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Sports



•Sixth-inning homers lift Lady Wolfpack over East Columbus.
•Merritt's grand slam spurs Viking win over St. Pauls. See page 1-B.

Published since 1890 every Monday and Thursday for the County of Columbus and her people.

The News Reporter

Thursday, April 28, 2016



Volume 125, Number 87
Whiteville, North Carolina

75 Cents

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•ECHS students compete in tea etiquette contest.

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•The antics of Monty Python's 'Spamalot' hit the stage tonight.

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•Man with 50 charges of assault on female arrested.

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•Daughter writes book on lessons learned from dad.

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DIDYOB?

Did you observe ...

Whiteville High School students enjoying a field trip to Raleigh Wednesday? ...

County Deaths

Whiteville
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Keisha Kimyada Peet
Johnny Lewis Watts
Virginia R. Green Buffkin
Mildred P.G. Garrett
Franklin Lionel Suggs
Jane O'Berry Saunders
Chadbourn
Keita Eve Currey

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Photo by GRANT MERRITT

The Rev. Andy Anderson, a former city councilman, led the audience in prayer just before the Whiteville City Council meeting Tuesday. Anderson also gave the invocation starting the meeting.

City allowing Collier to retire

By JEFFERSON WEAVER
Staff Writer

The Whiteville City Council voted Tuesday to give full retirement benefits to former Parks and Rec Director Tim Collier.

Collier was fired from the city earlier this month for violations of city personnel policy. The dismissal came after an internal investigation into official complaints filed against Collier.

Around 100 people turned out in support of Collier Tuesday, although he did not attend the council meeting. Some of the protestors were demanding Collier's full reinstatement to his former position, as well as pay and benefits.

Rev. Andy Anderson led Collier supporters in prayer outside the city offices just before the meeting. A former city councilman, Anderson asked that the crowd remain calm, "but that we pray the right thing be done."

City Safety Officer Hal Lowder and Fire Chief David Yergeau stopped spectators from entering the council chamber after it reached its posted capacity of 42. Collier supporters and other spectators then lined the hallways and spread into the front reception area of the building.

At the start of the council meeting, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Chairman Franklin Thurman and Mayor Terry Mann announced that Collier had



Franklin Thurman leads the audience in a round of applause for the city council.

agreed to work out an agreement with the city "that will solve the problem.

"Mr. Collier is happy with it, and we should be too," Thurman told the audience, and asked for a round of applause for the city council.

See Collier, page 9-A

Speakers urge preservation, prudence on City Hall question

By JEFFERSON WEAVER
Staff Writer

Whiteville City Hall was on the minds of two speakers at the City Council meeting Tuesday, and they had different agendas.

Janice Young of the Reuben Brown House Preservation Society urged the board to do everything possible to save the 1938 building, while Justin Smith suggested the board "consider that rebuilding on the site may be a more prudent option."

City Hall was closed last year while staff and council seek a solution to the mold, structural problems, lead paint and asbestos in the structure.

Young told the board that Preservation North Carolina, a non-profit architectural heritage group, is willing to assist the city in evaluating, preserving and if necessary, selling the building.

"The building is a huge part of our local history," she said, "and we hope it can be preserved as a city hall. It represents so much to our community, and is an important part of the Madison Street corridor."

Smith said that his family has lived here for five generations, and applauded the council and preservationists for wanting to save the structure, but urged caution.

"I would support renovating the facility if it can be done at a reasonable cost and if we can be assured the problems won't return," he said. "If not, I believe our tax money can be better spent elsewhere."

"As the father of two Whiteville residents under the age of four," Smith said, "I admit I am biased in favor of the future. I am in favor of police and fire protection, good drinking water, economic development, parks and recreation and sidewalks."



Photos by GRANT MERRITT

Janice Young addresses the council.



Justin Smith

"There are lots of needs, lots of opportunities to improve our city, and we have to be judicious in how we spend our limited resources. Most people probably agree we should save City Hall - in theory. But the real question is, save City Hall at what cost?"

'Disappointment' with school plan in Evergreen, Fair Bluff communities

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

Disappointment.

It is the reaction in the Evergreen and Fair Bluff communities over a proposal to close Evergreen Elementary and relocate Columbus Career and College Academy to West Columbus High School. The two schools are among seven slated for closure under a \$70 million plan that would expand Cerro Gordo school and build two new consolidated schools in eastern and western Columbus County.

Two people referred to the proposals as "daggers" into the hearts of Evergreen and Fair Bluff.

Evergreen resident Wayne Williamson, a retired educator with more than 37 years of service in the Columbus County and Whiteville City School systems, among others, said, "It's disappointing. At Evergreen, we've got the oldest school in the county. People are just not real satisfied with the situation that's being proposed. There's a lot of conversation in the community about losing the school and about having to transport kids, especially younger kids. If this is going to be the standard, I'd like to see them make the existing West Columbus High School a junior high and build a new up-to-date West Columbus High School between Cerro Gordo and Chadbourn."

Referring to a decline in enrollment figures in the public schools, Williamson continued, "A lot of people are blaming the charter schools. I don't know if all these kids are going to the charter schools or not. You know, if we're going to do all this and build all these new schools in the county, it's time to bring the Whiteville City Schools into it and consolidate the county and city systems as well."

The Rev. Scott Gore, pastor of Evergreen See Disappointment, page 6-A

Interest grows in SAR team

By JEFFERSON WEAVER
Staff Writer

Four times this year, local emergency services personnel have responded to calls about missing persons.

After two recent incidents, interest has started growing in founding a search and rescue (SAR) team that would be based here. Currently, Columbus County has to rely on assistance from other counties to help find missing persons.

Speed and a coordinated response are necessary, regardless of the annual number of missing person calls, said Kay Worley, director of Columbus County Emergency Services.

"Sometimes we have three or four calls," she said. "Some years we have none."

Three of the four missing cases this year have resulted in the subject being found safe. One case involved a murder victim in Tabor City.

While searches often begin using local volunteers, family members, firefighters and law enforcement, Worley said the county usually takes advantage of the automatic mutual aid available from area counties with SAR teams.

"Right now we do not have the manpower or resources," she said. "We want to change that in the future."

With an aging population and other social factors, search team members from across the region say they are becoming busier and busier each year, often crossing county lines to assist other agencies.

Dozens of elderly people disappear every year across the country, according to the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR). In some cases, cognitive disorders, such as Alzheimer's, play a major role.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the same chemical processes that cause the confusion so evident with many elder patients can also trigger fear impulses, making them hide from family members and searchers. Most states have a version of the "Silver Alert" system that broadcasts descriptions of missing persons within minutes of an alert being issued.

Tommy Batson of Pender County Emergency Services is a member of PENSAR, the Pender search and rescue team. One of the old-

See SAR, page 8-A

Crime briefs

Shoplifter

Drema Godwin Nance, 31, of Cow Branch Road, Evergreen, was arrested April 20 for stealing jewelry, valued at \$115, from Walmart in Whiteville, according to a warrant obtained by a Walmart employee.

Laptop

Roy Lee Covington Jr., 16, a resident of Boys and Girls Home, has been arrested on charges of breaking into a building owned by Boys and Girls Home along Top Tobacco Road on March 29, and stealing a Dell laptop computer valued at \$500, based on a warrant obtained by Lake Waccamaw Chief of Police Scott Hyatt.

Co-defendants

Joshua Patrick Struve, 19, of Vinegar Loop Road, Tabor City, and Justin Michael Spivey, 18, of Spivey-Ward Road, Tabor City, have been arrested as co-defendants on charges of breaking into South Columbus High School during the period of April 16-17, and stealing drinks and various food items with a total value of \$300, according to warrants obtained by School Resource Officer Deputy John Cobb Jr.

Fraud

April Lorraine Hoffman, 23, of Elliott Lane, Whiteville, has been arrested on a charge of fraud involving items stolen from a Hallsboro man within the past 10 days.



Hoffman

A warrant, obtained by Sheriff's Deputy Josh McPherson, shows Hoffman pawned stolen items at Murf's Pawn in Whiteville on April 19. She tried to pawn 80 stolen pistol bullets, a box of 500 .22-caliber bullets, propane cooker, work light, and circular saw. Hoffman was previously charged with breaking and entering Robert Evans' storage shed in Hallsboro, also on April 19, and stealing a variety of items, including those she attempted to pawn.

Break-ins, thefts

- April 25 – Kevin Mark Prince, 2200 block Mollie-Iron Hill Road, Clarendon – theft of 16-foot-by-16-foot solar panel, Mighty Mule electric swing arm.
- April 25 – West Columbus High School – theft of two Dell Latitude computers.
- April 25 – Timothy Campbell Wright, Sidney-Cherry Grove Road, Clarendon – theft of Remington 887 Nitro Magnum 12-gauge pump shotgun.
- April 22 – Tractor Supply, Whiteville – theft of 5.5-foot-by-10-foot Carry On trailer.
- April 22 – Helen Bowen Williams, Bladenboro – theft of air conditioner/heater from Pireway Road, Tabor City.

State helps offenders in process of re-entry

As criminal justice and corrections agencies across the country observe this week, April 24-30, 2016, as National Re-entry Week, the N.C. Department of Public Safety is highlighting efforts to help ex-offenders succeed in society after their release from prison. "About 95 percent of all inmates will one day be released from prison and return to our communities," said Public Safety Secretary Frank L. Perry. "We must do all we can to help ensure that they are successful and do not re-offend." Preparation for reentry begins the day an inmate enters prison. The admission and diagnostic process assesses the specific needs of each inmate in several areas including medical, mental health, substance abuse and education. A case plan is crafted which lays out programs that will aid in the inmate's treatment and rehabilitation and meet their individual needs. During an inmate's time in prison they participate in basic educational programs if they do not have a high school diploma or high school equivalency. Specialty skills and trades can be learned through a wide variety of vocational programs offered in conjunction with the N.C. Community College system. Work programs allow inmates to occupy their time in a pro-

ductive manner, learn a skill or trade, earn a wage, develop a positive work ethic and learn soft skills that will help them in a future workplace after prison. At these re-entry facilities, case managers help inmates prepare for release in a variety of ways. They help inmates develop a transition plan, and make sure each inmate has essential documents like photo ID, a social security card and educational certificates from their prison learning. Institutional probation/parole officers working from offices in the prison will connect releasing inmates to needed services and resources in the community where they will live, and to the probation/parole officer who will supervise them after release. The Department of Public Safety is focused on developing a seamless transition from prison to the community for all inmates, especially those with mental illness by ensuring the continuity of care and treatment is maintained upon release. Currently, probation/parole officers assist returning citizens with many areas of need such as housing, treatment and employment. A more comprehensive hand-off through the sharing of information will increase the likelihood of success in the community.

Dismissed

A driving while impaired (DWI) charge against Lashanda Venese Battle, 28, of Broadway Road, Chadbourn, was dismissed in Superior Court recently when information about her case was ordered suppressed by Judge Ola Lewis. A sheriff's deputy couldn't remember details about making the vehicle stop, and didn't have any notes about the case.

Remand

A driving while impaired (DWI) case against Joseph Niles Spivey Jr., 49, of U.S. 701 South, Tabor City, was sent back (remanded) to District Court during Superior Court action here recently. Spivey appealed his lower court conviction in May 2015. He had a blood-alcohol level of 0.14 when arrested in September 2014. Spivey will be on probation for a year, must do community service and pay a \$100 fine. A jail term of 60 days was suspended.

Shooting

Marty Davene Soles, 24, of Sandy Place Drive, Tabor City, has been arrested on a charge of shooting Jordan David Hardwick with a pistol on April 1, based on a warrant obtained by Sheriff's Detective Ken Elliott. Soles is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious injuries.



Soles



Considered pretty by some and pests by others, Canada geese and their goslings are a common sight this time of year around many farms and ponds. Canadas can be very aggressive when protecting their nests or young. Wildlife officials urge bird enthusiasts to keep a safe distance from the water birds to avoid being injured – or charged with a federal waterfowl violation.

Various drug charges face several suspects

There have been several arrests made by various agencies on charges involving illegal drugs, prescription medication and/or synthetic material used as substitute drugs. Daniel Colin Johnson, 30, of Wilmington, arrested by Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. Adam Gore, is charged with possession of 7.5 Alprazolam pills with intent to sell them, plus maintaining a 2004 Saturn as a place to keep and illegally sell the pills. Johnson's crimes were on April 23. Johnson has a prior record of being convicted twice in 2008 for felony possession of drugs. Jaden Tilic Davis, 16, of South Huffman Street, Chadbourn, and William Gene Blackwell, 16, of Cerro Gordo were the two West Columbus High School students found

possessing 6/10ths of a gram of marijuana at the school on April 22, according to a report by School Resource Officer Deputy Sgt. Pamela Bryan. Larry K. Strickland, 56, of Mill Street, Chadbourn, was arrested for drug activity in early April based on warrants obtained by Sheriff's Drug Detective Dustin Fowler. Strickland is charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell, plus maintaining a singlewide mobile home, with a wheelchair ramp, along Mill Street, as a place to keep



Strickland



Hardin

Weyland Eugene Hardin, 64, of the 4100 block of N.C. 242, Chadbourn, is charged with trafficking (by transportation and delivery of pills) in the opium derivative found in prescription medication, plus the sale and delivery of Clonazepam pills on April 7, and maintaining his Ford pickup truck as a place to keep and sell medication, according to warrants



Suggs

obtained by Sheriff's Drug Detective Justin Worley. Hardin's prior record includes convictions in 1988 for possession of marijuana with intent to sell, and the sale of the drug, for which he was put on probation, and eventually, went to prison for a short term. Travis Reed Suggs, 22, of Savannah Road, Tabor City, is charged with possession on April 23 of five grams of synthetic cannabinoid with intent to sell the fake marijuana, according to a warrant obtained by Whiteville Police Officer Jonathan Rawls. Suggs' offense is a week to the day after he pleaded in District Court to possession of drug paraphernalia, and giving fictitious information to a police officer, and being put on probation for a year, records show.

