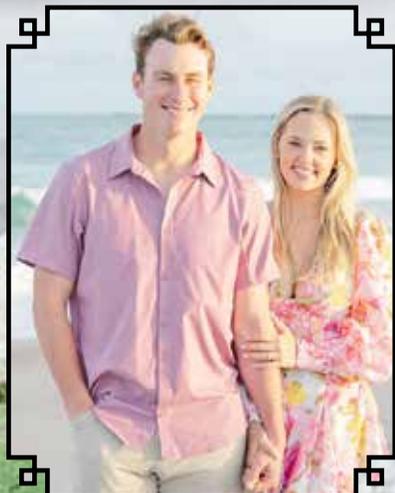


2024

Bridal

COUPLES EDITION



Cole Benton and
Bella Britt



Cody Benton and
Leah Redwine



Jake Harwood and
Emily Faulk



Evan Priest and
Savannah Turbeville

Diamond meeting leads to proposal

By **AMELIA SASSER**
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 @nrcolumbus.com

Jake Harwood and Emily Faulk will officially become husband and wife on Nov. 9 at Union Valley Farm and Vineyard. The reception will be held at the venue immediately following the ceremony.

Jake and Emily both have large families, whom they love spending time with, so it is natural that they have a large wedding party. On their special day, Emily will have her sister Alyssa Storms standing with her as matron of honor. She has chosen Braylee Storms, Jenna Arrington, Emma Arrington, Kaitlyn Arrington, Megan Bennett, Caitlin Faulk, Sage McLelland, Carmin Ray and Kayla Benton as her bridesmaids and Anna-Catherine Storms as the flower girl.

By Jake's side will be his father Brett Harwood as his best man. They will be accompanied by groomsmen Hunter Harwood, Tucker Elliott, Dawson Elliott, Justin Faulk, Austin Storms, Luke Conner, Cody Rice, Gunner Merritt and Chandler Merritt. John-David Ransom will serve as ring bearer.

Their honeymoon destination hasn't been finalized yet, but they are considering St. Lucia. Emily says it will definitely be somewhere with warm temperatures, tropical breezes and Caribbean blue water.

If you know anything about these families, you will appreciate the fact that their story technically began because of baseball. When Jake was 10 years old, he was playing on a baseball team with Emily's brother, which was also coached by



Emily Haven Faulk
Timothy Jacob Harwood

her dad.

While watching one of the games, Emily's older sister said, "That Jake Harwood sure is cute," and Emily's response was "Who's that?" Once 10-year-old Emily had Jake pointed out to her, she too thought, He is cute."

Fast forward a few years to when Jake was a junior at Whiteville High School and Emily was a junior at West Columbus High School. Jake added Emily on Snapchat, but she didn't add him back at first. She didn't wait too long, but she wanted to make sure that he was "for real." Those snaps turned into a junior prom date. When asked which prom they attended, Emily said they went to her prom at West Columbus but took pictures on the Whiteville baseball field beforehand.

As a couple, Jake and Emily love to eat at their favorite restaurant, Miyabi's, and spend lots of time with family. At family get-togethers, they have enough people attending to pick teams and play wiffle ball or baseball, depending on who brought what bats and balls. Jake likes to hunt, run his dogs, and play golf when he has time. Emily, not so much. She said that she will sit in the deer stand with Jake every once in a while but doesn't like to run the dogs. The one time she went, the dogs got lost, which turned into a late night looking for them. Another hunting story involved having to find the deer and drag it out in the dark with only the phone light, and Emily slipping and falling in the mud and being covered head to toe. Jake added that, "It was good eatin' though" and Emily agreed.

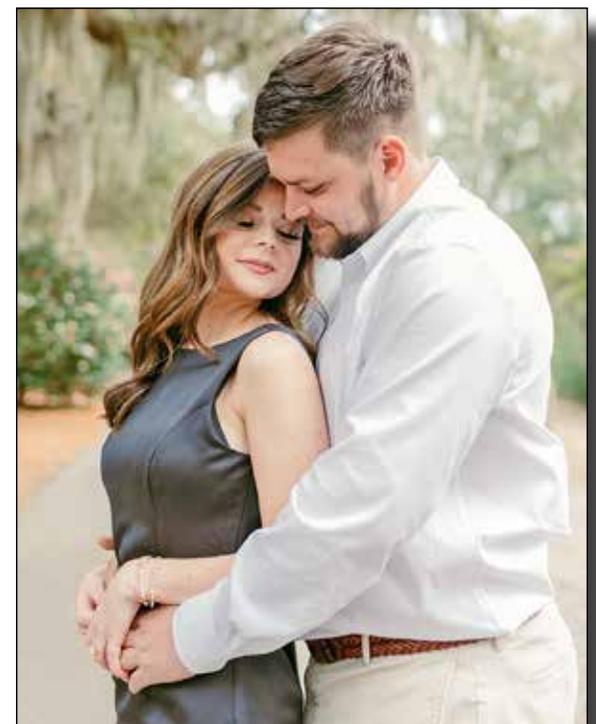
Emily shared that she had rather be enjoying her favorite pastime of shopping over hunting any day! When they were dating in high school, they spent a lot of time hanging out at Jake's grandparents' pool, and that is where their first wedding shower will be.

Jake and Emily had been together for five years when he proposed after church on Sunday, Oct. 22, 2023. Emily was not expecting a proposal. It was an impromptu thing because, Jake said, the ring was "burning a hole" in his pocket. Jake had just had surgery on his foot, but he still managed to get down on one knee in the home they will make theirs after marriage.

Jake graduated from Whiteville High School, and Emily graduated from West Columbus High School in 2020. She attended SCC Nursing School and is an RN in the Family Birthing Center at Columbus Regional Healthcare. Jake works with his family's landscaping business.

Emily's parents are Jerry and Leslie Faulk of Cerro Gordo, and Jake's parents are Brett and Karen Harwood of Whiteville.

The couple will be living in the Union Valley community after they get married.



A lifetime of adventures continues...

By **MCKENZIE PRICE**
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 @nrcolumbus.com

Evan Priest and Savannah Turbeville have known each other as friends for their entire lives. However, after hanging out together with mutual friends back in the summer of 2019, their lives changed forever. They spent an entire week together, and that's when both knew they wanted to make more memories together. Some of the adventures they've shared since then include snorkeling in the Florida Keys, seeing Tyler Childers and Zach Bryan perform live in Austin, Texas, spending late nights on Broadway in Nashville and watching countless college football games (Go Pirates!).

Evan and Savannah often wear matching outfits accidentally because they are just so in tune with each other. Other things they enjoy doing together include traveling, going to concerts, playing with their dogs and being near the water.



Savannah Nicole Turbeville
Evan William Priest

as flower girl and Campbell Jacobs as ring bearer.

They plan to honeymoon in Antigua and reside in Whiteville upon their return.



