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AWARENESS MONTH

EXPLAINING LYME DISEASE


■ Health & Wellness on page A7

The Pamlico News

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

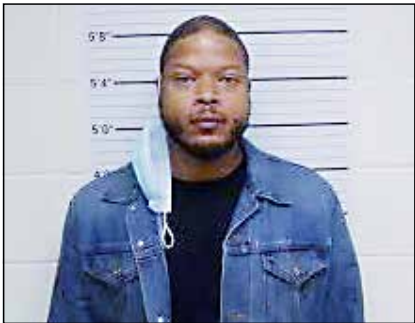
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State of North Carolina
General Court of Justice
Prosecutorial District Four

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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ROLAN CONVICTED OF FOUR COUNTS OF ANIMAL CRUELTY
Bayboro, North Carolina – District Attorney Scott Thomas announced that Travis Leonard Rolan, age 40 of Mesic N.C., was convicted after a four-day trial in Pamlico County Superior Court of four counts of Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty. Rolan shot four Walker Hound hunting dogs which were pursuing a deer. Rolan, who was indicted on four counts of Felony Animal Cruelty, received two consecutive 120-day sentences suspended for 24 months of supervised probation and was ordered to pay \$8,200 in restitution in the case.

On December 31, 2022 in Pamlico County, Rolan shot all four dogs as they were chasing deer during a hunt and ran onto the Defendant's property. Two of the animals died on scene from their injuries, while a third was later euthanized due to the injuries it sustained. The fourth dog shot survived but was maimed due to its injuries. During the trial, Rolan admitted to shooting the four dogs, but claimed he did so in self-defense. The District Attorney's office indicted and prosecuted the Defendant for Felony Animal Cruelty, however the jury returned verdicts of guilty to the lesser offenses of Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty. The State called eight witnesses, presented

35 pieces of evidence, and offered rebuttal testimony as to the character of the dogs being non-aggressive. After four hours of deliberation the jury returned guilty verdicts to the lesser included offenses of Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty.

The case was prosecuted for the State by Assistant District Attorney Jamie B. Askins. North Carolina Wildlife officers led the investigation with assistance from the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office and Pamlico County Animal Control and were the charging agency in the case. Superior Court Judge Quinton McGee presided over the trial.

NOTE: Under North Carolina Structured Sentencing law, a convicted criminal defendant must serve all the minimum active sentence and may be required to serve up to the maximum sentence. Upon release at the conclusion of the prison sentence, a nine-to-twelve-month period of post-release supervision by a probation officer is required.



Pamlico County Veterans Resource Fair

by: Hiram Lupton



There was a great opportunity last Friday for Veterans and their families to get valuable information and network with agencies and groups that offer benefits and services to them. The inaugural Veterans Resource Fair was held from 9 AM until 2 PM at the Delamar Center on the campus of Pamlico Community College and featured over 20 different organizations with something to offer Veterans. The event was put on by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Durham VA Health Care System and facilitated and hosted by the Pamlico County Health Department. Although getting Veterans information and signing them

up for health-related benefits was a big part of the programs offered, there was also much more. Careers and job information, continuing education, vital records access and protection, disaster recovery, transportation, finances and taxes were just a sampling of info available. Daniel Simpson from the Pamlico County Agricultural extension office was even there to let folks know they can help you grow better gardens. Organizers were well pleased with the event which attracted over 50 Veterans and members of their families, most of whom expressed that they hope to see this event occur on a yearly basis.



The Library Big Book Move

by: Hiram Lupton

With nearly all the finishing touches done on the new Pamlico County Public Library, the next big step took place last Thursday and Friday. A call went out for volunteers and as it always seems, Pamlico County responded in a BIG way. An army of trucks, trailers and strong backs showed up to assist the library with what we are calling the "The Big Book Move '25." Load after load of books and various other items were transported from the old library location to the new location and at the end of the day on Friday, nearly everything had been moved. There only remains some reference books and some furniture to transport and the move will be complete. The next big step will be unpacking the boxes and shelving the books which will get

started next week and hopefully it will go smoothly thanks to the care and time that was taken in cataloging and organizing box contents. All things are looking good for a "soft" opening of the new Pamlico County Public Library in roughly a week, followed by a grand opening ceremony in early June. "I just want to thank everyone involved in the move," said Library Manager Sidney Phibbons. "We asked, and our amazing community delivered. Our employees, the Friends of the Pamlico County Library, the always hard-working members of the Pamlico County High School NJROTC, and so many other members of the community that love the library turned out and worked hard. We could not have done it without you."



Box after box was loaded up



Box after box was unloaded



The next step is unpacking and filling the shelves



Banks Signs with Methodist University

by: Hiram Lupton



Katherine, with her parents, brother and sister looking on, signs her letter of intent.

Friday was a big day in the life of Katherine Banks. The high school Senior, who is dually enrolled at both Pamlico Christian Academy and Pamlico County High School, signed a Letter of Intent to attend Methodist University in Fayetteville and participate as a student-athlete in the sport of Cheerleading. In addition to being outstanding academically, she was a cheerleader for Pamlico where she earned all-conference honors. Lauren Ferebee, her cheerleading coach, said in her remarks that she watched her go from being a "cheerleader to a cheer LEADER during her time cheering for the Hurricanes." She also was a member of the PCA Soccer team where her coach, Stephen Crabbe, praised not just her competitiveness but her outstanding attitude. Katherine plans to study business while at Methodist.

Joint BOC-BOE Budget Meeting

by: Hiram Lupton



Superintendent of Pamlico County Schools Dr. Jeremy Johnson and Pamlico County Schools Finance Officer Denise Altman

Its budget planning season and if you are an entity that sets your finances based on a fiscal year (July to June), this is a time to add, subtract, stress, scratch your head, and then stress some more. The budget and finances were the subject of a special called joint meeting of the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners (BOC) and the Pamlico County Board of Education (BOE) last Wednesday morning at the Pamlico County Schools Central Office meeting room. Four County Commissioners, Ed Riggs, Candy Bohmert, Ken Heath, and Kari Forrest attended along with County Manager Mark Brewington and County Finance Director Bill Fentress. Dr. Jeremy Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and stressed that while this was an official, formal meeting of both Boards, he hoped to have a relaxed atmosphere for honest dialog and discussion. "We value our partnership with the County and we want to continue to provide complete transparency about our budget, where the funding comes from and what it is used for," said Johnson. He then turned the meeting over to Pamlico County Schools Finance Officer Denise Altman for a presentation on school funding. To say that budgeting for a school year is challenging would be an understatement at best. Public schools generate no revenue of their own and rely on several sources for their finances including Federal, State, and local funding. While the state does supply projected planning

■ Continued on Page A2

WEEKEND WEATHER



Saturday, May 10th **73°Hi** Cloudy throughout the day



Sunday, May 11th **76 °Hi** Drizzle throughout the day

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Spring cleaning: Employees spruce up Pamlico Community College’s campus

By Sandy Wall

About 25 Pamlico Community College employees traded their desks and class notes for rakes and brooms Monday to do some spring cleaning and to dress up the campus for the May 16 Commencement ceremony.

President Zac Schnell and Director of Maintenance George Willey organized the event, which the president called Campus Beautification Day.

Schnell said the idea was to spruce up the campus and to build community spirit.

“I thought it would be something good to do,” he said as volunteers gathered in the Delamar Center Monday morning before starting their work. “It’s not just for the upcoming graduation ceremony. There are some things we need to do.”

Several volunteers focused on spreading pine straw and mulch around the Johnson and Brinson Buildings. Others worked on the Delamar Center’s interior, particularly the auditorium’s stage and the windows of the entranceways.

Other campus spaces were cleaned up, as well. Because classes and meetings went on, not all employees were able to participate.

Volunteers gathered for lunch after their chores. A similar event will be scheduled for the college’s Bayboro sites soon, Schnell said.



In the foreground, Pamlico Community College employees, from left, Derek Godwin, Brandy Leder and Larry Monk rake away some dead leaves before putting down fresh mulch Monday outside the Brinson Building. Other volunteers can be seen in the background. Contributed photo

Sandy Wall can be reached at 252-249-1851, ext. 3010, or swall@pamlicocc.edu.



Pamlico Community College President Zac Schnell uses a pressure washer to remove webs and stains from the side of the Brinson Building. Contributed photo



Pamlico Community College Instructor Terri Fesmire-Kennedy, foreground, rakes the new mulch in front of the Johnson Building Monday. Behind her, from left, colleagues Susan McRoy, Larry Monk and Meredith Glover help with the job. Contributed photo



Pamlico Community College employee Lakishia Vollva cleans some of the windows in the Delamar Center. Contributed photo



Pamlico Community College's Heather Arevalo wipes down the exterior furniture at the Brinson Building. Contributed photo

■Continued from page A1

Joint BOC-BOE Budget Meeting

allotments to help guide school systems with their budget preparations, these are not set in stone until the final state budget is voted on and approved. As anyone who follows the state legislature knows, they often don’t finalize their budget until weeks or even months after their June 30 “deadline” has passed. Federal funding to schools is usually not released until November or December, leaving a gap until those funds arrive which the schools must cover by dipping into their fund balance. Current state projections put total cuts in funding to Pamlico County Schools at roughly \$325,600. The current climate in Washington, D. C. also leads questions about the level of funding that will eventually come from there. As far as local funding goes, Pamlico County received a little under \$5 million for such things as teacher supplements (\$939,472), utilities (~\$612,654), and insurance (~\$196,232). There was also local funding for capital outlays of just over \$400,000. Dr. Johnson concluded the presentation by thanking the members of the BOC for attending and that the schools would be giving their formal funding request to the BOC at their next Monday meeting on May 5th. “We will continue to be transparent in our finances” Dr Johnson stated. “We are uniquely Pamlico and we want to continue to offer comprehensive educational opportunities to all our students by working together for the children of Pamlico County.” BOC Chairman Ed Riggs thanked the BOE for inviting them and that “We are glad to have a good working relationship with the BOE. We haven’t always had this kind of dialog and transparency but I am glad we do now. No one can say we are not getting information.” Commissioner Bohmert added that these are precarious times we currently face. “We have already told our departments to strip down their budget. Tough decisions will have to be made. Our county is just one bad hurricane away from a financial emergency.”





