



# The Pamlico News

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

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Public Advisory No.: 20260129-001

## MCALF Bogue Facilitates 24th MEU CERTEX

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. (Jan. 29, 2026) — Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field Bogue, an outlying property of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, will facilitate military training operations for 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit during the period of Jan. 30 to Feb. 28, 2026.

The training operations are a part of a larger certification exercise that will also be carried out at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River.

The training will include various land-based, ground troop activities, and aircraft and night operations. As the training progresses toward conclusion, neighboring communities can expect increased military vehicle traffic, and noise associated with aviation operations in the vicinity of the installations.

For a list of scheduled noise-generating events at MCB Camp Lejeune, please visit <https://www.lejeune.marines.mil/News/Noise-Advisories>.

For activity at MCALF Bogue, direct inquiries to MCAS Cherry Point Communication Strategy and Operations at 252-466-4241 or [cherrypoint@usmc.mil](mailto:cherrypoint@usmc.mil). For activity at MCB Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River, direct inquiries to Marine Corps Installations East COMMSTRAT at [mcieast-commstrat@usmc.mil](mailto:mcieast-commstrat@usmc.mil).

## SCAM ALERT

**Beaufort County Sheriff warns of rising phone scams using AI to mimic family voices**

by Chloe Ettinger

Sheriff Scott Hammonds with the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office is informing residents of an increase in phone fraud scams. These scammers pretend to be law enforcement, banks, government agencies, delivery services, or even your own family members, including children, according to BCSO.

The dialogue that has been used in the most recent calls is the caller's child stating that the alleged child was involved in a wreck, and that they need \$14,000 to avoid jail time. Another call appeared to be the voice of a grandparent asking for \$7,000-\$8,000, BCSO says.

Scammers have found ways to utilize AI to replicate a family member's voice using short audio clips. Here are some tips from BCSO to protect yourself:

Never share PINs, passwords, or one-time verification codes

Caller ID and voices can be spoofed

Hang up and verify by contacting family members or agencies directly

Do not send money, gift cards, or cryptocurrency



by: Hiram Lupton

Neighborhood Snow photos near Arapahoe. Neuse River shoreline near Beards Creek.

Snowpocalypse? Snowmageddon? Snowicane? Whatever words you use to describe it, last weekend's winter weather event will certainly go down in history as a major one. Maybe we will just refer to it as "The Big Snow of '26". Forecasters had been calling for winter weather for nearly a week and when it finally arrived on Saturday, Pamlico County turned into the epicenter of it all, with some of the highest reported snowfall totals in the state. What began as a few scattered flakes falling in the wee hours of Saturday morning, turned into steady, sometimes heavy snow by midmorning. When it was all finished roughly 24 hours later, Pamlico County was covered in a blanket of white. It is hard to get an accurate measurement of snow depth when strong winds push it into drifts, but for much of Pamlico County, it seems to be roughly 17 to 20 inches. Whatever the amount, it was enough to shut down all roads in the county and lead to the declaration of a local State of Emergency to be declared by Pamlico County officials, something that usually only happens during hurricanes. As the snow fall



wound down there were continuous calls by the County, the Sheriff's Department, and the North Carolina Department of Transportation to stay off the roads so as not to further tax first responders, and to allow the DOT to attempt to begin clearing the roads. By late Sunday a few of the major routes like NC Hwy 55 were passable but barely as travel was still treacherous and with overnight temperatures Sunday in

the teens, there was no melting, only refreezing. Schools and many businesses began the week closed and those that were open were asking for patience as they expect to have limited staff available to assist customers. The effects of the storm were felt statewide as for the first time in memory, all 100 counties in the state reported measurable snow within a 24-hour period centering on Saturday. It was the coastal areas, however, that saw the highest snow accumulation totals and locally the Big Snow of '26 will now be mentioned in the same breath as the Christmas Snow of 1989, and the March storm of 1980. A historical event that won't soon be forgotten.



Connor Russo - Alliance 16.5 inches



Ken Heath - Our grandson "Fox" at our house in Arapahoe.



## February in the American Revolution

by: Hiram Lupton

**February 10, 1763** – The end of the Seven Years War between France and Great Britain. This was also known as the French and Indian War. Although this occurred 17 years before the declaration of Independence, it set in motion events that led to unrest in the colonies, notably the taxation of colonists by Britain to help pay for the war.

**February 27, 1776** – The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge. In one of the early battles of the war in the southern colonies, a North Carolina militia force defeated a loyalist army in what is now Pender County. The militia force was a little over 1000 strong and they routed a like sized loyalist army, killing or wounding about 50 while taking 850 prisoner. The militia suffered only 1 killed and 1 wounded.

**February 6, 1778** – France signed the Treaty of Alliance, officially pledging both financial aid and military support to the colonies in their war for independence.

**February 3, 1779** – The Battle of Port Royal Island. The British army attempted to take Port Royal Island near Beaufort, South Carolina, but were repulsed by a mixed force of militia and Continental Army troops.

**February 14, 1779** – The Battle of Kettle Creek. A Patriot militia force defeated a larger loyalist militia army in a battle fought near present day Washington, Georgia.



## Protect Yourself from Tax Identity Theft Scams

Consumers and businesses aren't the only ones preparing for tax season; so are the scammers. Con artists use personally identifiable information of unsuspecting consumers to file phony tax returns and steal refunds. Better Business Bureau has tips to prevent tax identity theft:

**File early.**

**Watch out for red flags.**

**Secure your personal information digitally.**

**Avoid filing taxes on public wifi.**

**Protect your Social Security or Social Insurance Number.**

**Research your tax preparer.**

**Use your Identity Protection PIN (ID PIN).**

For more information on safely filing your taxes, visit [bbb.org](http://bbb.org).

## LIKELY WEATHER OVER THE WEEKEND



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Fax: 252-745-5240







# Pamlico Community College

## Thanks and best wishes, Gayle!



Pamlico Community College Board of Trustees Chairman Bob Lyon, left, reads a resolution honoring Trustee Gayle Hardy, right, for her service on the board. Hardy, who has served as a trustee since 2023, participated in her final board meeting on Jan. 27. Contributed photo

“I told my computer I needed a break, and now it won’t stop sending me Kit-Kat advertisements.”

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NEW DATE!!!

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### Land/Home Sales Property Management Appraisals Development



#### Agent of the Week

**Linda Hoff**  
Broker

*Here's what one of Linda's customers had to say...*

Recently we listed a property near Oriental with Linda Hoff. The property has sold at our asking price. Linda was professional and prompt in this long distance sales effort. We would recommend Linda to anyone interested in buying or selling a property in the Oriental area of NC.

*Lou & Jacquelyn, WV*



**NEW BERN** – Fairwinds **2BR/2BA** Condo in Fairfield Harbor. Open floor plan, screened deck and open deck, roof replaced last year. Community boat dock, pool, golf course, and restaurant.  
**OFFERED AT \$209,000**



**ARAPAHOE** – Prime Commercial Opportunity, 12,000 sf on 1.43 acres near Arlington Place, Minnesott Beach and the Arapahoe Charter School. Not in a flood zone. Expansive paved parking, large loading bay door on side.  
**OFFERED AT \$249,500**



**GRANTSBORO** – Unrestricted 1.57 acre mini-farm, 1,792 hsf, **3BR/2.5BA** with heated and cooled 2-car garage, detached workshop, detached poultry barn with outside fencing & a carriage barn building. Home built in 1980 & roof replaced w/architectural shingles in 2018.  
**OFFERED AT \$305,000**



**MERRITT** – Waterfront **3BR/3BA** 2,023 sf home on 1.02 acres with dock on deep water Ball Creek. Includes fire pit, spacious back deck, covered patio, 2 detached storage buildings, and a carport. Plenty of windows, laundry room, extra room for office, kitchen island and walk-in-shower & soaking tub in primary bath.  
**OFFERED AT \$325,000**



**NEW BERN** – Handicapped-accessible, waterfront **2BR/2BA** fully-furnished condo in Oriental Harbor Place. Community pool, air-conditioned commercial elevator.  
**OFFERED AT \$359,500**



**MERRITT** – Waterfront **3BR/2BA** with deep water deeded boat slip on Ball Creek. Wide water views, 2.27 acres, 1,919 sf, metal roof, zoned HVAC, & LP Smartside exterior for rot-resistant long-life durability. Gas log fireplace in living room, & Widow's Walk with views of the Pamlico Sound,  
**OFFERED AT \$ 625,000**