On the evening of Dec. 9, Evan proposed to Savannah. It was a private affair, with just the two of them sharing the moment. After arriving at Evan's home from dinner, Savannah remembers waiting in the living room listening to Evan rummage around in the closet for something. Little did she know he would return with a ring! She was completely shocked. Afterwards they made phone calls and family visits to surprise everyone.

Evan is a 2014 graduate of Whiteville High School, and a 2019 graduate of East Carolina University with a degree in construction management. He is currently employed with L.M. McLamb & Son Construction Company. Savannah is a 2017 graduate of Whiteville High School and has an associate degree in nursing from Cape Fear Community College, where she graduated in 2021, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Capella University. She is currently an RN working in the operating rooms of the Columbus Regional Healthcare System.

The couple will be married at the White Oaks Venue in Longs, South Carolina. Some of the vendors present will be Middle of the Island Catering, Emily Blackman Photography and wedding planner Best Events by Kristy Best.

Savannah is the daughter of David and Renée Turbeville. Her bridesmaids will be Alex King, Caroline King, Hannah King, Peyton Gerald and Lacie Jacobs. Evan is the son of Fred and Terrie Priest, and his father will serve as his best man. His groomsmen will be Blake Jacobs, Trevor Sellers and Cameron Floyd. Mackenzie Jacobs will serve



Riverside proposal 'all worked out' in spite of jitters

By **DIANA MATTHEWS**
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When Cody Austin Benton proposed to Leah Grace Redwine, she thought he was just taking her out for a meal at a favorite favorite restaurant to celebrate finishing her last exam of nursing school.

"After he got out of baseball practice and got ready," Leah said, "he came and picked me up from my apartment in Wilmington."

However, Cody had more in mind than dinner. Not only did he have a ring in his pocket but he'd arranged for their families to be waiting for them at the restaurant. As it happened, he had so much on his mind that he missed a turn on the way to dinner.

The restaurant, located alongside the Cape Fear River, was a place "where we had been so many times," Leah said; however, the slight change of route didn't worry her. It just made her curious.

"It made me wonder where the road came out to on the boardwalk in downtown Wilmington," Leah said. Not knowing anything about Cody's plans, she asked him to stroll with her past the restaurant to the end of the walkway so she could see the intersection.



**Leah Grace Redwine
 Cody Austin Benton**

"As soon as we got to the spot" they'd been seeking, Leah said, "Cody got down on one knee and asked me to be his wife!"

"I was so surprised and excited," the bride-to-be said. "It was one of the best days of our lives because our family came out cheering and greeting us."

The family-centered proposal was a fitting highlight to a courtship that grew out of longtime family connections and friendships. "We knew each other all through elementary school," Leah said. "Our families knew each other as we only lived about five minutes apart."

In middle school, the two hung out with the same friends and eventually "caught each other's eye," she said. After a high school baseball game, Leah and Cody began talking more and went out on their first date on April 28, 2016.

"Baseball has been a major part" of the time the two have shared, said Leah. "I enjoy watching it, and he loved playing it in high school and then five years of college." They enjoy exercising and cooking together, too, she said. "We both love to cook."

Both families spent "a lot of time" at Lake Waccamaw while Cody and Leah were growing up. It's also been a favorite place for them to go during their dating years. They plan to live there after their Oct. 19 wedding.

Both graduated from UNC Wilmington. Leah earned a BS in nursing and works as a labor and delivery nurse at Novant New Hanover Regional Medical Center. Cody graduated with a bachelor's degree in business management, followed by a master's degree in business analytics.

Cody is the son of Rick and Angie Benton of Cerro Gordo. Leah is the daughter of Earl and Brookie Redwine of Fair Bluff.

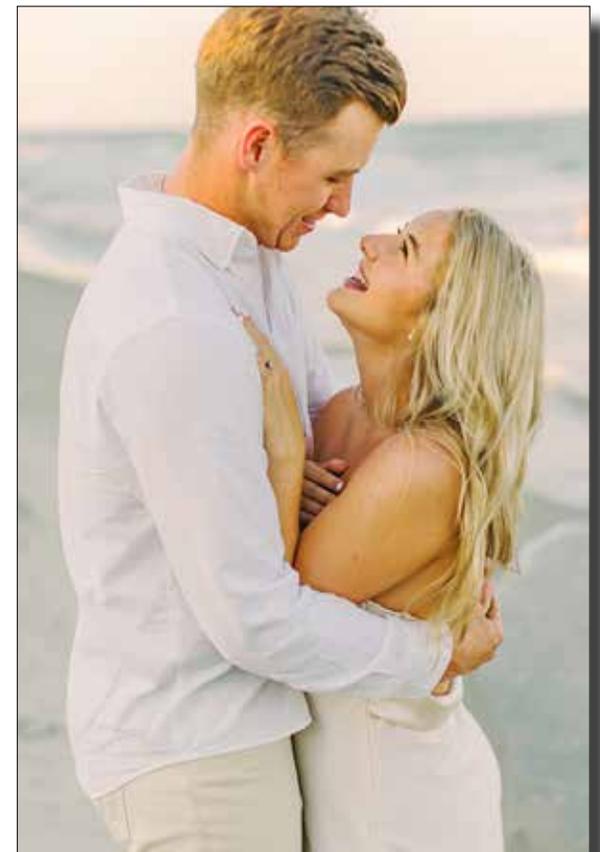
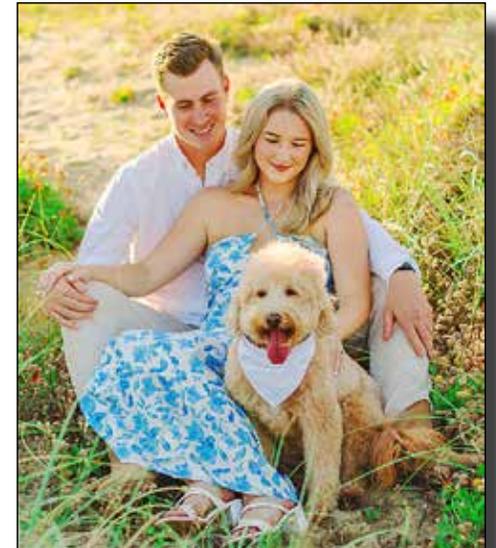
When they exchange vows, they'll be surrounded by a large number of supporters. Bridesmaids will be Elizabeth Andrews, Erin Griffin, Tori Anderson, Bella Britt, Lacey Suggs and Haley David. Maids of honor will be Jenna Redwine and Chloe Borden.

Groomsmen will be Trey Benton, Cole Benton, Chase Ben-

ton, Adam Redwine, Josh Redwine, Jagger Haynes, Ethan Hinson, Josh Whitesell, Seth Frankoff and Case Stroup. Best man will be Rick Benton.

The flower girl will be Charlotte Dippel, and the ring bearer will be Alden Redwine.

Leah and Cody's wedding will be at The Farm at Union Valley. To provide services on that day, they have chosen Best Events by Kristy, The Cook and Company Catering, Stephanie Gore Photography, Play That One DJ and True Faith Media Productions. The couple will honeymoon in Montego Bay, Jamaica.



