

# The Pamlico News

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

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On Wednesday, March 19, 2025, The Pamlico County Sheriff's Office went to the residence of Darrell WAYNE to serve an arrest warrant for Child Abuse after a video of WAYNE slapping a 3-year-old child circulated our community. Upon arrival, deputies were met by a female that disclosed



Darrell Raquin Wayne

WAYNE was not at the residence. After a search of the home WAYNE was located inside the residence. Pamlico County deputies were familiar with WAYNE from previous incidents.

During the arrest, WAYNE was actively resisting. Once outside of the residence, WAYNE again attempted to assault law enforcement at which time an altercation took place. After the arrest, WAYNE was transported to the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office. WAYNE was transported to Carolina East for medical evaluation and brought back to the Pamlico County detention facility.

Pamlico County Sheriff Chris Davis has asked District Attorney Scott Thomas to review the case. The Pamlico County Sheriff's Office will cooperate with the investigation and no further statements will come from the sheriff's office regarding this case.



**DISTRICT ATTORNEY REQUESTS NORTH CAROLINA STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION TO INVESTIGATE PAMLICO COUNTY INCIDENT**

Bayboro, North Carolina – District Attorney Scott Thomas was notified by Pamlico County Sheriff Chris Davis of an incident involving a Pamlico County Deputy Sheriff and an individual being arrested on an outstanding warrant. The incident occurred Wednesday, March 19, 2025, in the Maribel community. District Attorney Thomas and Sheriff Davis have requested the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation to investigate the incident and to report their findings to the District Attorney's Office for review. No other information will be provided at this time as this incident is now under investigation by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation.



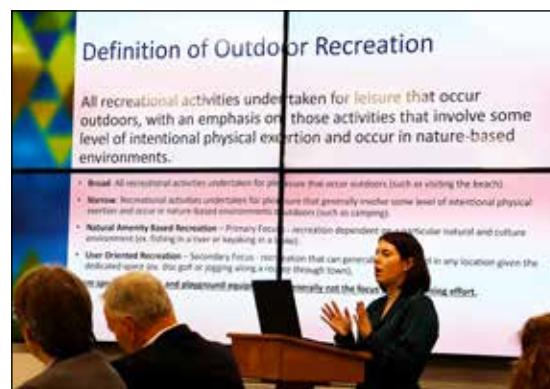
Overcome seasonal allergies

■ On Page A5

## Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies

by: Hiram Lupton

Anyone who lives here, or has visited here for any length of time knows that Pamlico County is a beautiful place to be outdoors. Outdoor recreation is defined as activities undertaken for leisure that occur outdoors, with an emphasis on those activities that involve some level of intentional physical exertion and occur in nature-based environments. How to capitalize economically on that outdoor recreation is the focus of Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies (CORE). At the last Pamlico County Board of Commissioners Meeting, Ms. Samantha Darlington, Community Economic Development Planner with the North Carolina Department of Commerce, gave the BOC an update on a study she is conducting along with Beth Bucksot, County Economic Development Director, on how the County can use CORE. It is basically a two-pronged approach. Utilizing CORE to improve the quality of life and health of Pamlico County citizens and how to get the most benefit economically from nonresidents who already come here to recreate. The first part is obvious. When residents can take advantage of outdoor recreational activities right here in the County without having to travel outside the county to do them, they are healthier and happier. The second point of emphasis is to make sure that those who come to our county to recreate spend their dol-



Samantha Darlington, Community Economic Development Planner with the North Carolina Department of Commerce gives CORE presentation to the Pamlico County BOC.

lars right here in Pamlico County. Statewide, outdoor recreation created an estimated \$14.5 billion in added economic impact. How to make sure Pamlico County gets its share of that economic impact is a part of CORE. Analysis of economic data and community surveys played a big part in identifying what residents want for recreation and what visitors spend their money on when they

come here. Two needs stood out in the community surveys, walking/hiking trails and public fishing access. Another part of the survey dealt with where and on what recreators spent their money on. Visitors who come here for a day trip or to spend a weekend, often don't buy supplies locally. Whether it is bait and tackle in Kinston or snacks and provisions in New Bern, those are dollars that are not being spent here, but spent on the way here. This is where the CORE study is now, the next step is identifying and developing a five-year plan that will increase resident satisfaction with outdoor recreation in our county as well as how to increase the economic impact visitors can have by keeping the dollars they spend right here in Pamlico County. If they are coming here to recreate, and they already are, make sure they help our economy while they are here. Developing two or three strategies, and in which direction those strategies are targeted is the next step.



## Burn ban issued for all North Carolina counties due to hazardous forest fire conditions

Due to increased fire risk, the N.C. Forest Service has issued a ban on all open burning and has canceled all burning permits statewide effective 8 a.m. Friday, March 21, until further notice.

"It is spring wildfire season in North Carolina, and we are seeing wildfire activity increase due to dry conditions," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "With these ongoing conditions, a statewide burn ban is necessary to reduce the risk of wildfires starting and spreading quickly. Our top priority is always to protect lives, property and forestland across the state. It is imperative that folks adhere to this burn ban until further notice."

Under North Carolina law, the ban prohibits all open burning in all 100 counties in this instance, regardless of whether a permit was previously issued. The issuance of any new permits has also been suspended until the ban is lifted. Anyone violating the burn ban faces a \$100 fine plus \$183 court costs. Any person responsible for setting a fire may be liable for any expenses related to extinguishing the fire.

The burn ban does not apply to fires started within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling. A local fire marshal has authority to issue a burn ban within that 100 feet space.

Local fire departments and law enforcement officers are assisting the N.C. Forest Service in enforcing the burn ban.

The N.C. Forest Service will continue to monitor conditions. Residents with questions regarding a specific county can contact their N.C. Forest Service county ranger or their county fire marshal's office.

## Forest fire damage is on the rise

The devastating wildfires that broke out in various areas of Los Angeles in early 2025 prompted renewed curiosity about wildfires and led many to question if the frequency of the blazes was on the rise. A recent analysis conducted by the World Resources Institute found that the area burned by forest fires increased by roughly 5.4 percent per year between 2001 and 2023. The figures are telling, as the WRI noted in its report that fires now cause about six million more hectares of tree cover loss each year than they did around the turn of the century. In addition, the analysis found that fires account for roughly one-third of all tree cover loss across the globe, though some countries are experiencing greater wildfire-related devastation than others. For example, the WRI noted in its report that extreme wildfires, such as those that affected Los Angeles in early 2025, accounted for 65 percent of fire-driven tree cover loss in 2023.



## New High School Baseball Field Christened

by: Hiram Lupton

Last Friday was a big day for Pamlico County's High School baseball team. After several months of construction, the first game was played at their new baseball field. There is still lots of work left to do like lights, a scoreboard, and exterior landscaping, but the field looked great. The visitor's dugout still needs a roof, but with the beautiful weather Friday, no one seemed to mind. Rebecca Lansche, the Principal of Pamlico County High School threw out the ceremonial first pitch in the new ballpark. "Baseball Becky" as she will now be known as, threw her famous looping curveball that has fooled so many batters over the years. It is planned that there will be a formal dedication ceremony at next season's first home game when everything is complete.



The Green Grass of a new field



The Principal of Pamlico County High School, Rebecca Lansche, tosses the ceremonial first pitch



Hurricane Cam Daniels scores the first run at the new ballpark

## WEEKEND WEATHER


 Saturday, March 29th **75°Hi** Mostly cloudy throughout the day

 Sunday, March 30th **74 °Hi** Cloudy throughout the day

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## Pamlico Community College

### High-achieving Mehring says Pamlico Community College played a role in her success

By Sandy Wall

Even before she arrives at N.C. State University in Raleigh for her freshman year, Pamlico County High School senior Shelby Mehring is running at the front of the Wolfpack.

The 18-year-old from Olympia recently was awarded the prestigious, merit-based Park Scholarship, which will cover her tuition, fees, room and board, and related expenses for her undergraduate years at NCSU.

Additionally, Mehring will be bringing 25 hours of transferable college credit to State, thanks to her participation in the N.C. Career & College Promise (CCP) program.

By taking and passing college-level CCP courses offered by Pamlico Community College, she has a head start on both her undergraduate degree in Animal Science and her ultimate goal of becoming a veterinarian.

"I knew being involved in the CCP program would prepare me for going to college," Mehring said. "It's definitely given me the confidence that I'm going to be successful."

CCP courses offered through PCC enable motivated high school juniors and seniors to get a tuition-free head start on a college degree or a great hands-on career. The courses, which are offered in both seated and online formats, are open to high school juniors and seniors who attend PCHS, Arapahoe Charter School, Pamlico Christian Academy or a home school.

The credits that high schoolers earn by passing the tuition-free courses at PCC transfer to all public colleges and universities in North Carolina. Many of the state's private colleges and universities accept them, as well.

Mehring has earned enough credits to cover nearly all of her general education requirements such as English, history and literature, which will put her ahead of many of her NCSU classmates. She's excited about getting started on her undergraduate degree and eventually enrolling in NCSU's College of Veterinary Medicine.

"I love science and I love animals," Mehring said, singling out horses as her favorite. "I want to be a horse vet with a truck with my name on it."



Pamlico County High School senior Shelby Mehring is heading to N.C. State University in Raleigh this August with 25 hours of college credit she earned by taking and passing courses offered by Pamlico Community College through the N.C. Career & College Promise program. She is the daughter of Robbie and Amanda Mehring of Olympia. Contributed photo

She enjoys volunteering with Horses of Pamlico, a local non-profit organization that treats horses that have been abused, injured or abandoned. Mehring also enjoys riding horses, although her busy schedule in and out of the classroom has meant she doesn't get much time in the saddle.