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704 Broad St, PO Box 750, Oriental, NC 28571





THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- February 4th – Today is National Girls and Women in Sports Day.
- February 5th – Today is National Shower with a Friend Day. Conserve water!
- February 6th – Today is National Bubblegum Day.
- February 7th – Today is National Fettuccine Alfredo Day.
- February 8th – 1910, The Boy Scouts of America were officially formed.
- February 9th – Today is National Pizza Day.
- February 10th – Today is National Cream Cheese Brownie Day.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- February 5th – 1934, Baseball Hall-of-Famer Hank Aaron
- February 6th – 1895, Baseball Hall-of-Famer George Herman Ruth (Babe Ruth)
- February 6th – 1945, Musician Bob Marley
- February 8th – 19??, Chairman of the Pamlico County Board of Education John Prescott
- February 9th – 1737, Author and American Patriot Thomas Paine
- February 9th – 1943, Actor Joe Pesci
- February 9th – 19??, Local Author and outdoorsman Bill Fentress
- February 9th – 19??, Oriental Town Manager Diane Miller



Historical Society’s Sold-Out Presentation Again Re-Scheduled. Now Feb. 8

Jim Hodges’ Then, Now and Rabbit Holes Pushed Back Another Week

**NEW BERN, NC,** Date. Out of concern for safety, in light of the expected inclement weath-er, the New Bern Historical Society has re-scheduled Jim Hodges’ presentation of “Then, Now and Rabbit Holes”. Originally scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 25, then for Sunday, February 1, it is now re-scheduled once more to SUNDAY FEB 8 at 2pm at Orringer Auditorium. If any-one with reservations cannot attend this new scheduled date, they can contact the Historical Society office at 252-638-8558 for either a refund or to generously donate their seat to another person. If there are cancellations, those on the wait list will be contacted.

Executive Director Anthony Giardino explains “We are excitedly looking forward to Jim's great presentation. In the face of this second round of inclement weather, we just have to wait another week. We want everyone to stay safe and we appreciate your understanding”.

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.



Jim Hodges



J.B. Blades House became Hotel Queene Ann

“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”

– Albert Einstein

**Concerned about your drinking?**  
**You are not alone, there is help available!**  
**Come join others who have found a Solution!**  
**Alcoholics Anonymous: New Bern Hotline (252) 349-0898**  
**Meetings in Pamlico County:**  
(If you think you may have a problem, you are welcome to attend)

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

The Pamlico News

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COMMUNITY

OBITUARIES

**Christine Angel Sides, 78, of Wilmington, formerly of Arapahoe,** passed away peacefully at her home on Monday, February 2, 2026.

Born to the late Lee Oliver Angel and Maxine Willis Angel, Christine lived a life marked by love, service, and devotion to family and community. She spent 30 years shaping young minds as a teacher at Pamlico Junior High School, now Pamlico Middle School. Teaching was not just her profession – it was her calling. Generations of students remember her for her patience, kindness, and unwavering belief in their potential.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Randy Sides, her parents and her identical twin sister, Maxine Copeland.

She leaves behind a family who loved her deeply: her daughter, Rachel Manning and hus-

band, Richard; her son, Kirk Angel; her brother, Andy Angel and wife, Jenny; her brother-in-law, Bill Copeland; four grandsons, Cale Manning, Holt Manning, Barrett Angel, and Cam Angel; and her great-grandson, Andrew Manning.

Her legacy will live on through the family she loved, the students she inspired, and the many friends who were blessed to know her.

A memorial service to honor her life will be held Wednesday, February 11th at 2:00 p.m. at Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Mike Roach officiating. Inurnment will follow immediately in Banks Cemetery, Arapahoe.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. prior to the service.

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

Academic Performance & Classical Music

Parents may have heard varying iterations of the theory that listening to classical music can help students improve their academic performance and wondered if there’s any truth to that. And it turns out there is. A study from researchers at Baylor University released in 2020 found that college students who listened to Beethoven and Chopin during an interactive lecture on microeconomics and then heard the music again that night while sleeping performed better on a test the following day than did peers who were in the same lecture but listened to white noise while they slept. Students who listened to the music increased their performance on integration questions by 18 percent. That’s a notable boost, but researchers warned it was temporary, as test scores did not remain as high when students took a similar test nine months later.

Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl

**Annelies Marie Frank[a] (12 June 1929 – c.** February or March 1945)[1] was a German-born Jewish diarist and **Holocaust victim**. She gained worldwide fame posthumously for keeping a diary documenting her life in hiding during the German occupation of the Netherlands. In the diary, she regularly described her family’s everyday life in their hiding place in an Amsterdam attic from 1942 until their arrest in 1944.

Following their arrest, the Franks were transported to concentration camps. On 1 November 1944,[3] Anne Frank and her sister Margot were transferred from Auschwitz to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, where they died (*presumably of typhus*) a few months later.

Otto Frank, the only Holocaust survivor in the family, returned to Amsterdam after World War II to find that Anne’s diary had been saved by his secretaries, Miep Gies and Bep Voskuijl. Moved by his daughter’s repeated wishes to be an author, Otto Frank published her diary in 1947.[4] It was translated from its original Dutch version and first published in English in 1952 as The Diary of a Young Girl (originally Het Achterhuis in Dutch, lit. ‘the back house’; English: The Secret Annex) and has since been translated into over 70 languages.[5] With the publication of The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne became one of the most-discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust. One of the world’s best-known books, Anne’s diary is the basis for several plays and films.

Wikipedia



Anne\_Frank\_Ppassport photo, May 1942

“The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature.”

“I don’t think of all the misery, but of the beauty that still remains.”

“Terrible things are happening outside. Poor helpless people are being dragged out of their homes. Families are torn apart. Men, women, and children are separated. Children come home from school to find that their parents have disappeared.”  
– Diary of Anne Frank, January 13, 1943

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# FINANCIAL FOCUS

## Local business owners: Don’t overlook retirement plans



Dan M. Roberts

If you’re a local business owner, you’re juggling many priorities: growing revenue, managing expenses, supporting your team and planning for your own future. What if one tool could help with all these goals?

A workplace retirement plan might be that solution and can, directly or indirectly, offer benefits that extend beyond simple savings.

**Double the tax advantages.** Starting a retirement plan can deliver immediate tax advantages. For the business, employer contributions are tax-deductible. And as a participant in your company plan, your pretax salary deferrals are excluded from income taxes; your investments within the plan are tax-deferred until distributed. Many plans now offer Roth options that allow tax-free withdrawals in retirement.

Local businesses may also qualify for federal tax credits that help offset startup costs, employee education expenses and plan administration fees. Additional credits may be available for auto-enrollment features and employer contributions made during the plan’s first five years.

**A competitive edge in hiring.** In today’s labor market, offering a retirement plan can differentiate your business from competitors and help improve employee retention.

Many plans also provide access to financial education tools and resources, helping your employees make informed decisions about saving, investing and planning for retirement. This support can lead to greater employee satisfaction and productivity, contributing to a positive work environment for your business.

**More flexible than state-sponsored options.** If you live in a state requiring an employee retirement program, you might be considering a state-sponsored plan. While these programs can provide a

starting point, they typically offer fewer investment options, lower contribution limits and limited design flexibility.

Establishing your own workplace retirement plan lets you customize features for your business needs to control administrative costs, set contribution limits and offer employees a wide range of investment options. This added control in plan design can lead to better outcomes for your business and your employees.

**Reducing a hidden risk in your own retirement planning.** Business owners often have as much as 80% of their net worth tied up in their businesses, according to the Exit Planning Institute. While that demonstrates commitment to success, it also creates significant financial risk to the owner.

Relying solely on a future business sale to fund your retirement can be precarious. Market shifts, timing challenges or limited buyer interest could derail those plans. By building personal assets through your employer-sponsored retirement plan, you can gain financial flexibility and reduce the risk of having your retirement lifestyle depend entirely on one event.

**Getting started.** With various retirement plan options available, determining which one fits your business best can feel overwhelming.

A qualified financial advisor can help you navigate these decisions, explaining the trade-offs between different plan types and identifying which option best suits your unique situation. They can also help you understand eligibility requirements and ensure the plan you choose aligns with your business goals and personal financial objectives.

Starting a workplace retirement plan represents an investment in your future, your employees and the long-term success of your business.