'Best friends' look forward to 'a future together'

By **DIANA MATTHEWS**
dianamatthews@nrcolumbus.com

On Nov. 16, Cole Andrew Benton and Isabella Nicole Britt will be married at Cerro Gordo Baptist Church.

When Cole proposed to Isabella three months ago, "We had lots of family there with us," he said. It was April 10, and they were near the Oceanic pier at the southern end of Wrightsville Beach.

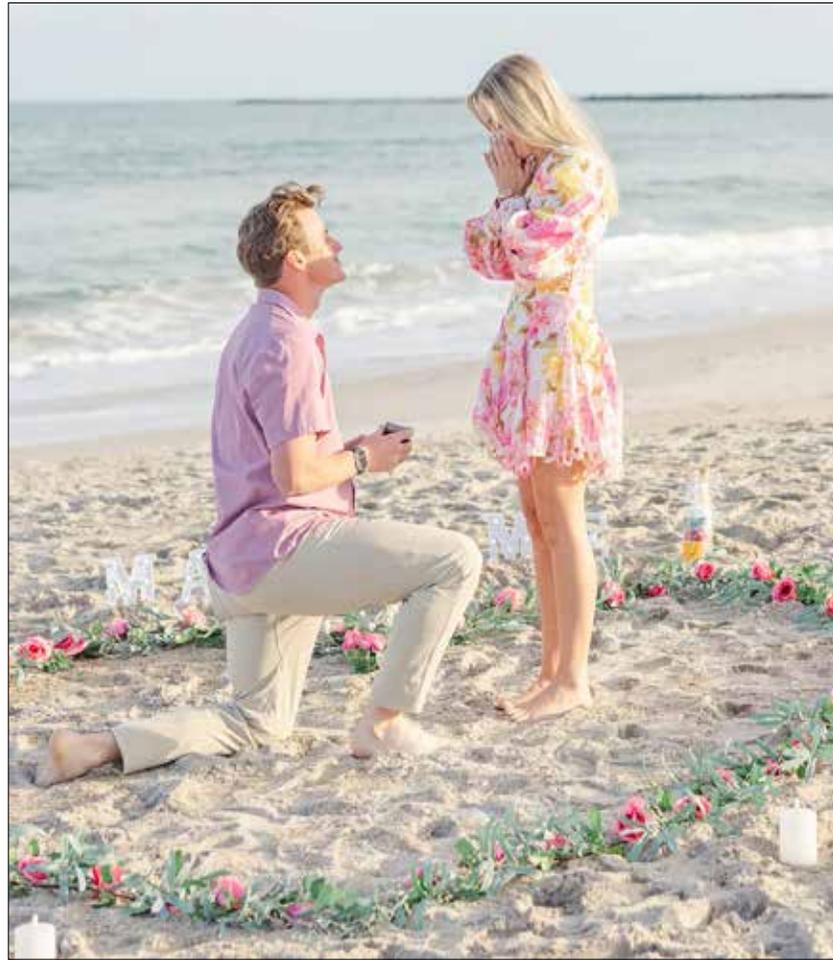
The pair first met through mutual friends when Cole was 17 and Bella was 15. He was a student at West Columbus High School, and she was attending Whiteville High School.

"We built a strong connection," Cole said. "It happened quickly." He said they've been "best friends" since January 2018, and eventually they "saw the possibility of a future together."

When asked to describe his favorite thing about Bella, Cole said it's "how big her heart is. She tries to do everything the best she can."

He respects that she's "extremely hard working" and "doesn't want to be mediocre in anything she does."

For instance, Bella "just started cooking more" and is becoming a good cook. Cole's favorite dish she's made for him is an "unbelievable" chicken parmesan. He likes to prepare her a steak, her favorite food, when he can.



**Isabella Nicole Britt
Cole Andrew Benton**

In their free time, said Cole, "We play a lot of golf together," but, "we cannot ride in the golf cart together."

That's because, "Sometimes we get competitive. Bella thinks I try to tell her what to do with her swing, and she tells me, 'I know what I'm doing.'"

Bella graduated from UNC Wilmington in 2023 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a concentration in marketing professional selling. She currently works as a lead specialist for Floyd Lee Locums and as a fitness instructor at Landfall Country Club.

By April, "She had an idea that I was going to propose," he said, but not when, where or how.

That day they stood inside a heart their mothers had outlined with flowers on the sand, with their families gathered around. Bella was "very happy," Cole said.

Cole is the son of Rick and Angie Benton; Isabella is the daughter of Don and April Britt.

Standing beside the couple when they exchange vows will be a throng of family members and friends. Isabella's maid of honor will be Lexie Gore. Her bridesmaids will be Kayla Butterworth, Madison Horton, McKenzie Storms, Lacey Suggs, Andi Pittman, McKenna DiRe, Laiken Edwards, Morgan Gattis and Leah Redwine.

Cole's best man will be his father. His groomsmen will be Trey Benton, Cody Benton, Chase Benton, Ty Lawson, Jagger Haynes, Ethan Hinson and Seth Frankoff.

Cole said Carol Williamson, Dianne Benton and Denette Jackson will be flower girls, and Rick Benton will be ring bearer.

After the ceremony, guests will attend a reception at Land O'Lakes

Golf Club. It's a place where they've spent many a happy hour playing together — each driving their own cart.

Bringing their expertise to the occasion will be I Do Florals by Amanda and Michelle, Active DJ Mike, Middle of the Island Catering, Coastal Knot Bridal, Ashley Clarke Photo and Caroline Elizabeth Films.

After a honeymoon at Playa del Carmen in Mexico, the couple will reside in Leland.



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Christy Phillips, FNP-C and Amy Ransom, PA-C discuss ways to ensure Emily and Jake begin their marriage with a healthy start and stay that way!

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Debby Duchesneau, FNP-C with Advanced Primary Care in Whiteville, discusses life and health with Savannah and Evan.

For 50+ years, Advanced Primary Care has been taking care of the Columbus County community. Although faces may have changed during this time, their compassion and expertise have not. They continue to add quality providers such as Debby Duchesneau, FNP-C. Debby not only sees primary care patients, but she has over 17 years of endocrinology experience. If you have diabetes, or questions about diabetes, make your appointment with Debby today! If you are having trouble getting to the office, virtual visits are available with all our providers. Advanced Primary Care in Whiteville, Leland, and Advanced Pediatrics & Family Care in Whiteville are ready to care for all your family's needs!

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A secure future...the best wedding gift of all



Angela Slagle of Allstate Insurance with Savannah and Evan.

Marriage is the union of two people planning to spend a lifetime together. Angela Slagle, owner of Angela Slagle Agency/Allstate, offers insurance and investment services to newlyweds building a firm financial foundation.

Financial decisions are never easy, especially when becoming a couple changes insurance needs. Angela Slagle offers personalized service and free quotes to make it easy for newlyweds to navigate insurance options or a new home purchase that is right for them.

