

# The Pamlico News

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

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**Spectrum Launches Gigabit Broadband, Mobile, TV And Voice Services In Pamlico County**



*Spectrum Internet® with Starting Speeds of 300 Mbps Now Available to More Than 100 Homes and Small Businesses Network Buildout is Part of Spectrum's \$5 Billion, Multiyear Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Investment in Rural Broadband*

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (Feb. 6, 2024)** — Spectrum, the #1 rural internet provider in the nation\*, today announced the launch of Spectrum Internet, Mobile, TV and Voice services to more than 100 homes and small businesses in Pamlico County. Spectrum's newly constructed fiber-optic network build-out in Pamlico County is part of the company's approximately \$5 billion RDOF-related investment in unserved rural communities, partly offset by \$1.2 billion in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) RDOF auction.

The company's RDOF expansion will provide broadband access to 1.3 million customer locations across 24 states in the coming years. Spectrum has also won more than \$700 million in state broadband expansion subsidies, which, combined with Spectrum investment, will connect another 300,000 homes and small businesses.

"Spectrum is bringing gigabit broadband to unserved communities in North Carolina and across America through RDOF," said Tim Williams, Vice President of Construction at Spectrum. "Our investment is making it possible to deliver the high-value broadband, mobile, TV and voice services now available in Pamlico County. We are providing local residents and small businesses superior connectivity at highly competitive prices, backed by a team of skilled local technicians and 100% U.S.-based customer service."

Broadband speeds up to 1 Gbps, plus money-saving Mobile options and 85,000 On Demand choices Spectrum Internet delivers speeds up to 1 Gbps and Advanced WiFi for residential and small business customers, featuring starting speeds of 300 Mbps, with no modem fees, data caps or contracts. Spectrum Business Internet offers customers 1 Gbps download speeds, with 300 Mbps and 600 Mbps options. The company has also begun a network evolution that will provide gigabit upstream speeds and multiple gigabit download speeds across its entire 41-state service area.

"I am thankful for the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, which has enabled providers like Spectrum to supply high-speed internet access to rural communities across the state," said U.S. Rep. Gregory Murphy. "Investing in broadband infrastructure is a crucial step towards bridging the digital technology gap and creating opportunities for growth and development in our communities."

Spectrum Internet exceeded advertised download and upload speeds for all tiers measured — even during peak weeknight usage between 7 and 11 p.m. — according to the FCC's most recent "Measuring Broadband America Fixed Broadband Report" issued in January 2023.

■ Continued on Page A2

## Stevens Signs to Play at Barton College

by: Hiram Lupton



Another one of Pamlico County High School's outstanding student athletes has committed to furthering their academic and athletic career at the next level. Last Wednesday, Tyler Stevens signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) to play football next season at Barton College in Wilson, North Carolina. Tyler has excelled both on the field and in the classroom for the Hurricanes. Two seasons ago, in the Coastal Plains Athletic Conference, he was named First Team All-Conference as a Defensive Lineman. This past season, he made the transition to Linebacker and was named the Conference Defensive player of the year. Assistant Football Coach Keith Reese said of Stevens, "Tyler is the perfect example of a student athlete, not an athlete who is a student." In his time at PCHS, Tyler has also competed in wrestling, where he was the NCHSAA State runner up last season in the 1A 220-pound class. He also competed in track and field, where he was a shot putter. "It has been a dream of mine for as long as I can remember to play college football," said Stevens. "If you work hard, dreams do come true." Barton College is a NCAA Division II school and competes in the Carolinas Conference. While at Barton, Tyler will study communications. Congratulations Tyler on becoming a Barton Bulldog. They are getting a great player and an even better person.

## 东方庆祝农历新年

*\*Google translate English to Chinese*

### (Oriental Celebrates Chinese New Year)

by: Hiram Lupton

Backed by the rhythmic beat provided by the "Drummin' Dragons", Oriental celebrated Chinese New Year on Saturday with an appearance of the Oriental Dragon and its supporters on Hodges Street. This has become a tradition in Oriental with not only the gathering on Hodges Street, but Asian inspired cuisine on the menu at town restaurants. Since Oriental has unofficially adopted the dragon as it's mascot, it is particularly appropriate this year, since 2024 is the Year of the Dragon. This is a great omen for the next expected appearance of the dragon, *Oriental's 125th anniversary celebration the first weekend in March.*



**Friends of the Pamlico County Public Library Signs Contract for Construction of New Library and Community Center**



**(Bayboro, NC, February 12, 2024)** – The Friends of the Pamlico County Public Library (www.pamlicofol.org) announced that they have signed a contract with the Waters Contracting Company (Bogue, NC) (www.waterscontracting.net/) for construction of a new library and community center to be located in Alliance, NC. The general construction contract, valued at \$2.2 million, was awarded following a competitive bid process and over five years of fund-raising by the FOL and many library stakeholders. The project will be managed by the New Bern-based architecture and engineering firm, The Walker Group Architecture, Inc. (www.wgarc.com); the firm also finalized architectural and engineering plans for the project and facilitated the bid process.

"Today's libraries are centers for learning and connecting," said FOL president Bonnie Cap, explaining that the 10,000 sq ft facility will be a multipurpose space with services and programs to enrich the lives of today's and tomorrow's Pamlico County residents. The new library, to be built by repurposing and expanding an abandoned commercial building, will house a 36,000+ collection of books, audio recordings, maps, etc. Other features will include: common space and individual meeting rooms; technology resources such as computer and internet access; a business center; multi-generational reading rooms; and, an internet café. The library's design leverages the latest in energy efficient technologies, IT infrastructure and tools, and workspace optimization. With flexible wall configurations, a fully equipped kitchen, multiple restroom facilities, and plans for back-up water and power, the new space can serve as a community gathering space during emergencies such as hurricanes.

Katherine Clowers, director of the Craven-Pamlico Regional Library (CPRL) system, emphasized that this unique partnership between the FOL and CPRL will benefit not only Pamlico County residents but the entire region. "Multipurpose libraries help build strong, resilient communities by boosting literacy rates, affording equal access to resources to help bridge the socioeconomic gap, and increasing opportunities for ongoing education, community engagement, and entrepreneurship."

A ground-breaking celebration will take place on Saturday, February 17th at 2:30pm at 13896 NC-55, Alliance, NC 28509.

*The Friends of Pamlico County Public Library (FOL) is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to enhance and enrich services offered by the county's only public library. The FOL is spearheading the development of a new multiuse library and community center to replace the current public library which has outgrown its shared space with the high school. The planned closure of the current library in less than 2 years, with no plan other than FOL's to replace it, makes construction of the proposed library and community center more urgent than ever.*



### WEEKEND WEATHER

 Saturday, February 17th **53°Hi** Rain throughout the day

 Sunday, February 18th **52 °Hi** Partly Cloudy



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# COMMUNITY

## OBITUARIES



**Beverly Bland Holton** lived out her life working and serving her family all to the glory of the Lord! On February 7, 2024, Beverly (Mrs. “B”) found rest after her long battle with cancer. Beverly passed peacefully at home with her husband and family. Beverly was born in New Bern, NC on April 9, 1958, to Pete and Jean Bland as the oldest sister to Judy Fussell (Mike) and Jill Mele (Mauro). She has always loved sharing stories of being a young girl and growing up with so much love and appreciation for her family. Beverly met the love of her life, Roy C. Holton Jr, and married September 7, 1983. Roy and Beverly took their two lives, and with diligence and trust, built a family legacy together that is a true blessing to us all. Beverly and Roy were blessed with four children together Jason Holton (stepson), Erik Smith (Crystal), Jennie Voliva (Dan), and Meredith Gaskill

(Joshua). Some of Meema’s most cherished moments were made with her grandbabies: Kenlee Voliva, Koi Voliva, Emma Smith, Reid Smith, Kalani Voliva, Hudson Holton, Kolton Voliva, Graham Gaskill, and Grace Gaskill. Beverly spent her life wanting to make her parents proud and living life in the fullness of her family and faith. Beverly trusted the Lord and loved what is true and honorable. She had a special way of making others feel loved and valued. Beverly enjoyed helping others through her professional career where she made many lifelong friends and days full of laughter. We celebrated Beverly’s life on Saturday, February 10th at Celestial Memorial Gardens on Cemetery Rd in Vandemere, NC with a time of visitation and a graveside service following. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Pamlico, PO Box 6, Bayboro, NC 28515.

Arrangements by Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home & Crematory, Alliance.



**Damian Ray Nobles, 22**, Bayboro, NC died Saturday, February 10, 2024. He was a 2020 graduate of Pamlico County High School in Bayboro, NC. The funeral service will be conducted on Thursday, February 15th at 2:00pm in the Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home Chapel in Alliance, NC with Rev. Ray Lewis officiating. Burial will follow in the Grantsboro Cemetery. Damian was preceded in death by his paternal great-grandfather Ray Dixon, Sr, maternal great-grandparents Earl and Irene Smith, paternal grandmother Daisy Duncan and Estelle Smith, and his brother Trace Nobles. He is survived by his mother, Melanie Dixon of Bayboro, second mom Cassidy of Florence,

and parents Mark and Tonya Nobles of Bayboro, and Daddy Clay Smith of Pink Hill, a brother Allen Nobles of Bayboro, Shantel Nobles of Reelsboro, grandparents Ray and Jean Dixon of Grantsboro ,Dempsey and Peggy Smith of Pink Hill,great- grandmother Iris Dixon of Grantsboro, grandfather Cecil Nobles of Maribel, Aunt & Uncle Melissa and Michael Dixon of Snow Hill, NC, Aunt and Uncle DJ and Dana of Pink Hill, special cousins Raeanne and husband Cam Knight of Greenville and Reagan Dixon of Snow Hill, cousins Bailey Joe, Kenly, both of Pink Hill, a special friend Trinity Hartley and 2 special canine friends Luna and Donis. And numerous friends and family. The family will receive friends Wednesday, February 14 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in Alliance. Arrangements by Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home & Crematory, Alliance, NC.



**Preparing for Lent and Easter**  
The Christian tradition of Lent is celebrated across the globe by many different denominations of the faith. Lent is a 40-day period of sacrifice that begins on Ash Wednesday and culminates with the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

Lent is designed to help Christians prepare for Easter through prayer, repentance of sins, almsgiving, denying the ego, and putting and end to sinful practices. Fasting is a component of Lent, as is abstinence from certain behaviors. In fact, in some Western countries, Catholics have been encouraged to adopt forms of abstinence that do not involve food and drink during Lent. All actions serve as forms of self-denial to mirror the sacrifice Jesus Christ made for his people.

Abstaining from alcohol is not mandatory during Lent. That might be traced to ancient times, when wine and other forms of alcohol were safer to drink than pathogen-filled water sources. But many people now choose to give up alcohol for Lent.