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

## NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION Pamlico County

# Time to Plant that Fruit!

By: Daniel Simpson County Extension Director, Agriculture Agent



It may be cold this week, but now is an excellent time to start planting of fruit trees. Most tree fruits do not begin shipping from nurseries until January, and availability will greatly decline if you wait until spring. Pears, figs, apples and peaches can all be grown successfully in Pamlico County, but you will need adequate space, full sunlight, and good drainage to produce a crop. If you ignore these three simple requirements, you will probably be disappointed.

For all fruit tree varieties in Pamlico County, a soil fertility test and nematode assay is generally recommended before planting. Additions of potassium and phosphorus fertilizer along with adjustments to soil pH should be made before planting, but nitrogen fertilizer should be withheld until buds break in the spring. If drainage is an issue (And it is for 99% of Pamlico County), then consider mounding soil to create a raised planting area. Fruit trees do not grow well in wet soil conditions, causing significant stunting, dieback, and death. Just remember that tree roots spread much further than the canopy, so soil mounds should be as wide as possible. Six to eighteen inches of additional soil depth can greatly increase fruit tree success. However, this additional depth may require irrigation during prolong drought periods.

One of the easiest fruit trees to grow is the fig. The varieties Brown Turkey and Celeste are the most commonly recommended for our area. Winter temperatures may occasionally cause dieback with figs, but trees will regrow during the summer. Little pruning is required for figs, but do not be afraid to cut these trees back if needed. Figs are grown on their own roots, so grafted plants are not required. For more information on growing figs in North Carolina, review the NC State Extension Fig Culture note at <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/fig-culture-in-north-carolina>.



Peach trees can be difficult to grow in Pamlico County because of disease and insects. Two recommended varieties for North Carolina include Contender and China Pearl, preferably grown on Contender rootstock. This variety and rootstock combination will provide a better defense against various disease issues and provide the proper chilling requirements to limit freeze damage to flower buds. Peaches will require routine pruning, training, and spray applications to control pests. Spray applications should start after petals fall from flowers in the spring and several applications may be needed during the growing season. A combination insecticide and fungicide product called a Home Fruit Tree Spray is often available from garden centers and should simplify this task. Always read and follow the label directions when applying pesticides and pay particular attention to limitations for the total amount of applications made and the interval between application and harvest.



Apple and pear trees are typically produced as grafted plants. Grafted trees provide disease protection and the ability to control plant height. Dwarfing rootstocks are recommended for homeowners to help maintain a growth range that can be easily managed, but pruning will still be required to maintain a particular height. Always plant grafted trees with graft unions at least 2-3 inches above the soil line and do not plant into wet soil conditions. Apples and pears will need routine training and pruning to produce a tree structure that will support a heavy fruit load and promote tree health. For more information on pruning apples and pear trees, refer to the N.C. State Extension publication “Training and Pruning Fruit Trees” at <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/training-and-pruning-fruit-trees-in-north-carolina>. Varieties that have performed well in Pamlico County include: Apples (Ginger Gold, Gold Rush, Gala, Fuji), Pears (Kieffer, Moonglow, Harrow Delight). Apple and pears typically require at least two different varieties for cross pollination, so remember this when ordering.



Trying to produce blemish free peaches, apples and pears with little to no pests or disease control may be difficult. Focus on providing the best growing conditions first, and utilize recommended varieties. For more information on growing tree fruit, please refer to the “Tree Fruit and Nuts Chapter” from the N.C. State Extension Gardener Handbook at <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/15-tree-fruit-and-nuts>. You can also find valuable information on the N.C. State Extension Apple & Peach Portals at <https://peaches.ces.ncsu.edu/> & <https://apples.ces.ncsu.edu/>.

For more information related to fruit tree production, please contact Daniel Simpson at 252-745-4121 or [Daniel\\_simpson@ncsu.edu](mailto:Daniel_simpson@ncsu.edu).

Small farms are the lifeblood of rural communities. According to the Farm Bureau, 97 percent of American farms are owned by families. Small family farms make up the majority of farms nationwide and operate a higher share of acres altogether than any other farm size. It’s important to note that the distinction “family farm” does not necessarily always mean a small-scale operation. Ten percent of farms owned by families generate more than \$350,000 in annual revenue. Despite this, small-scale farms are mired in a long-term decline, according to recent U.S. Department of Agriculture reports. Driven by economic pressures, government policies generally are favoring large operations, consolidation and tighter competition.



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Executive Director  
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SPORTS

# Hurricane Hoops Conference Play Continues

by: Hiram Lupton

Coastal Plains Conference basketball action continued last week for the Hurricanes with the Lady 'Canes flying high and the varsity men struggling. Tuesday Pamlico travelled to Jacksonville to tangle with the Devil Pups of Lejeune and the Hurricane Ladies did what they have done all season, win. They put a collar on the Pups and took them to the kennel with a 68-17 victory. There was a new name at the top of the scoring column with Shaiera Jones leading the way with 17 points. Nya Clark chipped in 15 as one end of the bench to the other played for Pamlico. In the men's contest, the Hurricanes trailed by only 4 going into the final period in a highly competitive game. The fourth quarter proved to be Pamlico's undoing in several ways, as Lejeune pulled away for the win, 78-56. Tension boiled over between the two teams that resulted in a physical confrontation between multiple players that cleared both benches. The end result will cost the Hurricanes two more losses as they will not be playing the next two games for not properly representing the school, giving their opponents wins by forfeit. On Friday, the Ladies made the trip down to East Carteret to take on the Mariners and once again they set the tone early, leading after the first quarter, 26-5. They continued to pour it on, with everyone playing and everyone contributing. By the final period they had things on cruise control, finishing things out with a 64-45 win. Nya Clark had 23 points for the Hurricanes with Sydney Whitley-Reese adding 18, both playing limited minutes. Also in double figures off the bench was Freshman Tre'Mhiya Arrington who added 10. As stated earlier, there was no boys game with the Mariners getting the win by forfeit. This week Pamlico is scheduled to take on Jones Senior at home on Tuesday, step out of conference to host Havelock on Wednesday, and travel to Northside-Pinetown to finish the week on Friday. All of these games will be travel weather dependent.



Pamlico's Tre'Mhiya Arrington (#30) scores inside.



Allie Daniels hits the jumper for the Hurricanes

## Arapahoe Charter Athletics Bobcats Wrap Up Home Basketball Season

by: Hiram Lupton

The Bobcats of Arapahoe Charter School played their final home games of the season last Tuesday as they hosted the Washington Montessori Public Charter School Eagles for three games. The middle school Lady Bobcats played a close contest before losing, 16-12. Next up were the middle school boys and fans were in for a treat as they got "bonus" basketball. For the first time since restarting their athletic program, ACS played an overtime game as regulation ended in a 24-24 tie. In fact, the two teams enjoyed overtime so much, they decided to make it a double and play another overtime when they ended the period tied again at 29-29. The Bobcats went cold in the final period and the Eagles were finally able to fly away with the win, 31-29. In the final matchup of the evening, Washington Montessori used their size to take control early and pull away in the high school varsity boys contest for a 60-24 win. Before the start of the final game, ACS recognized the 8th grade players and cheerleaders as well as two Senior Varsity players, Jayden Cayton and Logan Price.



ACS 8th Grade players and cheerleaders and Senior Varsity Players.



Jaida Wright



Justin Short (#42)