50 charges of AOF

Antwan Bellamy, 41, who has a Megan's Way, Chadbourn address, was arrested Tuesday (April 26) night in Whiteville on charges of being a fugitive from New York state where he's wanted on a reported total of 50 counts of assault on a female (AOF). Local police were notified by New York probation and parole authorities that Bellamy was in a home in the 200 block of East Lewis Street here. Police took him into custody without incident, and he was being held



Bellamy

on a \$55,000 bond, according to local records. An explanation about the reported 50 counts of assault on a female was not available Wednesday afternoon. A search of N.C. criminal records showed Bellamy has no criminal record in this state. The only Antwan Bellamy shown in N.C.'s records is Antwan Levon Bellamy, who is 22 years old, and is currently on probation for convictions in Bladen County of trespassing and resisting arrest.

Get rid of pills here

Another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day will be held in Whiteville on Saturday, April 30, with the collection point here in the parking area of CVS Pharmacy along U.S. 701 North. Expired, unused and unwanted pills will be accepted, no questions asked.

Driver flees checkpoint

A four-door Honda, operated by a Bolton man, fled from a Tabor City police checkpoint at 1:30 a.m. on April 25, and eventually wrecked in Loris, S.C., according to Tabor City police reports. Officer Chris Cotton pursued the car, assisted by Horry County officers, and Anthony Tyrone Williams, 25, of the 18700 block of U.S. 74-76, Bolton, was arrested after a foot chase of about 200 yards by Cotton. A stolen pistol was found in the Honda, plus marijuana. An unknown passenger dropped an AK-47 rifle as he also fled the car.

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Jenrette gets concurrent prison term for weapon

Jonathan Jenrette, 32, of Red Hill Road, Whiteville – serving a prison term after a conviction last November in two armed robbery cases – got a concurrent term of 25 to 39 months here recently after he pleaded to possession of a weapon of mass destruction (sawed-off shotgun). Jenrette was sent to prison last year for 29 to 47 months in the two robbery cases from



Jenrette

April 2015. He has a 49-day credit involving the new term. His prior record, in addition to last year's armed robbery cases, includes possession of marijuana in 2000 and 2009, maintaining a vehicle to keep illegal drugs in 2005, and possession of cocaine in 2005.

Minor injury

Alesha Nicole Kelly of Dogwood Stand Road, Delco, sustained minor injuries Monday night (April 25) when she wrecked a 2000-model Ford car at the intersection of N.C. 11 with U.S. 74-76 between Bolton and Freeman. A Highway Patrol report shows the 10:40 p.m. wreck was caused when Kelly didn't stop on N.C. 11, and slammed into a ditch after skidding 96 feet through the intersection.

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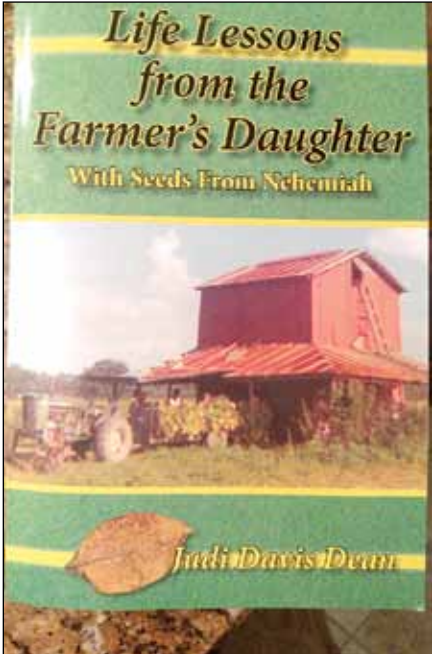
Wilton Davis as a crew chief in the 1950s



Wilton Davis and his dogs



Grandson T.C. Florich was killed in a helicopter crash a year ago. He was a crew chief like his granddad.



Daughter writes book on lessons learned from dad

By CLARA CARTRETTE
Staff Writer

A lot has happened since Judi Davis Dean left the farm where she grew up in the Evergreen community, but she never forgot life lessons she learned there. She decided a couple of years ago to write a book about those life lessons and dedicate it to her dad in honor of his 85th birthday.

Dean is the daughter of Wilton and Doris Davis of Evergreen. She now resides in Killen, Ala., and is married to Stan Dean, pulpit minister for the Killen Church of Christ. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

“I have been working on ‘Life Lessons From the Farmer’s Daughter’ for a couple of years, but I knew I wanted to finish it by my dad’s 85th birthday,” Dean said. “I thought it would be a great gift to him. The book is an easy read with 11 chapters.

“Such chapter titles as ‘Sticky tar is hard to wash off when you have hairy arms’ (not wearing your feelings on your sleeve) and ‘The cows are more scared of you than you are of them’ (facing your fears) will keep your interest. Each life lesson learned while growing up on the farm is something that my dad taught mostly through his great example.”

Dean said she took each lesson and applied Biblical knowledge with it to make a spiritual application for everyday life.

“The book of Nehemiah is the backdrop for Biblical illustrations,” she said. “My prayer is that it can help readers gain strength in the Lord. Scattered throughout the book are pictures of us on the farm. Those who grew up farming tobacco can relate well to the pictures.”

Dean was raised with two sisters, Cynthia (Cindy) Davis Guy, and Donna Davis Florich who died of leukemia.

Dean is a 1977 graduate of West Columbus High School and also graduated from Freed-Hardeman University. As the wife of a minister, Stan Dean, she had the opportunity to speak for Ladies’ Inspiration Days and Retreats. The



Doris and Wilton Davis



Stan and Judi Dean

Deans have four sons and five grandchildren.

“This gave me the opening for my first writing adventure,” she said. “My sister, Cindy, and I together wrote ‘Sweet Truths,’ published by Publishing Designs, Inc. in 2013. It is a book comparing life to a box of chocolates. It has a spiritual message and is a great read for the individual or for a ladies’ class.”

Cindy is also married to a minister, Steve Guy, and they live in Myrtle Beach, S.C. They have two sons, a daughter and seven grandchildren. She and her husband are university professors and have started a college within a church.

Asked to comment on the book dedicated to him, Wilton Davis said he was very proud of it. Called from his garden to talk about it, Davis said he was planting tomatoes, corn and string beans.

He hasn’t farmed since the 1980s due to two crushed vertebrae when he stepped off a pickup with 100 pounds of fertilizer on his back. He recovered rather well, due to successful surgery performed by his late brother Marion Da-

vis’ son-in-law, Dr. Salvatore Seva.

Wilton and Doris Davis had seven grandsons and a granddaughter. One grandson, 26-year-old T.C. Florich, tragically died in a helicopter accident about a year ago when he was bringing Marines back to Camp Lejeune from maneuvers in Louisiana.

“He was married and his wife was pregnant, and she now has a beautiful little girl,” Doris said. T.C.’s mother Donna died of leukemia at age 36 and his father is retired from the military and lives in Virginia.

Doris noted that T.C. followed in his Grandfather Wilton’s footsteps as a crew chief.

“He was a helicopter mechanic when we met in 1953,” she said of Wilton. She was from Texas from the Dallas-Fort Worth area and her 99-year-old mother still lives there.

Asked to comment on her daughter’s book, Doris implied that Judi knew of what she wrote.

“They were good kids and never got in trouble,” she said. “They worked hard and didn’t

have time to get in trouble.

“Judi is a people person,” she added. “When I get depressed I call Judi.”

Wilton grew up in a family of 13 children, eight boys and five girls.

“There’s just one boy living besides me,” he said. His brother Lennon, in his early 80s, died recently from an accident. He had gone to a neighbor’s house and fell backward going up the steps. He lived a few days but developed pneumonia and was bleeding internally.

Wilton served three years in the U.S. Army in the early to mid 1950s. After complet-

ing basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., he underwent helicopter training at Fort Sill, OK.

“When they told me I was going to helicopter school, I said I didn’t know anything about helicopters,” he said. “They told that was why they were sending me to school.”

In Oklahoma he met a pretty cashier in a drugstore who kept him coming back on a regular basis for sandwiches and coffee. Once when they were riding in his 1954 Ford Crestline with a vinyl top she asked him to put the top down. “I told her I would if I had a hammer and chisel,” he said with a chuckle.

The car was not a convertible but it looked like one.

Wilton served in the European Theatre for nine or 10 months and was transferred to Salzburg, Austria. He was able to travel to Paris and Germany to Hitler’s old stomping grounds and was once in a wreck with two other guys but he was thrown clear of the wreckage.

He said it took a week to get to Salzburg on a ship but 13 days to get back. “We ran into a storm coming back and had to head into it instead of trying to outrun it,” he said.

He noted that he was about

to be drafted when he signed up for the Army, having been told that he would have more choice in the type of work he would be assigned to if he did. He signed up for the motor pool and became a helicopter mechanic, then made crew chief. He later learned that he would have had a two-year commitment if he had been drafted.

During his service he was involved in the dangerous mission of testing bombs somewhere near Las Vegas.

Coincidentally, the Davises’ grandson, T.C. Florich, traveled basically the same path as his granddad, going to Fort Sill, Fort Eustis and Fort Benning and becoming a helicopter mechanic and crew chief.

Wilton was one of nine helicopter mechanics sent to the helicopter manufacturing company in Bridgeport, Conn. to see how they were constructed so they could learn to repair them.

Doris said she and Wilton once met Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. They were invited to visit them and she said they had a great time with the western movie stars.

Heading back to his garden, Wilton said he was going back to his bell pepper and tomato plants.

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Childhood discipline workshop at SCC slated for this weekend

By SHALON SMITH
Staff Writer

The Future Educators Club of Southeastern Community College will be hosting a workshop on Conscious Discipline Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the SCC auditorium.

Conscious Discipline is described as a comprehensive self-regulation program and a social and emotional framework based on current brain research, child development information, and best teaching and parenting practices.

For parents, the tenets of Conscious Discipline define discipline as not something that is done to your children, but something you develop within them.

For teachers, Conscious Discipline integrates social-emotional learning, discipline and self-regulation so there is more time spent teaching vital life skills and less time spent policing behaviors.

Kim Hughes, a national

Conscious Discipline certified instructor, will be the trainer Saturday.

Hughes, a Wake Forest resident, is a 30-year education veteran who has worked as an administrator and as a teacher of children birth through fifth grade and who has Master's degrees in both Elementary Education and School Leadership and Administration.

Susan Deans, an early childhood specialist at SCC, praised the training and hopes that anyone interested in the topic decides to attend.

"This training provides excellent content for anyone involved in the supervision of young children," she said.

Nearly 100 area teachers, parents, and students have pre-registered to attend the event.

The contact person the Conscious Discipline event at SCC is Natalie Rackley, Early Childhood Education Faculty and Future Educators Club advisor.

She can be reached at (910) 642-7141 ext. 376.

COPE is Saturday

On Saturday morning, April 30, a COPE opportunity to learn about life in Columbus County, will be available at Whiteville United Methodist Church in Whiteville.

You will see the challenges for both citizens with low financial resources and the governmental and community groups seeking to serve all our people.

The Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE) offers a simulation in which the participants portray a member of a family living in poverty.

COPE represents the lives of 15 real families who have given their story to help others experience crisis daily living.

COPE will be presented

by Circles of Hope Columbus County, facilitated by Anna-Marie Inman and Ryan Lantrip.

Circles of Hope is a non-profit organization that links Champions (families working toward financial self-sufficiency) and Allies (persons encouraging and sharing community expertise) in a mutual relationship of learning.

The program begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 12 p.m.

Contact Anna-Marie Inman (445-6506) or Carolyn Hankins (640-3324) to register; there is no charge for the event.

Whiteville United Methodist Church is located at 902 Pinckney Street, Whiteville.

The Emporium to reopen Friday

The Emporium, downtown Whiteville's summertime entertainment place to be on Friday nights, will reopen Friday, April 29, with "Hired Hands" performing from 7 to 9 p.m.

Members of the group

are Bob Stanley, David Long, Terry Todd, Jerry Henry and Norma Jean Schism.

They play a variety of 1950s and 1960s country. A \$5 admission includes light refreshments. The public is invited.

Indian education hearing slated

A public hearing for the Title VII Indian Education Program will be held Tuesday, May 3 at 7 p.m. at the St. James Community Center.

Kenwood Royal, Indian Education Director, encourages

all interested Indian parents to attend the meeting.

The agenda includes the 2016-17 proposed Project, updating the Title VII parent advisory council and an evaluation of the current project.

Family night at The Anchorage

The Anchorage at Lake Waccamaw skating rink will be open to any family that wishes to participate Saturday, April 30 from 7-9:30 p.m. The event is free with roller

skating, a climbing wall, 9-square, pizza and cinnamon rolls will be provided. For more information call 646-4111 or email info@anchoragecamp.org.



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they leave well enough alone?"

Grainger added, "All small towns are hurting. Why screw up something that's working?" She mentioned that within the last two weeks students and programs from the CCCA have won several awards in statewide competitions. "Look at what they are doing. Look at the awards they've won. Look at the recognition they're getting. It's not right." Grainger said she would be glad to personally arrange a tour of the school for anyone who wants to see how well it is performing.

Like Williamson, Grainger said that as long as consolidation is being considered, then consolidation of the county and city school systems also ought to be examined as an available option.

Long-time Fair Bluff Commissioner Spruell R. "Randy" Britt is a former mayor of the town and as well as a former county commissioner.

"My first thought is that if the quality of education would be better and if it saves money, than it possibly could be a good thing, but I have to

ask what the trend is going to be in four or five years. This is another dagger in Fair Bluff's economy. I would want to see more concrete evidence of expected improvement before I could endorse the idea."

Britt, a member of the last graduating class at the old Fair Bluff High School in 1965, said that community spirit never has been the same in Fair Bluff since the consolidation of the high schools in Fair Bluff, Cerro Gordo, Evergreen and Chadbourn into West Columbus High. "Then, when they completely closed Fair Bluff's K-8 school several years ago, it almost destroyed what community spirit was

left. Later, with the opening of the College and Career Academy in Fair Bluff, it did a lot to help restore our community spirit. I don't know what this will do to the town and area."