She is the commanding officer of her high school's Navy JROTC organization and has been a member and leader of the Hurricanes' cross country and track teams. Mehring plays the violin and performs with her sister, Lila, at church services and other events, and she has been involved in a number of other school and community activities.

In the classroom, she excels. Mehring is ranked at the top of her class and has never received a grade lower than an A, although she says a Physics course she now takes is giving her a run for her money.

"I've always been committed to grades," the high-achieving young woman said, adding that she can be a little demanding and "hyper-analyzing" of herself.

In her free time – if there is any – Mehring enjoys visits to the beach and caring for her family's dog and chickens.

"Shelby is an outstanding student whose hard work and determination have earned her an extremely prestigious scholarship," said Derek Godwin, who oversees the college's CCP program. "As her college advisor, I've seen firsthand her incredible drive, intellect and passion for learning. She is truly destined for greatness!"

Despite her long list of accomplishments and honors, Mehring remains humble. She said she'll miss Pamlico and attending high school with her sister, who is a sophomore, but she's looking forward to new adventures in Raleigh.

"I'm definitely excited to get out there and meet people," Mehring said.

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

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We can't say enough good things about her help and availability during this purchase. We would definitely use her again if ever needed and will refer her to anyone in need of a Broker.

*Michael and Debby*



**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.

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## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- March 26th – Today is Manatee Appreciation Day.
- March 27th – Today is National Joe Day. This includes Joe's, Jo's, Josephine's, Joseph's, Joey's, Giuseppe's, Yosef's, Jose's, Josie's, ....
- March 28th – Today is Weed Appreciation Day. I appreciate all my weed(s).
- March 29th – 1973, American combat and combat support units withdrew from Vietnam.
- March 30th – Today is National I Am in Control Day. I am nowhere near in control, but I Am is always in control. (Exodus 3:14)
- March 31st – 1889, Paris landmark, the Eiffel Tower, opens.
- April 1st – Happy April Fool's Day.

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

March 26th – 1931, Actor Leonard Nimoy  
 March 26th – 1930, The First female Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Conner  
 March 27th – 1969, Singer Mariah Carey  
 March 28th – 1955, Singer and Actress Reba McEntire  
 March 29th – 1968, Actress Lucy Lawless  
 March 30th – 1945, Musician Eric Clapton  
 March 30th – 19??, Director of the Pamlico County Special Olympics Jessie Aldridge  
 March 30st – 1970, Triple Crown Winner Secretariat



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## COMMUNITY



### The Old Theater Oriental, NC

#### The Old Theater Presents Dee Dee King & Company Concert

Celebrating Mother's Day 2025  
 Saturday, May 10 at 7:00 PM

Advance Tickets: \$39 available now at Nautical Wheelers in Oriental and New Bern or online at [www.oldtheater.org](http://www.oldtheater.org). Tickets at the door are \$45.



Dee Dee King & Company will present another unforgettable Mother's Day Celebration Concert to the delight of his fans. Mothers of all ages will be pampered with the best music imaginable from an all-star band, including the impeccable vocals and soul-stirring performance by award-winning musical and vocal phenomenon, Dee Dee King. Expect a musical journey that will take you down memory lane reminiscing on favorite hits, ballads, love songs, and more from yesteryear as well as today and from multiple genres. This soulful performance will include jazz, smooth jazz, blues, pop, R&B, Motown, Classic Rock and more. You will be moved, energized, invigorated, and fulfilled knowing that this was much more than a show or concert, but an historic musical encounter that will leave the theater full of emotion, love, and joy. Witness a heartfelt tribute by Dee Dee King to his mother and grandmother, who were native daughters of Oriental. Treat Mom on this Mother's Day with a gift of great music and special extras she will never forget.

Tickets may be available at the Box Office one hour before the performance for \$45. Complimentary tickets will not be accepted for this event. Doors open at 6:00 for this show. Wine and soft drinks will be available by donation.

The Old Theater is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a venue for performing arts in Oriental, Pamlico County and all Eastern North Carolina. The theater is located at 609 Broad Street in Oriental, NC. For additional information call 252-249-0477 or visit their website: [https://oldtheater.org](http://oldtheater.org).



#### 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)

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## Horoscopes



### ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may encounter some stubborn people this week and that always has the potential for confrontation. Make yourself scarce if conversations veer in the wrong direction.



### TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Things might not be lining up perfectly for a whirlwind trip right now, Taurus. Don't let it get you down. In a few more weeks, an entirely different story may emerge.



### GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, this is a good opportunity to begin clearing up the clutter in your life. Start tackling the mess as soon as possible and enjoy the weight being lifted off your shoulders.



### CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Try not to sweat the small stuff right now, Cancer. It often is easier said than done, but the little things could be dimming your light unnecessarily. Seek the support of positive people.



### LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, there are plenty of opportunities available to you now whether you realize it or not. Keep an open mind and easily open eyes to see if you can spot chances to learn and grow.



### VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, your mind and heart are simply not able to let something go that happened in the past. Your emotions may feel restricted because of it. It's a passing thing and will resolve.



### LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you are going through a period of evaluation of certain things in your life. This may bring about tension and even some friction, but it's a necessary step for you.



### SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

This week there may be a weighty air that puts a damper on your jovial nature, Scorpio. Instead of getting down on yourself, use this time to focus and get a job done.



### SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, you have a chance to make tremendous progress and further your career. It will take hard work, but the rewards will start to roll in soon enough.



### CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Avoid questioning superiors or those in positions of authority right now, Capricorn. This is a surefire path into hot water. Take a break and sort through negative emotions.



### AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you might be going through a time of great preparation with a focus on building a major life project. This is not to be taken lightly and will require a lot of attention.



### PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, there may be a sober feeling to the week that leaves you feeling a bit down, Pisces. Focus on finishing projects and these feelings will pass by before you know it.

#### 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.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

# FINANCIAL FOCUS

## Don't lose track of financial accounts



Dan M. Roberts For years, people save and invest in 401(k) plans, IRAs and other financial accounts. They wouldn't lose track of this money, would they?

You might be surprised. About 1 in 7 people has unclaimed cash or property, totaling billions of dollars, according to the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators.

People lose track of their money for a variety of reasons: They change jobs and forget about their retirement accounts; they move and leave no forwarding address; they change names and don't notify former employers; or their employers go out of business or merge with another company.

Whatever the reason, losing tabs on accounts that could be worth thousands of dollars is never a good thing. What can you do to avoid suffering this type of loss?

Here are a few suggestions:

- **Maintain good records.** Keep records of all your financial, investment and retirement accounts — and let a family member know where these records are kept.

- **Keep a manageable number of financial accounts.** The fewer bank and brokerage accounts you have, the easier it will be to keep track of everything. You might even want to consolidate accounts when possible.

- **Report your change of address.** Whenever you move, contact your financial services providers and any former employers with whom you may have retirement accounts.

- **Report name changes.** If you change your name, notify new and old 401(k) plan administrators, banks, brokerages and any other institution connected to your money.

- **Manage retirement accounts when you change jobs.** If you leave your job, you might be able to leave your 401(k) behind with your old employer. But if you do, keep track of it. On the other hand, you could roll your old plan into your new employer's plan or into an IRA.

- **Inform your financial professional about all your accounts.** If you work with a financial professional, they can help you track your

accounts, so inform them of all past and present IRAs and 401(k)s or similar employer-sponsored plans.

So far, we've looked at ways you can prevent losing track of financial accounts. But can you do anything if you suspect you've already left some money behind?

If you think you've lost tabs on an IRA, you can check old tax returns and bank statements to help you track your contributions and find the name of the financial provider that held your account. If it's a 401(k), you can contact your old employer's plan administrator.

You can get some help from other sources, too. The Department of Labor recently launched a retirement savings lost-and-found database ([lostandfound.dol.gov](http://lostandfound.dol.gov))

that can help you find pension or 401(k) plans connected to your Social Security number. For a stray IRA, you can check [unclaimed.org](http://unclaimed.org), the website of the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators. And for various other sources of money — including uncashed checks from corporations and financial institutions, inactive brokerage accounts and unclaimed safe deposit boxes — you can check [MissingMoney.com](http://MissingMoney.com), the unclaimed property website of the National Association of State Treasurers.

These sites offer no guarantees of finding your lost or missing accounts or other sources of money, so you still may have to do your own sleuthing. But as the old saying goes, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" — which, in this case, means you'll help yourself greatly by tracking your accounts from beginning to end.

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

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## NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION Pamlico County

### Conquering Fears and Gaining Skills for the Future



In a survey done by the Wall Street Journal public speaking was ranked as peoples #1 Fear. Which might seem shocking at first. Public Speaking is scarier than sharks, or spiders, or clowns? But the more I think about it the more it makes sense. Public speaking probably seems like a far more likely challenge they will have to face than a shark, or a swarm of spiders, or clowns with felonious intentions. And! Most people have been encountering spiders and clowns their whole lives, but not everyone has been giving presentations since they were five.

4-H has many programs that bring positive learning opportunities and development for youth. From showing livestock, to learning how to solder mother boards, to learning to sew, and all about nutrition. In all of this 4-H also provides youth opportunity to develop soft skills that will help them as they progress through school and into the labor market.

Preparing youth for the next stages seems to be an ever-changing process. Between new emerging markets and the robotizing of old positions, there is a constant need for the acquisition of new hard skills. However, even life-long dedication to learning isn't enough to make one competitive in the labor market. According to the USAID Office of Education, workers also need to be fluent in several soft skills.