Angela Slagle Agency represents respected, nationally-known insurance and investment companies such as Allstate, Lincoln Benefit Life and Prudential Investments. These companies have tremendous financial backing and offer products such as home, auto, life and business insurance, annuities and mutual funds.

For precise coverage, Angela Slagle will visit your home to assess your needs and determine the best plan and best value for you. Her agency has built its reputation on coming to the customer and being available in a time of need. Couples with lots of questions and concerns will have 100% access to an agent now and as their family grows and insurance needs change once again.

All soon-to-be newlyweds have to make a trip to the courthouse for their marriage license. After making it official, stop by Angela Slagle Agency/Allstate conveniently located at 112 East Smith Street, just one block from the Columbus County Courthouse. They can and will provide you with one-on-one service and the tools and expertise you need for a secure future, the best wedding gift of all.



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Your Care, Our Priority



Bella and Cole standing with Amy Sessions, owner of Baldwin Woods, a local independent pharmacy.

Trustworthiness, dependability and reliability are the norm at Baldwin Woods Pharmacy. That's why you'll want to take your prescriptions to Amy and her skilled, caring staff.

Lake Waccamaw native Amy Hobbs Sessions is the new owner. Working with her is Whiteville native Al Nobles. Both have Doctor of Pharmacy degrees.

You won't find any strangers behind the counters at these independent drugstores. All of the pharmacists are hometown people and they'll be there every time you have a prescription filled. They know you, and they care about your well being.

Bigger is not always better; when you shop at independent pharmacies your money stays at home to help fuel the economy, thereby helping local residents and local needs. Independent pharmacies in Columbus and Bladen counties represent more than \$50 million in sales that go into local banks.

Independent pharmacies are the ones that support community activities, donating money to more than 100 churches, clubs and charities in Columbus and Bladen counties.

Consumer Reports magazine reported that patient satisfaction was 87 percent for independent pharmacies as compared to 58 percent for chain pharmacies.

Stop by Baldwin Woods Pharmacy today to meet the friendly, caring and skilled staff. You can rest assured that you'll get the best pharmacy services available from community-minded pharmacists who are your neighbors and have lived here all of their lives.

Baldwin Woods Pharmacy is a member of a 500-store buying group, enabling the store to compete without paying franchise fees.

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PHARMACY**

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Black's Tire — celebrating 95 years of service



Leah and Cody learn about tire safety from Wesley White.

Customer service and safety are first and foremost in the Black's Tire Service business philosophy. That's why the company is still around to celebrate its 95th anniversary in 2024. It is an old established business - founded in 1929 – owned and operated through the ages by people who have lived in Columbus County all of their lives.

Your tires are the most important thing between you and the road; therefore, you'll want to buy your tires from the business people who know tires and care about your safety. That's where the skilled and personable staff at Black's comes in. If you don't know tires, you should get to know the best tire people.

The knowledgeable and caring people who work at Black's have your best interest at heart. They are well-trained and have the know-how and the equipment to put your car in excellent condition for your peace of mind.

A hometown atmosphere is a way of life for the tire experts at Black's Tire Service. But tires aren't their only business. You can talk with the staff about car repairs as well as tires, fully assured that they will have the mechanics check everything for you, and fix it only if it needs fixing.

The next time your car needs tires or service, confer with the experts at Black's. Let them do your regular tire checks and oil changes and take care of your other auto needs. They'll keep your car in good operating order.



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Bella and Cole learn all about tire safety from Chris Brown.

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However, a visit to 95 Bullard Lane in Cerro Gordo offers so much more. You can shop at The Cement Barn, The Flower Shoppe, and pick up your made to order lunch at Bullard's Grill. Before you leave, be sure to get a homemade dessert or some of Mr. Ricky's famous homemade ice cream.

Stop by and see us; we are open 6 days a week. Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm, Saturday 7:30am - 2pm.

You must make a visit for yourself to truly appreciate all this “one stop shop” has to offer. You will not be disappointed!



To last forever... a diamond from Collier's



Todd and Lori Collins show Emily and Jake a variety of wedding bands and engagement rings at Collier's Jewelers.

A couple's consideration of where they will select their diamond engagement and wedding rings requires romantic, yet practical decisions.

The diamond is a symbol of everlasting love; it represents not only love, but a lifetime investment, so the young man making the purchase wants to be sure he is receiving full value for his money. That's why so many young men consult Todd Collins and his competent staff before making a diamond purchase.

Todd offers over 40 years experience with diamonds and diamond setting. What there is to know about diamonds, he can tell you, and he's training his staff to carry on the Collier's Jewelers tradition. Staff members can show you the many variations in diamonds; therefore, Collier's can help you determine the best for your particular need as well as help you design a custom piece, unique to her.

Collier's Jewelers offers an unequaled reputation for quality, dependability and integrity earned during many, many years of satisfying service to the public.

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Collier's Jewelers

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Michelle Higgins, Certified Chiropractic Clinical Assistant, talks with Emily and Jake about a course of treatment.

Columbus Family Chiropractic Center has been in business for over 30 years. Dr. William Prease has been in practice for over 20 years and is a native of Columbus County and 1977 graduate of Whiteville High School.

We would like to say “Congrats to the 2024 bridal couples.” We wish you well, and we are here to help you stay well both short and long-term. Starting out in life together will bring decisions that concern the well being of family and health issues, and chiropractic care should be a part of your healthy living plan.

Chiropractic care; acute, chronic or wellness, helps to improve your total health future. Columbus Family Chiropractic Center is a strong supporter of Columbus County. Stop by and see Dr. Prease and his ever-friendly and helpful staff located at 5754 Chadbourn Hwy. in Chadbourn.

**Columbus Family
Chiropractic**

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Do it right the first time and save money



Leah and Cody learn about top quality mattresses from Dan available at Cox Warehouse Discount Furniture.

Furnishing and home decorating decisions are some of the most fun for newlyweds. They can also be some of the most expensive and longterm decisions a couple will make, too. Plan to do it right the first time and save money at Cox Warehouse Discount Furniture.

Father and son team Kyle and Jonathan Cox carry high-end furniture built to last a lifetime by Lexington, Pulaski, American Drew, Stanley and Craftique. They also carry beautiful rugs, accessories and mattress sets at their conveniently located showroom at 1423 North J.K. Powell Blvd. in Whiteville. Walk around, measure and compare their large selection for just the right piece for your home.

In business for over 30 years, the staff at Cox Discount Furniture has the expertise to create a decorating plan to help couples make smart decorating choices. Whether decorating a room, an apartment or whole house, a decorating plan can save time and prevent costly mistakes. Cox Discount Furniture offers easy credit financing and is dedicated to putting their customers first.

For the couple shopping for beautiful furniture and accessories, give them a wedding gift you know they can enjoy for years to come. Cox Warehouse Discount Furniture has just the right piece and delivery services make it easy to surprise your bridal couple with a special gift perfect for their home. Make your selection, and Jonathan Cox will handle the details.

Cox Warehouse Discount Furniture offers newlyweds great prices, convenience, financing and customer service. Stop by to see their great selection of furniture and accessories and start decorating today.

