

Set clocks one hour ahead

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

At 2:00 a.m.



Daylight saving time is a reminder that life is full of adjustments."

—Anonymous

NCHSAA State Basketball Playoffs

Hurricanes Advance to Eastern Regional Finals

SPORTS on Page A5

Vol. 58 No.10, 12 Pages

The Pamlico News

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Your County News Source Since 1968

www.thepamliconews.com | 50 Cents

Happy, hungry crowd enjoys PCC's Great Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff

By Sandy Wall



A hungry and happy crowd enjoys last Saturday's Great Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff at Pamlico Community College. Gloomy skies gave way to sunshine by the time the event started. Contributed photo

A hungry and happy crowd came out to Pamlico Community College last Saturday to eat their fill of oysters and chili and to raise funds for student scholarships at the 14th Annual Great Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff.

Gloomy morning skies gave way to a sunny, pleasant afternoon in time for the popular fundraiser.

Organizers are still tallying up final results, but they say they were very pleased with the event's turnout and spirit.

"Our community always shows outstanding support for this event," said PCC Foundation Executive Director Heather Arevalo, who spearheaded last Saturday's Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff. "People come from near and far, year after year, to support us. We would like to thank our guests, sponsors, and volunteers for making this a tremendous success to benefit our students."

Continued on Page A2

PUBLIC NOTICE

Town of Vandemere, North Carolina Drainage Improvements Phase 2

Notice is hereby given that Addendum No. 1 has been issued for the Drainage Improvements Phase 2 project for the Town of Vandemere, North Carolina.

The bid opening date has been extended to March 12, 2026, at 1:00 PM.

The deadline for submission of questions is March 4, 2026.

Addendum No. 1 modifies the original bid documents and includes a revised Advertisement for Bidders. All bidders are required to acknowledge receipt of Addendum No. 1 on the appropriate page of the Bid Form. Failure to acknowledge receipt may subject the bidder to disqualification.

The original bid was officially posted on the Town's website on January 27, 2026. This notice is provided as a courtesy. For complete information and access to the bid documents, visit the Business tab at: www.vandemerenc.com



American Red Cross

More Americans are caring for loved ones — but few feel prepared for emergencies

The American Red Cross urges people to take a CPR and first aid course to be ready for the moments that matter

Drug Warrants lead to Animal Cruelty Investigation

by: Hiram Lupton

After several months of surveillance and collection of evidence, Pamlico County Sheriff's deputies arrived Friday morning at a residence located at 1445 Silverbrook Road, Oriental with a warrant to search the premises for drugs related to possible distribution of controlled substances. What the deputies observed at the property quickly led them to believe there was much more than drug activity going on at the site. "When our guys arrived at the property, they observed what could be evidence of animal cruelty," said Sheriff Chris Davis. "At that point they secured the location and started the process to obtain another warrant to broaden their search. As is protocol with cases involving animals, they also contacted Animal Services officer Berkley Hill for his assistance in the animal investigation." When the remainder of the property could be legally accessed, Officer Hill and Pamlico County law enforcement found a preponderance of evidence indicating possible illegal activity. Hill also sought assistance from Animal services in neighboring counties once the large number of animals were determined to be on the property. "We found and removed 41 dogs, 27 chickens, and 9 rabbits," said Hill. "North Carolina Wildlife was also contacted due to the rabbits. "They were Eastern Cottontails which are a native species and are illegal to possess without proper permits". Of the dogs, Hill said 27 were Beagles and the remainder were a mixture of Pitbulls and Shepherds. With assistance from Craven County and Beaufort County animal services, the animals were removed with most being transported to the animal shelter in Craven County. This prompted the Craven-Pamlico Shelter to announce that they were at capacity and would temporarily be unable to accept owner surrenders while they focus on providing care and placement for animals currently in their custody. The announcement mentioned an influx of over 30 additional animals including dogs, rabbits, and chickens. None of the dogs were in poor enough condition to require euthanasia on site, according to Hill. Although the investigation continues, sources close to it indicate that the possibility of a dog fighting operation exists and, at the very least, the breeding of dogs for that purpose. There was also evidence on the property of cock fighting. So far, one arrest has been made. Derrick Mozelle faces a variety of charges related to both the drug investigation as well as the animal cruelty. One other suspect is currently being sought.



Firefighter Recognitions at SPVFD Station 19

Congratulations to **Dave Farmer**, the 2025 SPVFD Station 19 firefighter of the year! We can't thank him enough for his hard work and dedication to the department and OUR community. Well done!

Two of our other members were also recognized by other departments that they serve on.

Brandon Pihbbons was named firefighter of the year for the City of Washington FD

Mike Guzzo was named volunteer firefighter of the year for Pine Knoll Shores FD

Not surprisingly, both of these dedicated individuals have been voted firefighter of the year for our department in the past.

Congratulations to these guys and thank you for your hard work and dedication to the citizens of eastern North Carolina!



Dave Farmer, 2025 Station 19 Firefighter of the Year



Brandon Pihbbons, Firefighter of the Year for City of Washington FD



Mike Guzzo, Volunteer Firefighter of the Year for Pine Knoll Shores FD



March in the American Revolution

by: Hiram Lupton

March 22nd, 1775 – The Stamp Act – The British Parliament passed the Stamp Act which imposed a tax on all legal documents in the colonies and became a catalyst for the rallying cry "Taxation without representation."

March 5th, 1770 – The Boston Massacre – British soldiers kill five colonists who were protesting their presence in Boston, Massachusetts.

March 17th, 1776 – After being under siege by the Continental Army, the British and their loyalist allies are forced to evacuate Boston and sail to Nova Scotia.



Battle of Guilford Courthouse on 15th March 1781 in the American Revolutionary War

March 15th, 1781 – The Battle of Guilford Courthouse – In the largest battle of the American Revolution in North Carolina, the British Army defeated a mixed patriot army of regular troops and militia under the command of General Nathanael Greene. Although the battle, which was fought near what is now Greensboro, was a tactical British victory since the Americans withdrew, British General Cornwallis' army suffered far more casualties than the colonials and continued the American strategy of fighting at the place of their choosing, inflicting casualties on the British, then withdrawing to fight another day.

PCHA Snapshot Meeting – 4H

by: Hiram Lupton



Mr. Adrian Gaskins, 4H Historian

Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. These are the four H's in the National youth program, 4-H. If you were ever a member growing up, or just wondered what it was all about, last Monday's Pamlico County Historical Association's February Snapshot program was the place to find out. Former Agricultural Extension Agent and 4-H historian Mr. Adrian Gaskins was the guest speaker, and he gave a great presentation on 4-H, from its beginnings as various rural, regional agricultural clubs, through its consolidation as a national organization in the early 1900's. He showed how the club has evolved and incorporated not just agriculture but modern scientific programs incorporating STEM, healthy living, and civic engagement. Through it all it has maintained the mission of "providing meaningful opportunities for all youth and adults to work together to create sustainable community change." 4-H is the largest youth development organization in the United States with over 6.5 million members.

LIKELY WEATHER OVER THE WEEKEND

Saturday, March 7th **81°Hi** Partly sunny and very warm

Sunday, March 8th **80°Hi** Partly cloudy and very warm



8 04879 31206

TURNAGE

Construction & Trucking Co. Inc.

2373 NC Hwy 304, Bayboro, NC 28515

FORESTRY MULCHING

Line & Property Line Cutting / Acreage Cutting
Hunting Lane & Recreational Cutting
Septic Perk Site & Custom Cutting Applications

Dustin Turnage

Office: 252-745-4976
Cell: 252-229-4688
Fax: 252-745-5240



Pamlico Community College

Happy, hungry crowd enjoys PCC's Great Oyster Roast & Chili Cookoff

By Sandy Wall

Continued from page A1

The late Dr. Cleve Cox, who served as the college's president in the early 2000s, conceived the event as a way for area residents to come together, have fun with their neighbors and raise money for student scholarships.

By those measures, Saturday's 14th annual event was a fantastic success.

Hungry folks began arriving long before the event's official 3 p.m. start time. Frequent event attendees stood side-by-side with newcomers as an experienced team of cooks prepared and delivered steamed oysters to outdoor shucking tables.

Not far away, attendees lined up inside the Delamar Center to sample chilis and to socialize with their neighbors.

Shortly before the event began, judges Chris Davis, Ken Heath and Zac Schnell gathered at an indoor table to sample and score each of the 11 entries in the chili contest. Chefs were creative with the entries, offering beef, chicken, venison, and vegetarian options.

Outdoors, popular band Southern Hellcats provided the entertainment, playing a series of familiar pop and rock hits.

Portable tables and chairs were set up outside for sitting and eating, but most attendees stood around the plywood tables to shuck and eat their fill of the briny treats.

Several donated door prizes from area businesses were given away at the midway point of the event.

Bonnie Dixon won first place in the chili cookoff. Her "Chili of Champions" beat out two-time champ Albert Krelie's "Crazy Al's Chili" for the top prize.



Pamlico Community College President Zac Schnell, left, Pamlico County Sheriff Chris Davis, center, and Pamlico County Board of Commissioners Chairman Ken Heath sample and score the 11 entries at the Chili Cookoff. Contributed photo



Rick Miller, left, and Brandon Hill remove a batch of oysters from the cooking pot. The cooking crew prepared 20 bushels of oysters. Contributed photo

Dixon took home a trophy and a \$50 Kohl's gift card. Krelie received a trophy and a \$25 gift card to Nautical Wheelers.

Ben Eborn won the 50-50 raffle and generously donated his half of the \$502 pot back to the PCC Foundation.

