This year the Town of Zebulon hosted a Map Gallery for GIS Day. GIS Day is an annual event that occurs on the Wednesday of National Geography Week. GIS Day is a day dedicated to the celebration of how Geographic Information Systems (GIS) influence the world around us. The event was sponsored by ESRI and the Carolina Chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (CURISA). ESRI is a company leading the geographic information systems industry with technology that enables organizations to create responsible and sustainable solutions. ESRI provided buttons and bookmarks with post it notes.

CURISA is an all-volunteer/member run nonprofit association of professionals that use GIS and other information technologies to solve challenges within their agencies and offers online Geospatial Training Courses to its members. CURISA awarded the Town of Zebulon with a grant to purchase refreshments for the event. The Map Gallery had over 35 people attend, an increase in participation from last year's event. Those who attended were treated to the GIS Day goodies provided by ESRI along with chips, cookies, sweets, juice, and

soda graciously provided by CURISA.

The Planning Department held the map gallery display in the main lobby of the Municipal Complex and chose maps that have recently been or are currently being used to help make planning decisions, such as the current zoning map, transportation plan project overview map, and case file maps. Some of these maps are available on the Town's website at www.townofzebulon.org. As citizens came to Town Hall for daily business, they were invited to enjoy some refreshments and tokens, look over the map gallery, and staff remained available to answer questions about how the town utilizes GIS to help make informed decisions. Overall, the event was a successful one and the Town hopes to be able to keep participating and celebrating GIS Day in the future.

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