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Offering the best insurance value to our customers



Jordan McPherson explains the various insurance plans offered by East Coast Agency to Emily and Jake.

What makes one insurance company stand out above the others? It's the service and personal interest that they take in a family's welfare that makes a company such as East Coast Agency, Inc. truly worthy of your business.

As Emily and Jake will soon discover, having an insurance agent they can trust to help them navigate the sometimes confusing world of insurance is one of those things that will give them peace of mind as they start their lives together.

With over 39 years experience in the insurance business and a fully licensed staff, East Coast Agency, Inc. has a full understanding of the normal life changes that come to every family and how to use insurance properly to help their customers face any situation with a minimum of risk.

"We don't believe in a 'one size fits all' approach to providing for a family's insurance needs," notes Jordan McPherson. "Because we have a number of companies to choose from, we're able to match solutions to a person's personal insurance needs."

East Coast Agency, Inc. provides all types of insurance through several major companies that they have found to be both reliable and economical. Their status as an independent agency allows them to offer the best insurance value to their customers.

Whether you're just starting out or feel the need to have someone review your current insurance coverage, you'll find the folks at East Coast Agency easy to talk to and willing to help make sure you have the coverage that's right for you. They're located in Tabor City at 106 S. Main Street, and you can call them at 910-653-5066.



A reputation for honesty and fair dealings



Jeff Prince shows Bella and Cole one of the great vehicles available at Fair Bluff Auto.

A car purchase is usually, after a home purchase, one of the biggest commitments any young couple makes. That's why it's important to know that the dealer you're buying from has a reputation for honesty and fair dealings.

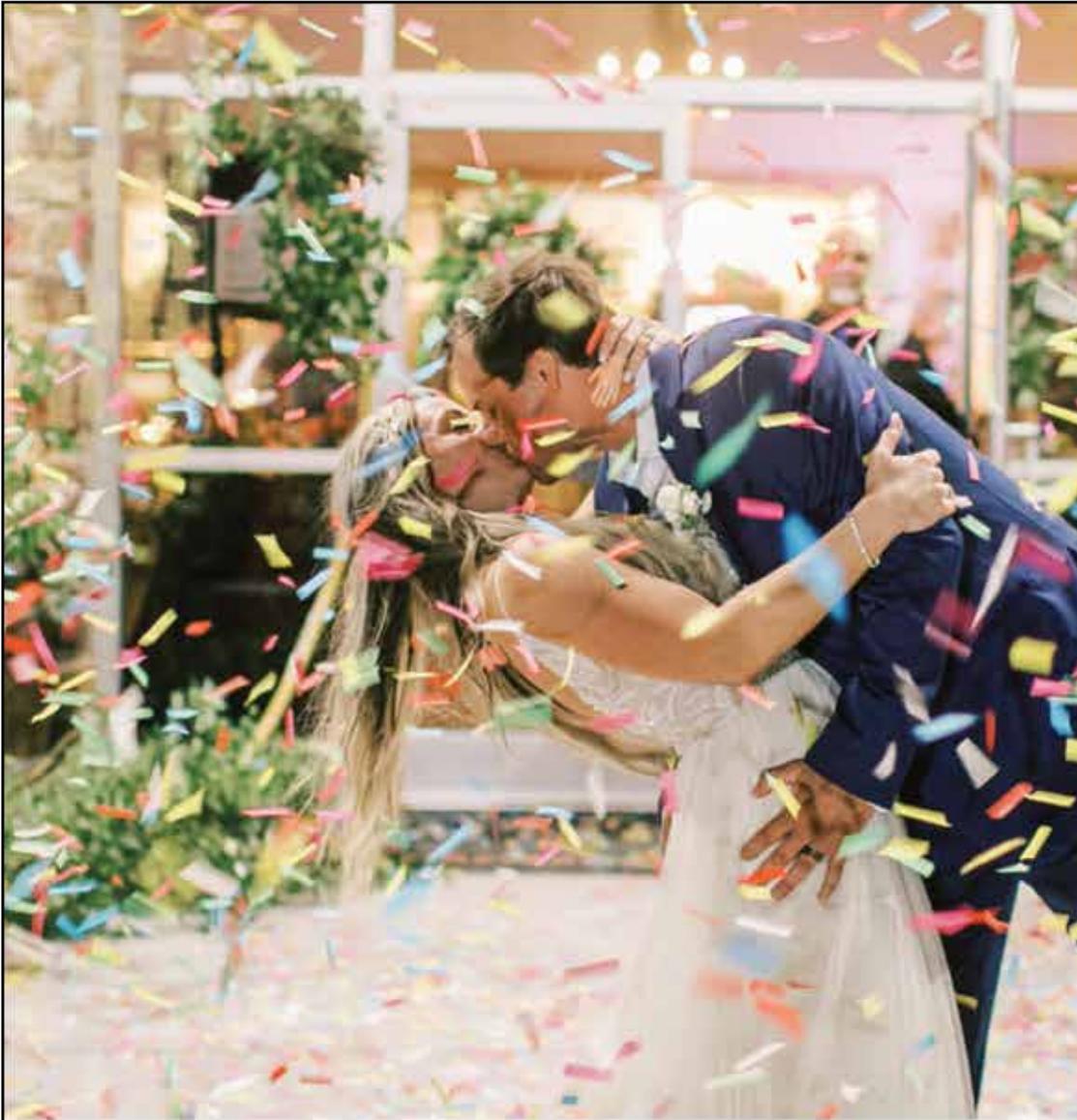
Jeff Prince is proud of Fair Bluff Auto's reputation for serving car buyers for so many years. But he also knows that the world we live in today is different, and that it's important to serve today's customers in a way that meets their needs.

"With our 'First Time Buyers' program, young people can rest assured that they're being treated fairly – that there are no games being played and no tricks" noted dealer Prince. "We want to be known for our ease of doing business and for the comfort of our small town 'no pressure' approach."

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You'll appreciate the way you're treated at Fair Bluff Auto. Give them a visit soon!





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Bella and Cole with Karen Suggs discussing bridal shower and honeymoon attire options.

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The benefits of a newly married couple doing business with us is that we have a ladies' and a men's side; we have something for both! It's like having the best of both worlds right in front of you!

As a special bonus, we offer complimentary gift wrapping to finish off your shopping experience!

We are open Monday-Saturday from 9:00am-5:30pm. We have an active Facebook and Instagram that we update when we get in new arrivals. Go find and like us to see what we are all about!

Instagram: [fishers_apparel](#) Facebook: [Fishers Apparel](#)

fisher's
WOMEN'S & MEN'S APPAREL
127 Broad St., Elizabethtown
910-862-3718

We strive to make the shopping experience easy, fun and a success.



Leah and Cody trying on the newest styles with Mike Suggs.

Fishers Apparel is a men's and ladies' boutique specializing in classic, stylish clothing, shoes and accessories. Our business started in Bladenboro, NC in 1929 (95 years). Mike and Karen Suggs opened the current business at this location in 1989 (35 years).