What are Soft Skills? For that matter what are Hard Skills? Hard Skills are the cumulation of all formal education and technical training with an emphasis on STEM. Soft Skills however, are knowledge of and ability to utilize relation skills and emotional intelligence. All of these soft skills are integral to a person's ability to collaborate with coworkers and to provide superior understanding to clients. Many employers rate the importance of Soft Skills equal to a prospective employee's skill and training with Hard Skills. Soft Skills that were deemed especially important were high-order thinking skills (or critical thinking/analysis), self-control, social skills or emotional intelligence, and communication.

While all of these skills are important and valued across fields, communication was most often given extremely high importance. Employers found the ability for their employees to clearly and concisely articulate information to both coworkers and clients, through written and oral means, integral to their institution's success. Further, effective communication often indicates good social and relation skills, increasing effectiveness in teamwork. Most employers actively seek employees who cannot only succeed in a team environment, but thrive in it.

Can these Soft Skills be acquired through traditional formal education? What else can be done to expand our young peoples' Soft Skills? Soft Skills can be learned, to an extent, through school however, there can never be enough opportunities for teens and younger kids to practice communication and their social relation skills. A great opportunity for youth to engage with one another while building their oral and written communication skills, is to



participate in North Carolina 4-H's Presentation Competition.

To prepare for the NC 4-H Southeast District Presentation Competition our youth can participate in our Pamlico County 4-H Spring Presentation Group. In this group, youth will be able to work on their active listening skills, extemporaneous speaking, and formal speaking. By engaging with other youth in team activities, they will develop their relation abilities, and effective communication. Our big project will be for each participant to research and write a presentation and practice for our County Activity Day before going on to our district competition in June.

Registrations for Upcoming 4-H Fun programs are open! If you have questions about any of these programs or would like more information about 4-H in Pamlico County please give us a call at 252-745-4121, or send me an email at [kait\\_neeland@ncsu.edu](mailto:kait_neeland@ncsu.edu).

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

### What is a smart greenhouse?

Greenhouses are structures that can help hobbyists or professional farmers extend growing seasons and improve yields. Even though traditional greenhouses can improve conditions for growth, certain variables can still affect output. That's where smart greenhouses come into play. Farming requires reliance on intuition, but also on control of environmental factors like insects, irrigation and light. Smart greenhouses help make conditions more predictable and growing more efficient. The machinery manufacturer Yanmar notes that its Smart Greenhouses enable users to automatically control cultivation methods by customizing temperature, humidity and water levels depending on the crop and cultivar. This alleviates the guessing game on the part of growers and leads to higher yields. Smart greenhouses typically utilize multiple wireless sensors to measure everything from carbon dioxide output to lighting and transmit the information back to a computer. The data is calculated and adjustments to multiple pieces of equipment can be made through the wireless network all from one computer, unlike older systems that required wires and maybe even multiple computers. Smart greenhouses can control additional critical factors, including temperature and ventilation. Overall, an investment in smart technology could save farmers money in the long run.

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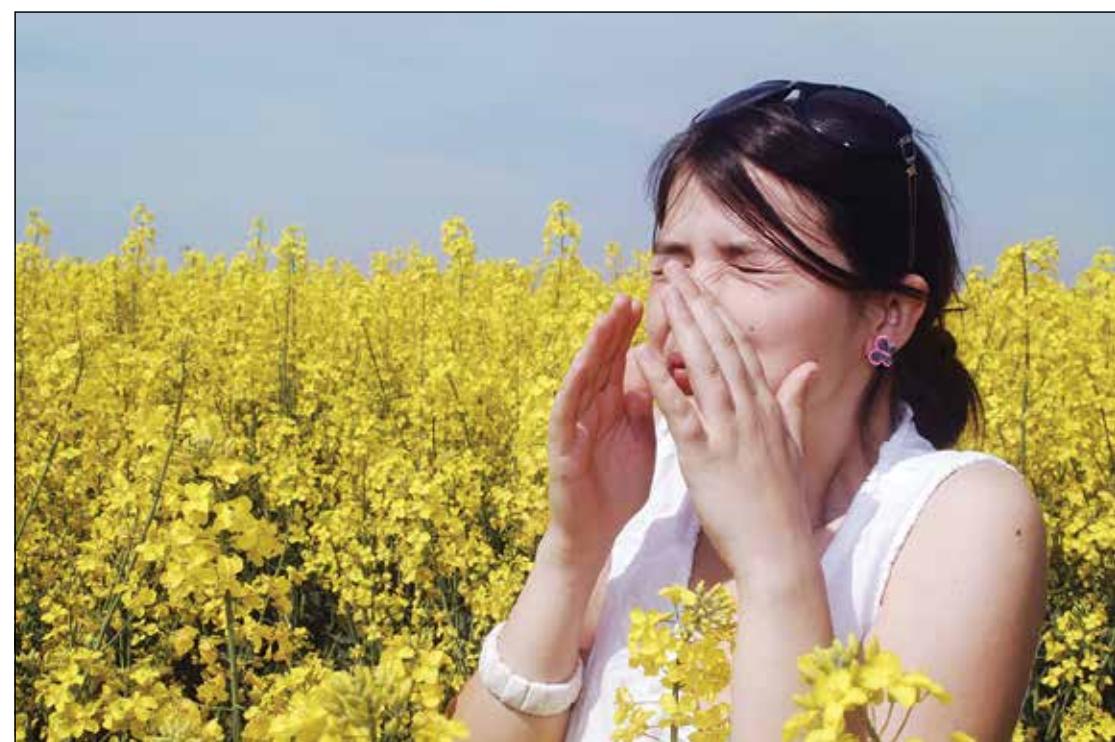
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# Health & Wellness

## Overcome seasonal allergies

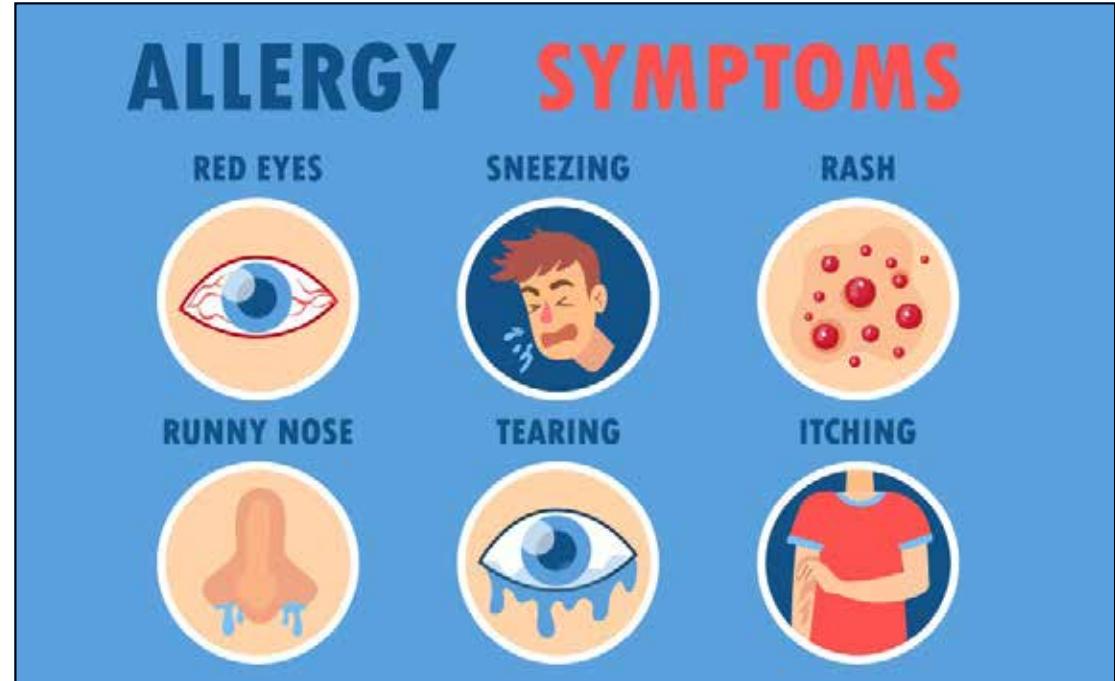


Seasonal allergies crop up at certain times each year, particularly in spring and fall. In 2021, approximately 81 million people in the United States were diagnosed with seasonal allergic rhinitis, according to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. The Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation says between 20 and 25 percent of Canadians suffer from allergic rhinitis.

Tree and grass pollen are notable contributors to allergies, as is mold. Verywell Health says allergies can be worse in certain areas. In the U.S., certain areas of the East Coast have high rates of allergies, while cities on the West Coast tend to be less harsh on those with allergies. Since allergies can make life uncomfortable, people want to know all they can do to overcome seasonal allergies. These strategies can help.

- Know the pollen count. Information is key, and knowing when pollen or mold counts are particularly high can help people take certain steps to avoid allergic reactions.
- Close the windows. When pollen levels are high, closing windows to prevent breezes that can bring pollen inside a home can be an effective strategy. You also can utilize a HEPA filter on the home's air conditioning system.
- Remove clothes worn outdoors and shower to rinse pollen off of skin and hair.
- While it can reduce energy usage, hanging clothing to line dry during high pollen counts can cause pollen to stick to freshly laundered items.
- Avoid gardening or other outdoor activities when pollen is high. If you must be outdoors, wear a mask.
- Try an antihistamine product that will reduce your body's reaction to the seasonal allergen. WebMD says butterbur as well as a plant-based Phleum pratense could be natural alternative antihistamine products.
- Use a nasal rinse to clean allergens out of your nose. This can help ease congestion and itching. Select sterile saline solutions or carefully follow directions for preparing rinses in neti pots.
- Corticosteroid nasal sprays can improve nasal symptoms. Speak with a doctor about how to use these products and how long to use them.
- Consider allergy shots, also known as allergen immunotherapy. These shots can help desensitize the body to common allergies by using very small amounts of allergens over time. Eventually the immune system will produce a reduced reaction to the allergen.