Parks & Rec board will meet May 9

Columbus County Parks and Recreation will hold its quarterly recreation advisory board meeting Monday, May 9 at 7 p.m. in the Columbus County Parks and Recreation office, 606 N. Thompson St. in Whiteville behind the Health Department.

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Dr. Jugta Kahai

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Pediatrician Jugta Kahai, M.D., certified by the American Board of Pediatrics, is medical director of Southeast Pediatrics. She's trained to treat chronic conditions such as asthma and diabetes, ADHD, autism and

more, but she's also a strong proponent of good mental health in children. She feels mental health in pediatrics is too often overlooked and many times inadequately treated. Dr. Kahai is a passionate advocate for the importance of early intervention and treatment.

She's been caring for underserved children in North Carolina for nearly 20 years. After completing her residency and fellowship in pediatric critical care at State University of New York at Buffalo, she came to Brunswick County and established one of the only specialized pediatric clinics in the area.

Dr. Kahai and her staff can treat both acute and chronic conditions. "We want to partner with parents to be advocates for their child's mental, emotional and physical health," she said.

Dr Marc Yandle, currently seeing children in the hospital, will be joining Dr Kahai in the practice one day a week starting in May.

Disappointment

Continued from page 1-A

Baptist Church, hadn't heard of the proposal until contacted for comment. "I'm sure the people in the community won't like it," he said. "Lord knows, the school is good for our children and for the entire community. We love that school and would love to keep it. I would hate to see the closing happen. I remember how badly the Nakina community was hurt when the school there was closed so many years ago."

Gore added, "Small towns are struggling with keeping hope, and losing our school will be devastating to our children, to our community and to our lives. We are struggling with jobs and financial freedom and losing our school would be just one more dagger to the closeness that we have."

Fair Bluff Mayor Billy Hammond was unhappy with the proposal to move CCCA to Cerro Gordo. "The county has spent thousands on renovating the old (Fair Bluff) schoolhouse," he said, "and there's a brand new building there, too. I don't think moving the school will benefit the school system, the college or Fair Bluff." Hammond said he wouldn't be surprised to see the Fair Bluff Board of Commissioners pass a resolution opposing the move, although such a resolution would not be binding on county officials if passed.

Fair Bluff Chamber of Commerce President Karen Grainger was vocal about the proposal to move the college and career academy. "It's a shame and disgrace, because that school is doing an excellent job," she said. "This is a ridiculous plan. Why can't



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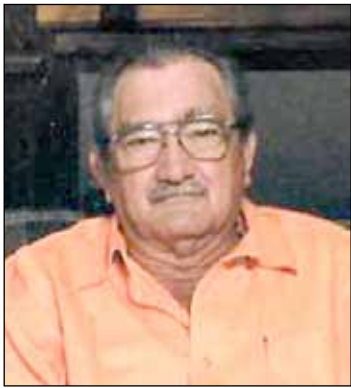
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Deaths

The News Reporter, Thursday, April 28, 2016 -- 7A

DEATH NOTICE



BOBBY LANE PARKER
WHITEVILLE -- Bobby Lane Parker, 71, died Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at his residence.

He was born in Columbus County, the son of the late Rev. James F. Parker and Carrie Evans Parker. He was preceded in death by a son, Bobby Neal Cartrette; three brothers, Billy Ray Parker, Benny Brooks Parker and James I. Parker; and one sister, Joyce Parker Page.

He served  in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Mr. Parker was employed as a Boiler Room Operator for Federal Paper Board for 29 years.

He was a member of Brunswick Baptist Church. He enjoyed fishing, guns, and was a Side Band and Ham Radio Operator.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Friday, April 29 at McKenzie Mortuary, 112 Jefferson Street. A graveside service will be conducted at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 30 at the Myrtle Head Cemetery in Ash with Rev. William Chappell.

Active pallbearers will be Tony Smith, Brent Parker, Jimmy Parker, Mitch Simmons, Neal Stocks and Grant Dudley.

Surviving are his wife, Bernice Price Parker of the home; two sons, Robert Dewayne Parker of Whiteville and Roy Gene Cartrette (Billie Jo) of Madison, Ga.; one daughter, Tammy Price (Ivan) of Whiteville; one sister, Wanda Parker McKeithan (Doug) of Ash; five grandchildren, Raegan Elizabeth Parker, Amy Leanne Stocks (Neil), Stevie Jean Cartrette, Tony Ray Smith and Aubrey Neal Cartrette; and two great-grandchildren, Luke Cartrette and Abel Stocks.

JIMMIE RAY WILLIAMS
ST. PAULS -- Jimmie Ray Williams, 65, died Friday, April 15, 2016 at his home. He was born in Bladen County June 19, 1950, the son of Norman Williams and Mable Andrews Williams.

He had worked as a nursing instructor and director of nursing programs in several colleges and hospitals.

A celebration of life service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 1 in the Saint Pauls Funeral Home Chapel with visitation to follow the service at the funeral home.

He is survived by two sisters, Jo Lynn Urian and Dondi Johnson.

In lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Alzheimer's Project; The National Breast Cancer Awareness Project; HIV Awareness and Prevention Project; or a charity of your choice.

MARILYN HAYES
WINSTON-SALEM -- Marilyn Hayes, 58, formerly of Clarkton, died Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at Norriant Forsyth Hospital.

Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Union Funeral Home of Clarkton.

Cornerstone FWBC revival May 2-7

Cornerstone Freewill Baptist Church will hold a revival Monday, May 2-Saturday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The guest evangelist for Monday-Friday will be Rev. Wesley Campbell and Rev. Kaleb Gerald for Saturday.

For more information call Bill Johnson at 840-4471.

DEATH NOTICE



KEISHA KIMYADA PEET
WHITEVILLE -- Keisha Kimyada Peet, 38, died Saturday, April 9, 2016 at Columbus Regional Healthcare. She was preceded in death by her father, Peter Peet of N.Y.; and one son, Matthew Scott Gore.

She attended Peace Baptist Church.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at Peace Baptist Church.

She is survived by her mother, Charity Long of Whiteville; her spouse, David Noble of Chadbourn; two sons, Isaiah Peet and Jeremiah Hedwin, both of Whiteville; sister and brother-in-law, Lateisha and Starling Fowler and their children, Sage Fowler, Jasmine Williams, Anastasia Fowler, Paris Fowler, Devyn Fowler, Caleb Fowler, Gage Clemmons; sister, Latasha Gleason of Nakina and children, Leeann Jackson, April Jackson, Zoyi Caulder, Tashala Jackson, Colton Elliott; sister, Alicea Gleason of Whiteville and sons, Vincent Delarosa, Juan Delarosa and Levante Bellamy.

VIRGINIA RUTH GREEN BUFFKIN
WHITEVILLE -- Virginia Ruth Green Buffkin, 82, died Monday, April 25, 2016. She was the daughter of the late, Rankin Lonnie and Daisy Ruth Morris Green and the widow of David C. Buffkin. She was also preceded in death by two brothers, William J. Green and Paul Ray Green.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 28 at Columbus Memorial Park with Rev. Matthew Ward officiating.

She is survived by her son, David Alan Buffkin of Whiteville; three sisters, Mary G. Hall of Spartanburg, S.C., Linda G. Holt of Chapin, S.C. and Susan Green of Hendersonville; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 473 Midway Drive, Whiteville, N.C. 28472.

Piney Grove fundraiser

Piney Grove AMEZ Church will hold a fundraiser program Saturday, April 30 at 6 p.m. in Clarkton. There will be special singing groups and a drawing in the fellowship building.



JOHNNY LEWIS WATTS
WHITEVILLE -- Johnny Lewis Watts, 71, died Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice and LifeCare Center. He was born in Columbus County, the son of the late Walter Lewis and Katie Lou Locklear Watts. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Lucille Creech and Betty Watts; and two brothers, Jack Watts and Tom Watts.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 28 in the chapel of Peacock's Funeral Home with Rev. Danny Jeffers officiating.

He is survived by sons, Jonathan Watts of Whiteville, Timothy Watts of Moncks Corner, S.C., Phillip Watts of Tampa, Fla.; three daughters, Emily Dowless Cartrette and Carol Ann Watts, both of Whiteville, Deanna Watts of Tampa, Fla.; one brother, Lonnie Watts of Lubbock, Texas; and three grandchildren.

LUCILLE RICH THOMPSON
BLADENBORO -- Lucille Rich Thompson, 78, died Wednesday, April 27, 2016. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Thompson; four sisters, Eloise Babson, Betty Hewitt, Judy Tatum and Elaine Parson.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 28 at Bladen-Gaskins Funeral Home in Elizabethtown. Final rites will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, April 29 at Butters Baptist Church in Bladenboro with Rev. Jerry (Bo) Wilkins officiating. Burial will be in Butters Cemetery.

Survivors include one daughter, Martha McPherson of Bladenboro; one brother, Dennis Rich of Bladenboro; three sisters, Jo Ann Kinlaw, Carolyn Gause and Margorie Armstrong, all of Bladenboro; and three grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Liberty HomeCare and Hospice Services, 501 Doctors Drive, Elizabethtown, N.C. 28337.

JACK THOMAS THOMPSON
BLADENBORO -- Jack Thomas Thompson, 69, died Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at his home.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Liberty HomeCare and Hospice Services, 46 McNeill Plaza, Whiteville, N.C. 28472.

MILDRED PATRICIA GRESHAM GARRETT
WHITEVILLE -- Mildred Patricia Gresham Garrett, 61, died Sunday, April 24, 2016 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m.-noon Saturday, April 30 at Central Missionary Baptist Church, 443 West Virgil Street. Final rites will be held at noon Saturday, April 30 at the church with Rev. David Flowers officiating. Burial will be in Mainor Family Cemetery, Fort Knox Road, Magnolia. Rose Hill Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

She is survived by two sons, Edwin Garrett IV of Woodbridge, Va. and Ronald Garrett of Whiteville; one daughter, Parrisha Garrett of Fredericksburg; four brothers, Leonard Gresham of Riegelwood, Robert Gresham of Nashville, Tenn., Matthew McKinney of Tamiment, Pa. and Parrish McKinney of Nashville, Tenn.; five sisters, Leona Howard and Phyllis Blanks, both of Macon, Ga., Leonora Morris of Leland, Deborah Gresham of Stone Mountain, Ga. and Anna M. McKinney of Wilmington; 14 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

BETTY MOTTINGER RICHARDSON
ROCK HILL -- Betty Mottinger Richardson, 86, died Thursday, April 7, 2016 at White Oak Manor. Born in Whiteville, she was preceded in death by her parents, Walter T. Mottinger and Fannie Smith Mottinger. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Bruce Gordon Richardson; two brothers, "Pete" Mottinger and Edward Mottinger; and three sisters, Mary McNeill, Virginia Davis and Frances Heath.

She was a member of Friendship United Methodist Church. Survivors include her daughters, Mary McNeill Hutchinson and Susan Richardson Murphy, both of Rock Hill, S.C.; two sons, Eugene Best of Tampa, Fla. and Bruce Richardson of Rock Hill, S.C.; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.


The family requests that donations be made in her name to the charity of one's choice.

KAREN LEE JOHNSON
BLADENBORO -- Karen Lee Johnson, 52, died Monday, April 25, 2016 at Bladen Healthcare in Elizabethtown.

Viewing will be held from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 28 at S&L Funeral Home in Fair Bluff. A graveside service will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, April 29 at Old Field Cemetery with Rev. David Jones officiating.

She is survived by her mother, Christine Johnson; two brothers, Donald Edwards and Gary Johnson; and one sister, Barbara Ann Thompson.

FRANKLIN LIONEL SUGGS
WHITEVILLE -- Franklin Lionel Suggs, 80, died Friday, April 22, 2016 at Premier Living at Lake Waccamaw.

He was retired from  U.S. Marines.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 28 at First Missionary Baptist Church, 505 South Wilkes Street, Chadbourn. Burial, with military honors, will be in Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery in Jacksonville. Viewing will be held from noon-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 27 at Peoples Funeral Home of Whiteville and Thursday, April 28 one hour prior to the service at the church. There will be no viewing after the service.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth Suggs; six children, Nicey McAfee of Charlotte, Chris Waters of Georgia, Franklin Lionel Suggs III of Raleigh, Trina Crawford of the home, Celest Crawford of Hamden, Conn. and Priscilla Thompson of Chadbourn; and one sister, Alice Suggs of Chadbourn.

ADA DOVE PAIT
BLADENBORO -- Ada Dove Pait, 89, died Monday, April 25, 2016. She was preceded in death by her husband, Azzie James Pait; parents, Charlie and Virtie Dove; six sisters, Stella Pait, Madee Watts, Leola Connor, Leona Hester, Alberta Poole and Ethel Butler; and three brothers, Gaston Dove, Charlie Dove Jr. and Frank Dove.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 28 at Oak Grove Cemetery in Bladenboro. Bladen-Gaskins Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Survivors include one daughter, Elizabeth Lowery of Tar Heel; one brother, Albert Dove of Bladenboro; and one sister, Vada Storms of Whiteville.

KEITA EVE CURREY
CHADBOURN -- Keita Eve Currey, 40, died Sunday, April 24, 2016 at Columbus Regional Healthcare in Whiteville.

Final rites will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at First Missionary Baptist Church in Chadbourn. Burial will be in Belvue Cemetery. Viewing will be held from noon-6 p.m. Friday, April 29 in the D&A Funeral Home Chapel and Saturday, April 30 one hour prior to the service at the church.

She is survived by her mother, Eva Mae Currey of the home; one brother, Karim Currey of Georgia; two sisters, Angela Frink of N.Y. and LaGina Gross of Virginia; one step-brother, Christopher Currey of N.Y.; and one step-sister, Ruth Currey of N.Y.

Friends may visit with the family at 229 W. 3rd Street, Chadbourn.

