

The Pamlico News

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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NCGOP congratulates David Wickersham on election as Pamlico GOP Chair

The North Carolina Republican Party (NCGOP) extends congratulations to David Wickersham on his election as Pamlico GOP Chair.

Following the successful 2024 election cycle, 2025 is important to organize county parties, register voters, and identify candidates to run for office. This month is designated per the NCGOP Plan of Organization to hold elections for party leadership.

NCGOP Chairman Jason Simmons offered congratulations in a statement: "Congratulations to David on his election to lead the Pamlico County GOP. The work we do to elect Republicans across North Carolina cannot be done without leaders who raise their hand and take on this responsibility. I look forward to working with the Pamlico GOP to continue making North Carolina the Red state we know it to be."



3rd Annual Classic Car & Truck Show

The Arapahoe Community 3rd Annual Classic Car & Truck Show will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 9am to 3pm at Pamlico Community College, 5049 NC Highway 306 S., Grantsboro. This is a fundraiser to benefit the Arapahoe Community and Churches. Registration is 9am to 12pm and the entry fee is \$20 - there is no pre-registration. Class is for all makes and models and Corvettes and sports cars are welcome. Best of Top 30 Trophies will be awarded at 2:30pm. There will be a 50/50 Raffle, music, food and soft drinks, gifts and prizes and is free to the public. For more information, contact Kenney Vee Davis at (919) 395-8626 or email vee1955@aol.com.



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County Construction Update

by: Hiram Lupton

Pamlico County has a lot of construction going on and the projects are in various stages from nearly complete to just getting started and everything in between. Here are six of those projects.



The Pamlico County Public Library - With paving and striping of the parking lot, the new library is near completion. Next up will be the "big move" and in preparation for that, the old library location will be closed beginning on April 1st. Some library services will still be available at the Hollowell Annex located at Heartworks. Be on the lookout for a soft opening announcement for early May.



Pamlico Christian Academy - Site prep is finished and construction will soon begin on phase 1 of PCA's new facility. A groundbreaking ceremony is set for April 9th at 4 PM to mark the beginning of the next step towards the new school.



6-12 School - Pamlico County's biggest current construction project in size, scope, and dollars, continues on schedule for completion in time for the fall 2026 school year.



Carolina Quick Care - Site prep work is underway on a new urgent care facility for Pamlico County. The goal is for construction to be complete by the end of the year.



Pamlico County Emergency Operations Center and E911 Call Center - Walls are up and construction continues on the new building that will be Pamlico County's Emergency Management headquarters. Completion is hoped for by the end of the summer.



The Beard Creek Bridge - Construction of the new bridge across Beard Creek on Neuse Road (SR 1005) is in its final stages. The bridge structure itself is finished and paving has begun on the approaches. Once that is complete, metal guardrails installed and shoulder grading finished, the road should be reopened, hopefully within the month.

Equine Excellence at the George R. Brinson Memorial Riding Arena

by: Hiram Lupton

Spring is here which means it is horse show season at the George R. Brinson Riding Arena and the Little Fork Ranch (LFR) held the first event of the year last Saturday as local riding students participated in the LFR Hunter Schooling Show. Many other events are currently scheduled at the arena for the spring put on by the Pamlico County Horseman's Association (PCHA) as well as a very special event by Horses of Pamlico, etc. (HOPE). Other events may be added so follow the Pamlico County Horseman's Association on Facebook or check out their website at www.pamlicohorseclub.com for updates. As always, outdoor shows are weather dependent so rescheduling could occur.

The 2025 show schedule so far:

- April 26 - PCHA Schooling Show
- May 10 - PCHA Gaming Show
- May 17 - PCHA Schooling Show
- May 31 - PCHA Gaming Show
- June 7 - HOPE Fun Show
- September 27 - PCHA Schooling Show
- October 25 - PCHA Schooling Show

The George R. Brinson Riding Arena is located at 127 Riverview Road in Arapahoe.

Spectators are always welcome free of charge.



Oriental Tree Board Calling for Volunteers

The Oriental Tree Board is an all-volunteer extension of the Town administration, charged with the planning, planting and maintenance of trees on Town property and right-of-ways. We can always use able-bodied adjunct volunteers to help with these

activities. Little to no special skills required - Board members are happy to teach proper tree care skills.

We work most Tuesdays from 9:00am or 10:00am, until noon, depending on season (right now we start at 10:00). If you are interested in helping, contact the Town Hall to find out where we are working that day. Bring loppers, work gloves and a smile.

Whortonsville Firefighter Of The Year



At a recent recognition dinner Assistant Chief Thomas Ryan was awarded the 2023 Firefighter of the Year Award for the Florence Whortonsville Volunteer Fire Department. Here last year's winner, Dave Brown, awards the plaque to Tom as Chief Gary Mitchelson looks on.

SNB Opens Their 22nd Season

by: Hiram Lupton

It was a beautiful day at the ballpark Saturday as Special Needs Baseball (SNB) kicked off its 22nd season. Since 2003, SNB has provided many of those who may not otherwise have the opportunity, the chance to play some baseball. It really is not as much about the game itself, as it is about the fellowship among the athletes and the volunteers who assist them. The focus is not about limitations, but of the possibilities. The games are played at Creekside Park in New Bern every Saturday, weather permitting, beginning at 9:30 A. M. running through May 17th. SNB is always looking for volunteers to help out or just come out and cheer on these amazing athletes. Just by watching them play and seeing their smiles, enthusiasm, and sheer joy they have in participating, you can't help but receive a blessing. For more information on SNB and how you can be a part of it, check out their Facebook page by searching Special Needs Baseball, their website at www.specialneeds-baseball.com, or call (252) 671-6679.



WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday, April 5th **84° Hi** Partly Cloudy throughout the day

Sunday, April 6th **83° Hi** Partly Cloudy throughout the day



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Energetic Saxby looks to build bonds, grow enrollment at Pamlico Community College

By Sandy Wall



Shellie Saxby is Pamlico Community College's new director of admissions and its new recruiter. She joined the college staff in March after an extensive career in higher education in northeastern North Carolina. Contributed photo

Got a minute? Shellie Saxby would like to talk to you about Pamlico Community College. The cheerful, vivacious New Bern woman is the college's new director of admissions and its new recruiter. Her job is to help students navigate the enrollment process and to promote the benefits of attending Pamlico for higher education. "Pamlico has a lot to offer," she said recently. "There are a lot of hidden gems at Pamlico." Saxby's new post is a perfect fit for her. Before arriving at Pamlico, she worked in the admissions department at both Chowan University – her alma mater – and Roanoke-Chowan Community College. While at Roanoke-Chowan, she learned a great deal about the challenges faced by small community colleges – knowledge and experience that she said she's excited to bring to Pamlico. "I wore many hats at Roanoke-Chowan," Saxby said with a laugh. "I learned a lot of good things that I hope to bring here. I also want to learn the Pamlico way of doing things." PCC Vice President of Student Services Jamie D. Gibbs, who is Saxby's department supervisor, said he is pleased to have her on board. "I am excited to welcome Shellie Saxby to Pamlico Community College and to the Student Services staff," he said. "With her extensive experience within Student Services, she will undoubtedly add to the quality of support that is provided to our students, faculty and staff." Gibbs continued, "Shellie's presence in the community will further highlight the many opportunities Pamlico Community College has to offer, strengthening our connection and outreach. We are thrilled to have her on board and look forward to the positive impact she will make." President Zac Schnell added, "Shellie Saxby's enthusiasm and passion for connecting with our students and community

will undoubtedly spark new opportunities and growth. It's exciting to have a new team member who is ready to champion the college and bring new ideas to our institution and our community." Saxby's roots are in rural northeastern North Carolina, which is an area similar in many ways to Pamlico County. The youngest of four siblings, she grew up in Bertie County and graduated from Bertie County High School. Saxby enrolled at nearby Chowan University – then Chowan College – and majored in criminal justice, with plans to become a parole/probation officer and eventually an FBI agent. Plans changed when she took a work-study post in the institution's admissions office. There, she found she enjoyed working with students, getting to know them and their challenges, and seeing them succeed. "I like helping people," Saxby said. "Helping people improve their lives – that is the main thing." The work-study post turned into a 13-year stint in Chowan's admissions office. She left Chowan University to take the job – the one with many hats! – at nearby Roanoke-Chowan Community College. She moved with her family to New Bern after her husband, Terrance Saxby, accepted the job as the head football coach and assistant athletic director at New Bern High School. They had met as undergrads at Chowan and have been together for 25 years. The Saxbys have three sons. Saxby started work at Pamlico in March. She has spent her first weeks getting to know the college, her colleagues and the community, which she says are important first steps to building connections. "I think 'connection' is No. 1," she said. "Building genuine connections and supporting the community is key to fostering a positive and collaborative environment." Saxby believes those connections, as well as meeting everyone with dignity and empathy, will help Pamlico grow its enrollment and thrive. "Definitely don't count us out," she said with a smile. To get it touch with Saxby, call 252-249-1851, ext. 3025, or email ssaxby@pamlicocc.edu. Sandy Wall can be reached at 252-249-1851, ext. 3010, or swall@pamlicocc.edu.