Allergies can be troublesome. However, various strategies can help to diminish the often unpleasant effects of seasonal allergies.



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## KITCHEN CHATTER

Do you have a favorite recipe or your own?

Send it to us at [frontdesk@thepamliconews.com](mailto:frontdesk@thepamliconews.com) so we can share it with our readers. Include all ingredients, quantities and detailed instructions.

### Add some greenery to your grill

Backyard barbecues may be synonymous with burgers and hot dogs, but grillmasters needn't feel beholden to such traditional fare when firing up their grills. While salad and grilling might seem like strange bedfellows to many grilling enthusiasts, the following recipe for "Grilled Radicchio and Brussels Sprouts With Hot Bacon Dressing" from Karen Adler and Judith Fertig's "The Gardener & The Grill" (Running Press) combines salad and grilling for a memorable, delicious and unique dish.

#### Grilled Radicchio and Brussels Sprouts With Hot Bacon Dressing

Serves 4

##### Hot Bacon Dressing

4 slices thick-cut bacon, chopped  
1/2 cup apple cider vinegar  
3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
3 tablespoons water  
1 1/2 teaspoons sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon white pepper  
1/2 teaspoon celery seed



##### Radicchio and Brussels Sprouts

1 pound (about 20 sprouts) Brussels sprouts, halved, rinsed and patted dry  
Olive oil, for brushing  
2 heads radicchio, halved, rinsed and patted dry  
1 red onion, cut into 1/4-inch thick slivers  
2 ounces crumbled cheese, such as feta, blue or goat cheese

Prepare a hot fire on one side of your grill for indirect cooking.

For the dressing, fry the chopped bacon in a medium skillet until crisp. Add the vinegars and water and heat until boiling. Lower the heat to medium and add the sugar, salt, white pepper, and celery seed, stirring well for about 2 or 3 minutes until the sugar dissolves. Set the pan aside and keep warm.

Place the Brussels sprouts in a large bowl and lightly drizzle with olive oil and toss. Place the Brussels sprouts in an oiled grill basket or grill wok. Set it on a baking tray.

Lightly brush the cut sides of the radicchio with olive oil and set on the baking tray, too, and take out to the grill.

Set the grill basket filled with Brussels sprouts directly over the fire. Toss the sprouts every few minutes and grill until they are tender when pierced with a fork, about 10 to 15 minutes, then move the basket of sprouts to the indirect side of the grill. Place the radicchio, cut-side down, over direct heat and grill until you have good grill marks, about 4 minutes.

To serve, arrange the radicchio and Brussels sprouts on a platter. Sprinkle with the onion and spoon the Hot Bacon Dressing over all. Serve at once.

### Stray from the salad norm

If trying ingredients that steer clear of the norm is something you enjoy, then consider kumquats the next time you're in the kitchen. An orange-like citrus fruit, kumquats can be eaten raw or used in preserves. The following recipe for "Kumquat Salad" from Jennifer Tyler Lee's "The 52 New Foods Challenge" (Avery) is ideal for those who want to start their kumquat experiment with something simple.

##### Kumquat Salad

Serves 4

1 pound green beans, trimmed and cut into 2-inch pieces  
1 cup kumquats, thinly sliced and seeded  
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil  
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt



1. In a medium saucepan, bring 2 inches of water to a boil. Place the green beans in a steamer insert and set them over the boiling water. Cook the beans for 5 to 7 minutes, or until they are bright green and tender when pierced with a fork. Steam them a little less if you prefer your beans on the crunchy side. Drain the beans and give them a bath in a large bowl of ice water to bring back their color. Drain again and place in a large bowl.

2. Add the kumquat slices, oil and salt to the beans. Toss to combine.

3. Serve immediately.

Tip: Kumquat trees are hard and compact, making them perfect for container gardens in the winter months.

Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon.

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## Churches of Pamlico

Photo by: Hiram Lupton



Concord Christian Church - Florence

**April Fools' Day is a great day to pull pranks.**

*Except on me, if you're smart.*



The exact origins of April Fool's Day are unknown, though historians have some interesting theories regarding the dawn of this day devoted to pranks. Some historians have linked April Fool's Day to the festival of Hilaria in ancient Rome. According to History.com, Hilaria was celebrated by the followers of the cult of Cybele at the end of March. During the festival, celebrants dressed up in disguises and mocked fellow citizens. Another theory suggests April Fool's Day might be linked to the transition from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar in France in 1582. The news of that transition, which officially recognized the start of the new year as January 1 after it had been April 1, reached some people's ears more quickly than others'. Those who were slow to get the news continued to celebrate April 1 as the start of a new year, inspiring others to mock them and refer to them as "April fools."

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Saturday, March 22, 2025  
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Pamlico County Courthouse  
202 Main Street, Bayboro

#### Craven County

Saturday, April 5, 2025  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Craven Community College  
800 College Court, New Bern

#### Carteret County

Saturday, April 26, 2025  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Carteret Co. Health Dept  
3820 Bridges Street, Morehead City

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- ✓ Cooking oil
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## LEGALS

Publish MARCH 5, 12, 19, AND 26TH, 2025.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
CHARLES FRANKLIN  
BRINSON, JR.**  
File No.: 25E001044-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to CHARLES FRANKLIN BRINSON, JR., ADMINISTRATOR CTA on or before JUNE 3, 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 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

**ESTATE OF CHARLES  
FRANKLIN BRINSON, JR.**  
C/O CHARLES TODD BRINSON  
PO BOX 123  
ARAPAHOE, NC 28510

Publish MARCH 5, 12, 19, AND 26TH, 2025.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
JOHN CONRAD LATHAM**  
File No.: 25E001045-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to JOHN CONRAD LATHAM, ADMINISTRATOR CTA on or before JUNE 3, 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 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

**ESTATE OF JOHN CONRAD  
LATHAM**  
C/O ANDREW L LATHAM  
PO BOX 744  
BAYBORO, NC 28515

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  
CECIL C. NOBLES**  
File No.: 25E001041-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to CECIL C. NOBLES, ADMINISTRATOR CTA on or before JUNE 3, 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 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

**ESTATE OF CECIL C. NOBLES**  
C/O PENNEY LEWIS  
321 WYNDFAIR LANE  
ARCHER LODGE, NC 27527

Publish MARCH 5, 12, 19, AND 26TH, 2025.

**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.

This 19th day of March, 2025.

John Graham Hodges, Jr. -  
Executor  
C/O MARY T. SKINNER,  
ATTORNEY  
Dunn, Pittman, Skinner & Ashton,  
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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

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:

## REPORTS

INCIDENTS

March 14, Main St., Bayboro, warrant for arrest communicating threats  
March 14, Main St., Bayboro, child abuse, contributing to the delinquency of juvenile  
March 14, Pamlico Rd., Oriental, shots fired  
March 15, NC Hwy 55, Oriental, attempted breaking and entering  
March 16, NC Hwy 55, New Bern, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked  
March 16, NC Hwy 306 N., Grantsboro, child support warrant  
March 16, Vandemere St., Oriental, runaway juvenile, undisciplined juvenile  
March 17, Lovers Lane, Bayboro, misdemeanor child abuse, injury to personal property, assault by strangulation  
March 17, NC Hwy 304, Vandemere, assault on a child under 12  
March 18, Jeff Rd., Arapahoe, assault on a female by male at least

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

18 years of age, possession of firearm by convicted felon

March 18, Rich Ave., Bayboro, order for arrest driving while license revoked not impaired revoked

March 18, NC Hwy 55, Alliance, disorderly conduct

March 18, NC Hwy 55, Alliance, possess heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia not for marijuana

March 19, NC Hwy 304, Vandemere, assault on government official or employee, resist/delay/obstruct public officer

March 19, NC Hwy 306 N., Grantsboro, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked

March 19, Smokey Dr., New Bern, possession of drug paraphernalia not for marijuana, possession of marijuana, paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz.

