

2016 North Carolina *Watermelon Festival*

Fair Bluff, N.C. July 22 - 24



Lindsey Robinson
Retiring North Carolina
Watermelon Festival Queen



Alicia Garland
Retiring North Carolina
Watermelon Festival Teen Miss

APR 4-25-16

Queen farewell

I've had such an amazing year as The N.C. Watermelon Festival Queen. I'm honored and always will be honored that I was chosen to represent Fair Bluff's Watermelon Festival and the wonderful Fair Bluff Growers Association. As I set out on my journey as the 2015 Queen, I carried the title with grace, a generous heart, positive attitude, a sense of humor and always with a confident, proud radiant smile. If I had to pick what I enjoyed the most I simply couldn't pick just one thing or event. I loved every pageant, festival, gathering, dinner, grand opening and parade I was a part of. I made lifelong friends and created memories that I will never forget.

To the scholarship donors and contributors, my parents and I are so grateful for the funds that will be put towards my Appalachian State University Tuition.

To Frankie and Joe thank you for always being my biggest fans and thanks for always making sure all my dresses

and outfits were hemmed and fitting just right Frankie.

To my little sister Kelsey, thanks for always supporting me at every appearance.

To the Garland family, I love you all and have had such an amazing time getting to know all of your beautiful family. Ya'll are awesome.

Lici, girl you are so much fun to be with. From traveling to just hanging out in the long car rides, we always were laughing going on with each other. I love you girly and I'm so happy I got to spend my Watermelon year with you.

To my momma Queen (Rhonda Spencer) and my sis-sy Queen (Savannah Spencer), special thanks to you both for all your help and support you have given me this year. I love you girls more than you'll ever know.

To mom and dad, I wouldn't be here without you. You both have driven me to accomplish things that sometimes seem out of my reach. You have showed me that with help from my Heavenly Father, I can do



Lindsey Robinson
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Festival Queen

all things. Love you mom and dad.

To Michael, I know you don't understand pageants and you probably never will but thanks for supporting me through this amazing journey. I love you very much.

Judy Enzor, what would the world do with out you. You are a Godly woman who I strive to be like. Thanks for spending so much time and putting so

much effort into making the North Carolina Watermelon Festival what it is today. You and Mr. Enzor are a remarkable couple. To the town of Fair Bluff, It has been my honor to represent you this year. God Bless all of you.

To the next queen who will soon be crowned, always remember to be proud of what you represent. Be knowledge-

able to promote the Festival and Fair Bluff and be genuine. Your time as Queen flies by so make the best of each and every opportunity

For the last time, proudly representing the Town of Fair Bluff and the Fair Bluff Watermelon Growers association, I am and will always be the 2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Queen Lindsey Robinson.

Welcome to the
Watermelon Festival

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Welcome to Fair Bluff's 2016 Watermelon Festival



Mayor
Billy Hammond

A Message from the Mayor . . .

On behalf of our town government and citizens, we welcome tourists and guests to our fine town and community!

It is my sincere hope that you will enjoy the many attractions we have in Fair Bluff. The picturesque setting of the Lumber River, especially viewed from a stroll along the boardwalk, will make photo memories to last a lifetime. The local Depot-Museum has over a hundred years of town history on display, including civil war memorabilia. Columbus County's oldest building is

located near the American Legion, just west of town. It is known as the "Trading Post"

You're invited to browse our streets, visit our merchants and get to know some of North Carolina's finest people. We love tourists and hope your visit is a rewarding and wonderful experience.

In the event you encounter a problem while in our town, I welcome your comments. You may call me at 910-649-7423 or write me at P.O. Box 157, Fair Bluff, N.C. 28439.

Downtown Historic Fair Bluff welcomes everyone to come, bring the family, and have fun during this year's Watermelon Festival.

TOWN OF FAIR BLUFF

Billy Hammond - Mayor

Council Members: Lester Drew, Carl Meares, Jr., Jack Meares, Randy Spruell Britt and Clarice Faison. Town Clerk - Peggy Moore



Teen Miss farewell

A year ago my dream of becoming part of the watermelon family, became reality. I will cherish each memory for all of time and I will never forget the people who have been with me throughout my year.

Momma, Daddy, Sophie and Troy - Thank you for loving me and supporting me throughout this journey I couldn't have done it without you. I love you all so much.

Festival Committee - Nobody really understands how much work goes into making the festival what it is, thank you for all you do. Y'all are amazing and thank you so much for your support. I truly hope I have made you all proud.

Mrs. Judy - Oh how I will miss you. You are such an amazing woman. Thank you for everything that you have done for me. I love you so much. You're one in a "melon." I will always be your chatterbox.)

Festival Queens - Thank you all for making this year truly amazing. I will always cherish each moment I have



Alicia Garland
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Festival Teen Miss

spent with all of you. I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Lindsey - I'm going to miss you so much. I have loved being your Teen Miss. Thank you for letting me ride with you to some of our appearances and for choreographing my dances. I'm going to miss those rides to Fair Bluff in your Mercedes with the top down. We have made so many great memories and I will

cherish them forever. I love you so much.

2016 Teen Miss - Don't blink because your year will be over before you know it. Take tons of pictures and enjoy every moment. I'm here if you ever

need advice.

Without God none of this would have been possible. Thank you for putting such amazing people in my life Lord, I am truly blessed beyond measure.

Proudly representing the small town of Fair Bluff where we have big hearts and big watermelons, I am forever the 2015 North Carolina Watermelon Festival Teen Miss Alicia Garland.

Little Miss farewell

This past year has been an amazing and unforgettable year. I am grateful to have had this opportunity and blessed to have represented Fair Bluff and the Watermelon Festival. I have enjoyed going to pageants, nursing homes, benefits and other festivals. I have loved spending time with my sister queens and making new friends. I will cherish the memories that I have made and the people that have made it all possible. I would like to say thank you to those special people.

First of all, I would like to say thank you to God. Without Him nothing is possible. He has blessed me in so many ways and I am thankful for all He has done.



Lorelei Elberson
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Festival Little Miss

To my mom and dad, thank you for all that you do. From buying the perfect dress to driving me any and everywhere, you both were always

there. Mom thanks for always making sure I had everything I needed and always looked my best. I know you both will always be my biggest fans. I love you both so much.

To my brother Laken, thank you for being my little brother. I know going to my pageant stuff is not always the number one thing on your list to do but you do it without too much complaining. I love you.