Jayden Cayton



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# Pamlico Vistas

vista /vis-ta/ n / : a distant view through or along an avenue or opening



The Robert Scott Bridge, from a different viewpoint - Oriental

Photo by: Hiram Lupton

## Reader's Contributors



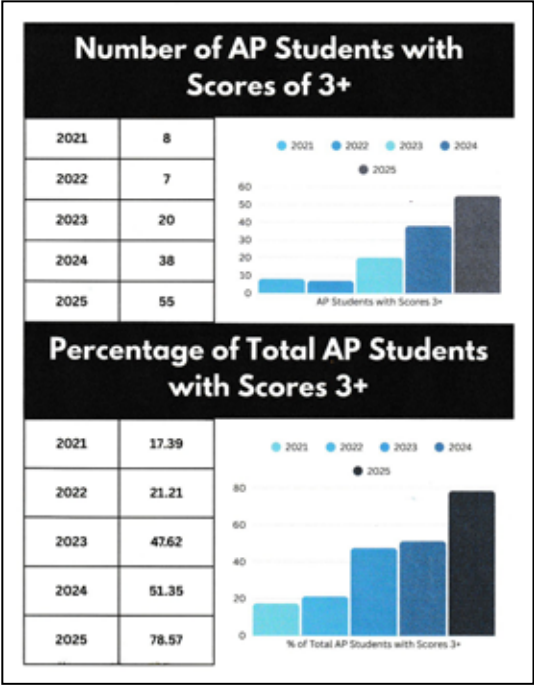
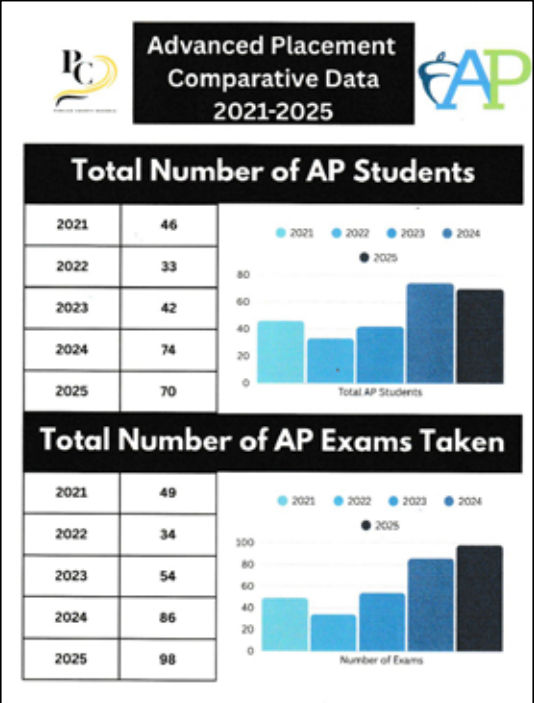
Photo by: Ben Casey

## Find Your Fit, Build Your Future

by: Hiram Lupton

For the entire month of February, the North Carolina Department of Education is celebrating public schools in our state with an initiative entitled, “Find your fit, build your future.” The program will focus on personalized career development, skill building, and connecting students with post-secondary opportunities like college or training to prepare them for successful careers and lifelong learning in North Carolina. It empowers students through career exploration beginning in the middle school grades and continuing through high school, developing the essential skills to attain success. It also aligns education with real-world goals supported by programs like TeachNC and resources for teachers. The initiative seeks to highlight the many varied ways the North Carolina public school system already assists students discover their strengths, interests, and future directions. Each week throughout the month there will be a special theme and this week it is focused on preparing those students who seek to attend the next level of education by assisting them in getting a head start on secondary education through Advanced Placement courses and early college programs. These are programs which Pamlico County High School along with Pamlico Community College have been highly successful. School Counselor Betsy McCandless explains, "At Pamlico County High School we are small with limited resources and sometimes that means limited people, limited spaces and limited options. We recognize that despite those limitations, our students have unlimited potential, and we've made it a priority to offer high quality, high rigor course options for students that prepare them for whatever comes next." These opportunities are attained through several routes. “We do this through an amazing Career & College Promise partnership with Pamlico Community College.” That relationship between Pamlico County High School and Pamlico Community College is an important link in student preparation for the next level of their education. In recent years, several Pamlico County High School students have received their high school diploma as well as a associate's degree from Pamlico Community College in the same academic year. “The relationship between PCC and PCHS is invaluable,” says Jamie Gibbs Vice President of Student Services at the College. “The relationship we have makes the process, for juniors and seniors, easy to jump start their college career through the Career and College Program.” Even if high school students do not attain a degree, the program allows them to attain college credits they can use moving forward to the next level, saving time and potentially money by transferring these credits to other colleges. The other aspect of gaining a head start on a student's secondary education while still in high school involves Advanced Placement Courses (AP). “Universities love that our students have access to more AP classes than some schools much larger than ours, and value that our students are taking challenging courses that have an internationally taught, tested and celebrated curriculum with our own exceptional Pamlico County High School teachers, says McCandless. “Giving our students the opportunity to choose to challenge themselves with these courses is just one example of how we are empowering students for now and their future.” There are

currently seven AP courses that are offered by PCHS; Biology, Calculus, English Language and Composition, Physics, Precalculus, United States Government and Politics, and US History. By passing these classes with a 3 or higher score, a student receives college credit for the course. Last year, 78 different 11th and 12th grade students took advanced placement classes and received a qualifying score for college credit. As you can see from the graphics, these classes are growing and have become very popular as well as successful. Students not only get some college classes out of the way by passing, they also



feel challenged academically by the level of the work. All of this contributes to Pamlico County High School Students being well prepared for the next step in their academic life. Next week, the DPI initiative focuses on CTE - Career and Technical Education Pathways and we will take a look at how Pamlico County High School is excelling in that area of education. In the coming weeks the other aspects of the initiative will also highlight the many different ways North Carolina public schools help students discover their strengths, interests, and future directions such as extra-curricular activities, language, transportation, counseling, athletics, transportation, the arts, and school nutrition all which help students discover their strengths, interests, and future directions.



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The Hott Family, Arapahoe! 19 inches! and snow drifts



# PAMLICO COUNTY GOP



*We the people are the rightful masters of both congress and the courts not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow the men who would pervert the Constitution. ~ Abraham Lincoln*

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**Guest Speaker:**

NC GOP STATE CHAIRMAN  
JASON SIMMONS

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Please RSVP by February 13th.

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 Pamlico GOP





State officials invite pre-applications for fiscal year 2026 grants to improve public beach access

**MOREHEAD CITY** – The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality’s Division of Coastal Management (DCM) anticipates that approximately \$1.5 million in funding will be available for the 2026-27 fiscal year to help local governments improve public access to coastal beaches and waters. The Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access program provides matching funds to local governments to construct public access facilities in the state’s 20 coastal counties.

“Expanding and improving public access to coastal shorelines continues to be a priority for our program and communities across the coast, so we’re looking forward to supporting additional proposals this year,” said Tancred Miller, director of the N.C. Division of Coastal Management.

Local governments interested in applying for financial assistance must submit a pre-application to the DCM by 5 p.m. on April 24, 2026, and will be notified by May 21 if their proposal is selected so they can submit a final application.

ONLINE GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOP

An online grant application workshop will be held on Wednesday, Feb.18, from 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Attendees will learn about eligible projects, local match requirements, project

timelines and other relevant grant application requirements. Register for the online workshop at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/sz6e22v/lp/d77e23ea-ba2f-4ffc-8d26-2fb2c-cd5ee72>

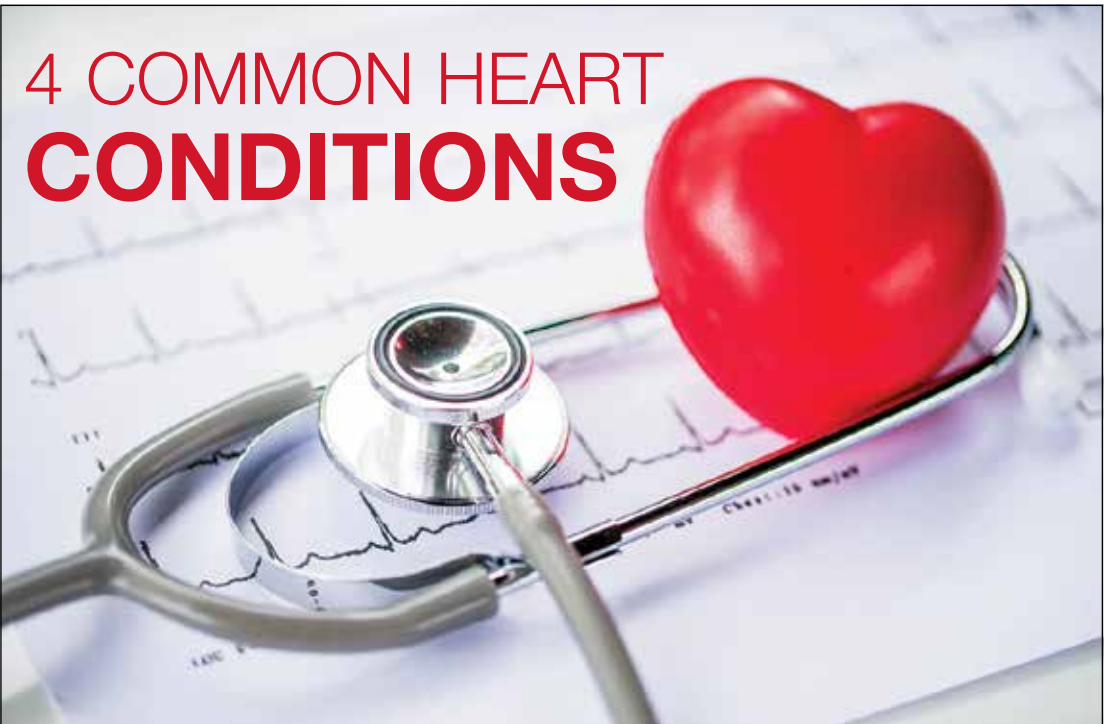
FINAL APPLICATIONS

Final applications are anticipated to be due by July 31, 2026. All final applicants will be notified in fall 2026 if their project has been selected for funding. For more information about the Public Access Grant application process, go to the DEQ website.