March 20, Wichita Village Lane, Bayboro, domestic

March 20, Main St., Bayboro, identity theft

March 5, 1.27 AC Alligator Loop Rd., Merritt from State Employees' Credit Union to Secu're, Inc., \$215

March 5, Arlington Place Mill Creek Lot: 9 Phase I PCA 172-2 from Jermaine Taylor, Paisley Taylor to Robert E. Houston, \$920

March 5, Oriental Harbor Village Marina Boat Slip 3 Dock C CB 1/78, 1/101, 1/104 &amp; 1/135 from George Bailey, Laurie Sampson to David Richardson Holt, Sarah W. Holt, \$64

March 5, Mill Creek Lot: 371 Phase II Arlington Place PCA 164-2 from Phillip Wayne Ellington, Jr., Amanda Nicholle Ellington to 35 North Builders, LLC, \$130

March 5, Pecan Grove marina 1/220 Und Int Exhibit A DB 334/140, Pecan Grove marina Phase 4 Boatslip 228 PCA 173-10, Pecan Grove Marina 1/220 Und Int Piers &amp; Docks PCA 108-5, PCA 118-4, PCA 173-10 &amp; PCB 4-17 from Bristol Holdings, LLC to RMS McKay &amp; Co., LLC, \$104

March 5, 14.65 AC Portion of Virgil &amp; Millie Carawan Homeplace Tract PCA 189-15 from Russell W. Dement, III to Molecular, LLC, \$235

March 6, Dolphin Point Lot: 16 PCA 30-6 from Laurence Kleiner, Karen Kleiner, Karen P. Kleiner, Laurence A. Kleiner to Eric Duvon, Karen Duvon, \$1,910

March 6, PIN F041-77; 2.98 AC Tract Two PCA 187-12 &amp; PCA 174-17 from Cheryl J. Bennett to John C. Winslett, \$178

March 6, PIN G041-88; One Tract NC Hwy 55 &amp; Ben McCotter Rd (SR 1351) MB 1A/151; MB 5/42 from Jacob Peterson to Chester L. Scott, \$296

March 6, River Run Lot: 5 Phase 1 Section 1 PCA 132-2 from Jon D. Jacobs, Elizabeth M. Clagett to Brandon Matthew Walker, Suzanne Kathryn Walker, \$270

March 7, PIN G041-140; 3.6 AC PCB 18-3 from Keith D. Tyndall, Betty A. Tyndall to Bayboro Ice Plant, LLC, \$180

March 7, Arlington Place Lot: 208 Phase 1 PCA 153-17 from Burton Farm Development Company, LLC, Bodie-Noell Enterprises, Inc. to Sean M. Ostmann, Marigrace B. Ostmann, \$80

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# AROUND THE COUNTY

**Grantsboro** Jeff Roberts, Correspondent



Greetings from Grantsboro! I hope this finds all of you well and enjoying the spring-like weather we have been having. I absolutely love being able to have my windows open. It reminds me of times growing up and feeling the breeze through my grandmas house. One of my neighbors across the street on Hill Drive had lightning strike his house and the house is a total loss. Please keep an eye out for our neighbors and lend a hand if you can.

The County Opry's flea & farmers market is coming up next weekend so come on out and find a few goodies or set up and get rid of some. There is also a car show happening in April at the college. There should be some beautiful rides out there. I know I will hopefully be there to snap some photos. Come on out and enjoy. Sunday March 30th will be the 5th Sunday Dinner at Silver Hill Christian Church, it is open to anyone, they invite you to church and a meal from the fine folks there.

They have been working on the new site for the urgent care in Grantsboro. It sure will be nice to have another option for medical care if needed. It is still amazing to see how much this little community is changing. Looks like the new library is in its final stretch to opening. I can't wait to go check it out and see the fresh space.

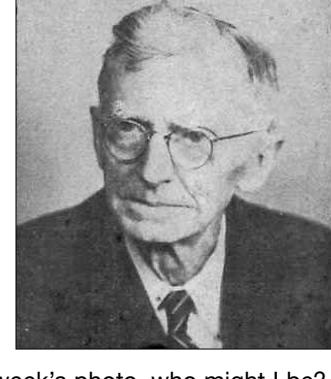
Now for the favorite part of my writing here, the let's look back in time. Last week I featured a photo of a gentleman of our past. Mr. John Benton Reel, brother of James Madison Reel and Mary Reel

Dixon. John built a home and a large store about a mile from the intersection of Neuse Rd. and Hwy. 55. If I figure right it may have been set somewhere near Moore's Swamp Rd.

John built a grist mill, a blacksmith shop, cotton mill, and a saw mill here as well. Sounds like he had just about anything you wanted there. The area then was known as Reel's Crossroad's, Reel's Store, and Reel's Corner. On the old store there a room was added on to open the Post office there, and John became the first postmaster of what we now know as Reelsboro. Most people of that era were farmers, fishermen, or lumbermen. Most of the supplies for the area were brought in at Lee's Landing.

In the early 1900's the railroad was run through the county all the way to Oriental with stops in Reelsboro, Grantsboro, Bayboro, and Oriental. Maybe a few that I don't know about. The depots for Oriental, Reelsboro, and Grantsboro are still standing today. You can barely see the roof line of it in Reelsboro just on the east side of Moore's Swamp. The Railroad and crossings officially stopped in 1976.

Here is this week's photo, who might I be?



**Pamlico** Betty Jo Rodgers, Correspondent



Thursday at Clergy Breakfast at Charlie's in Bayboro, Deacon Thomas Jones stopped to speak with the clergy. He was on a mission and had taken pictures of all the potholes on Pamlico and Trent Roads to share with the DOT. Praise the Lord, by Saturday some of the worst holes had tar and gravel in them. It has been over 20 years since there was any major work on Trent Road. It has never been paved, just tar and gravel. It had a few patch jobs but not the attention it needed. Log trucks, dump trucks, and construction equipment keep it in bad shape. After scraping the roads because of ice and snow, they got even worse.

I saw Mary Mattocks sitting on her front porch Saturday. Her daughter was hanging three beautiful plants from that new porch. I stopped and we blessed the new home. Ms. Mary gave me a tour of her home, and I am so thankful she is blessed to be in her own home again.

The little house beside Broad Creek UCC now has a floor and walls. There also appears to be a greenhouse structure on top of a large shipping crate.

Broad Creek United Church of Christ commemorates their 160th anniversary of the oldest African American Church in Eastern NC. 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:

March 26 - Reverend Joyce Bell, Retired AME Zion Methodist Church Pastor

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," directed by Amy Carey Smith who has included a new scene.

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 March are Emma Machle & Joanna Harrell (3/27), Asa Gatlin (3/28), Debbie Willis Fulcher (3/30), and Santa Klotz (3/31). April birthdays include Elizabeth Arthur and 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 & Vicki-Moseley Jones (4/2) and Tillie & Zeffie Roberts (4/14).

Have a blessed week. Knowledgeable? Take Spiritual Vitamin K. "Know this that the Lord is God, it is He that made us and not we ourselves." (Psalms 100:3)

all the cells. It certainly beats having your nose cut and you don't know what the result will be. The lead therapist Laura and her assistant Daiveon were wonderful. Heard from Vivian and Ellie this week, daughters of Bill and Joan Blair. Ellie always calls when she comes down from Washington. Next Sunday will be lunch after the service at Bethel. The luncheon is always the last Sunday of the month. Bible study and Prayer meeting is at 6:00 and 7:00 on Wednesday evenings.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK—YOU'VE GOT TO GET UP EVERY MORNING WITH DETERMINATION IF YOU ARE GONG TO GO TO BED WITH SATISFACTION.

"Imagine a circle of compassion and no one is standing outside of it." — Father Gregory Boyle

**Whortonsville** Reba Tiller, Correspondent



A beautiful weekend with a little wind and a lot of yellow stuff covering our car and lots of pinecones littering our yards. Church was down yesterday with one new visitor. Larry Lupton came by yesterday and brought a Pamlico County book, 100 years from 1872 to 1972. I haven't had time to read it all but there are pictures, maps, and comments from folks in the past and present. Thanks to Larry I am going to share it with folks before I return it to him because it is a treasure. I fed the "liver lovers" on Thursday, Bill and Sylvia Nickerson and Dennis and Sarah Maxwell. Not too many folks love liver. Tuesday I return to New Bern to have a scan of my nose to see if the radiation killed

all the cells. It certainly beats having your nose cut and you don't know what the result will be. The lead therapist Laura and her assistant Daiveon were wonderful. Heard from Vivian and Ellie this week, daughters of Bill and Joan Blair. Ellie always calls when she comes down from Washington. Next Sunday will be lunch after the service at Bethel. The luncheon is always the last Sunday of the month. Bible study and Prayer meeting is at 6:00 and 7:00 on Wednesday evenings.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK—YOU'VE GOT TO GET UP

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## 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.

"Spring is nature's way of reminding us that we still don't know how to dress for the weather."

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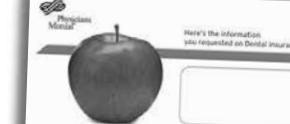
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*thought about gardening...*

Inflation has garnered countless headlines in recent years, and much of that news has focused on the notably higher cost of food. Though the cost of some items at the grocery store has gone down in 2024, many items remain significantly more expensive than they were as recently as three or four years ago. In an effort to overcome rising food costs, some consumers have thought about gardening. According to Washington State University, the average household with a food garden spends around \$70 per year on seeds and garden supplies. The reward for that small investment is roughly \$600 worth of food. Though the financial investment associated with a food garden might be minimal, it's important for prospective gardeners to recognize that the commitment of time required to establish and sustain a food garden can be significant.

## Spring planting pointers

Many people view spring as a season of rejuvenation. That renewal may be somewhat metaphorical for human beings, but it's literal for lawns and gardens that begin to grow anew as temperatures rise and hours of daylight increase in spring.

Each spring presents an opportunity for homeowners to get back outside and tend to their gardens. As the temperatures rise, homeowners can consider these spring planning pointers to ensure their landscapes look lush and full in the months ahead.

- Start with the soil. Soil can serve as the starting point each spring. Winter can take its toll on a garden and even overwhelm the area with debris over the colder months. Clear rocks and other debris from the area before loosening the soil. The Farmer's Almanac recommends loosening soil to a depth of at least eight inches if planting a new garden. An existing garden may only need to be loosened to a depth of around six inches, after which homeowners can mix compost into the soil in early spring. Compost is organic matter that provides nutrients and helps to build strong plant roots.

- Consider a raised garden in colder climates. The Farmer's Almanac notes raised gardens can help homeowners in colder climates dry out and warm up wet, cold soils more quickly. Homeowners in such regions also can cover their beds with black plastic or cardboard prior to planting. Doing so can protect the beds from late-season snow and spring rains and also helps to overcome erosion.

- Take soil temperatures. Unpredictable weather is among the noticeable effects of climate change in recent years. That lack of predictability can make spring planting a little more tricky than it once was. Experts note that soil temperatures around 50 F are best for cool-season crops, while soil should be 60 F or warmer when planting warm-weather plants such as tomatoes.