Today,fasting is primarily reserved for Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday. Adherents may opt to fully fast, but most only eschew meat and poultry as a nod to self-denial, opting for seafood and vegetarian fare instead.

While much focus is placed on what is denied during Lent, it can be an ideal time to reflect on what is gained by living a life in which God is first and foremost. Spending more time in prayer and away from trivial distractions can be a way to live a more faithful life during Lent and beyond. In addition, aspiring to be more Christ-like during Lent can make this special season even more powerful. During Lent, Christians can make a concerted effort to help the poor, work with a charity or volunteer at their church.

Lent is a solemn time, but one that can bolster one’s faith.

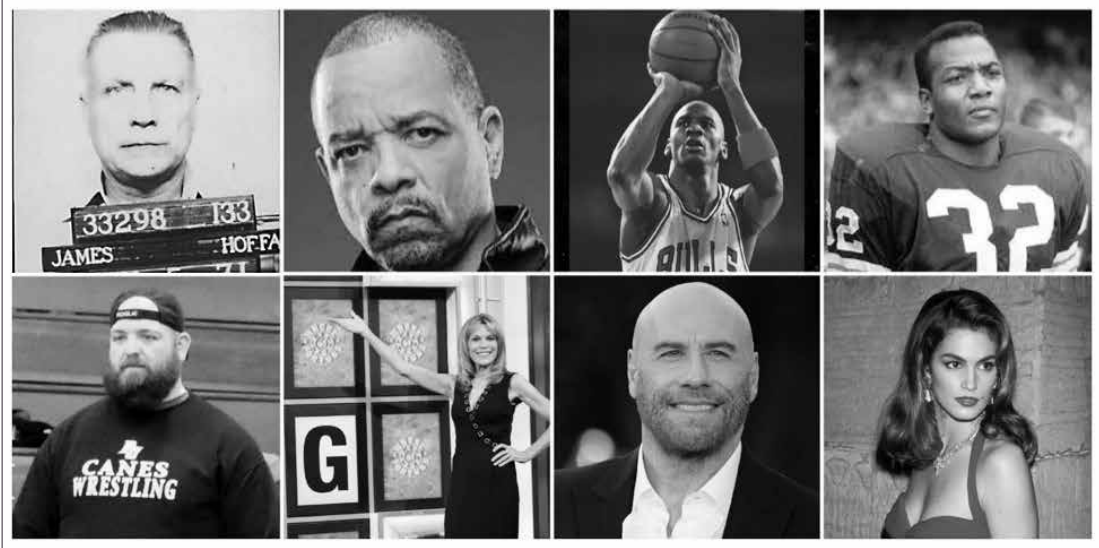
# THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- February 14th – Happy Valentine’s Day. It is also Ash Wednesday.
- February 15th – Today is Singles Awareness Day. If you didn’t get a Valentine yesterday, this is a sign you might be single.
- February 16th – Today is Do a Grouch a Favor Day. I’m waiting.
- February 17th – Today is Random Acts of Kindness Day.
- February 18th – Today is National Drink Wine Day. You can’t drink all day if you don’t start early.
- February 19th – Today is President’s Day. The 3rd Monday in February.
- February 20th – 1962, John Glenn becomes the first U. S. astronaut to orbit the Earth.

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

- February 14th – 1913, Teamsters boss and famous missing person Jimmy Hoffa
- February 16th – 1958, Rapper and actor Tracy Marrow (Ice-T)
- February 17th – 1963, Michael Jordan
- 1936, Football Hall-of-famer Jim Brown
- February 18th – 19??, Teacher and coach Nate Daniels
- 1957, Letter turner Vanna White
- 1954, Actor John Travolta
- February 20th – 1966, Supermodel Cindy Crawford



Hoffa was born in the tiny city of Brazil, Indiana in February 1913, and by 1957 had become one of the most powerful union leaders in the country after taking charge of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

**CHILD SAFETY EVENT**

Pamlico Partnership for Children, along with Pamlico County Dept. of Social Services and Pamlico County Health Department will be holding a Car Seat & Child Safety Event on Saturday, March 2 from 9am to 11am in the Auditorium Parking Lot at Pamlico County High School. The first 20 safety checks will receive a free \$20 gift card and there will be other give aways and raffles. The event will focus on free car seat installation checks, bike helmets, Red Cross, Child First, Safe Sleep, Early Intervention and Pamlico Child Advocacy. For more information call 252-745-7850.

## Croaker Festival Volunteer Breakfast

Join us for Breakfast at Brantley’s for the Croaker Festival on Saturday, February 24th, at 8:30 a.m. If you have been involved with the Festival, or would like to be involved, or if you just want to see what we are all about, please join us, our treat!

■Continued from page A1

## Spectrum Launches Gigabit Broadband, Mobile, TV And Voice Services In Pamlico County

“I am excited to see Spectrum expand its broadband network to cover more Pamlico County residents,” said state Sen. Norman Sanderson. “High-speed internet access offers many boons that will help make our communities a better place to live.”

Along with multiple broadband options, Spectrum services now available also include Spectrum Mobile™ and Spectrum TV\*. Spectrum Mobile is the nation’s fastest-growing mobile provider\*\* and combines with Spectrum Internet and Advanced Home WiFi to provide seamless connectivity inside and outside the home. Spectrum Mobile provides customers access to nationwide 5G at great value, with Unlimited lines starting at \$29.99 a month, as well as By the Gig options.

Spectrum TV offers more than 270 HD channels and access to 85,000 On Demand movies and shows. Using the Spectrum TV App — the highest-rated pay TV streaming app in the U.S.\*\*\* — viewers can stream content across a growing number of platforms, including Xumo Stream Box, iOS and Android mobile devices, Xbox One, Kindle Fire, Samsung Smart TVs, Apple TV, Google Chromecast, Roku, Xumo TVs and PCs.

Local residents and business owners should visit spectrumruralexpansion.com to learn more about when their home or business may be able to receive Spectrum services.

\* Based on December 2022 FCC Broadband Data Collection locations.

\*\* Based on year end 2022 subscriber data among top 3 carriers.

\*\*\* iOS (App Store) and Android (Google Play) average ratings as of Oct. 1, 2023. Apps must have at least 150k reviews through combination of iOS & Android store reviews as of Oct. 1, 2023.

**About Spectrum**

Spectrum is a suite of advanced communications services offered by Charter Communications, Inc. (NASDAQ:CHTR), a leading broadband connectivity company and cable operator serving more than 32 million customers in 41 states. Over an advanced communications network, the company offers a full range of state-of-the-art residential and business services including Spectrum Internet®, TV, Mobile and Voice.

For small and medium-sized companies, Spectrum Business® delivers the same suite of broadband products and services coupled with special features and applications to enhance productivity, while for larger businesses and government entities, Spectrum Enterprise® provides highly customized, fiber-based solutions. Spectrum Reach® delivers tailored advertising and production for the modern media landscape. The company also distributes award-winning news coverage and sports programming to its customers through Spectrum Networks. More information about Charter can be found at corporate.charter.com.

# Horoscopes



**ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Creativity may prove elusive this week, Aries. You want to get into a crafty project but you simply can’t find traction just yet. Don’t give up too soon.



**TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, a distracted friend or loved one may not be good company over the next few days. Reach out and offer to be a sounding board to help this person re-center their focus.



**GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21**  
Are you feeling preoccupied, Gemini? You can’t seem to focus on one thing or another and friends will start to notice when you are in their company.



**CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Romantic matters are going very well right now, Cancer, even if you may not feel entirely confident. The person who cares for you will not notice your insecurities.



**LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23**  
The more challenging path may prove the best one to take as your work on a certain task, Leo. Dig in and start figuring a way out to the other side.



**VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, there is so much to do around the house that you may not know where to start. Spring cleaning comes a month or two early. Ask for help if you’re feeling frazzled.



**LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23**  
You may be in the mood to expand your knowledge on one or more subjects, Libra. Visit the library or a bookstore and pick up something that piques your interest.



**SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, you may pick up on some vibes when hanging out with others that just don’t fit in with your line of thinking. Give it some time before you cut any ties. You may be misinterpreting.



**SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21**  
There has been a lot going on in your life, Sagittarius. You may be experiencing some apprehension about the future. Take every concern individually and give it thought.



**CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Information coming to you could have you feeling nervous about your financial security, Capricorn. If this is outside your area of expertise, you may want to sit down with a planner.



**AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Confusing messages from work may find you reconsidering plans that you already put into motion, Aquarius. Get more information before modifying your plans.



**PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, your mind is all over the place right now, so it could be difficult to focus on mundane things like chores or other activities right now. However, don’t push them off.

## AQUARIUS Traits & Overview

Independent and enigmatical, Aquarians are unique. There is no one quite like an Aquarius, and because each is so incredibly individual, it can be tough to describe them as a group. Aquarians don’t like labels, and may shy away from any adjective—even the good ones you might bestow upon them. Aquarians believe in the nature of change and evolution, and even though they’re a fixed sign, they may not necessarily believe they are the “same” people they were when they were born.

Aquarians have a strong sense of social justice and making the world a better place, and see themselves as just one link in an endless human chain. They are very concerned about others, not because of how others treat them or how they want others to treat them.

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Land/Home Sales  
Property Management  
Appraisals Development



Agent of the Week  
**Gregory Green**  
*Broker-*  
*Here's what one of Gregory's customers had to say...*

When my wife and I wanted to purchase a nearby property that was not currently listed for sale I contacted Gregory Green. Greg was able to identify the distant owner and negotiate a price for us. Once the deal was agreed on he promptly and professionally managed the entire process. He even arranged to have expired permits on the property renewed and referred us to a local attorney to handle the closing. When my neighbor mentioned wanting to purchase a similar property nearby, I recommended she call Greg. He handled all the negotiations, and that property is now under agreement and will shortly be hers. Overall I would highly recommend Gregory Green to broker any real estate purchase or sale.

Dave & Lorraine, Arapahoe



**ORIENTAL** – Lakefront 1.04 acre site with Neuse River view only 1 mile from downtown Oriental. Elevated to 12 feet above sea level; flood insurance not required. Septic system drain field installed; lifetime septic permit. Community clubhouse with salt-water pool & fitness center, including a Peleton bike & other fitness machines.

OFFERED AT \$79,500



**ORIENTAL** – Close to downtown Oriental. Take your boat, or drive to nearby shopping and restaurants. Or just kayak down Kershaw Creek. 123 Queen Annes Court, lot 12, is also listed. Purchase both lots together for additional privacy. Septic permit on file.