Funding for the grant program comes from the North Carolina General Assembly through the state’s Parks and Recreation Trust Fund and is contingent upon the funding level in the state budget. Access projects may include walkways, dune crossovers, restrooms, parking areas, piers and related projects. Funds also may be used for land acquisition or urban waterfront revitalization. DCM staff select recipients based on criteria set by the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission.

The grant program has awarded over 500 grants for more than \$54 million since the program began in 1981. For more information about the Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access program, go to the DEQ website.

# Health&Wellness



## 4 COMMON HEART CONDITIONS

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death across the globe. According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 17.9 million people die each year from cardiovascular diseases, which are a group of disorders of the heart and blood vessels.

The sheer volume of deaths caused by heart disease each year suggest there's little people can do to avoid it. However, the Canadian organization Heart & Stroke notes that healthy behaviors like eating a heart-healthy diet and exercising regularly can help individuals delay the onset of heart disease by as much as 14 years.

Education is another valuable asset in the fight against heart disease. Individuals who are aware of common heart illnesses can discuss them with their physicians and take measures to reduce their risk.

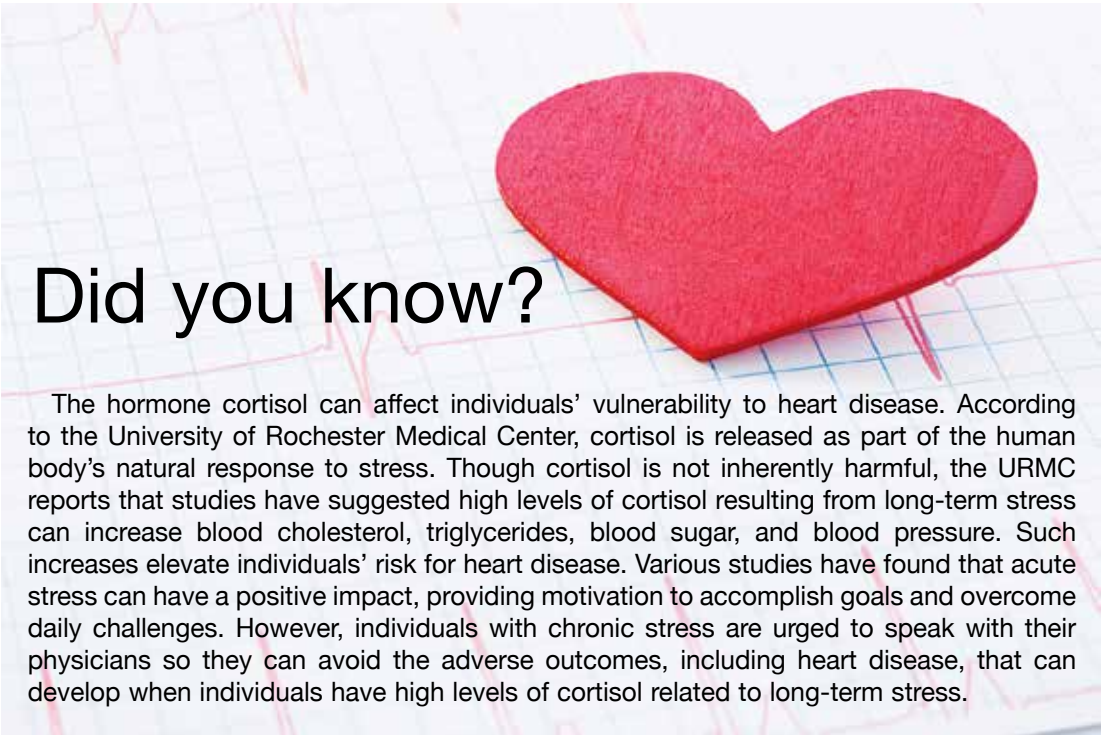
1. Angina: Heart & Stroke notes that angina is another word for chest pain. The discomfort associated with angina, which can feel like squeezing, suffocating or burning, is caused by a temporary disruption in the flow of blood and oxygen to the heart. Though angina symptoms typically do not last long, they are considered warning signs for heart attack and should be discussed with a physician immediately after they appear.

2. Atherosclerosis: Atherosclerosis is characterized by the buildup of plaque on the interior wall of an artery. That buildup makes the walls of the artery thick and hard, thus restricting the flow of blood, and can potentially contribute to a blockage. The experts at Johns Hopkins Medicine note that risk factors for atherosclerosis include high cholesterol, high blood pressure, obesity, and a poor diet that includes lots of saturated fats. Atherosclerosis can cause angina, though many individuals with the condition experience no symptoms until it has reached an advanced stage. Blockages in the leg may cause cramping when exercising or walking, while those in the arteries of the heart can cause heart attack. Blockages that develop in the brain can cause stroke.

3. Cardiomyopathy: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that cardiomyopathy often goes undiagnosed, making it hard to determine just how common the condition is. But the CDC estimates that as many as one in 500 adults have cardiomyopathy. Cardiomyopathy is a disease of the heart muscle that makes it harder for the heart to pump oxygen-rich blood to the body at optimal capacity. Heart & Stroke notes that cardiomyopathy can lead to heart failure. Early stages of cardiomyopathy may not produce any symptoms, but as the disease gets worse individuals may experience fainting, irregular or rapid heartbeats, light-headedness, and swelling of the hands and feet, among other things.

4. Coronary artery disease: Heart & Stroke notes that coronary artery disease (CAD) is the most common form of heart disease. CAD occurs when one or more of the coronary arteries narrows or becomes blocked. CAD causes damage or disease to major blood vessels that supply blood, oxygen and nutrients to the heart. Certain risk factors for CAD, such as age, are beyond individuals’ control. However, many risk factors are within a person’s control. Individuals can speak to their physicians about how to maintain a healthy blood pressure and a healthy weight, limit stress, and reduce their cholesterol, all of which can lower risk for CAD.

Heart disease claims the lives of millions of people each year. Recognizing common heart conditions and how to prevent them can help individuals lower their risk for this deadly, yet often preventable disease.



## Did you know?

The hormone cortisol can affect individuals’ vulnerability to heart disease. According to the University of Rochester Medical Center, cortisol is released as part of the human body’s natural response to stress. Though cortisol is not inherently harmful, the URM reports that studies have suggested high levels of cortisol resulting from long-term stress can increase blood cholesterol, triglycerides, blood sugar, and blood pressure. Such increases elevate individuals’ risk for heart disease. Various studies have found that acute stress can have a positive impact, providing motivation to accomplish goals and overcome daily challenges. However, individuals with chronic stress are urged to speak with their physicians so they can avoid the adverse outcomes, including heart disease, that can develop when individuals have high levels of cortisol related to long-term stress.

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COASTAL LIVING

Simple ways to get through a power outage



Electricity is vital to modern life. When a power outage strikes, life can be turned upside down in a heartbeat, particularly when communities remain in the dark for hours or even days on end. A loss of power can knock out internet communications, close retail businesses, prevent use of medical devices, and adversely affect transportation. Power outages can cause food spoilage, affect HVAC systems and impact indoor temperatures,

and may even prevent some water wells and septic systems from operating.

No one wants to be inconvenienced by a loss of power, but taking certain steps in anticipation of a potential outage can make it easier to manage these unwelcome disruptions.

- Invest in a generator. A portable or whole-house generator can be a valuable investment. Whole-house generators will switch on when power is disrupted to the home. A portable generator takes a little more work to get started and runs on gasoline. But it can be used to provide power to some appliances in the home, depending on size, or to keep a light or two on as needed. Portable generators should be kept away from windows and far enough from the home (20 feet) to prevent carbon monoxide exposure.
- Keep flashlights, candles and batteries handy. Make sure to have these items at the ready and easily accessi-

ble. Extinguish candles before retiring to bed, and always exercise caution around open flames.