- Work with a garden center to identify what to plant. The right plants for one region may not be ideal for another, so homeowners are urged to work with a local landscaper or garden center before planting. Such a consultation can be especially useful for homeowners planting a new garden. Landscapers and garden center professionals will know which plants work in the local climate.

- Consider planting vegetables in the spring. Various garden experts note that spring is an ideal time to plant a vegetable garden. If planted at the right time, a vegetable garden can save homeowners money on their grocery bills and provide a season's worth of fresh veggies. Lettuce and spinach are sun- and shade-friendly vegetables, which can make them good options for a spring garden. Cool-season root vegetables, which include beets, carrots and swiss chard, are some other notable veggies that can thrive in early spring.

Spring is a season of rejuvenation for gardens. That's even more true when homeowners consider some conventional planting wisdom in early spring.



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## Hurricane Baseball Starts Conference Play with Two Wins

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School Baseball Team played three games last week and thanks to a weather postponement, they were back-to-back-to-back. Their week began on Wednesday with a trip to Ayden-Grifton to take on the Chargers and the Hurricane bats must have been left in Bayboro as they could muster only 4 hits for the evening. Pamlico finally scored their only run of the evening when Michael Hodge drove in Cam Daniels in the sixth inning. The Chargers crossed the plate 6 times for the evening despite having only 5 hits themselves. They were aided by 5 Hurricane errors in their 6-1 win. On Thursday the Hurricanes hit the road to Lejeune to tangle with the Devil Pups in a game that was originally scheduled for Tuesday. While Lejeune jumped out early with 3 runs in the first, that was all they would get and Pamlico pushed runs across the plate in 5 of the next six innings including 4 in the seventh to seal up a 9-3 win. Ayden Broughton had two hits to lead the 'Canes and was also on the mound to get the win, striking out 12. Pamlico finished out the week in historic fashion on Friday as they were finally able to put on their home white uniforms and take on an opponent in Bayboro at their new home ballpark. Their opponent would be the same as the night before, Lejeune. It must be good to the 'Canes to not take that bus ride and their offense showed it as they lit up the Devil Pups for 16 runs. Ross McLamb was on the mound for Pamlico and the junior didn't allow a hit before giving way to freshman Reid Carey who finished up the game. Hunter Doughty and Lucas Browne led the offense with 2 hits apiece with Doughty driving in 4 runs. Pamlico did get some help from Lejeune as the Pups committed several costly errors with some particularly shaky outfield play. This week the Hurricanes have a relatively slack week, at least for them, playing only a pair of conference games, both against Northside-Pinetown. They travel to the Panthers lair on Tuesday and host in Bayboro on Friday.



Hurricane Catcher Ayden Broughton behind the plate



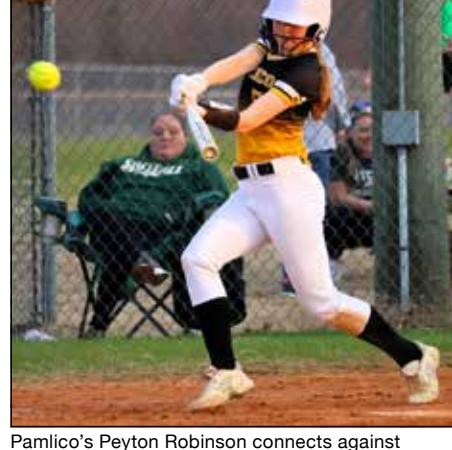
Hunter Doughty scores for Pamlico

## A 3-0 Week for the Lady 'Canes

by: Hiram Lupton

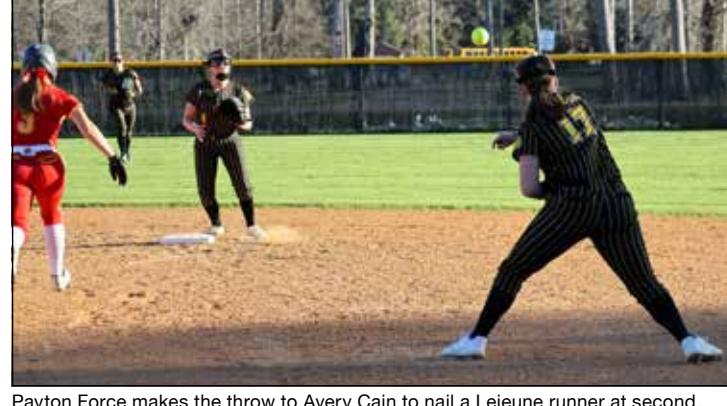
A 3-game week isn't so grueling when you earn wins in each of those contests and they include a couple of quick, mercy rule games. On Tuesday, Pamlico traveled to Lejeune for their first conference matchup of the season and it didn't take long for the Hurricanes to show the Devil Pups who were boss. The Hurricanes pounded out 17 hits and scored 20 runs in only 3 innings to earn a quick, 20-0 win. As you could expect there was a lot of Pamlico offense in this one, but the stat line of the evening belonged to Peyton Robinson. The Senior shortstop went 4 for 4 at the plate and hit for the cycle (single, double, triple, home run). She also scored 4 times and drove in 5 runs. Kylene Morris was in the circle for the 'Canes and did not allow a hit in her 3 innings of work, striking out 8 of the 9 batters she faced.

Pamlico was on the road again the next evening as they headed to Ayden-Grifton to take on the Chargers, who proved to be a little tougher opponent. The Chargers scored first with a run in the second



Pamlico's Peyton Robinson connects against Ayden-Grifton

inning and it stayed that way until the sixth when Pamlico finally was able to crack open their offense. With Haley Shamblin on first, Peyton Robinson smacked a liner just out of reach of the center-fielder. The ball rolled all the way to the fence as both Shamblin and Robinson crossed the plate, giving Robinson her second consecutive night with a home run. She wasn't finished with her plate work however. The next inning, with Allie Daniels and Shamblin on base, she lashed a triple scoring both runners and giving Pamlico a 4-1 lead. Avery Cain pitched well for the Hurricanes, scattering 8 hits but allowing only 1 run in six innings. Robinson closed the game with one inning of work, retiring all 3 batters she faced.



Peyton Force makes the throw to Avery Cain to nail a Lejeune runner at second.

The Lady 'Canes closed out the week at home with Lejeune making the return trip to Bayboro. Sarah Scott was in the circle for Pamlico for her first start of the season and the sophomore kept the Pups off balance, not allowing a run in 3 innings. The Pamlico offense was at work giving her all the support she needed. Four costly errors by Lejeune, combined with 8 Hurricane hits and 8 walks kept Pamlico runners on base all evening. Pamlico also swiped 11 bases as they had a merry-go-round on the base paths, scoring 15 runs. Avery Cain had 2 of Pamlico's hits, driving in 4 runs and scoring twice herself. Sophomore Cassidy Blough, getting a start in the outfield, had a big triple and then came home on an errant Lejeune throw. The Hurricanes get the conference win with a 15-0 final score. In the 3 games, Pamlico outscored their opponents 39-1. This week may be a bit tougher for the 'Canes. Pamlico only has a pair of games on the schedule, both contests against conference rival Northside-Pinetown. On Tuesday, Pamlico visits the Panthers, while on Friday Pamlico will host.



## A spring lawn revitalization strategy



New growth is a hallmark of spring, whether it plays out in the birth of birds and bunnies or with the returned buds on trees and plant stalks. While most greenery rebounds naturally, lawns may need a little extra TLC in order to return to their once lush, green glory.

- Do some weeding. Pull out any weeds that have poked through early on and apply a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent additional weeds from taking over.
- Start the aeration process. A core aerator punches holes into the soil. This enables air and water to penetrate through to the roots.
- Overseed the lawn. Apply grass seeds over the lawn, paying special attention to any bare or thin areas so that the seed will fill in the lawn.

- Water consistently. It is important to water the lawn deeply and consistently, especially when the weather is dry, to help promote strong root development.
- Time fertilizer correctly. Apply a spring fertilizer around three weeks after the lawn starts to turn green or after the first two or three mowings. If fertilizer is applied too early it can feed weeds instead of the grass and result in fertilizer runoff.

- Mow to an appropriate height. Begin to mow when the ground is dry enough and the grass is long enough to need cutting. Leave some length to the lawn; otherwise, sunlight will reach the soil and encourage weed seeds to germinate.
- With a little elbow grease at the start of spring, homeowners can establish strong and healthy lawns.

