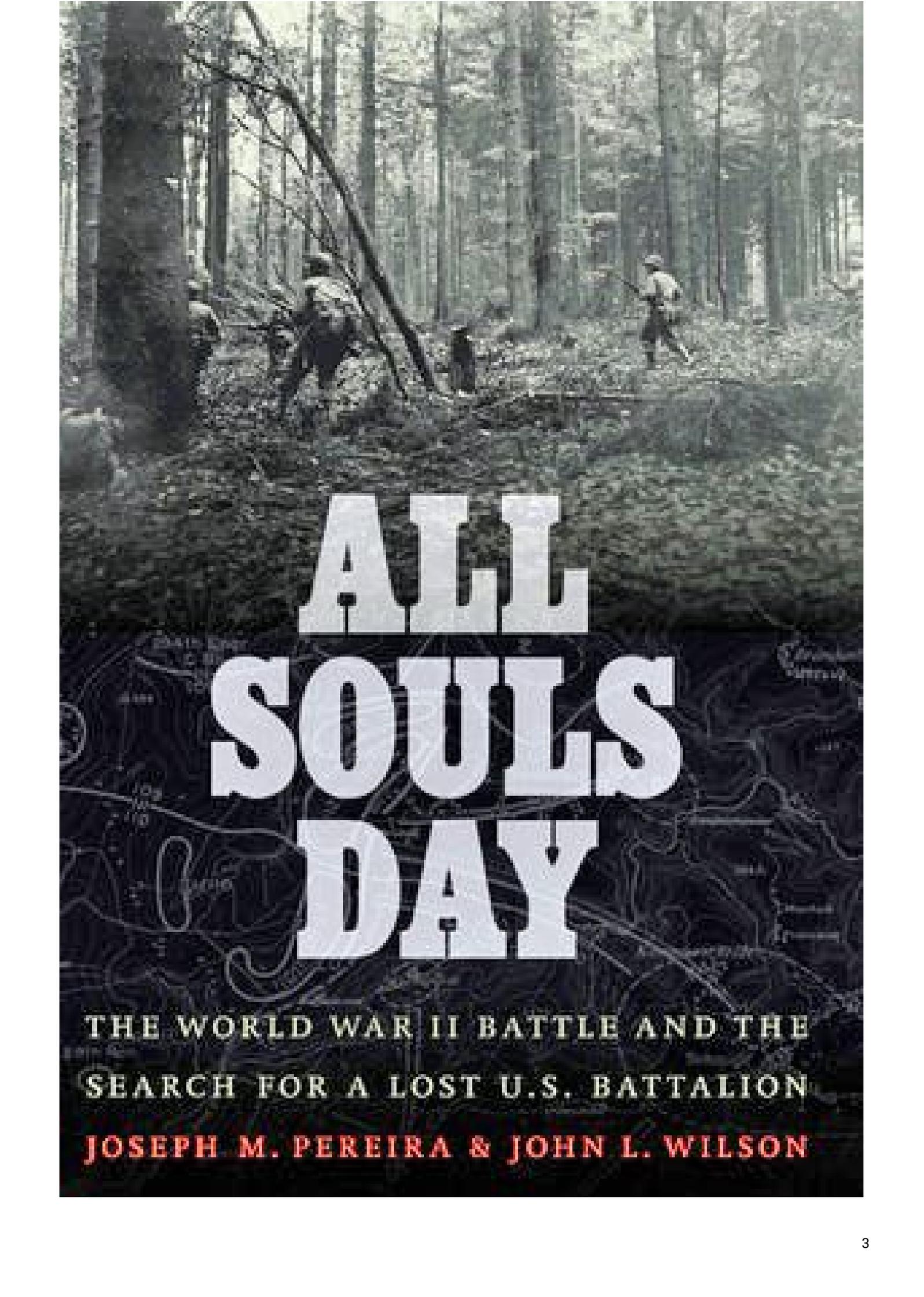
The Battle of All Souls Day began on November 2, 1944 with the advance of three regiments of the U.S. 28th Infantry Division on the German-Belgium border. Only one regiment survived the brief, yet bloody, battle. Forced to retreat, American forces had to leave behind their dead and wounded, many of which were members of the 2nd Battalion of the 112th Regiment of the 28th Infantry Division.

After the War, the U.S. Army returned to the site of the battle to bring home their fallen, only to find that many of these men had vanished, earning the 2nd Battalion the name the Lost Battalion. Fortunately for the Farior family back in Burgaw, North Carolina, Julian's body was recovered and buried in Belgium.