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



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 \$299,500



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.
OFFERED AT \$425,500



ORIENTAL – Waterfront views over Green Creek, 2,472 hsf, 4BR/4BA, 1.5 miles from downtown Oriental. 2nd floor stand-alone apt. offers full kitchen, full bath, bedroom & living room w/ separate HVAC system. FROG w/kitchen, bath, living area & loft bedroom w/stand-alone HVAC. Concrete dock has drop-down for kayaks & a Swinger boat lift. 4 boat slips can be rented w/2nd floor & FROG apartments.
OFFERED AT \$ 625,000



ORIENTAL – 4,000 hsf commercial building on 0.92 acres of unrestricted land, not in flood zone, +/-3 miles north of Town of Oriental. Fully-insulated I-beam construction, 6" concrete floor. Reception area, conference room & 2 offices. Carrier 2.5 ton heat pump for 1,080 hsf office area & two 5.0 ton HVAC systems for 2,920 hsf warehouse. Walk-up attic storage, fenced side yard, 208 3-Phase electrical system with 200 amps service. Ingersoll Rand 200 PSI air compressor system for warehouse with work benches & shelving. Metal fabrication equipment does not convey.
OFFERED AT \$ 650,000



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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- **April 2nd** – Today is National Walking Day. I think I will walk to the kitchen and get myself a cold beverage and a snack.
- **April 3rd** – Today is National Burrito Day.
- **April 4th** – Today is National Hug a Newsperson Day. I'm waiting.
- **April 5th** – Today is National Go for Broke Day. I don't have to go for broke, I'm always broke.
- **April 6th** – 1938, Teflon was invented by Dr. Roy Plunkett.
- **April 7th** – Today is National Beer Day.
- **April 8th** – Today is National Library Workers Day. A salute to Sidney, Fran, Diann, Mariela, Alicia, Dee, Maryellen, Michael and everyone else that works at the Pamlico County Public Library.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- April 2nd – 1914, Actor Sir Alec Guinness
- April 2nd – 1939, Singer Marvin Gaye
- April 3rd – 1924, Actor Marlon Brando
- April 3rd – 1961, Actor/Comedian Eddie Murphy
- April 5th – 1949, Astronaut Judith Resnik
- April 6th – 1937, Singer/songwriter Merle Haggard
- April 6th – 1952, Actress Marilu Henner
- April 8th – 1946, Baseball Hall-of-Famer Jim “Catfish” Hunter (in Hertford, NC)



Pamlico Firefighters Answer the Call to Battle Western NC Wildfires

By David Snipes

Pamlico County, NC – When wildfires threatened Western North Carolina last week, Pamlico County’s volunteer firefighters answered the call without hesitation. Firefighters from Reelsboro, Grantsboro, and Triangle stations joined forces with the North Carolina Forestry Division to hold the front line at Holbert Cove Road near Saluda, NC, battling the Black Cove Wildfire.

The statewide request for a Class 1 engine company reached Pamlico County’s Emergency Manager last Tuesday, March 25, 2025. Fire Marshal Chris Murray quickly organized a task force of volunteer firefighters ready to deploy and assist in firefighting efforts by 4 AM the next morning. Among those who served were Curtis Grant, Mark Prescott, Josh Stubbs, Will Harper, and David Snipes, who worked alongside forestry team members, and other firefighting teams that traveled from as far away as Oregon to support mitigating efforts.

“Our firefighters are volunteers who step up not only for our community but for others in need,” said Reelsboro Fire Chief Curtis Grant. “They consider it an honor to serve, whether at home or across the state.”

Becoming a volunteer firefighter requires dedication. Individuals must complete state-mandated training, pass background checks, and attend weekly drills held on Monday nights. Despite the challenges, these men and women remain committed to protecting lives and property.

If you’re interested in serving your community as a volunteer firefighter, contact your local fire department or Fire Marshal Chris Murray at (252) 745-4131. Pamlico County’s firefighters prove that even volunteers can make a heroic difference when duty calls.



Pamlico County Volunteer Firefighters Curtis Grant, Mark Prescott, Josh Stubbs, and Will Harper, stand alongside Oregon-based Forestry Division team members during the Black Cove Wildfire response.



David Snipes, Pamlico County Volunteer Firefighter-Triangle 17 overlooking Black Cove

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/>

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Hurricane Golfers Hit the Links

by: Hiram Lupton

Spring has sprung and the Pamlico County High School men's golf team is teeing it up and hitting the greens. Monday, they hosted other golfers from the Coastal Plains Conference in match play at the Minnesott Golf and Country Club. Matches like this give players a chance to improve their game in a competitive atmosphere in preparation for Conference Tournament to be held on April 28th at Carolina Colours Golf Club in New Bern. The members of the golf team are: Tony Bustamante, Levi Carawan, Jacob Willis, Kai Wood, Braxton Potter, Gavin Lockwood, Isaiah Rodriguez, Wyatt Johnson, Baird Audilet, Jaxon Hughes-Layden, and Wade Fairchoth IV. All these guys and Head Coach Tammy Taylor are working hard to bring some titles back to Pamlico.



Kai Wood



Levi Carawan



Wyatt Johnson

North Carolina Guardian ad Litem Program in Judicial District 4 Focuses on Supporting Families during National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Bayboro, North Carolina – April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and NC Guardian ad Litem District 4 is raising awareness of the need for more dedicated members of the community to step up and become North Carolina Guardian ad Litem child advocate volunteers, and help end child abuse and neglect, through supporting children and their families.

North Carolina GAL volunteers are everyday people from all walks of life who are recruited and specially trained to advocate for children in foster care and provide a consistent, reliable adult presence for them during a difficult time in their life.

“Our volunteers’ first priority is to keep families together whenever safe and possible,” said Antoinette Boskey, District Administrator of NC GAL District 4. “Foster care is only a temporary solution to the problems at hand. We need to create long term support networks that work to care for families, make reunification a possibility, and help break the cycle for the next generation.”

North Carolina GAL volunteers are assigned to one child or sibling group to advocate for their best interest in court, in school and in other settings. They get to know the child, and everyone involved in their life, such as their parents and other family members, foster parents, therapists, caseworkers and teachers, in order to develop a realistic picture of the child’s unique situation. They engage those important to the child and family in order to build a network of support around them, so that the family has access to support and resources after the case ends. They make recommendations to the judge overseeing the child’s case, with the goal of ensuring that the child is safe, and the family

has the resources, support and healthy relationships needed to heal.

Locally, NC Guardian ad Litem District 4 served 348 children in the foster care system in Carteret, Craven, and Pamlico Counties in 2024. Currently, your local GAL program is serving 248 children. 81of these children need a GAL Volunteer to advocate for them. This April, consider stepping up to make a difference by becoming a NC GAL volunteer.

“There is always a need for more NC GAL volunteers,” said Boskey. “By becoming a volunteer, you can take your efforts beyond just awareness and do your part to help support children and families in crisis right here in our community.”

When reunification is not a possibility for the children they serve, North Carolina GAL volunteers work to find others that can provide a positive, healthy and loving environment. These can include relatives, friends or other adults that are important in the child’s life—keeping a child connected to their home community.

“We at North Carolina Guardian ad Litem District 4 always hope for the day when GAL, foster care and a national month dedicated to child abuse prevention are no longer needed because all children are growing up safe, secure and supported with their families,” said Boskey. “Until then, we will continue to seek more members of the community to join our growing movement so that we can provide a NC GAL volunteer for every child who needs one.”

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. If you see abuse, report it to local DSS (252)745-4087. If a child’s life is in danger, call 911. For more information on NC GAL, visit <http://www.volunteerforgal.org/>.

Horoscopes



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, a burst of energy propels you to move forward. It feels like everything is clicking, and you are full of ideas and brimming with contagious enthusiasm.



TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
You are in the mood to get down to business this week, Taurus. It’s a great time to focus on your career or finances. Pay attention to all of the little details as you go along.



GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Curiosity takes control this week, Gemini. Opportunities for learning are all around you. You just need to look for them. It may be a new class or a trip that you take with friends.



CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, this week you may have a lot of emotional processing going on, particularly regarding relationships or past experiences. Embrace these deeper feelings.



LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Your social energy could be off the charts this week, Leo. Others will be drawn to your magnetism and self-confidence. It is a great time to network or collaborate.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Efficiency and productivity are the name of the game right now, Virgo. When it comes to organizing and planning, you will be all about getting things done in a timely manner.



LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, this week is a time for self-expression. You may find yourself pulled toward hobbies or artistic endeavors that enable you to showcase your talents.



SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
This is a time to dive deep into your home and family life, Scorpio. You want to create a sense of stability at home and address anything that might compromise that. Trust your gut with how to move forward.



SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Communication is the key this week, Sagittarius. Initiating important conversations and speaking directly with others is a great way to clear the air and get to the root of these issues.



CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, you are focused on your financial well-being this week, but other issues may fall by the wayside. You might have to bring in someone else to keep the balance.



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Personal goals and ambitions are front and center this week, Aquarius. This could put you in the spotlight and showcase what you want to accomplish to those around you.



PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, this week invites you to slow down and recharge your batteries as much as possible. You might feel pulled to spend time alone or simply get away for a few days.

ARIES Traits & Overview

Aries is the first sign of the zodiac, ruled by the planet Mars, and ruling the First House. It is a male sign. Aries symbolizes action and daring.

Fire signs possess huge amounts of energy that let them go about their tasks with fierce intensity, passion, and creativity. Besides the four elements (Water, Fire, Earth, and Air), the twelve signs of the Zodiac have qualities. There are three qualities in astrology: Cardinal, Fixed, and Mutable. Aries is a Cardinal sign.

Cardinal signs are the initiators. They are the pioneers and the project starters, the ones to get things moving. Cardinal energy represents beginnings, inspiration, and action. Aries marks the start of Spring, Libra marks the start of Fall, Capricorn marks the beginning of Winter, and Cancer marks the beginning of Summer.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Carefully consider Social Security decisions



Dan M. Roberts

Your Social Security benefits can be an important part of your retirement income — but when should you start collecting them? It’s a big decision, so you’ll want to consider your options carefully.

Essentially, you’ll need to decide whether you’re going to take your benefits as early as possible — age 62 — or if you should wait until your “full retirement age” or even longer. If you begin accepting benefits at 62, they’ll be about 30% lower than if you waited until your full retirement age, which is 67 if you were born in 1960 or later. And if you wait until 70, your benefits will be about 24% higher than at your full retirement age.

In deciding when to claim benefits, you’ll want to weigh these factors:

- *Income needs* — If you need the money to help meet your daily cost of living, then you may not feel you have much of a choice about when to take Social Security. However, if you have sufficient income from other sources, such as your 401(k) or other retirement accounts, you may be able to delay taking benefits until they’re much larger.
- *Employment* — If you’re still working and you haven’t reached your full retirement age yet, it might be a good idea to wait before claiming Social Security because your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$2 earned above \$23,400. In the year in which you reach your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$3 earned above \$62,160. (But once you reach your full retirement age, Social Security will adjust your payments to credit you for the months during which your benefits were lowered because of your income.)
- *Life expectancy* — None of us can say for certain how long we’ll live — but you may have some hints. For example, if you have a family history of longevity, and you’re in good health, you might

decide it makes sense to delay taking Social Security until your full retirement age, or even later, as you could potentially have more years of receiving larger checks.