BERTHA LEE FORD
JERSEY CITY, N.J. -- Bertha Lee Ford, 66, formerly of Whiteville, died Thursday, April 21, 2016 at her residence. She was the daughter of the late Willie Lee Ford and Costella Wilson Ford of Whiteville.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 1 at the Brunswick-Waccamaw Baptist Headquarters, 600 Pinelogs Road, Whiteville. Burial will be in George Cemetery. Viewing will be held from noon-7 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at Peoples Funeral Home of Whiteville and Sunday, May 1 following the service at the headquarters.

Surviving are her daughter, Kristina Monique Thorpe of the home; five sisters, Marienna Mason of Scotch Plains, N.J., Jean Robinson and Stella Hill, both of Whiteville, Hattie Crayton of Dallas, Texas, and Arnetha Dickerson of Clayton; and one brother, Rudolph Ford of Chadbourn.

Friends may visit the family at 667 Campground Road, Whiteville.

ELIZABETH HARRIS PIERCE
COUNCIL -- Elizabeth Harris Pierce, 93, died Friday, April 22, 2016 at Liberty Commons in Whiteville.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at Kitchen Branch Missionary Baptist Church, 2058 Baltimore Road, Council. Burial will be in the Carvers Creek Community Cemetery. Viewing will be held from noon-6 p.m. Friday, April 29 at Peoples Funeral Home of Whiteville and Saturday, April 30 one hour prior to and following the service at the church. There will be a wake Friday, April 29 from 5-6 p.m. in the funeral home chapel.

Surviving is a son, Robert Pierce of New York.

JANE O'BERRY SAUNDERS
WHITEVILLE -- Jane O'Berry Saunders, 86, died Friday, April 22, 2016 at The Davis Community in Wilmington. She was the daughter of the late Rossie Monroe and Jewell Mitchell O'Berry and the widow of Alex Dalhart Saunders. She was also preceded in death by one son, Rossie O'Berry Saunders.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 29 at Evergreen United Methodist Church Cemetery with Rev. Paul Stallsworth officiating. Worthington Funeral Home in Chadbourn is handling the arrangements.

She is survived by one daughter, Mitchell S. Brown of Wilmington; one son, Walter Saunders of Columbia, S.C.; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

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Please let me spend the night with him and hold him tight in my arms again, but just don't know if I can let him go, because you've got to know I've missed him so!

My world has changed, it's turned upside down. In a room full of people, I may not hear a sound, please give me a sign, a much needed glimmer of hope, that I'll find the peace that'll help me cope!

I want to be happy again, and pray my sweet Jimmie will know I'll always take him with me, no matter where I go! It'll always be me and him, him and me I'll love you, sweetheart throughout eternity!!

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Continued from page 1-A

est official SAR teams in the area, PENSAR was founded in 2003. PENSAR’s call volume has risen along with the growing retiree population in Pender, but Batson said searches can involve anyone from small children to healthy adults and the elderly.

“Every case is different,” Batson said. “General statutes say the sheriff’s office in each county is the lead agency, because in most cases, there’s a need for a criminal investigation of some kind. We work closely with the sheriff’s office, with the same goal in mind: helping the community and bringing people home.”

Although the SAR team is administratively the responsibility of the sheriff’s office, Batson said, different counties have different agencies managing their teams.

“The big thing is, you have got to have one agency in charge,” he said. “You have got to have a coordinated effort, with one agency in command. The sheriff is in charge, but we all work together, we train together, we respond together. There’s no discrimination between paid or volunteer firefighters, EMS, law enforcement, volunteers – our one goal is to work together to bring the missing person home.”

PENSAR has an average of a half-dozen cases per year, Batson said, along with extensive training, exercises and the well-known “Swamp Stomp,” a large-scale exercise in the Holly Shelter State Forest where volunteer “victims” work to evade rescuers who spend two nights camping in improvised shelters on the trail of their subject. The Swamp Stomp and its attendant training exercises have never been cancelled due to weather, which can range from torrential rains and freezing temperatures to high heat and hordes of mosquitoes.

SAR training is like any other specialized emergency responder program, Batson said.

“You have to obtain your certification through a community college,” he said, “then you have to maintain the certification. There are continuing education classes and other programs. Plus, this is a really physically demanding activity.”

The commitment required for SAR volunteers is a challenge, Worley said, as it is for any volunteer emergency response work.

“I’ve gone through some of the classes,” she said, “but you have to be willing to spend some time to get your certification and maintain it. But you need that training for an effective search, and to make sure everyone comes home safely.”

Bladen County began seriously training a land search team about six months ago, said Bradley Kinlaw of Bladen Emergency Services. White Lake Water Rescue has handled most ground searches for the county in recent years, Kinlaw said. For more than 20 years, the Water Rescue team has assisted in searches on rivers, lakes, streams and swamps, as well as helping recover bodies and evidence.

What to do if someone is missing

Courtesy missingpersonshelp.org, a national non-profit support group for families of missing persons.

- Time is of the essence. Call 911 as soon as you have confirmed that a person is not at home, work, school, a doctor’s appointment, etc. Make sure the missing person is not with friends or relatives.

- If a missing person’s home appears to have been entered by force, don’t go inside, unless you hear the individual calling for help.

- Make sure you have the missing person’s telephone number (cell and landline), a photograph, physical description and if possible, a description of their clothing, habits, medications or health problems, shopping habits, any possible transportation, and direction of travel.

- Secure the last known area where the person was until law enforcement and searchers arrive, to prevent obscuring footprints, scent, etc.

- Ask volunteers to speak to emergency officials before they join the search.

The team is forming the core of a broader group from all county departments that will be trained to find missing persons on land, Kinlaw said.

“We still are training everyone up,” Kinlaw said. “It’s not enough to know the area where you live. You could be called out anywhere to help with a missing elderly person, or a child. There are a lot of factors that play a role, from communications to first aid and preserving evidence for a criminal investigation, if it comes down to that.”

Brunswick County has two search teams – a standard SAR group that helps in missing persons cases, and the sheriff’s department tactical man-tracking team. The latter assisted in the recent search for a Nakina woman, Det. Sgt. Charles Liles said.

“That was actually our first callout,” he said.

The tactical team came into being after a suspect escaped the Brunswick County Detention Facility last year. He evaded law enforcement

on foot for several days before being re-captured.

“We realized then we needed something different,” Liles said.

In addition to standard SAR training, the tactical team must attend 150 hours of specialized classes, usually taught in three weeklong blocks, Liles said.

“There’s a lot that goes into it that you don’t realize until you’re there in training or on a search,” he said.

The team has been fully operational since last fall, Liles said, and is trained to handle both criminal searches and conventional missing persons. Brunswick officers, working with that county’s helicopter, located the missing woman in Nakina.

“Our officers are already trained on how to coordinate with the helicopter,” Liles said, “and whenever we can, we bring that in on a ground search.”

Worley said there are no plans for an aerial unit if and when Columbus assembles a search team.

“Search and rescue really doesn’t require a lot of specialized equipment,” she said. “It takes manpower more than equipment. We need volunteers for an effective unit, and they have to be willing to commit to a lot of training.”

Local efforts are in the earliest stages, Worley said.

“If someone’s interested, the best thing they can do is contact their local fire or rescue chief and tell them,” she said. “You don’t have to be a firefighter or an EMT. You just have to be willing to commit to the training.”

“It’s not for everybody,” Worley said, “but I think it would be a big benefit for Columbus County.”

Loyalty Day is Sunday

Veterans and volunteers from across the area will be busy early Sunday, placing flags at the veterans park site and the Columbus County Courthouse.

The flags will be erected in honor of Loyalty Day, said Angela Norris of the Veterans Memorial Park committee.

“It’s just a way to help people remember those who gave everything for our freedom,” she said, “as well as to proudly show your love of our country.”

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Kim Batten, of First Bank, kneeling at right, presents a check for \$500 to the Columbus Charter School kindergarten class of Tiffany Young. The class participated in the American Bankers Association Foundation's Teach Children to Save program. Teach Children to Save lessons are designed to meet educational standards in personal finance while reinforcing math concepts, language arts, and other academic disciplines. In an effort to support local schools, First Bank held a drawing of the schools its employees visited and gave \$500 to 10 of those schools. At top are teaching assistant Angela Jones, assistant headmaster Laurie Benton and Young.

JROTC car wash for veterans park

Whiteville High Junior ROTC will hold a car wash Saturday from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Tractor Supply to support the Columbus County Veterans Park project. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Cedar Hill FWBC church anniversary

Cedar Hill Freewill Baptist Church will hold its church anniversary Sunday, May 1 at 11:15 a.m. The guest preacher will be Emeritus Bobby Vereen from Galivants Ferry, S.C.

The church is located on Georgia Pacific Road.

Bishop Rudolph Powell is the pastor.

HOM service May 1

The House of Mercy will not hold service at the American Legion Post but will be at Moore's Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Currie Sunday, May 1 at 11:15 a.m. for Rev. Gordon L. Griffen pastoral anniversary. Depart from Food Lion across from Bojangles at 10 a.m. Elder Robert D. Williams Sr. is the pastor.



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Bees bounce back from hive losses

By RAY WYCHE
Staff Writer

Area honeybees that for a few years underwent a mysterious population decline seem to be recovering as local hives appear to be making a comeback.

“We’re not losing bees but we’re not building up the hives as fast as we need to,” said Eddie Ward of Whiteville, former president of the Columbus County Beekeepers Association.

“It’s not as bad as it once was but some people say they are still having trouble,” Ward added.

“They just will not stay in their hives,” he said.

Domesticated bees normally swarm and make new hives in late spring, Ward said. This year, he added, many of the new swarms choose tree hollows and high limbs in which to begin new hives.

“Nobody is going to get them,” he said; “There’s no way to get them. Some are 30 feet high and it’s too dangerous to try to get them.”

The reason for the disappearance of bees a few years ago has never been satisfactorily explained, but many bee scientists lean toward a nicotine poison coming from insecticide sprayed on tobacco plants. The bees are attracted to blooms on tobacco and other plants.

As the bees ingest nectar that carries residues of the insecticide, the nicotine-based insecticide proves to be fatal to bees. The bees would leave the hive in the morning to gather nectar and never return.



Edgewood Elementary Science Olympiad Team competed Saturday, April 9 at West Brunswick High School. The tournament had a total of 19 teams competing in the Elementary Division. Edgewood medaled in six events. Team members were fifth-graders Torin Faulk, Emma Simmons, Grayson Bell, Dimitri Boone, Regina Boone, Emma Turbeville, McKayla Peebles, Kailah Jordan, Reed Threadgill and Hannah Thompson; fourth-graders McKayla Duncan, Lorelai Palmer, Sam Turbeville, Emma Gray Wheatley, Seth Jackson, Katelyn Hunt, and Kenley McPherson; and third-graders Cody Rector, Cadence Duchesneau, Charleigh Anne Hewett, Nathan Cawley, Isaac Sealey, and Campbell Thompson.

Collier

Continued from page 1-A

Due to personnel rules, details of the deal cannot be released until after the agreement has been signed, Currie said.

Although a large number of people said they were ready to speak Tuesday, only a handful, including Thurman, actually made comments in support of Collier.

Marlando Pridgen said he had left Whiteville but returned due to the example set by Collier. “People my age say there’s no reason to be here,” Pridgen said, “but Mr. Collier was a father to those who had no father. It’s people like him that make this a good place. He convinced me this was home.”

Pridgen told the council that he feared the city “would have a legacy like Ferguson (Missouri)” due to what he said were “violations of his (Collier’s) civil rights.

“In Greensboro, the town where I used to live,” Pridgen said, “there were riots between residents and the KKK back in the ‘70s. The community came together to solve those problems.”

Pridgen also called for the release of more information on Collier’s firing.

“We deserve to have the full transcripts of everything that happened,” he said.

After discussing the matter in a closed session, the City Council voted unanimously to allow Collier to retire in good standing with the city. By resigning and retiring, instead of being dismissed, Collier will have full health benefits like any retiree, according to the City’s personnel policy. Collier’s state retirement was never affected by the firing.

The council also gave a 6-1 vote of confidence to Currie, with Councilman Tim Blackmon voting against the measure. Collier was fired April 8, after a lengthy internal investigation into several allegations. His dismissal letter cites termination due to “disruptive or harassing conduct,” “discourteous treatment of the public or other employees and absence without approved leave,” and “conduct unbecoming a public officer or employee, and insubordination.”

State law allows the release of termination letters and specific violations of personnel policy, but not the actual allegations.

The employee is free to share the allegations if he or she chooses. Collier filed notice of appeal earlier this week.

“The council voted to give the City Attorney the authority to draw up a separation paper that would reinstate Tim so he can retire,” Mann said. “This way he will be able to receive all of his retirement benefits he would be entitled to for his 30-plus years with the City. The city attorney will meet with Mr. Collier or his legal representative (if he has one) to finalize this agreement. I am not sure when that will occur.”

City Attorney Carlton Williamson said he and Collier discussed the case Wednesday morning.

“I have met with Tim this morning,” Williamson said in an email, “and he confirmed he is not represented by an attorney. We discussed terms of a resolution. I am confident we will have an agreement to resolve all issues very soon.”

At the April 12 meeting of the council, Thurman asked that the

city council explain the reasons behind Collier’s dismissal. After consultation with Williamson, Mann and Currie agreed to meet with the Parks and Recreation Board.

Currie said Monday’s meeting with the parks committee was “tense.” Due to personnel laws, he said, details about the dismissal could not be shared with the committee. The parks board is appointed by council and may only advise the city and director on recreation issues. The board currently has one vacancy, Currie said.

Interim director Charlotte Almeda was asked to leave the meeting, Currie and Almeda said. Almeda directed requests for comment to Currie, who said he asked Almeda to leave the

public meeting.

“Charlotte didn’t do anything wrong,” he said.

Further details about the firing could not be shared with the parks board due to personnel laws, Currie said.

Collier and Thurman did not return telephone calls seeking comment.

Mann said that Collier’s time with the city was a major factor in the council’s decision to veto Currie’s action.