Besides the longevity of our business, the personal shopping experience is what we value. We have stylists available to help you and to even show you the hottest items. We not only offer name brand clothing such as Johnnie O, Southern Tide, Local Boy, Coastal Cotton and Over Under, we also have an array of accessories for our guys such as Costa, Ray Bans and Smith sunglasses. Our footwear brands include OnCloud, Olukai, Sanuk and Rainbows; so we have different styles so that everyone can find something that suits them!

Prior to grooms getting married we offer tux rentals and suits. We have a wide range of colors and styles that they can choose from. Once they get married, the gentleman can come shop our up to date brands, they can even bring their bride along to enjoy the shopping experience.

We are open Monday-Saturday from 9:00am-5:30pm. We have an active Facebook and Instagram that we update when we get in new arrivals. Go find and like us to see what we are all about!

Instagram: [fishers_apparel](#) Facebook: [Fishers Apparel](#)

fisher's
WOMEN'S & MEN'S APPAREL
127 Broad St., Elizabethtown
910-862-3718

Celebrate your once-in-a-life-time Love



Marcus Fowler, owner, with Leah and Cody discussing her recently purchased diamond ring.

With the largest selection of jewelry in the area and three master jewelers on site, Fowler Jewelry has been helping couples choose the perfect diamond for over 44 years.

Our passion for creating memories by providing you with timeless pieces has made us a trusted name in the industry. From engagement rings to custom designs, we strive to exceed your expectations with every piece.

From the initial consultation to the final product, our process is designed to make your jewelry buying experience stress-free and enjoyable. When you're here you're family that's why we take the time to ensure every detail is perfect.

Marcus and staff invite you to come experience shopping with them and their award winning customer service at one of their two locations in Whiteville and Loris, SC.

"We will beat any competitor's price, anywhere" states owner Marcus Fowler.

FOWLER JEWELRY

#1 AWARD WINNING SERVICE

1016 N. JK Powell Blvd., Whiteville
fowlerjewelry.com
910-640-2426

Hills, your locally owned grocery store



Richard Britt, Market Manager, talks with Emily and Jake about the quality meat selection offered daily at affordable prices.

Hills Food Stores congratulates all the newlyweds of Columbus County. We look forward to saving you money on the finest fruit, meat, produce and groceries at the best values in town.

Shop HILLS, you'll be glad you did!



A wealth of knowledge about the local real estate market



Brett Baxley goes over the details of a real estate contract with Savannah and Evan.

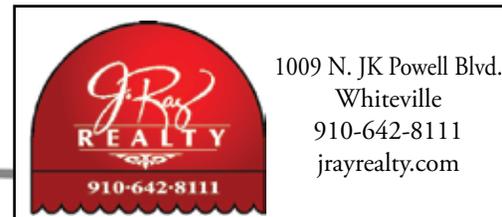
Choosing a real estate professional can be one of the most important decisions a couple makes. It's imperative to make sure that the realty company you choose has the experience and the know-how to help with perhaps your most important purchase.

The staff at J. Ray Realty have a wealth of knowledge about the Columbus County real estate market. They know the area well, are highly trained in the business, and are focused on customer satisfaction in every aspect of the transaction. Their experience includes residential, commercial, land and acreage, and property management for rentals.

As a member of the National Association of Realtors, J. Ray Realty has a reputation to maintain. "We're held to a higher set of standards or ethics than the average real estate broker" commented owner Jackie Ray-Pierce. "Our goal is to assist people with the buying process so that it is a satisfying and exciting experience."

Pierce, who has been in real estate since 2003, purchased her business from Charlie Langston. "My goal is to carry on the tradition that established Langston Realty as the top professional real estate business in Columbus County", added Pierce. "This has always been a business built on trust, caring, listening, and educating."

In 2018, Jackie bought out the local Century 21 Pro Realty business. J. Ray Realty has 4 experienced brokers ready to assist you with the purchase of your primary residence or second home at the beach or lake. If you're just starting out, new to the area, or just ready to find that dream home, you'll do well to contact the professionals at J. Ray Realty. The Real Estate company voted 'BEST REAL ESTATE AGENCY,' four years in a row by the fine people of Columbus County.



Just a little bit habit forming!



Bella and Cole stop by for barbeque that is "Good as the best, better than the rest and just a little bit habit forming."

Everyone who knows Joe's Old Fashioned Barbecue loves Joe's Old Fashioned Barbecue! It's as simple as that. Since 1964, Joe's has served the very best BBQ, BBQ ribs, chicken, and "fixins." Joe's reputation for delicious food, family atmosphere and hometown service reaches far and wide.

Owners and sisters Terri Edmund and Carol Ward maintain the family business tradition with the help of their award winning staff. The Joe's Barbecue team offers catering services and hosts special events such as bridal parties, rehearsal dinners and wedding receptions.

When only the best will do, remember Joe's Old Fashioned Barbecue is, "Good as the best, better than the rest and just a little bit habit forming." Call today for catering and event information or just stop by for a delicious plate of barbecue, slaw and baked beans and don't forget the banana pudding.

Visit Joe's Old Fashioned Barbecue at 500 Greenhill Drive in Whiteville or give them a call to book your next event at 910-642-3511.



Dress the groom with the best service, selection and price



Adam Jordan shows Savannah and Evan several tuxedo and suit options for him and his groomsmen.

Finding what to wear on the big day can be difficult, but for 89 years, Leinwands of Elizabethtown has helped to make the experience the best it can be. Fourth generation owner Ricky Leinwand offers tuxedo rentals for any occasion and suit purchases for weddings, along with men's, ladies' and children's clothing and shoes to suit your big day, or any day.

Find brands including Peter Millar, Michael Kors and Tommy Hilfiger for more formal options, along with Under Armour, Duck Head, Hey Dude, Yeti, Southern Tide and Johnnie O for more casual clothes and accessories. While you're there, you also can check out the 511 tactical gear and hunting clothes.

Unlike other retailers, Leinwands offers more than 400 brand names, free one-hour alterations, a price match guarantee, plus four generations of outstanding customer service.

Don't miss out on the selection at Leinwands before finalizing grooms' and groomsmen's clothing for the big day. Leinwands guarantees the best selection, prices, service, and brands, and even offers newly married couples and groomsmen 20% discount for up to 30 days after the big day. Tuxedo rentals start at \$139.95 (includes coat, pants, vest, tie, shirt, and shoes) also suit purchases start at \$224.99.



We are here to help, when you need it most



Scott Sessions explaining legal services with Bella and Cole.

At the McGougan Law Firm, we are happy to offer our clients exceptional customer service in matters of real estate, estates, personal injury, worker's compensation, wrongful death, medical malpractice, nursing home negligence, and civil and criminal defense. We provide competitive pricing in our area as well as over 75 years of experience, established in 1932.

Scott Sessions and Kevin J. Bullard handle a variety of cases, and serve as a "one stop shop" for your needs. We take pride in helping new couples through the home buying process. Let us handle the legalities so you can enjoy the happy occasion with minimum stress.

