

Your guide to the fun • Nov. 2, 2024



A publication of
The News Reporter



Madison Ward

We welcome you!

We would like to welcome everyone to the 2024 N.C. Pecan Music Festival, and we are so excited to be co-chairing the festival this year! The 2024 festival is hosted by the Whiteville Downtown Development Commission.

You will see lots of changes for this year, and we hope you enjoy them all! Our team has worked very hard to give you all a fun-filled family day in downtown Whiteville.

The festival is from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Nov. 2. You will see many arts and craft vendors from Main Street to Pecan Street and going down Madison Street. A variety of food vendors will be located in the Vineland Storage parking lot all day as well for your enjoyment.

We've scheduled music all day by three phenomenal bands, so bring your lawn chair and come enjoy some great music! Performing from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. will be Julio and The Saltines, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. will be the Thomas Road Band and from 4-6 p.m. will be the SouthSide Saints band. You do not want to miss these awesome bands in downtown Whiteville. The stage will be located in the center of downtown behind the N.C. Pecan Music Festival sign. This year Whiteville Downtown Development will also be serving beverages in a beer garden located in The Alley in downtown.

We have a large fun-filled kids' block this year, with bounce houses, face painting, a petting zoo and more! Last but certainly not least, we will have the fourth annual open car and truck show hosted by the Classic Cruisers. This will be an awesome day, and we cannot wait to share it with all of you!

Madison Ward and Emily Cross, co-chairs
N.C. Pecan Music Festival



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Emily Cross

Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A.

Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. provides a full range of accounting, audit, tax and consulting services designed to grow your business. If your company is looking to improve business operations, contact one of our CPA professionals to find out what we can do for you.

Alan W. Thompson, CPA Gregory Adams, CPA R. Bryon Scott, CPA

P.O. Box 398, 1626 S. Madison St., Suite 100, Whiteville, NC
phone (910) 642-6182 • fax (910) 642-0447

301 West King St., Elizabethtown, NC • 4024 Oleander Dr., Wilmington, NC
1543 S Lee Hwy., Cleveland, TN 37311 • 1123 N. Howe St., Southport, NC



The CPA. Never
Underestimate The Value.SM

Member: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants





Festival schedule

All events of the 2024 N.C. Pecan Music Festival will take place Saturday, Nov. 2, in downtown Whiteville.

- 8 a.m.–noon Car show accepting entries
- 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Vendors' booths and food trucks open
- 10 a.m.–4 p.m. N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville open with special pecan-themed activities added for the day
- 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Kids' block open
- 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Beer garden open
- 1 p.m. Car show judging begins
- 4 p.m. Car show winners announced
- 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Julio and the Saltines play
- 1:30–3:30 p.m. Thomas Road Band plays
- 4–6 p.m. SouthSide Saints play
- 6 p.m. Festival closes



1 Blue Cross NC Brand Tracking as of July 2022.
U45417m, 8/24

Don't lose sleep
over health insurance
any longer.

There's a reason we're North Carolina's
most trusted health insurer.¹

Let's chat about your plan options today.

Columbus County Farm Bureau
Shaw Agency
910-654-1100
www.ncfbins.com



Julio and The Saltines

Performing 11 a.m.–1 p.m.



Julio and the Saltines play a wide variety of rock covers and other dance-worthy tunes.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JULIO AND THE SALTINES

This five-piece rock band stays busy performing at venues, private parties and open-air festivals along the Grand Strand and beyond. Based in Myrtle Beach, Julio and The Saltines will be coming to Whiteville fresh from performances at Coastal Carolina University's Homecoming and the Gator Festival in Olanta, S.C.

The band plays a variety of danceable rock favorites and has given thousands of performances in the past decade, their website states.

Videos of Julio and The Saltines in performance are available at julio-and-the-saltines.com.



VINELAND STATION
A PREMIERE EVENT VENUE

Whether an intimate private gathering or large-scale affair, historic Vineland Station is Columbus County's most exceptional wedding location.

Downtown Whiteville
www.whitevillenc.gov/historic-vineland-station-depot
910.840.2928



**DON'T BUY CROP
INSURANCE UNTIL
YOU CALL
910-642-8493**



**D.D. Cox
Agency, Inc.**

All Risk Crop Insurance Sales and Service Since 1957

**"We are proud to serve the
American farmer!"**

Phil Gore, Sales Manager
Cheryl McRae, Representative
Charlie Gore, Representative
Pam Stanley, Office Representative

16 White's Crossing Plaza, Whiteville

An Equal Opportunity Provider

Thomas Road Band

Performing 1:30–3:30 p.m.



The Thomas Road Band is well known to country music fans in Columbus County.