“I think the reason we choose to handle it this way is because of his length of service,” Mann said in an email. Mann did not give details of the proposed agreement.

“Once this agreement is signed the City probably will not release it because of respect to Mr. Collier,” he said. “We feel if he wants it released he would have the opportunity to do so. It would be public record once signed.”

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Alex Powell, left, and David Baker of the Fair Bluff Rotary Club prepare breakfast for cooking teams at the BBQ on the Bluff.”



Craig Hutchinson, left, and Henry Martin of the “Hillbilly Hawg” team watch as judges evaluate their barbecued hog Saturday.



Henry Martin, right, watches as judges at the BBQ on the Bluff prepare to judge his team’s entry at the BBQ on the Bluff.



Judges get down to the work of evaluating entries after a night of barbecuing hogs at the BBQ on the Bluff.

Fifth BBQ on the Bluff successful despite rains

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

Heavy rains Friday night dampened but did not deter festivities for the Greater Fair Bluff Chamber of Commerce’s fifth annual BBQ on the Bluff. Cooking teams began setting up Friday afternoon and one contestant who brought a rain gauge reported that 3.5 inches of rain fell between his arrival and Saturday morning. The deluge didn’t keep the event from being a success, said Chamber President Karen Grainger.

First place in the barbecue cooking contest went to Ruby and Edgar Hargis’ “Smokin’ Porkers” team from Burlington. They won \$750, a trophy and automatic entry into the N.C. Pork Council’s Whole Hog Barbecue Championship in Raleigh Sept. 30-Oct. 1. Second place and a trophy and \$400 prize went to “Beach Boys BBQ” of Little River, S.C., made up of Chris Fineran, Steve Sumner and Todd Fineran. The third place trophy and \$200 were won by the “Grill Father” team from Roanoke Rapids, composed of former state champion Ernest Twisdale, Richard Carter and George Collins. N.C. Pork Council certified judges sampled and scored each entry.

The ever-popular showmanship competition awarded trophies to first place winners “Prissy Petunias” of Fair Bluff Fire and Rescue (Beverly Benton Elliott, Sharon Davis, Dianne Turner and Matt Turner, second place finishers to “Porky’s” of Fair Bluff (Tim Waddell and Timmy Hunt) and third place to the team from Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Fair Bluff (Gilbert Gore, Doug McFadden, Emmitt Gore and Donald Pittman). Judges for the showmanship contest were Columbus County Clerk of Court Jess Hill, *News Reporter* editor Les High and Brenden Jones of Meares Funeral Home.

A new competition for barbecue sauce yielded trophies to first place winners “Beach Boys BBQ,” second place winners “Schooling You BBQ” from the Columbus College and Career Academy in Fair Bluff (Sherman Axelberg, Nicky Hobbs, Rod Lykins, Preston Prince and Hannah Brown) and third place finishers “Smokers” from Butler Branch Baptist Church in Fair Bluff (Tyrone Anderson, Rodney Bullock, Donnie Hamilton and Robert “Red” Evans).

Another new contest for cakes was featured this year with three divisions. Winning the decorated cake division



“Piglet,” the mascot of the BBQ on the Bluff, and her co-owner, Carlyse Johnson, pose with festival cooking competition winners Edgar and Ruby Hargis of Burlington and their trophy Saturday

(with decorations required to be barbecue-themed, was the grilled pound cake with strawberries, chocolate barbecue sauce and whipped cream entered by Kenton Bullard and Lumber River Outdoors.

Barbara Wilson won the frosted cake division for her Hershey Bar cake, and Columbus College and Career Academy’s Culinary School took first place in the decorated cake division for their “Pig in Mud” cake.

After winners were announced, three pans of barbecue from the winning hog were auctioned, along with winning cakes in the decoration contest.

Ellis Meares and Son, Jeff Prince (Fair Bluff Ford) and Evelyn M. Waddell purchased pans of barbecue at auction for \$200, \$200 and \$150, respectively. Karen Grainger paid \$100 for the first place cake, Kathy Ashley purchased the

second place cake for \$50 and Jeff Prince/Fair Bluff Ford bought the third place cake for \$50.

Meat from all the hogs entered in the contest was offered for sale to attendees at the Fair Bluff Senior Center to conclude the festival.

Grainger extended special thanks from the Chamber for assistance rendered to make the BBQ on the Bluff a success by Columbus College and Career Academy, the Fair Bluff Rotary Club for providing breakfast Saturday for competitors, the Fair Bluff Community Library, Fair Bluff Fire and Rescue, members of the Greater Fair Bluff

Chamber of Commerce, the Progressive Women’s Club, the News Reporter, all merchants in Fair Bluff, with special thanks to J.H. Honeycutt and Sons Produce of Chadbourn for use of one of their refrigerated trucks for keeping the hogs refrigerated until they were distributed to teams for cooking.

Sponsors of the BBQ on the Bluff included Frank Horne Construction, Ellis Meares and Son, Piggly Wiggly, McNeill Farms, Fair Bluff Ford and J.H. Honeycutt and Sons Produce.

Of the eighteen teams participating in the cook-off, seven (Porky’s, Lumber River

Outdoors, Smokin’ Hott, Prissy Petunias, Butler Branch Missionary Baptist Church, Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church and Columbus College and Career Academy) were from Fair Bluff, two each were from Clinton (Rick’s BBQ and Big Hawg BBQ) and Roanoke Rapids (Down Home Cookers and Grill Father) and one team came from each of the following towns: Bladenboro (Ziggy’s Piggy), Kinston (Ms. Hawg Head), Burlington (Smokin’ Porkers), Nichols, S.C. (Hillbilly Hawg), Little River, S.C. (Beach Boys BBQ), Jacksonville (Big J) and Tabor City (Tabor City Fire Department).

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Telecommunications ordinance amended amidst argument

■ Mayor asks councilman to recuse himself due to conflict.

By JEFFERSON WEAVER
Staff Writer

After being asked to do so, City Councilman Tim Blackmon recused himself from discussions and a vote on amendments to the Whiteville Telecommunications Facilities ordinance Tuesday.

The ordinance regulates towers, complexes and facilities used for radio and cellular telephone towers and systems. Blackmon is in negotiations with Verizon to build a new tower, Mayor Terry Mann said, and asked the council's permission for Blackmon to recuse himself.

"Is that the right thing to do?" Mann asked City Attorney Carlton Williamson, who said the standard was straightforward.

"You have to ask yourself if you have any pecuniary interest in the action at hand," Williamson said. Blackmon then asked the board to excuse him from participating as an official.

"May I still be part of the discussion in the public hearing? As a regular citizen?" Blackmon asked.

"Of course," Mann said. Blackmon has requested an appeal with the city's board of Adjustment on CB and a two-way tower at his business in White's Plaza. CB towers are permitted differently from cell towers, and Blackmon has, according to planning board minutes, repeatedly asked for a permit to either install cellular equipment on the two-way tower, or replace it with a wireless communication structure. That appeal is scheduled to be heard by the Board of Adjustment April 28.

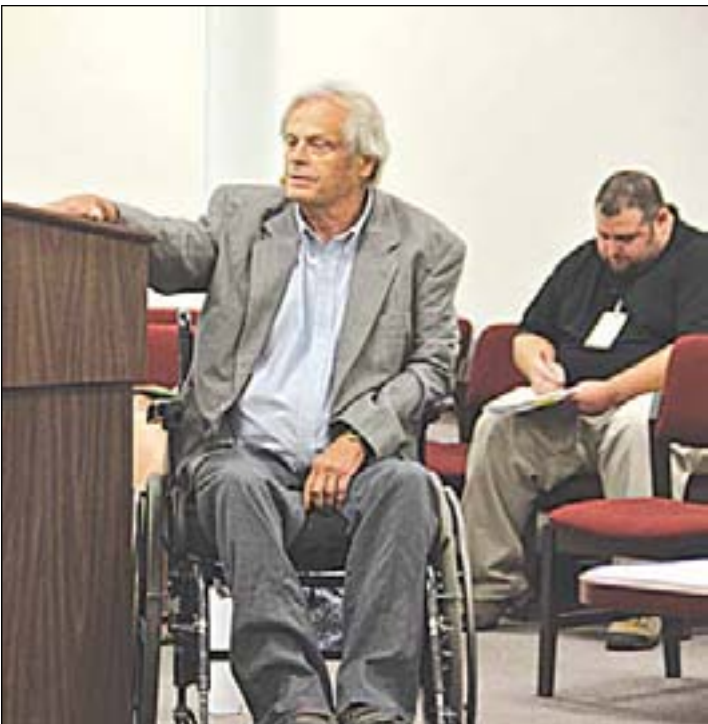
In a public hearing on the ordinance changes, City Planner Hiram Marziano explained that the city's ordinance is nearly 20 years old, and is being updated at the instruction of the city council. The board directed the planning department to begin updating the ordinance in 2015.

The move came in part when a cellular communications company inquired about placing a cell tower in a public right of way in the city, Marziano said. The firm wanted to place a 120' tower in the right of way at the Family Dollar store on J.K. Powell Boulevard.

"They apparently represented themselves to some individuals as a utility, which communications companies are not," he said. "They were just a firm that wanted to build a tower."

Rusty Monroe, a partner with Carolina Telecommunications Services LLC (CTS), said his firm assisted the city in making the changes at no cost. CTS provides specialized consultation to local governments dealing with telecom services, ordinances and proposed policies.

Monroe and his partner, Daphnie Cole, previously worked with Verizon, he said.



Tim Blackmon

Cole was unable to attend Tuesday's meeting due to an illness.

Monroe and his firm will be paid a flat fee if they are called upon to assist the city from fees paid by communications companies in the future. The fee schedule was one of the text amendments approved Tuesday.

Munroe said his team has decades of experience dealing with technical, logistical and local government issues of cellular infrastructure.

Marziano explained that the city's ordinance didn't cover every potentiality, since it specifically referred to "towers," rather than "facilities."

"Towers and facilities are not the same thing," he said. "A tower is not necessary to provide service. It is just a structure. Eligible facilities are what provide the service, while towers are just one option for holding such facilities."

Blackmon questioned the firm's qualifications, saying that "all those years of doing this don't make you an expert."

"That doesn't prove that

you know what you're doing," Blackmon said. "You're not an expert just because you have a lot of experience."

Monroe replied that his firm has assisted municipalities all over the state with translating the technical issues of cell phone systems so local governments can properly regulate towers and facilities.

Blackmon said that he felt the current policy was too restrictive, and the amendments were an attempt to legislate cell towers and facilities out of existence.

"Cellular phones are necessary," he said. "People need to them to communicate nowadays. It's the only way many people have of communicating. They're a requirement for living and working."

Marziano pointed out that the ordinance clarifies what types of towers may be installed in some areas, but doesn't reduce the locations in the city where they can be built.

A big issue with Blackmon and his partner, Kenneth Moss, was the fee schedule

included in the amendments.

For new tower/facility construction, a flat fee of \$7,500 is assessed for the consultant.

Eligible facilities that are reviewed require a fee of \$1,000, and a post-inspection fee, which is charged if any additional work is required, is \$2,000. Those charges are on top of the city's current conditional use permit application fee of \$250; a \$5,000 fee for new towers; and \$2,000 for extant towers. The fees are paid to the city, which then pays the consultant.

Marziano noted that town staff often spends inordinate amounts of time working on individual applications for specialized conditional use permits, since the information has to be researched before permits can be granted.

"That's what Rusty and his company does for a living," Marziano said. "It's a better use of tax dollars, especially since it's being paid by the actual applicant."

Blackmon said the fees could end up in court, in part since only 20 municipalities in the state currently charge similar fees. Moss warned that the courts will likely rule in favor of telecom companies, rather than municipalities, if an ordinance is taken to court. Monroe said there have been no issues anywhere else.

"In every other place," Monroe said, "the phone companies just pay the fee. They know they'll get their money back."

After some additional discussion, the council passed the ordinance amendments by a unanimous vote. Blackmon lightened the mood slightly when the next agenda item came up, and he raised his hand.

"May I come back on the board now?" he smiled. Several on the board laughed at the request.

"Certainly," Mann said. "Welcome back."

May 2 Concert to feature 'Great Songs of the Church'

The Southeastern Oratorio Society will present its spring concert Monday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, 511 N. Thompson Street in Whiteville.

The free concert will include settings of Biblical texts from the Middle Ages through the 20th Century. Interim Conductor Timothy Koch will direct the program, which he calls "Great Songs of the Church."

The opening number, "Cry Out and Shout" by Knut Nystedt, is a fanfare based on Isaiah 12. An intricate five-part fugue by Bach, "Sicut Locutus Est" comes from the gospel of Luke. The challenging, syncopated "A Prophecy of Peace" by contemporary composer Samuel Adler, is based on Micah 4:1-4. Koch studied with Adler at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

Soprano Judy Nelson described the music as "fun and varied." The choir continues to attract new members every semester but hopes to grow even more, especially in the men's sections.

Oratorio Society vice president Paul Pope says he sometimes wonders who enjoys their music more, the singers or the audience. "Maybe the singers have the edge, simply because they get to learn and love the music over many months while the audience has only the one chance. In both cases," he says, "people's lives are enriched."

After achieving a reasonably clean run through the Adler number, Koch said, "You all impress me with the way you've learned this piece, and also the Chanukah Suite we did in December. I suspect there might have been a little bit of negativity in some of your minds about learning such hard music ..."

"Not every chorus is willing to put itself through this kind of hard work. But it makes you better musicians."

Bass Jamie Faulk distributed CDs he had made of the Adler number for singers to listen to at home. Faulk, who

teaches choral and band music at East Columbus High School, occasionally runs rehearsals when Koch has to be absent due to commitments in Myrtle Beach. Despite his already busy schedule as a teacher and a church musician, Faulk finds Oratorio Society worth making time for. "I consider it a form of continuing education," he said.

This will be Koch's fourth concert with the singers. He teaches at Coastal Carolina University and has directed Myrtle Beach's well-regarded Carolina Master Chorale since 2005.