The Foundation thanks area businesses and individuals for agreeing to be sponsors, including Pearl Sponsors Duke Energy, Dr. Sherri Hicks of Oriental Village Veterinary Hospital, Garland F. Fulcher Seafood Co., and Dr. Garnett Whitehurst.

Briny-level sponsors included Dan Roberts of Edward Jones Investments, Rose and Glenn Lore, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Carolina Bay Outfitters, Martha Whitford, and the Arevalo Family.

Chili Cookoff sponsors were Mariner Realty, Inc., Iris Hudson, The Insurance Center, Pamlico County Senior Center, Ben's Excavating & Land Development, and PCC faculty and staff.

Prize sponsors included Bayboro Pharmacy, Minnesott Yacht Golf & Country Club, Nautical Wheelers, Duke Energy, Pamlico Gifts, PCC Cosmetology and Esthetics, Bike Box Project/Rock Steady Boxing, Harbourside Garden Co., The Bean, and The Beacon.

The Foundation's next event will be its annual Fundraising Golf Tournament Oct. 17 at Minnesott.

For more information about the PCC Foundation, call 252-249-1851, ext. 3084.

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



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...

A Real Estate Gem: Linda Hoff of Mariner Realty goes above & beyond. Our experience with Linda transcended typical real estate transactions & entered the realm of exceptional service & genuine care. Beyond her role as a top-tier real estate agent, Linda demonstrated unparalleled resourcefulness and generosity that left an indelible mark on our journey to find our dream home in Merritt, North Carolina.

One of the many instances that highlight Linda's remarkable character was her gracious offer to enlist the help of her son and two friends to assist us in moving our belongings into our new home. This act of kindness, coupled with her unwavering dedication to ensuring our satisfaction, underscored Linda's commitment to going above and beyond for her clients.

Linda's resourcefulness extends far beyond the confines of traditional real estate assistance. She seamlessly integrates her extensive network and personal connections to provide comprehensive support tailored to each client's unique needs. This invaluable quality sets Linda apart as a true gem in the real estate industry.

In every interaction, Linda's warmth, professionalism, and unwavering dedication shine through, making the entire process not only smooth but genuinely enjoyable. My wife and I are immensely grateful for Linda's exemplary service & wholeheartedly recommend her to anyone in search of a real estate partner who not only delivers exceptional results but also enriches the entire experience with kindness & generosity. Thank you, Linda, for being a beacon of excellence in your field.

Tom & Jill, Merritt



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



ORIENTAL – Spectacular waterfront views of Smith & Green Creeks from first floor unit at Oriental West Condos. B-7 is a **2BR/2BA** unit w/ a 40' x 16' boat slip w/5' controlling water depth.
OFFERED AT \$339,000



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
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



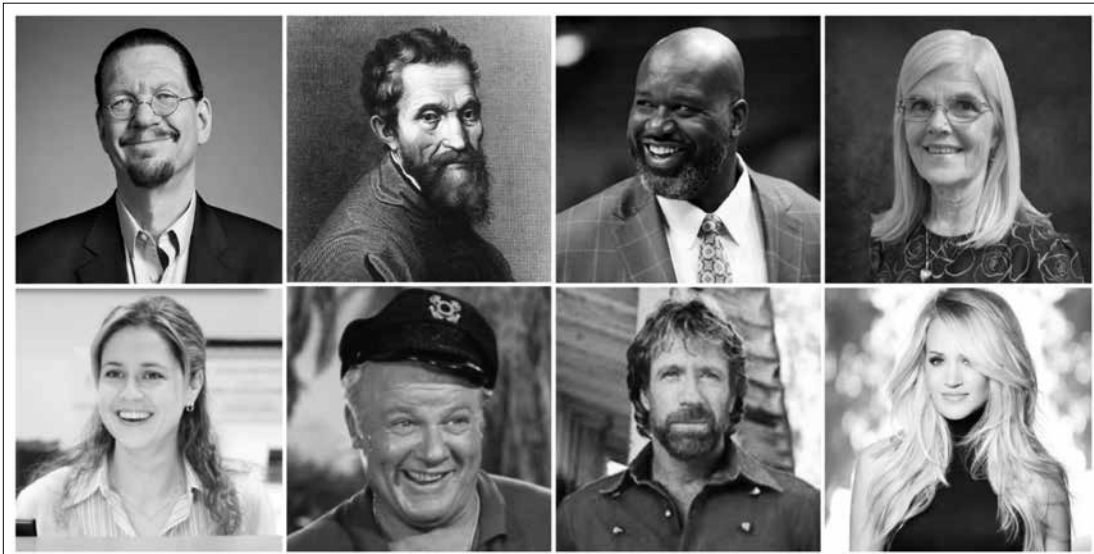
THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- March 4th – Today is National Pound Cake Day
- March 5th – Today is National Multiple Personality Day. Which one will I choose?
- March 6th – Today is National Oreo Cookie Day. Make mine a double stuff.
- March 7th – Today is National Cereal Day. At my age, Bran Flakes it is.
- March 8th – Time to spring forward in time, remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.
- March 9th – Today is National Napping Day. Why just today? I say celebrate this everyday.
- March 10th – 1876, Alexander Graham Bell made the first successful telephone call. Was he with Verizon or T-Mobile?

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- March 5th – 1955, Magician Penn Jillett
- March 6th – 1475, Artist Michelangelo Buonarroti
- March 6th – 1972, Basketball Hall-of-Famer and commentator Shaquille O'Neal
- March 7th – 1977, Pamlico County Board of Education member Cathy Dunbar
- March 7th – 1974, Actress Regina Marie Kirk (Jenna Fischer)
- March 8th – 1921, Actor Alan Hale, Jr.
- March 10th – 1940, Actor Carlos Ray Norris (Chuck Norris)
- March 10th – 1983, Singer Carrie Underwood



Experience the World-Class Gypsy Jazz of John Jorgenson Quintet

Internationally acclaimed guitarist and multi-instrumentalist John Jorgenson and his dynamic John Jorgenson Quintet captivate audiences worldwide with their electrifying performances and masterful interpretations of Gypsy jazz. Join us as they take the stage at the Old Theater on Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 7:30pm, presented by Pamlico Musical Society.

Led by John Jorgenson, a pioneer of the American gypsy jazz movement, renowned for his virtuosic technique and stylistic versatility, and longtime touring guitarist for Elton John, the John Jorgenson Quintet consists of five talented musicians: John Jorgenson (acoustic guitar, bouzouki, clarinet, vocals), Casey Driscoll (jazz violin), Rory Hoffman (guitar/piano, accordion), Simon Planting (bass), and Rick Reed (percussion). Celebrated for their dynamic performances that blend soulful romance with lively celebration, the Quintet delivers an exhilarating blend of traditional Gypsy swing, original compositions, and global influences. Critics consistently praise the group's precision, chemistry, and joyful energy. From dazzling guitar solos to rich ensemble interplay, every performance showcases the Quintet's deep musical connection and technical brilliance. Whether performing classic swing standards or original works, the John Jorgenson Quintet offers an unforgettable musical experience—one that honors tradition while igniting the stage with fresh creativity. Tickets to the concert are \$30 and are available in Oriental at Nautical Wheelers,



411 Broad Street; in New Bern at Nautical Wheelers, 202A Craven Street; and online at pamlicomusic.org.

For helping to make this concert possible, the Pamlico Musical Society wishes to thank our season sponsor: Beth Frazer Real Estate & Rentals and individual sponsors: Andrea Pape and Barry Truitt, and Sharon and Jerry Morgan.

Celebrating 28 years of presenting great music for our community, the Pamlico Musical Society is a non-profit organization bringing quality musical entertainment, enrichment, and education to Pamlico County. We welcome your support! To learn more about the benefits of joining our group, including advance ticket sales and artist receptions, call 252-617-2125 or visit www.pamlicomusic.org, and like us on Facebook @pamlicomusic.

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

Publisher
Sandy Winfrey
Office Manager
Katherine Winfrey
Jeannine Russo
Editor
Sandy Winfrey
Photographer Reporter
Hiram Lupton
Advertising Sales
Jeannine Russo
Production
J.P. Miller
Distribution
Neal McCraw

Press Releases, Events, News
editor@thepamliconews.com
Photographer Reporter
hiram@thepamliconews.com
Advertising
frontdesk@thepamliconews.com
Billing Inquiries
frontdesk@thepamliconews.com
USPS 782-460
Published 51 times a year
801 Broad St., P.O.Box 510
Oriental, NC 28571
(252) 249-1555 fax: (252) 249 0857
www.thepamliconews.com

The Pamlico News Editorials and Opinions section features opinion articles, newspaper editorials and letters to the editor on the issues of the day. The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Pamlico News. Any content provided by authors are of their opinion, and are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, club, organization, company, individual or anyone or anything.

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



Mitchel S. Miller, Age 64 of North Canton, passed away Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at Aultman Compassionate Care Center.

He was born March 29, 1961, in Canton, the son of Paul and Marge (Stamm) Miller.

Mitch was the owner of THM Landscaping for 12 years. Previously he had worked for Briarwood Landscaping for 25 years.

He loved camping, fishing, and spending time in nature.

Mitch is survived by his father, Paul Miller of Oriental, NC; fiancée of 26 years, Trudy L. Martin; two children, Heather Shaffer and Mitchell Carder Jr. (Shenan Cleveland), two grandsons, Bentley and Liam; sister, Kelly Miller; nephew, Jake Paxton; and two great-nieces.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Marge L. Miller and step-mother, Nancy Miller. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Condolences to the family may be made at www.heitger.com.