• *Spouse* — If you’re married, decisions about when to claim benefits could affect you or your spouse. The spouse with lower Social Security payments may be eligible to receive spousal benefits, which, when combined with their own benefits, can reach up to 50% of the higher-benefit spouse’s payment at their full retirement age. To qualify, the lower-benefit spouse’s benefit at their full retirement age must be less than half of the other spouse’s full-retirement-age benefit. But if the lower-benefit spouse claims their benefits before their full retirement age, their own retirement benefit and the spousal benefit will be reduced. Also, the lower-benefit spouse reaches their maximum benefit amount at their full retirement age — they won’t receive additional benefits even if they or the higher-benefit spouse delays taking benefits past their respective full retirement ages.

One other point to keep in mind: If the higher-benefit spouse claims early, the survivor benefit to the other spouse is reduced, but if the higher-benefit spouse delays their benefit beyond their full retirement age, the survivor benefit is increased.

By making the appropriate choices, you can help maximize your Social Security benefits — and possibly enjoy a more comfortable retirement.

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NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Pamlico County

Corn Season is Here

By: Daniel Simpson County Extension Director, Agriculture Agent



April 1st may signal the beginning of spring, but for corn farmers in Eastern NC, it means corn season has arrived. Pamlico County residents may have noticed the flurry of activity occurring in

local fields in preparation for the coming season. This includes fertilizer and weed control applications, drainage management activities, and tillage operations. In this article I will provide a quick insight into how corn is grown in Pamlico County.



The days of horse drawn equipment are long past as modern agriculture has evolved to become more efficient. This efficiency is driven by low commodity prices, ever increasing input cost, and the need to produce more bushels of corn on fewer acres and with fewer people to remain profitable. Just as a reminder to our readers, farming is a business, and unless farms remain profitable, they cannot continue to produce crops. To this end, many decisions about the current crop were made several months ago. This included selecting seed corn based upon yield performance, collecting soils samples and amending soil fertility to optimize growth, and simply deciding how many acres could be planted based upon price and cost projections that change daily.



Once planting has begun, corn seed is placed into the ground to a depth of about 2 inches. From this moment onward, mother nature dictates how the season unfolds. For optimal germination to occur, corn seeds need adequate moisture and the accumulation of a specific number of hours of warm temperatures above 50 degrees. With sufficient temperatures, most of the seeds planted will germinate within 5-7 days after planting and rise uniformly above the soil within a 24-hour period. If cool temperatures prevail, germination is delayed and corn seed will struggle to arise uniformly. This inconsistency reduces corn yield by 8-10%, as the earliest plants to arise will out compete late comers.



When corn plants reach the V-7 stage (plant has 7 leaves), the number of kernel rows around the cob become set. Any significant stress at this period (wet, dry, fertility) can decrease the number of kernels rows, which can have a large impact on yield potential. Around this V-7 stage, growers will begin to apply additional nitrogen fertilizer and provide additional weed control. This may sound simple, but these two actions will probably be the last actions that growers can take to affect yield. Nitrogen fertilizer is essential to optimal growth and yield potential. However, if heavy rains occur early in the growing season, large amounts of nitrogen that was applied before planting, and nitrogen naturally available within the soil, could be lost to leaching and denitrification (microbes release nitrogen into the atmosphere when soil oxygen is low). If growers do not account for these potential losses, corn plants will run out of nitrogen later in the season resulting in reduction in yield. Similarly, weeds compete for water, sunlight, and nutrients and must be controlled to produce a profitable yield. If weeds out compete young corn plants early in the season, as much as 50%

of the yield potential can be lost and never recovered.

Once plants reach the VT tassel stage (tassels are male flowers at the top of corn plants), corn plants are sufficiently tall to shade out most weed competition. Plant height also limits most field activity as ground equipment can no longer transverse the crop without damage. From this point forward, the corn crop is subject to mother nature and farmers can only hope that their preparations early in the season will support a robust plant that can endure environmental stress until harvest. However, once harvest arrives farmers must still compete with hurricanes, as they rush to harvest corn before storms degrade grain quality or reduce yield from wind damage and flooding.



From this brief article, I hope readers understand that corn production in Pamlico County is all about preparation and early season activity. You have or will soon encounter tractors, planters, and other farm equipment moving across fields and along highways. Please be cautious on highways as this equipment is slow moving and needs space to avoid mail boxes, signs, and others items alongside roadways. When passing equipment, please be mindful that this equipment cannot stop easily to help you avoid collisions. Share the road and enjoy the journey, and you just may notice that corn field when its starts to grow.



For more information on corn production or other crops in Pamlico County, you can contact Daniel Simpson, Agricultural Extension Agent, at 252-745-4121 or Daniel_simpson@ncsu.edu.

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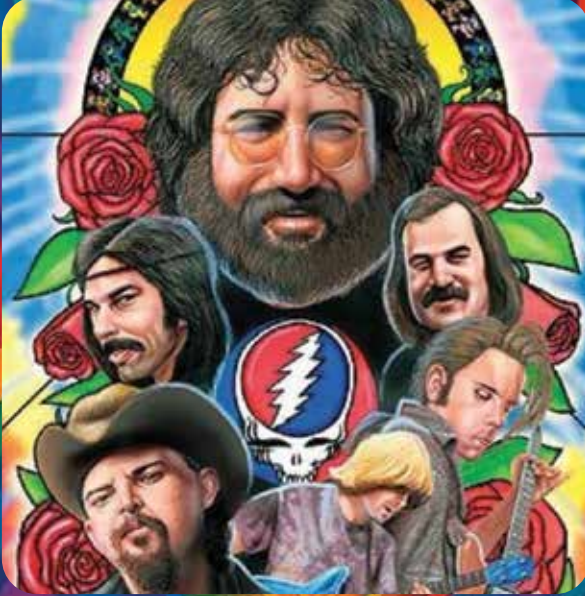


“I had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn’t it.”
—Groucho Marx



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New Bern, NC


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2 PERFORMANCES!
7PM - SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH
3PM - SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH

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PCA Softball

by: Hiram Lupton

Baseball Hall-of-Famer Ernie Banks once said, “It’s a beautiful day for a ballgame, let’s play two.” Last Thursday was certainly a beautiful day and the Pamlico Christian Academy softball team did in fact play two. The Mariners squared off against New Bern Christian Academy at Creekside Park in New Bern in a regularly scheduled game and a rain out make up game. Since both teams play their home games at Creekside, it was the perfect opportunity for a doubleheader. Although the Mustangs took a pair of wins over the Mariners, 11-5 and 20-13, the team is working hard and putting in the effort to improve. Keep up the hard work ladies, those wins will come.



Mariner Pitcher Robin Gaskins



PCA 2nd Baseman Jenna Buck makes the putout



Dannielle Palagyi connects for a triple



Kaley Tyler scores for the Mariners



Scott



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Pamlico Diamond Kings Split Week

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School baseball team took on conference rival Northside-Pinetown last week in a pair of home and home games in which neither team could defend their home turf. On Tuesday the Hurricanes traveled to the Panthers Lair and got a great pitching performance from starter Ross McLamb. The Junior tossed a no-hitter, and only gave up a single walk while striking out 9. The Pamlico offense gave him all the run support he needed in the 10-0 shutout win. The Hurricanes had 6 hits for the game and Lucas Browne had 3 of those, including a triple while driving in 4 runs. The patient ‘Canes were also helped along by Panther pitching who issued 7 walks.

Friday was the return match as this time Pamlico hosted. Northside had an adventure just getting to Bayboro. Only a couple of miles from Pinetown, their bus broke down and they had to transfer to another for the rest of the trip. Then while on HWY 306 they were stopped and then rerouted back around through Aurora due to a brush fire. When the Panthers finally arrived 15 minutes before gametime, they were ready. Their hitters connected 10 times against Hurricane pitching and got some help from the usually reliable Pamlico fielders who committed 5 errors. Ross McLamb, Brady Caccavaro, and Lucas Browne all had 2 hits each for the Hurricanes, that included a big triple from McLamb, but it wasn’t enough as the Panthers paid Pamlico back by taking a 9-4 win back to Northside.

This week Pamlico continues the Home and home trend but on back-to-back days. On Tuesday they host Southside and on Wednesday they travel to Chocowinity to take on the Seahawks at their nest.



Pamlico Pitcher Jeremiah Mitchell



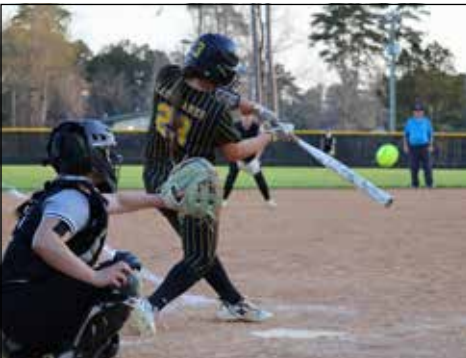
Hurricane Ayden Broughton with a steal of 2nd base

Lady ‘Canes Take Two from Rivals

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School softball team kept rolling right along last week, earning a pair of wins over arch rival Northside-Pinetown and pushing their win streak to seven in a row. On Tuesday they traveled to the Panthers lair, and although falling behind early, showed no panic and dominated the late innings for an 11-6 win. Peyton Robinson went 3 for 4 at the plate and scored 3 times for the Hurricanes while Kylee Morris drove in 4 runs with a pair of extra base hits, a home run and a double. Morris and Avery Cain split time in the circle and their combination of finesse and power pitching kept Northside off balance as each struck out 3 Panthers.

Friday, Northside visited Pamlico and while they may have been looking for some payback, the Hurricanes had other ideas as once again they bested the Panthers, 11-6. Pamlico jumped out early in this one and a late inning comeback attempt by Northside fell short. Both teams connected for 11 hits, but Pamlico made theirs count, in scoring their 11 runs. Payton Force led the offensive attack with 3 hits while driving in 4 runs. Hayley Shamblin also had a pair of hits including a double, driving in 2. The Pamlico defense also stood out in this game, both infield and outfield, with zero errors while making some tough plays. This week the Lady ‘Canes take on Southside twice. On Tuesday the Seahawks fly down to Bayboro and on Wednesday, the Hurricanes visit the Hawks nest.



Kylee Morris connects for the ‘Canes



Pamlico pitcher Avery Cain

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KITCHEN CHATTER


Do you have a favorite recipe or your own?
Send it to us at frontdesk@thepamliconews.com so we can share it with our readers. Include all ingredients, quantities and detailed instructions.

