

# Happy St. Patrick's Day

This year, St. Patrick's Day will be observed on Tuesday, March 17.

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# The Pamlico News

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

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## Applications now open for the 2026 Shellfish Lease Program

MOREHEAD CITY — The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Marine Fisheries has opened the 2026 application period for the state's Shellfish Lease and Aquaculture Program. Individuals interested in leasing public coastal waters to cultivate shellfish may submit applications through Aug. 1, 2026.

Applicants are strongly encouraged not to wait until the deadline. Applications that are incomplete, submitted incorrectly or that propose ineligible lease sites will be denied. Applications denied after Aug. 1 cannot be resubmitted until 2027. All application fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

All new applications must include a comprehensive Storm Preparation and Gear Management Plan, detailed in Section 5 of the application and Appendix VII. This plan is mandatory.

The Division accepts bottom lease and water column applications annually from March 1 through Aug. 1. Site investigations are conducted April 1 through Oct. 1, to align with submerged aquatic vegetation growing seasons.

Applicants and the public may track the status and location of active, pending and terminated shellfish leases using the Division's interactive Shellfish Aquaculture Tool, updated weekly.

Application materials and program details are available at [deq.nc.gov/shellfish-lease](http://deq.nc.gov/shellfish-lease).

Shellfish aquaculture supports North Carolina's working waterfronts and contributes important economic and environmental benefits to coastal communities. The Division provides guidance and technical support to help applicants meet state requirements and plan effective, sustainable operations.

For more information, contact the Shellfish Lease and Aquaculture Program at 252-515-5600.

**DEQ reminds residents, businesses that burning trash is against state law**



## Lady Hurricanes Shoot Down Red Barons – Headed to State Championships

by: Hiram Lupton



The Eastern Regional 2A Champions

The #1 seeded Pamlico County High School Women's Basketball Team took to the floor Saturday at Minges Coliseum in Greenville on a mission. It was the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's 2A Women's East Regional final, with a trip to the State Championship on the line. Standing in their way were the #3 seeded Red Barons of Gates County who had championship aspirations of their own. The first quarter saw both teams playing well with the period ending with Pamlico leading 19-16. Both teams had a good amount of fans in the stands and the Pamlico faithful were waiting for the sudden Hurricane scoring outburst they have grown accustomed to seeing. In the second quarter

they got the offensive explosion they were waiting for, though it may have been from an unexpected source. Backup point guard Shaiera Jones often comes off the bench, provides reliable minutes, good defense, and occasionally hits an outside shot. She took over the quarter. While Gates County was concentrating on containing Pamlico's leading scorers, Sydney Whitley-Reese and Nya Clark, Jones connected on FIVE! 3-point attempts sparking the 'Canes to a 42-24 halftime lead. Pamlico came out of the locker room for the third quarter looking fresh and confident while Gates looked spent. If you have seen Pamlico this season, you know they play a fast-paced style with pressure defense, with Coach April

Continued on Page A5



## Pamlico Proud Community Steps Up for Lady 'Canes

by: Hiram Lupton

Thanks to an amazing community response, the Pamlico County High School Ladies Basketball Team will travel to the State Championship in Winston-Salem on a chartered motorcoach. The idea of chartering a bus was conceived during a group discussion between Central office school administration. Riding a school activity bus for four and a half hours and then playing in a championship game was not exactly an ideal situation. The suggestion was made to reach out to the community to see if there was any interest in raising money to accomplish this goal. The biggest problem was time. In order to reserve a bus and driver, there was only about a day to raise the required funds. The appeal went out over social media on Monday morning and to say the response was overwhelming would be an understatement. "There has been a constant stream of donations coming in," said Pamlico County High School Office Manager Jill Ireland. "The calls from alumni from out of the area asking how they could help as well as people coming in and bringing donations has been amazing. When it comes to our kids, I believe the people of Pamlico County are the most generous folks there are." Many County businesses stepped up with large donations but it was also individuals dropping off big and small amounts that quickly added up. "I just wanted to help this team out," said one donor we spoke with who wished to remain anonymous. "These girls and their coaches have worked hard to get where they are and they represent our county so well. They deserve the best and this is a way to show them how proud the community is of them." In just over four hours, the goal of raising \$7000 was met and surpassed, guaranteeing a bus and driver for the trip as well as a team meal after the game, proving once again, the generosity of the people and businesses of Pamlico County is unsurpassed. THANK YOU! Pamlico County and Go Lady 'Canes.

## Primary Election Results, Matchups for November

by: Hiram Lupton



Except for final removal of a few candidate roadside signs, the 2026 Primary Election is complete, and the field is set for the November general election. There were a few races that have already been decided, since only candidates in one party filed, thus the primary decided the winner. Locally, there were two such races. In the at-large Pamlico County Board of Commissioners race, there were three republican candidates running for two seats. Derek Potter received the most votes with 918 (38.3%) followed by incumbent Doug Brinson with 847 (35.3%). T. W. Harris was third with 635 votes (26.5%). Brinson will retain his seat on the Board while Potter will replace Kari Forrest who chose not to run for reelection. Also decided in the primary election was the seat on the Pamlico County Board of Education that represents District 4. Helen Jones Gibbs announced that she would not be seeking to return to the board and two candidates, Democrats Myra Stokes Carter and Carinna Smith, filed to fill her seat. Carter won handily with 134 votes (82.2%) to Smith's 29 (17.8%). Since there were no Republican challengers, Carter will now occupy that seat. One other race affecting Pamlico County was effectively decided on Primary day. In the race for the district 79 seat in the NC House of Representatives, Darren Armstrong will replace incumbent Keith Kidwell. Across the District, Armstrong received 52.3% of the vote

to Kidwell's 47.7%. In Pamlico County, Kidwell actually received more votes than Armstrong, 766 to 729. There are no Democrat challengers for the seat. For the NC Senate seat representing District 2, neither incumbent Republican Norman Sanderson or Democrat Roy Surret had no challengers and were not on the Primary ballot but will be facing off in the November general election. One race that will be contested in November and that will be closely watched will be race for the US House of Representatives District 1 seat. Laurie Buckhout, who spent heavily on TV ads, outpaced four other Republican challengers to move on to the general election. District wide she received 39.5% of the vote. Her nearest competition was Carteret County Sheriff Asa Buck who came in second with 34.5%. As far as Pamlico County was concerned, Buck was the leading vote getter with 606 to Buckhout's 395. Buckhout will now face incumbent Democrat Don Davis who was unopposed in the primary. Finally, in a matchup that will garner national attention and the big money that will undoubtedly come with it, Democrat Roy Cooper will be facing Republican Michael Whatley for retiring US Senator Thom Tillis' seat in Washington, D.C. Both easily won their party's primaries. All these results are preliminary and await to be certified by the North Carolina State Board of Elections. November 3rd may seem like a long way away, but it will be here before we know it. I expect we will get to know the candidates in the contested races quite well through what will seem like a non-stop barrage of media advertising.

## What Primary Elections Actually Do

A primary election serves as the qualifying round before the main event. Candidates from the same party compete against each other, and the winner becomes that party's official nominee for a specific office.

The mechanics are straightforward. Candidates compete within their party, and whoever receives the required number of votes becomes the nominee. That person then faces nominees from other parties in the general election.

Primary elections differ fundamentally from general elections in purpose. Voters don't elect someone to office in a primary. They help a political party decide which candidate will carry its banner in November.

## LIKELY WEATHER OVER THE WEEKEND

Saturday, March 14th **71° Hi** Partly sunny and warm

Sunday, March 15th **74° Hi** Partly cloudy and warm



**TURNAGE**  
Construction & Trucking Co. Inc.  
2373 NC Hwy 304, Bayboro, NC 28515

Rock, Sand & Topsoil  
Custom Excavation, Bulldozer & Backhoe Services  
Clearing • Grading • Rock Bulkheads  
Custom Septic & Drainage Installation  
NC Onsite Wastewater Contractors & Inspectors  
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**Dwight Turnage**  
Office: 252-745-4976  
Cell: 252-637-8817  
Fax: 252-745-5240

**MyCPRL.org**

### Career and Resource Fair

Pamlico County Library's Pathway to Success

Wednesday, April 22nd  
10 AM - 2 PM

Pamlico County Library  
13896 Highway 55  
Alliance, NC 28509

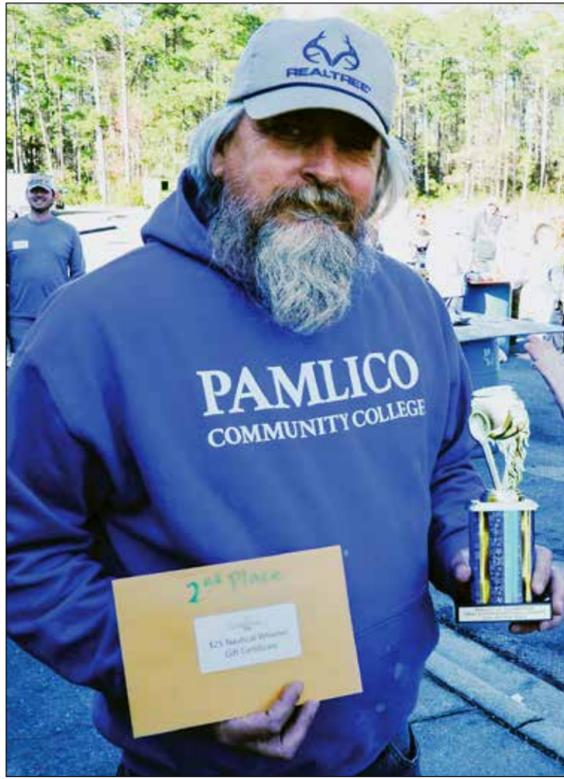
**WE ARE HIRING**



# Pamlico Community College

## Chili Cookoff winners

By Sandy Wall



Eleven cooks competed in the Pamlico Community College Foundation's annual Chili Cookoff Feb. 28. The Cookoff was a featured part of the Foundation's 14th Annual Great Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff. Bonnie Dixon's "Chili of Champions" won first place in this year's event, beating out two-time champion Albert Krelie Jr. and his "Crazy Al's Chili." In the photo at left, Dixon, left, shows off her first-place trophy and the \$50 Kohl's gift card she won. Joining her in the photo is PCC's Laura West. In the photo on the right, Krelie shows the trophy and \$25 Nautical Wheelers gift card he won for placing second. More than 200 people came out to the event, which raised money for student scholarships. The 15th Annual Great Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 27, 2027. Contributed photos