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Here's what one of Allen's customers had to say...

Allen Propst handled the sale of our condo in a courteous and professional manner. He is definitely in tune with the real estate market in Pamlico County. If you have questions regarding the sale of your property, he is very approachable, and always willing to discuss your concerns. Within a week of an offer being made we had a check in our hands.

John & Dawn, Oriental



MERRITT – Newly-renovated, 2,100 sf **3BR/2BA**, on 1 acre unrestricted lot, no HOA. Home is on an engineered permanent foundation with a HUD Compliant Foundation Engineering Certification letter; qualifies for Conventional, VA, FHA and USDA financing. Roof & HVAC installed 2021.

OFFERED AT \$279,500



ORIENTAL – Spectacular waterfront views of Smith & Green Creeks from first floor unit at Oriental West Condos in the Heart of Oriental. Building B, Unit 7 is a **2BR/2BA** condo with a 40' x 16' deeded boat slip with 5' controlling water depth.

OFFERED AT \$350,000



ORIENTAL – **3BR/2.5BA** home offers comfortable living. Open floor plan, ideal for family gatherings or entertaining on 3 acres. Offers a great balance of space and tranquility. Property will be sold as is.

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ORIENTAL – **3BR/2BA** 1,740 hsf waterfront on 3.15 acres, boat dock with 40' X 20' deep-water protected boat slip. Anderson double-hung windows & Anderson Patio sliding glass doors, 2021 architectural roof, detached 2-car garage and waterfront-facing screened porch with adjoining waterfront-side decks. This home was designed for waterfront living.

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- May 7th – Today is National School Nurse Day.
- May 8th – Today is National Coconut Cream Pie Day. My favorite pie.
- May 9th – Today is Military Spouse Appreciation Day.
- May 10th – Today is National Shrimp Day. “Shrimp is the fruit of the sea. You can barbecue it, boil it, broil it, bake it, sauté it. Dey's uh, shrimp-kabobs, shrimp creole, shrimp gumbo. Pan fried, deep fried, stir-fried. There's pineapple shrimp, lemon shrimp, coconut shrimp, pepper shrimp, shrimp soup, shrimp stew, shrimp salad, shrimp and potatoes, shrimp burger, shrimp sandwich. That- that's about it.” ~Benjamin Buford “Bubba” Blue
- May 11th – Happy Mother’s Day!
- May 12th – Today is National Limerick Day. “There Once was a Lady from Nantucket...”
- May 13th – Today is National Frog Jumping Day.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- May 8th – 19??, Pamlico County Schools Assistant Superintendent Henry Roscoe Rice III
- May 8th – 1964, Actress Milissa Gilbert
- May 9th – 1949, Singer and pianist Billy Joel
- May 10th – 1960, Singer Paul Hewson (Bono of U2)
- May 12th – 1820, Nursing Pioneer Florence Nightingale
- May 12th – 1925, Baseball Hall-of-Famer and Philosopher Lawrence Peter Berra (Yogi Berra)
- May 13th – 1914, Heavyweight Boxing Champ Joe Louis
- May 13th – 1950, Stevlанд Morris (Stevie Wonder)



“We made too many of the wrong mistakes.” - Yogi Berra
“I’m not going to buy my kids an encyclopedia. Let them walk to school like I did.” - Yogi Berra
“I’d give my right arm to be ambidextrous.” - Yogi Berra

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Readers of the Pamlico News,

The time has come for “we the people” to decide what kind of country we want to be. Foundational in the history of our nation has been the rule of law and due process for all people within our borders. This is fundamental to a democracy based on “a government of the people, by the people and for the people”.

So, are “we the people” going to remain silent and unmoved by the denial of due process to an immigrant named Abrego Garcia, who was without any trial or hearing deported to an El Salvador prison by our current Administration that admitted that he was wrongly or “mistakenly” deported? You might say, “Well, he is just an immigrant and not a citizen and that he was undocumented.” But dear friends, he was here in America living under our laws and he was denied the due process that is promised to every person, citizen or otherwise, living in America. The point is, that if due process can be denied to him, it can be denied to any one of us whenever the dominating powers wish to do so.

If “we the people” allow this, we will have a government that is ruled as an autocracy and by executive orders, which is in part, already the case. Is this really what “we the people” want?

Merritt Watson,
Pamlico Partners for Democracy

PP4D - We believe in a democratic republic where the rule of law and the constitution guide our citizenry. pamlicopartnershipfordemocracy@gmail.com

NOTE

The Pamlico News Editorials and Opinions section features opinion articles, newspaper editorials and letters to the editor on the issues of the day.

The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Pamlico News. Any content provided by authors are of their opinion, and are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, club, organization, company, individual or anyone or anything.

The safety of the people shall be the highest law.” – Cicero

Concerned about your drinking?

You are not alone, there is help available!
Come join others who have found a Solution!
Alcoholics Anonymous: New Bern Hotline (252) 349-0898
Meetings in Pamlico County:

(If you think you may have a problem, you are welcome to attend)

- Tuesday 8pm - Oriental Group - Open Discussion Meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Church 600 Ragan Rd. in Oriental, NC (2nd brick building on left off Hwy 55)
 - Thursday *7:30pm** - Recovery and Beyond Group - Beginner/Open Discussion Meeting at Alliance United Methodist Church, 687 Main Street in Bayboro, NC (close to DSS/Senior Center)
 - Friday 8pm - Oriental Group - Open Discussion Meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Church, 600 Ragan Road in Oriental, NC (2nd brick building on left off Hwy 55).
 - Sunday *7pm – Oriental Sunday Night Group - Big Book/12 & 12 Study Meeting held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 402 Freemason St. in Oriental, NC (2nd brick church on the left)
- <https://aaeasternnc.org/> <https://aanorthcarolina.org/> <https://www.aa.org/>

The Pamlico News

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COMMUNITY

BOC Approves Ferry Toll Resolution

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County Board of Commissioners took another step in the fight against adding a toll to the NCDOT Ferry routes currently serving our County as well as one in a neighboring County. A united front often helps in any kind of fight, and to that end, the Board unanimously approved becoming the eighth eastern North Carolina County to add their name to a joint resolution opposing the tolls. The North Carolina Legislative Budget is nowhere near finalized, but it includes adding a toll to both the Minnesott-Cherry Branch Ferry across the Neuse River and the Aurora-Bayview Ferry across the Pamlico River. These two ferries are two vital links along NC Hwy 306 and are used by many commuters for commerce and work-related travel.



Commissioner Candy Bohmert and Anti-Ferry Toll Organizer Larry Summers

PC Schools Submit Formal Budget Request to BOC

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County Schools made their formal budget request to the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners on Monday evening at the BOC’s regular May meeting. Superintendent of Public Schools for Pamlico County, Dr. Jeremy Johnson, opened the presentation before turning it over to School Finance Director Denise Altman to present and go over the numbers in the request. She did a review of where the schools funding comes from and how they have formulated this year’s budget based on projected reduced dollars coming from state funding and increased expenses in outlays such as health and property insurance, retirement contributions, and salaries. The request seeks a 5% increase over last year’s local funding level which amounts to an increase of \$235,855.80 in actual dollars. There was also a \$416,491 request for capital outlays. The BOC, County Manager, and County Finance Director will now add this to their growing collection of funding requests as they attempt to formulate a balanced budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year.



Pamlico County School Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Johnson.

NCHSAA Baseball/Softball State Playoff Seedings

by: Hiram Lupton

Thanks to fine regular seasons, both the Pamlico County High School Diamond teams will begin the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) State Playoffs at home. The Conference Champion Lady ‘Canes were slotted at a #8 seed and will open up at home on Tuesday against the #25 seed, Hobgood Charter School. Should they win and advance they would also host a second-round game against the winner of the #9 Falls Lake Academy and #24 Wake Preparatory School. The Hurricane baseball team will also be hosting a first-round game. They finished second in the conference, but the Coastal Plains Conference is a mixed division conference, with both 1A and 2A teams. The conference champ, East Carteret is classified as 2A and Pamlico was the top 1A school. This earned them a #9 seed and they will be hosting #24 Clover Garden School, also on Tuesday. Whether or not they will be playing at home on Friday depends on the outcome of the #8 Warren County and #25 Roxboro Community School matchup. If Warren County wins, Pamlico will be hitting the road, If Roxboro triumphs, Pamlico will host. Game times to be determined.