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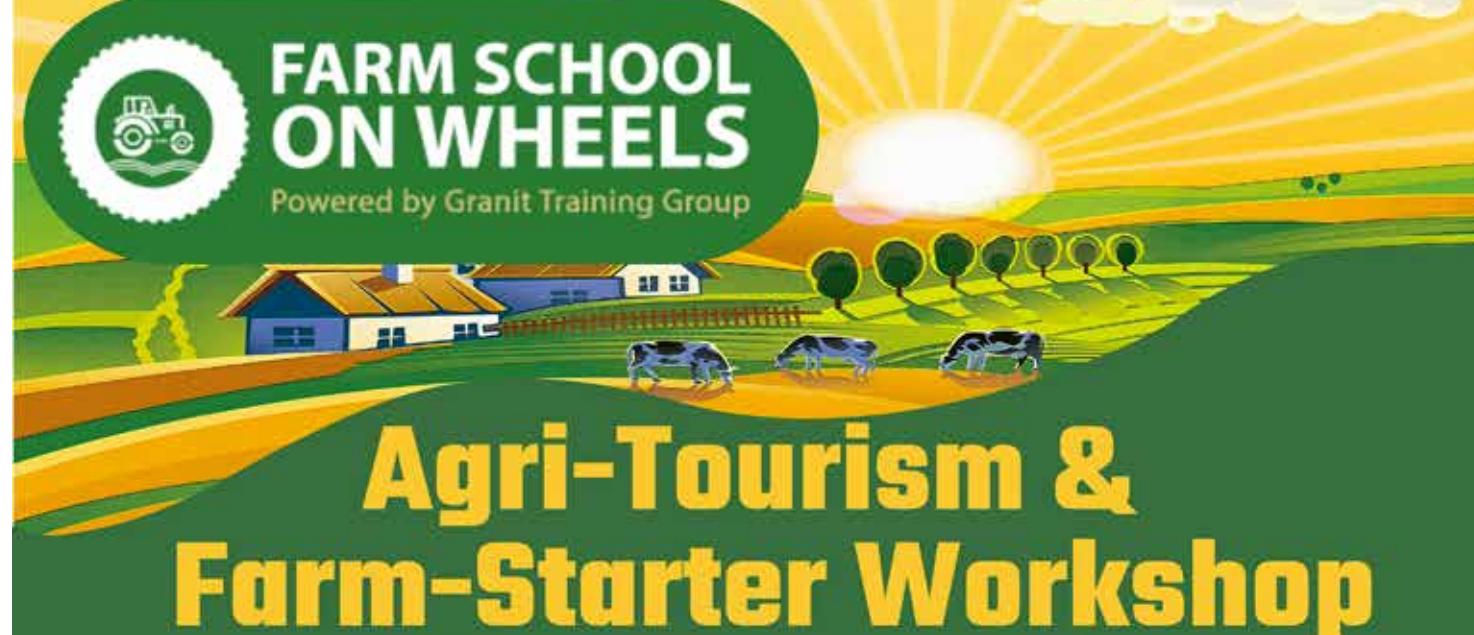


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## Agri-Tourism & Farm-Starter Workshop

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# PAMLICO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Pamlico County Schools is proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our NJROTC cadets, who recently competed in the NJROTC National Orienteering Competition in Alabama. Facing off against 46 teams and over 500 runners from across the country, our cadets placed an impressive 15th in the nation—a remarkable feat for one of the smallest schools with an NJROTC program.



Adding to this success, two of our cadets placed in the top 15 nationally in individual standings. Lila Mehring earned 13th place in the varsity category, while Kaitlynn Mizelle secured 11th place in the JV category. Their dedication and skill exemplify the hard work and determination of our cadets.



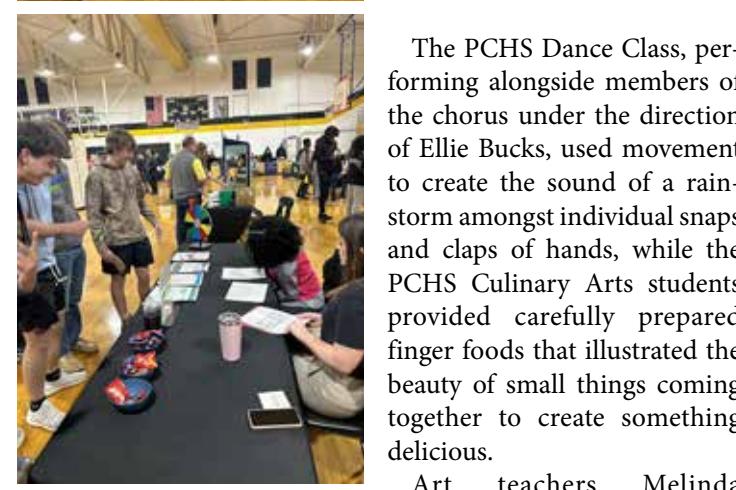
"In a competition of this caliber, holding our own on the national stage is extraordinary," said NJROTC instructors. "We could not be prouder of our cadets and their incredible performance. We are already looking forward to breaking into the top 10 next year!" Sometimes, Things Fall Apart - which was the theme of this year's Pamlico County Schools Arts Night. Things don't go as planned, paint cracks, music falters, and what once seemed solid can suddenly feel fragile. But as this year's Pamlico County Schools Arts Night reminded us, just because something falls apart doesn't mean it's lost. Often, when things come back together, they do so in ways more meaningful, more intentional, and even more beautiful than before.



Students from all four Pamlico County Schools participated as Pamlico County came together to showcase the talent of our

community. It was truly a celebration of the human spirit, of our student, and of our community.

The evening opened with the Pamlico County Schools Jazz Band, directed by James Durham, setting the stage with music that carried both energy and reflection. The FAA Elementary Chorus, under the direction of Dawn Wilson, brought fresh, young voices to the night, while the Middle and High School Chorus, led by Mitch Meador, delivered performances that captured both the fragility and strength of the theme.



The PCHS Dance Class, performing alongside members of the chorus under the direction of Ellie Bucks, used movement to create the sound of a rainstorm amongst individual snaps and claps of hands, while the PCHS Culinary Arts students provided carefully prepared finger foods that illustrated the beauty of small things coming together to create something delicious.

Art teachers Melinda McDaniel, Jamee Rose, and Holly Bradley displayed student artwork that reflected the theme in striking ways—some literal, some abstract, all thoughtful. Martha Pinilla's Spanish students shared research on significant Hispanic figures, weaving history and culture into the evening. The night concluded with students from Simone Collins' English 3 class, who recited poetry that spoke to both loss and renewal, leaving the audience with words to carry forward. Arts Night was more than just an exhibition—it was a reminder that creativity thrives in both the planned and the unexpected. That even when things seem to come undone, we have the ability to rebuild, rethink, and create something new.



Pamlico County Schools recently hosted a highly successful job fair, providing students with the opportunity to connect with local businesses, explore career pathways, and gain valuable insight into the workforce. The event, organized by Shawn Carawan, Director of Career and Technical

Education (CTE), brought together a diverse group of employers eager to share opportunities with our students.

Thanks to Mr. Carawan's dedication and hard work, students were able to interact with industry professionals, ask questions, and even explore potential job and internship opportunities. Events like these play a crucial role in preparing our students for life beyond the classroom, whether they plan to enter the workforce directly or continue their education.



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Pamlico County Sheriff's Department  
Grantsboro/Silverhill Station 11 Volunteer Fire Department



Pamlico County Schools extends a huge thank you to all the businesses and organizations that took the time to participate and invest in our students' futures. Your support and engagement help ensure that our students are well-prepared for success in their chosen careers.

Pamlico County High School's baseball team made history this past Friday night, playing the first-ever game on their brand-new field. The Hurricanes took the field under bright lights and the cheers of an excited hometown crowd, marking the beginning of a new era for Pamlico baseball.



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# COASTAL LIVING

## Senate Bill Could Make Launching Watercraft from Road Illegal

by: Hiram Lupton

If it becomes law in its entirety, a bill introduced in the North Carolina Legislature in February could make a person launching a watercraft from the right-of-way of a state road guilty of a crime. Senate Bill 220, entitled "Protect Private Property Rights" has a stated intent as "An act to revise the laws pertaining to trespass upon property to hunt, fish, or trap, as recommended by the Wildlife Resources Commission." The majority of the bill, which is actually quite short by today's legislative standards, contains provisions which protect private property from trespass by those involved in hunting, fishing, and trapping. The final section of the Bill, Section 4, pertains to Launching watercraft from right-of-way and states "Any person who willfully launches any motorized or unmotorized watercraft from the right-of-way of a public highway or street into a body of water adjacent to the right-of-way, except in public areas designated for boating access, is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor." This would include boats, kayaks, paddleboards, and canoes. A class 3 misdemeanor can have a maximum penalty of up to 20 days in jail and a \$200 fine. The legislation was sponsored by Sen.

Tom McInnis (R-Moore), Sen. Bill Rabon (R-Brunswick) and Sen. Danny Britt (R-Robeson). It has drawn the attention of the American Canoe Association, who in a recent article urged canoeists and kayakers in North Carolina to contact their legislators in opposition to the bill. Since this bill has been recommended by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission it would appear to be an attempt to funnel small watercraft users to designated wildlife launching areas. Although not yet in a bill, the Commission has floated a proposal to require all users of their facilities to purchase a "conservation access pass" in order to use Wildlife Resources boating access areas. Those users currently in possession of a valid N.C. hunting or fishing license would be exempt from this requirement and only target outdoor recreationalists who currently use Wildlife facilities free of charge. It should be stressed that as bills move through committees they are often altered, amended, and may not survive to even be voted on, but if section 4 remains as written, it would impact anyone who slips a kayak into a creek next to a bridge in Pamlico County to paddle some of our backwaters.



Launching from roadside right-of-way from these Pamlico County sites at Spring Creek near Whortonsville and Alligator Creek near Stonewall could be a thing of the past if Senate Bill 220 passes the N.C. Legislature.

## Renovations that help sell homes

The adage "there's a lid for every pot" suggests that, even in relation to the real estate market, there's bound to be a buyer for every home on the market. Price is a significant variable in the minds of potential buyers, but there are additional factors that can affect the impression people get of a given home.

Certain home features can tip the scales in favor of sellers. In fact, various renovations can help sell homes more readily. And these renovations need not cost a fortune. Putting a home on the market can be stressful, but these renovations may help it sell fast.

- A fresh coat of paint: Although painting is relatively inexpensive and a job that some do-it-yourselfers can tackle, it's not a task relished by many. Painting is messy, it takes time, and requires moving furniture. In fact, prepping a room for painting often is the toughest component of any painting job. But fresh coats of paint can create a strong first impression. Choose a neutral color and get painting. Jennie Norris, chairwoman for the International Association of Home Staging Professionals, says gray is a "safe" color that has been trending in recent years.