**Land/Home Sales  
Property Management  
Appraisals Development**



**Agent of the Week**

**Allen Propst**  
Owner/Broker/GRI

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

Our experience with Allen has always been positive and we endorse him to anyone who is interested in buying or selling in Eastern North Carolina. He has been a successful realtor and developer for many years and we highly recommend him for his local knowledge, expertise, responsiveness and negotiation skills.

*Mr. Sordill, Oriental*



**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 \$279,500**



**ORIENTAL** – 2BR/2BA on 0.72 acres 2 miles outside of town. Lifetime metal roof, 2025 HVAC system, 2025 HWH, all new foundation piers, new LVP flooring, all new light fixtures & outlets, new kitchen counters, cabinets, drawers, SS appliances & sink. New bathrooms with walk-in showers. New carpeting in bedrooms & office. New laundry room & washer & dryer. New Studio. All windows are large, thermal double-hung allowing lots of ambient lighting into each room. No zoning, no HOA.

**OFFERED AT \$295,000**



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

**OFFERED AT \$359,500**



**ORIENTAL** – 4,000 hsf commercial, fully-insulated. Covered porch opens to reception, conference room & 2 offices. Santos Mahogany flooring in admin areas, tiled floor powder room, Kohler toilets, Delta lavatory faucets, full bath features Kohler shower. Carrier 2.5 ton heat pump for office area, 2 5-ton HVAC systems for warehouse. Attic, 208 3-Phase 200 amp elec system. Ingersole Rand 200 PSI air compressor. Fabrication equipment does not convey.

**OFFERED AT \$ 499,900**



**ORIENTAL** – 3BR/2BA 1,894 sf open floor plan, deeded boat slip on 1 acre lot. Screened outdoor entertainment area & fire pit. Bright, open spaces indoors and inviting outdoor areas surrounded by mature trees and natural beauty. Being sold as-is.

**OFFERED AT \$545,000**



**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**

See all Listings & Visual Tours at [www.orientalncwaterfront.com](http://www.orientalncwaterfront.com)  
1-800-347-8246 • 252-249-1014  
Or contact Allen Propst  
252-671-4644  
704 Broad St, PO Box 750, Oriental, NC 28571

Pamlico County's Library and Small Business Center introduce:

# Small Business Saturdays

- a FREE monthly series on site at Pamlico County Library!

**2026 TAX PREP:  
HANDS-ON ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES**  
Saturday, March 14th, 10am  
Pamlico County Library  
(with Kelly Michaud from Solid Rock Accounting)



Pamlico County Library  
13896 NC-55  
Bayboro, NC 28515

REGISTER FOR FREE AT  
[www.PamlicoSBC.com](http://www.PamlicoSBC.com)



## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- March 11th – Today is National Funeral Director and Mortician Recognition Day. We salute you Stephanie Daniels Sadler.
- March 12th – Today is National Popcorn Lover's Day. Extra butter please.
- March 13th – Today is National K9 Veterans Day.
- March 14th – Its 3.14. Happy Pi Day. It's also National Potato Chip Day.
- March 15th – 44 BC, Julius Caesar was assassinated. The Ides of March are upon us.
- March 16th – Today is National Freedom of Information Day. I googled information on this holiday, but much of it was redacted.
- March 17th – Happy St. Patrick's Day. Protect your Lucky Charms.

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- March 12th- 1933, Actress Barbara Feldon
- March 12th – 1948, Musician James Taylor
- March 12th – 1960, Actor Courtney B. Vance
- March 14th – 1965, Movie Producer Kevin Williamson (in New Bern, NC)
- March 16th – 19??, Outstanding Pamlico Citizen Merritt Watson
- March 16th – 1954, Musician Nancy Wilson
- March 16th – 1959, Rapper Flavor Flav
- March 16th - 1967, Actress Lauren Graham



## Boat Show Volunteers Needed

The Oriental Rotary Club is having their annual Boat Show April 10-12. We are in need of volunteers! It does take a Village to help us put on this show! Anyone that would like to volunteer a few hours working the gates, or driving a golf cart as a free taxi service please call or email Sally Belangia at 252-671-9288 or sallytruitt-belangia@gmail.com .

We love people who own their own golf carts and will be taxi drivers on your own time. Need others to volunteer their golf carts so we can get people to volunteer to drive one if you do not want to taxi your own. Thank you for your support!

## PCFLO Food of the Month: Instant Mashed Potato Mix

PCFLO is selecting a Food of the Month for each month during 2026, and our selection for March is instant mashed potato mix. Help provide PCFLO clients with nutritious staples by bringing instant potato mix (preferably in envelopes) to your church during any Sunday this month. You can also bring your donations to the PCFLO collection box at the Food Pantry at 108 Straight Road in Oriental.

Looking ahead to April, the Food of the Month will be tuna. Thanks for your support!!

## Did you know?

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.

## Concerned about your drinking?

You are not alone, there is help available!

Come join others who have found a Solution!

Alcoholics Anonymous: New Bern Hotline (252) 349-0898

Meetings in Pamlico County:

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

**Tuesday 8pm** - Oriental Group - Open Discussion Meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Church 600 Ragan Rd. in Oriental, NC (2nd brick building on left off Hwy 55)

**Thursday \*7:30pm\*\*** - Recovery and Beyond Group - Beginner/Open Discussion Meeting at Alliance United Methodist Church, 687 Main Street in Bayboro, NC (close to DSS/Senior Center)

**Friday 8pm** - Oriental Group - Open Discussion Meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Church, 600 Ragan Road in Oriental, NC (2nd brick building on left off Hwy 55).

**Sunday \*7pm** - Oriental Sunday Night Group - Big Book/12 & 12 Study Meeting held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 402 Freemason St. in Oriental, NC (2nd brick church on the left)

<https://aaeasternnc.org/> <https://aanorthcarolina.org/> <https://www.aa.org/>

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We place ethical and professional principles of journalism at the center of everything we do in the production of the The Pamlico News.

# COMMUNITY

## OBITUARIES

Gail Mason Ruggiero

June 7, 1941 - February 7, 2026



Gail Mason Ruggiero was born in Oriental, North Carolina, the daughter of a shrimp boat captain. She spent her days around the water, with family and life long friends, boating and crabbing in the Neuse River. Gail left this earth in the same fashion that she lived her life: on a grand adventure, celebrating the beauty of the day among some of her closest friends. She greeted each day with a fervor and joy that all who knew her, have witnessed.

Mom never stood still. Whether picking tobacco as a teen or documenting top secret missile launches for NASA. She met Leo Ruggiero, the love of her life, in Cocoa Beach, FL and began her favorite job, being the matriarch of our family.

Gail was a hostess extraordinaire. She made long lasting friends all over the country and kept those friendships to this day. She was a story teller and social director for all things fun. She learned to snow ski and taught her family to cherish the snow capped mountains and blue bird skies through family ski trips all over the country. Gail celebrated the early morning song birds with the same joy as a distant friend on the phone or a neighbor at her door.

Gail's greatest pride was her family, especially her grandchildren. She loved them fiercely and connected with each of them with a delight unmatched in any grandparent I have ever known. Noni, as her grandchildren called her, was a card shark. Every grandchild began their first card lessons at the age of 3, sitting on Noni's lap. She played ruthlessly, without mercy and our children took note. Noni shared in our kids secrets, trials and dreams, some of which we may never know. She attended choral concerts, horse back riding, gymnastics and tennis lessons. She cheered at hockey, soccer and lacrosse games all over the south to let her grandkids know she was their biggest fan. Her spaghetti and meatballs and chicken soup were world renown and soothed many a crying toddler, defiant teenager or starving college kid.

With a glass in her hand and a song in her heart, Noni danced through her life just as I imagine she is doing now in Heaven; with papa, her sweet angel Nicole and a host of joyful friends and family. She is survived by the Banish, Lademann and Rickles families and treasured friends across the country. May your memories of her shine as brightly as the stars, as she guards us from above. In lieu of flowers, please donate to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the Red Cross. Please join us to share memories at M&M's on Saturday, March 28 from 2-4pm.