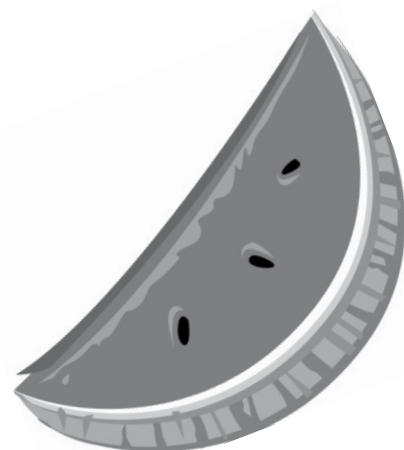
To the Fair Bluff Watermelon Growers Association, thank you for allowing me to have this opportunity to represent such a great festival. I will never forget it.

To TJ and Emily, thank you for keeping us informed on all

Continued on page 4

Welcome to Fair Bluff's

2016 Watermelon Festival



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Junior Miss farewell

I can't believe that a year ago I was crowned the 2015-2016 Jr. Miss Watermelon Queen.

First, I would like to thank God for giving me this opportunity.

Next, I would like to thank my mommy for taking me to all my appearances, doing my hair, makeup and helping me find the perfect shoes for my outfits at the last minute.

Thank you daddy for buying all my dresses, shoes and everything else I needed.

Kennedy and Nick, I don't know what I would do without you two yelling and screaming for me.

Oma and Opa, thanks for telling me how awesome I look and always giving me flowers.

To my Scampbell family, Teresa, Alanna and Hannah, thank you so much for always being there for me and buying me all those Slim Jims when we go places.

Candace, my best friend, thank you so much for being there with me even when you didn't want to go to another pageant and always making me laugh and smile on stage.

Amby, thank you so much



Katelynn Scott
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Festival Junior Miss

for putting all your hard work into making my routines and shuffling me around when I needed a ride. I don't know how I would have had an awesome farewell performance without you.

To my watermelon sisters, Isla I don't know what I would have done without you dancing and laughing when we go to pageants.

Natalie, I have had so much fun this year taking selfies with

you.

Kelbi, I loved hearing you singing "Let It Go" every time we went on stage.

Porter Grace, I have loved walking around and giving out stickers and popcorn to kids and taking pictures with you.

Alieyah, I have enjoyed seeing you so much at our watermelon appearances.

Lorelei, I don't know what I would have done without you this year. I love how you are dedicated to going to every parade or pageant that you could possibly go to.

Alicia, I love how you always have the perfect dress that looks great on you every time.

Lindsey, thank you very much for all the times you saw and told me how much I've grown since the last time you've seen me and saying that I look so pretty.

T.J., thank you so much for being a great pageant directory.

Thank you each and every one of you, again for giving me this opportunity and now for the last time I am your 2015-2016 Jr. Miss Watermelon Queen Katelynn Scott.

Little Miss farewell

Continued from page 2

the events and appearances. Thank you for being there for all my mommy's many questions. Thank you for all the time and effort you put in to this pageant and your queens.

To my sister queens, thank you for a fun year. I have enjoyed getting to know you and spending time with you all.

To my family and friends, thank you for all the support. I love you all and I am thankful to have you in my life.

To the next Watermelon Festival Little Miss, I want to wish you the very best as you begin this amazing journey. This year will pass by very quickly, so enjoy every minute of it. I hope you will treasure this experience as much as I have.

With loves of love, I am and will forever be your 2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Little Miss Lorelei Elaine Elbertson.

Mini Miss farewell

Representing Southeastern N.C. as the 2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Mini Miss, has been an exciting year.

I would like to thank mommy, for always making sure I looked by best and taking me to all the events.

Daddy, thank you for always opening your wallet and never complaining.

Nana, papa, mamaw and papaw, thank you for being

Continued on page 6



Kelbi Bowen
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Festival Mini Miss

July is a special time for my hometown of Fair Bluff. I look forward to returning each year and meeting old friends and making new ones. Thanks to the Watermelon Growers Association, and all the volunteers who work so hard to promote agriculture in North Carolina.

Sincerely,
Bill Rabon



NC Senator, Bill Rabon

NC Watermelon Festival
July 22-24 Downtown Fair Bluff, NC

Petite Miss farewell

This time last year, I was crowned the N.C. Watermelon Festival Petite Miss. This year has been a wonderful year filled with parades, meeting the queens, visiting other pageants and representing the beautiful town of Fair Bluff and the Watermelon Festival. I have been honored to be able to represent and have had a blast doing it.

I would like to thank God first and foremost for all He has blessed me with and allowing me to be able to do what I enjoy.

Mommy, thank you for always making me beautiful and making sure I have a dress that makes me look like a princess. You have been there through the tears, the curlers, the hair spray, the makeup and everything else that goes along with that. I know I gave you a hard time about the makeup and would always wait until my makeup was complete to rub my eyes. You have always made sure I knew exactly what to say and made me practice endlessly to make sure I did my turns the correct way.



Alleyah Godwin
2015 N.C. Watermelon Festival Petite Miss

Thank you for being my biggest fan. I love you to the moon and back.

Daddy, thank you for making sure I had a car on standby if needed. Thank you for your love and support. I love you so much.

Aunt Pam, thank you for making sure the Camaro was always nice and spotless for the parades. You were a lifesaver. Thank you for all you did to help mommy get me ready for

the parades. We couldn't have done it without you. I love you dearly.

Thank you to all my family and friends for all your support through this journey. Thank you for attending

events with me. I have enjoyed every minute of it.

To the next N.C. Watermelon Festival Petite Miss, have fun making memories that will last a lifetime. Always remember to smile from your

heart and wear your crown with pride.

With well wishes and bunches of kisses I am and forever will be your 2015-2016 N.C. watermelon Festival Petite Miss Alieyah Rose Godwin

Tiny Miss farewell

Being this year's N.C. Watermelon Festival Tiny Miss has been so fun. I love when I get to ride in cool cars and throw candy during parades. I also like to be onstage in the bright light and wave to the people in the audience. Getting dressed up is fun too, especially when my mommy lets me choose the dress I will wear.

Mommy, thank you for making sure I look pretty and taking me to all the places I need to be.

Daddy, thank you for going to my parades and cheering for me. Riles, you're a great brother and you always encourage me to do well.

Thanks to my Mimi, Bop-



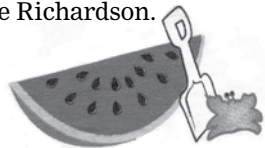
Porter Grace Richardson
2015 N.C. Watermelon Festival Tiny Miss

Bop, Dee-A-Dee and Papa Jeep for always supporting me and teaching me how to be a good girl.

Kelbi and Heather, the watermelon pageant brought us together and I'm so glad. I know we will be lifelong friends and continue to share the watermelon love for many years to come.

Finally, thank you, God, for blessing me with a wonderful life.

For the last time I am your 2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Tiny Miss Porter Grace Richardson.