Charity House Thrift Center



Please consider supporting, Charity House Thrift Center located at 15022 Highway 33 in Blounts Creek. They are part of CHRIST VISION CHURCH providing support for the local community through the generosity of others. Hours are Friday and Saturday from 10am to 2pm. There is also a small food pantry available to those on need during the same hours. Donations are accepted during the same hours or call 252-947-0760 to arrange a time. You can help them help your neighbors in need.

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!

Horoscopes



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, your natural charisma is at an all-time high right now. A bold idea you've been sitting on finally gets the green light. Put your plan into action this week.



TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Comfort and luxury find you this week, Taurus. Expect a heartwarming moment in your personal or professional life that restores your sense of peace and well-being.



GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Your social circle may expand this week in the best way possible, Gemini. A new connection brings a refreshing perspective to a creative project. Now you'll work out the details.



CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Recognition is coming your way, Cancer. Your hard work hasn't gone unnoticed. A small win will feel like a major victory, helping to inspire you to keep going.



LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, adventure is calling you this week. Whether you take a trip or get involved in a new book, your mind is expanding and your imagination is soaring.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
A solution to an unsolved puzzle finally clicks into place, Virgo. You will feel a deep sense of relief and clarity. Don't take on too much more right now, and ride this high that you are feeling.



LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
A conversation with a loved one could bring you two closer together than ever before, Libra. In fact, harmony will be a major player in all of your relationships right now.



SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
You are a magnet for productivity this week, Scorpio. You will breeze through your list of things to do with plenty of time left over for self-care.



SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, creativity is your superpower this week. Do not be afraid to express yourself through art, music, writing, or other creative pursuits.



CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Your foundation this week feels rock solid, Capricorn. A family matter is resolved with grace, leaving you feeling supported and loved. You will share good fortune with others.



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
This is the perfect week to share your vision with the world, Aquarius. Your communication skills are sharp. People will come around to your way of thinking.



PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Abundance is flowing toward you, Pisces. Keep your eyes open for a surprise gift or a sudden increase in the tools you need to get things done.

PISCES Traits & Overview

Smart, creative, and deeply intuitive, Pisces can be close to psychic. Pisces feel things deeply, and have incredibly strong gut reactions. A Pisces "knows" things from deep within, and can often judge whether a person or situation is good or bad. That doesn't mean a Pisces ignores the logical part of their brain, though. Deeply intelligent, Pisces have a profound respect for the power of the human mind. Is it a surprise that Albert Einstein was a Pisces? Pisces signs are sensitive, and get along well in small groups of people. Sometimes, a Pisces may feel like they have an internal and external self, and they may need to spend a lot of time solo to recalibrate those two halves of themselves. A Pisces is rarely lonely when they are by themselves, and have an active imagination. Creative, Pisces love spending time reading, exploring or creating art or music, and understanding their emotions through art. Those with the Pisces sign may seem quiet but they are incredibly strong and have a very strong sense of right and wrong. Their moral compass, along with their gut, guides them well. When a Pisces speaks up, people listen. Pisces tend to take in everything around them, and they are great people to ask for advice on pretty much anything. While Pisces has strong convictions about the best way for them to live, they have a "live and let live" approach when it comes to others, and are accepting and nonjudgmental of all.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Take charge of your debt, one step at a time



Dan M. Roberts

If you're dealing with debt, you're far from alone. More than 80% of U.S. households carry some form of debt (2025 Federal Reserve report), and since 2019, total household debt for Americans has increased more than 31%, to \$18.59 trillion.

While debt can help you achieve important goals, such as buying a home or getting an education, it can also create strain on your life and finances. If you only make minimum payments, for example, you'll hold debt longer and pay more in interest.

Having a clear debt reduction plan can help you take control, reduce anxiety and even save money.

Know your debt. The first step is understanding what you owe. Make a comprehensive list of all your debts, including credit cards, mortgages, auto loans, student loans and medical bills. For each one, note the total amount owed, the interest rate and your minimum payment requirements.

Next, add it all up to see your total debt load. Then calculate your debt-to-income ratio by dividing your total monthly debt payments by your gross monthly income. A good rule of thumb is to keep this ratio below 35% if you have a mortgage or 20% if you don't.

Manage what you owe. Now that you have the big picture, look for opportunities to reorganize your debt more effectively. Perhaps you can refinance existing loans at lower interest rates, consolidate multiple debts into a single payment or transfer high-interest credit card balances to cards that offer lower or 0% introductory rates for up to 12 months.

These strategies won't reduce the total amount you owe, but they can make your debt more manageable and potentially save you money on interest. Just watch out for fees and make sure you understand new terms before making changes.

Set your payment target. Start by identifying your required minimum payments across all debts. Missing these can trigger fees and penalties and damage your credit score, so treat them as non-negotiable expenses in your budget.

Next, look at your budget to identify any funds available after covering all essential expenses. Consider how much of this surplus to put toward paying down debt versus saving for other goals. Remember that building an emergency fund and saving for retirement are also important priorities that shouldn't be sidelined.

If you have no surplus, you may need to cut back on things like eating out, clothes shopping, on-line subscriptions, entertainment or expensive vacations while you bring your debt in line. Consider an additional part-time job for extra income to pay off your debt sooner.

Prioritize your debt. Finally, decide which debts to tackle first with any extra payments. One approach is to focus on paying off the debt with the highest interest rate first, which minimizes the total interest you'll pay over time. Alternately, you can target the smallest balance first to help you build momentum and motivation.

Taking control of your debt doesn't happen overnight, but with a clear strategy, you can make steady progress toward your financial goals.

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

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



Build the future of your dreams with us.

At Edward Jones, we want to know what you want out of life on a personal level. Then, we want to help you achieve it by creating a financial strategy that's unique to your specific needs.

We're ready when you are. Contact us today.



Dan Roberts IV, AAMS[®]
Financial Advisor
301 South Front Street
Building 1, Suite A
New Bern, NC 28560
252-633-5263

EJB-8652F-A-E-AD AECSPAD 2005005

NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION Pamlico County

The Lime Effect

By: Daniel Simpson County Extension Director, Agriculture Agent



Over the past several weeks the Extension office has assisted several clients with evaluating and diagnosing soil related issues that hinder plant growth. Homeowners may not be aware of the role soil plays in plant health and how small adjustments can create long term impacts. Let us discuss one of the most common soil related issues and how it can be addressed to improve plant performance.

Plant health and productivity is directly related to the ability of its roots to find nutrients and water to sustain cellular function. Soil pH is an essential component of this process which can affect root growth and the availability of soil nutrients and the fertilizer you apply. With pH values near 6.0-6.5, nutrients become more accessible to plants. As pH values become excessively low or high outside of this range, nutrients can become less available and others can become toxic.

Plants may express their dislike for current pH levels by exhibiting symptoms of nutrient deficiencies. This includes stunting, changes in color, and dieback of plant tissue. A common symptom homeowners might see is yellowing of centipedegrass in spring when pH values are too high and iron becomes deficient. These high pH values will result in the decline of centipede turf and can be avoided by monitoring pH levels and avoiding over liming.



difference in liming affect, meaning you can use either option.

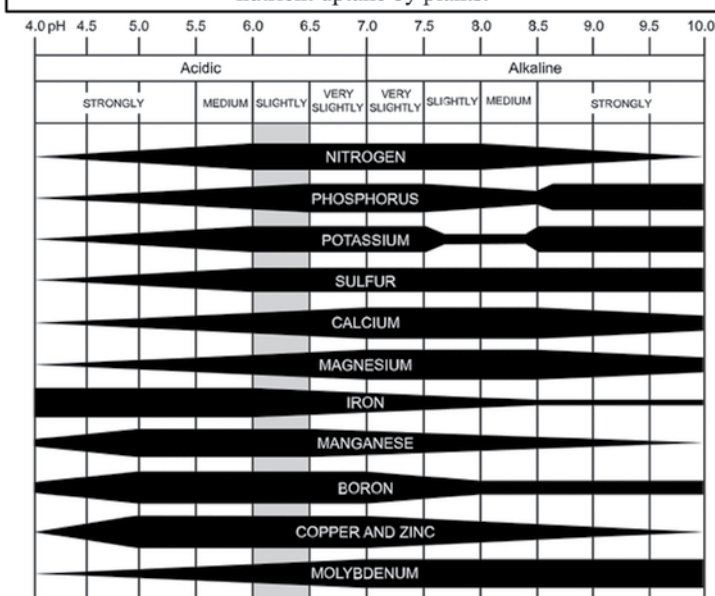
Soil testing is available through the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Service Soil Testing Lab. These testing services are free of charge between April and November, but peak season testing fees of \$4.00 per sample is required November through March (Soil Sample Fee will increase to \$5.00 starting November, 2026). Soil sample supplies needed to complete an NCDA soil test are available through your local Cooperative Extension office. To learn more about soil testing visit this NC State Extension fact sheet titled 'A Gardener's Guide to Soil Testing' at <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/a-gardeners-guide-to-soil-testing>.

With these soil test results, homeowners will be provided with a suggested pH growing range for their crop and recommendations for adjusting pH, if required. Not every plant requires the same pH range and it is important to consider this factor when making plant choices for your landscape. Naturally high pH soils often contain shell material which is a lime source. Homeowners will have great difficulty lowering pH values in this situation and should avoid planting acidic loving plants like blueberries or azaleas. If you would like to learn more about different plant species and their soil requirements, you can visit the NC State Extension Plant Toolbox website at <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/>. From this website you can examine thousands of plants, learn about their soil requirements, and select plants that meet your landscape needs.