**Marjorie Anne Emerson Limeburner, 94,** of Minnesott Beach passed away peacefully at her home on Monday, March 2, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family.

Marjorie Anne proudly served four years in the Women's Royal Air Force. In 1955, she married the love of her life, Burke Royce Limeburner, Jr. Together they moved to the United States where she turned her love of animals into a lifelong career, owning and operating Anne's Poodle Parlor for 30 years. Through her skilled hands and caring heart, she groomed generations of beloved pets, earning the trust and friendship of countless families.

She will always be remembered for her warm smile, her gracious manner, and the kindness she extended so freely to others.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Brian & Catherine Emerson; brother, Brian Emerson; and beloved husband after 70 years of marriage, Burke "Bud" Limeburner, Jr. who passed away on February 25, 2025.

Marjorie Anne leaves behind to cherish her memory sons, Bryan (Sue) and Nathan (Jane) Limeburner; daughter, Katherine Limeburner; grandchildren, Ian Cooke, Scott Limeburner and Adam Limeburner; and great-granddaughter, Corree Limeburner.

A memorial service to honor her life will be held at the home on Saturday, March 14th beginning at 5:00 p.m. The family will begin receiving friends and relatives at 4:00 p.m.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial contributions may be made to Craven-Pamlico Animal Shelter, 1639 Old Airport Rd., New Bern, NC 28562.

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



Sue Hill Frawley was born on June 14, 1939, in Oriental, North Carolina, to the late Vaughn Hill, Sr. and Ruby Mallison Hill. On February 25, 2026, she passed peacefully at Riverpoint Crest Nursing Home after a long and courageous battle with Parkinson's disease. Throughout her life, Sue's faith in the Lord was her foundation and strength. She cherished time spent with family and friends and found her greatest joy in being surrounded by those she loved.

Sue expressed her love in many ways — especially through her cooking and the flowers she so carefully planted and tended. She delighted in fellowship, whether at her singles dances or gathered around a table playing cards, bingo, board games, or bowling. She was spirited and wonderfully competitive, never one to back down, and she carried a spark in her eye that reflected her determination and zest for life. Independent and strong-willed, Sue built a successful career in the Tupperware business, at one time owning her own warehouse in West Virginia.

She and her beloved late husband, Joseph Robert "Bob" Frawley, shared a passion for travel and explored the world together, creating treasured memories along the way.

Sue was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bob; her son, Martin "Marty" Marquardt Jr.; and her siblings, Bobby Hill, Vaughn Hill, Jr., Dallas Hill, Betty Ann Hill, and Ronnie Hill.

She is survived by her loving children: her daughter, Sherry Trushinsky Rodriguez, and her children, Austin Gohde and Justin Gohde; her daughter, Robin Trushinsky Bartholomew (Larry Sawyer), and her son, Stephen Traversie (Mariana), and their child, Bodhi; and her daughters, Amanda Traversie Thompson (Jake), and their children, Jacob, Elijah "Eli," Addison Grace "Addi Grace," and Sydnee Bartholomew; her son, Michael Trushinsky (Madonna), and his sons, Danny Trushinsky (Brooke), and their children, Averie, Lila, and Race; and Clay Trushinsky (Sara), and their children, Levi and Samuel.

She is also survived by her brothers, Johnny Hill (Tana) and Kenny Hill (Linda).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Sue's memory to: Cardinal Hospice Care, 3884 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28546 or Riverpoint Crest Nursing Home, 2600 Old Cherry Point Road, New Bern, NC 28560.

The family received friends on Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home in Alliance.

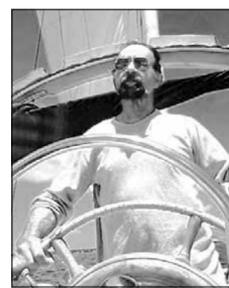
Arrangements by Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home & Crematory, Alliance, NC.

## Captain Lance Burgo

Beloved husband, uncle and friend, Captain Lance Burgo passed away at the age of 84, on March 7, 2026, after a swift but courageous battle with lung cancer.

Lance was born in Boston, November 11, 1941, the only child of Dorothy Azulay and Louis A. Burgo, a WWII veteran. In 1968, Dorothy remarried, and Lance became stepson to Thomas Tyler.

From a young age, Lance loved the sea. Encouraged by his parents, Lance took every opportunity to increase his sea-faring knowledge including mastering navigation, map reading, tides and currents. In 1975, Lance earned a senior 50-ton offshore license from the Coast Guard. He also became a licensed master scuba diver and a seaplane pilot.



Throughout his career, Lance has owned and captained several boats, including The Sandavore, a sailboat that made its movie debut in in the 1981 American romantic-comedy-drama, The Four Seasons, starring Alan Alda and Carol Burnett.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years retired Attorney Lisa (Daniel) Burgo. Lance also leaves behind many other family members

and friends who will sadly miss him. His loyal first mate Jeff Smith of Saratoga, Florida pre-deceased him.

The family will hold a private memorial service. It is the family's request that anyone wishing to express their sympathy please do so by making a donation to a charity of their choosing.

# FINANCIAL FOCUS

## Ask these two questions before buying a home



Dan M. Roberts

You may have heard that buying a home is better than renting. After all, why “throw money away” on rent when you could be building wealth through homeownership? Financial professionals say the decision isn’t that simple.

The answer depends on your personal and financial situation. Before you begin house hunting, ask yourself two key questions: Can you afford to buy? And should you buy?

**Can you afford to buy?** While being ready to purchase a home means having enough money for a down payment and a monthly mortgage, other financial obligations are involved.

It’s important that your debt levels are manageable before you buy. Without a mortgage, it’s ideal for your monthly debt payments to be less than 20% of your gross monthly income. With a mortgage, debt payments should stay lower than 35%.

You’ll also need to cover homeowner’s insurance premiums with a deductible, pay annual property taxes, hold emergency savings for the costs of major repairs such as roof or driveway replacement and build flexibility into your budget for routine expenses like HVAC tune-ups and lawn care. Don’t forget the upfront costs, such as closing costs, that come with homebuying. They typically run between 2% and 6% of the purchase price.

**Should you buy?** One of the biggest factors in deciding whether to buy or rent relates to time. The longer you plan

to stay in your house, the more likely it is that buying makes financial sense. Generally, professionals say it doesn’t make sense to buy unless you’re planning to stay in the home at least three to five years.

When you buy a home, you face high purchasing costs right away. Initially, you build equity slowly, since most of your mortgage payment goes to interest. Staying in your house longer offers more time to build equity. Overall, the total cost of buying could be lower than renting.

Many factors can impact whether it will be more cost effective to rent than buy. Job stability, potential reduction in income for one or both spouses, mortgage rates, rental costs, the rate at which homes are appreciating in value and the cost of homeowners insurance all come into play. Fortunately, many online calculators account for these factors and help you compare your options.

**Beyond the numbers.** When deciding whether to buy a house, don’t just look at the cost. Buying a home is more than an investment. Your home is where you live your life. So, you should consider your lifestyle and preferences. Buying might be more suitable if you need stability, want to personalize your home and are comfortable with tying a portion of your wealth to a house. Renting offers more flexibility and fewer maintenance responsibilities.

Ultimately, choosing to rent or buy comes down to understanding your finances, your plans and what you want from the place you call home. Take the time to assess costs and lifestyle trade-offs to help make a choice that supports your longterm goals.

*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**

## Skills For the Future



Kait Neeland  
4-H Agent

4-H has been a major part of my life since I was five years old. From my first 4-H project raising a lamb for our tri-county livestock show, to volunteering as a college student, to now being a 4-H agent for nearly ten years. Each stage of my 4-H career has its own joys and unique experiences. Often this time of year I like to reflect, sometimes it’s hard to believe how many things have changed since I was a five-year-old with a lamb taller than me. As I reflect, I consider how different things will be for our youth.

The truth is that every year that passes it seems harder and harder to prepare our teenagers and young adults to enter the workforce; this year has only highlighted that fact. 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. Our 4-H programs are great opportunities for youth to engage with one another while building their oral and written communication skills, their critical thinking, and social skills.

My favorite soft skill focused program is 4-H Presentations. Why should you do a 4-H Presentation? Apart from being fun, there are many reasons to participate. At some point in our lives nearly everyone has to give a speech. It may be a class presentation in high school, or a crowded lecture hall at university, before a congregation, or a toast at a best friend’s graduation, as part of a job interview, or to accept an award. It is a skill that is taken into many accepts of our lives, and it doesn’t have to be a daunting consideration, in fact 4-H Presentation are both exciting and fun!

How do we get started? 4-H presentations start at the county level where your 4-H Agent (me) will help you pick a subject that interests you, and decide what kind of speech you would like to give. Then youth will prepare and write their speech. First youth will give your speech at County Activity Day where youth will receive helpful feedback before District Activity Day (DAD). DAD place winners have the opportunity to give their presentations at NC 4-H Congress in Raleigh, some speech categories are eligible for an award and an opportunity to attend National 4-H Events.

Our Pamlico County 4-H Presentation preparations will start in the beginning of March.