- Charge devices. Keep mobile phones, tablets, laptops, and any other devices fully charged if an outage warning is issued. A fully-charged power bank or a solar-powered charging station also can be helpful. Store a charging cable in the car and use that to replenish power supplies if the outage lasts awhile.
- Prepare for food storage. Keep freezers and refrigerators closed as much as possible to retain the cold air inside. The U.S. Department of Agriculture says a refrigerator will keep food safe for up to four hours during a power outage. If the outage lasts more than four hours, discard meat, poultry, fish, eggs, cooked leftovers, milk, and yogurt. Fill a cooler with ice bags or frozen bottles of water to keep additional items, including medications, cold.
- Plan for cooling or heating a home. The American Red Cross suggests using sealant around windows to insulate the home. Extra blankets can keep people warm. Opening the windows for a cross breeze may help when it's hot inside. However, if the weather is very hot or cold and the indoor temperature cannot be maintained, go to a location with air conditioning or with heat. Don't use the stove or an outdoor grill indoors for warmth.
- Stock books, puzzles and games. Figure out ways to keep busy that don't require electricity. These can include crafts, reading material, puzzles, board games, and more.
- Unplug appliances. Unplug appliances and other devices so they are not damaged when the power returns and potentially surges.

Power outages can be a nuisance and even dangerous. Plan accordingly if a storm is expected to knock out power.

Snow blower safety tips



Meteorologists are predicting an El Niño weather pattern this winter. What that spells out for particular regions of the country remains to be seen, but when snow hits certain areas hard, cleanup will be necessary.

It is essential for homeowners and business owners to get outdoors promptly to remove snow from walkways for the safety of pedestrians. Shoveling snow can be back-breaking work, particularly when the snow is very wet or compacted. That's why many people have invested (or plan to invest) in snow blowers to make faster work of snow removal. While these tools are quite effective, they require caution and proper technique to help avoid injuries. The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates there are 5,740 hospital emergency room-related injuries associated with snow blowers each year. The organization Safety Now says most injuries associated with snow blowers involve injuries to the hands or fingers, including amputation.

Individuals can prevent common injuries and even death by following these snow blower safety guidelines.

- Read the owner's manual to understand all of the controls and features before use.
  - Dress accordingly for the weather, including using sturdy footwear with good traction. Boot or shoe grippers can reduce the risk of slips and falls. Also, avoid loose clothing, as scarves or jackets can become tangled in moving parts of the machine.
  - Start the snow blower outside and not in a garage or shed. Gas-powered devices give off carbon monoxide.
  - Stay focused on the task at hand, which means using the snow blower only when sober and not under the influence of medications that can cause drowsiness.
  - Working at a brisk pace can help prevent the snow blower blades from getting clogged from the snow sticking. Wet, heavy snow is more likely to clog the machine, so it may require more passes to get the job done.
  - Clogs can occur, and require extreme caution to dislodge. Always turn off the snow blower and disengage the clutch, says the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. Wait for the impeller blades to stop spinning. Always use a broom handle or a stick to clear compacted snow. Never stick your hand down the chute or around the blades, even if the power switch is off.
  - Keep all safety shields and mechanisms in place on the machine.
  - Do not leave a snow blower unattended.
  - If the snow blower is an electrical version, use an extension cord designed for outdoor use and plug it into an outlet equipped with a ground fault circuit interrupter. Keep the extension cord away from the auger.
- Even though snow blowing can be less physically taxing than manually shoveling snow, it still exerts the body. Take frequent breaks to rest. Exercise caution where you toss the snow, and make sure other people, particularly children, are not in the path of snow removal.



**JOSH STEIN**  
Governor

**D. REID WILSON**  
Secretary

Apply to support wild horses at Rachel Carson Reserve and Shackleford Banks

MOREHEAD CITY - The N.C. Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve, a program of the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Coastal Management, is again partnering with Cape Lookout National Seashore and the Foundation for Shackleford Horses Inc. to offer the Pony Patrol volunteer program.

Pony Patrol volunteers help raise community awareness, protect wild horses and promote compliance with wild horse guidelines at the Rachel Carson Reserve and Shackleford Banks. In 2025, volunteers conducted 260 patrols and engaged with approximately 3,900 visitors at both sites.

Pony Patrol volunteers will serve three- to four-hour shifts, walking through the Rachel Carson Reserve and/or Shackleford Banks to inform visitors about respectful ways to experience the horses and their natural behaviors. Volunteers receive training in visitor communication, the importance of allowing wild horses to remain wild, and the knowledge and skills needed to protect both visitor safety and horse



welfare. The training enables the volunteers to answer questions about the horses and their barrier island habitat.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old, be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and be physically able to walk the islands in dynamic conditions, including sandy terrain, intense sun, heat, humidity, wind and insects. Pony Patrol volunteers are expected to serve at least three times per month. Positions are competitive due to limited availability.


Interested candidates should apply online at: <https://tinyurl.com/PonyPatrol2026>.

The application period opens Friday, Jan. 23, 2026, and closes 11:59 p.m., Monday, Feb. 23, 2026. Applicants must apply to both locations if they want to volunteer for Rachel Carson Reserve and Shackleford Banks. Selected candidates will be contacted for interviews in late February or early March.

For more information, visit Rachel Carson Reserve at [www.deq.nc.gov/coastalreserve](http://www.deq.nc.gov/coastalreserve), Cape Lookout National Seashore at [www.nps.gov/caloc](http://www.nps.gov/caloc) and the Foundation for Shackleford Horses at [www.shackleford-horses.org](http://www.shackleford-horses.org).



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**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
DAVID ALAN PETERSON  
File No.: 25E001234-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to VERONICA P. LANCE, EXECUTOR on or before APRIL 14, 2026, at the address listed below or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-name Executor.

This 14TH DAY OF JANUARY 2026

ESTATE OF DAVID ALAN PETERSON  
C/O VERONICA P. LANCE  
3954 NC HWY 304  
BAYBORO, NC 28515

Publish JANUARY 14,21, 28 and February 4, 2026

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
PAUL C. BRADY  
File No.: 25E001201-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to PAULA B. PHILLIPS EXECUTOR on or before APRIL 14, 2026 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 14TH OF JANUARY, 2026

ESTATE OF PAUL C. BRADY  
CO PAULA B. PHILLIPS  
625 HEARTWOOD DRIVE  
GRIMESLAND, NC 27837

Publish JANUARY 14, 21, 28 AND FEBRUARY 4 2026.

Official Election Notice  
County of PAMLICO

2026 PRIMARY  
Election Date: 03/03/2026

This is an official notice of an election to be conducted in PAMLICO County on 03/03/2026. This notice contains a list of all of the ballot measures and federal, State, and local offices this county expects, as of this date, to be on the ballot on the date of the election. (See Attachment)

An Election Notice will be prepared not later than 100 days before a regularly scheduled election that permits absentee voting, and as soon as practicable in the case of an election or vacancy election not regularly scheduled. For a second primary, an Election Notice will be prepared, no later than the day following the date the appropriate board of elections orders that a second primary be held.

As soon as ballot styles are printed, this county board of elections will update this notice with the certified candidates for each office and ballot measures and referenda questions that will be on the ballot. For General Elections during even-numbered years, ballots will be printed 60 days prior to the election. For statewide primaries and other elections (except municipal elections), ballots will be printed 50 days prior to the election. Municipal ballots are available 30 days prior to Election Day. You must request an updated Election Notice.

Transmitting a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot:

This notice may be used in conjunction with the federal write-in absentee ballot (FWAB). Covered military & U.S. citizens living out-

side the U.S. seeking to vote by absentee ballot may use the FWAB to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and vote an official military-overseas ballot. When using the FWAB to register to vote, and/or request an absentee ballot, please transmit your signed and completed FWAB no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day before Election Day. If submitted later than this day and time, your absentee ballot will not be counted. Federal write-in absentee ballots are available at [www.NCSBE.gov](http://www.NCSBE.gov). You may also request a regular absentee ballot by using the federal postcard application (FPCA), available at [www.FVAP.gov](http://www.FVAP.gov). A regular ballot can be mailed, faxed or emailed to you. You may return the FWAB or a regular absentee ballot by mail, secure fax (1-919-715-0351) or email ([absentee@ncsbe.gov](mailto:absentee@ncsbe.gov)). Marking a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot:

When marking a FWAB, for each office for which you wish to vote, write in either a candidate's name or political party designation. For ballot measures or referenda, write either "YES" (you are for the ballot measure or referendum) or "NO" (you are against the ballot measure or referendum). In a primary, if you are registered as Democratic, Green, Libertarian, or Republican, for partisan contests, you may only vote for the candidates of the party for which you are affiliated. You are also eligible to vote for non-partisan contests. If you are registered as unaffiliated ("independent"), in a primary, you may choose to vote for the partisan contests of one of the parties Q! you may choose to vote for nonpartisan contests only. Please contact your local board of elections to confirm your party affiliation or voter registration status.