- Minor bathroom remodel: Remove dated wall coverings, replace fixtures, consider re-glazing or replacing an old tub, and swap old shower doors for fast fixes in a bathroom. If there's more room in the budget, replacing a tub, tile surround, floor, toilet, sink, vanity, and fixtures can cost roughly \$10,500, says HGTV. You'll recoup an average of \$10,700 at resale, making a minor bathroom remodel a potentially worthy investment.



- Redone kitchen: The kitchen tends to be the hub of a home. This room gets the most usage and attention of any space, and it's a great place to focus your remodeling attention. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry estimates that homeowners can recover up to 52 percent of the cost of a kitchen upgrade upon selling a home. Buyers want a functional and updated kitchen. Trending features include drawer-style microwaves and dishwashers, commercial ranges, hidden outlets, and even wine refrigerators.

- Updated heating and cooling system: Better Homes and Gardens reports that homeowners may be able to recoup 85 percent of the cost of new HVAC systems when they sell their homes. Heating, cooling and ventilation components are vital to maintain. You don't want buyers to be taken aback by an older system, and many millennial buyers are not willing to overlook old mechanical systems.

- Fresh landscaping: A home's exterior is the first thing buyers will see. If they pull up to a home with eye-catching landscaping and outdoor areas that are attractive yet functional, they're more likely to be intrigued. Often buyers will equate a home that features an impressive exterior with upkeep inside as well. The American Nursery Landscape Association says the average homeowner may spend \$3,500 for landscaping.

Improving a home's chances to sell quickly and at a higher price often comes down to making smart improvements that catch the eyes of buyers.

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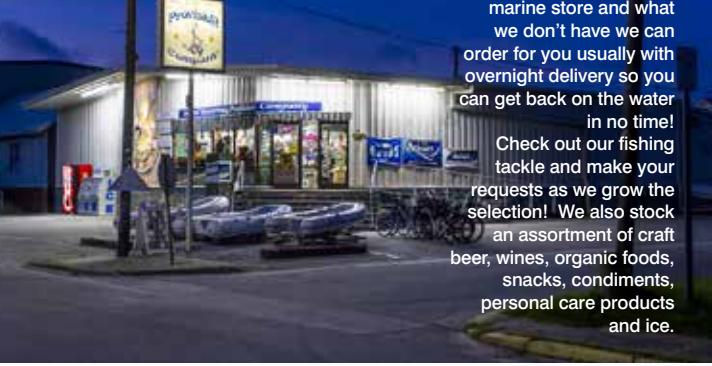
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**KAREN VAN GAMPER**

Jan Sisk is a pastel artist who graduated from Art School in Chicago, IL. She now resides in New Bern and loves it there, calling the town "fun and welcoming." She enjoys landscape painting, especially old barns and says "animals are always fun, bluebirds and bears are interesting to me. I am pretty much self taught in pastel. I was given a gift of a class and fell in love with it and I learn as I go. I observe nature, value and light and am inspired by whatever I may see in my daily life and travels."

**We proudly present the works of JAN SISK as a Main Feature in the gallery for the month of APRIL 2025**

A second exhibit by Member Artist Karen Van Gamper will also be on display. Please join us for an opening reception for the artists at the gallery from 2-5 p.m. • Sat., April 5 Refreshments will be served • [broadstrokesgallery.weebly.com](http://broadstrokesgallery.weebly.com)

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NORTH CAROLINA Department of Environmental Quality

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## DEQ Reminds Residents, Businesses that Burning Trash is Against State Law

RALEIGH – The open burning of trash, metal, plastic and all other man-made materials not only harms the environment and poses a public health risk, it's against state law.

During the spring burning season, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Air Quality is reminding North Carolinians: If it doesn't grow, don't burn it. Open burning is only allowed in limited circumstances and only for vegetative materials like leaves, limbs and yard debris.

The open burning rule, the state's oldest air quality regulation, limits what can be burned outdoors and when. Other requirements of the open burning rule:

Residential yard waste and commercial land clearing burning can only occur between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. No new vegetation can be added to a burn pile after 6 p.m.

Burning is only allowed when the air quality forecast is Code Green or Code Yellow. Burning on Code Orange, Red or Purple days is prohibited. Check your county's air quality forecast at the online Air Quality Portal.

Yard waste must originate at a private residence and be burned on that site. In other words, residents can only burn vegetation from their own yard — not yard waste from other homes or locations.

Burning of yard waste is only allowed if permitted under local ordinances and only if public pickup of yard debris is not available.

Campfires, outdoor cooking fires and bonfires are permissible, unless prohibited by local ordinances or temporary burn bans, provided that only vegetation such as firewood is burned. Fires must be controlled and never left unattended.

In the wake of the devastating impacts of Hurricane Helene in western North Carolina, there are special provisions in place through the end of March to help facilitate efficient and safe processing of vegetative disaster debris in impacted counties. While grinding or chipping wood debris is preferable, guidance for burning debris is available online.

Commercial land clearing operations are also limited by the open burning rule. Land clearing is the uprooting or clearing of vegetation in connection with construction, land development or mining, or the initial clearing of vegetation to enhance

property value. The burning of this debris must comply with all open burning rules, including the following key restrictions:

As a general rule, the vegetation should originate on the site where the burn is taking place. (Land clearing waste can be transported and burned at another site up to four times a year only if specific conditions in the open burning rules are met).

Kerosene or diesel fuel may be used to start a land-clearing fire, but no other man-made materials can be burned.

Land clearing burn piles must be at least 500 feet from occupied structures and at least 250 feet from any public road when the prevailing winds are blowing toward the road. Information on wind direction is available from the National Weather Service.

The Division of Air Quality enforces the state open burning rule, partnering with local law enforcement, firefighters and fire marshals, and the N.C. Forest Service to ensure compliance. Violators can be fined up to \$25,000 per violation per day. To submit an open burning complaint, contact the DEQ Regional Office that serves your county. Anonymous complaints can be submitted via our online tool.

Careless debris burning is the leading cause of wildfires in North Carolina. The N.C. Forest Service may require an open burning permit before certain fires are lit, including fires in protected areas. The Division of Air Quality does not issue burn permits. Burn permits are available through the N.C. Forest Service's online application at [ncforestservice.gov/burnpermit](http://ncforestservice.gov/burnpermit) or by contacting a local N.C. Forest Service county office or local permitting agent. For more information, contact the N.C. Forest Service.

Local county and municipal governments may have more stringent burning restrictions than state law. Contact your local officials to learn what burning rules may be in place where you live.

The open burning rule includes exceptions for certain special burns, including firefighter training exercises and prescribed burns. For more information about open burning, and to watch a video that reviews these state laws, visit DEQ's Open Burning website.

If you need this information in Spanish or another language, call 919-707-8446 or email [Shawn.Taylor@deq.nc.gov](mailto:Shawn.Taylor@deq.nc.gov).

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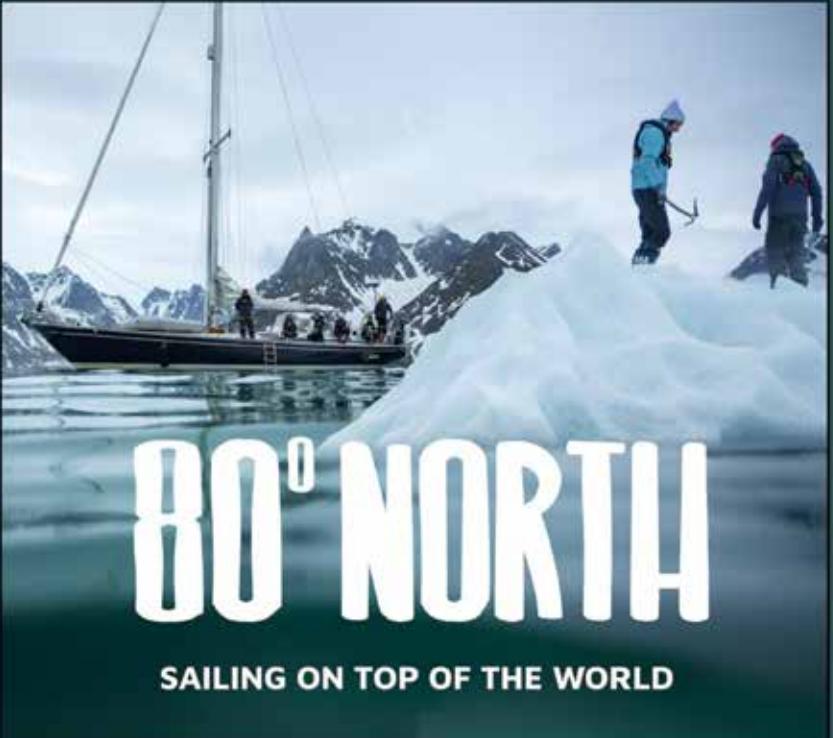
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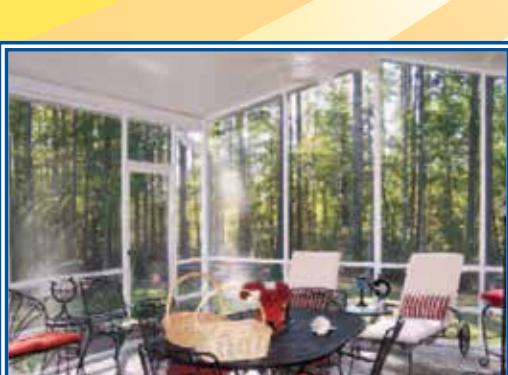














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