Warm up with a good breakfast

Breakfast has long been touted as the most important meal of the day. After individuals spend several hours sleeping, breakfast refuels their bodies and prepares them to tackle the day ahead. People on the go may not have a lot of time to enjoy breakfast, which means they may grab something quick and not always so healthy. But a filling, hot breakfast provides enough sustenance and nutrients to last until lunch. Such is the case with “Green Chile Breakfast Burritos” from “Taste of Home Healthy Cooking Cookbook” (RDA Enthusiast Brands, LLC) by the Taste of Home Kitchens.

Green Chile Breakfast Burritos
Makes 6 servings

- 6 eggs
- 3 egg whites
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and minced
- Dash cayenne pepper
- 4 breakfast turkey sausage links, casings removed
- 3/4 cup shredded reduced-fat Mexican cheese blend
- 1 can (4 ounces) chopped green chiles, drained
- 6 whole wheat tortillas (8 inches), warmed
- 6 tablespoons salsa



1. In a small bowl, whisk the eggs, egg whites, jalapeño and cayenne; set aside.
2. Crumble sausage into a large skillet; cook over medium heat until no longer pink. Drain. Push sausage to the sides of pan. Pour egg mixture into center of pan. Cook and stir until set. Sprinkle with cheese and chiles. Remove from the heat, cover and let stand until cheese is melted.
3. Place 1/3 cup mixture off center on each tortilla. Fold sides and end over filling; roll up. Top with salsa.

Dig into fun facts about pizza

Craving a slice of pizza? You are likely not alone. According to a recent online survey by Caulipower, a maker of healthier pizza using cauliflower crusts, 98 percent of Americans eat pizza, and 33 million Americans have said they’d make it their last meal if they had a choice. Technomic’s 2020 Canadian Pizza Consumer Trend Report offered that 81 percent of consumers eat pizza at least once a month.


Pizza certainly tops the lists of comfort foods people turn to when they want tasty meals or snacks. Let’s slice into a few more facts about pizza.

- Pizza commands plenty of dates on holiday events calendars. October is National Pizza Month, September 5 marks National Cheese Pizza Day, February 9 is National Pizza Day, April 5 is National Deep Dish Pizza Day, September 10 is National Pepperoni Pizza Day, and the third Friday in May is National Pizza Party Day. There are others as well, helping people to enjoy pizza many days during the year.
- Pizza hails from Italy. Antica Pizzeria is the very first known pizzeria in Italy. It opened in 1738.
- The pizza industry brings in roughly \$30 billion a year.
- Cheese pizza is a favorite of many. However, pepperoni is the most popular topping in the United States and Canada.
- The busiest day for ordering pizza is Super Bowl Sunday. This fast food is easily enjoyed while watching the game.
- “Canadian pizza” contains sauce, mozzarella cheese, bacon, pepperoni, and mushrooms.
- According to the data company ScrapeHero, Hunts Brothers Pizza is the largest pizza chain in the United States, with 9,240 locations as of 2023.
- Boston Pizza, 241 Pizza and Freshslice Pizza are some popular Canadian pizza chains.

Now that we’ve consumed some pizza facts, it’s time to consume the pizza itself. Enjoy this recipe for “Classic Cheese Pizza” courtesy of The Pioneer Woman and Leah Perez.

Classic Cheese Pizza
Yields 6 to 8 servings

- 1 1/4 ounce packet active dry yeast
- 2 teaspoons granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 cup warm water (90 to 100 F)
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons olive oil, divided, plus more for brushing
- 2 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 cup pizza sauce, divided
- 3 cups shredded low-moisture mozzarella cheese, divided
- 1 cup cubed fresh mozzarella cheese, divided
- Fresh basil to serve



1. Sprinkle the yeast and sugar over the warm water in the bowl of a stand mixer. Whisk to combine and then let sit until bubbles have formed on the top, about 5 minutes. Add the flour, 1 tablespoon of olive oil, and salt, and mix with the dough hook on low speed until the dough comes together, about 2 minutes. Scrape the bottoms and sides of the bowl. Increase the speed to medium-low until everything is well incorporated and the dough is sticky, 2 to 3 minutes more.
2. Drizzle the top of the dough and down the sides of the bowl with the remaining 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Use a rubber spatula to flip the dough to coat in the oil. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and let it rise until doubled, about 1 hour and 30 minutes.
3. About 1 hour before you’re ready to make the pizza, place a pizza stone, steel, or an upside-down baking sheet on the upper third rack of the oven. Preheat the oven to 500 F.
4. On a lightly floured work surface, cut the dough in half and form into tight rounds. To form a nice round, flatten the dough onto the circle. Flip it over and gently pull the round against the counter to form a taut ball. Place the rounds on a lightly floured baking sheet with enough space for them to rise and expand, about an hour.
5. Place a 14-inch piece of heavy-duty foil on top of an upside-down half-sheet pan. Lightly brush the foil with oil and dust with flour. While working with one round of dough, cover the other with plastic wrap.
6. On a well-floured surface, press one piece of dough into an 8-inch round with 1-inch outer lip. Carefully lift the dough with your hands, cupping the lip to keep from flattening it. Working quickly, rotate the edge of the dough through your hands in a clockwise motion, allowing gravity to stretch the dough into a round shape. Place the dough back on the flour and stretch it into a 12-inch circle. Transfer to the prepared foil.
7. Sprinkle the surface of the pizza with 2 tablespoons of grated parmesan. Spread 1/2 cup pizza sauce over the parmesan, leaving a 1-inch border. Sprinkle the pizza with 1 1/2 cups of low-moisture mozzarella and 1/2-cup cubed fresh mozzarella.
8. Using the upside down baking sheet as a pizza peel, transfer the pizza with the foil to the preheated baking stone. Bake until the crust is browned and the cheese is bubbling, 12 to 14 minutes. Transfer pizza from the foil to a cooling rack. Brush the crust with olive oil, sprinkle the surface with basil leaves, and serve hot. Repeat the process for the other dough round.



“Pizza is like duct tape;
it fixes everything.”

Churches of Pamlico

Photo by: Hiram Lupton



Bayboro Missionary Baptist Church



OWC APRIL YARD OF MONTH

Charles and Ann Stackhouse moved to Pamlico County, 451 Mills Rd., 17 years ago. They have filled their many planting beds with a wide variety of plants and lots of bulbs including Iris, daffodils and lilies. The flowering plants include butterfly bushes for bees and butterflies; zinnia; Mexican petunia; Lenten rose; and, low growing shrubs such as spirea and Japanese aralia, Virginia sweet spire, and Abelia Kaleidoscope as well as purple pixie. As one can see, it is a mixture, assuming everything survived over the winter. As a fire-fighter, Charles doesn't use pine straw up against the house, they only mulch the beds. Charles keeps the Zoysia grass like a golf course and takes full advantage of their irrigation system which is supplied by well water. Congratulations to the Stackhouses on a lovely and serene landscape.

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Drawing to be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025 at the Hope Regala at River Dunes in Oriental, North Carolina. Tickets are \$100 each. Only 200 tickets are available, and tickets are sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Winner does not need to be present to win. If winner is not present, they will be notified by phone and email on Monday, May 12th. Winner MUST present winning ticket stub or email receipt with matching serial number. Limit 3 tickets per household.



PAMLICO COUNTY
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

HMGP Information session
Wednesday April 16th

Pamlico County is hosting a public information session regarding the North Carolina Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. There will be an introduction given by Pamlico County Manager Mark Brewington, a short presentation by Sara Deskar, and a Q&A session where home owners can learn more details about the application process!

WHEN - April 16th, 6:30 PM - 8:30PM **WHERE - Pamlico County Court House, Court Room 202 Main St, Bayboro**

OPEN TO ALL PAMLICO COUNTY RESIDENTS!
WALK-INS WELCOME!

Application Workshop
Thursday April 24th - 10 AM-7PM

The Application Workshop will be hosted at the Pamlico County Court House, in the Commissioner’s Room, located on second floor, to the right of the elevator.

If you are unable to come to the Application Workshop on April 24th, appointments can be made to assist you on another date. Applications can also be filled out and returned to The Pamlico County HMGP Office at your convenience.

For updates related to application deadlines please visit:
pamlicocounty.org

Pamlico County HMGP Office

 HMGP@PamlicoCounty.org  PamlicoCounty.org

The connection between appearance and self-esteem

Body image is defined as how people feel about the way they look. The Office on Women’s Health says a healthy body image makes a person feels comfortable in his or her body, while a negative body image can put a person at higher risk of depression and eating disorders. Mental health experts say that a person’s thoughts about his or her appearance can affect how that person feels about himself or herself, which can affect self-esteem. A positive body image can result in high levels of self-esteem, fostering confidence and inspiring an individual to prioritize self-care. Conversely, a negative body image can result in lower self-esteem. Harsh criticism of oneself may lead to antisocial behavior or even disregard for one’s personal health. Fostering a positive body image and increasing self-esteem can involve a few strategies. InnerBody Research, a home health company, offers these tips:

- Avoid comparisons to social media and magazine images.
 - Focus on the positive aspects of yourself, but learn to love every part of your body.
 - Maintain a healthy routine, promoting physical and mental well-being.
 - Set realistic expectations.
 - Participate in activities you enjoy and surround yourself with supportive people.
- Working with a therapist also can help improve body image and self-esteem.



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Health&Wellness

What is Parkinson’s Disease?



Parkinson’s disease (PD) is a type of neurologic movement disorder, affecting the brain and causing difficulty with movements, or motor symptoms. It is characterized by its most common motor symptoms — tremors (a form of rhythmic shaking), stiffness or rigidity of the muscles, and slowness of movement (called bradykinesia) — but also manifests in non-motor symptoms including sleep problems, constipation, anxiety, depression, and fatigue, among others, which can be present well before any visible motor symptoms. It is a chronic and progressive condition, meaning that the symptoms become worse over time and can affect the ability to perform common, daily activities.

Who does the disease affect?

There are an estimated 1 million people in the U.S. living with Parkinson’s disease and more than 10 million people worldwide. Most people who develop the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease do so sometime after the age of 50, but Parkinson’s disease can affect younger persons as well. Approximately 10% of Parkinson’s diagnoses occur before age 50—these diagnoses are called Young Onset (or Early Onset) Parkinson’s disease.