Homeowners should consider monitoring soil pH levels if you plan to maximize plant health in your landscape. A soil test every 2-3 years is a recommended practice. If you follow these simple steps, you can help ensure your plants are provided with the best conditions for growth. If you have additional questions about soil pH or soil testing, please contact Daniel Simpson at 252-745-4121 or daniel_simpson@ncsu.edu.

Happy Gardening!

Nutrient availability as affected by soil pH. The wider areas represent greater availability. The blue bar shows the optimum pH level for nutrient uptake by plants.



Soil pH can be raised with lime or lowered with elemental sulfur. Homeowners should only apply these products if a soil test indicates the need to adjust soil pH. Dolomitic lime is a preferred choice for sandy soils and soils lower in magnesium. Calcitic lime is also available and is sufficient if magnesium is not required. Finely ground "Ag Lime" or "pelletized lime" has no substantial

Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home & Crematory
52 Bryant St., PO Box 99, Alliance, NC 28509
252-745-4966 | info@dsfunerals.com

Serving Pamlico, Craven, Beaufort and surrounding counties with courteous, compassionate and professional service

Formerly Bryant Funeral Home, under new ownership
Preplanning | Full-Service Funeral Establishment
Monument Sales | Crematory Onsite
Final Expense Insurance Sales | Affordable Pricing

Website: danielssadlerfunerals.com

DOVE LANDING TRAINING, LLC
Professional and Positive Training For Dogs of all Ages

Alecia Williams, Owner, ABCDT
Consults, Private Sessions, Group Classes

3690 Whortonsville Rd, Merritt, NC
252-249-3034
www.dovelandingtraining.com

Town of Oriental – Owner Bid 2026-01B
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 11AM, (Local Time) Thursday, March 12, 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.

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

STEAM
Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math
For Homeschoolers Ages 5+

Join us for a fun, hands-on session art-focused project learning about chemical reactions using special "magic" art pens on Tuesday, March 10 from 11am to 12pm.

Pamlico Public Library
13896 NC Highway 55
Alliance, NC 28509
252-745-3515
www.mycprl.org
#cprlconnects

We kindly ask you register for this event to ensure we have enough supplies.

This program was supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (IMLS grant number LS-259195-OLS-25)

SPORTS

Diamond Dudes and Softball Sweethearts Begin Season

by: Hiram Lupton

It is that time of year again. Flowers will soon be blooming, and the temps are starting to warm, at least a little. It is also time for Pamlico County High Schools's Baseball and Softball teams to take the field which is exactly what they did last week as each team opened their season on Wednesday. The ladies hit the road to face the Patriots of West Carteret and got their season off to a good start, scoring in both the first and second inning to take a 3-0 lead which they held until the bottom of the fourth when the Patriots tied things up. West Carteret took the lead for good the next inning and held on to win against the Hurricanes, 4-3. Hayley Shamblin and Payton Force led Pamlico with 2 hits apiece. While the ladies were away, the boys of summer took the field at home and right from the start Hurricane fans could notice two important changes. The new baseball field now has lights and a brand-new scoreboard. The 'Canes got off to a bit of a rough start, giving up 3 runs to their opponent, Richlands, in the first but continued to fight, scratching out a run in the second on Ayden Broughton's RBI single, bringing home Ross McLamb. Broughton would be a standout for Pamlico at the plate, collecting 3 solid hits for the Hurricanes. Pamlico added another run in the bottom of the fifth, but the Wildcats put the game away with 3 runs in the sixth and another pair of runs in the seventh. A late rally by Pamlico in the seventh produced one run but fizzled out. Final score, Richlands over Pamlico 8-3. Both Pamlico teams had scheduled games for last Friday, but as often happens this time of year, mother nature was the winner, canceling both contests. This week, Baseball has a full schedule, weather permitting of course. On Monday they travel to Richlands, host White Oak on Wednesday, and hit the road to Pungo Christian Academy on Thursday. The Lady 'Canes have a pair of games on their schedule, also hosting White Oak on Wednesday while traveling to Bear Grass Charter on Thursday.



Ayden Broughton



Hayley Shamblin

NCHSAA State Basketball Playoffs Hurricanes Advance to Eastern Regional Finals

by: Hiram Lupton

The NCHSAA State Basketball Tournament is underway, and the Pamlico is in the thick of things. They received the #1 seed in the 2A East Division and when the playoffs started last Tuesday they got to sit and rest by virtue of a bye. They hit the floor on Thursday, hosting Triangle Math and Science Academy, the #16 seed. It quickly became apparent that this year's playoffs are the Syd and Nya show, as Pamlico's two outstanding Juniors, Sydney Whitley-Reese and Nya Clark, will be at the forefront of any deep run the Hurricanes have. Pamlico used their full court pressure against the Tigers to dominate the first half, building up a 37-8 lead by the break. After that things were on cruise control as Coach April Rose emptied her bench, giving everyone some playing time. Whitley-Reese led the way with 27 points while Clark put in 23. Final score, 56-18 Pamlico. Next up was a Saturday matinee for Pamlico as they hosted Franklin Academy, the #9 seed, who traveled from Wake Forrest. Different team, same result, as once Pamlico got rolling, they couldn't be stopped, pushing on to the 4th round with a 52-31 win. Clark was the scoring leader with 22 points. Whitley-Reese added 13 and fellow Junior, Kyliyah Barber dropped in 9. Next up, #5 seeded Lakewood came to Bayboro for a Monday battle. It was a full house for the game, and it felt much like a family reunion or a homecoming. Win or lose, this would be the final athletic contest to be played in this gym which will be demolished along with the rest of the old school over the summer. The Hurricanes hoped to give the crowd what they craved, a final win in the old barn and the chance to move on to the Eastern final. Lakewood was formidable, with 26 points per game scorer Areona McKoy leading the way. There is a reason that Pamlico Coach April Rose has won big games including a State Championship in 2019, she knows how to coach. With Pamlico playing a box-in-one defense on McKoy, she always had a defender playing her in a tight man-to-man and a zone defender ready to double team. Plus, Rose was constantly rotating fresh players off the bench to guard her. Frustration set in and then the fouls, as McKoy picked up four before halftime. Add to that a determined Hurricane squad on the offensive end and Pamlico pretty much had the game wrapped up by halftime with a 40-17 lead. The second half was no different as Pamlico kept their foot on the gas for a 66-29 win. Whitley-Reese had an enormous game, scoring 37 points and pulling down 19 rebounds. She had help from Barber who put in 15 and Clark who scored 12. Pamlico now takes on the #3 seed in the East, Gates County at noon on Saturday in Minges Coliseum in Greenville.



Nya Clark drives to the basket



Sydney Whitley-Reese rises above the competition

FOR SALE
High Visibility - Prime Commercial Opportunity!



4000 Total Sq Ft

1080 Heated Sq Ft
Can Convert to a 2 Bed, 1.5 Bath

2920 Heated Sq Ft
Garage/Warehouse

PRICE REDUCED!

\$499,900

22327 NC HWY 55
Oriental, NC 28571








.92 Acres / Not Zoned / Not in Flood Zone / I - Beam Construction on 6" Concrete Slab



Allen Propst

c: 252-671-4644

e: allenpropst@orientalncwaterfront.com



HOME & GARDEN LIVING



Home & Garden Advertising to Grow Spring Sales



Call today to reserve your spot in our Spring Home & Garden section of our March 25 issue!

252.249.1555 • frontdesk@ThePamlicoNews.com

Advertising Deadline: March 18

A Special Section From

The Pamlico News



Household Hazardous Waste



Spring 2026 Collection Events

| PAMLICO COUNTY | CRAVEN COUNTY | CARTERET COUNTY |
|--|--|---|
| Saturday, March 21, 2026 9:00am - 1:00pm Pamlico County Courthouse 202 Main Street, Bayboro | Saturday, March 28, 2026 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Craven Community College 800 College Court, New Bern | Saturday, April 25, 2026 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Carteret Co. Health Dept 3820 Bridges Street, Morehead City |

Accepted Materials

- ✓ Cooking oil
- ✓ Drain openers
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Paint: Latex* and oil based; paint thinners
- ✓ Automotive fluids: gasoline, used motor oil, anti-freeze
- ✓ Pesticides: Lawn, garden, and farm pesticides and fertilizer

*Dried latex paint may be disposed of via normal waste collection. 10 gallons max per vehicle.

Non-Accepted Materials

- ✗ Commercial waste
- ✗ Infectious, biological, or radioactive wastes
- ✗ Explosives
- ✗ Ammunition

No Mystery Cans!

Everything must be labeled or easily identified.

The Coastal Environmental Partnership (CEP) is a public solid waste management authority that serves Carteret, Craven, and Pamlico Counties. CEP provides residents with an environmentally sound and cost-effective system of solid waste disposal, and sponsors a series of household hazardous waste collection days in each of the three counties.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:

You will be asked to remain in your vehicle at all times. We will remove your items from your vehicle. Contractors are not permitted to bring items for disposal (residential wastes only)



252-633-1564



somer@crswma.com



www.cepnc.org



Coastal Environmental Partnership

I've always believed that if you put in the work, the results will come.

-Michael Jordan



CarolinaEast Medical Center Named Among Newsweek's World's Best Hospitals

New Bern Hospital Ranked in Top 1.8% of U.S. Hospitals

(New Bern, NC) – For the eighth consecutive year, CarolinaEast Medical Center is named one of the top best hospitals in the United States by Newsweek magazine in their annual "World's Best Hospitals" rankings. The 2026 list lands CarolinaEast at 112 out of 6,100 hospitals in the United States.