Joseph M. Pereira of Boston is an award-winning journalist who worked for the Wall Street Journal for more than two decades. He has taught journalism at Emerson College and at the New England Center for Investigative Reporting at Boston University. He was a member of the Wall Street Journal staff that won a Pulitzer Prize for its coverage of the 9/11 attacks, and he has won several other awards for his investigative work.

Register online at bit.ly/PCL1119 or go to the library's website at PenderPublicLibrary.org and follow the links under 'Events.' A confirmation email with a link to the event, as well as a later

reminder. You can also call the library and staff will take your registration by phone. The talk can be viewed on smartphone, tablet, computer, and other devices with an Internet connection. For more information or assistance, call Pender County Library at 910-259-1234.



ALL SOULS DAY

THE WORLD WAR II BATTLE AND THE
SEARCH FOR A LOST U.S. BATTALION

JOSEPH M. PEREIRA & JOHN L. WILSON



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PARKS & RECREATION

- We are hosting drive-in turkey bingo on November 15th at Hampstead Kiwanis Park and Pender Memorial Park. Guests will play bingo safely from their vehicle and win prizes such as frozen turkeys, cakes, gift cards, etc. Flyer attached.
- Staff are working on planning socially distant Christmas events. More details to be released in the coming weeks.
- We met with planning department staff again this week to discuss updating our 2010 parks and recreation master plan. More information to come soon.
- Staff participated in a webinar called Festivals, Events and the Pandemic Pivot to learn how other organizations are handling events due to COVID-19.



Drive-In Turkey



\$5 per person for 10 exciting games of bingo. The Bingo caller will be transmitted through your car's FM radio.

**Sunday
November 15th**

- **Pender Memorial Park at 1:30PM**

601 S. Smith Street Burgaw, NC 28425

- **Hampstead Kiwanis Park at 4:00PM**

586 Sloop Point Loop Rd, Hampstead, NC 28443

Register at: Penderpr.recdesk.com



Prizes Include:

Frozen turkeys,
cakes, gift cards,
and more!





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PLANNING

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) - Hurricane Florence: The HMGP Florence Expedited Program is moving steadily, and nine of the twenty-one properties still in this program have been acquired by the County, with four more expected to be acquired before the end of November. There have been four withdrawals from the program as of November 13, 2020\ . The deadline for demolition of structures in this program has been extended to March 14, 2021\ . This deadline was originally mid-September. Reimbursement requests from Pender County related to this grant are being developed and sent out as well.

The overall HMGP for Hurricane Florence is still awaiting final approval from the State. FEMA requested supplemental documentation from a number of applicants for acquisition beyond what preliminary figures showed would be included in the grant. We are hopeful that that request indicates that there may be more funding available than first thought. Properties that are not funded will move to an unmet needs list and be applied for mitigation through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program that is yet to be funded.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) - Hurricane Matthew: The HMGP Hurricane Matthew program is in the final stages, but moving slowly. Elevation projects on Topsail Island are still being reviewed by the NC Division of Coastal Management. Pender County has recently received reimbursement for a number of items under this grant, and the State is currently reviewing additional reimbursement requests as well.

Disaster Recovery Act (DRA): Implementation of the Hurricane Florence DRA grant is moving steadily, and staff recently met with the Construction Committee of the Pender County Long Term Recovery Group to discuss plans for 2021\ . A number of projects have already been approved. There has also been recent movement by the Construction Committee on homes that were originally part of the DRA program for Hurricane Matthew. The Construction Committee and Long Term Recovery Group as a whole are doing amazing work and should be commended for their efforts.

Through the efforts of Daniel Adams and Tera Cline, along with Pender County Finance, reimbursement requests are being submitted regularly and payments are currently being received expeditiously.

Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP): Staff is currently working to secure right of entry documents from property owners adjacent to projects included in the EWP program. Staff have conducted three open houses to date (with one more scheduled for November 17, 2020 in Burgaw in the Administration Building), and have fielded numerous calls and emails related to the project. While there have been questions regarding the right-of-entry forms the County sent out, most of those questions are easily addressed, and the response to the project overall has been overwhelmingly positive.

UDO Update Project: The UDO Update project remains on hold at this time. In the meantime, Sam Shore, Long Range Planner is working on a Zoning Text Amendment related to recent statute changes (known as "160D"), which we anticipate bringing forward for public hearings in early-2021.

