

information on senior issues. The team travels to gatherings of seniors and adults with disabilities at local meeting spaces and to homebound constituents.

Local Care Team and on Aging, contact Susan Theriot by phone at 803-734-9900 or email lifsey@aging.sc.gov.

meet with the people we serve and make sure they have every opportunity to age gracefully."

## Lost Plat Found 112 Years Later at White Hall

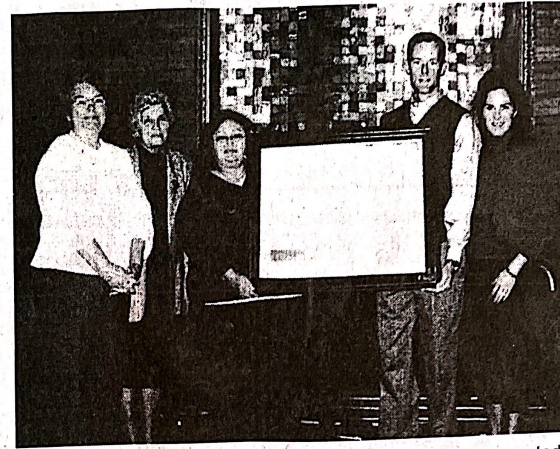
In the long room at White Hall, the Etheredge family home, Connor and Lisa Walker recently gave to the Saluda County Historical Society an authentic copy of the plat made by two surveyors to determine the geographical center of Saluda County, a map that had never been seen before—even by the "Father of Saluda County" himself, Benjamin West Crouch.

In *Scraps of Interesting History* Mr. Crouch gives a detailed account of the fight at the Constitutional Convention over the creation of the county and the requirement that a plat be made to determine its geographical center so that the county seat, located within three miles of this center, would be equally accessible to all citizens.

In his book Mr. Crouch writes, "Wade A. Crouch was employed by one faction and William H. Yeldell the other. After long weeks it was found that the surveyors could not agree on where the geographical center was. They then decided to confer with Senator Tillman, so the story goes, and the Senator, learning that three places were competing for the county seat, told them to go and drive down a stake in a bottom near the old John Graham mill. (That old mill was then just below the bridge over Little Saluda River on the Saluda-Delmar paved highway. [Hwy. 378]. Where the stake was driven, if indeed any was put down, nobody ever knew, but since each of the places wanting the county seat was within three miles, it made little difference and everyone was satisfied."

For such a plat to have been saved for over one hundred years and to be found and recognized as an important part of Saluda County's historical record is a series of fortunate events. After the death of his grandparents, Connor and Lisa Walker and their children moved into White Hall, the house built by Connor's great, great grandfather Alvin Etheredge in 1890 before the county of Saluda was created or the town of Saluda established. Lisa says that there were boxes and boxes of letters, receipts, documents, and special mementos saved by the four generations who have lived in the house. Connor and Lisa's children make the fifth.

In their efforts to save the valuable and get rid of the useless, Lisa came across a map/plat of



**COPY PRESENTATION** - Connor and Lisa Walker, right, presented a copy of an 112-year-old plat of Saluda County to Saluda County Historical Society representatives, L to R, Gloria Caldwell, Bela Herlong and Meade Hendrix. The original plat was found by the Walkers at White Hall, the Etheredge family home.

Saluda County which she and Connor immediately recognized as something of importance.

Bela Herlong, who looked at the document at their request, said excitedly, "This is it!! This is the missing map that established the center of the county and determined what communities could nominate themselves to be the site of the county seat."

Connor and Lisa were amazed at her reaction and immediately determined to frame an authentic copy and give it to the Society to be displayed as an artifact of the history of Saluda County.

The following words written at the top of the plat reveal the truth of the controversy:

"The State of South Carolina, County of Saluda and Other Commissioners. Gentlemen: We Wm. H. Yeldell and W.A. Crouch, Surveyors, appointed to survey Saluda County & locate the center, respectfully report that we have completed our work. That all the lines have been located and marked and corners set up; and the center located as agreement entered into and signed by Wm. H. Yeldell, W.A. Crouch and B.R. Tillman on December 26th and certified to this the 7th day of Feby 1896. Signed Wm. H. Yeldell, LS, W.A. Crouch,

LS."

Farther down on the plat is the following paragraph: "South Carolina, County of Saluda. We the undersigned appointed to survey Saluda County & locate the center thereof in accordance with the ordinance creating said county, having run the boundary lines and failed to agree on the corners, we called in Hon. B.R. Tillman, an umpire, and he after examining the plat located the center as designated on this map and we and said umpire have all agreed on said center as being in accordance with the law. Witness our hands & seals, the Dec. 26th 1895. W.H. Yeldell, LS; W.A. Crouch; LS; B.R. Tillman."

The public is invited to come to the museum to view this historic document—lost for so many years and now a valuable artifact in the county's history. Museum hours are ten a.m. to four p.m. Monday through Friday and ten a.m. to one p.m. on Saturday.

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W. H. YELDELL DISTRICT  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**EXPIRATION NOTICE**  
If your mailing label reads 02/08,  
your paper expires at the end of  
this month.