Problems happen, but that doesn't mean you have to handle them on your own. In marriage, you rely on each other, and in a crisis, trust that you can rely on the McGougan Law Firm.

For all your legal needs find us at 130 Jefferson Street, Whiteville, or call us at 910-640-1485.



Personal attention and excellent service at McNeill's Pharmacy



Jack Meares, Pharmacy Manager and Megan Reaves, Pharm.D. talk with Emily and Jake about the many benefits McNeill's Pharmacy has to offer.

Good health and happiness are the hopes and dreams of every newlywed couple. North Carolina's oldest pharmacy, McNeill's Pharmacy, has been serving generations of families in Whiteville and Columbus County since 1875. Their experience and services make McNeill's the best choice for all couples to consolidate and create a long-term relationship for all their health care and pharmacy needs.

Along with a knowledgeable and helpful pharmacy staff, McNeill's offers a comprehensive service center offering UPS and FedEx shipping, Moneygram services, and bill paying for select services such as Duke Energy, CenturyLink, Dish Network, and more.

Conveniently located on Jefferson Street in McNeill's Plaza near the hospital and many doctor's offices, a visit to the doctor and then the pharmacy couldn't be easier. Any questions about prescriptions are welcomed and answered by the pharmacy staff. Our new drive-thru window makes pick-up easy and fast.

Stop in for a variety of greeting cards celebrating birthdays and holidays plus the items you need most when caring for a loved one not feeling so well.

Personal attention and excellent service have been the standard for McNeill's Pharmacy for over 100 years.

Congratulations to all our bridal couples. As your family grows, make McNeill's your partner in coordinating health care and pharmacy needs big and small. Stop by and see us today.



A Department Store with Cash to Loan...



Brian Murphy, owner and manager, shows Emily and Jake some of the quality guns at Murf's Pawn.

Murf's Pawn describes itself as a department store with cash to loan, but that's just one of the many services offered since 1992 at their location in Whiteville.

Murf's Pawn offers a full range of pawn loan and great shopping with hometown service and selection.

Local owner/manager Brian Murphy offers great prices on many one-of-a-kind items along with a full selection of handguns, rifles, shotguns and ammunition.

You never know what treasures you will find, and bridal couples can always count on a wide selection of jewelry, watches, electronics, tools and more. Beautiful wedding rings and gifts for the bride and groom fill the showcases at reasonable prices.

At Murf's Pawn you can always count on exceptional service, plenty of parking, and a great location. Customers can even pay their bills, and sell scrap gold and fine jewelry.

For a great loan or shopping experience along with reasonable prices and variety, stop by Murf's Pawn at 1134 S Madison Street in Whiteville today.

Murf's Pawn

1134 S Madison St, Whiteville • 910-640-3344

Improving people's lives through fitness



Greg and Lynne Hewett help Leah and Cody with the right fitness machine at Nautilus Executive.

Since establishing in 1978, Nautilus Fitness has impacted lives all over Columbus County. Husband-and-wife duo Greg and Lynne Hewett seek to improve people's lives through fitness with the mission of instilling strength, character, and spirit. These are also foundational values for a longstanding, happy marriage. Both committing yourself to someone and building a life together, as well as committing to your own physical wellness, require an aspect of consistency and perseverance. Many married couples like to share a passion together, while others may value some occasional alone time to work on their own endeavors.

Nautilus Fitness offers options for whatever you need, including two co-ed locations, The Original House of Pain and Fitness Executive, as well as a separate option for ladies, Nautilus Elite. All three locations are in Whiteville.

Nautilus Fitness invites you to come as you are and welcomes you on your journey of physical health and wellness together!

Nautilus FITNESS CENTERS

Original - 111 Frazier St. | Elite - 617 S. Madison St.
Executive - 618 S. Madison St.
nautilusfitnesscenters.com | 910-234-5861

Become part of our family and share life's celebrations



Savannah and Evan sharing their life's celebration with Jennifer and Ron.

Pizza Village opened on April 19, 1982 and has been serving families ever since. Our customers become family, and we share in their life's celebrations!

We are locally owned and operated by Jennifer Burleson Hall and Ronald David Ward and formerly owned by Pete Padrick.

Pizza Village takes pride in the fact that they make their own sauces and dough. "We work hard daily to provide the freshest cut salad bar in town. We aim to please and try to go out of the way to please everyone."

Come join us for lunch and dinner and become part of the Pizza Village family!

Open Tuesday-Thursday from 11-10, Friday 11-11, and Saturday 4-11.
We are located at 1311 South Madison Street in Whiteville, NC 28472.
Phone: 910-642-5812

PIZZA VILLAGE

701 Bus. • Whiteville • 910-642-5812
"Established 1982"

Hometown service for all your special events



Platinum Entertainment & Party Rentals can create a beautiful setting for your wedding reception or any other special event.

Platinum Entertainment & Party Rentals provides services relatively new to Columbus County. It is a unique business that offers a lot of variety for your social events.

Bill Gore III founded Platinum Entertainment & Party Rentals in 2004, with a goal of bringing high quality and affordable party equipment to the people of Columbus County and the surrounding areas.

Now, Platinum Entertainment & Party Rentals is a full service entertainment and party rental business, offering the area's largest selection of party and event equipment. Gore has tents from small, intimate sizes to those that will seat several hundred people. He can provide tables, chairs, linens, staging, concession equipment, and even event venues.

If you have a wedding, reunion, birthday party or any other special event coming up, let Platinum Entertainment & Party Rentals help make it an occasion to remember. You can count on them to give your order the individualized attention that the out-of-town companies can't. They will work with you to plan your event details to suit your specific needs and to stay within your budget. You'll be pleased with the service, which will leave you relaxed and refreshed to enjoy your special event with your guests.

**PLATINUM
ENTERTAINMENT
& PARTY RENTALS**

Bill Gore, Owner • 910-914-0400

Farm Fresh Produce For Five Generations



Jerry Robinson shows Emily and Jake the variety of produce, plants and products they offer.

The Robinsons have been serving the Carolinas for over 40 years with farm fresh produce. Our passion for agriculture continues today as Jerry Robinson operates Robinson Produce Farms with his wife Patrica, two daughters, Lauren and Megan, and his five grandchildren.

The Robinson family is dedicated to supplying farm fresh produce to local and neighboring communities year round. They are open 8:30 am - 6:30 pm, 7 days a week to conveniently serve their customers.

They are proud members of "Got to be NC Agriculture", the NC Strawberry Association and the Watermelon Association.

They also sell a wide variety of wood barns and metal buildings.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for sales and updates on our products!

**ROBINSON
PRODUCE
FARMS**

**607 North J.K.
Powell Blvd.
Whiteville, NC
910-640-1288**

Work smarter, not harder



Morris Singletary talks with Emily and Jake about a zero turn mower.

Thinking about buying your first home together? Simplify lawn care and maintenance with quality equipment from Singletary Small Engines in Whiteville.