Looking to sign up for one of our upcoming 4-H programs? You’ll find all the details and registration info on our website: pamlico.ces.ncsu.edu. To complete your registration, you’ll also need to enroll in 4-H Online it’s required for all NC 4-H programs. Don’t worry if you’re new to the process, the link is on our website, and if you have any trouble at all, just give us a call. We’re happy to walk you through it step-by-step! Want to stay in the loop about future programs and events? Be sure to sign up for our Pamlico 4-H email list so you never miss an update. If you have questions or just want to learn more about what 4-H has to offer here in Pamlico County, reach out to Kait Neeland at (252) 745-4121 or kait\_neeland@ncsu.edu

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Continued from page A1

## Lady Hurricanes Shoot Down Red Barons – Headed to State Championships

Rose dipping liberally into her bench for fresh players. Pamlico led in fast-break points 19-4. The Red Barons only had seven players available and by the end of the third quarter, their tank was empty and the Hurricanes were up by 20, 56-36. It was then a cruise to the finish with Pamlico building the lead to 28 before Coach Rose turned the game over to her reserves for a final of 72-53. Whitley-Reese led Pamlico in scoring, with 26 points, while Clark tallied 22. Whitley-Reese also added 13 rebounds for a double-double. The hero of the second quarter, Shaiera Jones, finished with 20 points. Kyliyah Barber was also a key for the 'Canes. She only had 2 points, but nearly pulled off a double-double of her own, with 10 rebounds and 9 assists. "I am very proud of the whole team," said Coach April Rose at the post-game press conference. "Everybody contributed in one way or another. Everybody fulfilled their role. We had a plan going into this season and we have stuck to it." Pamlico last won the State Championship in 2019 when they defeated East Surry 62-55 in Chapel Hill for the title. This year the title game will be played at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum on the campus of Wake Forrest University in Winston-Salem. Pamlico will be facing the #1 seed in the West Region and 2-time defending State Champion Cherokee. The game will be played on Thursday, March 12 with a tipoff scheduled at 5pm.



Shaiera Jones



Team Captains Sydney Whitley-Reese and Nya Clark along with Head Coach April Rose accept the Eastern Regional Championship trophies.

## Middle School Athletics

### Baseball and Softball Open Their Seasons

by: Hiram Lupton

Pamlico County Middle School baseball and softball teams hit the diamond for the first time last Tuesday to start their seasons by hosting Tucker Creek Middle School. The boys lost a heartbreaker, 4-3, while the girls pounded out a win, 7-3.



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### Spring 2026 Collection Events

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Pamlico County Courthouse  
202 Main Street, Bayboro

#### CRAVEN COUNTY

Saturday, March 28, 2026  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Craven Community College  
800 College Court, New Bern

#### CARTERET COUNTY

Saturday, April 25, 2026  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Carteret Co. Health Dept  
3820 Bridges Street, Morehead City

#### Accepted Materials

- ✓ Cooking oil
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## PCHS Softball

### Lady 'Canes Searching for First Win

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School softball team took to the field for a pair of games last week and are still searching for that elusive first win. On Wednesday they hosted the White Oak Vikings, and the Hurricanes were in contention, trailing 4-1 going into the seventh inning, but the Viking offense hung up 6 runs and put the game away with a final score of 10-1. Pamlico once again played steady defense but was lacking in offensive, getting only a pair of hits for the game, one each from Hayley Shamblin and Payton Force. Sarah Scott scored the Hurricanes only run, coming home on Shamblin's single in the sixth inning. The following evening, the Hurricanes took a road trip to Martin County to face the Bears of Bear Grass Charter School. This time out, a shaky defense contributed to 12 runs by the Bears while Pamlico continued to struggle at the plate. They managed 4 hits including a double from Kylee Morris but never put enough together to cross the plate, losing 12-0. This week, Pamlico takes on Washington on Tuesday and will travel to White Oak on Friday the 13th.



Payton Force makes solid contact



Kylee Morris in the circle for the 'Canes

## Hurricanes Baseball

### Pamlico goes 3-0 for Week

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School Baseball squad took the field for three games last week and we now officially have a winning streak. On Monday Pamlico headed to Richlands for an opportunity to even the score against the Wildcats who handed Pamlico an opening day home loss the previous week. The Hurricane offense came alive, rapping out 11 hits and 13 runs to bring back a 13-8 win. Dylan Ward had 3 hits and scored a pair of runs, but he was not alone in plate production as six other Hurricanes hit safely. Wednesday Pamlico hosted the Vikings of White Oak. Pitching and defense carried the Hurricanes through this one. Ayden Broughton recorded 10 strikeouts in 4 innings of work and combined with three other hurlers to limit White Oak only 3 hits and 4 runs in the 7-4 victory. At the plate, Reid Carey had a pair of hits, drove in 2 runs, and scored 1 of his own to lead the offense. Finally on Friday, the Hurricanes headed north to Beaufort County to tangle with Pungo Christian Academy. This one was pretty much all Pamlico as the Raiders only managed 1 hit and 1 run off of the duo of Peyton Sevenski and Ross McLamb. Sevenski and Reid Carey each had a pair of hits for the Hurricanes and McLamb scored 4 times for Pamlico giving them all the offense they needed in a 12-1 win. This week, Pamlico hosts Havelock on Tuesday before heading out to the Outer Banks for a two-game set on Saturday. The Hurricanes take on Cape Hatteras, also the Hurricanes, at noon and Panther Creek at 4 PM.



Cam Daniels



## Hallowed Ground Lantern Tour

*Exciting Storytelling Event Returns for its 5th Year!*

NEW BERN, NC, The New Bern Historical Society invites you to an exciting storytelling event, the Hallowed Ground Lantern Tour, March 19, 20 & 21, 6-9pm. New Bern Battlefield Park, site of the first Battle of New Bern, hosts this intriguing event. The tour takes you on a guided, lantern-lit walk through the wooded battlefield trails, where spirits of real characters from New Bern's past will share their very human and inspiring stories of courage and conviction.

As you visit, you will hear, a firsthand account about the daring raid to capture a Union gunboat, about those who fled and those who stayed in New Bern after the battle, from nursing nuns from New York who came to help the wounded, and about maritime involvement in the battle. That's just to name a few.

Historical Society Executive Director, Anthony Giardino is excited about this compelling storytelling event. "Take part in this important immersive event standing at the exact spot of the March 14th, 1862 Battle of New Bern. You'll encounter our meticulously preserved Battlefield Park and hear gripping tales and history of the era delivered by our most talented local actors and reenactors."

Pre-paid reservations are required with specific day & arrival time. Tickets are \$16 for Historical Society adult members, students, and active-duty military; \$19 adult non-members. Space is limited. Reservations are available at [www.NewBernHistorical.org/tickets](http://www.NewBernHistorical.org/tickets). Not suitable for children under 7 or those with difficulty walking.

Not a battlefield tour or a program about the war, these are poignant human stories of the experiences of civilians, soldiers, formerly-en-slaved persons, and others. These gripping narratives are largely based on letters, diaries, and contemporaneous accounts.

Plan about 90 minutes for the entire event, which includes time for a special presentation following the guided tour.

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



Images from previous Lantern Tours. Photos courtesy Coastal Photo Club.

# Pamlico Vistas

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



Moonset ON THE Neuse near Arapahoe

Photo by: Hiram Lupton

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## Possible origins of the Friday the 13th legend

The number 13 is widely considered unlucky, so much so that certain buildings do not list a thirteenth floor. It's hard to avoid 13 when it makes up a day each and every month, and even more so when the 13th falls on a Friday.

Every year people are treated to at least one Friday the 13th on the Gregorian calendar, but some years there can be as many as three such days. It is difficult to pinpoint when superstitions surrounding Friday the 13th first came to be, but it may have something to do with Christianity.

The New York Historical Society says the unlucky connotations may be traced back to The Last Supper. In attendance were 13 people: Jesus as well as his 12 apostles (one of whom betrayed him). The following day (Friday) Jesus was crucified. Superstitions cropped up among Christians that a table of 13 "courted death" and that having 13 people around a table or in a group was unlucky, according to the BBC.

The number 12 often is seen as a sign of completion. The 12 months of the year, 12 zodiac signs, 12 apostles, 12 days of Christmas, and 12 gods of Olympus perhaps bolster that reputation. That belief may have given rise to foods being sold in multiples of 12, as in a dozen doughnuts. Thirteen is then incomplete.

Friday also has a reputation for being unlucky. It was said to be the day Eve gave Adam the

apple from the Tree of Knowledge as well as the day Cain killed his brother, Abel.

The Christian connection is not the only potential source of superstition surrounding the unlucky nature of 13. History.com says the ancient Code of Hammurabi reportedly omitted a 13th law from its list of legal rules. Also, National Public Radio says the Knights Templar were condemned on a Friday the 13th.

Although there are many past examples of when Friday and the number 13 have been linked to potential bad luck, word of mouth also may have contributed to this unfortunate relationship. Things have a tendency to be misremembered, which is known as the "Mandela Effect." It is possible someone misremembered or incorrectly indicated that Friday the 13th was unlucky, and then it has since been remembered that way.

Thirteen is not always considered unlucky. Prior to World War I, the French traditionally considered 13 a lucky number. In Italy, 13 was the lucky number in football pools. The Italian expression "fare tredici" meant "to hit the jackpot" and is translated as "make thirteen." Also, Colgate University has long considered 13 a lucky number, as the school was founded by 13 men with 13 dollars, 13 prayers and 13 articles.