OFFERED AT \$ 98,900



**MINNESOTT BEACH** – First floor **2BR/2BA** Sea Gull Villas waterfront condo with perfect Neuse River views, private sandy beach, gazebo & swimming pool. Recently remodeled kitchen with granite countertops, granite back splash, all new high-end cabinets & drawers and brand new appliances. No flood insurance needed; you are 30' above sea level.

OFFERED AT \$ 225,000



**ORIENTAL** – **3BR/2BA** on unrestricted 5.23 acres with fenced back yard. Detached 24' X 16' building is finished with gas heat & window AC & can be used as office, exercise room or climate-controlled storage/workshop. Ideal for someone who wants open vistas of farmland & woodlands yet only 2 miles from the Piggly Wiggly in Oriental. Home footprint not in a flood zone so flood insurance is not required!

OFFERED AT \$350,000



**ORIENTAL** – **3BR/2.5BA**, spacious decks front & back, ample windows & a sunny kitchen overlooking Green Creek. Fireplace with custom surround & mantle, spiral staircase, vaulted ceilings. Third bedroom used as office has built-in desks, cabinets & shelves.

OFFERED AT \$399,500

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Pamlico Community College

## Cousins transition from military careers to electrical work

By Sandy Wall

Two area men who served the country in uniform are successfully transitioning to rewarding careers in electrical work with a little help from Pamlico Community College.

First cousins Mike Mills, 43, and Justin Mills, 34, say they are attracted to work installing and servicing electrical wiring and equipment because of the earning potential and the opportunity to work with their hands.

Both men sought to improve their prospects by enrolling in the college's Electrical Systems Technology program.

Mike Mills, who served 20 years in the U.S. Coast Guard, graduated from the program in 2022 and is now working to secure his state electrical license. Justin Mills, who spent 15 years in the U.S. Army, is enrolled in the program now.

Both men also work with electricity on side jobs now, most recently helping to install wiring and other electrical equipment at a residential construction site in Pamlico County.

"I knew I wanted to get in the construction trades when I got out of the Coast Guard," said Mike Mills. "The electrical program gave me a good baseline. Work allows me to apply what I've learned."

The college's Electrical Systems Technology program trains students to install and maintain electrical and electronics systems found in homes, businesses and industrial sites.

Coursework, most of which is hands-on, includes topics such as AC/DC theory, basic wiring practices, programmable logic controllers, industrial motor controls, applications of the



First cousins Justin Mills, foreground, and Mike Mills, background, review some building plans on a job site. Contributed image

National Electric Code and other subjects.

Students can earn a two-year Associate of Applied Science degree, and there are certificate options available.

Like his cousin, Justin Mills knew he wanted a hands-on career after his military service. His father is a licensed electrician, which helped him narrow his focus.

Justin Mills said aspects of working with electricity reminded him of his Army job as a jumpmaster and his work as an EMT: You must follow rules and adhere to important guidelines or people get hurt – or worse.

Both men said PCC's Electrical Systems Technology program taught them how to troubleshoot malfunctioning systems and to solve problems. Those skills are handy, particularly as plans change and evolve during residential construction, Mike Mills said.

Justin Mills adds the skills learned in the program also help when you

discover wiring and switches that have been installed incorrectly.

The Mills cousins encourage men and women who think they might be interested in the field to enroll in the program and see what it takes to work with electricity.

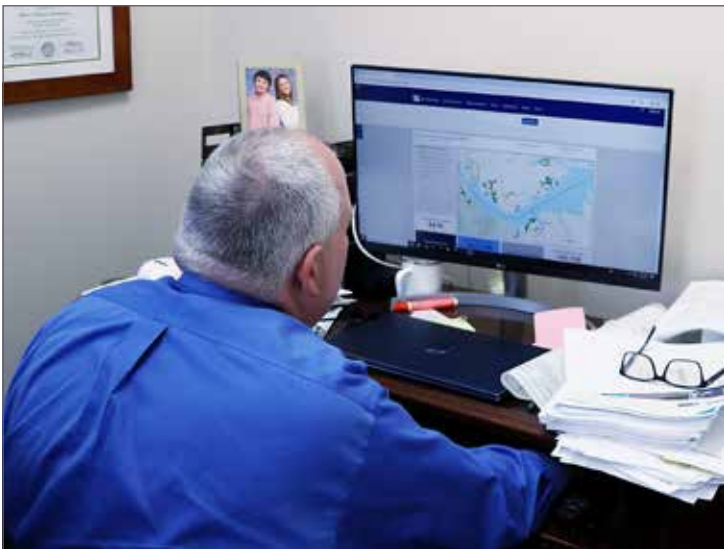
Larry Monk, a 2012 graduate of the program, is the lead instructor. For more information, contact him at [lmonk@pamlicocc.edu](mailto:lmonk@pamlicocc.edu) or 252-249-1851, ext. 3029.

Sandy Wall can be reached at 252-249-1851, ext. 3010, or [swall@pamlicocc.edu](mailto:swall@pamlicocc.edu).

## Getting High Speed Internet Can be a Slow Process

by: Hiram Lupton

High speed Internet. We have been hearing for quite some time from politicians in Washington and Raleigh that a priority is getting unserved or underserved rural areas of our state hooked up with Broadband internet service. While it is taking a while, it appears that many Pamlico County households are stepping closer to the reality of high-speed internet thanks to the implementation of several grant programs. One of these is the GREAT (Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology) Grant Program which Pamlico County has been participating in since 2019. "Every opportunity we have had to apply for GREAT grant funding, we have done," says County Manager Tim Buck. "The State has only released these funds a little at a time, but we are now starting to see work actually being done on the infrastructure to provide broadband to identified locations." The program provides state funded grants to private broadband providers. Counties are allowed to provide matching funds. Pamlico County has partnered on 3 Great Grants that have awarded over \$6.1 million in funding with a County match of nearly \$350,000. These grants have gone to Centurylink (before they became Brightspeed), Spectrum, and Brightspeed to expand broadband service to almost 1500 locations in Pamlico County. In the GREAT Grant Program, the private provider selects the locations to be served by the program based on criteria specified by the State. So, why should tax dollars be used to fund private companies to provide service to private households? In short, it is the only way it will get done. These providers are in business to make a profit and running miles of expensive fiber optic cable to serve small communities was cost prohibitive. The grant money helps get the infrastructure in place to serve these communities. To date, approximately 800 of the 1474 locations have been installed with broadband fiber capabilities. The Spectrum project is in the final stages of permitting and construction is expected to start within the 1st quarter of 2024. "From the awarding of



County Manager Tim Buck checks identified sites for high-speed internet access using the NC OneMap web site.

the grant to the completion of construction by the private provider is about a 24-month process," according to Buck. The high-speed internet won't just help individuals stream movies and access YouTube "how to" videos, it should also be of great help to the County economically as well. "We often hear of businesses and individuals who work out of their home that would like to locate here but high-speed internet was a requirement to do so," says Buck. While the GREAT grant program is well underway, it is not the only grant funding Pamlico County is seeking to

tap into. The next step to expand broadband in the County is to participate in the CAB (Completing Access to Broadband) Program. The CAB Program is a State program in the initial stages of implementation and requires the County to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) and provide matching funds. On January 2, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved matching funds for the CAB Program up to \$600,000 using ARPA revenue replacement funds. Soon, the County expects to begin developing an RFP with the State to identify eligible locations and solicit private providers to construct new broadband infrastructure utilizing CAB funding. The CAB program will use FCC mapping data to identify unserved/underserved locations at the household level. Any location with less than 100 megabytes of download speed will be an eligible project location. If this alphabet soup of terms and programs seems confusing, you are not alone, but Buck emphasizes one thing, "Patience. In the future Pamlico County intends to continue partnering with State, Federal and private entities to expand broadband service in Pamlico County. This includes participating in future Great and Cab Rounds." For residents wondering if their location is among those currently identified for service, a great resource is the website, [www.ncone-map.gov/pages/broadband](http://www.ncone-map.gov/pages/broadband) where it is possible to zoom in and get information at the individual household level, that is of course if you have the internet speed to load it up.

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# FINANCIAL FOCUS

## Avoid tapping into retirement savings early



Dan M. Roberts

If you want to make a big purchase, such as a new car or a piece of property, or you were faced with a large, unexpected expense, such as a major home or auto repair, would you have the funds readily available? If not, you might look at what may be your biggest pool of money — your 401(k) or IRA. But should you tap into these accounts well before you retire?

Maybe not — and here’s why:

• *Less money in retirement* – The more money you invest in your retirement accounts, and the longer you keep it invested, the more you’ll probably have when you need it most — when you’re retired. Consequently, taking out sizable amounts from these accounts before you retire could be costly, as it would disrupt the benefits of compounding that can be achieved by holding investments for the long term.

• *Possible bump into higher tax bracket* – The money you take out from your traditional IRA and 401(k) is taxable in the year of withdrawal. So, if you withdraw a significant amount of money at once from your traditional IRA or 401(k), you could be pushed into a higher tax bracket, at least for one year.

• *Tax penalties* – If you take money out of a 401(k) or traditional IRA before you turn 59½, you could face a 10% tax penalty, although some exceptions exist. Penalty-free withdrawals can be made for several reasons, including for education and medical expenses, first-time purchase of a home (up to \$10,000), after the birth or adoption of a child (up to \$5,000) and more (see [irs.gov/taxtopics/tc557](https://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc557)). With a Roth IRA, which is funded with after-tax dollars, you can withdraw contributions — but not earnings — at any time, for any purpose, without incurring penalties.

Given these issues, how can you avoid dipping into your retirement accounts when you’re faced with a financial need?

One possibility is to take out a loan from your 401(k). Unlike a 401(k) withdrawal, a loan is neither taxable nor subject to tax penalties. Also, the interest you pay on a 401(k) loan goes back into your account. Still, a 401(k) loan has its drawbacks. If you leave your job, you’ll likely have to repay the loan in a short period of time and if you don’t have all the money to repay it, the loan will be considered in default, so you’ll owe taxes and the 10% penalty if you’re younger than 59½. But even if you don’t leave your job and you do repay the loan, you’ll still have taken away money that could have potentially kept growing within your tax-deferred account. As mentioned above, as your money compounds, you’ll want to minimize disruptions.

Building an emergency fund is another way to gain access to cash. Such a fund should contain at least six months’ worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. It can take time to build a fund of this size, so it’s never too soon to start putting away money for it. To avoid the temptation of dipping into your emergency fund, you’d ideally keep this fund separate from your daily spending accounts.