Horoscopes



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, this week you may feel a desire to take charge of your professional life. Trust your instincts, but remember that you may have to go out of your comfort zone at some point.



TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, expect a week of self-reflection. Old emotions might resurface and offer you a chance to grow and heal. If you’re feeling out of sorts, make a plan to hang out with close friends.



GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Make sure you are not spreading yourself too thin this week, Gemini. Even though you are eager to connect and socialize, you might want to limit the number of events you attend.



CANCER – June 22/July 22
Home and family matters may occupy most of your time this week, Cancer. It's good to reconnect with loved ones and spend time with your immediate family.



LEO – July 23/Aug 23
Leo, now could be an excellent opportunity to express your ideas and opinions to some of the higher-ups at your place of employment.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Exercise caution with your spending and investments right now, Virgo. Although you have some financial opportunities on the horizon, it's best to be careful going forward.



LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
A fresh burst of energy could be coming your way, Libra. This may provide the boost you need for self-improvement. You may be inspired to make many changes in your life right now.



SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you may find yourself reflecting on your mental and emotional well-being this week. Some introspection could lead to a breakthrough that helps you understand the past.



SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Expect your social life to pick up speed this week, Sagittarius. Invitations and opportunities to connect abound. Pay attention to your network as it may lead to connections.



CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Your hard work is paying off, Capricorn, but you also need to tend to your personal needs right now. This is the week to find better balance and take care of your health.



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, you may be feeling more curious about the world around you and could find this is the week for some unexpected travel. It's a great time to embrace new ideas..



PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Your intuition will guide you this week, especially when it comes to romance and other matters of the heart, Pisces. Expect relationships to grow for the better.

TAURUS Traits & Overview

Taurus, the second sign of the zodiac and the ruler of the second house, is all about reward. Unlike the Aries love of the game, the typical Taurus personality loves the rewards of the game. Think physical pleasures and material goods, for those born under this sign revel in delicious excess. This zodiac sign is also tactile, enjoying a tender, even sensual, touch.

Taurus zodiac sign adores comfort and likes being surrounded by pleasing, soothing things. Along these lines, they also favor a good meal and a fine wine. The good life in all its guises, whether it’s the arts or art of their own making (yes, these folks are artistic as well), is heaven on Earth to the Taurus-born.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Be alert for caregiver financial abuse



Dan M. Roberts

Do you have a parent or other elderly relative who may soon need a caregiver? If so, be diligent when selecting the right person for the job — because choosing the wrong one could lead to big financial problems.

You might find a close family member or friend to serve as caregiver — someone who is honest and trustworthy, with good judgment and strong money management skills. However, in many cases, people hiring caregivers just don't know how they'll perform until the caregivers have begun work. A dishonest caregiver could steal valuables or cash from the person they have been paid to assist or incept their mail to obtain credit card numbers and other sensitive information to commit identity theft.

So, if you enlist a caregiver and begin having doubts about them, you'll need to watch out for these warning signs of possible financial abuse:

- Efforts to prevent the individual receiving care from speaking to family members
- Inquiries into the location of estate-planning documents, such as a will
- Interest in brokerage and retirement accounts, possibly with the intent to change transfer-on-death designations
- Withholding financial or medical information from the family
- Missing jewelry or property
- Requests to be a joint holder on bank or brokerage accounts, sometimes followed by large cash withdrawals paid to the caregiver
- Request for legal authority, such as a financial power of attorney naming only the caregiver

This last item — the request for financial power of attorney, or POA — is particularly concerning because of the scope of duties

covered by this type of authority. That's why it's so important that all family members understand what a financial POA can and cannot do.

A general financial POA provides the agent with the authority to act on behalf of an individual's finances, while a limited financial POA gives the agent the authority only for certain actions, such as paying bills, making withdrawals and opening or closing bank accounts. A general financial POA and a limited financial POA both can be durable, which means they take effect once executed, or springing, which is contingent on a specific event, such as a physical illness, mental incapacity or even a hospitalization.

Unfortunately, some POA agents have abused their responsibility by stealing money, making unauthorized transactions and even attempting to change the beneficiary designations on retirement accounts or insurance policies owned by the people for whom they provide care. These beneficiary designations can even supersede the instructions left in a will or living trust — and they can't be changed by a financial POA.

If you suspect financial abuse by a caregiver, you can consider contacting your loved one's financial advisor or attorney, if you know who it is. While they can't share information with you, they can check for red flags and contact your loved one directly. You also can get help from your state government. The National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) provides a listing of offices in each state at napsa-now.org/help-in-your-area.

Finding a caregiver for a parent or other elderly relative can be emotionally difficult — but it doesn't have to be financially draining. Get to know the caregiver if you can and watch for any red flags, so you can take comfort in knowing that your loved one's finances are in good hands.

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

NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Pamlico County

Fun 4-H Ag Education



Kait Neeland
4-H Agent

When most people hear “4-H,” they think agriculture—and for good reason. Agriculture is where it all began. 4-H started back in 1909 with corn clubs, and while it has grown to include everything from computer programming and public speaking to career development and digital literacy, agriculture remains at the heart of what we do.

This past week, we had a blast with our ag-focused 4-H programs. Right now, we've got several exciting projects going on: in-school embryology, a chicken show, our dairy project, and Ag 101. A few of our 4-H'ers are getting ready to show their chickens at the Coastal Plains Chicken Show. They've been raising their birds since the end of February and are gearing up for the big day this week.

Our 4-H embryology program gives students the chance to connect science with real-life experiences by observing embryo development up close. Classrooms receive an incubator, a brooder, and fertilized eggs. It's an incredible hands-on opportunity to watch ducklings grow from day one all the way to hatching.

The Dairy Project is also in full swing! Over the last four weeks, our 4-H'ers have been learning how to care for dairy calves. They've practiced giving vaccines, treating minor bug bites, and safely haltering and walking calves. This week, they focused on showmanship skills and even weighed their calves. Tracking weight gain is important to make sure the calves are hitting their growth milestones.

We were thrilled to partner with Pamlico County Christian Academy to bring agriculture education straight to the classroom. Our Ag Class helps students build agricultural literacy—not just learning where food comes from, but also who grows it, and how agriculture affects our economy, environment, technology, and daily lives.

Last fall, we planted winter crops like spinach, beets, radishes, and kale. This spring, we've added even more variety: two types of carrots, lettuces, onions, and mustard greens. We've also been exploring careers in agriculture. Just this week, we took a field trip to NC State's Pamlico Aquaculture Field Lab.

Our students got to see aquaculture in action. They toured the lab and learned how researchers manage bass breeding. They saw how eggs are collected and sorted between fertilized and unfertilized, and how the fry are tracked and prepared for shipment. They even got a peek at the lab's crossbreeding experiments.

Next week, we'll be harvesting our spring crops and planning our summer cover crop. It's been an incredible year of learning and growing—literally!



If you would like to be notified via email about all future programs please fill out our Update email list, or give us a call! You can also get a head start on registration for specific programs by enrolling in Pamlico County 4-H Online. Participation in all NC 4-H Programs requires enrollment in 4-H Online. 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 learn more about 4-H in North Carolina and our programs throughout the year on our website!

Pamlico Methodist Church Takes Donations to WNC

Pamlico Methodist Church might be small but they have always been known for having a big heart for helping others. Located in the community of Pamlico about 3 miles outside of Oriental, the members know what a hurricane can do to an area because they have weathered many a storm and so has their church building. After giving a monetary donation last Christmas the people of the church questioned what else they could do to support their friends in Western NC in their long struggle to recovery. The idea and need for baby items was suggested.

Young Mothers and others went to work, passed the word and items began arriving at the church. Infant, toddler clothes, walkers, playpens, strollers, car seats, swings and many other items appeared in the church fellowship hall. Some slightly used and some new. There are 25 large tubs with all sizes of clothes, blankets

and toys. Enough items in fact to fill a pretty large U-Haul. Arrangements had been made for a group from the church to come on Saturday morning April 26, to load items. They traveled to the West Jefferson area of NC where a church leader in that area will make the items available to needy families.

This project was successful in part by caring people like Mary Ellen Ham, who spearheaded the group and her granddaughter Hunter Hacker who passed the word to friends from all over Pamlico County. A thank you to everyone that donated. Contacts in western NC included, Tom and Cindy Randolph, who live in West Jefferson, and a local church mission in the area.

A special thank you to David Blythe for driving the U-Haul for us on Saturday.

If you would like to help in the future, cleaning supplies are still needed as well as gift cards can always be used.