EXPIRES:03/31/2008  
FRED QUATTLEBAUM SR  
302 SARDIS RD  
SALUDA, SC 29138-0000

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# Saluda Standard-Sentinel

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Standard  
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Saluda County  
Sentinel  
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## She Fulfilled Her Mission

*The following story continues the series about teachers and the early rural schools in Saluda County.*

by Jessica Nordin

(from 1988 Saluda High School Prism, pp. 56-57)

"Mrs. Ethel Johnson was the most influential teacher I encountered throughout my entire educational years," said Jeff Nordin, DVM. Jeff continued, "Mrs. Johnson taught me that a job worth doing is a job worth doing well. She also taught me how to study, and I applied those skills endlessly during undergraduate and graduate school. Education and learning can never be spent or lost, and Mrs. Johnson pointed out that intrinsic value."

Jeff's admiration of Mrs. Johnson created a curiosity that had to be satisfied. I wanted to get to know one of Saluda's best teachers, and an afternoon visit with her enlightened me. She graciously welcomed me into her home, and we discussed her teaching career.



SHOWN ABOVE - at the Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the commemoration of the contract between Saluda Nursing Center and MED-TRANS ONE, the Sat., Feb. 23 activities are left to right: Robert F. Bowles, NHL Administrator/EMS Director; Clementine Mobley, Environmental Service Supervisor; Edwin Riley, Saluda Fire Department; Representative Marie Frye; Treg Manning, VP of Business Development; Mike Thompson, Program Manager, MED-TRANS ONE; and flight crew members.

## SNC/Saluda County Ambulance Service Contracts With Helicopter Air Service

On Sat., Feb. 23, 2008, MED-TRANS ONE celebrated with Saluda County Ambulance Service at its headquarters at Saluda Nursing Center the contract agreement with them to be the provider of choice for helicopter emergency transport to medical facilities.

Prior to this contract, 911 dispatchers when notified of a need for helicopter service would have to call several different services to find an available one. Now all that is necessary for the dispatchers to do when notified by the EMS crew of the emergent need of a helicopter is to pick up the phone provided by MED-TRANS ONE. No dialing is necessary. It is automatically answered directly at the Ninety Six location.

MED-TRANS ONE is a local division of MED-TRANS CORPORATION headquartered in Lewisville, Texas, which has transported

ceremony at the area headquarters. On hand from the national HQ were: Fred Burrell, President and CEO; Treg Manning, VP Business Development; and Mike Thompson, Program Manager of MED-TRANS ONE, Greenville, SC. On Saturday February 23, MED-TRANS ONE provided a ceremonial landing and helicopter viewing to commemorate the contract with Saluda County Ambulance Service. Officials on hand for this Saluda occasion from MED-TRANS CORPORATION were some of the same officials as well as the flight crews of the helicopter.

Saluda Fire Department, under the guidance of Edwin Riley, supplied ground support for the landing of the helicopter as is necessary for any landing of the helicopter. Other area fire departments represented were: Circle Fire Department, Mayson Fire Department, Hollingsworth

## Saluda to Serve as Proving Ground For A New Senior Assistance Program

(Columbia, S.C. - Feb. 22, 2008) - Saluda County has been chosen as the testing ground for the new program of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging designed to offer more personalized assistance to seniors.

The new Care Team will visit Saluda on the first and third Thursday of March and April, making an effort to reach out and touch as many seniors in the area as possible.

On February 21, representatives from the Office on Aging and the Saluda County Council on Aging visited homebound seniors in Saluda County as the Care Team to find out first hand about their needs and opinions on current programs that provide assistance to seniors.

The first stop for the Care Team was the Saluda County Council on Aging, where a Medicare counselor from the Office on Aging was available to answer questions about various Medicare programs. Next, the Care Team began field work, stopping in on three home-bound seniors to assess their needs and answer questions about programs including transportation, health and wellness and nutrition.

The Care Team finished their trip with a surprise visit to John and Ann Burton, of Marietta who volunteer to help local seniors. Curtis Loftis, director of the Office on Aging, presented them with certificates of appreciation for the time and effort they have devoted to the Saluda County Council on Aging since 2004.

The Care Team is a collaborative effort of the Office on Aging and the Saluda County Council on Aging to



COUNCIL ON AGING IN ACTION - Funds allocated to Saluda County by the General Assembly made it possible for the Saluda County Council on Aging to get a ramp constructed at Julian Carroll's home on East End Drive in Saluda. Pictured, L to R, are Carroll, his neighbor Sarah Etheredge, Lois Roberts Director of Client Services at the Saluda County Council on Aging, Susan Lifsey, Senior Citizens Liaison, Lt. Governor's Office on Aging; and Curtis M. Loftis Jr., Director, Lt. Governor's Office on Aging. (Standard-Sentinel photo)

The goal of this pilot project is to allow local and the homebound constituents an opportunity to talk with the Care Team and address how resources can be provided to address the needs and concerns of the constituent.

"This program is a step in the right direction for the Office on Aging," said Loftis. "We are working to breathe new life into a program that had become set in its ways over the years. Our purpose is to serve seniors and