This country band will be familiar to those who have heard them play at Taste of Tabor in recent years.

“Established in 2019, Thomas Road is the leading country music act in the Carolinas,” its website states. “Based out of Myrtle Beach, S.C. and led by singer Seth Thomas, the group is about bringing a high-octane country music sound.

With influences ranging from Bluegrass all the way to rock ‘n’ roll, their strong harmonies and Carolina Country Music Association nominated rhythm section will deliver an entertaining show.”

Clips of the band in performance are available at thomasroad-music.com.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THOMAS ROAD BAND

 **State Farm[®]**

**Your local agent
for home & auto**



Mary Jo Williamson
Agent

1011 North J K Powell Blvd
Whiteville, NC 28472-2120

Bus: 910-642-3753
www.marywilliamson.net
mary@marywilliamson.net

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL

State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX

State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL

SouthSide Saints Band

Performing 4–6 p.m.



This three-piece group includes Steve Senes on guitars and vocals, Devin Dove on drums and vocals and Robbie Hegler on bass guitar and vocals.

Background information on the band's website says that, "Fantastic stuff happened" when the musicians "spent 10 months quarantining and preparing themselves to bring you the VERY BEST of musical entertainment. With collectively over 90 years of professionally playing and perfecting their craft, this dynamic trio guarantees to blow you away. This musical journey promises to take you back in time when music was good and life was great."

You've never experienced anything quite like what this group of musicians intend to bring to you. Join us for a musical experience like you've never had before.

They have entertained at venues along the Grand Strand and also at downtown Whiteville's concert series

An extensive songlist, photos and more are available at southsidesaints-band.com.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
THE SOUTHSIDE SAINTS BAND



STAFF PHOTO BY
DIANA MATTHEWS



The SouthSide Saints perform at Vineland Station during this year's Music on Madison concert series.

*Trusted personal service
for you and your family*



Ben Sauls and his staff invite you to come see them at
Village Prescription Center
for all your prescription and over-the-counter needs.

We accept all major insurance cards, and offer competitive prices.

VILLAGE PRESCRIPTION CENTER

108 E. Old Highway 74/76 • Lake Waccamaw • 910.646.3435
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm • Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Auto • Home • Boat • ATV's
Motorcycle • Trucking • Commercial
Bonds • Renters Insurance

Freedom Insurance Agency, Inc.

tonyasfreedom@gmail.com www.freedominsurance4u.com

43 South Whiteville Village
Whiteville, NC 28472 (Across from Lowe's)
910-640-2828

Monday - Friday 8:30 to 5:30 / Saturday 9:00 to 12:00

Call today for a Quote!

Inland Marine • Mobile Homes • Restaurants
Churches • Car Lots • Life Insurance
General Liability • Workers Comp

"Se Habla Español"

Homemade salted pecans

1 pound raw pecan halves
4 tablespoons butter
1-2 teaspoons salt
Optional: hot pepper sauce to taste

Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. Melt butter and pour over pecans in a bowl. Add salt and mix thoroughly.

Spread in a single layer on baking sheet. Cook for 10 minutes. Stir and turn pecans. Bake a few more minutes, watching closely and turning as needed. Remove from oven when fragrance and color get slightly toasty. Do not overbake.

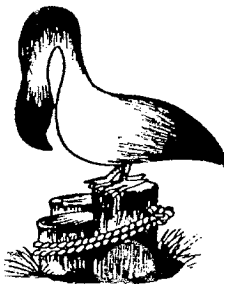
The Original
DALE'S
SEAFOOD

of Whiteville

★★★★ 4 Star Restaurant

Oyster Season Now Open!

107 S. Powell Blvd. (701 Bypass) Whiteville • 910-642-5770



CERRO GORDO



Est. 2009

CERRO GORDO, NC

910-654-5256

910-641-1828

24 Hour Towing



Enjoy Our Delicious Pizza & More
After Your Visit To
The N.C. Pecan
Music Festival

PIZZA VILLAGE

701 Business, Whiteville • 910-642-5812

**Your Home.
Your Car.
Your Life.
Your Health.**

**Helping you is what
we do best.**

Across North Carolina, the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies provide Auto protection with prompt, professional attention and fast, fair claims service. So for Auto coverage, as well as Home and Life Insurance, call today for a free, no-obligation review.



We've got you covered!