Please check the website for the NC State Board of Elections ([www.NCSBE.gov](http://www.NCSBE.gov)) for additional information on militaryoverseas absentee voting.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
CHARLES M. ALEXANDER  
File No.: 26E000006-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to KAREN ALEXANDER CO-EXECUTOR or SHANNON ELLENBERG CO-EXECUTOR on or before APRIL 21, 2026 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-EXECUTORS.

This 21st OF JANUARY, 2026

ESTATE OF CHARLES M. ALEXANDER  
C/O KAREN ALEXANDER  
803 SPAIN FARM RD  
STONEWALL, NC 28583

ESTATE OF CHARLES M. ALEXANDER  
C/O SHANNON ELLENBERG  
PO BOX 28  
STONEWALL, NC 28583

Publish JANUARY 21, 28 AND FEBRUARY 4 and 11 2026.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
CAROLYN ANN RICE  
File No.: 26E000009-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to WILLIAM FREDERICK RICE, JR EXECUTOR on or before APRIL 21, 2026 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 21st OF JANUARY, 2026

ESTATE OF CAROLYN ANN RICE  
C/O WILLIAM FREDERICK RICE, JR.  
4909 BRIARHILL RD  
NEW BERN, NC 28562

Publish JANUARY 21, 28 AND FEBRUARY 4 and 11 2026.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
WILLIAM DAVIS  
File No.: 25E000009-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to MAXINE FISHER CO-EXECUTOR or HARTENSE LATHAM CO-EXECUTOR on or before APRIL 28, 2026, 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-EXECUTORS.

This 28TH OF JANUARY 2026

ESTATE OF WILLIAM DAVIS  
C/O MAXINE FISHER  
2948 MILL POND RD  
BAYBORO, NC 28515

ESTATE OF WILLIAM DAVIS  
C/O HARTENSE LATHAM  
508 BELL LANE  
BAYBORO, NC 28515

Publish JANUARY 28 AND FEBRUARY 4, 11 AND 18 2026.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
HERBERT EMIL FRITZE  
File No.: 26E000008-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to LISA RICE, EXECUTOR on or before APRIL 28, 2026 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 28TH OF JANUARY, 2026

ESTATE OF HERBERT EMIL FRITZE  
C/O LISA RICE  
6711 VALLEY FALLS RD  
HOPE MILLS, NC 28348

Publish JANUARY 28 AND FEBRUARY 4, 11 AND 18, 2026.

**NORTH CAROLINA  
PAMLICO COUNTY**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Ernest Lee Riggs, deceased, of Pamlico County, N.C., are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before April 29, 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment.

This 28th day of January, 2026.

Edward Riggs, Jr., Executor of the Estate of  
Ernest Lee Riggs, Deceased,  
c/o David B. Baxter, Jr.  
416 Pollock Street  
P.O. Drawer 889  
New Bern, NC 28563

1/28/26; 2/4/26; 2/11/26; and 2/18/26

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
THEDA RAE BUTKUS  
File No.: 26E000019-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to MARY C. DILLON, EXECUTOR on or before May 5, 2026, at the address listed below or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-name Executor.

This 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

ESTATE OF THEDA RAE BUTKUS  
C/O MARY C. DILLON  
1922 MAIDEN LANE SW  
ROANOKE, VA 24015

Publish February 4,11,18 AND 25 2026

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE  
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
PAMLICO COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
AND DEBTORS OF  
ROLAND RAY JOSEPH  
SANNER  
FILE NO. 25E001122-680**

All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against Roland Ray Joseph Sanner, deceased, of Pamlico County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before May 5, 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This is the 4th day of February 2026. Elizabeth Sanner, the fiduciary, is fully authorized to receive and administer all assets belonging to the estate.

Elizabeth Sanner, Administrator  
C/O Attorney Caitlin A. Preston,  
Pierce Law Group, PLLC  
3020 South Miami Blvd, Ste 201  
Durham, NC 27703

**Public Notice**  
**North Carolina Environmental  
Management Commission/  
NPDES Unit**  
**1617 Mail Service Center**  
**Raleigh, NC 27699-1617**

Notice of Intent to Issue a NPDES Wastewater Permit NC0088447 Oriental WTP The North Carolina Environmental Management Commission proposes to issue a NPDES wastewater discharge permit to the person(s) listed below. Written comments regarding the proposed permit will be accepted until 30 days after the publish date of this notice. The Director of the NC Division of Water Resources (DWR) may hold a public hearing should there be a significant degree of public interest. Please mail comments and/or information requests to DWR at the above address. Interested persons may visit the DWR at 512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27604 to review the information on file. Additional information on NPDES permits and this notice may be found on our website: <https://deq.nc.gov/public-notices-hearings>, or by calling (919) 707-3601. The Town of Oriental applied to renew NPDES Permit NC0088447 Town of Oriental WTP (1300 Gilgo Rd, Oriental, NC 28571-0472) in Pamlico County. This facility discharges into Whittaker Creek in the Neuse River Basin. Currently, Total Suspended Solids, Total Residual Chlorine, Total Copper, and Total Zinc are water quality limited. This discharge may affect future wastewater allocations in Whittaker Creek.

*“My bed is a magical place where I suddenly remember everything I forgot to do.”*



# AROUND THE COUNTY

## Aurora Joy McCracken, Correspondent



Well, I'm writing this on Saturday because I don't know what the 'blizzard' will do to my Internet. I still have the kind that's in the ground. It's snowing so hard you can't see the other side of the creek and I bet there'll be some missed school days. Looks right now to be a mainly Saturday event. As I write this the snow amounts could be at least 8 inches. It's interesting how the different outlets have different accumulation projections.

At the Merganser Pond I saw several pairs of Mergansers, juvenile Ibis and Great Egrets. Bigger group than last year. It's hard keeping up with the ice in the bird bath but the Red-bellied Woodpecker is keeping a hole pecked out. And a Lifer for me: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker on the bird bath! Several Pelicans patrolling and fishing the creek along with curious Gulls.

The Lions Club is gearing up for its annual Bingo Game Fundraiser on 3/7 at 7pm at the Aurora Community Center. They will have a special meeting with BC's Kim Revels on Feb 9 exploring the formation of a visually impaired support group for Aurora.

There's an area on 306 that has a nice, fluffy group of Longleaf Pine. They look like alien cheerleaders.

Incredible sighting of duck hunter kayakers on the creek at dusk in serious cold on 2/24. Two rare winter Dolphins were on the creek on 1/22.

Cat toys are in abundance with this cold weather and the cats trying not to feel cooped up. Special Shout Out to Hicks Propane getting us filled up in a timely manner.

Have you seen the dancing guys on Reels? They just fill your spirit up with their tunes and moves. They go into places like big box stores, cafes and malls and just start dancing and engaging with the patrons. It's just very special.

Made a big pot of Chicken and Amish Noodles to usher in the snow. Cornbread on the side.



Photo of the Week: Turkeys on my road trying to figure out where the tour bus went.

## Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, Correspondent



Last week, a detour on Pamlico Road sent residents to Pamlico by Orchard Creek Road. It appears the DOT is finally replacing some of the large culverts under the road where the road had been sinking.

Many from Pamlico County attended the service of Death and Resurrection for Penny \$ Farmer this past Friday. We were in the same Pamlico Emmaus Reunion group; she was my mentor and friend. Penny spent 40 years of her life in Pamlico County. Penny loved everyone, and everyone loved her. Remember her family in your prayers this week.

And then there was snow, and more snow, and more snow. Pamlico received about a foot of snow. It may have been more, but it was hard to tell with the wind blowing it into high drifts in some places.

Pamlico Methodist Church did not hold services. I canceled services at Stonewall Methodist Church, but I decided to worship with my congregation Via Facebook live. I wasn't sure I could run the technology from home, but it worked. I heard from members in Utah, Virginia, and locally from Greenville, Alliance, Grantsboro, Merritt, and Stonewall.