Friday the 13th next falls in March 2026, potentially leaving the superstitious on edge.

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# Health & Wellness

## The link between sleep and healthy aging



A good night's rest can be just what the body needs to feel revitalized and ready to tackle a new day. Indeed, rest is important for people of all ages, including seniors.

The National Council on Aging notes the brain needs sleep to regulate the body, restore energy and repair damage. Recognition of that is vital for aging men and women, some of whom may be more vulnerable to sleeping problems than they realize. In addition to being more vulnerable to age-related health problems that can interrupt their sleep, thus

affecting its quality, aging men and women may find their sleep routines change over time. For example, a 2019 study published in the journal BMC Geriatrics found that active elderly people reported it took them longer to fall asleep as they got older.

The NCOA says it's a misconception that older adults need more sleep than younger people, noting adults of all ages require the same amount of nightly rest. However, things may change for seniors in regard to how much time they need to spend in bed. The NCOA notes this is because adults may be more likely to experience poor sleep quality and continuity. When that occurs, adults still need the recommended minimum of seven hours of nightly sleep, but they may need to spend more time in bed since it's taking them longer to fall asleep.

It's important that aging adults recognize that they can spend too much time sleeping as well. A 2019 study published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society found that too much sleep is linked to the same health problems as too little sleep, issues that include an elevated risk for heart disease and falls.

Sleep issues affecting older adults also may be a byproduct of various contributing factors. The NCOA notes that frequent contributors to sleep concerns include:

- Pain that affects the back, neck, or joints
- Mental health issues, including anxiety and depression
- Neurodegenerative disorders that are more frequent among aging populations, such as dementia and Alzheimer's
- Sleep apnea or disordered breathing at night

Restless leg syndrome, a condition that tends to worsen with age and is characterized by an urge to move limbs often

- Nocturia, a condition marked by a need to urinate at night
- Stimulating medications or medication interactions
- Decreased exposure to sunlight
- Sedentary lifestyle

Aging men and women who are experiencing difficulty sleeping should know that such issues are treatable and not something that needs to be accepted as a normal part of growing older. For example, individuals whose sleep is routinely interrupted by a need to urinate can avoid certain beverages, including alcohol and caffeinated drinks.

Sleep and healthy aging go hand in hand. Aging adults experiencing difficulty sleeping can consult their physicians and visit [ncoa.org](http://ncoa.org) to learn more about overcoming sleep-related issues.

## The link between sleep and mental health



Sufficient sleep is often an unsung hero of overall health. When people get enough sleep, their bodies are in better position to fend off illness and the rest ensures they have enough energy to tackle whatever challenges they confront.

The American Academy of Sleep Medicine and the Sleep Research Society jointly recommend that adults get at least seven hours of sleep per night. A good night's sleep is often discussed in terms of how it can

affect physical health, but adequate rest also can have a profound impact on mental health. Sleep and mental health are intertwined, and the link between the two may be even more significant than was once believed.

• **Sleep and depression:** The Sleep Foundation notes that sleeping issues have historically been seen as a byproduct of depression. Indeed, the National Center for Biotechnology Information indicates that roughly three in four individuals with depression exhibit symptoms of insomnia. However, the Sleep Foundation reports that growing evidence now indicates poor sleep may induce depression.

• **Sleep and anxiety disorders:** Data from the National Institutes of Health indicates that one in five adults are affected by an anxiety disorder. The Mayo Clinic reports that feelings of nervousness and fear are hallmarks of anxiety disorders, and such feelings can make it hard to fall asleep. However, a 2013 study published in the journal Neuroscience found that poor sleep can activate anxiety. In addition, the Sleep Foundation reports that chronic insomnia may be a predisposing trait among individuals who eventually develop anxiety disorders.

• **Sleep and bipolar disorder:** A 2015 study published in the journal Sleep Medicine Clinics found a strong association between sleep disturbances and symptom worsening in bipolar disorder. The study highlighted evidence that suggests sleeping problems worsen or induce the manic and depressive episodes that are a hallmark of bipolar disorder. Researchers believe that successful treatment for insomnia, which would produce fewer sleep disturbances, can reduce the impact of bipolar disorder.

• **Sleep and ADHD:** The Sleep Foundation notes that sleeping problems are common in people with ADHD. Difficulty sleeping is commonly and correctly seen as a side effect of ADHD. However, the Sleep Foundation indicates sleep problems also may aggravate issues affecting attention and behavior that characterize ADHD.

The link between sleep and mental health is noteworthy. Sleep issues were once believed to be a byproduct of mental health issues. Though that remains true, there's growing evidence that sleeping problems also can exacerbate or even trigger mental health problems. More information is available at [sleepfoundation.org](http://sleepfoundation.org).



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# COASTAL LIVING

## 2026 Ol' Front Porch Music Festival announces the Riverfront Stage lineup



**ORIENTAL, NC – March 8, 2026** – The lineup for Oriental's 12th Annual Ol' Front Porch Music Festival on the Neuse River promises a dynamic mix of nationally touring artists and regional favorites, bringing an expansive range of sounds to the Riverfront Stage October 2-3, 2026.

This year's festival continues its tradition of presenting award-winning and emerging performers spanning Americana, bluegrass, folk, country, zydeco, Latin, gospel, jazz and high-energy roots music. As always, thanks to the generosity of sponsors and supporters, all performances are free and open to the public.

The festival opens Friday at 1 p.m., with the final Riverfront Stage performance beginning at 5 p.m. both Friday and Saturday. In addition to the Riverfront Stage concerts, music will fill porches throughout the village, with more than 20 acts expected across the two-day celebration.

### Friday, October 2 – Riverfront Stage

Kicking off the festival at 1 p.m. is Farayi - vocalist, composer, educator (Berklee School of Music). Her soulful voice can be heard on the Grammy-nominated albums *A Change Is Gonna Come* in 2025 and *Crisálida*, 2026 Best Latin Jazz album nominee. Her thoughtful songwriting and vocals weave together elements of jazz, Americana, gospel and folk.

Taking the 3 p.m. slot is North Carolina singer-songwriter Caleb Caudle, known for his roots-driven country sound, evocative storytelling, and honest, heartfelt performances that bridge traditional country and modern Americana.

Closing out Friday night at 5 p.m. is the Robbie Fulks Band. A Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter and one of the most distinctive voices in alternative country and Americana, Fulks, from NC now living in LA, is known for razor-sharp lyrics, masterful musicianship, and an electrifying live show that blends heart, humor, and deep roots tradition.

### Saturday, October 3 – Riverfront Stage

Saturday begins at 11 a.m. with the Core Sound's Unknown Tongues Cajun Zydeco Band, bringing infectious rhythms direct from Gloucester, NC across The Straits from Harkers Island.

At 1 p.m., Los Sabrosos Del Son will heat up the waterfront with vibrant Latin grooves and irresistible Cuban jazz dance rhythms.

Taking the stage at 3 p.m. The Barefoot Movement travels from Nashville. Known for their heartfelt harmonies, dynamic instrumentation, and boundary-pushing take on bluegrass and Americana.

Closing the 2026 festival at 5 p.m. out of Saxapahaw, NC is Tan and Sober Gentlemen, delivering a rousing blend of Celtic, punk, and high-energy Irish folk that promises to send the weekend off in celebratory style.

The full porch lineup is still coming together, with a complete schedule to be released later this spring and posted on the festival website, [olfrontporch.org](http://olfrontporch.org).

Now entering its twelfth year, the Ol' Front Porch Music Festival continues to celebrate Eastern North Carolina's vibrant hospitality and the power of live music to bring people together.

*"There is a wonderful mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life—happiness, freedom, and peace of mind—are always attained by giving them to someone else."*

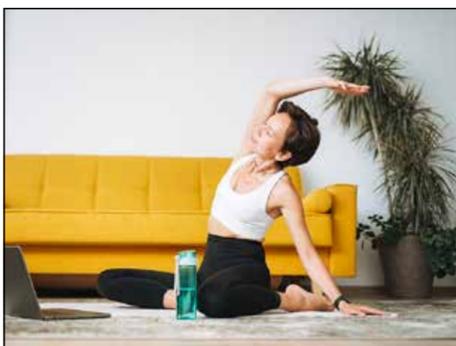
—Peyton Conway March

## Exercise solutions for busy people

Lack of time in the day to get enough done is a common lament. Work, family and social obligations have made many individuals busier than ever before, and that can eat into people's ability to find time for daily exercise.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says adults need to get at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity per week, or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity. For the moderate-intensity recommendation, that boils down to about 21 minutes per day, which is manageable even for the busiest of individuals. To that end, here are some ways busy people can get the exercise they need.

- Wake up early. Starting your day 30 minutes early can allow you to fit exercise in before a day becomes hectic. Put workout gear out the night before, and when the alarm sounds in the morning, get up and out, whether it's to head to the gym or go for a morning walk or jog around the neighborhood.
- Use your lunch hour. If you're not a morning person, use a portion of your lunch break for exercise and then eat your lunch afterwards.
- Take part in high-intensity workouts. High-intensity exercise regimens typically pack exercises into routines that get the heart rate



going, but don't require a lot of time. They may only be 20- to 30-minute sessions, which is doable for most people.