Current Planning: There are a multitude of projects under review in the Planning Department for commercial and residential projects alike. There are multiple Master Development Plans, Rezoning, and Special Use Permits that will be heard by the Planning Board and Board of County Commissioners over

the coming months. As a reminder, all projects in the planning process are located online and can be found at: <http://www.pendercountync.gov/pcd/planning-zoning/pending-and-approved-projects/>



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REGISTER OF DEEDS

REGISTER OF DEEDS 10/01/2020-10/31/2020	
Maps Recorded	33
Marriage License Issued	91
Notary Oaths Issued	27
Vital Certificates Issued (Birth/Death/Marriage)	530
Passport Applications	33
Passport Photos	37
Total Documents Recorded	1607
Total Fees Collected	\$237,977.50



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SHERIFF

The Pender County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce the addition of our newest members to the K-9 unit. K-9 Lucious and K-9 Diego are capable of detecting drugs and searching for people and articles. Sgt. Eva Scott is the handler for Lucious and Deputy Grant Simme is the handler for Diego. Please join us in welcoming these new members of the Pender County Sheriff's Office.





			
Activity October 2020			
Calls for Service		Violent Crimes	
911 HANG UP	303	Murder	0
ANIMAL RELATED	84	Sexual Offense/Rape	5
Armed Robbery	63	Arson	0
Arrest	1	Totals	5
ASSAULT	13		
ASSIST EMS STROKE			
	7		
AST CITIZEN	1		
AST OTH AGEN	36		
Breaking and Entering			
	169		
BREATHING-CHARLIE	1		
CARDIAC-ECHO	152		
CHECK WELFARE	1		
CHLD ABUSE	1		
Civil Paper Service	21		
Disabled Motorist	1		
DISORDERLY	27		
DISTURBANCE RESPONSE	302		
DOMESTIC	3		
Domestic Violence Order	28		
Escort Citizen	1		
Fight	12		
FIRE ALARM	35		
FIREWORK	10		
FRAUD	13		
HARRASSMENT	10		
HOLDUP ALARM	7		
ILLEGAL DUMPING	42		
Impaired Driver	1		
Impaired Person	2		
INVESTIGATE	71		
JUVENILE CALL	2		
JUVENILE RUNAWAY	6		
LARC JUST OCCURRED	57		
LARC REPORT	77		
LARCENY IN PROGRESS	1		
Meet With	2		
Mental Patient	28		
MISSING PERSON	14		
Motor Vehicle Collision Assist	1		
NOISE COMPLAINT	6		
OPEN DOOR	21		
OVERDOSE	18		
PANIC ALARM	4		
PARK VIOLATION	2		
PROPERTY DAMAGE	1		
PROPERTY FOUND	45		
PROPERTY RETURNED	6		
PROWLER	37		
PSYCHIATRIC CALL			
	3		

Activity October 2020

RAPE RPT	4
SECURITY CHECK	3
SEX OFFENSE	1
SHOPLIFTER	11
SHOTS FIRED	7
SOLICITING	1
Special Assignment	3
STAB/GUNSH	3
Stopping Suspicious Vehicle	2
SUBJECT REFUSING TO LEAVE	8
Suspicious Person or Vehicle	6
THREAT	24
TRAFFIC RELATED	1
TRAFFIC STOP	1
TRAFFIC STOP	1
TREE/DEBRIS	6
TRESPASS	18
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF MOTOR VEHICLE	64
UNKNOWN LAW CALL	1
VANDALISM	10
VEH THEFT	334
WARRANT SERVICE	3
Totals	2,261

Activity October 2020



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TOURISM

Tourism

- We met with **Doug Shipley** in our ongoing discussions to understand the daily operations of Tourism..
- We attended the **Visit NC Coastal** regional discussion, via GoToMeeting, to discuss challenges coastal communities face during the pandemic.
- We met with officials from **Surf City** to discuss their marketing plans.
- We met with **Moores Creek National Battlefield** staff and Paula Reynolds who is a tour group organizer to explore Moores Creek National Battlefield for American Revolution tours for Europeans in the 2025 anniversary of the Revolution. Moores Creek was the first victory for Patriots in North Carolina in the Revolutionary War.
- We met with **NC Coast Host** board of directors for a board retreat to map out strategies for the organization.
- We met with **Topsail Chamber** chairperson to discuss programs and initiatives.
- We attended the **North Carolina Beach Inlet and Waterway Association** two-day fall conference.
- We attended the **grant reporting webinar** so that we account properly for the grant we obtained through the **EDPNC**. We filed our first report for the month of October.
- The **It Matters Where You Shop** is gaining terrific media exposure. This will raise awareness of the importance that it matters when we shop locally. We are visiting local retailers and filming short videos to air on social media.
- We are working with the Town of Burgaw on the virtual **Blueberry Drop**.
- The **Pender County calendars** are ready. We are taking orders.

Communications

- We worked with the **tax department** to develop FAQs and a press release regarding COVID safety measures.
- We represented the county on numerous interviews regarding **It Matters Where You Shop**.
- We assisted **Pender County Library** in promoting their author/Farrior event on Nov. 19 as well as their recipe and cookbook project.
- We posted flood threats on Facebook as well as other updates.
- Throughout the last two weeks, we continue to post news on the **county website**.
- We've coordinated county representation at the grand opening of **Burry Chocolates, Nov. 19**.
- We continue to work with the **health department** on COVID guidance.