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Wee Miss farewell

Natalie has had a wonderful year representing the N.C. Watermelon Festival and the town of Fair Bluff, as the N.C. Watermelon Festival Wee Miss. We thank God for an amazing year. We can hardly believe that it has already been a year since our little princess was crowned. She has grown so much in a year's time. She has surpassed so many milestones and accomplished so much this year. She loves to sing and dance. She loves going to church. She also loves to count and say her ABC's. She is a quick learner, and loves to learn new things.

This year, Natalie has had the opportunity to meet so many other little queens at all the festivals, parades, and pageants. It has been a pleasure for her to meet them all. She has had the most fun this year with all of the festivals that she has attended, from being as cute as she can be, throwing candy from the car, to waving at everyone as she passes, and wearing the cutest watermelon attire that her mommy could possibly find for her. Yes, she is known for being the "best" dressed, and everything "always" matching. LOL.

Natalie would like to thank her daddy for always helping mommy with events, helping mommy get her ready, getting the car cleaned up and shining, ready for the parades and driving her in parades. To nanny and papa, wow what can she say, the two people who spoil our Natalie Brooke to death. She appreciates and loves the two of you with all of her little heart. We know that she is papa's heartstrings and can pretty much get anything she wants from either of you. Natalie is so blessed to have the two of you as her grandparents. She could not ask for a better set of grandparents.

Natalie would like to thank T.J. and Emily for keeping us up to date with events, and supporting her in her reign. She has really enjoyed herself at all of the events.

We would like to also thank Kelli Willoughby Photography and Photorad Photography for taking beautiful pictures of our princess.

Natalie would like to thank her family and friends for their support in her reign as the N.C. Watermelon Festival Wee



Natalie Hamilton
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Wee Miss

Miss. Once again, it has been an amazing year for Natalie. So here's to this little smart, talented, beautiful little girl, as she says her last goodbye, she will forever be your 2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Wee Miss Natalie Brooke Hamilton.

Her daddy (Willard Hamilton) and I would like to thank everyone for the love and support that you showed to our little princess this past year.

Written by (Natalie's mother) Julia Hamilton

It has been a great pleasure and gift to have been able to represent the N.C. Watermelon Festival over the last year. I have had the chance to meet so many wonderful people throughout this journey as well as being blessed with the best pageant sisters a little girl could ask for. As I get older, I may not specifically remember all of the wonderful times I have had as the N.C. Watermelon Festival Baby Miss, but I do know that it will have helped shape me into the little girl I will be one day.

First of all, I would like to thank God, without his undy-

Mini Miss farewell

Continued from page 4

my biggest supporters and cheering me on.

Gene, thank you for letting me use your pretty red car and making sure I was riding in style.

Porter and Anna, thank

you for always being my side-kicks at all the pageants, we really had fun this year.

For the last time, I am the 2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Mini Miss Kelbi Brooke Bowen.

Baby Miss farewell



Isla Grace Green
2015 N.C. Watermelon
Baby Miss

ing love I would not be where I am today. His love and protection has surrounded me since day one and will never fail me.

To my parents thank you both for your unwavering support and guidance. Without you this opportunity would not have been possible, from making sure I always look the part of a princess from my head to my feet, to ensuring I stayed occupied when my energy levels would not allow me to stay still. I know you both are my number one fans, for life. I love you both.

Continued on page 7

Congratulations!

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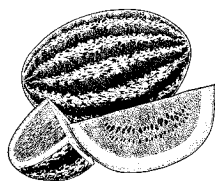
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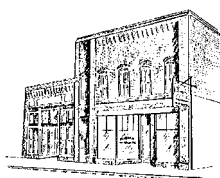


Have a Great Watermelon Festival in Fair Bluff!

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Teen Miss Fair Bluff farewell

As my reign as the Fair Bluff Teen Miss comes to an end, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to represent the wonderful people of Fair Bluff. This has been an unforgettable year that will always hold a special place in my heart. From the exciting moment I was crowned to the last social attended, this has been a year of excitement and joy. I am thankful to all who have shared these special moments with me.

First of all, I am thankful to God for making all things possible and for blessing me with people in my life who genuinely care about me.

To my family, thank you for always sacrificing time and money to provide me with pageant essentials. Many hours have been devoted to shopping for the perfect outfits, riding in parades, and attending pageants. Regardless of the task, you all were always willing to assist me and more importantly to support my efforts. I love you.

Finally to Judy Enzor, Emily Worley, Amanda Moore and



Emily Faulk
2015 Teen Miss Fair Bluff

Carolyn Foley, you will always be extra special to me. Thank you for believing in me and for giving me the opportunity to meet new friends that will last a lifetime.

I am for the last time Teen Miss Fair Bluff Emily Haven Faulk.

Baby Miss farewell

Continued from page 6

To the future N.C. Watermelon royalty, you are in for a wonderful year representing

At some point in her life, every little girl dreams of becoming a princess. My dream came true when I was chosen to represent the town of Fair Bluff as Little Miss Fair Bluff. My title has allowed me to attend pageants, festivals and parades. I have really enjoyed making lots of new friends. It was so much fun to dress up in sparkling dresses and shiny high heels and get to wear "make-up." I always used my best manners and represented my title as a little queen should. I would like to send out love and thanks to some people that have helped to make my year special.

Judy, I could always tell by the smile on your face that I made you proud as your little miss.

Carolyn Foley, thank you for all the beautiful pictures you took of me. They will give me great memories to look back on. I love you both. To my

the little town of Fair Bluff. This next year will give you opportunities to grow and experience things you may not have otherwise, enjoy every second.

Little Miss Fair Bluff farewell



Torri Rayne Miller
2015 Little Miss Fair Bluff

Andrew, hugs and kisses.

Aunt Blair, thank you for being my hairdresser and make-up artist on pageant night. I always looked so pretty. Jeff Prince and Randy Coleman, thanks for letting me "ride in style" in "my" mustang. Aunt Onnie, I love riding in your

Again, I must say thank you to the N.C. Watermelon Festival for giving me the privilege of representing Fair Bluff and the Watermelon Festival for the

beautiful sports car. I love you all. Alli B., thanks for always telling me how pretty I looked and letting mom spend extra time on my. To my Nana (the pageant queen) thank you for all the time and love you put into making sure I was always prepared for each event. You always remind me I should act like a lady, with or without a crown on. I love you Nana with all my heart. Papa Ric, I loved the way your eyes sparkled every time I got ready for an event. I love you Papa. You are my everything.

Mom, for being there for me all my young life, you are the best mom ever. I love you and we will always remember sharing this year together. I will always look back at this year and smile, thinking of the memories I have had as your 2015 Little Miss Fair Bluff.

I am for the last time Little Miss Fair Bluff Torri Rayne Miller.

year 2015-2016. It has truly been an honor.