Symptoms of Parkinson’s

Parkinson’s disease symptoms vary widely among individuals, presenting a unique combination of motor and non-motor signs. The hallmark symptoms include tremors, stiffness, and slowness of movement, impacting daily activities and quality of life. Additionally, non-motor symptoms such as sleep disturbances, mood changes, and cognitive challenges are increasingly recognized for their significant impact. Early identification and management of these symptoms are crucial for improving patient outcomes.

Causes of Parkinson’s

Understanding the causes of Parkinson’s disease involves exploring a complex interplay of genetic and environmental factors. Research suggests that a combination of genetic predispositions and environmental exposures (such as pesticides and solvents) may contribute to the disease’s onset, although in most cases it is unlikely to know the specific cause(s) of someone’s PD. Ongoing research studies aim to uncover specific genetic markers and environmental risks, offering hope for targeted treatments and prevention strategies.

How does Parkinson’s disease affect the brain?

What makes Parkinson’s disease distinctive is that cell loss occurs in various brain regions, including the substantia nigra (sub-STAN-she-uh NYE-gruh). The nerve cells, or neurons, in this region appear dark under a microscope (substantia nigra is Latin for “black substance”). These dark neurons produce a neurotransmitter (a chemical messenger that allows neurons to communicate) called dopamine, which helps to regulate movement. When the cells of the substantia nigra die, they no longer produce dopamine, leading to challenges with movement. This loss of dopamine is the reason that many treatments for Parkinson’s disease are intended to increase dopamine levels in the brain. In addition to decreases in dopamine and the cells that make dopamine, you might also read or hear about alpha-synuclein (AL-fa-sin-NUKE-lee-un). Alpha-synuclein appears to play a variety of roles in the healthy brain, but in PD it clumps up in various types of nerve cells in the brain including the cells of the substantia nigra. These abnormal accumulations of alpha synuclein are called Lewy (LOO-ee) bodies. Researchers believe that alpha-synuclein build-up contributes to the death of these neurons, and are therefore a key element in the development of PD. Research is currently focused on ways to decrease the buildup of alpha-synuclein as potential treatments for PD.

Diagnosing Parkinson’s disease

Currently, Parkinson’s disease (PD) diagnosis is based on a visual clinical exam done by a doctor (ideally a neurologist or movement disorder specialist) in their office. This means that motor symptoms such as tremor, stiffness and slowness must be apparent before a diagnosis is made by the neurologist. An imaging test called a DaTscan is available for certain clinical situations when the diagnosis is not clear based on clinical exam alone. However, advances in the development of biomarkers are poised to change how PD is diagnosed and potentially allow for diagnosis earlier than when motor symptoms develop.

Treatment & Medication

As of today, there is no cure for Parkinson’s disease. But there are many ways in which the disease can be treated to make symptoms more manageable. Treatment for the disease is tailored to each individual’s symptoms and may include medication, lifestyle changes, and sometimes surgery. The goal is always to manage symptoms effectively and improve quality of life.

Living with Parkinson’s

Following diagnosis, it’s essential to focus on symptom improvement and maintaining an active, positive lifestyle. This involves regular exercise, a healthy diet, exploring various medication and treatment options, and building a supportive healthcare team. It is also important to take care of your emotional wellbeing through support groups, therapy, social activities, and other efforts that will provide opportunities to talk about your PD with others who understand what you’re going through. Effective management of PD symptoms can greatly enhance quality of life. For more guidance on living well with PD, including practical tips and resources, go to <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/living-with-parkinsons-disease/>

Explore Our Parkinson’s Resource Library

Whether you are living with PD, caring for someone with PD, or are just looking for information, check out our new resource library to see articles, videos, webinars, and more in-depth information about Parkinson’s disease. <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/resources/>



Hosted by: Pamlico County Animal Control, Pamlico County Health Department, and Coastal Pet Clinic

Saturday, April 12, 2025
8:00am - 11:00am
Pamlico County Courthouse Parking Lot
(follow the cones/guides)

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COASTAL LIVING

Water Watch

Environmental watchdog launches community-led monitoring program

From Sound Rivers



An aerial photo shows a fuel slick in Oriental Harbor, one of three that have occurred since November 2024. (Contributed photo)



Neuse Riverkeeper Samantha Krop shares information on how to spot sediment pollution with members of the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association. (Sound Rivers)

In April, the environmental nonprofit Sound Rivers will launch its most ambitious program to date: Water Watch.

Led by Sound Rivers’ Riverkeeping team of Neuse Riverkeeper Samantha Krop, Pamlico-Tar Riverkeeper Katey Zimmerman and Water Quality Specialist Taylor Register, Water Watch will train volunteers in the field to collect scientific observations about water quality, flooding, erosion, habitat and more. The data will help inform the Riverkeeping team’s understanding of the health of the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico waterways, flag pollution concerns and monitor and protect more stream miles throughout both watersheds.

The first training in the Neuse watershed will be held April 5, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Town Hall in Oriental.

“I’m really excited about this program. It’s going to be able to plug in people from all across the watersheds who are interested in our work and taking ownership of their local waterways,” Zimmerman said.

Zimmerman and Krop’s riverkeeping roles require monitoring more than 12,000 square miles of watersheds, which include the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico rivers, 928,052 acres of estuary, 5,909 miles of streams and 21,423 acres of freshwater lakes.

“Unfortunately, we can’t be everywhere at once, so that’s where we’re putting Water Watch into play: a team of community scientists to help us keep an eye on those waterways,” Krop said. “We’re hoping to build relationships between community members and their local waterways and build out our capacity as a watchdog organiza-

tion, where those communities are alerting us to issues when they happen.”

Water Watch volunteers commit to one training and visiting a site of their choice in the Neuse or Tar-Pamlico watersheds at least once a month to collect observations. In the early days of the program, data will be submitted directly to the Riverkeepers, but as the program builds out, the goal is to have Water Watchers submit their findings to an online mapping system, where the public can see the observations Water Watch volunteers collect.

For Krop, the program will put eyes on the water, especially in Oriental Harbor, where there have been numerous reports of pollution issues over the past several year.

“This is community-led science in the name of water quality,” Krop said. “We’ll be sharing with Oriental residents the tools and knowledge they need to recognize potential problems and how to report them. Water Watch is a great way to give back to your watershed and community — especially if you’re passionate about water quality.”

Founded in 1980-81, Sound Rivers is one of the oldest grassroots conservation organizations in North Carolina. Sound Rivers monitors and protects two watersheds, covering nearly a quarter of the state. With Riverkeepers on the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico rivers, Sound Rivers’ mission is to preserve the waterways’ health and the health of the people who rely on them through science-based advocacy and environmental justice. For more information about Sound Rivers and how to sign up for the Water Watch program, visit soundrivers.org/water-watch.

New Bern History Exhibit Finds New Home

DoubleTree Now Hosts Historic Collection

NEW BERN, NC. The popular exhibit that wowed thousands at the North Carolina History Center in celebration of the New Bern Historical Society’s 100th Anniversary, has found a new home. It will now grace the walls of New Bern’s DoubleTree Hotel. In partnership with the DoubleTree, the Historical Society has now installed its exhibit “Through the Looking Glass, A Journey with the Storytellers” and it is open and available to the public. This exhibit features hundreds of images from New Bern’s past sharing the stories of many who made our town what it is. You’ll meet folks from Judge Gaston to Abraham Galloway and Gilbert Waters to Miss Gertrude Carraway. You’ll marvel at the many images from our past.

In 2023, the New Bern Historical Society celebrated its 100th Anniversary. After 100 years, the Historical Society has a large collection of images and artifacts of New Bern’s history. Many of these have been hidden for years. After working for three years with the design team from Design Dimension in Raleigh, the exhibit was developed and shared with the public at the Duffy Gallery in the NC History Center. That exhibit came down in January of 2024, but the Historical Society was determined to continue to offer all these wonderful images to the public. The partnership with the DoubleTree has allowed that to happen.



New configuration of the “Drop Me a Line” element of the exhibit featuring 100s of historical postcards.

Executive Director Anthony Giardino has pursued this project since taking the post. “This incredible exhibit is the result of years of leadership, planning, fundraising, and a vision to share these images with the New Bern community. Our Centennial Committee, Board of Directors, generous donors, John Haroldson and Rowena Arroza of DoubleTree Hilton, and Design Dimension are the true champions in bringing this vision to fruition. Thank you to all involved!”

Visitors to the exhibit were delighted! “I’m definitely coming back, there’s so much to see!” “This is the best exhibit I’ve seen here!” and

“There is so much I never knew, and I was born here!” These are just a few of the comments from the visitor’s book during the exhibit’s 9-month life at the History Center. Now we are thrilled to have this exhibit for years to come on display at the DoubleTree Hilton.

Visitors are welcome to visit the exhibit during business hours at the DoubleTree by Hilton at the New Bern Riverfront at 100 Middle Street in New Bern.

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 or www.facebook.com/NewBernHistoricalSociety.

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—Anonymous



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NORTH CAROLINA IN THE
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
PAMLICO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND DEBTORS OF
MAVIS POWELL WILLIAMS
File No.: 25E000005-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to MAVIS POWELL WILLIAMS, ADMINISTRATOR CTA on or before JUNE 10, 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 6TH DAY OF MARCH 2025

ESTATE OF MAVIS POWELL WILLIAMS
C/O SHERRIE MIDYETTE
2235 DON LE RD
ARAPAHOE, NC 28510

Publish MARCH 12, 19, 26 AND APRIL 2, 2025.

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
PAMLICO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND DEBTORS OF
LILLIE MAE PEGRAM
File No.: 25E001027-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to RUSSELL W. PEGRAM, JR, CO-EXECUTOR OR SHEILA DARLENE PEGRAM, CO-EXECUTOR on or before JUNE 10, 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 CO-EXECUTOR'S.

This 12TH DAY OF MARCH 2025

ESTATE OF LILLIE MAE PEGRAM
C/O RUSSELL W. PEGRAM JR
175 COWELL LOOP RD
BAYBORO, NC 28515

ESTATE OF LILLIE MAE PEGRAM
C/O SHEILA D. PEGRAM
224 GIBBS RD
NEW BERN, NC 28560

Publish MARCH 12,19,26 AND APRIL 2, 2025.

Notice to Creditors
North Carolina,
Pamlico County

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Alma F. Brunner, deceased, of New Bern, NC, are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed

below on or before June 12, 2025, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment. This the 12th day of March, 2025.