• Recognize exercise comes in many forms. Many people would be surprised that activities they engage in each day can be classified as exercise. Intense gardening or lawn care sessions and even home cleaning and improvement projects can work the body. Also, exercise can be built into regular activities, such as taking the stairs rather than an elevator or parking further away in parking lots to ensure a lengthy walk.

- Consider doing the "Daily 50". The Daily 50 is an informal exercise routine that can occur anywhere and utilizes body weight to get the job done. Exercises can include 50 squats, 50 lunges, 50 wall push-ups, 50 crunches, and/or holding a plank position for 50 seconds. Some also perform 50 knee lifts or hold a wall sit for 50 seconds. These exercises don't require much time and work most of the major muscle groups.
- Exercise as a family. Turn family leisure time into enjoyable exercise time. Take hikes, go for bike rides or even kayaking trips together to get everyone up and moving.

Busy people can make time for exercise with some easy solutions.

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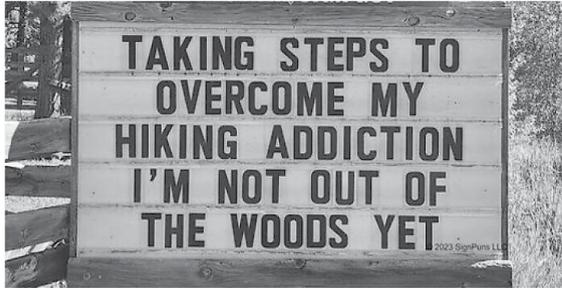
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**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE PAMLIKO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF ALONZA BERRY SAWYER SR**  
File No.: 26E000021-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to WENDY SAWYER, EXECUTOR on or before MAY 19, 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 18TH OF FEBRUARY, 2026

ESTATE OF ALONZA BERRY SAWYER SR  
C/O WENDY SAWYER  
PO BOX 807  
BAYBORO, NC 28515

Publish FEBRUARY 18, 25 AND MARCH 4 AND 11 2026.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE PAMLIKO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF HARRIETTE B. MCCOTTER**  
File No.: 26E000007-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to LOUIS PATTERSON MCCOTTER, EXECUTOR on or before MAY 26, 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 25TH OF FEBRUARY, 2026

**INCIDENTS**

- Feb. 18, Cowell Lane, intimidation
- Feb. 19, Longleaf Dr., New Bern, verbal domestic
- Feb. 19, Main St., Bayboro, disorderly conduct
- Feb. 19, NC Hwy 55, Alliance, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked
- Feb. 19, NC Hwy 55, Grantsboro, shoplifting, larceny
- Feb. 19, Cowell Lane, verbal domestic, warrant for arrest assault on a female, person complaint
- Feb. 21, Prescott Rd., Grantsboro, shots fired or heard
- Feb. 21, Swan Point Rd., Bayboro, communicating threats
- Feb. 22, Rebecca Rd., Grantsboro, cruelty to animals (M)
- Feb. 23, Magnolia Way, Grantsboro, order for arrest driving while license revoked not impaired revoked
- Feb. 23, NC Hwy 306 S., Grantsboro, communicating threats
- Feb. 23, Main St., Bayboro, order for arrest
- Feb. 23, NC Hwy 55, Grantsboro, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked
- Feb. 23, NC Hwy 306 S., Bayboro, identity theft
- Feb. 23, Foxwood Trail Rd., New Bern, financial card fraud - misdemeanor
- Feb. 23, Hale Rd., New Bern, citizens assist
- Feb. 23, NC Hwy 55, New Bern, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked, reckless driving wanton disregard, operate a motor vehicle with no insurance, fictitious info to officer
- Feb. 24, John Pollock Rd., Grantsboro, order for arrest driving while license revoked not impaired revoked, order for arrest speeding
- Feb. 24, Silverthorne Rd., Merritt, stalking
- Feb. 24, Swan Point Rd., Bayboro, harassment complaint
- Feb. 24, Goose Creek Rd., Grantsboro, fail to work after paid

**INSPECTIONS**

- Nov. 14, Bruce Phillips, Oriental, shed, \$112.72; Alvie Elmo Lee, Arapahoe, electric, \$150; Jay London, Merritt, electric,

# LEGALS

ESTATE OF HARRIETTE B. MCCOTTER  
C/O LOUIS PATTERSON MCCOTTER  
PO BOX 187  
VANDEMERE, NC 28587

Publish FEBRUARY 25 AND MARCH 4, 11 AND 18 2026.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as the Executor of the Estate of ROBERT LEWIS GOODWIN, deceased, late of Pamlico County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the Executor's counsel, at 10130 Mallard Creek Road, Suite 300, Charlotte, North Carolina 28262, on or before the 27th day of May, 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said estate is to make immediate payment to the Executor.

This the 25th day of February, 2026.

Carol Marie Mancini, Executor  
c/o The Canipe Law Firm, PLLC  
10130 Mallard Creek Road  
Suite 300  
Charlotte, NC 28262  
File # 26E000024-680 (Pamlico County)

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE PAMLIKO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF ROBERT BRYAN MILLER**  
File No.: 26E000030-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to

RANDY MILLER, EXECUTOR on or before MAY 26, 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 25TH OF FEBRUARY 2026

ESTATE OF ROBERT BRYAN MILLER  
C/O RANDY MILLER  
135 MOORE'S SWAMP RD  
NEW BERN, NC 28560

Publish FEBRUARY 25 AND MARCH 4, 11 AND 18 2026.

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE PAMLIKO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JOSEPH ALFRED PIGEON**  
File No.: 26E000031-680

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to MARY PIGEON, EXECUTOR on or before JUNE 2, 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 4th OF MARCH 2026

ESTATE OF JOSEPH ALFRED PIGEON  
C/O MARY PIGEON  
342 N TRENT RD  
MERRITT, NC 28556

Publish MARCH 4, 11, 18 AND 25, 2026.

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

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Mary Watson Duffie, deceased, of Oriental, NC, are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before June 4, 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment. This the 4th day of March, 2026.

Alyson Price, Ancillary Executrix of the Estate of Mary Watson Duffie  
c/o Quay & Associates, P.A.  
412 Broad Street  
New Bern, NC 28560

PUBLICATION DATES:  
03/04/2026, 03/11/2026,  
03/18/2026, 03/25/2026

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

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of Carl Samuel Russ, Jr., deceased, of Grantsboro, NC, are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before June 11, 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment. This the 11th day of March, 2026.

Ella Russ, Executrix of the Estate of Carl Samuel Russ, Jr.  
c/o Quay & Associates, P.A.  
412 Broad Street  
New Bern, NC 28560

PUBLICATION DATES:  
3/11/2026; 3/18/2026; 3/25/2026;  
4/1/2026

# REPORTS

- \$150; Tranquillo, Bayboro, new, \$1,042.92; Tranquillo, Bayboro, new, \$787.54; Tranquillo, Bayboro, New, \$787.54
- Nov. 17, Lori Baker, New Bern, singlewide, \$235; Ruth Styron, Oriental, handicap ramp, \$0; Carole Ford, Oriental, porch addition, \$76.88; Kevin O'Neill, Oriental, new, \$1,247.08
- Nov. 18, Duane Magnuson, Minnesott Beach, addition, \$334; Mike Hanuon, Oriental, mechanical, \$358; Michael & Danielle Hoehn, Oriental, modular, \$852.44; Fady Malty, Oriental, electrical, \$100; Detention Center, Bayboro, fire, \$0
- Nov. 19, Ben Willis, Grantsboro, doublewide, \$260; Fredrick Hardison, Arapahoe, electrical, \$50; Carolyn O'Neill, Oriental, electrical, \$150
- Nov. 20, Terry Popperwill, New Bern, shed, \$196; Jackie Ireland, Oriental, shed, \$148; Nathan Edwards, Minnesott Beach, garage, \$581.80
- Nov. 21, Joyce Taylor, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$100; Janet Simpson, Oriental, mechanical, \$100; Susan Dodge, Arapahoe, garage, \$1,465; Kevin Snow, Oriental, CAMA, \$134.50; Mark Spain, New Bern, garage, \$582
- Nov. 24, Craig Kellogg, Minnesott Beach, electrical, \$100; Peg Witt, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$100; Ignacio Gonzales, Grantsboro, building, \$155.60
- Nov. 25, Jerald & Laurie, Minnesott Beach, new, \$1,582.52; David Rittenhouse, Oriental, balcony, \$67.92; John Kimble, Arapahoe, deck, \$85.84; Chris Mullins, Oriental, gas, \$50; Jackie McCotter, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$100; Guy & Paula Ireland, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$200; Michael Byrd, Grantsboro, electrical, \$150/ Troy Roberson/Elite Pools, Minnesott Beach, CAMA Minor App, \$119; Carrie Ganus, Arapahoe, electrical, \$150; Don Lewis, Merritt, mechanical/gas; James Paisley, Bayboro, new, \$652
- Dec. 1, Kim Mullins, Oriental, electrical, \$100; Lucinda Day, Merritt, porch, \$60.24
- Dec. 2, Anchor Properties, Oriental, electrical, \$100
- Dec. 3, Brian Baechtle, Oriental, electrical, \$100; Chris Matthews, Oriental, electrical, \$100; Steve Kenney, Oriental, electrical,