Newsweek is a premier news magazine and website that has been bringing high quality journalism to readers around the globe for more than 80 years. This is the eighth year of their World's Best Hospitals rankings, in all of which CarolinaEast has ranked highly. As a result, CarolinaEast has been recognized as an "All-Time Champion."

Rankings are based on an extensive evaluation process, including an online survey of thousands of medical experts (doctors, hospital managers and health care professionals), patient experience data, hospital quality metrics and a PROMs Implementation Survey. Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) are defined as standardized, validated questionnaires completed by patients to measure their perception of their functional well-being and quality of life.

"Choosing a hospital is rarely a simple decision. It is often made in moments of uncertainty, when unusual symptoms or a difficult diagnosis is already weighing heavy on the patient," stated Alexis Kayser, Healthcare Editor of Newsweek. "That's why dependable guidance on where to find high-quality medical care is so important. Whether an individual is seeking care for themselves or for a loved one, clear information can help them pursue the best possible health outcomes."

In addition to ranking in the top 1.8% of United States hospitals, CarolinaEast is ranked #5 in the state of North Carolina, and the only independent hospital in the top 10. Additionally, Newsweek recognized CarolinaEast for performing above the average in Infection Prevention measures. At the end of 2025, the New Bern hospital was also recognized on Newsweek's list of America's Best-In-State Hospitals 2026 for the third consecutive year.

"CarolinaEast is honored to be recognized by many respected organizations, but none carries the significance of being named to Newsweek's World's Best Hospitals," said Michael Smith, President and CEO of CarolinaEast Health System. "This achievement speaks to the exceptional skill and commitment of our more than 3,200 employees who drive our mission forward every day. I am proud to see their work honored alongside the world's leading health systems."

The full list of hospital rankings is available on the Newsweek website: <https://rankings.newsweek.com/worlds-best-hospitals-2026/united-states>.

About CarolinaEast Health System

CarolinaEast Health System has been serving the growing needs of the coastal North Carolina community since 1963. In addition to the system's flagship, 350 bed CarolinaEast Medical Center, CarolinaEast includes a rehabilitation hospital, free-standing surgery center, the SECU Comprehensive Cancer Center, and numerous CarolinaEast Physician practices providing primary and specialty care for all phases of life from offices in four counties. Visit carolinaeasthealth.com to learn more.

Murals of Pamlico

Mural – a large picture that has been painted on the wall of a room or building



Photo by: Hiram Lupton

"The best thing about life's party is that there's always room for one more dance move!"

STIHL DEALS

SAVE \$30

Select STIHL Outdoor Power Equipment
 A. FSA 57 Battery-Powered String Trimmer Kit, 7006614D
 B. MS 172 C-E 16" Gas Chain Saw, 7033484D
 C. FSA 50 Battery-Powered String Trimmer Kit, 7060932D
 D. FS 56 RC-E Gas String Trimmer, 7000445D
 RED HOT BUY

DIGITAL EVENT VALID THROUGH MARCH – 23

PAMLICO HOME BUILDERS & SUPPLIES, INC.

Hwy 55, Alliance • (252) 745-4111

Hours: Mon. – Fri. 7:00 am to 6:00 pm • Sat. 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

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

Discover fresh art and creative energy at Broad Strokes Gallery this March

Featured Gallery Artist

Gayle Andersen

Largely self-taught with professional training, Gayle has taught folk art and alcohol ink techniques, participated in numerous festivals, and exhibits in galleries across the region. She also offers private sales and commissions.

We also welcome the students of

Arapahoe Charter School

Displaying the work of some of our county's young emerging artists in keeping with the March theme of

"Our Furry Companions"

While you're at the Gallery, purchase a raffle ticket to win a custom portrait of your pet(s) by the Gallery's own

Kevin Fetzner

All proceeds benefit PAWS

Artist Built. Community Driven

Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:3 NIV

Veteran Resource Fair

Presented by the Durham VA Health Care System at Pamlico Community College, Delamar Center, 5049 NC Hwy 306 South, Grantsboro, NC.

Saturday, March 21, 2026 | 9:00am - 2:00pm

Get the latest information about your VA Benefits. Enroll on site and talk to specialists about what's available to you.

Factor for Developing Lung Cancer



Lung cancer can strike anyone, but the American Cancer Society indicates smoking cigarettes and other tobacco products is the primary risk factor for developing lung cancer, making smokers particularly vulnerable to the disease. About 80 percent of lung cancer deaths are thought to result from smoking. Exposure to secondhand smoke also can increase lung cancer risk. Exposure to radon and asbestos also are known risk factors for lung cancer.

Health & Wellness



American Red Cross

More Americans are caring for loved ones – but few feel prepared for emergencies

The American Red Cross urges people to take a CPR and first aid course to be ready for the moments that matter

CHARLOTTE, N.C., February 28, 2026 — Today, millions of Americans serve as caregivers, supporting both young children and aging loved ones — often at the same time. Yet many lack critical lifesaving training, including how to respond in a cardiac arrest emergency. Only about one-third of U.S. adults say they feel confident and ready to act if someone goes into cardiac arrest.

More than 300,000 people experience cardiac arrest outside of hospitals each year in the United States. Infants, older adults and those with chronic health conditions are among the most vulnerable. For children of all ages, more than 80% of these emergencies happen at home — making the home the front line of response. CPR and AED training isn't just a medical skill — it's a caregiving essential.

"Having the ability to respond to a cardiac emergency makes you a better, more confident caregiver," said Allison Taylor, Regional CEO of Humanitarian Services, North Carolina Region. "Learning first aid and CPR skills may make a lifesaving difference for your child, family member, or even a stranger."

During National Heart Month, the American Red Cross is urging people to show your loved ones how much you care by taking a Red Cross First Aid, CPR and AED class and other lifesaving skills courses. Having the knowledge and confidence to act when seconds count can triple someone's chance of surviving cardiac arrest.

Be Ready for the Moments that Matter with Red Cross Lifesaving Training

For more than 100 years, the American Red Cross has been a national leader in first aid education, training more than three million people per year in first aid, CPR and AED skills to help save lives in emergencies.

To ensure we are meeting the needs of today and evolving with the latest science, the Red Cross has recently enhanced its First Aid/CPR/AED training program to include updated infant CPR techniques and instruction on using epinephrine nasal spray, which is now an approved treatment for anaphylaxis. These updates ensure caregivers and bystanders are prepared to respond quickly and confidently in a range of life-threatening emergencies.

The training also equips participants with the knowledge and skills to better identify and respond to heart-related emergencies, including understanding the critical differences between cardiac arrest and heart attacks. It incorporates updated warning signs—highlighting how heart attacks can present differently in women—so symptoms are recognized earlier and lifesaving action can begin sooner. Visit redcross.org/takeaclass to find a class near you.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.



CALL THE ELEVATOR AND LIFT EXPERTS: 1-888-634-1717



Visit our new showroom located at 4430 Hwy 70E, New Bern, NC 28560

With over 30 years of experience, Liftavator is your best source for residential and commercial elevators and lifts. Our qualified and licensed technicians provide professional installation, maintenance, service and inspection. We also offer 24-hour emergency calls. Whether you need an outdoor lift, luxury home elevator, stairlift, or commercial elevator, call Liftavator for a free consultation. We will find a solution that is right for you!

savaria™
ELITE DEALER

LIFTAVATOR.COM
1-888-634-1717

PAMLICO ARTS COUNCIL



8TH ANNUAL DRAGON BURN



ALL NEW THIS YEAR: Fire Performers, Noise maker crafting for kids so they can help build the beat with the Drummin' Dragons!

Ignite The Arts! 2026

Bid on "The Right to Ignite" just prior to the burn. High bidder gets the torch to start the burn!

MARCH 28, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

\$25 (individuals) \$50 (families of 4 persons)
Membership Fee for Admittance

Your memberships help support the many FREE PROGRAMS that the Pamlico Arts Council provides for our county such as (but not limited to):

Student Arts Calendar and Exhibition, Storytelling and Literary Arts Celebration, Pirate Jam, Gospel, Blues & Rockin' BBQ, Circus Arts instruction at Family Fun Day, Focus:NC photography contest, Artist Exhibits and Demos, Storybook Christmas Trees, Gingerbread House Decorating at Spirit of Christmas, Arts Programming in County schools (Rhino Leap, Secret Agency, Healing Force, Artist led instruction), Shag and Latin Dance instruction

JOIN ONLINE FOR FASTER ENTRY ON BURN DAY:
PAMLIKOARTS.ORG

Music by Southern Hellcats



Red Rooster Bar at The Silos, Oriental, NC

Pamlico County Arts Council is the designated County partner of the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, a state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history and culture.

HOW TO PERFORM CPR

1



Call 911 or ask someone else to

2



Lay the person on their back and open their airways

3



If they are not breathing, start CPR

4



30 chest compression

4



two rescue breaths

6



Repeat until an ambulance or AED arrives



We specialize in primary medical and dental care for the entire family.



313 Main Street | Bayboro, NC
252-745-2070 (medical) | 252-745-0781 (dental)
contentnea.org/Locations

COASTAL LIVING

Vandemere Sandra Snipes, *Correspondent*



Greetings from Vandemere!
It has certainly been a minute since we last caught you up on all that's happening in Town, and there is plenty to share. After digging ourselves out of the recent snow, spring fever has officially set in, bringing renewed energy and exciting opportunities for our community.