Michael Serrano Miralda,
Administrator CTA
of the Estate of Alma F. Brunner
% Quay & Associates, P.A.
412 Broad Street
New Bern, NC 28560

PUBLICATION DATES:
03/12/2025, 03/19/2025,
03/26/2025, 04/02/2025

NORTH CAROLINA
PAMLICO COUNTY

Notice to creditors:

All persons, firms and corporations having claims againsts The Estate of JOHN GRAHAM HODGES, SR. deceased, of PAMLICO County, N.C., are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before June 19, 2025, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment.

This 19th day of March, 2025.

John Graham Hodges, Jr. -
Executor
C/O MARY T. SKINNER,

ATTORNEY
Dunn, Pittman, Skinner & Ashton,
PLLC
3230 Country Club Road
New Bern, NC 28562

March 19, 26 April 2, 9

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
PAMLICO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND DEBTORS OF
KAY FRANCES EMERY
File No.: 25E001024-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to DEBORAH HUNTER, EXECUTOR on or before JUNE 17, 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 EXECUTOR.

This 19TH DAY OF MARCH 2025

ESTATE OF KAY FRANCES EMERY
C/O DEBORAH HUNTER
102 TOLER RD
MANTEO, NC 27954

Publish MARCH 19,26, APRIL 2 AND 9 2025.

REPORTS

Village - Section 3 PCA 149-2, PCA 148-7, 148-11, 148-13, 148-15 & 148-17, PIN L10-3-MV3-18 from Lawrence E. Nevins, Jr., Frances Nevins to Lawrence A. Monahan, Sherry A. Monahan, \$350

March 10, Spicers Creek Lot: 10 PCA 58-5 from Anselmo P. Curra, Margaret Curra to John Michael Douglass, Jane M. Jeannero, \$148

March 11, Oriental Plantation Lot: 44, Section 2 PCA 55-6 from James Shirkman, Layla Shirkman to Andrew P. Rich, \$120

March 11, 19E184; One Tract NCSR 1005 & NCSR 1311 Metes & Bounds; map in DB 199/215; Undivided Interest from James R. Rankin, Jr./TR, Martha R. Morris/TR, Martha R. Littleton/TR, Susan R. Daniels/TR, James A. Rankin, Sr./Will Spouses Trust Under the Last Will and Testament of James A. Rankin, Sr. to James R. Rankin, Jr., Martha R. Littleton, Billy G. Littleton, Jr., Susan R. Daniels, Stephen A. Daniels, \$0

March 11, One Tract NCSR 1005 & NCSR 1311 Metes & Bounds; Map in DB 199/215 from James R. Rankin, Jr., Martha R. Littleton, Martha Morris, Billy G. Littleton, Jr., Susan R. Daniels, Stephen A. Daniels to RSA Adventures Unlimited, LLC, \$950

March 11, PIN E031-65; 41/100 AC NC Hwy 306 Silverhill Community; Portion Powers Tract; Sandy Lane, Grantsboro from JLO Enterprises, Inc. to Michaela Murrell, \$460

March 11, Out of PIN K06-1; 96.53 AC PCB 18-12 from OW World, LLC to Spear Fish, LLC, \$388

March 11, Out of PIN K06-1; 96.53 AC PCB 18-12 from Spear Fish, LLC to Danilo G. Castillo/TR, Nancylita C. Castillo/TR, Castillo Family Revocable Trust, \$540

March 11, Riverdale Lot: 6 NW/S Lee Landing Rd (SR 1103) MB 6/30 from Stafon Stokes/TR, Taunya Stokes/TR, Roosevelt Stokes Jr. and Queen E. Stokes Trust, Roosevelt Stokes, Jr., Queen E. Stokes to Bruce D. Cheney,

Sr., Katherine A. Rogers, \$72

March 11, 1.6377 AC Lot 1 PCB 17-7 from Brightside Ventures, LLC to RO Grantsboro Property, LLC, \$700

March 11, PINS J04-74, J03-51 & J03-49-1; 10 AC NC Hwy 304; 2.26 AC N/S S.F. McCotter Field Rd & West of NC Hwy 304; 8.75 AC PCA 143-19 from Thomas Pryor Wright, Julia Anne Wright to Sonja Lauther, Thomas Lauther, \$1,360

March 12, Neuse River Heights Lot: 51 Map in DB 45/354, Neuse River Heights Lot: 52 Map in DB 45/354, Neuse River Heights Block: E Lot: 53, Map in DB 45/354 PIN: J082-347 from Ann L. Clement/TR, The Ann and Neville Clement Revocable Trust, Ann Clement, Neville Clement to Ann L. Clement, \$0

March 12, Neuse River Heights Lot: 51, Map in DB 45/354, Neuse River Heights Lot: 52, Map in DB 45/354, Neuse River Heights Block: E Lot: 53, Map in DB 45/354, Enhanced Life Estate Deed; PIN: J082-347 from Ann L. Clement to Robert Clayton Urey, Jessica Urey, Dat Phan, \$0

March 13, One Tract N/S NC Hwy 304 & W/S SR 1215 from Shonna B. Isaacs, Keith Isaacs, Lisa B. Smith, Demetric Smith, William T. Beasley, III, Mary Beasley, Karisha S. Beasley to Anita L. Beasley, \$0

March 13, 2.36 AC E/S NCSR 1124 PCA 95-2 from Cathy Ann Potter to Austin Holton, \$0

March 14, Arapahoe Post Office NCSR 1300 & NC 306 from Mark S. Kennedy, Anne Milgrom Kennedy, Anne M. Kennedy/AGT to Anne Milgrom Kennedy/TR, The Kennedy Trust, \$0

March 14, PIN I041-15; 1.471 AC N/S NC Hwy 304 Bayboro PCA 140-16 from Chester Scott, Francine Scott to Justin Radcliff, Jamie Abbott Radcliff, \$30

March 14, Kennels Beach Three Tracts; MB 4/18 PIN D091-68 from Anthony Maxton Woodard to Janice Woodard, Freddie Braxton Woodard, Jr., \$150

March 14, .39 AC MB 6/12; Map DB 240/718 from Emily H. Adams, Michael L. Adams, Jerry L. Harrison, II, Jerry L. Harrison, Thomas R. Harrison, Kenneth R. Harrison, Patricia M. Harrison, Donnie F. Harrison, Sophia L. Harrison, Elaine H. Blackwell, Dennis J. Blackwell, Emily H. Adams/EXR, Jewel Harrison Liles/EST to Lydia Cleveland, Gary Cleveland, \$695

March 17, PIN D091-132; One Tract Mimosa Ln & Live Oak Ln Kennel's Beach from Kenneth Duane Evans, Tammy Loucretia Evans, Ginger Evans Feldpausch, Dale Feldpausch to Markham Dale Thompson, Lynnette Byrd Thompson, \$32

March 17, Lot 2 Eugene & Georgette Rodgers Property PCA 132-16; NE/S Church St & S/S Camp Creek Oriental from Nicholas Hyduke, III, Cristy Hyduke to Susan Frye, Charles Frye, Leslie D. Frye, Frances W. Frye, \$820

March 17, DB 349/46 PCA 116-5 from Tracy Ann Hill to Tracy Ann Hill/TR, Tracy Ann Hill, Tracy Ann Hill Living Trust, \$1

March 18, PIN L08-57; One Lot E/S Spring Creek Rd (SR 1327) from Von E. Stokes, Von Stokes to Von E. Stokes, Cozzetta Caldwell, Daryl Caldwell, \$2

March 18, 16,800 Sq Ft Lot 2 PCB 18-15 from Janet Lynn Prosser, Janet L. Prosser to Janet Lynn Prosser, \$0

March 18, Arlington Place Lot: 131 Phase 1 PCA 153-17 from Marshel Doyle Humphries, Susan M. Humphries to Jean Tagliamonte, Efreem Tagliamonte, \$120

March 18, Sea Harbour Marina Boatslip 19 CB 171 from Bristol Holdings, LLC, Sea Harbour Condominium Yacht Club, Inc. to James Kraekel/TR, Suzanne Kraekel/TR, Kraekel Family Trust, \$108

March 18, Garland F. Fulcher Lot: 17 MB 6/5, Garland F. Fulcher Lot: 18 MB 6/5, Garland F. Fulcher Lot: 19 MB 6/5 from Brantley P. Norman Jr., Brantley Norman, Jr., Sylvia B. Norman to H & N Properties, LLC, 40

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AROUND THE COUNTY

Grantsboro Jeff Roberts, *Correspondent*

 Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. I'm not sure when most people read the paper so thought I would cover them all. I hope all of you have had a great week since the last time we met here. Well if you hadn't noticed the pollen is here and man is it showing itself. The other day I was in the work truck and went by a set of pine trees and honestly felt like I was back in Kuwait with a dust storm. Even with all the pollen it sure has been nice to see all the beauty around us. The birds are becoming more active, I have noticed several small baby birds at my feeders on the porch.

On the weekends I have been hanging out with a few couples I got to know last year. One of those couples I met last year in Dawson's Creek were Johnny and June, they are an awesome couple to sit and spend time with in the mornings. June is always taking care of the home, and lately she has been adding onto it. Now ole Johnny, now he is a ramblin man who when I get there has already left and is out in the neighborhood somewhere. June will head to the edge and come deep down and yell for him. Not too long after you will see him coming in, usually carrying in a bit to eat or a new piece for the home. You see Johnny and June are an Osprey couple that spend time in our community from early spring to late fall. They are amazing creatures to watch. If you are ever on Facebook and follow me you most likely have seen their picture.

Enough about that for today, I'm sure there are some events going on soon that I should mention. There is a car show at the college Saturday April 12 at 9 am. I am looking forward to attending and checking out the cars of the past. Time is winding down to get your taxes done. The flea and farmers market is also coming up this Saturday at the Opry.


Last week's picture was a gentleman of the past but an important one. His name was Joseph Reel, son of John Benton Reel. He was married to Clara Brinson, daughter of Alexander Brinson. Joseph, like his father, was a businessman who went out on his own and partnered up with John Rawls in Arapahoe and about two years later bought him out. Joseph was somewhat of an entrepreneur for his time. He ran a telephone line all the way from Arapahoe to Reelsboro just to be able to talk to his father. With the help of John McCotter he also extended those lines down Kershaw into Oriental. With the help of his brother George he extended it to New Bern and Bayboro.

