

Contemplate Tourism Future

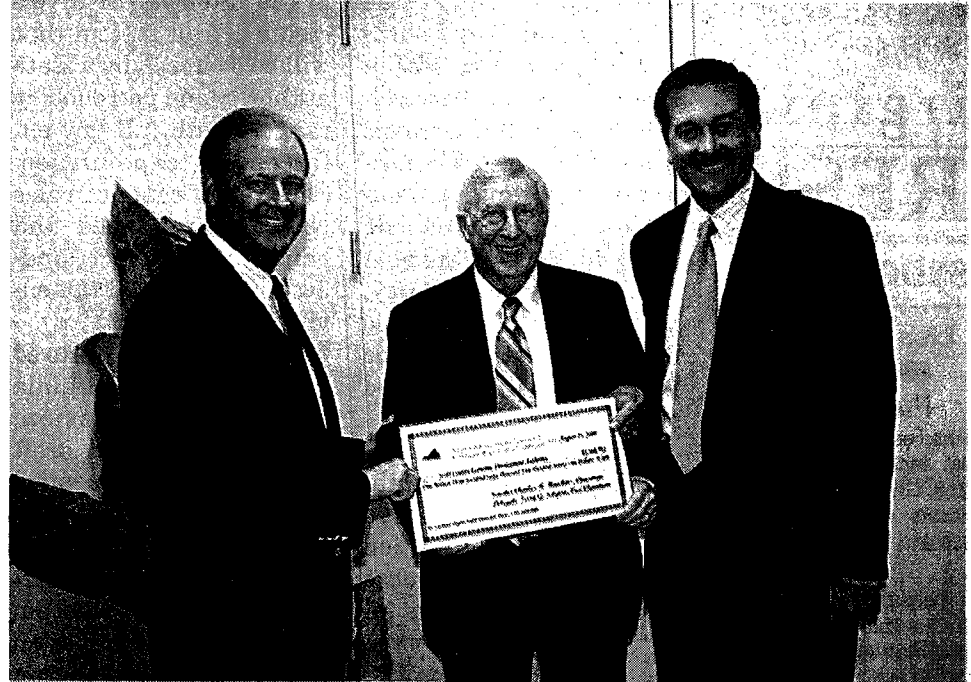
the "Spear-
multi-use
at would
counties in
nia.

the draft report, Scott
County is better suited to
horse, hiking and biking
trails than those accommo-
dating all-terrain vehicles.

Last Tuesday, Spencer
spoke to community lead-
ers about the feasibility of
developing a tourism-
based industry around
trails and "Blueways" that
already exist in the county.
Members of the recreation
authority along with Spen-
cer visited the county's
hand-launch sites on the
Holston and Clinch Rivers.

Scott County Recreation
Director Skip Sheets
guided the group to three
new put-in sites on the
North Fork of the Holston
River. He also led them on
a tour of Scott County Park

See TOURISM page 2



State Sen. William Wampler (left) and Del. Terry Kilgore (right) representing the Virginia Tobacco Commission present a grant award of approximately \$1.3 million to Dr. Jerry Miller of Holston Medical Group, a sister company of OnePartner ATAC owned by the physicians and leadership of HMG.

Tobacco Commission Awards \$1.3 Million Grant to OnePartner

From staff reports

Funding from the Vir-
ginia Tobacco Commission
combined with financial
support from OnePartner
Advanced Technology &
Applications Center
(ATAC) will be used to
house electronic medical
records from various Vir-
ginia health departments
in Southwest Virginia.

The Virginia Tobacco
Indemnification and Com-
munity Revitalization
Commission (VTICRC)

announced Tuesday the
award of a \$1.3 million
grant to the Scott County
Economic Development
Authority in partnership
with OnePartner for the
purpose of proposing an
unprecedented, turn-key
solution that will provide
state-of-the-art electronic
medical records capabili-
ties to 37 Virginia Depart-
ment of Health locations
in Southwest and
Southside Virginia.

The grant was approved
July 30 and is matched by

an investment of \$2.5 mil-
lion by OnePartner, a sis-
ter company of Holston
Medical Group that is
owned by the physicians
and leadership of HMG.

"Holston Medical Group
and OnePartner are so ex-
cited and appreciative of
the individuals collectively
responsible for this to hap-
pen," shared founder and
president of Holston Medi-
cal Group, Dr. Jerry L.
Miller. "The leadership

See GRANT page 3

Body Discovered in Yuma Identified

From staff reports

A body discovered ear-
lier this month in Possum
Creek has been identified.

Officials with the Scott
County Sheriff's Office re-

County Sheriff John Puck-
ett, the identification was
made much quicker than
originally anticipated by
the use of medical records.

Hopkins, 47, of Yuma,
had been reported miss-

Puckett explained.