A big thank you to Youth Navigating Toward Opportunity (YNTO) for helping us launch an incredible Seed Library for our residents. With more than 50 varieties of seeds — including vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers — community members are invited to stop by Town Hall and try their hand at planting a garden this season. The seeds are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. We hope that this grows into a true community project, where neighbors not only plant and harvest at home, but also donate seeds back at the end of the growing season to keep the cycle thriving year after year.

Looking ahead, on March 9, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the East Group Engineering Team will be at Town Hall to discuss master planning efforts for the future Community Center at the Waterfront Park. Residents and members of the public are encouraged to attend and share their thoughts. We are excited about the potential this project holds and greatly value community input as we shape this important investment together.

We are also proud to share that the Town has been awarded another supplementary grant in support of the future ADA-compliant fishing pier and the Heritage Connection Trail. The Heritage Connection Trail is envisioned as a welcoming pathway stretching from the town's entrance sign to the fishing pier, connecting key areas of town. Beyond recreation and catching a great fish at the pier, the trail will celebrate Vandemere's unique history and coastal heritage through interpretive signage and storytelling elements highlighting the people, the times, and the natural beauty that define our maritime and agricultural roots.

Within the community, the Squidder Club Committee is getting ready for the much-anticipated 6th Annual Squidder Festival. Their first fundraiser will be Saturday, March 7th, from

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Squidders Bait and Tackle. They will have hot dogs, chili, fixings, and more. Please come out to support the cause.



There are so many exciting things happening in Vandemere. To learn more about our projects and upcoming events, visit www.vandemerenc.com and see what our wonderful town is all about.

“Vandemere Community Center: Planning for Our Future”

Vandemere is planning a new Community Center at Waterfront Park, and we want your input!

Join us for a public meeting with the East Group Engineering Team to discuss plans, share ideas, and help shape the future of this exciting project.

When: March 9, 2026 | 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Where: Vandemere Town Hall

Your voice matters! Come learn about the vision, ask questions, and let us know what you want to see in your Community Center. For more information, visit www.vandemerenc.com or call 252-745-5480



Sheriff Chris Davis

Pamlico County Sheriff's Office Executes Search Warrant; Drug and Animal Cruelty Charges Filed

On February 27, 2026, the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at 1445 Silverbrook Road, Oriental, North Carolina, in connection with an investigation into the sale of controlled substance from the residence.

During the execution of the search warrant, investigators located multiple dogs on the property, as well as chickens and wild rabbits. It was apparent to investigators that several of the animals were malnourished and living in inadequate conditions. Many of the animals were secured on oversized chains without proper shelter or access to water. Dead animals were also discovered on the property.

Based on these findings, an additional search warrant was obtained for Felony Animal Cruelty. The Pamlico County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by Pamlico County Animal Control, Craven County Animal Control, New Bern Animal Control, and Beaufort County Animal Control.

As a result of the investigation, a total of 42 dogs were seized from the property, along with other animals. All animals were removed to ensure their safety and to allow for proper veterinary evaluation and care.

Throughout the investigation, evidence of several wildlife violations was also discovered. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission was contacted and subsequently executed a search warrant at the residence, collecting additional evidence with the assistance of the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office.



As a result of the investigation, Derrick Mozelle, age 68, of Oriental, was arrested and charged with the following:

- Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver Schedule VI Controlled Substance
- Maintaining a Dwelling for the Sale of a Controlled Substance
- Felony Aid and Abet
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Five Counts of Cruelty to Animals

Two additional individuals residing at the residence currently have active warrants for arrest:



Dakeem Graig Mozelle, age 34, of Oriental, is wanted for:

- Trafficking Sch I Controlled Substance
- Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver Schedule VI Controlled Substance
- Exposing a Child to a Controlled Substance
- Maintaining a Dwelling for the Sale of a Controlled Substance
- Possession of Firearm by Convicted Felon
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Five Counts of Cruelty to Animals



Tiffany Sue Bond, age 30, of Oriental, is wanted for:

- Maintaining a Dwelling for the Sale of a Controlled Substance
- Exposing a Child to a Controlled Substance
- Felony Aid and Abet

All animals located on the property were seized. Additional charges are anticipated pending veterinary evaluation and the completion of the ongoing investigation.

Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of the individuals with outstanding warrants is encouraged to contact the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office.

“It’s 5 o’clock somewhere, except when it’s Daylight Saving Time!”
–Unknown

BOBBY CAHOON
MARINE CONSTRUCTION
THE ONLY MARINE CONTRACTOR YOU'LL EVER NEED
252.665.4976

EXCELLENCE, RELIABILITY, & INNOVATION.
THE FOUNDATION OF EVERY PROJECT.

Our Services:

- Custom Docks & Piers
- Seawalls & Retaining Walls
- Boat Lifts
- Boat Houses & Gazebo Roofs
- Lot Clearing
- Site Preparation
- Bulkhead Backfilling, Grading & Demolition
- Dirt, Rock & Equipment Hauling

BOBBYCAHOONCONSTRUCTION.COM
“A First Seawall of the Hurricane”

The Inland Waterway Provision Company

We're a fully stocked marine store and what we don't have we can order for you usually with overnight delivery so you can get back on the water in no time!

Check out our fishing tackle and make your requests as we grow the selection! We also stock an assortment of craft beer, wines, snacks, condiments, personal care products and ice.

HOURS:
Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Friday – Saturday 9:30 am – 5:30 pm
Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

305 Hodges Street, Oriental, NC 28571
Located at ICW statute mile marker 181
252.249.1797

Mill Creek PHOTOGRAPHY
ESTD. 2004
Jeff Roberts
Veteran Owned & Operated

Landscape • Wildlife • Sports • Portrait • Real Estate • Commercial •
Newborn • Maternity • Senior

for all your photography needs. Serving Pamlico and Surrounding Counties.

252-229-3851
millcreekphotography252@gmail.com
millcreekphotography.zenfolio.site.com

WAYFARERS COVE
MARINA & BEACH, LLC

1107 Bennett Rd.
Minnesott Beach, NC 28510
252-249-0200

Your Hurricane Hole!
60 Ton Travel lift, Beams to 19'2"
Dry Storage to 55', Lounge and
Bathhouse & WiFi

WET AND DRY STORAGE AVAILABLE
HELP WANTED

Scott
PLUMBING & HEATING

We service and install all brands and models of
Heating & Air Conditioning Units
Natural or Propane Gas, Oil, Electric, or Geothermal

- Free estimates on new installations and/or replacements.
- Residential and commercial applications
- Complete ductwork inspections, repairs, and now offering duct cleaning.
- Serving five counties for over 35 years

American Standard
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

(252) 745-5135
6690 Hwy. 55 East in Reelsboro
Emergency, Nights & Weekends 252-670-7688
www.scottph.com

“The greatest legacy one can pass on to one’s children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one’s life, but rather a legacy of character and faith.”
–Billy Graham

CLASSIFIEDS



WINFREY BUILDERS
252-670-2915



World Wide Marine Training, LLC
U.S.C.G. Approved Training & Testing

Captains Licenses ★ Master 100 Tons ★ Master 200 Tons ★ AB
★ STCW 5-day Basic Training ★ Radar Endorsements ★
Auxiliary Sail and Assistance Towing Endorsements

Call 252-249-2135
worldwidemarinetraing.com
22532 NC Hwy 55 East, Oriental, NC 28571

Pamlico Tree Care, LLC
Servicing New Bern & Surrounding Counties
Owner: Jonathan Mitchell



New Omme 90' Tracklift Access through a 4' wide gate
Complete Tree Removal
Stump Grinding

Brush & Branch Chipping
Cabling & Crown Reduction
Tree Pruning & Shaping

Fully Insured with Liability and Workmen's Comp
252-745-7232/252-671-7563
Pamlicotreecare@aol.com
www.pamlicotreecare.com

FOR SALE



Arapahoe - Fully renovated, 3BR/2Bath home featuring a new roof, new HVAC and brand-new appliances (refrigerator needed). Enjoy access to the Neuse River from a nearby shared waterfront lot complete with a sandy beach! **\$279,000**

CENTURY 21
Sail/Loft Realty
252-249-1787
www.SailLoftRealty.com

T.O.P.P. Care For Pets
The Oriental Pet Parlour

- Full Service Grooming
- Licensed Boarding
- Day Care
- For Dogs, Cats, Birds & Other Pets

252-249-0243
315 White Farm Road Oriental, NC 28571
Hours: M-F 8:30-5 Sat. 9-3
Check out our website at www.TheOrientalPetParlour.com

Katherine H. Winfrey
Income Tax Service

801 Broad St.
Oriental, NC 28571

533 South Creek Rd.
Aurora, NC 27806
252-670-7728
252-675-2828

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pamlico County Tax Office is implementing the 2026 Countywide Revaluation mandated by the State every 8 years. Property owners can expect to receive their notices mid-late March. If the owner disagrees with his/her new appraised value of real estate, the notice will instruct the owner of the appeal process. The last date to appeal is Monday, May 11, 2026.

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 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.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing on a Special Use Permit (SUP) for a short term rental for 307 Vandemere St in the Town of Oriental will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 6PM, or as soon thereafter as can be reached, in the large Board Room in Town Hall, 507 Church St, Oriental, NC. The Board is required to review any evidence presented at that time. The application will be available for viewing by the Public at Oriental Town Hall and online at www.TownofOriental.com. The meeting is open to the Public.