Rebecca Rollins will accompany four pieces on the piano while the choir will perform the rest unaccompanied. The concert should last less than an hour.

The choir includes several music teachers and church musicians. Most of the members, however, are amateurs without any specialized musical training who are willing to practice weekly for three months each spring and fall to learn thrilling music and perform it for the community. Rehearsals are held Monday evenings in the choir room of Southeastern Community College's arts building.

In the past year, the Southeastern Oratorio Society has begun performing in venues besides their concerts. It sang a selection of spirituals and folk songs for the opening of September's Take the Lake weekend, and they provided special music for the community Thanksgiving service at St. Mark AME Zion church. They hope to participate in other public events in the coming year.

Oratorio Members come from Elizabethtown, Bladenboro and Southport as well as several communities of Columbus County.

They invite singers of all ages and backgrounds to rehearse and perform with them; no audition is required.

Those with questions about Southeastern Oratorio participation may call outreach director Diana Matthews at (910) 642-8510.



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Editorials

The News Reporter, Thursday, April 28, 2016

Special fees not such a bad idea

Sometimes, it pays to have a specialist. We have no problem when a general practitioner sends us to a surgeon. Not many folks would trust an oil changer to rebuild an automobile transmission. Hiring a handyman to build a new home might not always be the best use of one's money.

The new fees attached to Whiteville's telecommunications facility ordinance are a good example.

A Wake Forest firm assisted the city planning and zoning office in updating the ordinance, at no cost to the taxpayers. Keep in mind that Planning Director Hiram Marziano, by his own estimate, still spent more than 100 hours of city time on the rule changes.

Just as cellular telephones have changed from ungainly bricks to our constant companions, the technology and needs of wireless communications systems have changed. It's unreasonable to expect a city employee to be an expert in everything from big box retail to traffic counts to wireless technology. The sign of a good manager is knowing one's strengths and weaknesses, and how to find the information and specialized skills needed to fulfill the requirements of a task.

Accepting the assistance of a consultant at no cost, with the potential for later using that firm for special services, is nothing new. Municipalities and counties have done the same thing for years on community development block grants and other grant programs.

The fact that the fee will be paid to the city, then paid to the consulting firm, just makes it more sensible. Tax dollars won't be a major part of the process, since other permits and fees cover administrative costs whenever a new project applies to the city for permission to build.

Having specialized assistance on development like wireless facilities, solar farms and other new planning issues saves the city money, time, and potentially, litigation over inexpertly written regulations. In the end, with the applicant paying the fees rather than the taxpayer, it's a win-win for the citizens, the city, and the developers, since there's no question of what is expected of them.

Are the fees high? They seem that way on the surface, but the amount of time and expertise required quickly negate that argument. It's like the old time locksmith who presented an itemized bill for \$5,000 after tapping a safe with a hammer – the \$5 hammer is not as valuable as the \$4,995 knowledge of where to tap.

Search teams, an idea whose time has come

When a person goes missing, whether it's a wandering child or an elderly person with dementia, panic is a natural reaction.

Few things can be as terrifying to a family as to have a relative simply disappear. Whether the disappearance is a kidnapping or someone just getting lost and confused, anyone with a heart can only desire to help. Time is of the essence in any missing persons case, just as any evidence pointing to where the person might have gone, or why.

At the same time, search and rescue professionals say the best way to find a missing person is to call 911 and wait for help.

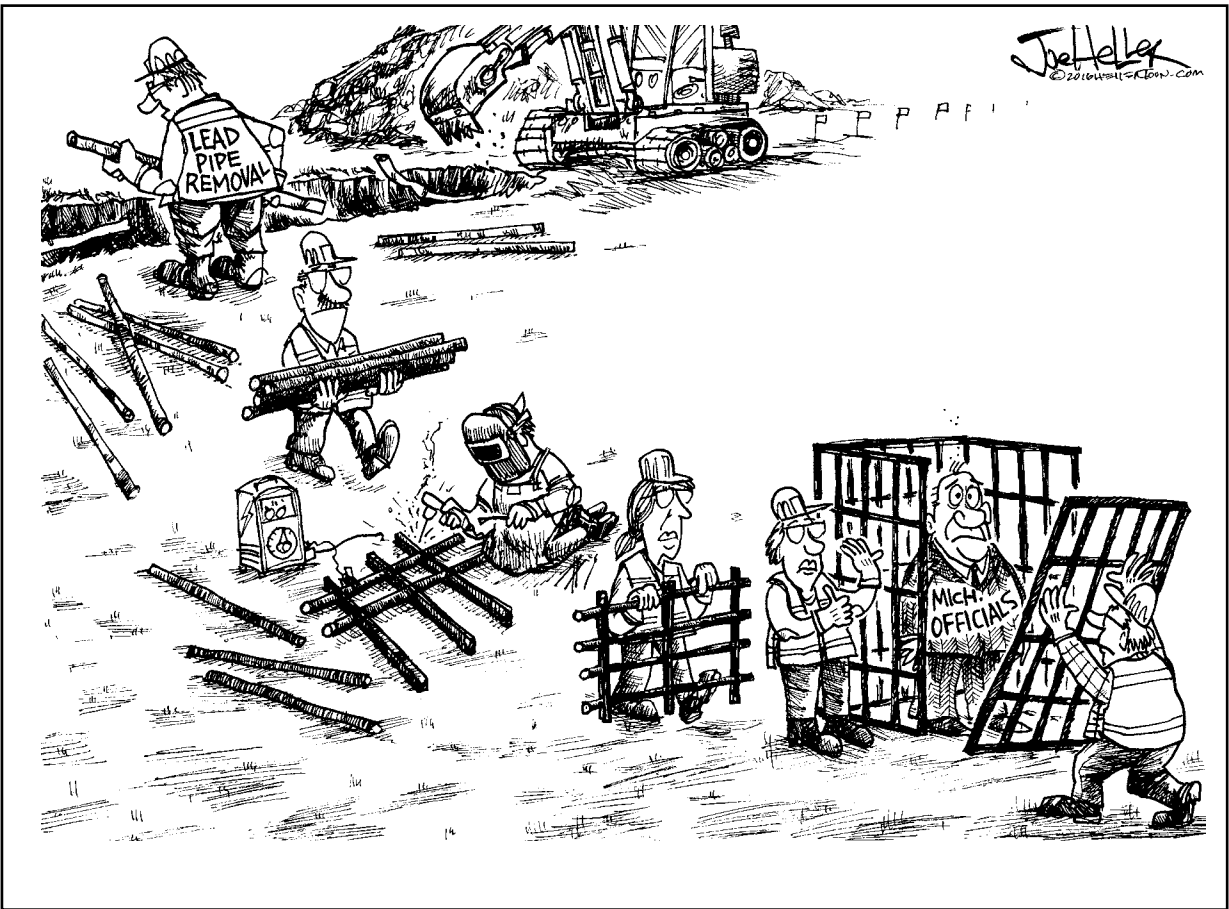
In Columbus County, we've had four missing cases in just recent months, ranging from the elderly to small children. Not all such cases have had happy endings, despite the best efforts of fire, rescue and law enforcement personnel.

The best searches are conducted by trained individuals and teams. That's why Columbus has called on teams from neighboring counties within hours of a reported disappearance. It's also why Columbus and other counties are exploring the possibilities of adding more search and rescue trained members to the ranks of their public safety departments, both paid and volunteer.

We think this is an excellent move; with our aging population, and fewer families staying "on the old home place," cases of missing elderly have grown in recent years, throughout the region. We live in a society where parents keep an almost constant watch on their children, but any mom or dad can testify how quickly a child can vanish, even without any assistance from a criminal.

Emergency Services Director Kay Worley points out that SAR teams don't require major capital investments in search dogs, helicopters, or much specialized equipment – what they do require, however, is individuals willing to volunteer their time to learn the necessary skills, and to be willing and able to deploy when necessary. Fire and rescue agencies have multiple challenges attracting

Continued on next page



Public opinion

No justification

As elected officials, the Columbus County Commissioners have a fiduciary relationship with their citizen taxpayers. A fiduciary is an individual in whom another has placed the utmost trust and confidence to manage and protect property or money; the relationship wherein one person has an obligation to act for another's benefit.

One must question if the commissioners are carrying out their fiduciary responsibility with their latest decision to usurp the recommendation of the Board of Health to divest the Columbus County Home Health Agency. The agency is slated to lose \$500,000 in the coming fiscal year. The Board of Health has statutory authority and is comprised of professionally trained persons, guided by a director with an advanced degree. Their recommendation should have been implemented.

I am writing as a taxpayer, but one who has spent more than 30 years in the home health industry. While no longer a home health provider, I recently attended the state home health convention. While there, I had the chance to hear national experts on the future of home health care. Their predictions were not optimistic. Home health financing is like none other you will see in the marketplace. The future successful home health agency will need critical mass and sophisticated information technology resources. A single location county health department home health agency will not be able to amass those requirements. An agency will not be able to market itself to success in the coming age of home health. In fact under Value-Based Purchasing, of which North Carolina is one of nine pilot states, an agency can be financially penalized for not hitting certain benchmarks, some of which they have little or no control, such as hospital readmissions of their patients, etc. The Board of Health obviously realized these things and made a wise decision to recommend the divestiture of the agency.

To compound the commissioners' dereliction of their fiduciary responsibility is the fact that the Personal Care Services (PCS) at the Department of Aging was losing \$300,000-\$500,000 a couple of years ago. The commissioners knew this and did not take appropriate action at that time either. It would be interesting to hear a follow-up on those numbers now.

Both home health and PCS are services that the county could divest and the citizenry would never know the difference. Despite the bashing of the private sector by some, the vast majority of both services in North Carolina are rendered by the private sector. (I am a past president of the state Home Care association.)

The justification of keeping home health to save 11 county jobs is flawed logic. Having bought and sold several agencies in my career, I can attest that the staff is one of the major assets in such a transaction. Continuing to operate the county home health agency is to provide those 11 employees job

security at a cost of more than \$45,000 a job, per year, plus their salaries and benefits. I doubt the commissioners would provide that level of economic incentives to a new industry considering locating to our county.

As with many other persons, I am a significant property taxpayer to Columbus County. It is unsettling to me for a portion of my taxes to go to these projects that may well be losing upwards to \$1 million a year.

If a publicly traded corporation were in a similar situation, and did not divest a losing service line after repeatedly being made aware of it, the officers and directors could be held personally liable for not exercising their fiduciary responsibility. I am keenly aware that Columbus County is a different entity, but the same general principles of their fiduciary responsibility and duty exist.

I urge other taxpayers to voice your concerns to our commissioners about this, and tell them you expect them to exercise their fiduciary responsibility and duty, to better protect the financial position of Columbus County.

We want our taxes to go for positive growth of Columbus County.

Steve Smith
Whiteville

No subsidies

I respectfully request a correction of your quote of the week in *The News Reporter* Monday, April 11. I was misquoted as urging Columbus County commissioners to consider subsidies as part of the deal for Columbus Regional Healthcare to take over Columbus County Home Healthcare.

As stated in the Thursday, April 7 *The News Reporter*, I said when this thing was created many years ago, the county had no home health care services. Private enterprise didn't come forward to put up capital and invest in something, instead the county had to do it.

It was not created to make a profit, but to serve the people's health of the county.

We ought to think on that a little bit, rather than on capitalism.

Capitalism is a wonderful thing, so is a little socialism too, it makes the cake sweet.

It was not urging the county commissioners to consider subsidies for Columbus Regional Healthcare as part of a deal to take over Columbus Home Health Service.

I do not support subsidies for the profit of Columbus Regional Healthcare. I do want the county to keep Columbus Home Health Service, that way the citizens will be sure it is there for us.

Ervin Stocks
Lake Waccamaw

Editor's note: The hospital later withdrew its request for subsidies.

Pitiful dog

On Sunday morning, April 16, a Whiteville citizen on her way to church noticed a pitiful dog in the street. The dog was blind, horri-

bly matted and so pitiful looking. She stopped because that is what people in the rescue community do. She picked the dog up and took it to her house to keep it safe while she went to church. When she returned from church, she called someone else in the rescue community to ask for help. She did this because that is what people in the rescue community do.

The dog was in horrific condition: severe mats covered his body, nails so long it was painful and nearly impossible to walk, ears packed with hair that had not been removed in months or even years, severe flea infestation leaving sores on his body and anemia from the blood loss from the bites. The rescue community often sees dogs like this. We raise funds to provide care and comfort for these dogs when their owners fail to provide proper care. We fight for better laws to protect animals from the cruelty of humans.

This dog was moved to another rescue that offered help to at least get the dog cleaned up and a little more comfortable. When the dog was groomed, he could actually walk without the pain of years of nails left untrimmed. No one would have even recognized it as the same pitiful dog picked up on the street in Whiteville.

Now the story gets interesting. An officer from the Whiteville Police Department arrives at the home of the rescuer, puts her in handcuffs and places her under arrest for picking up a dog. He asks her where the dog is and she cannot tell him. She cannot tell him because she does not know where the dog is. She only knows that a kind person is trying to help the dog. The police officer tells the rescuer that she must return the dog to get the handcuffs off.

She is forced to return the dog to the owner. North Carolina has a new law that should protect animals from abuse and neglect, but in this case, the officer chose to return the dog to the abuser and charge the rescuer. Maybe this police officer does not know about this new law.

The Whiteville Police Department owes this rescuer an apology. The officer was rude to her, handled her roughly, hurting her arms and hands when he put on handcuffs to frighten this woman when she returned from church. He made her return the dog to the owner and apologize for picking up the dog. Was this his way of shaming her for trying to save this dog? Was this right? It was not. He arrests her for picking up a blind dog in the street. The people of Whiteville deserve to know this story and I hope they are angry when they hear it.

As for citizens of Whiteville, I would hope you would be angry. I would hope you would question the behavior of this police officer. I would hope you would question why the dog owner was not punished. If for no other reason than simple curiosity, I would hope you would ask your police department for an explanation.