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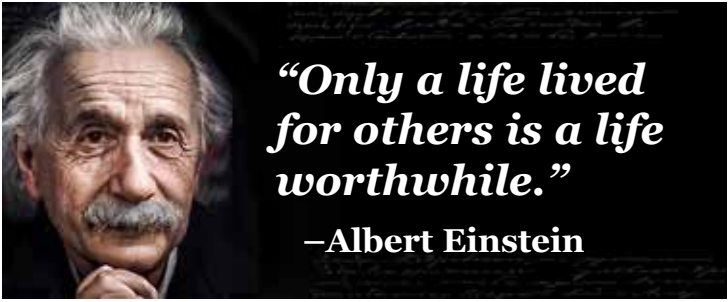
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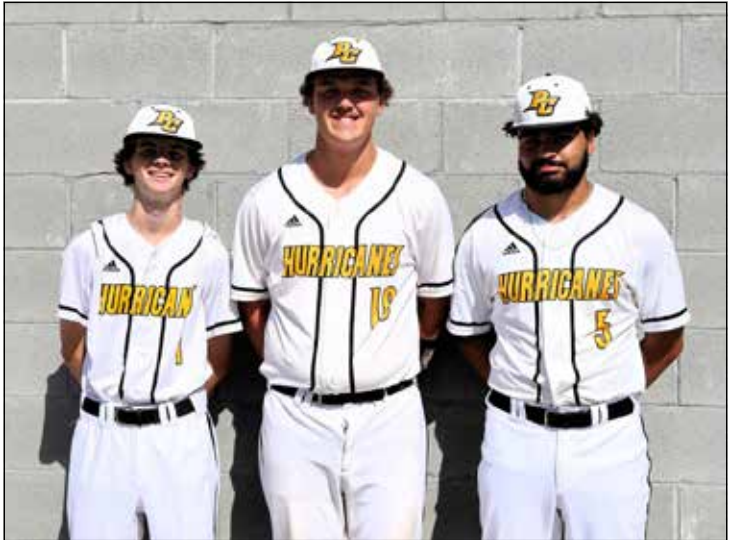
PCHS Softball and Baseball Seniors Recognized

by: Hiram Lupton

Last Thursday evening's home Baseball and Softball games were the final contests of the regular season which means of course that Senior players and their families from both teams were honored in pregame ceremonies.



Senior Softball Players. Peyton Robinson (L) and Taylor McHenry (R)



Senior Baseball Players. (L to R), Elijah Wright, Lucas Browne, and Eric Brantley

Lady 'Canes Close Out Regular Season With Wins and Championship

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School Softball team wrapped up another successful regular season schedule last week with a pair of games against Jones Senior. On Tuesday they travelled to Trenton to do battle with the Trojans. Peyton Robinson was hot at the plate with 3 hits and Kylee Morris slammed a home run and drove in 3 runs. Pamlico totaled 10 hits and that would be enough as starter Sara Scott threw a shutout, scattering 5 hits in a 7-0 win. On Thursday Jones made the visit to Bayboro and the Hurricanes stayed hot, pounding out 12 hits. The dynamic duo of Hailey Shamblin and Peyton Robinson had 3 hits each. Avery Cain was in the circle for Pamlico and the Junior allowed only 3 hits in the 13-3 win. The two wins last week closed out the regular season for Pamlico as they finish with an overall record of 15-8 and a 9-1 conference record which earns them another Coastal Plains Championship, their third in a row. Next up will be the State playoffs which begin this week.



Peyton Robinson



Taylor McHenry

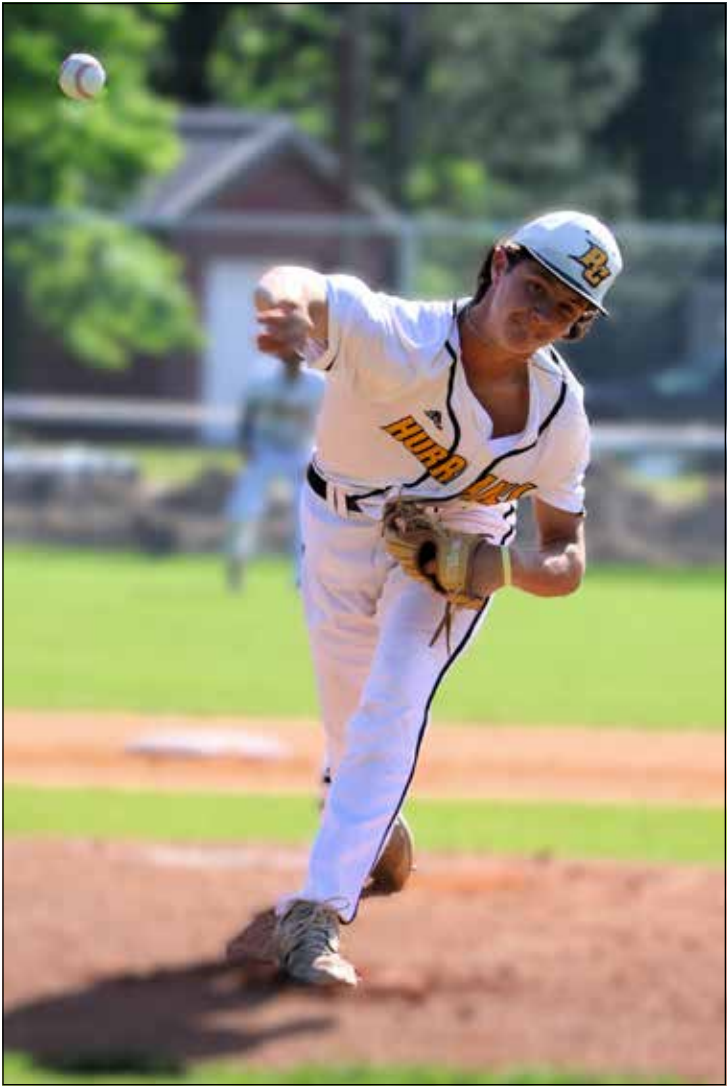
Pamlico Puts Strong Finish on Regular Season

by: Hiram Lupton

The Hurricanes High School Baseball Team put a strong exclamation point on the end of the regular season last week by picking up a pair of wins against a conference rival. Tuesday Pamlico travelled to Jones Senior and jumped on the Trojans for 10 runs in the first inning and never looked back in a 12-4 win. Senior catcher Lucas Browne had a career stat line, going 4 for 4, including a home run and a pair of doubles while driving in 6 runs. On the mound, Ayden Broughton and Michael Hodge held the Trojans to 3 hits. It was rematch time on Thursday as Pamlico played host to Jones and the 'Canes offense stayed hot, and Browne once again provided much of it. He again drove in 6 runs on a 3 for 4 evening, all 3 being doubles. He had plenty of help as multiple Hurricanes had multiple hits. Ross McLamb (3), Ayden Broughton (2), Brady Caccavaro (2), Cam Daniels (2), and Elijah Wright (2) all had a good day at the plate in a Hurricane attack that connected for 14 hits. That was plenty for pitchers Ross McLamb and Johnathan Mitchell who combined to 1-hit the Trojans in the 16-1, 5 inning game. Pamlico finishes out the regular season with an 11-11 overall record, but was strong in the conference behind only undefeated conference champion 2A East Carteret. Their 7-3 record puts the Hurricanes in a strong position going into the state playoffs as the top 1A school in the conference.



Lucas Browne slides into 2nd base with yet another double



Hurricane Pitcher Ross McLamb

Spring Games

Special Olympics Pamlico County

Special Olympics Pamlico County Spring Games May 8 from 9AM – 11AM at the Pamlico County High School Football field, come join our athletes as Special Olympics Pamlico County hosts our Spring Games. We will have Young Athlete activities, track and field competitions, and Olympic Town. Come join the fun and friendly competition!

Volunteer with us!

Did you know Special Olympics Pamlico County is run completely by volunteers? We need your help! Volunteers are always needed for events such as Spring Games, practices, and invitational competitions. Fundraising and outreach events happen year-round. Join us as a member of our local committee, coach, Unified partner, or fan.

To learn more about Special Olympics Pamlico County, contact pamlico@sonc.net or visit www.sonc.net/pamlico

Jenna Jones ’25: ‘I Want To Be a Lifelong Learner Who Gives People a Space Where They Feel Comfortable Learning, Too’

April 25, 2025 Ryan Clancy

Jenna Jones ’25 is excited by the possibilities education can hold, and, as they prepare to enter the classroom, they are looking forward to creating spaces where students can enjoy learning math.

Meet Jenna:

Hometown: Pamlico County, North Carolina
Degree: Mathematics education
Extracurriculars: The Power Sound of the South and N.C. Teaching Fellows

Why did you choose the NC State College of Education?

When I was in fifth grade, one of my older brothers committed to NC State. I have fond memories of visiting campus, walking the brick paths and peaking into its buildings. I was constantly thinking about how cool it sounded to be part of the Wolfpack. I chose NC State because it had already stolen a piece of my heart, and I trusted the College of Education to guide me on my journey.

Tell us about an experience you had with the College of Education that had the biggest impact on you:

A community that has allowed me many experiences and had the biggest impact on me is Teaching Fellows! I’ve met such wonderful people, visited places I had never seen before, had meaningful conversations and shared many, many laughs. If not for the College of Education, for Teaching Fellows, I wouldn’t be where I am right now.



What’s your next step?

In the fall, I’ll start working for the Wake County Public School System as a high school math teacher! I hope to go back to school sometime in the future, but I am super excited to help students develop a love for math.

How has the College of Education prepared you for that next step?

The College of Education has prepared me by pushing me out of my comfort zone. I’ve grown under conditions I never would have put myself in and, for that, I’m extremely grateful.

Why did you choose education?

I joke to myself that I chose to teach because I’ve gone to school my whole life — why should I stop now? But I chose education because I want to be a lifelong learner who gives people a space where they feel comfortable learning, too.