**IT MATTERS
WHERE
YOU SHOP**
#SHOP PENDER
#SHOP TOPSAIL
#SHOP BURGAW

WWW.VISITPENDER.COM
WWW.TOPSAILCHAMBER.ORG
WWW.BURGAWCHAMBER.COM

BURGAW NC
Good Town Year Round

**THE GREATER
TOPSAIL
AREA**
Chamber of Commerce and Tourism

**BURGAW
AREA**
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE


**PENDER
COUNTY NC**
Find Your Treasure

Sp Adobe Spark



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UTILITY OPERATIONS

PENDER COUNTY UTILITIES (PCU) & WATER DISTRICTS:

We continue seen progress at the construction of the Hampstead wells as well as the installation of the Maple Hill Water Supply Interconnection with Onslow Water and Sewer Authority. We are expecting to have the Kiwanis Well and the Maple Hill Interconnection completed by the end of December weather permit. This month we are emphasizing in the practice of social distancing as well as the use of protective mask when required. We have enough supply of masks to provide our employees with, and our supervisors have been encouraged to have daily talks on the importance of hygiene and protective equipment.

STAFF WORK AND STATUS UPDATES SINCE LAST REPORT:

We received 285 utility locates in the past two weeks. A utility locate can be either for a residential house or at times when a contractor calls in for long patches of highways that can be up to 1.5 miles. A standard locate, due to driving time, is approximately 30 minutes to 1.5 hours on average.

PCU power back up generators are now part of a preventive maintenance program performed by NIXON Power. The generators are to be serviced twice per year, in which the first visit is to perform major maintenance and repairs, and the second visit is to addressed power transfer switches and minor adjustments.

CFPUA performed an inspection of the "FOG" Fats, Oils, and Grease program for the Pender Rocky Point Sewer Collection System. The inspection results were better than last years, but we still have some improvements to make.

We are performing flushing of water mains at various locations. Water lines were flushed at Coastal Plantation in Olde Point, and for the first time in PCU history, an automatic hydrant flusher device has been setup to flush the water main from 12:00 am to 1:00 am daily. This is done to improve water quality in areas of low water usage. (see attached picture)

PCU water line repair and maintenance crew (Mr. Glen Garvin and Mr. Mark Eason) performed the installation of 5 new service taps, 1 emergency tap, and 1 meter relocation. They also repaired a 2" water main valve at the intersection of Hwy. 210 and Scotts Drive (see attached Picture). Their hard work and dedication have saved PCU thousands of dollars of contractors fees.

WATER PRODUCTION NUMBERS:

October Totals: 45.0 MG for an average of 1.29 MGD

November through the 11th: 15.0 MG for an average of 1.36 MGD

WATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Mr. Derek Robinson passed his A- Surface Water Treatment Operator Certification. This is the highest certification for this class. We are very proud of Mr. Robinson accomplishment obtaining this license.

All yearly continuing education hours required by the state were completed by staff.

All of the 15 current written Water Treatment Plant Standard Operating Procedures have been updated. Some new procedures are now being written.

A new HACH Turbidimeter for the water plant laboratory was purchased and is now in use. The old unit will be sent out to be refurbished, and it is to serve as a backup unit.

Water demand has remained high for this time of the year, but overall, the plant is running really well with no major issues.

PCP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT-MKKAES (Melinda K. Knoezer Adaptive Ecosystem)

Operators have been working on housekeeping and maintenance.

The sewer treatment plant grounds are now mowed for the last time this year, as well as the runoff ponds, and the right of ways. Also, the operators started cutting back the plants located in the green house.

Kurt Lonander (WWTP Superintendent) reported a change in the WWTP operational numbers. At this time, we do not believe that this will cause any issues with our reporting. Kurt Lonander has worked throughout the entire week including weekends, to make sure that we were trending in the right direction for optimal treatment.

On October 30th the operators performed maintenance on an EQ pump. The pump was pulled out of the basin, cleaned, inspected, and reinstalled.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL:

The Transfer Station is creating somewhere in between 90-100 tickets for disposal records. The average waiting time at the scales is approximately 8 minutes in and 10 minutes out.

Solid Waste fee collections for new constructions continues. Additional stickers are still being provided.

DISPOSAL TONNAGE REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2020:

738.22 tons of construction debris

2300.45 tons of household garbage

106.61 tons of household recycling

75.37 tons of recycled tires

9.05 tons of TV & Electronics