My sermon from Matthew 5:1-12 was entitled, "We Are Blessed." We truly are blessed as a church, as a community, and as a county. I saw people reaching out to help others during this epic snowstorm. I had many calls, and friends checked on Roy and me to make sure we were alright.

I heard that Sherrill Styron fell on the ice and fractured his hip. He is scheduled for surgery as I write this on Monday. Please pray for him to have a successful surgery and speedy recovery.

Those celebrating birthdays in February include Mary Willis (2/3), Tony Cowden (2/4), Aiden Smith (2/6), Mattie Cuthrell (2/11), Jean Braswell (2/12), Mildred Harrison, Chris Fulcher & John Farmer (2/14), Willie Banks & Doug Carey (2/15), Sheryl Kaye Sanders, Esther Jane Lupton, & Sharon Rowe (2/20), Tillie Roberts (2/24), Elizabeth Cuthrell (2/25), Lupe Bennett (2/28), and Bless Her Heart, Penny Ford will not get a year older since her birthday is February 29th. Karen and John Deaton will celebrate their wedding anniversary on February 13. Remember, February 14 is Valentine's Day. Tell someone you love them and remember, "Jesus Loves You."

Have a blessed week. Anxious? Take Spiritual Vitamin A. All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. ( Romans 8:28 )



Stonewall Methodist Church (Photo by Beth Wood)

# 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.

Revitalizing a lawn in spring is a multifaceted process but can be well worth the reward when green grass adds to a beautiful landscape and functional yard. Here is how to get started when the weather warms, courtesy of The Farmer's Almanac and The Home Depot.

- Clean up debris. Spend a few hours raking up leaves from the lawn and removing any other winter debris like twigs so that air can reach the grass below. Also remove any thatch that has developed.
- Test the soil. Take a sample of the soil to determine its pH level and nutrient needs. Then you can make adjustments to set a strong foundation for the lawn to grow.
- 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.

## STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

**Auctions**  
Absolute Coin & Stamp Auction  
Gold/Silver Rare/Key Date Coins  
AuctionZip.com/#5969, February 7 @10:00, 9497 N.NC Hwy150 Clemmons,NC. 336-764-5146 NCAL#5871

**Auctions**  
PUBLIC AUCTION! Late Model CNC Machining Equipment! American Machine Company Is Closing. Online Only. Feb. 12, 10am. Richmond, Va. Bid at mot-leysindustrial.com. VAAL#16/NCAL#5914.

**Home Improvement**  
No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-877-649-1190 to schedule a FREE

inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 75% off installation and a bonus \$250 discount! Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

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

**Miscellaneous**  
We Buy Houses for Cash AS-IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair

cash offer: 1-919-925-6362.

**Miscellaneous**  
Get a High Quality, Modern Design bath or shower transformation in as little as One Day. \$0 Down, \$0 Installation, \$0 Payments for 12 months! Call: 1-877-243-7050.

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

**Miscellaneous**  
BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS? Threatened with foreclosure? Denied a loan mod-

ification? Let us help! Call the Homeowner Relief Line to speak with a mortgage specialist 844-492-0883

**Miscellaneous**  
We Buy Vintage Guitar's! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-833-641-6577

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

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The charming bouquet includes: white daisy spray chrysanthemums, pink carnations, red miniature carnations, red roses accented with fresh greenery.

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**Call 1-833-689-1674 to place your order**

**Use Promo Code MDVD090 to get 20% off Promo code is only valid for phone orders.**

Product availability varies by market and minimum order values may apply. A shipping fee of \$20.99 is applied to U.S. orders; additional fees may apply for same-day delivery.

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**Town of Oriental – Owner Bid 2026-01**  
**507 Church St PO Box 472**  
**Oriental, NC 28571**

The Town puts the following project out for bid:  
Separate sealed Bids for the construction of:

**Town of Oriental Valve Replacement** the installation and replacement of valves. The project will involve the installation of approximately 11 gate valves and 14 insertion valves, as well as the replacement of 21 gate valves. Work will include efforts in traffic control, sediment and erosion control, and surface restoration of disturbed roadways and driveways.

Will be received by: **Town of Oriental** at the Town of Oriental Town Hall until **2:00 PM, (Local Time) Wednesday, February 25,2026** and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the following location(s):  
Owner – Oriental Town Hall, Oriental, NC 28571 Issuing Engineer Office – TRC Engineers, Inc.  
114 Edinburgh South Drive, Suite 200, Cary, NC 27511 (919) 827-0864  
Contract Documents can be downloaded for free from the TRC Companies Online Planroom (<https://www.trccompanies.com/knowledge/trc-construction-planroom/>) or purchased from: TRC Companies – located at  
114 Edinburgh South Drive, Suite 200  
Cary, NC 27511  
upon payment of \$100 (non-refundable)

General Contractor's license is required.

With request for Bidding Documents please supply the following information:

- Company name
- Contact person
- Street address
- Phone and fax numbers of Bidding office
- N.C. contractor's license numbers with limitation and classification.

Also please indicate if firm will be a bidder, supplier, or sub-contractor.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis.

A non-mandatory Pre-Bid meeting will be held at 2:00pm Wednesday February 4, 2026 at 507 Church St, Oriental, NC 28571.

Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security as specified in the Instructions to Bidders.



# FRED A. ANDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Fred A. Anderson Elementary Celebrates Second Nine Weeks Awards Day



Fred A. Anderson Elementary recently celebrated student success during its Second Nine Weeks Awards Day, recognizing students for their hard work, growth, and positive character both in and beyond the classroom.

Students were honored for academic achievement in Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies, as well as for demonstrating outstanding effort and creativity in Art, Music, Physical Education, Guidance, and Media. These awards highlight the well-rounded learning experiences taking place at FAA and the many ways students can shine.

In addition to academic and specials awards, students were recognized for Leadership and Citizenship, celebrating those who model responsibility, kindness, and positive behavior. The All Star Award was presented to students who consistently demonstrate the school's core values and serve as role models for their peers.

Awards Day was a proud moment for students, families, and staff, and a reminder of the dedication and teamwork that make Fred A. Anderson Elementary a place where students love to learn and grow. The school looks forward to continuing to celebrate student success throughout the year.

### Fourth Grade Students Experience NC Symphony in New Bern



Fourth-grade students from Fred A. Anderson Elementary traveled to New Bern to attend a live performance by the North Carolina Symphony, giving them the opportunity to experience an enriching cultural event outside the classroom.

The field trip allowed students to enjoy live orchestral music while also spending time together outdoors, creating meaningful memories with classmates. Experiences like this help students connect classroom learning to real-world opportunities and broaden their exposure to the arts.

The school extends a sincere thank you to the North Carolina Symphony for the grant that made the trip possible, to Craven County Schools for the invitation, and to FAA's music teacher, Ms. Wilson, for her dedication in bringing this special experience to our students. Fred A. Anderson Elementary is grateful for the partnerships and staff support that continue to create engaging and memorable learning opportunities.

### 4th Grade Build Strong Foundations in Math and Literacy



In fourth-grade math, students are deepening their understanding of fractions through hands-on learning experiences. Using manipulatives, students explore equivalent fractions and compare fractional values. They use benchmark numbers such as 0, 1/2, and 1 to reason about the size of fractions and make accurate comparisons. Students are also learning that multiplying or dividing by one, expressed as a fraction, creates equivalent fractions, which serves as an effective strategy for comparing fractions.

In fourth-grade reading, students are learning to identify the structure of informational texts and understand how text structure supports comprehension. By recognizing signal words associated with problem/solution, sequence, comparison, description, and cause-and-effect structures, students are better able to understand an author's message. These skills also help students apply similar structures to organize and strengthen their own writing.

### Fourth and Fifth Grade AIG Students Run Successful Hot Chocolate Stand

Fourth- and fifth-grade Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AIG) students at Fred A. Anderson Elementary recently planned and operated a successful hot chocolate stand, applying creativity, teamwork, and real-world problem-solving skills.

Students took the lead in every step of the process. They designed their own logos, selected ingredients, and calculated the cost of materials. Using their math skills, students determined a price point that would allow them to make a profit while remaining affordable for customers.

Thanks to the generosity of staff and parents who supported the project through donations, the students raised enough money to purchase t-shirts for their group. The experience gave students a meaningful opportunity to apply academic skills in an authentic setting

while learning about budgeting, entrepreneurship, and collaboration. Fred A. Anderson Elementary is proud of its AIG students for their initiative, creativity, and teamwork, and for turning a simple idea into a successful and rewarding project.



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