Since 1994, Morris Singletary has built a business based on quality customer service and a dependable line of lawn care equipment, chainsaws, mowers and tractors. Singletary Small Engines stocks a large inventory of products and parts and their certified service techs can take care of all maintenance and repair needs.

Singletary Small Engines carries national brands such as Stihl, Snapper, Husqvarna and Briggs & Stratton. They also added Yanmar tractors and farm implements to their product line. With years of hands-on experience, they are happy to recommend the right piece of equipment to handle any job.

Along with their complete line of equipment and accessories, Singletary Small Engines carries landscape materials such as mulch, stone and rock to neatly finish yard and landscape projects.

Stop by family-owned and operated Singletary Small Engines at 9511 James B. White Highway S. in Whiteville or call 910-642-3278 for all your lawn care and maintenance equipment needs.

Singletary Small Engines

6 Miles south of Whiteville on Hwy 701
910-642-3278

Serving memories to last a lifetime



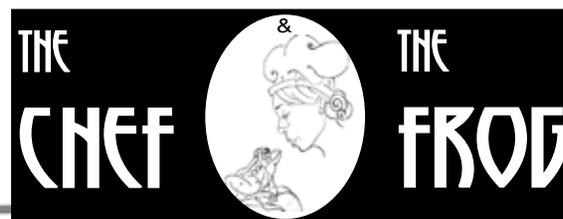
Leah and Cody make final arrangements for their rehearsal dinner with Chef Sokun and Guillaume.

Sokun and Guillaume Slama are a wife-and-husband team who have been serving Columbus County for the past 15 years, and been in business for 20. Serving an intricate blend of French-Cambodian fusion cuisine, The Chef & The Frog partners with local farmers to serve you the freshest ingredients available with all the love found in home-grown goodness.

Married for 30 years, Sokun and Guillaume would delight in giving you their blessing to make your marriage just as long lasting, as in Guillaume's words, "we'll bring you good luck." Newly married couples will find that not only are you provided a dining experience, but at The Chef and The Frog, you're getting a memory.

The fine dining atmosphere boasts a wide selection of wines as well as lovely cocktails, and offers catering and bookings for special events with indoor, outdoor and rooftop seating.

Join us for all your fine dining needs at 607 S Madison St, Whiteville, or contact us at (910) 640-5550.



The best bank in town since 1872



April Ray talks with Bella and Cole about the numerous custom banking packages and checking accounts that Truist offers.

One of the most important decisions newlyweds make is how they will handle their financial needs, and that's where Truist can help. Building on a tradition of excellence in community banking that stretches back to 1872, Truist continues to offer clients a complete range of financial services, including banking, lending, insurance, trust, and wealth management solutions.

Those who need sound financial advice - and who doesn't? - can feel confident with a Truist banker who will explain the many types of banking services available. Selecting the best checking account for your special needs is an important early decision, and there are so many more financial matters that will help make life more enjoyable if proper planning is followed.

Truist offers numerous custom banking packages and checking accounts, and a banker will gladly explain them.

Personal credit services include tax advantage lines, preferred lines, home equity loans, personal loans and mortgage loans. Savings plans include Young Savers, regular, overdraft, money rate, investor's deposit account, CDs, IRA, Roth IRA, education savings and health savings.

You'll enjoy the convenience of Truist online banking, your check card that doubles as your ATM card, Truist Phone 24, Travel Points and many other services.

TRUIST 

Know the people you buy your vehicle from



Stephen Underwood shows Savannah and Evan one of the vehicles available at Vann Underwood Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM.

With so many vehicle choices, how does the prospective buyer know WHICH automobile is best? Well, as the saying goes, "If you don't know cars . . . know the people you buy from." In Columbus County, consumers are indeed fortunate to have a dealer like Vann Underwood Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM.

Vann has been serving car buyers from his current location for 46 years and has been the local Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM dealer for 22 years. He has the knowledge and commitment to offer any buyer the best experience when it comes to purchasing a new or used vehicle. Vann has used one simple principle in building his business and reputation - keep the customer satisfied.

Perhaps you're a young couple, or maybe you've been buying cars for years. You're still looking for the same things. You want to know that the vehicle you've chosen is a quality product, that you haven't paid too much, and that the dealer will stand behind your car or truck with outstanding service. With Vann Underwood, you can rest assured that you're getting those things.

In addition to a great selection of new and pre-owned vehicles, Vann offers one of the area's most reliable service and parts departments with trained technicians who can diagnose and repair any problem, regardless of make or model.

When it's time to purchase or lease your next car or truck, see the folks with the reputation for low prices, easy financing options, and personal, hometown service. See Vann Underwood Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM in Downtown Whiteville. They're at 501 South Madison Street. Call them at 910-642-2000 today.

Vann Underwood
CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep RAM
Whiteville, NC • www.vannunderwood.com
910-642-2000 • 1-800-682-6835

You can count on us to care



Ben Sauls offers his friendly personal service to Leah and Cody.

When you need it the most, pharmacist Ben Sauls and the friendly staff at Village Prescription Center in Lake Waccamaw make sure your pharmacy needs are met with personal attention and outstanding service.

Village Prescription Center offers convenience and low prices on much more than prescription services. They carry a complete selection of over-the-counter medications, braces, gifts, greeting cards and snacks and serve as a Fed-Ex shipping and drop-off location. A "\$1" value section includes makeup, school supplies, and many household items such as soap, plates and detergents.

As newlyweds and as your family grows, find your hometown pharmacy at Village Prescription Center in the Hills Shopping Plaza at Lake Waccamaw. Their hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 am – 6 pm and Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

VILLAGE PRESCRIPTION CENTER

108 E. Old Highway 74/76

Lake Waccamaw • 910-646-3435

An atmosphere that is second to none...



Whiteville and the surrounding communities are indeed fortunate to have a facility available for community and family use such as Vineland Station.

Built in 1904 as the Atlantic Coast Line train depot, to serve passengers and freight between Wilmington and Atlanta, Vineland Station had a rich history of service until the 1970s. In 2002, it was leased by the Columbus County commissioners and Whiteville City council, and a special fund-raising effort to renovate the vacant building was begun. In 2005, it was put back into service, after more than 30 years of being out of commission, to become an economic development hub and a center of civic and cultural activities in the county.

Many bridal couples have already discovered the special attraction that wedding events held at Vineland Station hold. It has quickly become one of the most popular venues for weddings, rehearsal dinners, receptions, and other special events. Whether the wedding event is large or small, Vineland has the capability of meeting the need. Book the new outdoor covered platform pavillion alone or with the Todd community room, and take advantage of maximum space flexibility and decorating opportunities.

You may call 910-642-3157 for more information or to schedule an event.

Whether you're planning a wedding, family or class reunion, prom, or business meeting, you'll find the perfect place is Vineland Station, located in the heart of downtown Whiteville.

Visit us at <https://www.whitevillenc.gov/historic-vineland-station-depot> and on facebook. Contact Emily Cross for more information at ecross@ci.whiteville.nc.us 910-840-2928.

Vineland
STATION
910-642-3157