Phil Addison
Agency Manager
910-642-8206



Teddy Tedder
Agent
910-642-8206



Wesley Varnadore
Agent
910-642-8206



Ben Worthington
Agent
910-642-8206



Meredith Hammond
Agent
910-642-8206

113 West Smith St., Whiteville / Addison Agency 910-642-8206



4th Annual Open Car & Truck Show

HOSTED BY: The Classic Cruisers
November 2, 2024
Whiteville, North Carolina



TOP 45 - Pre-1994
Top 30 - 1994 & Newer
DASH PLAQUES TO 1ST 100 ENTRIES

Pre-1994 BEST OF SHOW BEST ORIGINAL BEST GM BEST FORD BEST MOPAR BEST OTHER	1994 & Newer BEST OF SHOW BEST ORIGINAL BEST GM BEST FORD BEST MOPAR BEST OTHER	PEOPLE'S CHOICE BEST HOST VEHICLE FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: Danny LeSane 910-876-3582 or Mary Dowless 910-640-5190
--	--	--

50/50 DRAWING
REGISTRATION:
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
ENTRY FEE \$25.00
JUDGING AT 1:00 p.m.
TROPHIES AT 4:00 p.m.



Whiteville, NC

4th Annual Open Car & Truck Show Sponsored by Vann Underwood Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Access Car Show Registration on Walter Street via Lee Street
NC PECAN MUSIC FESTIVAL, WDDC, CITY OF WHITEVILLE, OR THE CLASSIC CRUISERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST, STOLEN OR DAMAGED PROPERTY DURING THE SHOW



FILE PHOTOS

Owners pop their hoods to show that these cars are beautiful inside, too.






BRUNSWICK ELECTRIC
MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

Proud to support


N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival

November 2 • Whiteville, NC


bemc.org • 800.842.5871 




LIBERTY COMMONS
NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER
of Columbus County
Caring with Excellence




LIBERTY
Home Care & Hospice




LIBERTY
MEDICARE
ADVANTAGE
Planning your advantage




SHORELAND
HEALTH CARE & RETIREMENT CENTER
Caring with Excellence




McNeill's
Pharmacy
Dispensing Quality Medication Since 1875



LIBERTY
MEDICAL SPECIALTIES





LIBERTY
HEALTH
Caring for others since 1875.

Liberty-Healthcare.com | (800) 999-9883



2025 RAM 1500



Vann Underwood

IMPORTED FROM DETROIT™

Jeep **DODGE** 

501 S. Madison St. Whiteville, NC
910-642-2000







Vann Underwood has been serving the citizens of this community since 1976.

vannunderwood.com vannunderwood.com vannunderwood.com vannunderwood.com vannunderwood.com vannunderwood.com



Zeko's International Food Truck



Old South Pretzel Company

Festival food!

Downtown Whiteville restaurants will welcome festival-goers on Saturday, so there's no need to go hungry or thirsty while enjoying the music. In addition, more than a dozen vendors have reserved spots in the N.C. Pecan Music Festival's outdoor food area.

You'll find the following local favorites and out-of-town specialties to try in the 100 block of E. Main Street, north of the railroad tracks and Vineland Station:

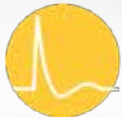
- Carolina Oak House
- Rustic Farmhouse
- D & J Concessions fried pecan pie
- Southern Squeeze and Freeze
- Sweet Stacks gourmet funnel cakes
- Reyes Grillin' and Wheelin' rice bowls with chicken and more

- Old South Pretzel Company
- Dixie Land Kettle Corn
- Blondies Doughnuts
- T's Grill
- Caribbean Grill and More
- Zeko's International Food Truck
- Pop n Tyme popcorn



Southern Squeeze and Freeze


SMITH
CHIROPRACTIC



SoftWave
Tissue Regeneration Technologies



NON-SURGICAL
JOINT TREATMENT



FREE CONSULTATION

100 E. Main Street | Whiteville, NC 28472

910.642.2481

smithchironc.com

PLATINUM

Entertainment & Party Rentals

TENTS • TABLES • CHAIRS • LINENS • STAGING • DANCE FLOORS
• OUTDOOR MOVIES • PIPE & DRAPE

(910) 914-0400



Whiteville, North Carolina

platinumentertainmentandpartyrentals.com





Free fresh-air fun for families

Not far from the music stage on Saturday, festival organizers will bring in a blockful of active games for children between Main and Walter streets. Look for:

- Three inflatables, including a double inflatable basketball shoot
- Kiddie ball pit
- Giant Jenga
- Giant tic-tac-toe
- Corn hole
- Connect four
- Face painting

Columbus County Smart Start will be on hand offering:

- Information and resource table with free books
- Read-A-Roo
- Dunking booth (to be filled with stuffed animals)
- Hula hoops

Whiteville Fire Department will have a truck for young visitors to touch and will give out fire hats at the Walter Street end of Kids' Block.

Around the corner, on the east side of the depot, will be a petting zoo. (Petting is free, feed is \$2 per cup).