- \$150; Gary Findly, Oriental, new, \$1,821.60
- Dec. 4, Matt Howard, gas, \$50; Sara Nugent, Merritt, electrical, \$150
- Dec. 5, Daniel Street, Minnesott Beach, addition, \$242.40; Tidewater Grain, Oriental, electrical, \$200; Kaye Pouncey, Merritt, garage, \$113.36
- Dec. 8, James & Annie Moore, Vandemere, mechanical, \$100; Carrie Ganus, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$239.60; American Tower, Grantsboro, build/electric, \$100
- Dec. 9, onathan Caraway, misc. building, \$100
- Dec. 10, Tom Thumbs Seafood, Oriental, electric, \$50; Roy Ray, New Bern, CAMA, \$134.50; Green Creek Farms, Oriental, CAMA, \$298.40; Brennan & Marissa Hough, Bayboro, new house, \$1,642.52
- Dec. 11, John Buck, Bayboro, new, \$325; Charles Lane, Arapahoe, electric, \$50; Bill Kepp, Oriental, CAMA, \$88.40
- Dec. 12, Streamline, Minnesott Beach, new, \$1,910.10; Streamline, Minnesott Beach, new, \$1,849.56; Troy Roberson, Minnesott Beach, pool, \$150
- Dec. 15, Cara Baxter, Bayboro, set up, \$235; Mike Flora, Arapahoe, electric, \$150; George Kenneth Burckhardt, Minnesott Beach, new, \$2,449.84; Brennan Hough, Bayboro, pole barn, \$188.24; Alliance Chapel Church, Alliance, mechanical, \$100; Kevin York, Merritt, CAMA, \$126.80
- Dec. 16, Amber Baumgardner, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$100; Annette Schneider, Oriental, mechanical, \$150; Mike Copley, Oriental, electric, \$50; Lydria Abrams, Bayboro, set up DW, \$260; Anchor Properties, Oriental, deck, \$184.40
- Dec. 19, William Jackson, Oriental, new, \$3,509.80
- Dec. 22, Roy Henderson, Oriental, CAMA Bulkhead, \$154; Steven Yochum, Oriental, CAMA, \$115.28
- Dec. 23, Susan Wadsworth, mechanical, \$100;
- Dec. 29, Michael O'Donell, Merritt, storage building, \$388; Susan Bass, building/found repair, \$50; Mikki Campbell, Arapahoe, mechanical, \$100; Christopher Roberts, Grantsboro, doublewide, \$260; Tom Morgan, Arapahoe, storage building, \$131.92
- Dec. 30, Ann Ensley, plumbing,

- \$273.36; Tonya Burton, new house, \$1098.08; Oriental Mini Mart, Oriental, fire, \$100; Ron Reeves, Oriental, mechanical, \$100; Susie Santana, mechanical, \$100
- Dec. 31, Lynn Ensley, mechanical, \$273.36; Kaye White, storage/shed, \$142.24; Knute Bysheim, Oriental, carport, \$126.80
- Jan. 2, Denard Potter, New Bern, mobile home, \$235; Melissa Valdez Diaz, Grantsboro, addition, \$174.24; Norman Grantham, Oriental, electrical, \$100; Joel King, Arapahoe, electrical, \$50
- Jan. 5, Doreen Musella, Arapahoe, addition, \$265.55; Donald Charland, Oriental, storage/shed, \$111.44; Upper Creek LLC, Singlewide, \$235
- Jan. 6, Christopher Gilbert, Oriental, renovation, \$200; Nik Arthur-Wong, Oriental, electrical, \$50
- Jan. 7, John Thomas Bolla, Oriental, DW, \$260; Amanda McBride, Grantsboro, garage, \$338
- Jan. 8, Greg Leonard, Oriental, handicap ramp, \$0; Lowland Tower Farm, Oriental, addition, \$1,106.56; Kerry W. Moles, Arapahoe, storage building, \$75.60
- Jan. 9, Charles Harwell, Grantsboro, pool, \$150
- Jan. 12, Ann Ensley, Vandemere, plumbing, \$50; Darrell Hamilton, Grantsboro, shed, \$96.08
- Jan. 13, Samantha Dennis, Oriental, t-pole, \$100; Anchor Properties, Oriental, electrical, \$175.12; Mike Hooks, Oriental, mechanical, \$100; Laurie Ready, Oriental, build/found repair, \$50
- Jan. 14, Leo Benoit, Grantsboro, building, \$222.80; Nancy Moore, Oriental, electrical, \$130; Michael Fox, Bayboro, CAMA, \$366.26; Frank Doucette, Merritt, CAMA, \$114; Robert Smith, Merritt, CAMA, \$78; Joseph Thomas, Merritt, CAMA, \$90.80; Motion Church, Grantsboro, plumbing, \$50; Tom Newman, Grantsboro, building, \$90.96
- Jan. 15, Kyle Pate, Grantsboro, t-pole, \$100; Stanley Feigenbaum, Alliance, mechanical, \$100; Everette Barrow, Oriental, mechanical, \$100
- Jan. 16, Mike Miller, Bayboro, electrical, \$50; RSA Adventures Unlimited, building, \$445.76; Don Lee Farm, Oriental, electrical, \$50; Jeff Horton, Merritt, electrical, \$200
- Jan. 20, William/Bobby Moore, Grantsboro, plumbing, \$154; Jason Keys, Arapahoe, plumbing/gas, \$50

# AROUND THE COUNTY

## Whortonsville Reba Tiller, *Correspondent*



Spring has sprung a little early this year, but I am sure we will have some more cool weather. It is beautiful when I open my blinds each morning and see the sunlight glistening like diamonds on the water. Weeks and I were so blessed that we had the opportunity to live here. Of course we loved our Durham home that we built sixty years ago when Russ was born, and our other son still lives there with his wife and son Jacob. Looking out and seeing the water every morning is so soothing. I did not make church yesterday so I don't have

any report on it. Bethel still meets on Wednesday nights for Bible Study and Prayer meeting. Service is at 10:00 on Sunday mornings. On March 28th at 11:00 Ray Scotts Memorial will be held. The following Sunday Bethel will have their monthly luncheon. Our neighbors Kevin and Suzy Bryan are back home after spending a month in Florida, Joe and Colleen are back from Texas after two weeks. Good to have everyone back home.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK— PRAY FOR THE WAR TO BE OVER SOON.

## Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, *Correspondent*



Daylight Saving Time began on Sunday, March 8th. I hope you made it to church on time. The weather has been so spring-like this past week. Birds are chirping, some trees are beginning to blossom, and I have seen several deer on Trent Road in the evening this past week. All has been a blessing.

Bayboro Baptist Church is hosting the weekly Lenten services this year. The short ecumenical service each Wednesday during Lent is at noon, followed by a donation fellowship meal.

Here is the schedule for March and April:

March 11 - Reverend Joyce Bell, Retired AME Zion Methodist Church Pastor  
 March 18 - Reverend John Farmer, Alliance UMC & Bayboro UMC Pastor  
 March 25 - TBA  
 April 1 - Evangelist Carnell J. Barrow, West Branch Missionary Baptist Church

Stonewall Methodist Church is preparing for their Easter Cantata. It will be sung on Palm Sunday at 6:00 pm. Be sure to mark your calendar for March 29, 2026.

Members from several churches are practicing "Written in Red" for the enjoyment of the community. I will try to post a schedule of performances next week so you can plan your time to hear both musical presentations.

Celebrating birthdays in March are Cameron Paul (3/10), Larry Gracie (3/13), Maurice Benton & Lisa Franklin Jackson (3/15), Frank Bacon & Patrick Phillips (3/21), Heath Fulcher (3/24), Emma Machle & Joanna Harrell (3/27), Asa Gatlin (3/28), Debbie Willis Fulcher (3/30), and Santa Klotz (3/31).

St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.

Have a blessed week. Fearful? Take Spiritual Vitamin F. "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10)



## Create your own portable energy booster right at home

Protein bars are a convenient energy booster that's easy to carry. That portability makes protein bars a go-to for outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy activities like hiking that burn lots of calories. Though it's easy to pick up a protein bar at the store, it's also possible to make your own at home. Anyone interested in doing so can try their hands at this recipe for "Homemade Protein Bars With Peanut Butter and Hemp Protein" courtesy of Lines+Angles.

### Homemade Protein Bars With Peanut Butter and Hemp Protein Makes 8 bars

- 13 ounces peanut butter, no added sugar, divided
- 2/2 ounces pure maple syrup
- 3 ounces almond flour
- 3 ounces coconut oil
- 6 ounces chopped dark chocolate, at least 70 percent cocoa, divided
- 3 ounces hemp seeds
- 1 pinch salt

1. Grease and line the base and sides of an 8-inch baking dish with parchment paper.
2. In a large mixing bowl, thoroughly stir together 1 cup with the maple syrup and almond flour until well combined. Transfer to the baking dish, evenly pressing it across the base. Cover and chill until needed.
3. Meanwhile, combine the remaining 1/2 cup peanut butter, coconut oil, half the chocolate, hemp seeds, and salt in a heatproof bowl. Set the bowl over a half-filled saucepan of simmering water, stirring until smooth.
4. Remove from the heat and pour the mixture over the chilled base. (Keep the water simmering.)
5. Place the remaining chocolate in a clean bowl. Set it over the simmering water, stirring until melted.
6. Drizzle the melted chocolate over the topping in the tin. Cover and chill until set, about 4 hours.
7. When ready to serve, cut into slices and turn out.