Churches of Pamlico

Photo by: Hiram Lupton



Goose Creek Pentecostal Holiness Church

“We are not put on this earth for ourselves, but are placed here for each other. If you are there always for others, then in time of need, someone will be there for you.”



Oriental Woman's Club Garden Program's Yard of the Month



Deborah and Ed Bryant’s lovely yard at 6114 Horton Road in Oriental is the Oriental Woman’s Club – Garden Program’s Yard of the Month May nomination. Apricot, periwinkle, and deep purple bearded irises immediately catch one’s eye. A garden tour revealed asparagus spears scattered throughout, an ominous looking dragon fruit tree, as well as hydrangeas, ginger lilies, and roses near-ready to put forth their best performance when the early spring perennials die back. Garden sculptures added an extra beauty to this lovely yard.



What matters most?

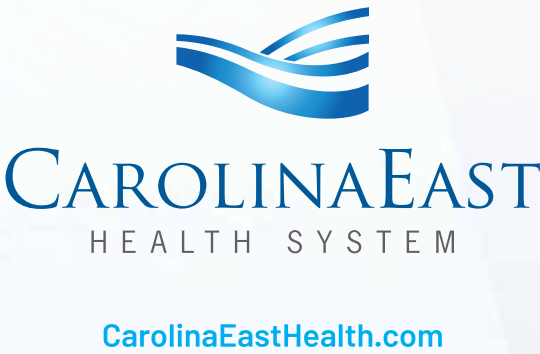
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Health&Wellness

The basics of Lyme disease



Few can resist the allure of a warm afternoon spent in the backyard. Whether it's a family barbecue, a lazy afternoon reading in a hammock or a day spent working in the garden, there's many ways to have fun in the backyard on a warm day.

A backyard can feel like an oasis, but even the most peaceful refuge is not safe from hazards, including ticks. Black-legged ticks pose a particular threat to individuals who live in specific regions, as these unwelcome critters may carry the bacteria responsible for Lyme disease. Recognition of Lyme disease, its symptoms and potential treatment plans is important for anyone planning to spend time relaxing in their backyards anytime soon.

Explaining Lyme disease

The Cleveland Clinic notes that Lyme disease is most often caused by *Borrelia burgdorferi*, a bacteria carried by black-legged ticks, which are sometimes referred to as "deer ticks." (The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates some cases of Lyme disease are caused by the bacteria *Borrelia mayonii*, though such cases are rare.) Lyme disease is named after the small town in Connecticut where the disease was first recognized nearly half a century ago. The CDC reports that Lyme disease is the most common vector-borne disease in the United States.

How is Lyme disease transmitted?

Lyme disease is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected black-legged tick. Though there are many varieties of ticks, Johns Hopkins Medicine notes that only the black-legged deer tick and Western black-legged tick transmit Lyme disease.

What are some symptoms of Lyme disease?

The CDC indicates that Lyme disease produces a wide range of symptoms, and those symptoms vary depending on how long it's been since a person was bitten by a tick.

Early symptoms of Lyme disease may appear as soon as three days after a bite and as late as 30 days after a bite. The CDC characterizes symptoms appearing between three and 30 days after a bite as "early symptoms," which may include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle and joint aches
- Swollen lymph nodes may occur in the absence of a rash
- Erythema migrans (EM) is a rash that occurs in approximately 70 to 80 percent of infected persons. The rash begins

at the site of a tick bite after a delay of three to 30 days (average time to appear is about seven days). The rash expands gradually over several days, reaching up to 12 inches or more (30 centimeters) across. EM may feel warm to the touch but is not typically itchy or painful. EM sometimes clears as it enlarges, resulting in a target or "bull's-eye" appearance, and the rash may appear on any area of the body

Some symptoms may appear days to months after a tick bite, and these may include:

- Severe headaches and neck stiffness
- Additional EM rashes that appear on other areas of the body
- Facial palsy characterized by a loss of muscle tone or droop on one or both sides of the face
- Arthritis with severe joint pain and swelling, particularly in the knees and other large joints.
- Intermittent pain in tendons, muscles, joints, and bones
- Lyme carditis, a condition characterized by heart palpitations or an irregular heart beat
- Episodes of dizziness or shortness of breath
- Inflammation of the brain and spinal cord
- Nerve pain
- Shooting pains, numbness or tingling in the hands or feet

Can Lyme disease be treated?

Many cases of Lyme disease are successfully treated after a few weeks of antibiotics. However, some people report persistent symptoms even after antibiotic treatments, and the CDC notes additional research is necessary to help people in such situations.

Lyme disease is something to keep in mind as warm weather returns. More information about Lyme disease is available at cdc.gov.



Not every case of Lyme disease will present with an EM rash.



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COASTAL LIVING

Simple safety tips for water sports enthusiasts

Bodies of water like lakes, rivers and oceans often elicit fond memories of fun times spent under the sun. Safety should always be a priority when spending time on the water, especially when participating in water sports, including swimming and water skiing.

According to the World Health Organization, more than 40 people die by drowning every hour of every day, which equates to around 372,000 deaths each year. Many of those deaths, the vast majority of which occur in low- or middle-income countries, are preventable, and safety is at the core of drowning prevention. Though drowning incidents are not as prevalent in the United States and Canada as they are elsewhere in the world, the popularity of water sports in both countries underscores the importance of revisiting the various ways to stay safe when out on the water.

- Take water sports lessons. The carefree nature of spring and summer can make it easy for water sports enthusiasts to forgo lessons before trying their hands at water skiing and wakeboarding. But such lessons can teach people techniques that can keep them safe on the water. Courses teach everything from how to get up and out of the water to how to properly handle a tow rope. They also can teach boaters how to navigate waters while towing skiers, tubers and wakeboarders.

- Learn hand signals and go over them before getting in the water. The National Safety Council emphasizes the importance of basic hand signals, which can be used to help boaters communicate with the people



they're towing. Hand signals are vital because water sports tend to be noisy, so nonverbal communication may be the only way boaters can communicate with the people they're towing. Signals can be used to communicate anything from directions of turns to speed requests to the condition of the person being towed. A list of hand signals can be found at www.boaterexam.com/safety/

safety-common-hand-signals.aspx.

- Inspect tow lines. The NSC advises inspecting tow lines prior to beginning. Such inspections can confirm that tow lines are not caught in the propeller or wrapped around anyone before the activity begins.

- Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat. People being towed should always wait for propellers to stop before climbing back into the boat. It doesn't take long for propellers to stop, and those extra few seconds can dramatically reduce risks for accidents or injuries.

- Avoid water sports at night. Visibility is compromised once the sun goes down. That can make it hard for boaters to see any obstacles that might appear in the water, and it also makes it very difficult for them to communicate with the people they're towing. As a result of such difficulties, the NSC urges water sports enthusiasts to only engage in such activities during daylight hours.

Water sports make summer even more fun. Safety should always be the utmost priority for anyone involved in such activities.

PCA Athletic Reception and Awards

by: Hiram Lupton

Pamlico Christian Academy took time last Sunday afternoon to recognize their scholar athletes at their annual Athletic Reception and Awards program held at Broad Creek Christian Church in Olympia. Athletes from all Varsity and Junior Varsity sports were honored and special team awards were given. Also recognized were girls and boys scholar athletes who have maintained a 3.5+ grade point average this year. Other special recognitions given were to the six athletes who are dually enrolled at both PCA and Pamlico County High School and compete on a Varsity team for PCHS. Senior athletes were also acknowledged. Eight of the ten Seniors of the PCA Class of 2025 were student athletes. The Girls Varsity Basketball Team were also honored as the 2025 MACAA Conference Champions and their conference championship banner was unveiled. There was also a very special award given to PCA Director of Athletics, Hope Koontz. As Head of School Earl Sadler, Jr. stated, "Hope built and is building PCA's athletic program from scratch. Every aspect of athletics at our school

has her fingerprints on it." The final awards of the ceremony, the female and male Mariner of the Year awards, were bestowed upon Lily Mathews and Howie Hoenig. This award recognizes overall athletic excellence but also character, leadership, and hard work.



The Conference Champion PCA Girls Basketball Team



Mariner of the Year Award Winners, Lily Mathews and Howie Hoenig



PCA Director of Athletics Hope Koontz and Head of School Earl Sadler, Jr.



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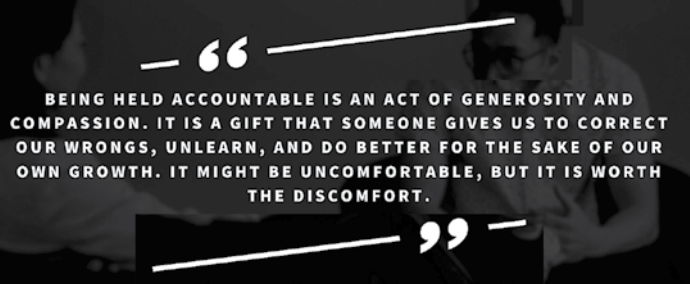
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**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
PAMLICO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND DEBTORS OF
WILLIAM BRADFORD SIMEON**
File No.: 25E001072-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to ANNA SIMEON, ADMINISTRATOR CTA on or before JULY 9, 2025, 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 CTA.