Most recently Hopkins
was gone for about two
months. She later showed
up at her mother's house
in North Carolina.

The sheriff noted that



a Day
as the Scott County Grandmother

GRANT

From page 1

throughout this region is exceptional. The visions and foresightedness are exactly what is needed. Overall this project will have a tremendous impact on the access, quality and affordability of health care to all our citizens. This is modern health care."

Miller also said the connectivity, education and collaboration of health care providers, patients and health departments is key to the success of this new initiative.

OnePartner's first steps is to work with the Virginia Department of Health to propose a solution in identifying the most appropriate ambulatory EMR system. Once se-

lected, the EMR infrastructure will be installed and hosted at the OnePartner data center in Duffield.

Within the grant specifications, OnePartner will provide the training and support to initially launch the EMR system at two to-be-determined health department locations. Future OnePartner efforts will expand the ER program to the remaining 35 health departments.

"This is just another example of how the [Virginia Tobacco] Commission has been able to maximize their funds and also continue to not just bring Southwest Virginia to a level playing field with the rest of the country, but actually sur-

pass the rest of the country in the realm of EMR infrastructure," stated First District Del. Terry Kilgore, Vice Chairman of the Virginia Tobacco Commission.

Loads of state and local officials were on hand during Tuesday's announcement. According to the Virginia Tobacco Commission, funds were requested by the Scott County EDA to assist OnePartner, a private for-profit organization, located in the Scott County Regional Business and Technology Park, with costs associated with deploying electronic medical records technology for two health departments in Southwest Virginia.

This represents the first phase of an approximately \$30 million total project during which OnePartner will deploy this technology to all 37 health departments in Southwest and Southside Virginia and will also create a Center for Health Analytics and an Open Analytics Community. Although 70 jobs will be created as a result of the total project, only two will be created during this preliminary phase.

Documentation from the tobacco commission verifies that the project was eligible for Special Projects funding due to the intention of eventually serving public health agencies across the tobacco region with innovative electronic medical record technologies.

The funding will be used to purchase software and hardware to equip the ATAC data center to begin the project. The total project cost is estimated at \$4.72 million.

"The collaborative effort between OnePartner, the University of Virginia's College at Wise, Scott County and all of the other agencies involved sets a precedent in maximizing dollars through partnerships that hopefully will be continued throughout the region," said State Sen. William Wampler, Chairman of the Virginia Tobacco Commission Special Projects.

Tom Deaderick, director of OnePartner, says the complete EMR solution is "a truly novel approach."

"There are some very good reasons why EMR adoption has been stagnant," Deaderick explained. "This project is a critical building block in a much larger dream for us," Deaderick explained. "The EMR system we bring online for the Department of Health will be the first of a whole menu of EMR options, with consistent and simple pricing for private practice physicians and larger organizations, based on a unique cooperative model where every new

physician decreases the monthly cost for all the physicians using the system. There is no need for physicians to spend money to build out office infrastructure when they can securely share the infrastructure already here, with a near-turn-key model.

"We have an opportunity to really contribute to the health and economic vitality of our region with this grant and we're not going to waste it."

Dr. David Redwine, chairman of the Scott County Board of Supervisors and serves on the Virginia Tobacco Commission, noted the county was excited about the announcement and delighted with the initiative of Holston Medical Group and OnePartner.

"Scott County continues to be pleased with the private capital investment and the new jobs created through the efforts of Holston Medical Group and the OnePartner ATAC facility, which are bringing new and innovative measures that will favorably impact the quality of life in our region," Redwine remarked.

EDA Chairman Joe Fuller added his congratulations and compliments on behalf of the EDA board.

"The Scott County Economic Development Authority is extremely pleased with the cooperation and partnership forged with OnePartner and Holston Medical Group in creating jobs and capital investment for Duffield and the region," Fuller said.

OnePartner LLC designed the nation's first commercial data center to receive a Tier III (or higher) certification by the Uptime Institute (www.uptimeinstitute.org). The Uptime Institute developed the Tier classification system as a benchmark for reliable data center infrastructure design. OnePartner's data center, the Advanced Technology & Applications Center (ATAC) is designed for maximum resiliency, achieving "concurrent maintainability." Concurrent maintainability

means that every component receives proper maintenance without service disruption. OnePartner's ATAC data center is lo-

cated in Duffield. For more information OnePartner, visit the website www.onepartner.com.



Items recovered in a search warrant conducted at 340 Haven's Rest Drive in Fort Blackmore includes more than \$800 in cash, drug supplies, prescription drugs and a 20-gauge shotgun in addition to 10 quart jars of marijuana.

Three Arrested on Drug Charges

From staff reports

Local law enforcement officials rounded up three individuals on drug charges in a two-day period.