Explore all your options before tapping into your IRA or 401(k) early. Keeping these accounts intact as long as possible is one of the best moves you can make to help build your future retirement income.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.  
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NC

COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION

Pamlico County

## The Chicks Have Arrived!!!



Kait Neeland  
4-H Agent

No, not the band. Something much more exciting than that! Fifty-eight lace-wing Wyandotte’s were delivered to Pamlico County Youth. Now you might be thinking that’s a lot of chicks, why on earth were that many chickens brought to the schools and kids? What are the benefits of so many chickens. It wasn’t for the many, many benefits that small backyard and local flocks bring to the community. (Though we can talk about that!) Friday was the kick off of the coastal plains 4-H Chicken Show.

The Coastal Plains Chicken Show is an annual youth program that gives youth the opportunity to learn all about poultry and poultry care. It is a great introduction to livestock Agriculture. Chickens are easy to raise, and can be kept in most places. This year youth will be raising laying chickens. During this project our youth will develop skills in the proper care of chickens through the various stages of development. They will learn how to safely water their chicks when they are very young to prevent them from drowning. They will also learn the best methods to provide proper nutrition for birds to grow. Along with all of these practical skills youth will be developing skills in personal responsibility, prioritization, and time management.

As exciting as raising chickens is, and developing life skills like responsibility and time management is learning how to show chickens! After all it is a chicken show. Youth will raise their chicken to the best of their ability but the show is where they show it off to their best advantage.

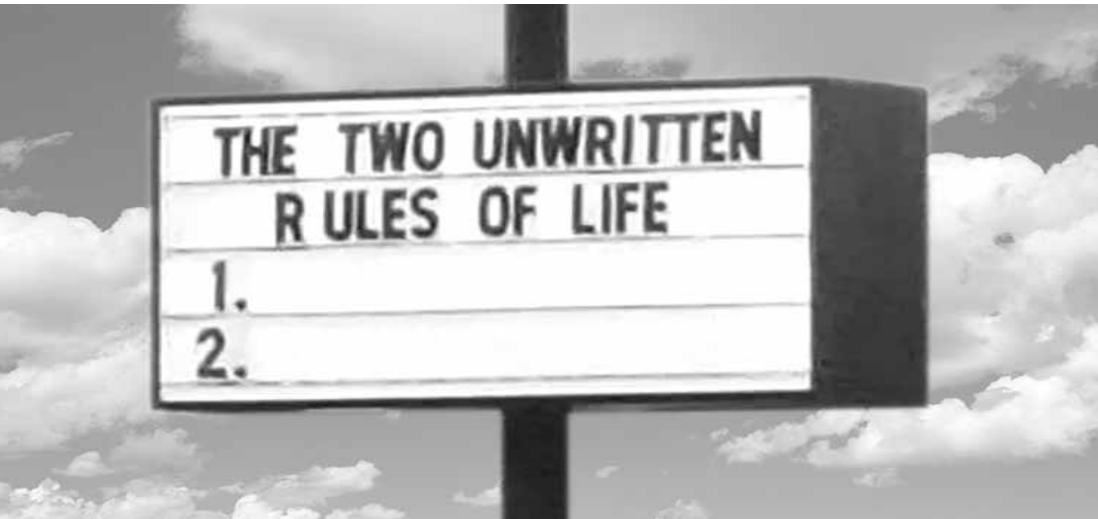
First and for most is ensuring that all birds are healthy and meet state and federal regulations for safe transport. Another important step to showing chickens is proper grooming. Grooming? Yes! Show chickens get baths. Bathing chickens is a three-step process, which should take place two days before the show. The first step is a bath in warm sudsy water, then rinse in apple cider vinegar which helps the chickens dry and adds a shine to their feathers, and finally a rinse in warm water. Chickens should also have their feet carefully brushed with a soft toothbrush.

The most important aspect of showing chickens starts from the moment 4-Hers get their chickens. Youth work with their chicks so that on the day of the show, their chicken is calm and easily handled. A chicken should be carried with the arm beneath the chicken so that the chicken’s head is tucked into the crook of the arm. The chicken will also be put through several different poses during the show to exhibit the chicken’s wingspan, keel, feet and tail. The tail will also have to be flexed up and down in order to show off its carriage. It is very important for the bird to remain calm throughout these various poses.

We are looking forward to seeing all the hard work of these youth come to fruition at the coastal plains chicken show on May 9th. We are also looking forward to several up coming programs. Our Sew Much Fun Spring series will begin on March 26th. We will also be kicking of our Presentations Program on March 18th. We are very excited for these programs. But we are also looking forward to 4-H Summer Fun!

We have also opened registration for our Summer 2024 4-H Sleep away Camp. 4-H Sleep away camp is a wonderful opportunity to develop life skills. They will spend a week kayaking, swimming, hiking, navigating ropes courses, and making crafts. While they are enjoying aloof those activities they will be developing problem solving skills, growing in communication, and interpersonal skills. Further participating in 4-H sleep away camp has shown to have a positive impact on youth feelings of connection and belonging that many campers feel. We will be heading off to camp July 28th and returning August 2nd. Camp is open to youth ages eight to fourteen as of January 1st 2024.

Registration for these programs can be found on our website. You will also need to register in 4-H online to complete your registration for any program. You can access the link on our website. If you have any questions about accessing 4-H Online or the enrollment process please give us a call and we will be happy to walk you through it. You can also sign up for our Pamlico 4-H Email list. To learn more about all 4-H programs in Pamlico County contact Kait Neeland at (252) 745-4121, or [kait\\_neeland@ncsu.edu](mailto:kait_neeland@ncsu.edu), or check us out online at [pamlico.ces.ncsu.edu](https://pamlico.ces.ncsu.edu). Don’t FORGET to REGISTER, spaces will fill up!!



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From Miss Nancy's Home Recipes...

## Kitchen Chatter

Nancy Winfrey



### Serve up something quick on busy weeknights

Few foodies would admit to using a microwave all that often. But busy weeknights call for some shortcuts, and microwaves can be a home cook’s best friend on those evenings when time is of the essence.

Cooking with a microwave need not be limited to frozen dinners. Take, for example, this recipe for “Italian Pork Chops” from “Incredibly Easy Italian” (Publications International, Ltd.). Easily prepared in less than 30 minutes, this meal combines homecooking with a shortcut that can make it easy to serve a delicious, hot meal on weeknights when parents or busy professionals simply don’t have much time to spend in the kitchen.

#### Italian Pork Chops

Serves 4

- 2 cups uncooked long-grain white rice
- 4 large pork chops
- 1 teaspoon basil, crushed
- 1 26-ounce can Del Monte® Spaghetti Sauce with Mushrooms or Chunky Italian Herb Spaghetti Sauce
- 1 green bell pepper, cut into thin strips
- Salt for seasoning (if desired)
- Black pepper for seasoning (if desired)



1. Cook rice according to package directions.
2. Preheat broiler. Sprinkle meat with basil; season with salt and black pepper, if desired. Place meat on broiler pan. Broil 4 inches from heat, about 6 minutes on each side, or until no longer pink in center.
3. Combine sauce and green pepper in microwavable dish. Cover with plastic wrap; slit to vent. Microwave on high for 5 to 6 minutes, or until green pepper is tender-crisp and sauce is heated through. Add meat; cover with sauce. Microwave for 1 minute. Serve over hot rice.





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**Rep. Garland Pierce, NC House**

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**Rep. Marcus Brandon, Former Representative, NC House**

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**Sen. Toby Fitch, Former Senator, Former Majority Leader, NC House, Retired Superior Court Judge**

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# Basketball and Cheerleader Seniors Recognized

by: Hiram Lupton

Tuesday was the final home game of the regular season for the basketball teams of Pamlico County High School, which meant that it was time to recognize the Senior members of those teams and their families, as well as the Senior members of the awesome PCHS cheerleaders.



SN1 – Back (L to R); Team Manager Alyssa Schmidt, Jayden Williams, Braylen Ollison, Barwick Audilet, Dania Galvan-Veliz, Antoine King, Keegan Cofer, and Ragan Shields. Front (L to R); Cheerleaders Claren Lugo, Brooklyn Altman, and Brylei Simpson

# PCHS Wrestlers Compete at Eastern Regionals

by: Hiram Lupton

The high school wrestling post season is here and the Pamlico County High School team made the long trip to South Davidson High School to compete in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) eastern regional tournament. Wrestling began last Friday evening and continued all day Saturday, with the top four wrestlers in each weight class receiving invitations to the State Championships this weekend in Greensboro. Pamlico brought nine wrestlers to the event and after the first day still had seven athletes left competing in the double elimination tournament. After a long, tough day of competition on Saturday, Pamlico had qualified five wrestlers to advance to the State Championships. Landon Yeates (126 pounds), Isaiah Mewborn (150 pounds), and Jake Whitley (157 pounds) all received bronze medals for third place finishes. Eric Brantley (190 pounds) and Tyler Stevens (215 pounds) made it to the championship round and each brought back silver medals for runner-up finishes in their matches. Neither wrestler was pinned and lost in close point decisions. There were 24 teams who had wrestlers competing at the regionals and Pamlico placed an impressive 5th in team scoring. Best of luck in Greensboro in the quest for gold. Photo by Kendyl Daniels. Thank You!



Standing (L to R); Coach John Messer, Eric Brantley, Landon Yeates, Jake Whitley, Isaiah Mewborn, Tyler Stevens, Coach Nate Daniels. Seated (Front) Head Coach Kevin Knox

## PAMLICO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION NEWS

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County Board of Elections March 5 New Election Day Polling Locations

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Stonewall Town Hall 74 Spain Farm Road, Stonewall, NC 28583	Pamlico County Courthouse 202 Main Street, Bayboro, NC 28515
Mesic Town Hall 9275 NC HWY 304, Mesic, NC 28515	Vandemere Town Hall 1042 Pennsylvania Ave, Vandemere, NC 28587
Hobucken Community Center 145 Hobucken School Road, Hobucken, NC 28537	Vandemere Town Hall 1042 Pennsylvania Ave, Vandemere, NC 28587



# Churches of Pamlico

Photo by: Hiram Lupton



Bay Creek Christian Church - Mesic

## Hurricanes Close Out Regular Season

by: Hiram Lupton

The Hurricanes of Pamlico County High School closed out their regular season last week with a pair of conference games. Tuesday, they hosted the Trojans of Jones Senior and both varsity teams came away with wins. The Junior Varsity boys were up first and set the tone for the evening with a 65-53 win. Up next were the Lady ‘Canes and Pamlico used a stingy defense to put the wraps on the Trojans. Jones didn’t score their first point of the game until there was under 30 seconds left in the first quarter, and only managed to score 11 points total for the entire game. Both Nya Clark and Sydney Whitley-Reese of Pamlico outscored the Trojans by themselves, with 26 and 18 points respectively. Final score Pamlico 54, Jones 11. After some Senior Night activities, the men took the court looking for the sweep. After a sluggish first quarter, Pamlico only led by 3, 19-16, but the Hurricanes turned it up a notch the rest of the half and led at the break, 45-18. They continued their barrage in the second half, finally doubling up the Trojans with a final of 80-40. The front line of Pamlico, Antoine King and Koby Lane led the way with 17 points each, but every Hurricane marked the score sheet in this one. King also added 10 rebounds for a double-double.