This 16TH DAY OF APRIL 2025

ESTATE OF WILLIAM BRADFORD SIMEON
C/O ANNA SIMEON
1092 PENNSYLVANIA AVE
VANDEMERE, NC 28587

Publish APRIL 16, 23, 30, AND MAY 7, 2025.

**NORTH CAROLINA
PAMLICO COUNTY**

Special Proceedings
No. 25 SP 2
Substitute Trustee:
Philip A. Glass

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE**

Date of Sale: May 8, 2025
Time of Sale: 11:30 a.m.
Place of Sale: Pamlico County Courthouse
Description of Property: See Attached Description
Record Owners:
Heirs of Jo Ann Stowe
Address of Property:
1256 NC 306 Highway North Grantsboro, NC 28529
Deed of Trust:
Book : 509 Page: 332
Dated: January 8, 2008
Grantors: Jo Ann Stowe, widow
Original Beneficiary: State Employees’ Credit Union
CONDITIONS OF SALE:

This sale is made subject to all unpaid taxes and superior liens or encumbrances of record and assessments, if any, against the said property, and any recorded leases. This sale is also subject to any applicable county land transfer tax, and the successful third party bidder shall be required to make payment for any such county land transfer tax.

The property to be offered pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for sale “AS IS, WHERE IS.” THERE ARE NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES relating to the title or to any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale, and any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition are expressly disclaimed.

A cash deposit of 5% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale. Remote bidding will not be accepted pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.25 (a). Credit bids on behalf of the Noteholder will be accepted. Any successful bidder shall be required to tender the full balance of the purchase price so bid in cash or certified check at the time the Substitute Trustee tenders to him a deed for the property or attempts to tender such deed, and should said successful bidder fail to pay the full balance purchase price so bid at that time, he shall remain liable on his bid as provided for in North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.30 (d) and (e). This sale will be held open ten (10) days for upset bids as required by law.

Residential real property with less than 15 rental units, including single-family residential real property: an order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving notice of sale, terminate the

Property Address : 1256 NC 306 Highway North, Grantsboro, NC 28529

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE**
22SP000026-680

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust made by David Bryon Jeffers and Crystal L. Jeffers (PRESENT RECORD OWNER(S): Crystal L. Jeffers) to Investors Title Insurance, Trustee(s), dated December 22, 2014, and recorded in Book No. 597, at Page 821-832 in Pamlico County Registry, North Carolina. The Deed of Trust was modified by the following: A Loan Modification recorded on August 29, 2019, in Book No. 652, at Page 425 A Loan Modification recorded on February 9, 2018, in Book No. 634, at Page 148
A Loan Modification recorded on July 21, 2016, in Book No. 615, at Page 940, default having been made in the payment of the promissory note secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Substitute Trustee Services, Inc. having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust by an instrument duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds Pamlico County, North Carolina and the holder of the note evidencing said indebtedness having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door in Bayboro, Pamlico County, North Carolina, or the customary location designated for foreclosure sales, at 12:00 PM on May 19, 2025 and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following real estate situated in New Bern in the County of Pamlico, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:
All that certain lot or parcel of land in Number One (1) Township, Pamlico County, North Carolina, particularly described as follows:

That certain lot or parcel of land, containing 1.79 acres, more or less, known as the Hugh Wayne Homeplace, bounded, now or formerly, as follows: On the north by the lands of Claude Smith, on the east by State Road No. 1126, on the south and west by Graham H. Wayne land, said lot or land being more particularly described, according to a plat prepared by Frank P. Toler, R.L.S., on June 9, 1971, as follows:

Beginning at a point in the western right-of-way line of State Road Number 1126 at its intersection with a ditch extending along the southwestern line of the Smith property and the northeastern line of the Wayne property, said beginning point being the southernmost corner of the Smith property and the easternmost corner of the Wayne property, and from this beginning running thence along and with the western right-of-way line of State Road No. 1126 South 20 deg. 25' West 118.20 feet to an iron pipe, a new corner; thence North 69 deg. 35' West 109.20 feet to a new corner marked by a cedar tree; thence North 50 deg. 06' West 351.10 feet along the northern side of a field road to an iron pipe located approximately 2 feet southeastwardly of the centerline of a ditch; thence along the southeastern side of said ditch, approximately 2 feet from the centerline of a said ditch; North 52 Deg. 59' East 246.10 feet to the centerline of the ditch dividing the Smith property and the Wayne property; thence along and with the centerline of said ditch South 35 deg. 45' East 370.50 feet to the point of beginning. Together with improvements located thereon; said property being located at 1317 Olympia Road, New Bern, North Carolina.

Being the same property as described Deed Book 233 at Page at Page 418 of the Pamlico County Registry.

Trustee may, in the Trustee's sole discretion, delay the sale for up to one hour as provided in N.C.G.S. §45-21.23.

Should the property be purchased by a third party, that party must pay the excise tax, as well as the court costs of Forty-Five Cents (\$0.45) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)

(1).
The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance “AS IS, WHERE IS.” Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust/security agreement, or both, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale, and any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition are expressly disclaimed. Also, this property is being sold subject to all taxes, special assessments, and prior liens or prior encumbrances of record and any recorded releases. Said property is also being sold subject to applicable Federal and State laws.

A deposit of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is required and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale.

If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in its sole discretion, if it believes the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy.

Additional Notice for Residential Property with Less than 15 rental units, including Single-Family Residential Real Property
An order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold.

Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may after receiving the notice of foreclosure sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in this notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SERVICES, INC.
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

c/o Hutchens Law Firm
P.O. Box 1028
4317 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28311
Phone No: (910) 864-3068
<https://sales.hutchenslawfirm.com>
Firm Case No: 7961 - 30523

SCHOOL SPORTS participation continues to grow. According to the High School Athletics Participation Survey, conducted by the National Federation of State High School Associations for the 2022-2023 school year, participation in high school sports was quite high. A total of 7,851,833 girls and boys were involved in school sports during the 2022-2023 academic year. That number marked an increase of 232,779 participants from the previous school year. Among the surveyed participants, the most popular boys programs were football and outdoor track and field. For girls, the most popular programs were outdoor track and field and volleyball.

AROUND THE COUNTY

Grantsboro Jeff Roberts, *Correspondent*



Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to all. I hope all of you have had a good week. It has been a busy one for me for sure. With Spring break over it was back to the grind. Which means juggling everything one has to get done any given day. I have had to leave the house earlier this past week. Most people wouldn't care for that but it gives me a chance to see the beautiful colors given off by the morning sun. My gosh we live in a beautiful area. I am fortunate to be one of those who grew up here and have experienced beauty all my life.

I have also been able to see it from around the world as well. From the cobblestone streets of Germany, to the desert sands in Kuwait. The world we live in is truly amazing with all of its beauty and charm.

There is definitely a lot to keep you busy this weekend. PCHA will host Game Show at 3 pm on River Rd, in Arapahoe. The county's very own Rachel Tipton from Harborside will be hosting a lecture at the North Carolina History Center in New Bern at 10:30 am May 10th on the Do's & Don'ts of Coastal Gardening. May 10th at 4:30 at Lou Mac Park there will be Latin Dance for Dancin in the Park. Also on May 10th the 32nd Annual Auto Club of America will be showing off the classic cars in downtown New Bern. Sunday May 11th, Broad Creek United Church of Christ will be Hosting Woman's Day at 11 am. Definitely enough to keep everyone busy.

Sunday will be Mother's Day, which will be different this year, as my mom passed away in September. This will be the first one without her. You would think it would be a difficult time, but I



with me now than the days and weeks that led up to her passing. I will smile and celebrate her that day, I will prepare her favorite foods, and celebrate the beautiful life she led and celebrate the fact she was my Mom! Make sure you take time out for all the Mom's in your life, whether its your mom, a mom you know, or someone who stepped up to be that mom. I remember a child I had in 3rd grade my first year as a teacher assistant. This little girl was as much a mom as anyone ever has been. Daily she took care of herself and her sisters, sacrificing her own childhood and taking care of what needed to be done. No one asked her to do these things, it was just something she did. I always reminded her "take time to be a kid too!" though she never did and grew up way too fast. She still takes care of her sisters and her own little family today and has grown into an amazing mom. My reminder is "Celebrate all Mom's this weekend and every day". This week's picture is of my Mamma, I love and miss you!

plan for it to be a joyous time. Yeah she's no longer here with us but she is still my Mom and still deserves to be celebrated. My mom sacrificed most everything for us over the years to make sure we were taken care of and doing well. I am happy my mom is where she is at now because what could be better than that? She is probably more

Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, *Correspondent*



There is not much news from Pamlico, I have been sick at home two weeks with an upper respiratory viral infection. It is official, "my get up and go, has got up and went." Stonewall Methodist Church was blessed to have Bobby Meadows preach again on first Sunday. I watched it on Facebook again. I pray I will be back in the pulpit for Mother's Day on the second Sunday, and when Stonewall Methodist Church celebrates their 231st Homecoming on the third Sunday.

We celebrated Roy's birthday quietly at home and our anniversary this year will be spent at CCHC. We will have been married for 60 years when you read this article. We are blessed.

When I went to the doctor last Wednesday, I noticed that the fields on the farm had been plowed. The corn on Trent Road was about half a foot high, and our neighbors "freight crate" raised garden and green house was looking well-tended. I could also see the results of the construction I had been

hearing from my house.