As for me, I am disgusted and angry that law enforcement is allowed to pick and choose which laws they will enforce. This po-

Continued on next page



Ramblin' with Ann

By ANN WORTHINGTON

Riding around recently, I have been noticing large acreages of land clearing. I know the owners are preparing for another year of planting the good soil with what I know they hope will be a bountiful year.

On this day, the wind was blowing quite swiftly and the dust flew up and down and all around, even out over the road, and I thought my recent car wash was a thing of the past; however, I felt a moment of loneliness for the family of mine that I miss so much.

The large fields reminded me of the many times I ran out of the house in the early-morning hours to watch my dad and my brother hard at work in the field nearby.

One thing I never understood is why my dad would have one of our mules hitched to a plow, waiting patiently while my brother ran to the other end of the field and stood with a long pole in his hand.

On one end of the pole was a large piece of white cloth.

Once my dad saw my brother was in the right position, he would make a sound with his mouth, tap the plow lines he used to guide the old mule, and they plowed straight to where my brother was standing. This made a long straight line in the soil.

They did this over all the plot of land, adding fertilizer to the rows, covering them with soil, and soon, the whole piece of land was ready for planting.

When I questioned my dad about why my brother stood at one end of the field and held a pole with the piece of white cloth tied to it, and why every so often my brother would lay the pole down, then stand back up, give a wave to my dad, and again, my dad guided the mule right to my brother.

He then explained that when the crops were all planted and had grown enough to harvest, he would use another piece of equipment to be guided between the rows of plants he would harvest, and the rows had to be far enough apart to allow for the equipment to be guided through the rows so as not to destroy the plants.

That satisfied my curiosity for that day anyway.

My friends, those were indeed hard-working days for my family, but that was our way of life, and memories made that I cherish with all of my heart as I can still almost hear the old favorite hymns my dad sang as he guided the old mule through the fields from sun up to sun down.

My friends I could ramble on for a time, but the hour is late, so until next time, I wish for all of you blessings in abundance. As always, don't forget God loves you and so do I.

Write to us

Send letters to the editor or contact editorial page editor Les High at leshigh@whiteville.com, or mail them to PO Box 707, Whiteville N.C., 28472.

All letters must be signed and include a phone number, which will not be published. Letters are limited to 400 words and must be signed and include the author's community.

Authors are limited to one letter every 30 days. Letters about business and personal disputes will not be considered. Letters are subject to editing.

People, Places and Things

Cut the man some slack

By SHALON SMITH
Staff Writer

We’ve all heard discussion of the “middle skills gap in America” referencing those skills leading to jobs that require more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree. The conversation that should (but rarely does) follow is the one that discusses that these middle-skill jobs are, political correctness aside, “man jobs” and almost nonexistent in rural areas of our country.

The push for all high school graduates to attend four-year universities has set a new standard for college-bound teens.

The fact that girls are outperforming boys in grade school paired with the fact women are attending (and graduating) from college in higher numbers than men place men at a disadvantage in the job market.

Also, the job market is expanding in career sectors such as healthcare and education, jobs we tend to view as “women’s work.”

Rural communities like Columbus County are not much different from the “extreme [male joblessness] case” featured in Tallulah, Louisiana in last May’s edition of *The Economist*.

Tallulah, like Columbus County, has a couple of prisons and a county jail that provide jobs for a few men.

When the largest employers in the area are the school system (women’s work), hospital (women’s work), and then the prison, you have to wonder what else is available for the men.

A 2012 study of economic development directors in southeastern North Carolina declared there is a need for more industrial technology workers in “man sectors” like maintenance, electrical, and production skills.

Leaders at Southeastern Community College have begun to develop concrete strat-

egies in meeting the current and future needs of this important segment of the economy.

Local school boards should follow suit and do more than promote superficial strategies like establishing advisory boards with quarterly meetings discussing ideas and instead use their efforts to provide updates on real progress, in real job figures and real employment skills that locally relevant hiring managers seek.

If the schools don’t have the programs readily and equitably available to all students, make them.

In this 2012 study, 64 percent companies in southeastern North Carolina said they had difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill positions—the greatest difficulty was in filling production and engineering positions.

Performance in grade school provides insight to the expectation of performance in the workplace. Teenage boys are 50 percent more likely than girls to flunk all three basic subjects: reading, math, and science. Women outnumber men on all college campuses, not just four-year universities. Real money is now in “brain work” and men just aren’t cutting it.

Of the 30 fastest-growing occupations in America, women dominate 20 of them including nursing and childcare. If working-class men want to make it *and* remain heads of their household in areas like Columbus County with less diverse workforces, “women’s work” may just be the answer.

Men can be and are nurses. Men are welcomed and highly sought after as teachers – not just coaches or principals – in

the K-12 education system.

A disconnect exists between the ideology of a man’s role and the reality of life in rural communities in America. Twenty-five percent of 25-54 year old men with only a high school education are not working. Many working-class men are not making enough money for women to want to marry them.

It is not a secret that some working-class women opt to “marry” the taxpayer—as in their food stamps, healthcare, and other benefits could drop to \$0 should they marry the father of their child. For her, it can be easier without him and his meager (if any) earnings.

The middle skills gap in the country that is leaving men out of work has also resulted in a disparity in the dating world. There are more

employed women than men.

Many men and women have old-fashioned views that the man should earn more than his woman. There is a thought that if he isn’t earning more, he isn’t providing – *a buzz word for some*.

If education is the key to men providing for their families, access to training for those middle-skill jobs must be easier – for males in rural areas especially.

Jobs that require only brawn are gone. Rural educational institutions need to shift the focus of male education in pushing our men toward opportunities requiring brawn and brains.

Middle and high school counselors and teachers must prepare our students for a real-world range of careers requiring varying levels of education. Community colleges

–the trainer of the middle skill –must work more closely with K-12 institutions to ensure our men do not lose interest in education and end up becoming one of the 35 percent of working age American men out of work.

Financial aid for short-term education programs leading to the middle skills that companies are seeking must be accessible to their potential hires.

If SCC doesn’t want to join the number of state community colleges allowing financial aid (and the subsequent risk of student loan defaults) for occupational courses, the public schools should use their flexibility with Perkins Act funding to cover the costs of those training programs while the kids are still in grade school.

In the age of female-centrist support networks, our educational institutions should look out for the futures of our able-bodied young men so they don’t continue to be the bulk of the jobless and underemployed ranks.

Both the Columbus County and Whiteville City Schools should create young men and boys’ male mentorship programs and actively recruit male instructional staff. SCC should explore the creation of a men’s student learning center where men can gather, seek specialized help, and feel empowered while furthering their education.

With Columbus County having one of the highest unemployment rates in the state, there is no harm in providing for the young men in our county and the futures of our young families by launching innovative programs to get the men to graduate high school caring how their grades look, look into “traditionally female” career fields without being stigmatized, complete workforce programs as soon as possible, find jobs, and “hold on to their women” so they can, in turn, provide for their own families – the old-fashioned way.



Water break

Myles Cartrette, pastor of Whiteville Pentecostal Holiness Church, and Justin Williamson hand out bottled water along the Madison Mile Wednesday afternoon. The church will have a water station set up in the mornings and afternoons Monday through Friday for the estimated 80 to 100 people who walk the Madison Mile each day. There is also a prayer box, pictured at left, as part of the ministry. The walkers are Kimberly Williams, right, and Ann Bowles. The church is celebrating its six-month anniversary Sunday.



The dancers

Dancing with the Vineland Stars is Saturday night

The 2016 Dancing with the Vineland Stars is this Saturday. Participants include Darren Currie and his professional partner Amy Greene, Dalton Dockery and his professional partner Rita Capps, Ashley Gore and her professional partner Chris Blackmon, Bill Gore and his professional partner Mary Wheatley, Peggy Newman and her professional partner Shawn Worthington, Lynn Spaulding and his professional partner Jessica Williamson, Teeya Scheer and her professional partner Mike Formyduval, Carla Brown Thomason and her professional partner Alfredo Brown, Steven Underwood and his professional partner Madison Ward and Jared Worthington and his professional partner Nikki Walker.

Shooting Star sponsors are Ashley Gore for Judge, Canal Wood, Car City, Columbus Regional Healthcare System, Coke & Janet Gray, Liberty Medical Specialties, Speech-Language Pathology Services, Inc., and Sweedeepe Cheesecakes. Shooting Star sponsors are Bladen Carpet & Tile, Brunswick Electric Membership Cooperative, J. Cody Design, Platinum Entertainment, Vann Underwood Chrysler Jeep Dodge and William C. Gore, Jr., PLLC, Attorney at Law.

A limited number of tickets are still available at the Courthouse Branch of BB&T Whiteville. You can vote for your favorite pair online via PayPal by visiting www.vinelanddepot.com/dancingstars.htm

All funds raised from Dancing with the Vineland Stars will support ongoing maintenance of Historic Vineland Depot, as well as some necessary capital improvements.

Search teams

Continued from page 12-A

and keeping volunteers for their general rosters. Adding more training hours and responsibilities will be an even tougher nut to crack, but we have confidence there are in-

dividuals out there, or even entire departments, willing to step up to the plate.

We hope the sheriff’s office and emergency services will aggressively pursue the

creation of an SAR program here. Whether it’s a wandering child, a missing grandmother, or an injured hunter deep in the Green Swamp, there are plenty of opportu-

nities for folks to get lost in Columbus County, but not enough dedicated individuals to help find them.

Letters

Continued from page 12-A

lice officer needs to better understand the laws of North Carolina.

Janie Withers
Ocean Isle

Sexual assault

I want to share this information from the Rutgers Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance as we remember Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

There are many factors that contribute to the occurrence of sexual violence. It is important to understand that perpetrators, not victims are responsible for sexual violence happening. Perpetrators have a strong sense of entitlement and use power and control to commit acts of sexual violence. Most perpetrators adhere to rigid “traditional” gender roles that focus on the inequality of women. This allows them to treat women and the targeted vic-

tim with no regard or respect.

It is also important to look at other factors that contribute to sexual violence occurring such as those that are used to justify or excuse sexual violence. Gender-based stereotypes reinforce inequality between genders.

For example, in a society where men are portrayed as being aggressive and women are seen as passive, a man who pressures a woman for sex is often perceived as behaving acceptably. Gender-based stereotypes are reinforced throughout society and can be seen in pop culture and media.

Research indicates that alcohol and other drugs are often used by the perpetrator to incapacitate victims. That means that alcohol and other drugs, while they do not cause sexual violence are contributing factors to the occurrence of sexual violence.

Finally, victim blaming behavior and beliefs create a

culture where we disregard sexual violence by blaming a victim. While this is not a cause of sexual violence, it is a factor that contributes to a society where we do not hold perpetrators accountable for their behavior and therefore encourage and support further acts of sexual violence. Victim blaming happens in many ways and can be defined as any assumption that a victim is responsible for the crime committed against them based on the way she or he behaves, dresses or lives. Such beliefs add to the prevalence of sexual violence.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, Families First helps with legal advocacy and counseling. You can reach them at 642-5996.

Lucy Byrd
Families First

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Superheroes don't have time to be down for the count. Isn't it time they have a doc nearby to get them back to their superhero duties quickly? We think so too. That's why we decided to open a brand new pediatrics center, as an extension of the Columbus Regional Healthcare System. So whether your under-cover hero needs a checkup, flu shot or some patching up from a hard day "at the office," we're here. Reliable care from trusted professionals that's close to home. It's just another reason why Columbus Regional is #morethanahospital.

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Stallions win two over Red Springs

By FRANKLIN DAVIS
Sports Writer

VINEGAR HILL - Much was at stake Tuesday as South Columbus played host to Red Springs in baseball. Conference finishes of second to sixth were possible depending on the outcome.

South Columbus came away with two wins. The Stallions took an 8-6 victory in the resumption of an earlier game that was successfully protested by Red Springs.

South dominated play in the regularly scheduled game, winning 10-0. The two victories locked up at least a third-place TRC finish for the Stallions.

An incorrect umpire's ruling on a balk call caused the original 6-5 Stallion win March 23 at Red Springs to be overturned by the conference protest committee.

The game resumed from that point Tuesday with South at bat in the top of the eighth inning, two runners on and two outs. The Stallions were unable to score. Red Springs was also scoreless in the eighth.

Landon Stocks singled with one out in the Stallion ninth. Stocks scored the go-ahead run on Jacob Gore's double. Jay Wright walked. Hunter Shelley singled in Gore. Mike Byars' base hit scored Wright and gave the Stallions an 8-5 lead. The Red Devils picked up a run in the bottom of the frame, but Evan Pickell recorded the final out to pick up the win.

Robbie Spencer and Hunter Shelley had big offensive nights in the regularly scheduled contest. Spencer's three-run double gave South Columbus a 3-0 lead in the third. Shelley's solo home run to left keyed a five-run outburst in the fifth. Spencer drove in two more runs in the fifth with a single. His sacrifice fly and Riley Wilson's single plated two more runs in the sixth, ending the contest.

Evan Pickell picked up his second victory of the evening. Pickell pitched five innings, allowing three hits, striking out three and walking one. Garrett Wilson pitched the final inning, striking out two of the three batters he faced.

Shelley batted 2 for 2 with a double and home run. He also walked, was hit by a pitch and scored three runs. Spencer was 2 for 3 and drove in six runs. Mason Benton and Riley Wilson each had a run-scoring single.

Seniors Hunter Shelley, Garrett Wilson, Mike Byars, Chase Gore, Mason Benton, Noah Ward, and Evan Pickell were recognized prior to their final regular season home game. South Columbus travels to Whiteville Friday.

The Stallions will host the sixth-place TRC team in the opening round of the conference tournament Monday.

Gators fall at Fairmont

Also Tuesday, the East Columbus Gators fell to conference runner-up Fairmont by a 12-7 score at Fairmont.

Coach Brad Smith's East Columbus team will close out its regular-season schedule Friday when it plays host to West Columbus at 7 p.m.