Barwick Audilet takes it to the hoop



Brinley Altman launches a 3-pointer

On Thursday Pamlico hit the road to hostile territory, visiting Northside-Pinetown to take on the Panthers. In the Ladies game, The Panthers defended their lair and opened strong, building up a 16-point halftime lead. The Hurricanes staged a furious 2nd half comeback, but the hole was too deep to climb out of. Final Northside 54, Pamlico 50. Sydney Whitley-Reese led the ‘Canes with 24 points and Senior Dania Galvan-Veliz contributed 13 to go along with her 12 rebounds. The Men came out looking to claim a share of the Coastal Plains Conference title with a win. They entered the night tied with East Carteret and a win over the Northside would mean Pamlico would be co-champions of the Coastal Plains Conference. This was a tight game the whole way but the Hurricanes used a balanced scoring attack to get the win, 73-67. Pamlico had five players with double figure scoring totals led by Tariq Barber’s 15 points. This week both Hurricane varsity squads will participate in the conference tournament. By virtue of their third-place finish in the regular season, the varsity women will host Jones Senior at 5:00 PM on Thursday in a first round game. The winner moves on to the semifinals. The men’s team received a first round bye and go straight to the semis. Both the semifinals and finals will be held at East Carteret High School on Tuesday (20th) and Thursday (22nd) of next week.

## Middle School Wrestling Pamlico Competes in CMSAC Tournament

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County Middle School wrestling team wrapped up a very successful season last Thursday when they travelled to Tucker Creek Middle School to compete for individual conference championships in the Coastal Middle School Athletic Conference (CMSAC) wrestling tournament. PCMS has had a great year as they continue to build not just a team but a program that transitions on through to high school. Head Coach Nate Daniels and Assistant Coach Phillip Coppo have done a great job teaching and motivating these young athletes to not only become better wrestlers, but better teammates and people as well. “We came, we competed, we walked out with some hardware”, said Daniels. Huge thanks to all of our young Hurricane wrestlers for going through such a tough sport. They wrestled tough and that’s all we ever asked. “Thanks to our parents for trusting us with your kids and staying for a long tournament. We were able to walk out with 4 Champions and even PCMS’s first ever women’s conference champion!” As Coach Daniels alluded to, this is the first year that the CMSAC has had separate classifications for female competitors. Addi Nunley mad history as PCMS’s first champion as she brought home gold in the 120/126-pound class. The Pamlico girls also brought home a silver and three bronzes for the evening. The medalists and their weight classes are:



Addi Nunley gets the gold and is PCMS’s first female wrestling champion.



Cam Daniels gets the pin and the win



Champion Jamyis Davis

The boy’s squad also had a very successful tournament, with three wrestlers crowned as champions along with three slivers and two bronzes:

- 84 silver medalist Mason Foreman
- 90 silver medalist Caleb Dawson
- 106 Champion Cameron Daniels
- 120 bronze medalist Logan Egan
- 126 Champion Riley Tracy
- 132 bronze medalist Chris Avery
- 182 silver medalist Jasiyah McCoy
- 195 Champion Jamyis Davis

A successful end to a successful season for a program on the rise.

## Pamlico Wildlife



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# Health&Wellness

## What is Heart Failure?

<https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/heart-failure/what-is-heart-failure>



### You don't have to face it alone

The term heart failure sounds like the heart is no longer working at all. Actually, heart failure, sometimes called HF, means that the heart isn't pumping as well as it should. Congestive heart failure is a type of heart failure that requires timely medical attention, although sometimes the two terms are used interchangeably.

Your body depends on the heart's pumping action to deliver oxygen- and nutrient-rich blood to the body's cells. With heart failure, the weakened heart can't supply the cells with enough blood. This results in fatigue and shortness of breath, and some people experience excessive coughing. Everyday activities such as walking, climbing stairs or carrying groceries can become very difficult.

Heart failure is a term used to describe a heart that cannot keep up with its workload. The body may not get the oxygen it needs.

Heart failure is a serious condition, and usually there's no cure. But many people with heart failure lead a full, enjoyable life when the condition is managed with heart failure medications and a healthy lifestyle. It's also helpful to have the support of family and friends who understand your condition.

### How the normal heart works

The heart is a strong, muscular pump a little larger than a fist. Its job is to pump the right amount of blood to all parts of the body. This is called circulation.

The heart has four chambers:

- Two upper chambers called atria (when talking about just one, it's called an atrium)
- Two lower chambers called ventricles

The right atrium takes in oxygen-depleted blood from the rest of the body and sends it through the right ventricle to the lungs, which infuse the blood with oxygen.

Oxygen-rich blood travels from the lungs to the left atrium, then on to the left ventricle, which pumps it to the rest of the body.

The heart pumps blood to the lungs and to all of the body's tissues. For the heart to work properly, the four chambers must beat in an organized way. A healthy heart has more than enough pumping ability to circulate blood properly.

### What is heart failure?

Heart failure is a lifelong condition in which the heart muscle can't pump enough blood to meet the body's needs for blood and oxygen. Basically, the heart can't keep up with its workload.

**At first the heart tries to make up for this by:**

- Enlarging. The heart stretches to contract more strongly and keep up with the body's demand to pump more blood. Over time, this causes the heart to enlarge.
- Developing more muscle mass. The increase in muscle mass occurs because the contracting cells of the heart get bigger. This lets the heart pump more strongly, at least initially.
- Pumping faster. This helps increase the heart's output.

**The body also tries to compensate in other ways:**

- The blood vessels narrow to keep blood pressure up, trying to make up for the heart's loss of power.
- The kidneys retain more salt and water rather than excrete it through urine. This creates increased volume of blood, which helps to maintain blood pressure and allows the heart to pump stronger. But over time this extra volume can overtask the heart, making heart failure worse.

These temporary measures mask the problem of heart failure, but they don't solve it. Heart failure continues and worsens until these compensating processes no longer work.

Eventually the heart and body simply can't keep up, and the person experiences fatigue, breathing problems or other symptoms that usually prompt a trip to the doctor.

The body's compensation mechanisms help to explain why some people might not become aware of their condition until years after their heart begins its decline. (That is a good reason to have a regular checkup with your doctor.)

Heart failure can involve the heart's left side, right side or both sides. However, it usually affects the left side first. Read more about the types of heart failure.

### Heart Failure Tools and Resources

A wealth of information to help you successfully manage heart failure.

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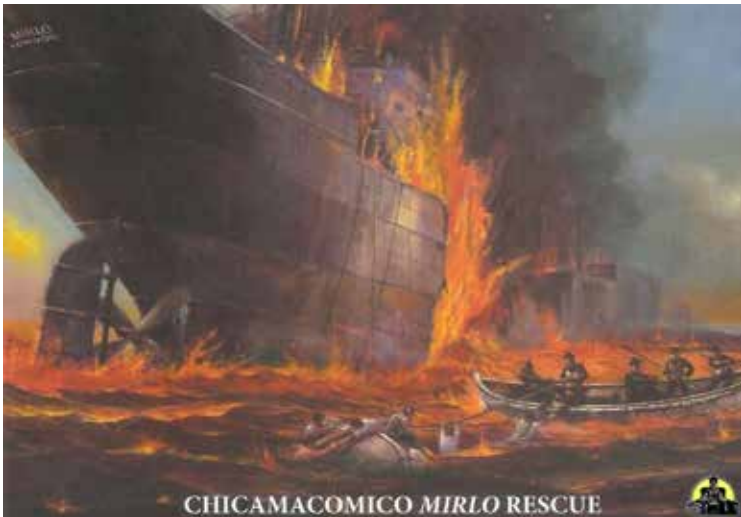
The New Bern Historical Society is pleased to host Kevin Duffus, a noted North Carolina author, documentary filmmaker, and research historian who has successfully unraveled dozens of longstanding maritime mysteries, including discovering the mythical grave of the pirate Blackbeard's sister. His seven books on the maritime history of the Carolinas spanning 500 years include The Lost Light, the story of finding the lost Fresnel lens of the 1853 Hatteras Light House missing since the Civil War;

NEW BERN, NC, The British tanker, Mirlo, loaded with nearly 300,000 gallons of aviation fuel was five miles east of the Outer Banks village of Rodanthe on August 16, 1918, when it was torpedoed by the Germans. Join author Kevin Duffus on Sunday, February 18 at 2pm at Orringer Auditorium as he brings to life the desperate struggle of 51 panicked sailors as they attempted to escape

The Last Days of Blackbeard the Pirate, and the one you'll hear about with this presentation Into the Burning Sea, The 1918 Mirlo Rescue. He has appeared on the History Channel, National Geographic, and on the Travel Channel's "Expedition Unknown." In 2014, he was named "Historian of the Year" by the North Carolina Society of Historians. He was the 2020 recipient of the National Lighthouse Museum Research Award in New York City. He will be available both before and after the presentation for a book signing with all seven books available for purchase.

This special presentation is part of the New Bern Historical Society's ongoing series of lectures. Cost is \$10 per person. Reservations are strongly suggested. Reservations at [www.NewBernHistorical.org](http://www.NewBernHistorical.org) or at the new Bern Historical Society Office at 511 Broad St. or by calling 252-638-8558.

The mission of the New Bern Historical Society is to celebrate and promote New Bern and its heritage through events and education. Offices are located in the historic Attmore-Oliver House at 511 Broad Street in New Bern. For more information, call 252-638-8558 or go [www.NewBernHistorical.org](http://www.NewBernHistorical.org) or [www.facebook.com/NewBernHistoricalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/NewBernHistoricalSociety).



The Old Theater  
Oriental, NC



The Old Theater in Oriental Presents  
Bryan Sanders: Magic is BS  
March 16, 2024, at 7:30 PM  
Duration: Up to 2 hours

Tickets: \$20.00 General admission; \$15.00 for OT members, military, and students with ID.  
Tickets available at Nautical Wheelers in Oriental and New Bern or online at [www.showclix.com/event/magic-is-bryan-sanders](http://www.showclix.com/event/magic-is-bryan-sanders)

Bryan Sanders has been performing magic and comedy for 15 years. He is one of the top entertainers in the Southeast, and has been featured on Fox, the Travel Channel and "America's Got Talent". He is currently traveling with his one-man-show filled with comedy and magic throughout the country. Bryan delivers professional, interactive performances that audiences enjoy and talk about for years afterward. He engages audiences with walk-around magic and comedy that brings laughter and amazement. Although Bryan's magic is a great show for all ages, some adult humor may not be appropriate for children.