I could not attend, but I heard that Oriental had their city-wide yard sale the same day as the famed Kentucky Derby.

Celebrating birthdays in May are Danny Lupton and Ann Daniels Miller (5/8), Tanyetta Green, Debbie Whorton, and Mark Whorton (5/12), Dale Alvin Belvin (5/14), Vanessa Cole May (5/15), Greg Jones (5/16), Karen Moore Horton, Wanda Miller, Chase Carey, and Mackenzie Carey (5/17), Benjamin Alexander and Vance Henries (5/18), Jermaine Smith (5/19), Zachary Rodgers and Shannon Lee Wing (5/20), Dennis Stokes (5/25), Johnny Bishop, Bailey Smith, and Lakissha H. Smith (5/26), Mike Roach (5/27), Bonnie Kedjierski and Suzie Rodgers (5/30),.

Celebrating Anniversaries in May are Roy and Betty Jo Rodgers (5/7), Larry and Sharon Gibbs (5/15), and Timothy and Veronica Jones (5/30).

Have a blessed week. Quitting? Take Spiritual Vitamin Q. "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." (1 Corinthians 16:13)

Whortonsville Reba Tiller, *Correspondent*



So thankful for the rain we had this past weekend. It came just at the right time for the farmers and without the farmers we don't have food! I have a container of Easter Lillies that are just getting ready to bloom. I will call them Mother's Day Lillies. My neighbors across the creek Joe and Colleen Noonkester are back home so we started using our flashlights to flash each other every night about 8:00. It's our way of checking on each other to be sure everyone is okay. There was a small boat anchored in front of my house and if there were folks on it I bet they wondered why we were flashing our lights. Maura McAuliffe and Melydia Edge were back from their camping trip to the Outer Banks. We had a good crowd at church Sunday after calling off church the Sunday before because of problems with the air conditioning, so they had lunch yesterday instead of the

week before. Jeanna Tiller had a birthday party for Noah and Russ Tiller in her new home here. I received a nice call from Dixie Gatlin thanking me for singing at Stonewall Methodist Church for their Easter Cantata on Palm Sunday. Elizabeth and Mattie Cuthrell also sang. I had not sung for a long time, so it felt good to be able to be a part of the beautiful Cantata. Dixie's daughter Kim played for the Pamlico Chorale for a period and she is the only person that I have ever been able to put a new piece of music in front of her and she without practice could play it. The advertising for the Croaker Festival has begun so the Pamlico Chorale will be singing with Dave and the Pamlico Brass.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK —REMEMBER YOUR MOTHER ON MOTHER'S DAY AND EVERY DAY FOR WITHOUT HER, YOU WOULD NOT BE HERE!

Drug Trafficker Recieves Active Sentence

Bayboro, North Carolina – District Attorney Scott Thomas and Pamlico County Sheriff Chris Davis announced that Montrell Cordess Curtis, age 27 of Bayboro, plead guilty to four counts of Trafficking Opiates 4-14 grams, one count of Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver Opiates, and one count of Possession of Firearm by a Felon. He received an active sentence of 70-93 months in the Department of Adult Correction in addition to a \$500,000 fine and court costs.

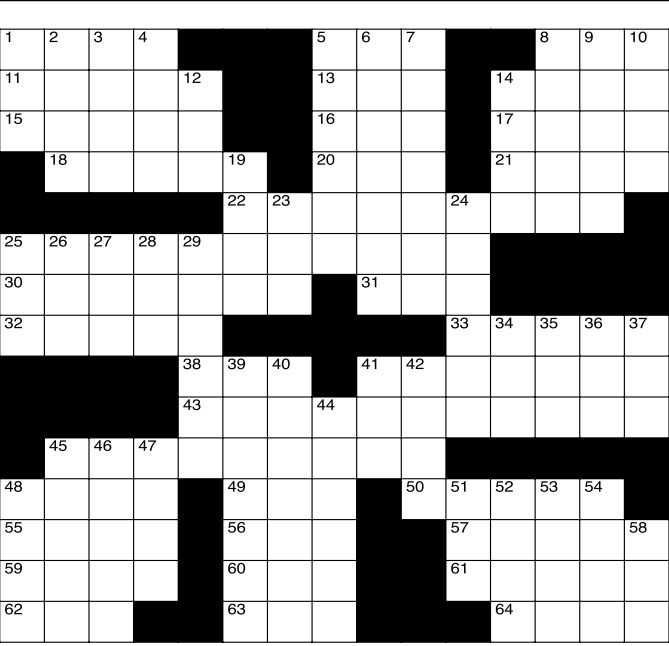
Beginning on March 30 of 2023, Pamlico County Sheriff investigators set up a series of four controlled buys from Curtis with the use of a confidential informant and ultimately purchased 166 Fentanyl tablets from him. The drugs for each buy were confirmed by the North Carolina State Crime Lab to be Fentanyl and for three of the buys, the drugs were a trafficking weight. In April of 2023, investigators obtained a search warrant for the residence, vehicle, and person of Curtis largely based on the previous drug buys. Due to the possibility of children being at the residence, officers waited until Curtis left his residence to stop him and take him



into custody. Once he was safely secured and in custody, officers searched Curtis' residence. The search resulted in the seizure of a Spike's Tactical Hellbreaker AR style rifle, a Glock handgun, and ammunition. In Curtis' bedroom, investigators located marijuana and a marijuana rolling tray, and a bag containing 112 blue pills that were under the mattress of the bed. Those pills were also later confirmed by the State Crime Lab to be Fentanyl and weighed approximately 13 grams.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Laura Bell, the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office handled the investigation, and Superior Court Judge Kent Harrell presided over the matter.

NOTE: Under North Carolina Structured Sentencing law, a convicted criminal defendant must serve all the minimum active sentence and may be required to serve up to the maximum sentence. Upon release at the conclusion of the prison sentence, a nine-to-twelve-month period of post-release supervision by a probation officer is required.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Herring-like fish

5. Perform on stage

8. Soda

11. Small growth

13. In support of

14. Step taken when walking

15. Hollyhocks

16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

17. Feel pain

18. San Diego ballplayer

20. Inches per minute (abbr.)

21. Fat from a pig's abdomen

22. Create again

25. Honors once more

30. Thin coating of gold

31. Welsh river

32. Japanese novelist Mizumura
33. Husks of corn

38. Green vegetable

41. Showing guilt

43. Soldier

45. Photographers

48. Language spoken in Nigeria

49. Mimic

50. Expressed pleasure

55. Ancient Greek sophist

56. Beverage container

57. Night monkey genus

59. Lace bugs

60. Hogshead (abbr.)

61. Frameworks

62. Keyboard key

63. Greek goddess of the dawn

64. Influential Korean independence figure

CLUES DOWN

1. A place to unwind

2. Helped (archaic)

3. Razorbill genus

4. Bleached

5. Continent

6. Fruit preserved in syrup

7. Impediment to one's freedom

8. Nocturnal rodents

9. Earthy pigment

10. Relieved oneself

12. Golf score

14. Tech hub __ Alto

19. Sportscaster Andrews

23. Records electric currents

24. Popular Hitchcock film

25. Revolutions per minute

26. NY Giants legend

27. Sports radio host Patrick

28. When you hope to get somewhere
29. French seaport

34. Thai river

35. Rocker's accessory

36. Extra charge

37. Influential American president

39. Pain in the head

40. Great Plains people

41. Consumed

42. Soluble ribonucleic acid

44. Improves

45. Secret clique

46. Behind the stern of a ship

47. Dough made from corn flour

48. Fallow deer

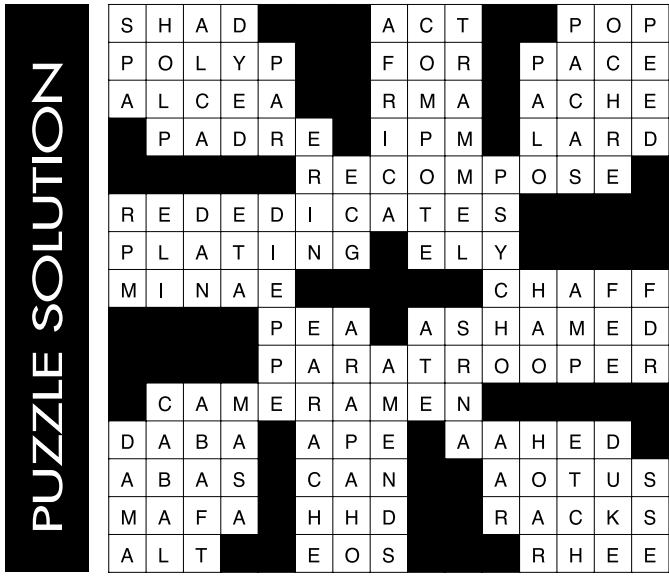
51. Swiss river

52. Grayish white

53. Engrave

54. College's Blue Devils

58. Midway between south and southeast



Public Notice

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project is presently being amended. The Project describes the special education programs that Pamlico County Schools proposes for Federal funding for the 2025-2026 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of May 21-May 28, 2025, in the office of Exceptional Children Program Director Bettie Davis located at 507 Anderson Drive, Bayboro, NC.