2015-2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Baby Miss Isla Grace Green.

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Miss Fair Bluff farewell

My year as Miss Fair Bluff has come to an end, but I will always cherish the memories of a fantastic year. It has been so rewarding to represent the small town of Fair Bluff.

I would like to thank my mom and dad for allowing me to participate and for always making sure I was prepared for every event I attended. From having what I needed to wear, to making sure the car was clean for parades, everything was always done perfectly.

Nana and papa, thank you for your support. You both were always willing to help any way that I needed y'all and were always there for many of the events. Your encouragement helped me in so many ways. I love you both.

Amanda Moore, you were very helpful in always letting me know about upcoming events. Thank you for planning out our pictures, and also our car signs.

To Judy, thank you for taking your time to organize and update me on all of the various activities throughout my year as Miss Fair Bluff. Your uplifting words and gentle smile always



Emma Leah Dippel
2015 Teen Miss Fair Bluff

made my day. I love you.

Carolyn Foley, you took your time to meet with us on the River Walk and take pictures of my pageant sisters and me for the publication of the newspaper. Thank you for the beautiful photos and for your patience and time.

To my pageant sisters, it has been such a fun year with each of you. I enjoyed spending time with all of you at pageants and parades. I'll never forget the times that we spent together and the good times we had.

Thanks for sharing such a great year with me.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank God. Without Him, I would not be able to experience such a great opportunity.

This time last year, I was crowned Tiny Miss Fair Bluff. I have had a wonderful time waving in parades, throwing out lots of candy and meeting new people as I represented my hometown of Fair Bluff. This year has flown by and I have had a blast.

Mommy and daddy, thank you for always making sure I always had the perfect ride for parades, the prettiest dresses to wear and for putting my crown on just right. I love having the best big brother ever and for tagging along to all my queen events with me. I love you Drakie.

Nanny and pa, thank you for spoiling me rotten. I can get away with anything as long as you two are around. Thank you for supporting me in everything my brother and I do, and for being the best nanny and pa

To the town of Fair Bluff, it has been an honor being able to represent this town. I have enjoyed this past year and all of the memories that have come with it.

This year has gone by way too fast but I guess all good things come to an end, but in my heart I will always be the 2015-2016 Miss Fair Bluff Emma Leah Dippel.

Tiny Miss Fair Bluff farewell



Emily Brooke Moore
2015 Teen Miss Fair Bluff

that a little girl could ever ask for. I love you.

Aunt TJ, not only are you my mom's best friend, you are the best "aunt" and princess coach ever. Thank you for loving me like your own and answering all my mommy's questions this year. Also, thank you for shar-

ing "my boy" Parker with our family. We love him so much.

PaPal and MeMe Kristen, thank you for always telling me how pretty I am and helping me practice my princess wave. I love you.

MeMe Sherry and PaPa Dean, thank you for following me around to all my events and waving at me and taking lots of pictures of me so I will always remember this year. I love you both so much.

To Judy and the town of Fair Bluff, thank you for the friendships we have gained this year and the memories that will last a lifetime.

To the next Fair Bluff queen, put a smile on your face, Jesus in your heart and get ready for a fun year.

I am and will forever be the 2015 Tiny Miss Fair Bluff Emilee Brooke Moore.

Enjoy The Festival!

Thanks to all the folks who work so hard every year to make Fair Bluff's Watermelon Festival a reality. It is a wonderful event, and greatly enjoyed by all who attend. See you at the festival!



The Soles Law Firm, PLLC

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Schedule of Events for the 2015 N.C. Watermelon Festival

'Melon Beach Blast'



Friday, July 22

6:30-9 p.m. Southern Watermelon Delight Horne Bay Farm, 225 Frank Horne Drive, Fair Bluff.

To order tickets - get form from *The News Times* or from www.ncwatermelonfestival.org.

9-11 p.m. Immediately following Delight N.C. Watermelon Festival Street Dance. Horne Bay Farm, 225 Frank Horne Drive, Fair Bluff. Admission \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 5. Dress is casual. Food will be available from Lumber River Outfitters (Restaurant on Wheels)

Sponsored by the Fair Bluff Watermelon Growers Association, Inc.

tion, Inc.

Saturday, July 23 Festival Day

7-9:30 a.m. Entries for Best Tastin' Watermelons on Riverside Drive/downtown Fair Bluff. Watermelons must be pre-registered. Call 910-207-1698 to pre-register.

8 a.m.-4 p.m. Arts and Crafts booths. Food sold all day by local organizations. Entertainment by Rev. Neill Smith.

8 a.m. Registration for festival visiting queens, chaperones, judges and auditors. (Invitation only) Fair Bluff Depot Museum, 339 Railroad Street, Fair Bluff. Sponsored by the Fair Bluff Historical Society.

10 a.m. Best Tastin' Watermelon of the Carolinas Contest on Riverside Drive. Water-

melon slices available all day.

11 a.m. N.C. Watermelon Festival Parade. Sponsored by Fair Bluff Fire Department. Parade route starts at Columbus Career and College on Academy Street and will end back at the academy.

12-1 p.m. WCHS Jazz Band plays-Riverside Drive. Sponsored by Fair Bluff Rotary Club.

12:15 p.m. N.C. Watermelon Festival Luncheon for Dignitaries and invited guests, Fair Bluff Senior Center, Main Street, Fair Bluff. **By Invitation Only.**

12:45 p.m. Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest. Open to the public.

1 p.m. N.C. Watermelon Festival Public Watermelon Auction, Riverside Drive, Fair

Bluff. **Open to the public.**

3 p.m. Duck Race near Boat Landing at Riverside Drive, Fair Bluff. \$10 per ticket. Sponsored by the Fair Bluff Rotary Club. Contact any rotary member at 649-6121 of Jeff Prince at 649-7531.

6:30 p.m. N.C. Watermelon Festival Young Miss, Teen Miss and Queen Scholarship Pageant in the West Columbus High School Auditorium, Hwy. 76 - six miles east of Fair Bluff in Cerro Gordo. \$10 admission.

Sunday, July 24

3 p.m. Little Queens Watermelon Pageant. West Columbus High School Auditorium, Hwy. 76 - six miles east of Fair Bluff in Cerro Gordo. \$8 admission.