The Old Theater is located at 609 Broad Street in Oriental, NC. Advance tickets can be purchased at Nautical Wheelers in Oriental and New Bern. Tickets are also available at the box office one hour before the show or online at [Showclix.com](http://Showclix.com). For additional information, call 252-249-0477 or email [president@oldtheater.org](mailto:president@oldtheater.org).

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. This show includes a 15-minute intermission. Wine and soft drinks can be purchased by donation.

The Old Theater is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a venue for performing arts in Eastern North Carolina.



Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

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305 Hodges Street, Oriental, NC 28571  
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252.249.1797

### NO Focus Pocus

Just good sense and sound advice in the Business section.

Check it out!

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Heroic Hurricanes!



Celebrating our January Heroic Hurricanes! These outstanding students, nominated by their teachers, have demonstrated exceptional self-control. A round of applause for their remarkable commitment to making a positive impact!

SkillsUSA



SkillsUSA Week was celebrated by holding a blood drive, providing faculty & staff with snacks, and holding a SkillsUSA Alumni & Friends chili dinner and interest meeting.

Exploring Water Quality



Exploring water quality with hands-on science in Mr. Hampson's class! Braxton Potter and Ledarius Barnett, 8th graders, dive into their water quality experiment with curiosity and determination

Spelling Bee



Congratulations to our PCMS Spelling Bee champions! Annie Delamar takes 3rd place, followed by Gabriel Hobbs in 2nd, and our top speller, Kristian Ormond, clinching 1st place! Kristian advances to the Carolina Panthers Regional Spelling Bee in March for a shot at the national stage. Best of luck, Kristian!

STEM Class



Busy times in STEM class! From crafting prosthetic limbs with Rob Dixon to delving into 3D printing tech, and even diving into career exploration with resume workshops. Hands on learning has never been more fun!



OUR SCHOOLS  
PAMLICO COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

FFA WEEK  
FEB. 19-23, 2024  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!

MON  
19

NO SCHOOL

TUE  
20

ANIMAL/CROP DAY  
Dress up as your favorite farm animal or field crop!!  
TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST  
Please sign up to participate in the teachers appreciation breakfast by 2/16 in the Google form below.

WED  
21

AG CAREER DAY  
Dress up as a person in the agriculture field, a teacher, a farmer, a vet. etc.

THUR  
22

WESTERN DAY (HAT DAY)  
Dress up in your favorite boots & jeans & be a cowboy/cowgirl.  
Make sure you have paid \$1 to Mrs. Grubbs and received a wristband in order to wear a hat AFTER TESTING!!

FRI  
23

FFA DAY  
Dress in National Blue & Corn Gold to celebrate FFA!!!!!!  
Agriculture Olympics after school with the high school from 3:30 - 5:30.



Scan the QR code or enter the website to sign up for the teachers appreciation breakfast.  
<https://forms.gle/TAFkPaMTTnNAEeqjD8>

ALUMNI & FRIENDS

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Call Mrs. Angelo at PCMS (745-3151) or Mrs. Hale at PCMS (745-4061) for more information



SkillsUSA NORTH CAROLINA

PCMS Wrestling

PCMS wrestling team dominates season, clinching 3rd in conference and 2nd in tournament!  
**Weight class champions:**  
Cameron Daniels, Riley Treacy, Jamiyis Davis, Addison Nunley  
**2nd Place medalists:**  
Mason Foreman, Caleb Dawson, Jasiyah McCoy, Jacklyn Cooke  
**3rd Place medalists:**  
Logan Egan, Chris Avery, Kinley Small, Darcey Vanzandt, Kailyn Sanders



PCMS Wrestling



PCMS Basketball



Both boys and girls basketball teams finished 3rd in their conference and made the playoffs. Both teams were bounced in the first round but had a fantastic season.  
*Sports Photos by Hiram Lupton*



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# AROUND THE COUNTY

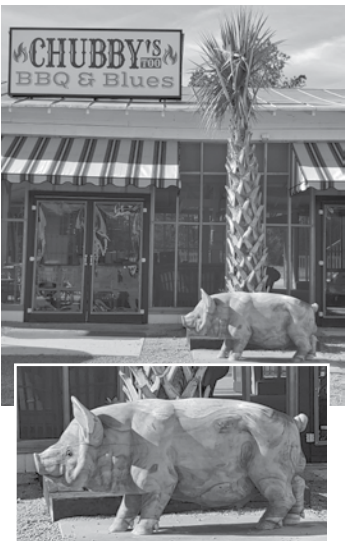
## Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, *Correspondent*

 People watched Super Bowl LVIII on Sunday night for various reasons: to see Taylor Swift, to see the half time show, to see the commercials, and some to actually watch the football game. It was a good game, but my favorite part was the fact that two commercials were about Jesus. Since this was the most televised event ever, what better way to share the Lord with so many people?

Georgie Powell told me the Four in Christ gospel quartet will be in concert at Oriental Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, February 17th at 6:00 pm. They always sing wonderful music, and the public is invited.

Today I decided to post a picture of Chubby's new hog that stands alongside Chubby's Longhorn Steer. The venue in Merritt keeps improving daily.

Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday both occur on February 14th. It is a time to celebrate the ones you love, and I pray Jesus is at the top of your list. Happy Birthday and Happy Valentine's Day to John Farmer, Chris Fulcher, and my sister Mildred Harrison who were all born on Valentine's Day.




On Ash Wednesday there will be an evening service at Stonewall Methodist Church at 6:30 pm. This service will include imposition of ashes. The service will be different from the one at lunchtime so you might want to attend both services and receive two blessings.

Reverend John Farmer, the Bayboro United Methodist Church pastor, will host the lunchtime worship Wednesday's during Lent. He will bring the message on Ash Wednesday, The Reverend Jon Strother will preach on February 21st, and the Reverend Anne Sims from Oriental on February 28th. Clergy from other denominations will bring the messages in March. Please invite all your friends to come to Bayboro UMC every Wednesday during Lent for the short sermon followed by a fellowship meal.

Those celebrating birthdays in February include Willie Banks & Doug Carey (2/15), Sheryl Kaye Sanders, Esther Jane Lupton, & Sharon Rowe (2/20), Tillie Roberts (2/24), Elizabeth Cuthrell (2/25), Lupe Bennett (2/28), and Bless Her Heart, Penny Ford gets a year older since her birthday is February 29th Remember February 14th is Valentine's Day, so tell someone you love them and remember, "Jesus Loves You."

Have a blessed week. Grateful? Take Spiritual Vitamin G. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." (Luke 6:38)


## Whortonsville Reba Tiller, *Correspondent*

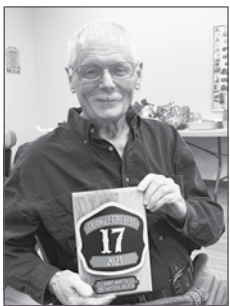
 Kind of quiet here in the village because everyone is getting ready for football! Not me, I am enjoying quiet time so I can work on my music. Maura and Melydia just left for their Greenville home but are returning tomorrow, Kevin and Susie just returned from a month in Florida, Lisa is having a Super Bowl Party at the marina, Joe, Colleen and I missed church today because of sickness and there were a lot of visitors there so they had to use some recordings I had made. Seems that when I am not there they have a larger congregation so maybe I need to stay home more.

There is a beautiful yacht that pulled in Friday next door to me and it is a beauty! One of the owners is from Ireland so it is a lovely green. All the usual activities are going on at the church this week. Fonrose Rice and I visited Marsh's Cottage Thursday and she really has some beautiful clothes, some are 50% off, so stop in and check her store, then we went to the Deli for lunch. The Pamlico Chorale is making some changes to their concert in May, so come and practice with us on Mondays at 5:00 and we guarantee you will have a great time.

Thought for the week— This week is Valentine's so remember someone with a card, candy or flowers.

## Vandemere Sandra Snipes, *Correspondent*

 Vandemere is proud to celebrate one of its local residents, Danny Wooten, who was named "Firefighter of the Year, 2023, Triangle 17" in Pamlico County. Danny has served as a firefighter in North Carolina for almost 40 years. His experience and mentorship are highly regarded by new and seasoned firefighters alike. We would also like to congratulate Tanner Lilly for receiving "Rookie Firefighter of the Year" and "Most Firefighter Training Hours" achieved for 2023. Tanner recently completed his Firefighter I and II certifications from the Firefighting Academy at Pamlico County Community College, and has dedicated 571 hours to training and responding to firefighter calls for Triangle 17.



Danny Wooten, Fire Fighter of the Year


Triangle 17 is an all-volunteer Firefighting Force serving Pamlico County and the surrounding areas along with other local firefighting units. They are a cohesive team dedicated to preserving life and property; always ready to welcome

and support an aspiring firefighter to the team. Aspiring fire fighters can start as young as age 16. If interested in volunteering with Triangle 17 you can call the fire station at 252-745-5645.



Woody Spruill (Triangle 17 Chief), Danny Wooten (Firefighter of the Year), Tanner Lilly (Rookie of the Year), Phillip Nannie (Triangle 17 Assistant Chief)

## Aurora Joy McCracken, *Correspondent*

 There,Äs an article on the NC Wildlife Federation website, For the Love of Birds: Seven Birds from North Carolina,Äs list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need, lists the Brown Pelican as a concerned species. I was surprised at their inclusion and am glad there,Äs an increase of them on the creek this winter.

I watched a Kingfisher hanging out in the Water Oak gazing down at the pool perhaps watching it for prey. I didn,Ät have the heart to tell him it,Äs just the water looking so messed up (long story). Song and White-throated Sparrows are now coming to the feeder. A Titmouse is singing his early spring song. The Squirrel has gotten tired of the Mockingbird messing with him and has begun making little charges which just flusters the Mockingbird (.ÄöHow dare you!,Äö as he fluffs out his wings). Anneke the Cat has started investigating the front yard where the three Deer have been coming I think trying to keep an eye on them. Heard one snorting the other morning.

Apparently this is going to be a big year for Cicadas in the state, but not around here. I love the sound one makes when being chased by a bird. The Cattails are shedding and I had pancakes made from them at a teacher inservice once. Two otters came out on the dock the other day. One was eating (and eating) a fish on the bottom step while a younger one wandered around. There,Äs a Great Egret hunting by the road next to a flooded area near the ferry landing. Lines of Cormorants are cruising the creek.

Hyde County has possession of the Mattamuskeet Lodge and has big plans for its rejuvenation. The county,Äs Extension Agency is planning to house there.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is coming up February 16-19. You ought to participate and can go to <https://www.birdcount.org> for more information.