Scott County Sheriff John Puckett reported that Terry Tabor of 340 Haven's Rest Drive in Fort Blackmore was arrested Aug. 19 and charged on six different counts ranging from possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and maintaining a house of common nuisance.

As part of a search warrant conducted by the Scott County Sheriff's Office and the Southwest Virginia Drug Task Force at Tabor's residence, he was arrested and charged with the following counts:

- Possession of marijuana with intent to distribute
- Convicted felon in possession of a firearm;
- Distribution of marijuana;
- Possession of Schedule III narcotics;
- Obstruction of justice and
- Maintaining a house of common nuisance.

Officers recovered an estimated 4 ounces of marijuana placed in quart canning jars, more than \$800 in cash, a 20-gauge shotgun, LorTab pills, scales and other drug-related supplies. Tabor's pick-up truck also seized by police.

Puckett said Tabor's two young children, between five and six years old, were present during the reported drug activities that occurred at the family's residence.

He is scheduled for a court appearance on Sept. 9, 3:30 a.m. in Scott County General District Court.

The next day, Aug. 20, deputies and members of the drug task force conducted a "buy-bust" operation in Weber City where they nabbed two Kingsport, Tenn. residents for drug distribution near a school.

Michael Brian Audette and his wife, Krista I Audette, of Lynn Avenue were arrested and charged with distribution of Schedule III narcotics, distribution of Schedule IV narcotics, distribution of drugs within 1,000 feet of a school and three counts of conspiracy.

The couple's vehicle was surrendered to county officers. They had their first court appearance yesterday morning in Scott County General District Court.

FRAUD

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ward, all you have to do is send them your name, address, telephone number, Social Security number and a cash deposit to assist them in claiming their millions.

You just received an email from somebody - perhaps a barrister, a relative of a deposed head of state, or a widow in distress - asking for your help. The email may seem almost comical, containing childish spelling and grammatical errors. The person who sent you the email claims to have an enormous amount of cash - millions of dollars - but they can't get it out of the country in which it is situated. If only you will assist them, they will give you a considerable commission amounting to millions of dollars. All they need is a good hearted person with a bank account, willing to help out.

Sometimes the scammers boldly ask for your bank account numbers so they can take the amount they need to secure their millions. Of course, these persons clean

out your bank account before you can stop their illegal activities.

Another scam at work in Scott County occurs when a person is selling items on the Internet. A foreign person will place a bid on the item and add a large amount to cover the cost of shipping to their location.

Puckett noted that in this scheme, the check sent by the foreigner would again be counterfeit. The seller would be asked to cash the check and return the difference by money gram to the buyer in the foreign country.

The sheriff said some county residents have been victims of these types of scams and warned others to be wary of promises of great wealth for a small amount paid up front.

"The main thing to remember is that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is," Puckett said.

Persons who have been victims of these types of fraudulent schemes should notify the Scott County Sheriff's Office at 386-3951.

BODY

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locate her," he added. "There was a search by foot for approximately 2 square miles by five officers. Neighbors searched the area by all-terrain vehicles. Photographs were posted at many stores in the county."

Puckett said each of the leads of her sightings were investigated and she was also placed on the Virginia and national missing persons directory.

At this time, the cause of death has not been determined although the sheriff explained the medical examiner had not found any concrete evidence to suspect any wrong doing. The investigation into Hopkins' death continues.

Jeff Arnold and his father discovered the badly decomposed body around

9:30 p.m. on Aug. 7 in a pile of debris, close to Possum Creek.

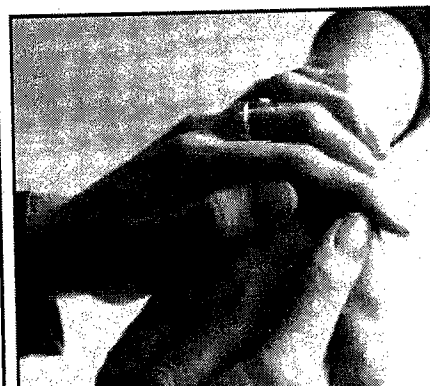
"If anyone has information in this case, please call the Scott County Sheriff's Office at 386-9111," Puckett added. "I thank everyone that assisted with the search."

Hopkins is survived by her husband, Gary L. Hopkins; her mother, Margaret Wynn; her sisters, Martha Warner and Barbara Lee; brothers, Roy McKee and Henry Holt; a mother-in-law, Virginia L. Hopkins; brothers-in-law, Russell Hopkins, Robin Hopkins and Warren Hopkins.

Memorial contributions may be made to her mother-in-law, Virginia Hopkins, to assist with funeral expenses.

HELP...

HOPE... HEALING



Empowering Ordinary People to Save Lives

**8 a.m - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 9, 20**

**Mountain Empire
Community College
Goodloe Center**