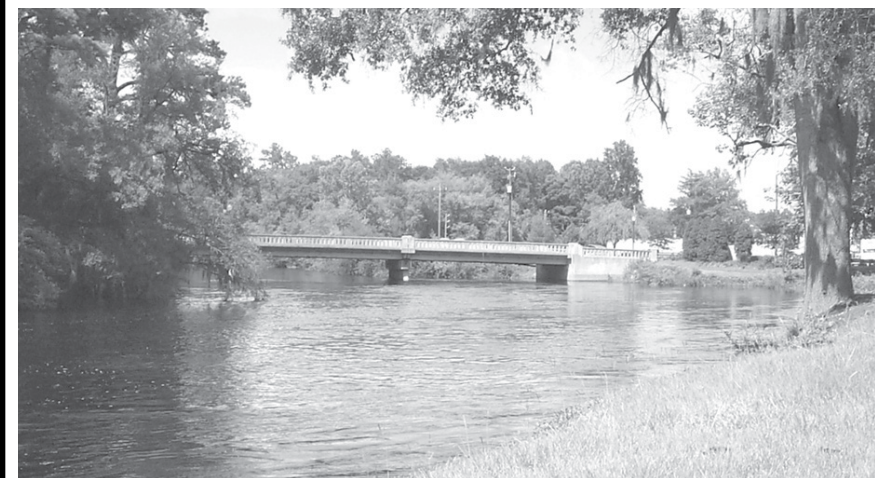
For more information



about the festival visit the website at www.ncwatermelonfestival.org or call 234-0756.



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The 31st Watermelon Festival Pageant

Saturday, July 23 - 6:30 p.m.

West Columbus High School Auditorium - Cerro Gordo, N.C.



- Opening Number
- 2016 NC Watermelon Festival Contestants
- 2015 NC Watermelon Festival Queens
- Introduction of Contestants and 2015 Queens
- Welcome & Invocation
- Sawyer Strickland, Mr. Watermelon Fair Bluff Watermelon Growers Association, Inc. Board Member
- Introduction of Master of Ceremonies
- Woody Strickland, President, Fair Bluff Watermelon Grow-

ers Association, Inc.

- Introduction of Judges
- Gene Martin, Master of Ceremonies
- Speech/Talent Competition
- Queen Contestants
- Farewell Entertainment
- Alicia Garland
- 2015 N.C. Watermelon Festival Teen Miss
- Talent Competition
- Young Miss Contestants
- Talent Competition
- Teen Miss Contestants
- Farewell Entertainment

Lindsey Robinson,
2015 N.C. Watermelon Festival Queen

- Entertainment
- Maya Campbell
- N.C. Strawberry Festival Queen
- ~~ Intermission ~~
- *10 minutes***
- Introduction of Visiting Queens
- Introduction of Past and Present Watermelon Festival Queens
- Introduction of Fair Bluff Royalty & Nominees

- Evening Gown Competition & Onstage Question
- Teen Miss Contestants
- Evening Gown Competition
- Young Miss Contestants
- Special Entertainment
- Hannah Welborn
- N.C. Rhododendron Festival Queen
- Evening Gown Competition
- Queen Contestants
- Special Recognition
- Farewells
- Presentation of Awards

& Coronation of the 2016 N.C. Watermelon Festival Young Miss, Teen Miss and Queen

Young Miss, Teen Miss and Queen Contestants

Young Miss - Miranda "Andi" Creech, Zabrina Martello

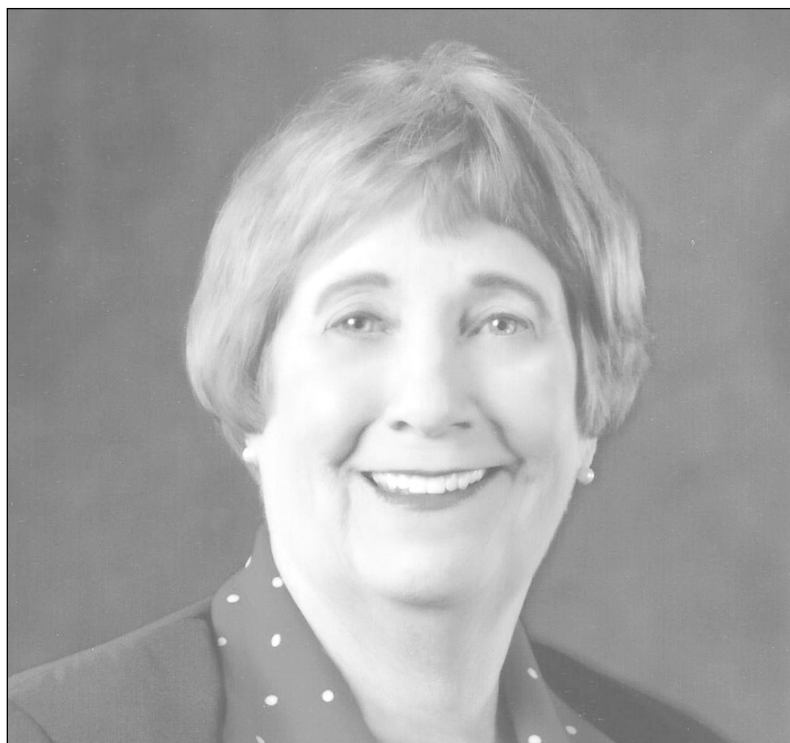
Teen Miss - Savannah Spencer, Mackenzy Sharpe, Rebekah Altman, Jadelyn Chavis

Queen - Tara Danielle Ward, Hope Richardson, Macelyn Batten, Emma Leah Dippel.

Welcome To Fair Bluff's 2016 Watermelon Festival!

As your Senator in Raleigh, the welcome mat is out, Please feel free to meet with me during the Watermelon Festival. It's an occasion for friends to gather and enjoy fellowship. I salute all who devote time and energy to promote farming in North Carolina. Our thanks to the Watermelon Growers Association and all volunteers who dedicate themselves to a better agricultural future.

Sincerely,
Senator Jane Smith



State Senator - Jane Smith

**Visit All Events During the NC Watermelon Festival
We Look Forward To Seeing You There**

Queen Contestants



Hope Richardson
Parents:
April and Morris Richardson
Conway, S.C.



Macelyn Batten
Parents:
Mary Kate and Chris Batten
Whiteville



Tara Ward
Parents:
Darren and Mitzi Ward
Nakina



Emma Leah Dippel
Parents:
Michael Dippel of Whiteville
and Michelle W. Dippel of
Cerro Gordo



Directions to Fair Bluff

Note that the directions below will vary depending on your start location. The North Carolina Watermelon Festival Committee would recommend that you review your starting location with other online maps such as MapQuest at www.mapquest.com. Furthermore, note that these generalized directions may not be for going the shortest distance or the shortest amount of time.