SPD&A

S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP



ELIZABETHTOWN

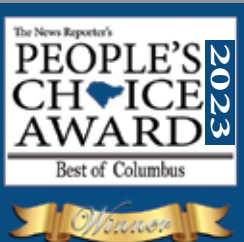
1103 W. Broad Street
910-862-3768
Phil W. Byrd, CPA

LUMBERTON

907 N. Walnut Street
910-739-7523
John L. Grissom, Jr., CPA



Matthew S. McLean, CPA



WHITEVILLE

122 Memory Plaza
910-642-6692
Matthew S. McLean, CPA

Member:
American Institute of CPA's
NC Association of CPA's

www.spdouglas.com

Certified Public Accountants Serving Southeastern North Carolina Since 1941

King was 'a positive force' for festival and community

The N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival Committee issued a heartfelt tribute to Suzanne McKeel King, one of the festival's founding members, after she died in March. The following comments are edited highlights from that message.

"Suzanne dedicated her time, energy, resources and unwavering commitment to her family, friends, acquaintances, businesses, organizations, Whiteville and Columbus County. The festival owes much of its success to Suzanne's involvement.

"Even after she asked to take a back seat in the planning process three years ago, she continued to work in the background to ensure that events were executed with traditional pride and beauty.

"Suzanne was instrumental in shifting some of the festival's focus as times changed, and her contributions helped the festival bid farewell to the Queen, Luncheon, Pecan Belles and Home Tour in 2022. Even in 2023, when Charlie Duncan became ill, Suzanne helped execute the parade flawlessly with Charlie's notes, a few phone calls and a bullhorn, plus the help of her husband Billy and Allen Buffkin.

"After the parade, Suzanne and Billy sold T-shirts at the festival, putting Suzanne right where she wanted to be, close to the

stage and in the middle of the thousands of people enjoying the festival, which she had helped make a success year after year.

"The committee never imagined that the 2023 N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival would be the last festival we would have the privilege to share with Suzanne. But we would not have changed the festival's execution had we known. We again experienced Suzanne as a positive force and cheerleader of Whiteville and Columbus County.

"After the conclusion of the 2023 festival, the committee discussed implementing further changes to allow the festival to continue to improve and grow. Suzanne often told us that everything happens in cycles, and we must grow and change to remain relevant and highlight the beautiful town she was known to represent as Mrs. Whiteville.

"We hope you will join us in honoring Suzanne's memory and her love of community by volunteering to make Whiteville and Columbus County a better place. If we can capture a small part of her energy, positivity and amazing ability to make whoever she bumped into feel like the most important person in the world, we will leave the world better than we found it—just as she did."



FILE PHOTO

After many years behind the scenes at the N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival, Suzanne King was honored as parade marshal in 2021.



Let us help you grow!

SEEDS • FARM CHEMICALS • FERTILIZERS

HARVEY'S SOUTHEAST

HWY. 701 NORTH

WHITEVILLE

910-642-5872

In a nutshell, science is fun: Museum offers pecan-themed activities

The N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville welcomes all ages to visit between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2, and learn more about pecans, plus much more. Museum admission is free.

Chelsea Flowers, the museum's manager of education, said special activities for the festival day include:

- Shell we shelter? Explore what makes different shells from ocean, swamp, and land. What makes them special?
- A dinosaur or a pecan? You heard that right! Use your observation skills to sort them out!
- Race your family and friends around the "Nut Gathering Track"



Permanent installations at the museum include fossils and wildlife-focused displays, a play and story area, hands-on exploration tables with scientific equipment and more.

The museum is located at 415 S. Madison St. On the museum grounds are a shady nature trail with wildlife learning stations and a picnic area.



FILE PHOTO

Children from area schools learn about harvesting pecans during an educational program held by pecan growers on the grounds of the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville.



We're nuts

about Columbus County!

Trusted, Comprehensive, Local News



Text alerts:
NRcolumbus.com/texts

Email newsletter:
NRcolumbus.com/emails





facebook.com/NRcolumbus
x.com/NRnews_NC
Instagram @thenewsreporter



24/7
LOCAL
NEWS

The News Reporter





Your Prescription
Your Responsibility



BE AWARE. DON'T SHARE.
LOCK YOUR *meds*

lockyourmeds.org/nc



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities
and Substance Abuse Services

Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Opioid STR/Cures (Grant #1H79T1080257) and SPF-RX (Grant #1U79SP022087).

Pink October

Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Early detection **saves lives.**

**Schedule your 3D
Mammogram today.**

Columbus  **Regional**
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
Patient First. Technology Forward.



500 Jefferson St, Whiteville, NC 28472 | crhealthcare.org | 910-641-8250