He was also a huge part of the Tram road that ran from Arapahoe to Bairds Creek. I will continue this story next week.



This week's photo is of Johnny and June.

Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, *Correspondent*

 Our little community of West Pamlico is in a state of a flurry of activity. The little house beside Broad Creek UCC now has added another floor and a roof. They completed the greenhouse structure on top of the large shipping crate. Some construction equipment was parked at Broad Creek UCC on Sunday. There is definitely a lot of activity going on at the intersection of Trent and Straight Roads. Some men were cleaning the lot next door where a house had been moved there several years ago, but it had never been finished. There is also a new business enterprise on Trent Road. The sign across from Kenny Hill's house says, "Trent Road RV & Boat Storage."

Broad Creek United Church of Christ commemorates their 160th anniversary. Events highlighting this milestone in the church's history include a banquet on April 5, 2025, at Pamlico Community College's Delamar Center, a church service on April 6, 2025, and a Souvenir Anniversary Booklet. For information, contact Elbert Mattocks at 252-249-9865.

Bayboro Missionary Baptist Church is hosting the county-wide Lenten service each Wednesday during Lent. There is a short worship service starting at noon followed by a fellowship meal after the service. Following is a schedule for the remaining services:


- April 2 - Evangelist Carnell J. Barrow, West Branch Missionary Baptist Church
- April 9 - Apostle Thelmond Cooper, True Worshipers Assembly of ENC Pastor
- April 16 - Reverend Scott Fitzgerald, Bayboro Missionary Baptist Church Pastor

Stonewall Methodist Choir will perform their Easter Cantata, "Lamb of God" on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 6:00 pm. Reelsboro Methodist is preparing to perform "Written in Red." Night performances on April 8th & 10th-13th at 7:30 pm. Matinee performances April 12th & 13th at 4:00 pm. No admission fee and first come, first serve seating.

Celebrating birthdays in April include Scott Fitzgerald (4/6), Tommy Lupton (4/13), Zeffie Roberts (4/14), JoAnn Kelleher (4/16), Maria Machle (4/17), Chris Machle (4/18), Shannon Ellenberg (4/22), April Dawn Edwards (4/23), Serenity Henries (4/24) Justin Rodgers (4/28), Amy Smith (4/29) and Cynthia Delamar (4/30). Celebrating anniversaries in April are Greg & Vicky-Mosely Jones (4/2) and Tillie & Zeffie Roberts (4/14).

Have a blessed week. Lonely? Take Spiritual Vitamin L. "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matthew 28:20)


Whortonsville Reba Tiller, *Correspondent*

 We are all praying for rain especially for the famers for planting season is here! We will not have the fresh vegetables like potatoes and corn, fresh fruits like strawberries and blueberries without the rain. My nephew owns a large blueberry farm and Russ and I go over and get blueberries to freeze. Blueberries are one of the most nutritious fruits to eat. Cottle Farms sells my nephew's berries and you can buy them in Food Lion here. They are not in yet so the berries in the grocery store are from somewhere else. Bethel had lunch after the service yesterday, fried chicken, potato salad, several other dishes and many desserts. Alex and Stephanie were very busy on Saturday hosting oyster parties for birthdays and other occasions. Talked to Dave

M. on Saturday and he is now a beekeeper. I am waiting for some Whortonsville honey! Had a scan on Tuesday in New Bern for my cancer and it is gone, thank the Lord. I made 21 round trips to New Bern for radiation so I am thankful it is behind me! Bethel has Bible Study and Prayer meeting on Wednesday nights starting at 6:00 p.m. We have a member of our community who is fighting cancer so pray for Tracy. I heard no one could burn their socks in Oriental on Saturday because of the burn ban.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK— FAITH CAN TURN TRIALS INTO TRIUMPHS AND GLOOM INTO GLADNESS. (WINSTON CHURCHILL)

Aurora Joy McCracken, *Correspondent*

 Well, the big news is that Beaufort County BOE voted 7-2 to begin the process of closing Snowden. While there will be future informational meetings and public comment opportunities, the current low enrollment is the real culprit in this decision and it supposedly isn't final. You can look up segments on this with WITN and WNCT to hear more detailed information.

I saw my first butterfly, a Black Swallowtail, on 3/22. The Azaleas are starting to pop along with some late blooming Camillas.

I saw my first Dolphin pod of the season on 3/17. There are still some ducks hanging about in the creek.

The heater is off and the windows open but pollen is getting into the house. There is so much on the deck I leave tracks. While in the grocery store I received enough pollen on the car to use the windshield wipers!

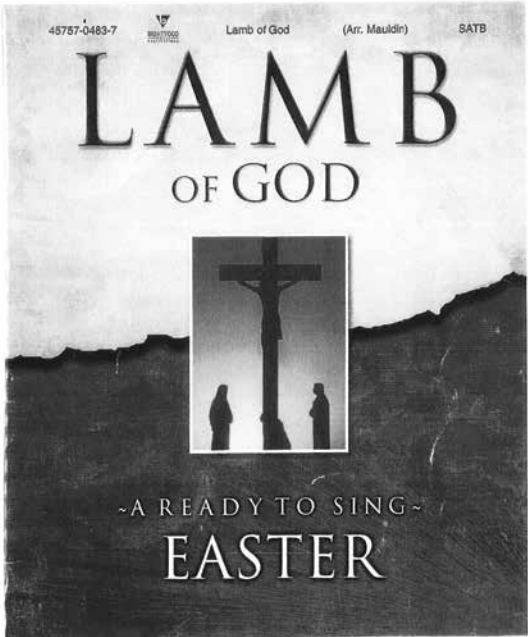
The table feeder is now attracting Doves each day along with the usual suspects of Chickadees, Cardinals, Thrashers (a pair!), Titmice, Catbird, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Nuthatches, House Finches, White-throated and Song Sparrows and Anneke the Cat's favorite: Squirrels.

I came across the most decadent dessert: Dubai Chocolate Strawberries. It has fresh strawberries, creamy pistachio, crunchy kataifi, tahini and milk chocolate. Come on strawberry season!



My Photo of the week is of Indian Island at sunrise.

STONEWALL METHODIST CHURCH PALM SUNDAY



APRIL 13, 2025 AT 6PM

All Are Welcome

FOR SALE



WHITE TRUCK CAP
FORD F-150 6 1/2 FOOT BED

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LAST NIGHT
APPARENTLY THEY
PREFER GRAIN

PUBLIC NOTICE ATTENTION ALL PARENTS OF PAMLICO COUNTY PRIVATE/HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

A meeting will be held on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 10:00 am in the Pamlico County Schools Board of Education meeting room at 507 Anderson Drive, Bayboro, NC 28515 for representatives of private schools and home schools concerning students with disabilities. The purpose of this meeting is to allow these parties an opportunity to consult with a Pamlico County Schools representative about the proportionate share of federal funds that are available for special education for the 2025-26 school year.

Please contact Bettie Davis at 252-745-4171 ext. 630 if additional information is needed.


In compliance with federal law, Pamlico County Schools administers all education programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF MEETINGS PAMLICO COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION & REVIEW

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 105-322 that the 2025 Pamlico County Board of Equalization and Review will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. in the Commissioners room on the second floor of the Pamlico County Courthouse, 202 Main St. Bayboro, NC 28515. The Board will meet for the purposes of performing its statutory duties and to receive requests and hear appeals of taxpayers relating to the 2025 property listings and appraisals.

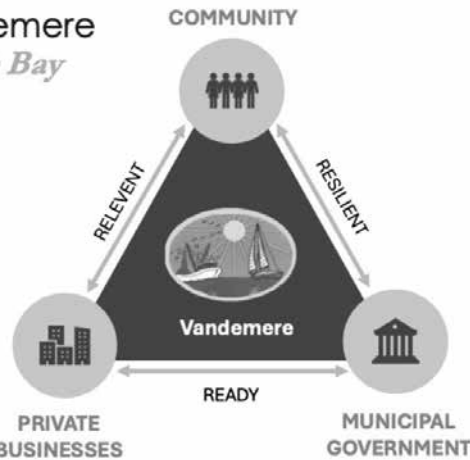
The 2025 Pamlico County Board of Equalization and Review will convene on Wednesday, April 2nd at 2:30 p.m. and adjourn on Wednesday, May 7th at 2:30 p.m. in the same location. In the event of earlier or later adjournment, notice to that effect will be published in this same newspaper as provided by law.

Vandemere Sandra Snipes, *Correspondent*

 Hello from Vandemere! Besides pollen clouds in the air, this week has been peaceful and inviting to go outdoors and take in the beauty. This weekend the Vandemere Mayor and the Pamlico County Department Lead for Planning and Economic Growth hosted a business brunch for entrepreneurs who have a vested interest in our town. The response was outstanding, and the information exchanged was so enlightening. Long story short, we all see Vandemere for its potential, as well as for its rich heritage and history. Our town's unique assets are the focus of how we can evolve into a more

economically stable municipality while continuing to honor and not forget its history. Moving forward, we recognize that economic prosperity is not a single person's endeavor; but, a collaborative effort between the community, the municipal government, and private businesses. The business brunch was another step in aligning our efforts. Our next step is to conduct a guided open town hall to hear what the residents and locals envision for Vandemere. This meeting will be held on April 14, 2025 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Our future is bright! Take a look and see what Vandemere is all about at www.vandemerenc.com

Town of Vandemere
Business by the Bay
Workshop...



Village By the Sea

Illustration: Sandra Snipes



OUR SCHOOL

All About Volcanos, Chocolate Cookies and Magnifying Glasses!

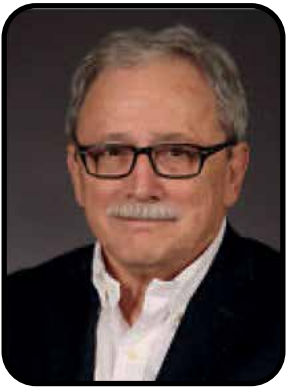
Lots of projects ahead of Spring! Several classes did a volcano experiment to review concepts learned and CLA when they learned about the history of the Earth. Students also learned about volcanos and did a fun volcano experiment outside. Our high school helper and a student's family member helped during the experiment. Before the experiment, students made predictions and when they were finished, they recorded their observation and wrote what they would do next time.