I understand the water in the Atlantic is now the temperature of typical June. Hope that doesn,Ät foretell of a bad storm season.

What I thought was a quick fix for replacing a kitchen sink sprayer ended up being a new faucet ensemble. Nathaniel at Thompson,Äs in Aurora was most helpful with supplying the needed materials. I just love being able to find solutions for things like this in town instead of traveling elsewhere.



My Photo of the Week is of Tabitha Daniels at the Walmart in Grantsboro. She never fails to engage in fun conversation especially about all her buttons.

## Rotary Club of Oriental John J. Mitchell, Past President



What is Rotary? How can we explain it in a brief group of sentences? We are part of a world-wide organization dedicated to service above self. We fight to eradicate Polio, stop the wrath of Alzheimer's, fight hunger and the lack of safe drinking water but as important, what do we do for those next door in our community.

We do this by spending months planning and putting on a in water boat show, a car show, a long gone tarpon tournament, to fund our scholarship program that has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars. Many, many other ways to support similar causes.

One project that we are extremely proud of is RYLA, "Rotary Youth Leadership Awards" a once a year program to benefit

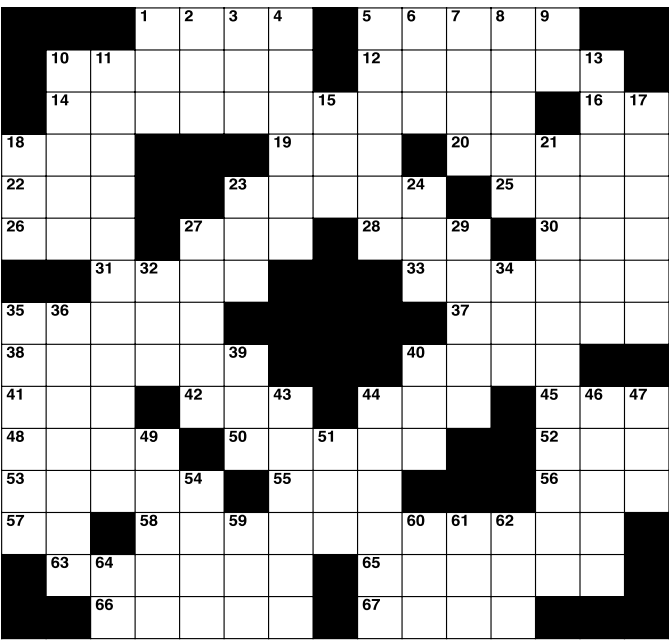
Junior high school students. Each year we recruit these students, as many as four, to attend a three day retreat at the 4 H Camp in Columbia.NC where they will meet up with other 11th graders from our district .Greeting them will be Rotary members from clubs in our district who will spend their time working on ways to increase skills that will stay with them for a lifetime.

It will include building communication and problem serving solutions. They will learn from community leaders, skills that will help guide them through life wherever they travel.



All those who have attended RYLA have returned with saying that it was a wonderful experience and that they made many friends from all over N.C.

# CROSSWORD



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Gene type

5. Persian male given name

10. Type of protection

12. Cloud

14. One who returns to life

16. Gym class

18. General's assistant (abbr.)

19. Baby's dining accessory

20. Enchantress

22. Prefix denoting "in a"

23. Spiritual leader

25. Cavities

26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)

27. Foot (Latin)

28. Sweet potato

30. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt

31. Land

33. More inquisitive
35. Dog breed: \_\_ Apso

37. Stood up

38. Direct and uninhibited

40. Authorless

41. Blocking type of drug (abbr.)

42. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)

44. Root mean square (abbr.)

45. Macaws

48. Actress Remini

50. Polynesian wrapped skirt

52. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)

53. Fitzgerald and Baker are two

55. Bowling alley must-have

56. A way to cool down

57. Ethnic group in Asia

58. A way to alter

63. Set of five

65. Removes from the record

66. Dummies

67. Set period in office

### CLUES DOWN

1. DC Comics superhero

2. Brew

3. Play

4. Single-celled animals

5. Rough to the touch

6. Small island (British)

7. Often noted alongside cons

8. Preparation of rootstock

9. Atomic #44

10. Egyptian unit of capacity

11. About secretary

13. Particular groups

15. Poke fun at

17. Make certain that something occurs

18. Financial term

21. Justify

23. Arbiter

24. 007's creato

27. Czech name for Prague

29. Groans
32. American time

34. No seats available

35. \_\_ Stahl, journalist

36. Cleft lip

39. Talk incessantly

40. Expresses atomic and molecular weights (abbr.)

43. A part of a river where the current is very fast

44. Curdled milk

46. Running competitions

47. A team's best pitcher

49. Carthaginian explorer

51. World-renowned city

54. Most common Japanese surname

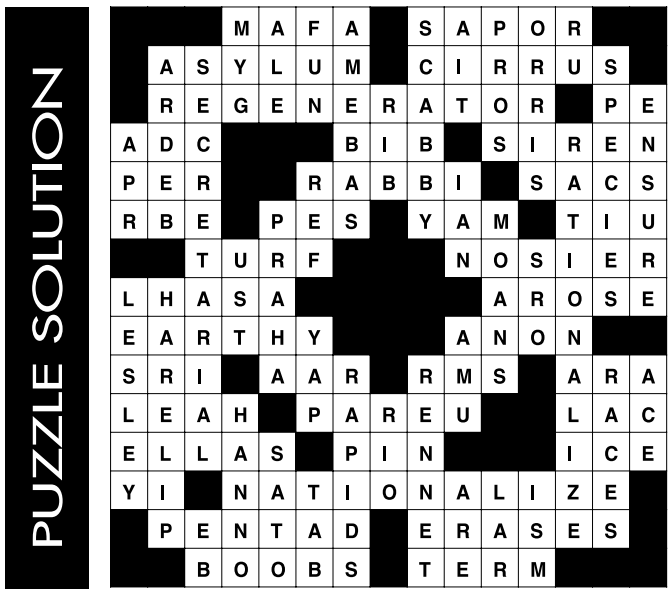
59. The bill in a restaurant

60. They \_\_

61. City of Angels football team (abbr.)

62. Distinctive practice

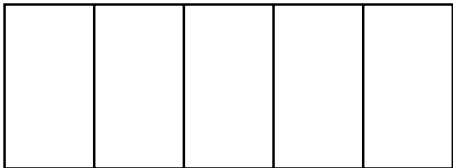
64. One quintillion bytes



# WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Valentine's Day.

## S L O E V



Answer: Loves

## Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Toronto, Canada on February 16, 1990. I used to anonymously upload my music to YouTube, but I am now a three-time Grammy-winner. I was the first artist to simultaneously hold the top three positions on the Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart.

Answer: The Weeknd





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## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

Release Date- 16 February 2024

Storm Debris Removal and Ditch Improvements for the Town of Vandemere, NC

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Vandemere, NC intends to select an Engineering Firm to assess and manage storm debris removal and ditch improvements for the Town. A written response to the RFQ can be submitted by mail or email:

Mail: Attn: Sandra Snipes, Mayor,  
Town of Vandemere,  
P.O. Box 338,  
Vandemere, NC, 28587

E-Mail: vandemeremayor@outlook.com

**RFQ Close Date- 1 March 2024 at 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time**

The responsibility for submitting a response to the RFQ, to the Mayor, on or before the stipulated time and date will solely be the responsibility of the Firm. Any responses received after the stipulated time and date will not be accepted, and/or opened.

**RFQ Packets Located-**  
<https://www.vandemerenc.com/copy-of-community>

Questions concerning this RFQ can be directed to: Sandra Snipes, Mayor, Town of Vandemere, at 252-745-5480 or vandemeremayor@outlook.com.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**  
**PAMLICO COUNTY**  
**SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF SHERWOOD WATSON CARAWAY**  
**File No.: 24 E 9**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to AMBER C. SPAIN, ADMINISTRATOR on or before April 23, 2024, at the address listed below or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Administrator.

This 24TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024

ESTATE OF SHERWOOD WATSON CARAWAY  
C/O AMBER SPAIN  
20 BAY POINT RD  
MERRITT, NC 28556

Publish JANUARY 24,31, FEBRUARY 7 AND 14, 2024

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**  
**PAMLICO COUNTY**  
**SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**AND DEBTORS OF CHARLES WARREN SPRUILL, JR**  
**File No.: 24 E 13**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to KAYLEE S. SPRUILL, EXECUTOR on or before April 23, 2024, at the address listed below or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor.

This 24TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024

ESTATE OF CHARLES WARREN SPRUILL  
C/O KAYLEE S. SPRUILL  
4943 SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA DR  
RALEIGH, NC 27604

Publish JANUARY 24,31, FEBRUARY 7 AND 14, 2024

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**  
**PAMLICO COUNTY**  
**SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF PATSY TOLER ALFRED**  
**File No.: 24 E 2**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims

## LEGALS

against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to ELIZABETH DARLENE TOLER, EXECUTOR on or before MAY 7, 2024, at the address listed below or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor.

This 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024

ESTATE OF PATSY TOLER ALFRED  
C/O ELIZABETH DARLENE TOLER  
1581 OLD BAY RIVER RD  
GRANTSBORO, NC 28529

Publish FEBRUARY 7, 14, 21 AND 28, 2024

**Notice to Creditors North Carolina, Pamlico County**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Charles Francis McRory, deceased, of Hobucken, NC, are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before May 7, 2024, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment. This the 7th day of February, 2024.

Cindi M. Quay, Administrator CTA of the Estate of Charles Francis McRory  
c/o Quay & Associates, P.A.  
412 Broad Street  
New Bern, NC 28560

PUBLICATION DATES: 2/7/24, 2/14/24, 2/21/24, 2/28/24

**Notice to Creditors North Carolina, Pamlico County**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Gerald Brian Patrick Crowley, deceased, of Oriental, NC, are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before May 7, 2024, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment. This the 7th day of February, 2024.