Diane H. Miller, Manager/Clerk

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE PAMLICO 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 PAMLICO 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

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

LEGALS

County)

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE PAMLICO 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 PAMLICO 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

REPORTS

INCIDENTS

- Feb. 5, Rebecca Rd., Grantsboro, second degree trespass
- Feb. 5, G. Harper Lane, Grantsboro, welfare concern
- Feb. 5, Keystown Rd., Grantsboro, order for arrest driving while license revoked impaired revoked, order for arrest reckless driving wanton disregard, order for arrest possess/display altered/fictitious/revoked drivers license, order for arrest driving while impaired, order for arrest possess open container/consume alcohol passenger area
- Feb. 6, NC Hwy 55, Merritt, suspicious person
- Feb. 6, NC Hwy 306 S., Grantboro, suspicious activity
- Feb. 6, Kershaw Rd., Oriental, larceny of property or goods value > \$1,000
- Feb. 6, Vandemere, Rd., Bayboro, larceny of property or goods <= \$1,000
- Feb. 6, Country Club Dr., Arapahoe,

- wire fraud
- Feb. 6, Kershaw Rd., Arapahoe, larceny of property or goods value > \$1,000
- Feb. 6, Moonlight Lake Dr., New Bern, larceny of firearm
- Feb. 7, Moonlight Lane Dr., New Bern, simple assault
- Feb. 7, NC Hwy 55, Alliance, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked
- Feb. 7, NC Hwy 306 S., Arapahoe, resist/delay/obstruct public officer
- Feb. 8, NC Hwy 306 N., Grantsboro, forced entry for EMS
- Feb. 9 NC Hwy 55, Grantsboro, no operators license
- Feb. 9, NC Hwy 55, New Bern, order for arrest contributing delinquency of juvenile (2), order for arrest give/sell alcohol < 21 (2), order for arrest consume alcohol by 19/20, possession of marijuana up to ½ oz.
- Feb. 10. NC Hwy 55, New Bern, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked

- Feb. 10. NC Hwy 306 S., Grantsboro, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked
- Feb. 10, Plantation Oaks Dr., New Bern, stalking, civil complaint
- Feb. 10, Swan Corner Rd., Bayboro, driving while license revoked not impaired revoked, possess fictitious/altered title/registration card/plate
- Feb. 11, NC Hwy 55, Alliance, larceny of property or goods value > \$1,000
- Feb. 12, Florence St., New Bern, injury to real property
- Feb. 12, Main St., Bayboro, order for arrest simple possession Schedule VI controlled substance
- Feb. 12, Main St., Bayboro, order for arrest speeding, order for arrest driving while license revoked impaired revoked, order for arrest driving while license revoked not impaired revoked, warrant for arrest possession with intent to manufacture/sell/distribute fentanyl, warrant for arrest possession with intent to manufacture/sell/distribute meth-

- amphetamine
- Feb. 12, Connie Cove Rd., Oriental, missing person
- Feb. 13, Neals Creek Rd., Bayboro, larceny of property or goods <= \$1,000
- Feb. 13, NC Hwy 55, Bayboro, possess weapon on educational property - not gun
- Feb. 13, Main St., Bayboro, controlled substances tax warrant
- Feb. 13, Elm St., Vandemere, order for arrest possess stolen goods/property
- Feb. 13, Janiero Rd., Oriental, driving while impaired
- Feb. 13, Silverbrook Rd., Oriental, child support warrant service
- Feb. 14, Vandemere Rd., Bayboro, misdemeanor crime of domestic violence
- Feb. 15, Jonathan Lane, Oriental, misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, communicating threats
- Feb. 18, Main St., Bayboro, order for arrest child support

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

FIREARMS AUCTION LIVE, ONLINE & PHONE BIDDING March 14th @ 10am Military, Modern, Sporting & Classic Firearms www.montroseauction.com 478-376-4559 Greensboro, GA GAL 2006

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
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
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 [Steppacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

Miscellaneous
Donate your car today, running or not. Support Patriotic Hearts for our Veterans and their Families! Free fast pickup. Max tax deduction. 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
Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-585-1815

Miscellaneous
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 4500 positive reviews. Call 844-213-6711

AROUND THE COUNTY

Whortonsville Reba Tiller, *Correspondent*



I am trying again to get some news out but won't know if it will make it. There is a lot of news today with the invasion of Iran but let's forget about that and just have good news. My neighbors who've been in Texas and Florida are on their way home but one has been caught in an accident in Alabama and is at a complete stop. We had 12 at Bethel today and it was Communion today. Paul Truilsa joined us from his mountain home.

Matt's twins sang in church for us. Saturday, March 7 the men will meet at Brantley's for breakfast at 7:30. On Saturday, March 28th, the family of Ernest Ray Scott will have the Celebration of his life at Bethel F.W.B.Church at 11:00. On Sunday, March 29th there will be a dinner after church.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK—IF YOU WANT TO BE LIKE JESUS, REMEMBER TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER!

Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, *Correspondent*



This was the last week for early voting in the primary election. I chose to vote early at the courthouse. I was surprised there was no line. By the time you read this article, the results will already have been posted. Regardless of who you vote for, it is important to vote. If you don't vote, you have no right to complain later.

Pamlico resident, Gertrude Wilson, mother of Maria Machle died this week. Her funeral will be at Pamlico Methodist Church on Sunday March 8, 2025, at 11:00 am.

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 4- Reverend Peg Witt, Riverside UMC Pastor
- 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

Celebrating birthdays in March are Karen Alexander (3/4), Lester Carey (3/8), 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).

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8th and St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.

Have a blessed week. Empty? Take Spiritual Vitamin E. "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name." (Psalms 100:4)



Stonewall Methodist Church gathered for supper cooked by the men and stuffed the 2050 time capsule.

Grantsboro Jeff Roberts, *Correspondent*



Loving Country Without Hating Each Other I am a veteran. I love my country. That has never been in question.

What troubles me is not patriotism, it's division. This past weekend, as our nation once again stepped into conflict overseas, reactions were immediate and predictable. Some were in full support. Others were firmly opposed. Much of the response fell along party lines, as though complex world events can be reduced to team loyalty.

That is where I struggle. Our political system was designed with balance in mind. Different viewpoints were never meant to destroy one another. They were meant to challenge each other, refine ideas, and prevent extremes. Disagreement is not a weakness. It is part of the structure.

What concerns me today is not disagreement, it is the way we handle it. Somewhere along the way, debate turned into hostility. If someone thinks differently, they are criticized, dismissed, or worse. We see people judged not only for their political beliefs, but sometimes for their background, their culture, even their nationality. That is not strength. That is division.

Serving in the military taught me something that shaped my perspective long after I hung up the uniform. Living away from home, being around people from different regions, cultures, and backgrounds, I learned that the world is far bigger than our immediate circles. Every culture

has beauty. Every place has depth. But you only see that when you are willing to look beyond your own worldview. Loving America does not require hating anyone else.

It does not require blind allegiance to a party. It does not require forcing your beliefs onto your neighbor. It does not require assuming the worst about people who vote differently than you.

Our country faces difficult decisions. Sometimes leaders must act in ways that not everyone agrees with. That has been true throughout history. But regardless of policy or party, we should be able to stand together as citizens first.



We were meant to balance one another, not tip the scale so far that cooperation becomes impossible.

At the end of the day, most of us want the same things: safety for our families, opportunity for our children, and a nation that remains strong and just.

Aurora Joy McCracken, *Correspondent*



Thompson's met our repair needs by having cartridge fuses on hand. The water heater blew one. Big Boy the Cat approved of the visit and purchase.

The rain is starting to come down the creek in its grey, foggy pattern. It can mean a welcoming sprinkle, suspicious cloud burst, more powerful storm or being alarmed while caught in the yard. It's my favorite sight here.

The moon was out there the other day; just floating in morning light on a sea of Carolina Blue. That's always a treat to catch the moon out in the daylight.

March 5 is National Slam the Scam Day (ssa.gov/scam) and even though this is sponsored by Social Security there are others out there. I received a detailed, typed letter in the mail claiming he knew me from high school. Nope. We must be diligent. You could tell in the letter how he had used AI to populate the correspondence by trying to convince me he was a long, lost friend. Nope. And it infuriates me for being a target.

Reminder that the annual Lion's Club Bingo will be on March 7 at 7pm at the Community Center. Y'all go by there and see everyone.



I've discovered a new pasta: bucatini. Thinking of having some while my cousin is here later this month. That and some fondue. It's time you saw some of the real me: this is at our summer visit to Edisto Beach when I was 3 or 4. I've been going through old photos in anticipation of my cousin's visit.

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY

\$1,500 OFF PLUS **ZERO Interest, ZERO Payments financing for 12 Months*** OFFER EXPIRES 3/30/2026

BATH CONCEPTS AUTHORIZED DEALER

CALL NOW (855) 932-7733

*Includes labor and product; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and well surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 3/30/26. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for these customers who qualify/Participating dealers only. See your dealer for details. ©2026 Bath Concepts Industries.

Hale Mini Honeybells
The once a year citrus sensation!

ONLY \$3.499
Reg. Price \$4.22 Special Limited Time Offer!
27% SAVINGS

Call 1-855-653-0034 to order item 2692X or Visit HaleGroves.com/H6YU43

*Only \$34.99 (reg. \$44.99) plus \$7.99 shipping and handling per pack to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions may apply. Limit 5 boxes per customer. IC: H6YU43

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel

SPECIAL OFFER

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

Waiving All Installation Costs!

CALL NOW **1.844.328.3694**

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 12/27/26.

Start the new year clog-free!

LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION

Claim by: 02/28/2026 We install year-round!