From Columbia, S.C.: Merge onto I-20 E via Exit 16 toward Florence, South Carolina. Merge onto I-95 N via Exit 141A on the left toward Fayetteville (crossing into North Carolina). Take N.C. 130 exit (Exit 2) toward N.C.-904 (Rowland/Fairmont). Turn Right onto N.C. 130 / N.C. 130 BYP E. Turn Right onto N.C.-904. Fair Bluff Baptist Church should be directly in front of you. Turn Left onto U.S.-76/

Main Street/N.C. 904. Follow U.S. 76/Main Street till you see BB&T Bank on your left. Riverside Drive runs beside BB&T Bank around the back of the Main Street stores. You will probably have to find a place to park somewhere behind BB&T bank or on Main Street. Riverside Drive will be blocked off on Festival Day and vehicles will not be allowed to park there.

From Raleigh: Merge onto I-40

E. Merge onto I-95 S via Exit 328 A toward Benson/Fayetteville. Take the U.S.-74 E exit (Exit 14) toward Maxton/Laurinburg. Follow U.S.-74 E until you see Chadbourn/Tabor City Exit which will be Hwy. 410. Take Hwy. 410 - to U.S. Hwy. 76 W. Follow U.S. Hwy. 76 W to Fair Bluff. Go through the outer city limits of Fair Bluff until you reach see BB&T Bank on your right. (You will pass Fair Bluff

Ford, Dollar General, Piggly Wiggly, Johnny's Drive In, Lovett's Plaza, Fair Bluff United Methodist Church - BB&T will be beside the Fair Bluff United Methodist Church).

Riverside Drive runs beside BB&T Bank around the back of the Main Street stores. Park somewhere behind BB&T bank or on Main Street. Riverside Drive will be blocked off on Festival Day.

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loves
the*



Watermelon Festival



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Dr. Patrick Moore
DDS



Dr. Christopher Clark
DDS

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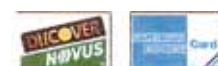
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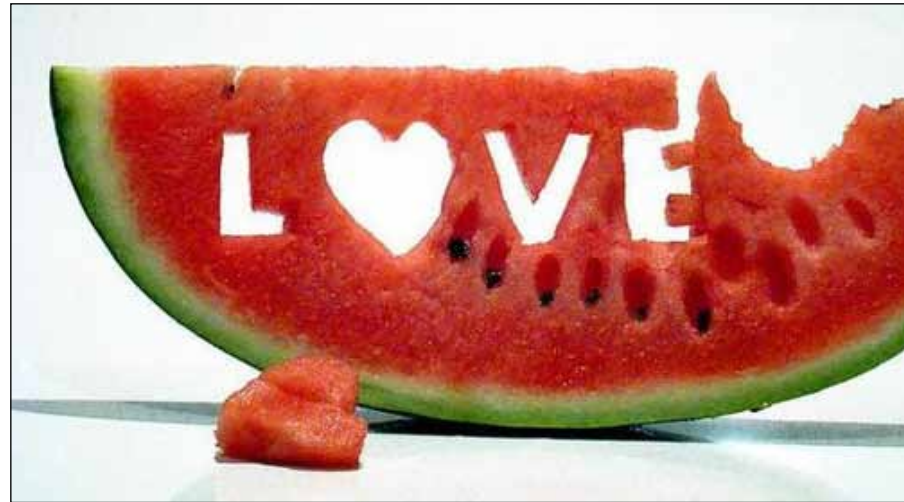
Watermelon Love

(The history and the thoughts of The North Carolina Watermelon Festival)

Life's Recipe

1 cup of good thoughts
1 cup of kind deeds
1 cup of consideration for others
2 cups of self sacrifice
3 cups of forgiveness
2 cups of well-beaten faults

Mix these ingredients thoroughly and add tears of joy and sorrow and sympathy for others. Fold in 4 cups of prayer and faith to lighten other ingredients and to raise the texture to greater heights of Christian living. After pouring all this into your daily life, bake well with the heat of human kindness. Serve with a smile.



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Teen Miss Contestants



Jadelyn N. Chavis
Parents:
Stephanie Thomas and John Hunt
Lumberton



Mackenzy Sharpe
Parents:
Jendifore and Steve Difiore
Statesville



Rebekah Altman
Parents:
Gary and Leanne Altman
Galivants Ferry



Savannah Spencer
Parents:
Dale and Rhonda Spencer
Hickory



FAIR BLUFF WATERMELON FESTIVAL

Come to Fair Bluff and Enjoy . . .
The Southern Watermelon Delight
The Watermelon Contest • Arts & Crafts Show
Entertainment • The Parade on Saturday



Shown here is a delightful view of Lumber River from the boardwalk.



SAVE THE DATE!

April 28-29, 2017



The Greater Fair Bluff Chamber of Commerce

Karen Grainger, President • Eddie Burney, Treasurer

Young Miss Contestants

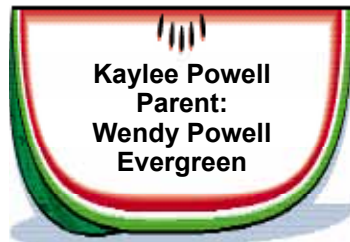


Miranda Ramsey Creech
Parents:
Buddy and Becky Creech
Burgaw



Zabrina Martello
Parents:
Steve and Erin Martello
Conway, S.C.

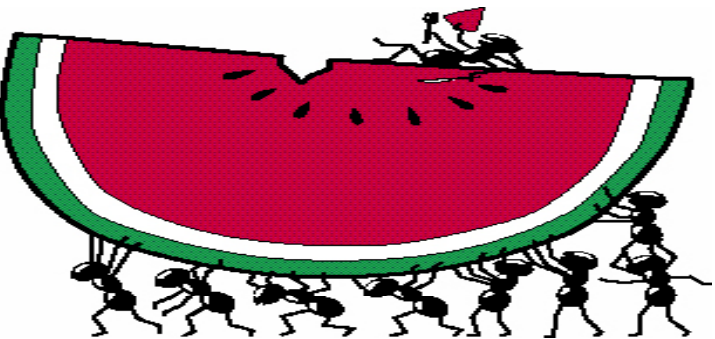
Mini Miss Contestants



Jean-Aubrey Williamson
Parents:
Walt and Jessica
Williamson
Chadbourn



Sophie Lewis
Parents:
Eddie Lewis Jr. and
Jessica Wright
Tabor City



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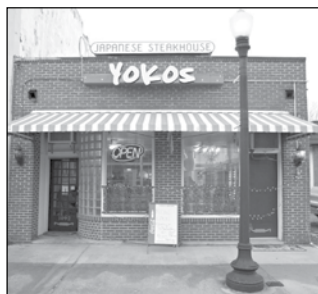
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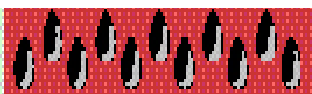
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Alyson Julia Sharp
 Parents:
 James and Courtney Sharp
 Sims