## 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.

While many chose to burn debris outdoors for disposal in spring, 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 any outdoor fire that releases smoke and pollution directly into the air, including from burn piles and burn barrels. 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.

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.

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 ignited, 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 [ncforests.gov/burnpermit](http://ncforests.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).*

## STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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### Miscellaneous

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### Miscellaneous

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### Miscellaneous

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### Miscellaneous

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### Miscellaneous

Donate your car today, running or not. Support Patriotic Hearts for our Veterans and their Families! Free fast pickup. May be tax deductible. Se habla Español. Call now: 877-317-3360

### Miscellaneous

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

### Miscellaneous

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Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-585-1815

### Miscellaneous

BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS? Threatened with foreclosure? Denied a loan modification? Let us help! Call the Homeowner Relief Line to speak with a mortgage specialist 844-492-0883

### Sale

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-877-920-7405

### Time Share

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 844-213-6711

The Oriental Woman's Club

# CHOWDER COOK-OFF

Saturday, March 21, 2026  
**11:00 am to 1:00pm**  
 Oriental Marina Courtyard at the Waterfront

**Tickets: \$10.00**  
 (Cash Only Please)  
 Available at the Gate

**Taste 'Em All.**  
**Vote for your Favorite.**  
**People's Choice**

Proceeds benefit the charitable work of the Oriental Woman's Club

### REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Oriental is seeking bidders for the repair of the Dinghy Dock and seawall. The RFP and associated documents are available at [www.townoforiental.com](http://www.townoforiental.com) under BIDS (2026-05), or at Town Hall, 507 Church St Oriental, NC between the hours of 8AM and 4 PM M-Th, 8AM-3PM F.

The proposals will be opened at Town Hall (address above) on March 18, 2PM.

The Board has the right to reject any and all proposals.

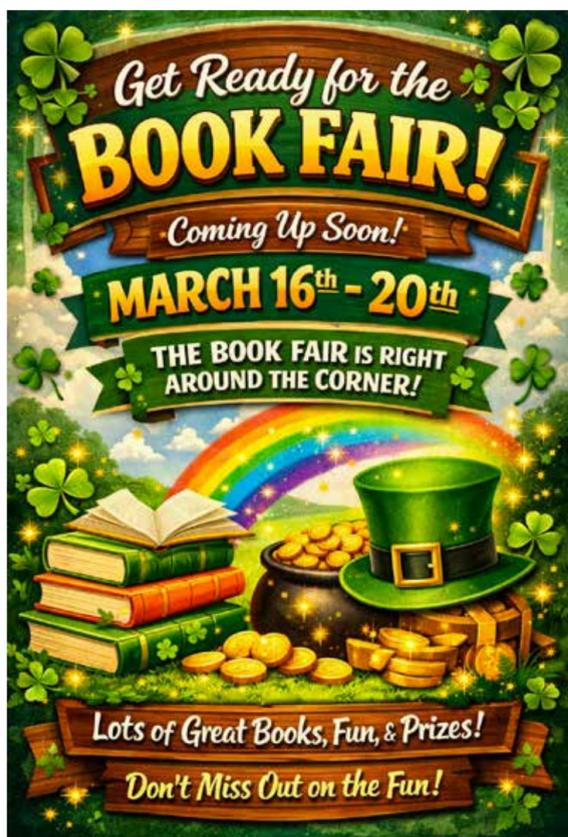
A voluntary pre-bid meeting will be held March 4, 2026, 2PM at the dinghy dock.

Questions can be directed to Diane H. Miller, MPA, ICMA-CM at [manager@townoforiental.com](mailto:manager@townoforiental.com).

# PAMLICO COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## What an EPIC Read Across America Week!

Our students had a fantastic time celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday and Read Across America Week! Throughout the week, we enjoyed a variety of fun activities that reminded us just how exciting reading can be.



The Winter Olympics took place at Pamlico Primary!



Coach Lindsey did an amazing job teaching our students about the history of the Winter Olympics, the competitive events, and even sharing some fun facts about different countries around the world.

Students participated in exciting activities including curling, bobsledding, slalom skiing, and more!

### 2nd Grade Visits The Old Theater



Second graders from Pamlico County Primary School recently visited the Old Theater in Oriental to see Bright Star Theatre perform Aesop's Fables as part of the Children's Theater Workshop Introduction to Live Theater program. Students enjoyed the lively performance and even had the chance to participate on stage.

## Reaching New Heights



Last Friday, The "YOUNG MEN'S CLUB welcomed pilot Hayley Haning! She shared her journey to becoming a pilot, the planes she flies, and what it's like in the cockpit. Students asked great questions and enjoyed the photos she shared.



Before the presentation, club members practiced introductions and handshakes to greet their guest speaker. They even wrapped up the visit with some physical conditioning together!

A special thank you to Mr. Steve for bringing such an inspiring guest to his club and helping our students dream big and reach new heights.

## Planting Seeds



Mr. Gahagan received a Pamlico County MINI Retired Teachers Grant to start a gardening project with his classroom. Students are reading about plants and applying what they've learned through hands-on experiences by planting a variety of seeds. They will care for their seedlings and take them home to plant during spring break, connecting classroom learning to real-life experiences.

## Reading Buddies Making a Difference!



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*Bottom Line With Brad*

**PATH DEPENDENCY**

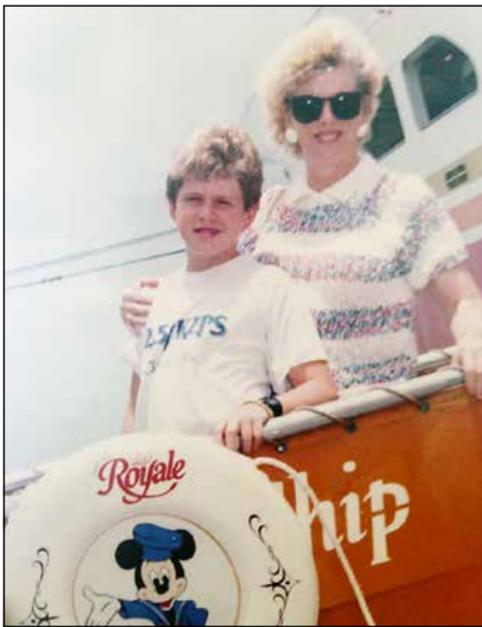
It's not the destination, it's the journey. We've all heard this life advice at some point or another, and it really is useful – in a world that is more focused every day on the next milestone, the next challenge and the next news cycle – appreciating what is going on along your path is essential.

This month we are focusing on how the twists and turns of your path can have profound implications for your destination. This is a concept called "path dependency," and to me it essentially means that every step you take in life reduces the possible number of destinations where you may end up. And this is most often a very good thing. Investing in yourself by getting a great education, working hard at whatever you are doing, following the law and having modest financial discipline are all examples of actions we each can take that limit our future destinations in very good ways by taking some pretty bad outcomes off the table.

Sometimes, those decisions are made for you by your parents. For me, it was my mother's willingness to take a menial job at a private school which allowed me to get a great early education at that school, rather than being stuck in the failing public school in my hometown in Texas. That decision by her fundamentally changed my path for the better!

**Early Steps:**

Path dependency in building savings for a rainy day or retirement matters tremendously as well. Remember when we talked



Treasurer Briner and his mom

about compound interest? (Take a look back at our June issue on this topic.) It matters greatly how much you save for important things. But it matters when you save as well – the earlier you start, the more likely your path will lead to a destination that will be a great one. Time can be an ally.

**Risks:**

It matters in the risks you take, too. While we all ultimately only take one path through life, we still have to consider all the likely outcomes. Building a plan that allows you to still get to a good destination – even if there ends up being a pothole in your path – or a risk ends up becoming reality – is paramount. Saving for a rainy day after the rainy day has already come is not nearly as useful. Sure, it's possible it won't rain, but why put yourself on a path that depends on it not raining?

There are some more subtle aspects of path dependency, too. Particularly in your career – as you progress along that path, all that you have done professionally will hopefully help ensure that your journey doesn't go through a bad place. Building a reputation as a team player, sticking with a role through a tough time and resisting the temptation to jump to a new job after a short time, paying it forward with people who need some help and can't obviously repay the favor and many other things help determine your path in the future, so choose wisely... and hopefully all the thought you put in to ensuring your path doesn't veer too far away from your destination will end up being unnecessary. But it will be worth doing anyway!

“The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up.”

– Mark Twain

*The 19th Annual Dog Parade*  
**Fundraiser for PAWS**

**Saturday March 28 (no rain date)**

**Lou Mac Park, Oriental**

**Registration 10-11:00 AM – \$5.00 per Dog**  
**Parade steps off 11:00 AM**

*Costumes optional but encouraged.*

**Awards in many fun categories.**

**“Bribe a judge” to guarantee an award.**

**Broad Strokes Gallery** sponsoring raffle for an original pet portrait.

**Raffle tickets \$10 or 3 for \$25.**

Available at the Gallery or at Dr. Hick's veterinary hospital.

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

**“PAWS DOGS”** will be selling hot dogs and fixings.



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

**GO TO** [www.pamlicopaws.net](http://www.pamlicopaws.net)

**f** Or the Pamlico Animal Welfare Society Facebook Page



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