15% OFF + 10% Discount For Seniors + Military

Get a FREE full gutter inspection and estimate: **1-877-649-1190** Promo: 285

**Promotional offer includes 15% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. See Representative for full warranty details. AZ: H0C44027, AR: 30402025, CA: 1035795, CT: H0C4671230, DC: 4032200007, FL: C0C356671, HI: H0C51004, IA: C132720, LA: 53954, MD: H0C11225, MA: 213202, MI: 262300331, MN: 262300330, MO: 262300329, NC: 262300319, ND: 262300371, NH: H0C182124, NJ: 2616170, NY: 5216124, OH: H0C4671230, OK: 4032200007, OR: 4032200007, PA: 262300331, RI: 614124, TN: 10305, UT: H0C36385301, VT: 174000027, VA: 270510445, WA: LEAF150236, WY: WY05012. *The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America."

Grand Alaskan Cruise & Tour

12 DAYS INSIDE CABIN STARTING AT \$3,549 \$3,299*

MUST BOOK BY 3/31 BASED ON JUL 8, 2026 DEPARTURE

CALL US: 1-844-639-0552

*Per person based on double occupancy & includes tax service/gov't fees. Ask your Travel Consultant for terms & conditions. Add-on airfare with transfers available for most major gateways.

DENTAL Insurance
Great coverage for retirees.

Get your FREE Information Kit

Ask about the Premier Plan - our most popular option!

1-844-496-8601

Dental50Plus.com/NCpress

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

Product/features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist. This specific offer not available in CO, NV, NY - call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate C254/B465, C250A/B438 (ID: C254ID; PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6347-0125

Grantsboro social media influencer Clayton Rice faces criminal charges in two counties

by Maceo Donald - WCTI



A Grantsboro man known to hundreds of thousands of followers on TikTok for his custom woodworking is now facing multiple criminal charges in eastern North Carolina.

Clayton Thomas Rice, 29, of Goose Creek Road, was arrested Feb. 26 on charges filed by the Morehead City Police Department. Court records show he is charged in Carteret County with two counts of misdemeanor larceny and one count of misdemeanor fail to work after paid.

According to Carteret County warrants, Rice was paid \$38,080 for a remodeling job but allegedly failed to complete the work. Court documents state that \$21,280 worth of work remains unfinished and allege Rice blocked the customer's phone number and stopped communication.

The warrants also accuse Rice of stealing tools. One charge alleges he took a cordless angle grinder and extension cord valued at \$327. Another alleges he stole a cordless drill valued at \$289.

Rice was issued a \$5,000 secured bond in the Carteret County case.

In Pamlico County, Rice is charged with misdemeanor fail to work after paid in connection with a May 30, 2025 incident. Charging documents allege he received \$500 to build a wooden truck and two cutting boards but failed to begin or complete the project without lawful excuse.

Rice received a \$50,000 secured bond in Pamlico County and posted bond Friday, Feb. 27. His next court appearance is scheduled for March 20, 2026.

In addition to the criminal cases, Rice is named in a Pamlico County small claims lawsuit filed Feb. 26 seeking \$300 for an unfinished custom woodworking order. The complaint alleges Rice accepted payment via Venmo for a custom wooden airplane but did not complete the item or issue a refund. A hearing in that case is scheduled for March 24.

Rice operates social media accounts with more than 420,000 followers on TikTok, where he promotes custom woodworking projects.

Paris Eaton, who says she is one of the alleged victims, told News 12 she connected with Rice through TikTok and sent him money for a custom piece that was never delivered.

"I started exposing him through social media to say, 'Hey listen, you guys need to be careful of this guy because he's out here taking people's money to do work, but then not doing the work,'" Eaton said.

Eaton said after she shared her experience online, she was contacted by others who described similar situations.

"I was contacted by 19 individuals, with nearly identical stories, documentation showing payments for custom woodwork for items that were never delivered," she said.

She said for her, the issue is no longer just about the money. "If somebody doesn't do something, this is not going to get better," Eaton said. "It's only going to get worse if he gets away with this repeatedly."



Momentum at PCA

Athletics, Academics, & Campus Growth

From legislation in Raleigh to conference playoffs, PCA students continue moving forward – it's an exciting season at PCA!



Leadership in Action

At the North Carolina Youth & Government Conference, PCA students drafted, defended, and advanced legislation on Raleigh's Legislative floor.



Students concluded the conference at the Governor's Gala, celebrating leadership and connection.

Milestones in Motion

Senior Max Cruz made school history this season, becoming the first Mariner to reach 1,000 career points. His achievement reflects not only scoring consistency, but years of discipline, leadership, and commitment to the program. As Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball competed in the MACAA Conference, moments like this remind us that sustained excellence is built over time – through practice, perseverance, and teamwork.



Community in Action



Tickets are now on sale for our Community Daddy Daughter Dance on March 28 at The Delamar Center. This cherished PCA tradition brings families together for an elegant evening of celebration. Tickets may be purchased at pamlicochristianacademy.org.

We were also honored to welcome WCTI News 12 meteorologist Les Still as the first guest speaker at our new campus. He shared how weather systems form, how meteorologists track developing patterns, and what makes Eastern North Carolina's climate unique.

Moments like these strengthen our community and bring learning to life.

Inquire today for the 2026-2027 school year. Availability in most grades. Families may also explore the North Carolina Opportunity Scholarship to help offset tuition costs; everyone is eligible. Learn more on our website.



Learning that Leads

Our PCA Envirothon Team continues a tradition of competitive excellence. After earning regional titles in 2024 & 2025 and advancing to state, they return to Cool Springs this month with their sights on a win. Both Upper and Lower School students will also showcase original research and experiments at this year's Science Fairs, reinforcing PCA's commitment to academic excellence.

Phase Two – Advancing the Vision

Fundraising continues for Phase Two – the Upper School expansion that will shape the future of grades 6–12 at PCA.

As we prepare to host fall soccer games, we are seeking support for field seating, benches, bleachers, and equipment. Naming opportunities remain available for classrooms, campus spaces, and athletic enhancements.



Special Thanks

We extend our sincere thanks to Zelda Daniels and Irma Armstrong for leading the effort to purchase two campus benches in honor of Noah Sadler – a meaningful tribute that reflects the heart of our PCA family.

"Dreams are lovely. But they are just dreams. Fleeting, ephemeral, pretty. But dreams do not come true just because you dream them. It's hard work that makes things happen. It's hard work that creates change." —unknown

HARDISON TIRE COMPANY

THE NEW MICHELIN DEFENDER 2 TIRE

DESIGNED TO OUTLAST

Alliance, NC 28509
745-4561
745-4161

www.hardisontire.com
24 Hour Towing & Wrecker Service – 252-745-3777

Copyright © 2022 Michelin North America, Inc. All rights reserved.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Tideland EMC

Real People, Real Power.

We believe in the power of education.

WE MEAN BUSINESS.

Talk to us about strategic local advertising solutions for your small business!

The Pamlico News
252.249.1555 • www.thepamliconews.com

DELAMAR & DELAMAR, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Sara L. Delamar

408 Main Street • Bayboro, NC
252-745-3222 • M-F 8:30am to 5:00pm

Proud to serve Pamlico County!

PAMLLICO
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
www.pamlicocc.edu



Rotary Club of Oriental Happenings

By Jim Kellenberger & Beth Obenshain

For this edition of "Happenings" we will keep Captain Bill's journey to a Rotary Club for Oriental on hold another week or so while our "foreign correspondent," Jim Kellenberger, fills us in on his visit to the Rotary Club of Romsey Test in England on Wednesday evening February 18th.

Romsey is located about an hour and half southwest of Heathrow Airport, and is built along the Test River in the Test Valley. The town of about 20,000 people is located a few miles from the village of Hursley, site of the development of the Spitfire fighter and its Merlin engine. It is also the location of the largest IBM installation in Great Britain. I was introduced to the Club by my good friend and host Jon Tilt, an IBM retiree. This energetic Rotary Club currently raises about \$270,000 dollars each year for local, national, and international causes including "End Polio Now" and "Shelter Box." Their meetings are held in the British Legion Building in Romsey and involves the display of the Union Jack and the American Flag. The Club produces a booklet for potential members and volunteers that showcases their annual fundraisers and other events. They also have a unique way of ensuring present members sit with new members and guests. (See picture).



Back in the USA, our Club had a program featuring Teri Hart, founder of the Amazing Brain Race in New Bern. Our Rotary Club will enter the Women's Club Chowder Cook off on March 21st with Mark Clardy leading the cooking team.

Remember, it is not too late to buy an ad, become a vendor, or Sponsor for the Rotary Club annual In-Water Boat Show which runs from Friday April 10th at Noon to Sunday April 12th at 3 PM. Contact Sally Belangia at 252-671-9288 to participate.

Join this merry band of members and volunteers by contacting our Membership Chair, Jim Kellenberger at 919-621-0362 or jimkellenberger05@gmail.com and he will get you involved.

Until next time... Service Above Self



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

 Or the Pamlico Animal Welfare Society Facebook Page



—| YOUR RETIREMENT |—
well-lived.

Welcome to Brice Pointe, New Bern's first Life Plan Community. Nestled on 70 picturesque acres along Carolina Lake, every detail is designed to support the life you've imagined.

JOIN US FOR ONE OR BOTH EVENTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 10
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
ThriveMore Leadership Panel

TUESDAY, MARCH 24
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Life Plan 101

Carolina Colours Pavilion
3300 Waterscape Way | New Bern, NC 28562

RSVP by calling 252-659-4550 or emailing HQuinones@ThriveMoreInc.org
Space is limited.




 **BRICE POINTE**
A THRIVEMORE COMMUNITY

503 WEST THURMAN ROAD
NEW BERN, NC 28562

  
BRICEPOINTE.ORG