Brissa Garrell
 Parents:
 Brandon and Heather Garrell
 Chadbourn



Eden Bernal
 Parents:
 Daniel and Nadina Bernal
 Chadbourn



Isabella Difiore
 Parents:
 Steve and Jennifer Difiore
 Statesville



Sophia Garland
 Parents:
 Richie and Tara Garland
 Bakersville

Cupcake Cuties



Alania Nikole Brown
 Parents:
 Shayne and Amber Brown
 Chadbourn



Avery Clewis
 Parent:
 Amber Clewis
 Whiteville



Briggs Strickland
 Parents:
 Allen Strickland and
 Jennie Williamson
 Tabor City



Breeze Ghadimi
 Parents:
 Jessica Jones and Justin
 Chadimi
 Chadbourn



Paisley Nobles
 Parents:
 Brenda and Harold Nobles Jr.
 Whiteville

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Watermelon Festival



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Tiny Miss Contestants



Addilyn Faulk
Parents:
Justin and Holly
Faulk
Chadbourn



Becca Faye Holmes
Parents:
Christopher and Ashleigh
Holmes
Loris, S.C.



Bella Luna Martello
Parents:
Steve and Erin Martello
Conway, S.C.



Emilee Moore
Parents:
Bud and Amanda
Moore
Fair Bluff

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Little Gents Contestants

Visiting Queen



Avery Clewis
Parent:
Amber Clewis
Whiteville



Brantley Adam Soles
Parents:
Courteny and Adam Soles
Tabor City



Briggs Strickland
Parents:
Allen Strickland and Jennie Williamson
Tabor City



Nolan Barnes
Parents:
Whitney Pridgen and Justin Barnes
Chadbourn



NC Watermelon State Queen Sarah Lemons



Watermelon-Walla Walla Sweet Onion salsa



A colorful, refreshing change from traditional salsa. Serve with corn chips, chicken, fish or pork.

1/4 cup orange marmalade
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
1/4 cup finely chopped jalapeno peppers
2 tablespoons white vinegar

1 garlic clove, minced
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cups chopped seeded watermelon

1 cup chopped Walla Walla Sweet Onion
1 cup chopped orange sections

In large bowl, stir together orange marmalade, cilantro, jalapeno peppers, vinegar, gar-

lic and salt. Add watermelon, Walla Walla Sweet Onion and orange, gently toss together until coated. Chill at least 30 minutes before serving.

*Makes 4 cups • Preparation time: 15 minutes
Chill time: 30 minutes*



How to pick a watermelon

Appearance: Look it over -- choose a symmetrical watermelon that's free of bruises, cuts, and dents.

Weight: Lift it up -- the watermelon should be heavy for its size.

Ripeness: Turn it over -- the underside of a ripe watermelon is yellow. The rind has a healthy sheen.

Festive Watermelon cake

1 box white cake mix
1 tablespoon plain flour
1 3-oz. package mixed fruit jello
3/4 cup Wesson oil
1 cup cut-up watermelon pieces
4 eggs

Sprinkle flour over cake mix. Add jello, oil and watermelon. Mix thoroughly with electric beater, adding one egg at a time. Divide batter into two greased and floured 8-inch pans. Bake for 30 minutes at 325 degrees. Ice when cool.

Topping

1 stick of margarine
1/2 to 1 cup of cut-up watermelon
1 box of powdered sugar
1 each Red and green food coloring
1 package Chocolate chips

Soften margarine and add sugar. Blend in the watermelon gradually until a spreading



consistency is reached. Divide topping and add red and green food coloring to each. Spread the topping over the cake. Add chocolate chips as needed for decoration.

Watermelon handling tips

Whole Watermelons:

- Rinse the outside with water before cutting, as you would with any produce item.
- Store in the refrigerator to preserve freshness and flavor.

Pre-cut Watermelons:

- Look for the flesh to appear dense and firm.
- Refrigerate to preserve freshness and flavor (1 week maximum).
- Cover the cut surface loosely with plastic wrap to prevent flesh from becoming mushy.
- Store chunks of the flesh in covered plastic containers.
- Freeze watermelon cubes or chunks to use as ice cubes in beverages or to eat as popsicles.
- Do not cook watermelon as it loses the sweet delicious taste.



Watermelon popsicles

3 cups watermelon juice
2 tsp. fresh lemon juice
1/2 cup water
1/2 cup sugar

To prepare watermelon juice, cut watermelon into cubes and rub through a strainer to remove seeds. In small sauce-pan mix together sugar and water; simmer three minutes. Remove from heat; stir in watermelon juice and lemon juice. Turn into two ice trays. Freeze until very mushy and insert a popsicle stick in each cube.



Freeze. Makes about 36 small popsicles.

Wee Miss Contestants

Junior Miss Contestants



Brenna Garrell
Parents:
Brandon and
Heather Garrell
Chadbourn



Ashlyn Thompkins
Parents:
Kevin and Carrie Thompkins
Tabor City



Adilyn Grace White
Parents:
Wesley and Chelse White
Chadbourn



Montgomery Lanier
Parents:
Rodney and Glynis Lanier
Wilmington



Alexandra Martello
Parents:
Steve and Erin Martello
Conway, S.C.

Bathing Beauties



Katelyn Ward
Parents:
Jon and Leslie Ward
Whiteville



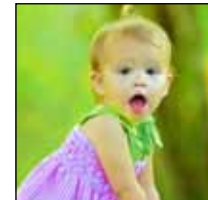
Breeze Ghadimi
Parents:
Jessica Jones and
Justin Ghadimi
Chadbourn



Paisleigh Floyd
Parents:
Hannah Floyd and
Zachery Floyd
Cerro Gordo



Alania Brown
Parents:
Amber and
Shayne Brown
Chadbourn



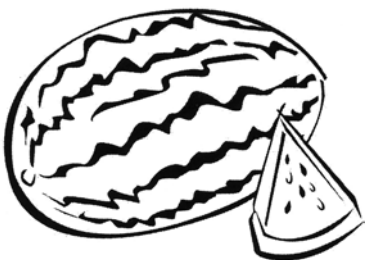
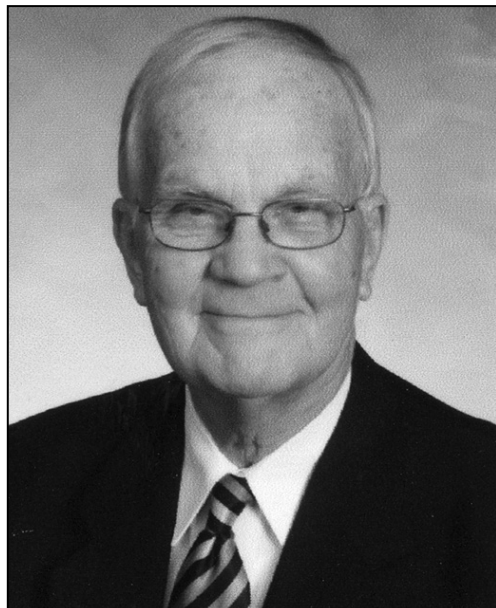
Paisley Floyd
Parents:
Hannah and
Zackery Floyd
Cerro Gordo



Paisley Nobles
Parents:
Brenda and
Harold Nobles Jr.
Whiteville

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Watermelon
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during your visit.