After a career in literary and film studies spanning more than 50 years, we are so very pleased to welcome Dr. Vela

Our students and staff not only enjoyed learning so much from Dr. Vela, many in the audience left with thoughts of learning more! After a career in literary and film studies spanning more than 50 years, professor Richard Vela retired in 2024 from UNC Pembroke. Dr. Vela has a PhD from UNC Chapel Hill and a BA and MA from the University of Dallas. His areas of expertise are Shakespeare, Film, Latino Literature, Early Modern Literature, and Contemporary Literature. He has taught at UNCP since January 1971 and has presented over 140 conference papers, 90 of which have been on Shakespeare and film. His publications include co-authoring Shakespeare into Film (2002); the Shakespeare articles in The Encyclopedia of Orson Welles (2003); "Apocalyptic Spaces in Baz Luhrmann's William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet" in Apocalyptic Shakespeare (2009); "John Huston's Mexico" (2010); and "Sicarios and the Latin American Assassin" in Next Generation Adaptation: Spectatorship and Process (2021). He has, also, published a total of 40 articles and reviews, including, "Daughter of Invention: The Poetry of Julia Alvarez" in Postscript (1999), and "Shakespeare, Hollywood, and Mexico: The Cantin-

flas Romeo y Julieta" in Literature/Film Quarterly (2002). Dr. Vela has chaired the area of Shakespeare on Film and Television for the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) since 2011, following six years at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA). His awards include the North Carolina Board of Governors Award for Teaching Excellence; the Adolph L. Dial Faculty Award for Scholarship and Creativity; the University Outstanding Teacher Award; The Danforth Foundation Fellowship; and the Ford Foundation Fellowship. In 2002, he was also awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowship to attend a five-week institute called "Shakespeare's Stages: Inside and Out," which included work at the Blackfriars in Staunton, VA, and the Globe in London. He also participated in the Royal Shakespeare Company Teacher Workshop at Davidson College and attended the Sewanee Writers Conference.



What's Happening?

- April is Autism Awareness month. Did you know that 1 in 36 children in the US are diagnosed with Autism, also known as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). April is the month for Autism Awareness. Please help us "Light It Up Blue" by wearing something BLUE on April 2nd and all month long!
- Get ready for our 2nd Annual ACS Color Run on Friday April 11th @ 1:30 pm \$10 for students to run(3rd-12th only) / \$15 for parents to run / \$3 To watch and cheer on runners (K-2nd may only watch) / \$1 per cup of color to throw on runners!
- Get aboard the Recycle Bus! Mr. Acuna's Earth and Environmental class is continuing to drop off recyclables collected on the school provided "Recycle Bus". The county took their container away this year so we had to come up with another way to get recyclables to the County Transfer Station and keep the program going! Students are continuing with daily collection and taking to the Transfer Station every month or so with my Earth Environmental class. We're hoping the county might bring back containers soon.

April @ the Marybelle Hollowell Annex – Temporary Location for the Pamlico County Library

Please be aware that on April 1, 2025, we will close the Pamlico County Library, located at 603 Main Street, to begin moving to our new facility at 13896 NC-55, Alliance, NC 28509. During the move, we will offer limited services at the Marybelle Hollowell Annex Children's Library, situated at 709 Main Street, Bayboro, NC 28515.

Temporary hours of operation for the MHA location are as follows:
Monday to Thursday: 9 AM - 3 PM
Friday: 9 AM - 6 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 2 PM

Programs will be available on a limited basis. Laptops and iPads will be available for patron use. Library book holds, new books for browsing, regular library services such as puzzle and magazine exchanges, as well as faxing, printing and copying services, will continue to be offered via our temporary location.

The Book Tech Mobile is an excellent resource for accessing the Craven-Pamlico Regional Library. Our outreach team will provide services through the Book Tech Mobile on the first Friday of every month. The first stop will be at the Piglet in Oriental from 10 AM to 12 PM, followed by a second stop at the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church from 2 PM to 4 PM. For a complete schedule of the Book Tech Mobile's stops, visit <https://mycpri.org/book-tech-mobile>.

"The new library is almost ready, and the moving preparations have begun! We will soon be in our new Pamlico County Library, providing you with the library services you know and love. We are committed to ensuring little to no service interruptions during this transition. Please be sure to visit us at our temporary location as we move. Our team will work hard to make the move happen efficiently so we can be in our new home as soon as possible. Please stay tuned for a soft opening date in our May announcement. Thank you so much for your support and enthusiasm. We've almost built the library!"
- Sidney J. Phibbons, Pamlico County Librarian

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Prime Time provides services and activities promoting the physical, social, mental and spiritual well being of individuals aged 50+ in Oriental and surrounding Pamlico County. Prime Time partners with numerous organizations bringing together many resources helping area residents sustain an enriched and independent quality of life.

Director Phone: 252-675-0909 • Email: director@primetimetepamlico.org

Breakfast with Friends @ Brantley's
Thursday's – April 3, 10, 17, 24
8:30 am

Please join the group at Brantley's (Center Room) for breakfast. The breakfast will continue every Thursday at 8:30. (Except for when they are closed). Come as you are able. Breakfast is on your own. All are invited!

Prayer Shawl
Thursday's – April 3, 10, 17, 24
10:00 am
Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

Crochet, knit shawls or lap robes to share with those that are in need. Please call Leigh Price for details. 919.219.2446.

Card Making Class
Wednesday – April 9
10:00 am – Noon
Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

The class will meet each month on the 2nd Wednesday to make cards and enjoy each other's company. The class is led by Cheryl Mcaskill, a Stampin'Up demonstrator. She will provide most of the supplies needed, and each person will make 8 cards during the class. Class Limited to ten people. Cost for paper supplies is \$25/ month. Advance Registration is required director@primetime-pamlico.org

Game Day
Wednesday – April 9
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

Please join us for an afternoon of fun-filled board games, cards, and fellowship! All skill levels are welcome! We've been playing Rummikub, but it's always exciting to introduce new games and learn from others. If you have a favorite game that you're passionate about, it could be a great opportunity to share it with others and maybe even inspire new enthusiasts. Do you have a specific game in mind that you'd like to teach at the event? Please call Debora

252.675.0909, so we can share with potential attendees.

On the Road Again
Tour the Tryon Palace Garden
Followed by their Annual Plant Sale
Tryon Palace - New Bern
Friday, April 11
11:00 am

Join Prime Time to tour The Tryon Palace Gardens on Friday, April 11th when the Palace will be offering free admittance to the gardens! After touring the gardens, we will browse the plants available as the Palace hosts their Annual Spring Heritage Plant Sale on the Palace Front Lawn. There you will be able to purchase plants and take home the beauty of the Tryon Gardens that they have grown in their nursery and locally.

If you would like to attend and tour as a group, RSVP to director@primetimetepamlico.org or by calling 252.675.0909

Lunch & Learn
Spring Garden Chores: Lawns, Ornamentals and Vegetables Gardens
Wednesday, April 16
Noon – 1:30 pm
Oriental United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Join Prime Time and Daniel Simpson, Pamlico County Cooperative Extension Director for a Lunch & Learn as he discusses the most frequently asked spring gardening questions. Many questions will be answered: like weed control in lawns, fertilization, vegetable planting dates, and pruning tasks, but be sure to bring your specific questions as well.

Daniel Simpson serves as the County Extension Director and Agriculture Agent for NC Cooperative Extension Pamlico County, having been employed with Extension since 2008. Daniel is a graduate of NC State University with a B.S. in Natural Resources Ecosystem Assessment and a Master's Degree in Agriculture & Extension Education. Daniel is a deacon with the Oriental Free Will Baptist Church, and serves on the board with the Pamlico

Historical Association. Daniel enjoys providing educational instruction to homeowners in regards to home gardening, landscaping, and lawn care. If you need of assistance with any of these topics, you can contact Daniel at Daniel_simpson@ncsu.edu or 252-745-4121.

A Matter of Balance
Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

Date & Time To Be Announced

If you are interested in participating in the Matter of Balance class, please email director@primetimetepamlico.org or calling 252.675.0909. Once we have 6 participants we can schedule the class.

It is estimated that one-third of adults over the age of 60 and 50 percent of adults over the age of 80 will fall each year. Fear of falling can be just as dangerous as falling itself. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in severe physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater.

This program is designed to empower older adults to take control over their lives and reduce their fear of falling. A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls, emphasizes practical strategies to reduce and control fear and increase activity levels so that seniors can improve their quality of life and remain independent. • Participants learn to set realistic goals • Change their environment to reduce fall risk factors • Learn exercises to increase strength and balance • Are taught how to get up after a fall. Class limited to 16 participants.

Registration Required Call 252.675.0909 or email director@primetimetepamlico.org.

ice cream

The adage, “Success has many fathers, but failure is an orphan” is an applicable turn of phrase in many instances, and it seems to ring true when trying to pin down the origins of ice cream. A 2019 study from Datassential that surveyed more than 2,500 consumers about their dessert habits and preferences found that ice cream is the No. 1 dessert. If that's a fairly straightforward pursuit, identifying the origins of this beloved treat is not so easy. Many attribute the origins of ice cream to China's Tang dynasty, which was in power from 618 to 907. History.com notes that sources from that period reference a sweet drink made from iced, camphor-laced water buffalo milk, which certainly sounds similar to modern day ice cream. But others point much further back, noting that iced drinks and desserts were sold along the Euphrates River as far back as at least 4000 B.C. History.com also notes that the first European ice creams can be traced to Italy in the 1600s. The difficulty with distinguishing the exact origins of ice cream, and the various claims that trace those beginnings to one place or another, support the notion that success, in this case the confectionary triumph that is ice cream, indeed has many fathers.





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PAWS Annual Dog Parade

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

LOU MAC PARK, ORIENTAL

(No Rain Date)

Registration **10-11:00 am** Parade starts at **11:00 am**
\$5.00 per dog Costumes Encouraged!

Easter Egg Hunt for the Dogs
is back by popular demand!

Prizes awarded in many categories just for fun. You can donate the most money to the Bribe Judge and be guaranteed an award!

All dogs around the park (even if not participating) must be leashed and vaccinations up to date.

"PAWS DOGS" hot dog cart will be selling hot dogs and drinks.

All proceeds support PAWS, a not for profit organization, that assists the animals of Pamlico County.





GO TO www.pamlicopaws.net



Or the Pamlico Animal Welfare Society Facebook Page



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