Amy Beth Crowley, Administrator of the Estate of Gerald Brian Patrick Crowley  
c/o Quay & Associates, P.A.  
412 Broad Street  
New Bern, NC 28560

PUBLICATION DATES: 2/7/24, 2/14/24, 2/21/24, 2/28/24

## PCC Cultural & Life Enrichment Program

Designed to promote personal growth and self-enrichment. This may include courses in leisure activities, non-vocational skill development, learning a new language, discovering a new talent, arts & crafts, media techniques, wellness activities and much more, as well as musical and theatrical productions. These classes are self-supporting and use the talents and skills of some of our community's gifted residents. For more information and registration, please contact: Denise - 252-249-1851 x3113, dmcdermott@pamlicocc.edu

**Spring Bird Watching**  
First class will meet in the Delamar Building at 9 a.m. for a slide show, discussion of birding optics and techniques with a short field trip afterwards. Subsequent classes will be held in the field with early morning meeting times.  
Instructors: Sheryl McNair and Diane Midness  
Registration: \$35 (4 classes)  
Dates: Tuesdays, March 12 – April 2

**Birding Apps Exploration**  
Whether you are you're a seasoned birder or just starting out, this course will equip you with the knowledge and tools to make the most of modern technology. Join us to:

- Explore the top birding apps available today and learn how to leverage their features.
- Identify bird species with ease using advanced bird recognition technology.
- Access comprehensive birding guide, maps, and species databases at your fingertips.
- Connect with a vibrant community of fellow bird enthusiasts and share your sightings.
- Discover hidden birding hotspots and plan your next bird-watching expedition.
- Capture bird photos and record bird songs to enhance your birding memories.

Instructor: Christine Stoughton Root  
Registration: \$10  
Dates: Wednesdays, April 10 & April 17  
Times: 9:00 – 11:00am

**Art of Quilting**  
Join us to learn or review the basics of machine quilting. Students will learn new skills or new methods for older skills as they practice on their chosen projects. Come get started on new artistic creation! You will need a variety of cotton fabrics, sewing machine, cutting mat, rolling cutter, and a straight edge.  
Instructor: Rolayne Schwendy  
Registration: \$65 (5 classes)  
Dates: Tuesdays, Mar. 5 – Apr. 2  
Times: 1:00 – 4:00pm  
Sewing & Growing  
This class is geared to the individual's needs, from very basic lessons on your machine to intermediate skills and tips while working on specific & fun projects. Students will need a variety of fabrics, sewing machine and an iron.  
Instructor: Johnese Carmon  
Registration: \$65 (10 classes)  
Dates: Mondays & Wednesdays, Mar. 11 – Apr. 15

## REQUEST FOR QUOTE (RFQ)

Release Date- 16 February 2024

Lawn Maintenance for the Town of Vandemere, NC

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Vandemere, NC intends to select a Lawn Maintenance Team to manage specific grounds for the Town. The deadline for this request is 1 March 2024 at 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.

Please contact Sandra Snipes, Mayor, Town of Vandemere, at 252-745-5480 or vandemeremayor@outlook.com to set up an appointment to tour the premises.

## Part-time Leasing Agent needed in Havelock.

Starting at 25 hours/week and \$18.00 - \$20.00 per hour. This has the potential to become a full time opportunity. Work involves processing applications & other administrative duties. Applicants should be resourceful, energetic, dependable, and able to communicate well with the general public (bilingual a plus). A positive work history and references required, as well as a credit/criminal screening.

Email resume to kstevens@partnershippm.com  
Equal Opportunity Employer.



Times: 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Women and Girls Empowerment Self-Defense Course**  
This 2-part series covers strategies for dealing with threatening situations and boundary-violations, i.e. dealing with offensive comments or behavior, interactions with angry people, street harassment/danger, and physical and sexual assaults. Participants will learn and practice setting appropriate verbal and physical boundaries and other tactics intended to reduce vulnerability to becoming a target of violence. Skills are designed to increase safety by increasing awareness and personal presence, learning to assess dangerous situations and using appropriate intervention strategies that fit the situation. This class will involve the practice of physical techniques that anyone can learn, regardless of your physical skills or abilities. Because this class builds upon skills from the previous class, attendance at the first class is required. Please wear comfortable clothes that allow you to move freely. For females ages 16+.  
Instructor: Darla Bolon (Certified Self-Defense Instructor with American Women's Self-Defense Association and the National Women's Martial Arts Federation). darlabolon@gmail.com  
Registration: \$25 (2-classes)  
Dates: Tuesdays, April 23 & 30  
Times: 5:30-7:30pm

Classes still to be scheduled – please put your name on the list and be first in line:

**Plant-based Cooking for Health & Wellness**  
Delicious and easy meal preparation and cooking for improved health and well-being benefits.  
Instructor: Louise Gurney  
Registration: \$60 includes food (6 classes)  
Dates: Tuesdays, TBD  
Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm

**Observational Astronomy**  
Take a peek into the mysteries of the universe with an 'out of this world instructor'!  
Instructor: Fred Read  
Dates: TBA mid-April

Music Jams! Third & Fifth Thursdays - Free and Open to the Public - all levels of unplugged playing and enjoyment!  
6 p.m. PCC Delamar Auditorium Atrium

Cultural and Life Enrichment Instructors Wanted!  
Spread your knowledge, showcase your talents, enhance your community's experiences, spark a desire, and share a joy...  
If you would enjoy sharing a talent, hobby or skill with enthusiastic students who are often of like mind and vast experiences themselves, then... Come on down to Pamlico Community College and be a part of a stress-free and fulfilling experience! Please contact us – 252.249.1851 x3113 or dmcdermott@pamlicocc.edu

### Did you know?

Hobbies are important for many different reasons. While one of the main reasons to immerse oneself in a hobby is to have fun, the benefits do not stop there.

- Improve physical well-being: Physical hobbies, such as swimming, running, martial arts, or hiking, increase heart rate and improve brain function. That can lead to myriad health benefits, such as weight loss and a lower risk for disease.
- Improve mental well-being: Hobbies can help relieve stress and take your mind off of pressing issues. This may help with anxiety or depression as well.
- Break monotony: Engaging in an enjoyable activity may break the pattern of daily schedules that focus on low value activities. Changing things up can increase happiness and satisfaction with life by adding an interesting spark to some days.
- Offer new challenges: Work can be challenging. However, the challenges posed by hobbies get people out of their comfort zones in ways that differ from challenging work projects. Overcoming these challenges can boost self-esteem, which can translate to one's professional life as well.
- Explore talents: You may never know what you are capable of accomplishing if you never give new activities a try. You may be surprised to learn how well you adapt to a new skill. Self-discovery is important at any stage of life, but particularly for teenagers, according to Developing Good Habits, a lifestyle improvement resource.



## J2B2 Brings Electric Energy and World-Class Bluegrass Talent to the Stage



“Expect fireworks and amazing playing from some of the best string players in the world.” ~ YES Weekly, Greensboro. J2B2 – the John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band – will ignite the stage with tight vocal harmonies and virtuosic instrumentals featuring acoustic guitar, mandolin, bass, and more. Be sure to catch this performance sponsored by Pamlico Musical Society, which will be presented on Thursday, February 29 at 7:30 pm at the Old Theater in Oriental, NC.

J2B2 features four award-winning musicians whose thrilling live shows spark stellar reviews and have the bluegrass world buzzing. Members John Jorgenson, Herb Pederson, Mark Fain, and Patrick Sauber combine their talents for what has been described as “a fresh twist combining bluegrass with elements of West Coast folk rock.” As Jorgenson himself states, “Versatility is good for me as a musician, my musical curiosity and my musical soul.”

The seasoned members of the group have performed across the country and the globe with internationally renowned musicians including Elton John, Earl Scruggs, Emmylou Harris, Dan Fogelberg, Linda Rondstadt, John Prine, Alan Jackson, Travis Tritt, Allison Kraus, and Dolly Parton. Individually, they have dabbled in rock, jazz, country, bluegrass, and gospel recordings. In 2008, Jorgenson was nominated for Best Bluegrass Album with Earl Scruggs and won a Grammy for Best Country Instrumental alongside Brad Paisley. Seven Grammy awards have been won by the

band’s bassist, Mark Fain. J2B2’s debut album was recorded in the home barn studio of Sheryl Crow and has received massive bluegrass acclaim. Don’t miss your chance to see these unparalleled musicians and entertainers bring down the house at the Old Theater in Oriental. Get your tickets now!

Tickets to the concert are \$25 and are available in Oriental at Nautical Wheelers, 411 Broad Street, in New Bern at Nautical Wheelers, 202A Craven Street or online at [pamlicomusic.org](http://pamlicomusic.org).

For helping to make these concerts possible, Pamlico Musical Society wishes to thank our season sponsor, Beth Frazer Real Estate & Rentals, and business sponsors: Friends of the Ol’ Front Porch Music Festival, Harbourside Garden Co., and The New Village Brewery. We are also grateful for grants in support of this season from the North Carolina Arts Council, a Division of the Department of Cultural Resources, the Harold H. Bate Foundation, and the Walmart store in Morehead City through their Local Community Grants program.

Celebrating over 25 years of presenting great music for our community, Pamlico Musical Society is a non-profit organization bringing quality musical entertainment, enrichment, and education to Pamlico County. We welcome your support! To learn more about the benefits of joining our group, including advance ticket sales and artists’ receptions, call 252-617-2125 or visit [www.pamlicomusic.org](http://www.pamlicomusic.org), and like us on Facebook @pamlicomusic.

Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicates that motorcycle helmets are 67 percent effective in preventing brain injuries in motorcycle accidents and 37 percent effective in preventing deaths. Despite that, many states do not mandate that all riders wear helmets when riding their motorcycles. The Insurance Information Institute reports that only 17 states and the District of Columbia require all riders to wear helmets when riding their motorcycles. As of March 2022, Illinois and New Hampshire were the only two states that had no law governing motorcycle helmet usage. Many states require riders 17 and younger to wear helmets whenever they’re riding their motorcycles. Laws are somewhat more uniform in Canada, where all motorcycle riders, including passengers, are required to wear helmets at all times. However, each province and territory in Canada is free to specify the standards a helmet must meet to comply with the law. Anyone planning to travel through Canada and/or the United States on a motorcycle should consult the laws in areas they plan to visit to ensure they’re in compliance with local laws at all times.

### Pamlico County Senior Services

Provided By: Grantsbrook  
Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

Date: February 15, 2024  
Place: Pamlico Senior Center  
Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Snacks & Lunch Provided

Medicare Information provided by SHIP Coordinator  
Ann Whitman

# FREE seminars in February

Pamlico Small Business Center  
710 N. Main St., Bayboro,  
252.249.1851, X 3045

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

## TO OPEN AN AIRBnb PROPERTY

Instructor ROXANNE REED  
BUZZARD ROCK FARM

Learn everything you need to know to open your own vacation rental property:

- permits
- property registration
- design and amenities
- marketing

### WEBINAR

Wed., Feb 21, 6-7:30 pm

## ACTIVE SHOOTER

.....  
Is your business prepared?

FREE Professional Instruction  
from the  
Pamlico County Sheriff’s Office

- Safety procedures for employees and customers
- Potential early warning signs
- Law enforcement collaboration
- Review of training, knowledge and equipment

### IN PERSON AT Pamlico's SBC:

Tues, Feb. 27, 6-8pm OR  
Thurs, Feb 29, 6-8pm

## Register for FREE at PamlicoSBC.com