Town of Vandemere

1042 Pennsylvania Avenue, P.O. Box 338
Vandemere, North Carolina 28587
Office- (252) 745-5473 | 5480 www.vandemerenc.com

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
Release Date- 6 May 2025
Master Planning for the Vandemere Community Center

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Vandemere, NC intends to select an Engineering/ Architecture/ Survey establishment to assess and provide master planning for a Community Center. 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- 15 May 2025 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 are located at-
<https://www.vandemerenc.com/about-4>

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

Home Improvement

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-833-776-0111

Home Improvement

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-649-1190

Miscellaneous

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-833-928-1861. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

Miscellaneous

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 888-970-4637

Miscellaneous

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 877-553-0252 [Steeppacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

Miscellaneous

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-247-1189

Miscellaneous

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-869-7055 today!

Miscellaneous

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-931-3643

Miscellaneous

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers

& 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-585-1815

Miscellaneous

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 1-833-641-6577

Sale

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PAMLICO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Pamlico County High School Students Launch Official Website for “The Black and Gold” Newspaper

Pamlico County High School is proud to announce that The Black and Gold, our student-led newspaper, now has an official online home! The launch of the website marks a major milestone for student journalism at PCHS, giving students a digital platform to showcase their work, cover school events, and share their voices with the broader community.

The development of the website was spearheaded by senior Coralene Ellis, founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Black and Gold. Under her leadership, the newspaper has grown into a vibrant hub of student expression and creativity. From sports and student spotlights to opinion pieces and campus updates, the publication reflects the diverse perspectives and talents of the student body.

The dedicated student team behind The Black and Gold includes writers, photographers, editors, and designers, all working together to produce high-quality, engaging content. With the new website, students are also learning real-world digital publishing skills—valuable experience for any future career path.

Visitors are encouraged to check out the website at www.theblack-andgold.online to read the latest stories and support the hardworking student journalists making it all happen.

Congratulations to Coralene and the entire Black and Gold staff on this exciting achievement!

A Night to Remember: PCHS Students Shine at Midnight Masquerade Prom

Pamlico County High School students danced the night away under twinkling lights and velvet skies at this year's unforgettable prom, held at the Delamar Center. The theme, Midnight Masquerade, brought elegance, mystery, and a touch of magic to an evening filled with celebration and style.

Students arrived in glamorous gowns and sharp suits, many donning intricate masks that added to the enchanting atmosphere. The Delamar Center was beautifully transformed, complete with dramatic décor, ambient lighting, and music that kept the dance floor full all night long.

From the grand entrance to the final slow song, the night was filled with laughter, photos, and memories to last a lifetime. For our seniors, it was a bittersweet milestone—one of the last big celebrations before graduation. For juniors and underclassmen, it was a glimpse into the joy of traditions still to come.

A huge thank you to the staff, volunteers, and organizers who helped make Midnight Masquerade a dream come true. The night was pure magic—and a perfect chapter in the story of this school year.



Coralene Ellis, Editor of Black and Gold

Spanish Club Students Become Teachers for a Day at Pamlico County Primary School

Students from the Pamlico County High School Spanish Club took their learning on the road this week with a special visit to Pamlico County Primary School—but this time, they were the teachers.

High schoolers led engaging, interactive Spanish lessons for the younger students, introducing them to new vocabulary through songs, storytelling, and fun hands-on activities. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, curiosity, and excitement as the primary school students got their first taste of a new language—guided by their big buddies from the high school.

“It was amazing to see how eager the kids were to learn,” said one Spanish Club member. “They picked up the words so quickly and had so much fun doing it.”

This experience allowed Spanish Club students to step into leadership roles, applying what they’ve learned in class in a real-world setting while inspiring the next generation of learners. For the younger students, the visit made language learning feel approachable, exciting, and fun.

Pamlico County High School is proud of the Spanish Club for not only strengthening their own skills but also giving back to the school community in such a meaningful way. ¡Buen trabajo, Canes!

Ms. Zarah Forbes Named NCCAT Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year

Pamlico County Schools is proud to celebrate one of our own—Ms. Zarah Forbes, who has been named the NCCAT Career and Technical Education (CTE) Teacher of the Year! This prestigious honor recognizes outstanding educators across North Carolina who are making a significant impact on student learning and career preparation.

Ms. Forbes shares her talent and passion between Pamlico County Middle School and Pamlico County High School, where she serves as an inspirational leader in Career and Technical Education. From teaching real-world skills to guiding students through hands-on projects and preparing them for life after graduation, she embodies the very best of what CTE education stands for.

“Ms. Forbes not only teaches—she empowers,” said one colleague. “She pushes her students to think bigger, work harder, and believe in their potential.”

Known for her high energy, creative teaching methods, and commitment to student success, Ms. Forbes has become a beloved figure among students and staff alike. Her classrooms are places where learning comes alive, confidence is built, and futures are forged.

We are incredibly proud to have Ms. Forbes as a member of our



Easter Egg Hunt Staff

Hurricane family. Please join us in congratulating her on this well-deserved recognition—and in thanking her for the lasting impact she makes on our schools and our students every single day.

PCHS Faculty Gets “Eggcited” for a Little After-School Fun

At Pamlico County High School, it's not just students who enjoy a little fun and friendly competition—this week, the faculty and staff got in on the action, too!

On Wednesday afternoon, the PCHS team participated in a surprise Easter egg hunt organized just for them. Eggs were hidden around campus, and after school, teachers and staff were invited to search for them. Each egg could be turned in for a prize, ranging from treats to small goodies—and lots of smiles.

The event was a fun and lighthearted way to encourage movement, laughter, and connection among coworkers. “It was such a great way to end the day,” said one staff member. “We don’t always get to just play and laugh together—it really lifted our spirits.”

It's just one more example of how the Hurricane family knows how to work hard and have fun. Hats off to whoever hid those eggs—you certainly kept us on our toes!

Wrapping Up the School Year: A Season of Celebration, Reflection, and “Lasts”

As the final weeks of school approach, the halls of Pamlico County High School are buzzing with excitement, anticipation, and a touch of nostalgia. We are officially entering one of the busiest—and most meaningful—times of the year.

From awards ceremonies and senior events to end-of-course exams and graduation rehearsals, every moment feels bigger, more significant. It's a season filled with celebration and reflection, and for our seniors, it's a season of “lasts.”

The last time walking these halls as students.
The last time cheering in the student section.
The last time sitting in classrooms with friends who feel more like family.

We couldn't be prouder of the Class of 2025. You've grown into leaders, mentors, and role models, and your impact on this school will be felt long after the tassels are turned. It's bittersweet to watch you go, but we are so excited to see where your next chapter leads. You've made us proud—every step of the way.

To all our students and staff: keep pushing through these final weeks. Celebrate the victories, lean into the challenges, and soak up every special moment. This time of year is a whirlwind, but it's also the reason we do what we do—to watch young lives take flight.

Let’s finish strong, Hurricanes!



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Hurricanes at the CPC Championships

by: Hiram Lupton

The post season is here for high school track and field athletes and last Tuesday the Coastal Plains Conference (CPC) held their championships at Northside-Pinetown High School and Pamlico County was well represented. We will start with the ladies team who Coach April Rose described as “Small but mighty.” In the field events, Aniyah King picked up a pair of medals, a silver in the discus and a bronze in the shot put. She was joined in the throwing events by Madison Anderson who earned a bronze in the discus and Donovanacia Dawson who picked up the silver in the Shot. Shaiera Jones proved she was the best in the long jump by leaping for a gold. Moving onto the track, four Hurricanes brought back plenty of medals. Shaiera Jones, Bella-Ann Schulz, Sydney Whitley Reese, and Nya Clark won double championships in both the 4X100 and 4X400 relays. Schulz, who is just a freshman, also added silver medals in the 400-meter and 800-meter runs. Whitley-Reese captured a silver in the 100 and the 200-meter sprints, while Nya Clark added to the medal count by winning gold in the 300-meter hurdles. Finally, the 4X200 meter relay team of Divinity

Whitehurst, Jaslynn Alvarado, Jessica Pichardo-Madrid and Janelle Norris tacked on a bronze. All this added up to a good day team wise for the ladies who were conference runners-up to Lejeune in the team standings.

For the men who also had a very small team numbers wise, two Senior athletes stood out. Koby Lane earned a pair of gold medals in both the high jump and the 110-meter hurdles. Landon Yeates joined him by earning silver in the 110 and gold in the 300-meter hurdles. Jordan Pratt picked up the lone medal for the men in the field events, a silver in the shot put. Edgar Muro showed off his excellence in the 3200-meter run by picking up a bronze. Muro, who is only a freshman and is already the school record holder in the event has a bright future in distance running. The Hurricane boys relay teams also picked up bronze medals in the 4X100, 4X200, and 4X800 events.

Next up for Pamlico will be the eastern regionals on May 9 or 10 at a location yet to be determined and for those that qualify, a trip to the State Championships on May 16 or 18 in Greensboro.



The Coastal Plains Conference Track & Field Runner-ups



Shaiera Jones, Sydney Whitley-Reese, Nya Clark, and Bella-Ann Schulz



Koby Lane



Bella-Ann Schulz



Landon Yeates

To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift.
—Steve Prefontaine



Nya Clark



Sydney Whitley-Reese



Madison Anderson and Aniyah King

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