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Watermelon
Festival



Brenden Jones

- Born & raised in Columbus County
- Husband & Father
- Deacon in his Church
- Small Business Owner

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Calendar Kids

Watermelon Eating Contest



Adilyn Grace White
Parents:
Wesley and Chelse White
Chadbourn



Alexis Enzor
Parents:
Monroe and Amanda Enzor
Cerro Gordo



Braxton Enzor
Parents:
Monroe and Amanda Enzor
Cerro Gordo



Paisley Nobles
Parents:
Brenda and
Harold Nobles Jr.
Whiteville



Breeze Ghadimi
Parents:
Jessica Jones and Justin
Ghadimi
Chadbourn



Avery Clewis
Parent:
Amber Clewis
Whiteville



Alli Brooke Miller
Parent:
Summer Miller
Green Sea, S.C.



Torri Rayne Miller
Parent:
Summer Miller
Green Sea, S.C.



Nolan Barnes
Parents:
Whitney Pridgen and
Justin Barnes
Chadbourn



Briggs Strickland
Parents:
Allen Strickland and
Jennie Williamson
Tabor City



Alexis Rose Ward
Parents:
Andrea and Mitchell Ward
Tabor City



Koven Ward
Parents:
Andrea and Mitchell Ward
Tabor City



Owen Ward
Parents:
Ricky and Heather Ward
Fair Bluff



Emma Ward
Parents:
Ricky and Heather Ward
Fair Bluff



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Cheryl McRae, Representative
Charlie Gore, Representative
Pam Stanley, Office Representative

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Calendar Kids



Trinity Bruton
Parent:
Chesley Bruton
Green Sea, S.C.



David Monroe Enzor Jr.
Parents:
Julia and David Enzor
Ash



Brayden Strickland
Parents:
Bryan "Jr." and
Kayla Strickland
Fair Bluff



Cade Baker
Parents:
Matthew and Lora Baker
Columbus



Claire Baker
Parents:
Dallas and Mary Giao Baker
Pasadena, Calif.



Briggs Strickland
Parents:
Allen Strickland and
Jennie Williamson
Tabor City



Ty Preston Nobles
Parents:
Brandi Nobles and Steven
Nobles
Myrtle Beach, S.C.



Conrad Baker
Parents:
Dallas and Mary Giao Baker
Pasadena, Calif.



Gracelynn Johnson
Parent:
Savannah Johnson
Cerro Gordo



Colton Campbell
Parents:
Whitney Pridgen
and Joseph Campbell
Lake View S.C.



Chreston Laykz Cribb
Parents:
Joey and Morgan Cribb
Whiteville



Parker McPherson
Parents:
TJ James and Blake
McPherson
Chadbourn



Kasi Strickland
Parents:
Maria and Marty Strickland
and Marsha Strickland
Cerro Gordo



Emily and Nathan Powell
Parents:
Steven and Crystal Powell
Cerro Gordo



Brantley Nealey
Parents:
Joey and Morgan Cribb
Whiteville

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Gail Kennedy - Owner/Operator

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Dickies, Peaches, and Nurse Shoes

Calendar Kids



Bentlee and Conner Thompson
Parents:
Kimber Strickland and Daniel Thompson
Cerro Gordo



Brody and Madelyn Grace Garner
Parents:
Jennifer and Tim Garner
Whiteville



Bryson Bullard
Parents:
Brandon and Lori Miller Lee,
Little River, S.C.
and Jamie Bullard
Whiteville



Kendyl Rose Lee
Parents:
Brandon and Lori Miller Lee
Little River, S.C.



Lawson Prueter
Parents:
Emily and Drew Prueter
Sunset Beach



Nolan Barnes
Parents:
Whitney Pridgen
Lake View, S.C.
and Justin Barnes
Chadbourn



Paisleigh Floyd
Parents:
Hannah Floyd and Zachery Floyd
Cerro Gordo



Wesley and Ashlyn Thompkins
Parents:
Kevin and Carrie Thompkins
Tabor City



Layla Cole Nealey
Parents:
Kaitlyn and Donovan Nealey
Clarkton



Timber Hobbs
Parents:
Peggy and Daniel Hobbs
Whiteville



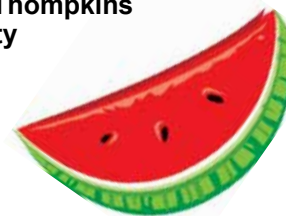
Alania Nikole Brown
Parents:
Amber and Shayne Brown
Chadbourn



Breeze Ghadimi
Parents:
Jessica Jones and Justin Ghadimi
Chadbourn



Miller Montgomery Nance
Parents:
Blair Miller Nance
Green Sea, S.C.
and Matthew Nance
Cerro Gordo



Paisley Nobles
Parents:
Brenda and Harold Nobles Jr.
Whiteville



Savannah and Lilly Norris
Parents:
Monty and Moneika Norris
Cerro Gordo



Carleigh Marie Kinlaw
Parent:
Kimberly Kinlaw
Chadbourn



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Fair Bluff nominees



Emilee Paige Britt
Nominee for Fair Bluff Queen



Baylee Haynes
Nominee for Fair Bluff Princess



Alexis Rose Ward
Nominee for Fair Bluff Junior Miss



Alexis Enzor
Nominee for Fair Bluff Little Miss



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your needs, small enough
to know your name.*



Jerry W. Brown, CPA
Phil W. Byrd, CPA
Deborah S. Grissom, CPA
John L. Grissom, Jr., CPA

J. Lee Grissom, CPA, CFE
Julia Kinlaw, CPA
Culbert M. (Buddy)
McLean, Jr., CPA

John D. Masters, CPA
Jerry G. Savage, CPA
Matthew S. McLean, CPA

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31st Annual

Watermelon Festival



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Green
Baby Miss 2015**



**Kelbi
Bowen
Mini Miss 2015**



**Natalie
Hamilton
Wee Miss 2015**



**Porter Grace
Richardson
Tiny Miss 2015**



**Alieyah
Godwin
Petite Miss 2015**



**Lorelei
Elbersen
Little Miss 2015**



**Katelynn
Scott
Junior Miss 2015**