The Gators have a 2-10 conference record and a 5-17 overall mark.



Photos by Grant Merritt

Pitching duel

Kailey Paul of East Columbus (above) and Malerie Leviner of Whiteville (below) square off in a duel of high school softball pitchers Monday night at Lake Waccamaw. Whiteville rallied from a 1-0 deficit with four runs in the top of the sixth inning. On Tuesday, WHS traveled to South Robeson where it took an 18-4 win to clinch the TRC championship. East Columbus topped Fairmont on Tuesday by a 12-3 score.



Sixth-inning homers lift Lady Wolfpack over E. Columbus 4-1

By DAN BISER
Sports Editor

LAKE WACCAMAW - After being shut down for five innings, Whiteville bats came to life Monday night against the host East Columbus Lady Gators.

Trailing 1-0 in top of the sixth, senior Eden Brown opened the frame by driving a home run over the center field fence to tie the score at 1-1.

Whiteville, which was limited to three hits in the first five innings by East Columbus pitcher Kailey Paul, got the go-ahead run on base when Korey Grainger drew a walk. Sage McLelland followed with a double before Raeganne Sholar knocked a home run over the center field fence that ended up giving the Lady Wolfpack a 4-1 victory.

Coach Olivia Scott's WHS squad secured its 12th Three Rivers Conference win while claiming at least a tie for the conference championship.

The Lady Wolfpack had a total of seven hits, including two by Brown. Malerie Leviner recorded the pitching victory, giving up seven hits and striking out six batters.

Coach Morgan Jacobs' East Columbus squad, which fell to 7-5 in conference play, was led by a pair of doubles by Kaleigh Patrick, including a third-inning smash that brought home the game's first run.

Paul limited the Lady Wolfpack to two hits through the first five innings and retired 11 straight batters between the second and fifth innings. She finished with three strike-outs, served up 11 ground ball outs and four pop-ups to the infield.

Scott said that Paul's pitching had kept the WHS batting order off balance until the sixth inning.

"In the sixth inning, we were heading through the order for the third time," she said. "Our girls made some adjustments and worked to become more aggressive."

"East Columbus doesn't normally give up a lot of runs so I felt the home runs were really big," Scott added.

The Lady Wolfpack was coming off a 1-0 non-conference loss to Richmond County Saturday and had been held scoreless for 12 consecutive innings before Brown stroked her home run.

Jacobs said that despite the disappointment of the loss, she felt her team gave a strong all-around effort. The Lady Gators fell just short of WHS by a 4-3 score in their earlier conference meeting March 21.

"Whiteville had the big inning and did a good job of bringing runs across," she said. "I feel like we've played them close both times, and hopefully we'll get the chance to play them again."

Merritt's grand slam spurs Viking win over St. Pauls

CERRO GORDO - Brandon Merritt's second grand slam home run in a week highlighted a five-run first inning for the West Columbus Viking baseball team Tuesday.

Merritt finished the game with two hits and five runs batted in as Coach Jeff Lamb's Vikings thumped visiting St. Pauls 11-0 in a Three Rivers Conference game. The game was halted in the fifth inning by the 10-run rule as WCHS put its conference record at 7-6 and season mark at 15-8.

Merritt had knocked an inside-the-park grand slam to

spark the Vikings' recent road victory.

Marvin Edge also had a big night at the plate for WCHS with three hits, including a double.

Senior Trey Benton had another big night on the pitcher's mound, allowing two Bulldog hits, striking out six and walking one. Ozzly Johnson, Gage Hammonds, Dawson Elliott, Hunter Norris and Skylar Ritchart also had hits for the Vikings, who will close out their regular-season schedule Friday at East Columbus.

Wolfpack stampedes Mustangs

ROWLAND - Freshman Dylan Lawson picked up the pitching victory Tuesday night as the Three Rivers Conference champion Whiteville Wolfpack defeated the South Robeson Mustangs 17-2 in a Three Rivers Conference baseball game.

The game was halted after five innings by the 10-run rule.

Whiteville, now 13-0 in conference and 16-3 for the season, will be out to gain a second consecutive unbeaten season in Three Rivers Conference play when the Wolfpack

plays host to South Columbus Stallions Friday at 7 in the Wolfpack's annual Senior Night.

South Robeson scored two runs off two hits and an error in the first inning to tie the game at 2-2, but Lawson allowed only one base runner after that, retiring 11 of the next 12 he faced.

Mackenzie Gore pitched the final inning for the Wolfpack, striking out the side.

The loss put South Robeson's Three Rivers Conference record at 1-12.

Gore had three hits, including a double for Whiteville, which scored eight runs in the fourth inning.

Connor Grainger, Brooks Baldwin and Grayson Ward each had two hits for Whiteville, which collected a total of 14 hits for the night.

Grainger had a double for the Wolfpack, which put its conference record at 13-0 and overall mark at 16-3.

The Wolfpack will hold its Senior Night Friday when it closes regular-season play against South Columbus at 7 at Legion Stadium.

Mideast 2A Regional Golf Tournament set for Monday at L-O-L



Staff photo by Franklin Davis

South Columbus High School golfer Anthony Cartrette tees off on the first hole of Land-O-Lakes Golf Course. Land-O-Lakes will host the 2016 Mideast 2A Regional High School Golf Tournament Monday.

Land-O-Lakes Golf Course will be the site of the 2016 Mideast 2A Regional Tournament on May 2.

The tournament, which is set to begin at 9 a.m., will be hosted by West Bladen High School, and the field will include the Three Rivers Conference champion South Columbus High School team.

Fairmont High School, the Three Rivers Conference runner-up, will also compete in the event.

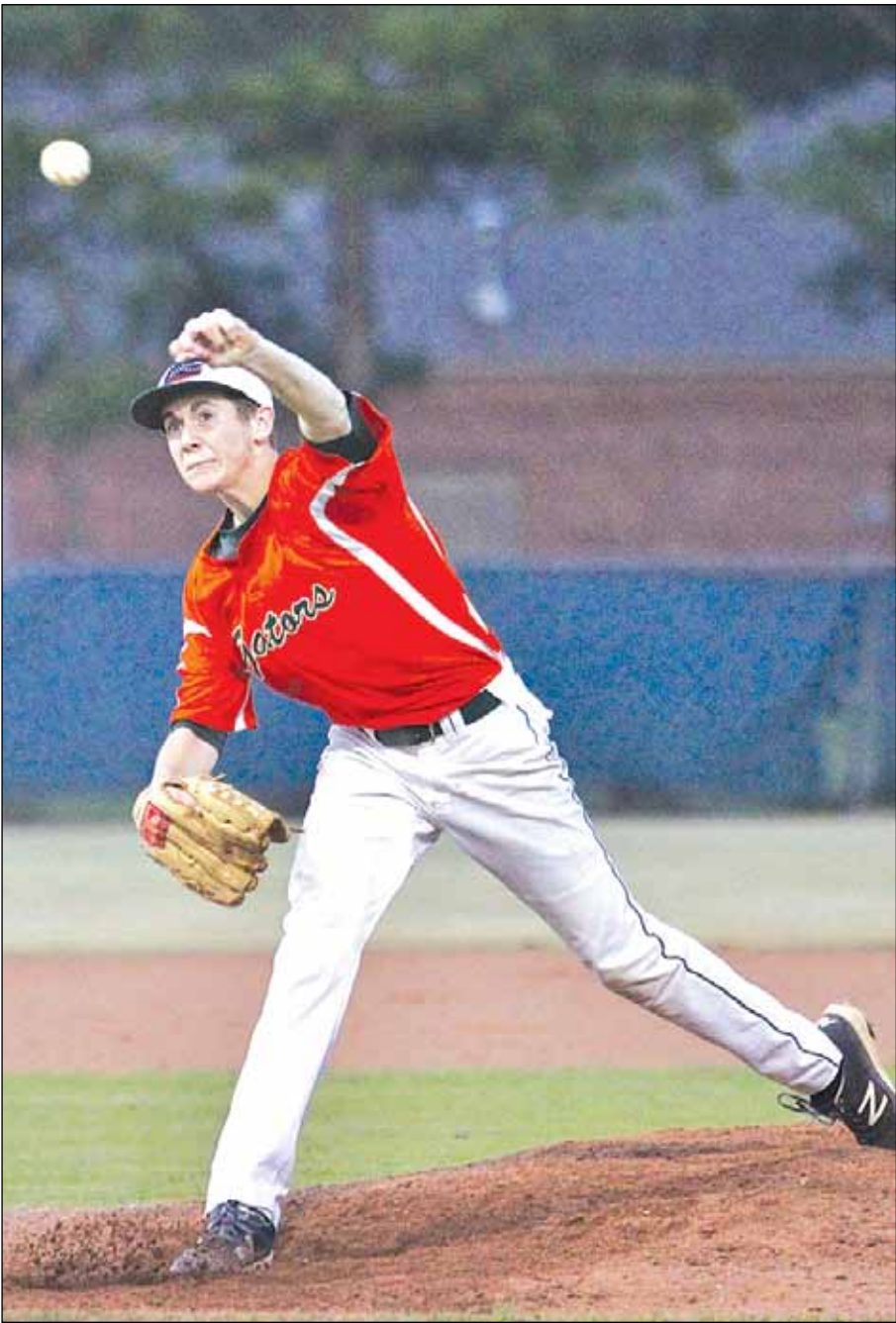
The regional will also include teams from the Four County Conference, the Mid-State Conference and the Northern Carolina Conference.

Top finishers will advance to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state tournament May 9 at Foxfire Resort in Southern Pines.

Teams will be able to hold practice rounds on Saturday from 8 to 11 a.m., and on Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Also the Whiteville High School golf team will travel to Clinton on Monday to compete in the Mideast 1A Regional Tournament at Coharie Golf Club.

The WHS squad finished third in the Three Rivers Conference standings this season.



Gator lefty

East Columbus junior pitcher Alex Moore makes a delivery in Monday evening's Three Rivers 1A-2A Conference baseball game against visiting Whiteville at Lake Waccamaw. Whiteville won the game 11-1.

SCHS takes 14-5 softball victory over Red Springs

VINEGAR HILL - The South Columbus Lady Stallions used an eight-run charge in the fifth inning to rally to a 14-5 Three Rivers Conference softball victory over visiting Red Springs.

South Columbus' 11-hit attack was highlighted by a home run by Hailey Sarvis and a pair of doubles by Carson Powell. Mattie Powell also doubled for SCHS, which is the runner-up in this season's Three Rivers

Conference softball race.

Anna Caroline Suggs was the winning pitcher for Coach Scott Johnson's Lady Stallions, surviving a four-run surge in the top of the first inning.

Red Springs held a 5-4 lead in the fifth inning before South Columbus took charge with its eight-run comeback.

South Columbus will travel to take on conference champion Whiteville Friday at 7 p.m.

Lady Pack raps out 26 hits in TRC win over S. Robeson

ROWLAND - With a whopping 26 hits, the Whiteville Lady Wolfpack stormed to an 18-4 Three Rivers Conference softball victory over the host South Robeson Mustangs Tuesday.

Kourtney Grainger and Laura Thompson each had five hits for the Lady Wolfpack, with Grainger smacking two

home runs.

Raeganne Sholar had four hits, including two home runs, and Eden Brown had four hits.

Coach Olivia Scott's team wrapped up their third straight Three Rivers Conference championship with the win. They are now 13-0 in conference play and 20-2 overall.

Jiggs Powers Tournament set to open on Monday

Tabor City Middle School will serve as host for the Jiggs Powers Baseball and Softball tournaments scheduled to begin Monday, May 2.

This will be the sixth year Tabor City has hosted the tournaments. The previous five seasons the games were played as a pre-season event.

Tabor City Middle chose to honor the late Mr. Powers, *The News Reporter* sports editor from 1946 to 1980, after the high school tournament bear-

ing his name was discontinued.

Two opening-round games in the nine-team tournaments will be played Monday. Four games will be played Tuesday. Semifinals take place Thursday and finals on Friday.

All games will be played at the Tabor City Recreation complex and begin at 4 p.m. Daily admission is \$4. Tournament brackets can be seen on *The News Reporter* Sports of All Sorts page.

Gators take TRC net win over West Columbus

CERRO GORDO - Visiting East Columbus came away with a 7-2 Three Rivers Conference boys tennis win over the host West Columbus Vikings Monday.

Results follow:

East Columbus 7, West Columbus 2

Singles: Tavo Palacios (EC) def. Divine Hope, 6-0, 6-3; Marco Borja (EC) def. Ricky Herring, 6-1, 6-3; Hector Palacios (EC) def. Grayson Jarvis, 6-3, 6-1; Ethan Jenkins (WC) def. Haywood McKoy, 0-6, 6-3, 10-8; Harley Potter (EC) def. Tyrell Dundy, 6-0, 6-4; Devon Young (EC) def. Adam Jens, 6-3, 6-3.

Doubles: T. Palacios-Borja (EC) def. Hope-Jarvis, 8-5; H. Palacios-McKoy (EC) def. Herring Jenkins, 8-6; Dundy-Jens (WC) def. Terry Brown-Kushod Tucker, 8-3.

SCHS grabs tennis victory over Whiteville on Monday

South Columbus played its way to an 8-1 Three Rivers Conference tennis victory over the Whiteville Wolfpack Monday at the WHS courts.

Results follow:

South Columbus 8, Whiteville 1

Singles: Noah Jarman (SC) def. Gavin McPherson, 6-3, 6-2; Mason Hewett (SC) def. Jaquan Johnson, 6-0, 6-2; John Lewis (SC) def. Tyler Floyd, 6-4, 6-1; Colby Cartrette (SC) def. Antoine Gamble, 6-1, 6-4; Will Sellers (SC) def. Tanner Hester, 6-3, 6-1; Flint Ward (SC) def. Joshua Washington, 6-1, 6-1.

Doubles: Jarman-Hewett (W) def. Johnson-McPherson, 8-1; Lewis Cartrette (SC) def. Hester-Floyd, 8-5; Gamble-Washington (W) def. Dylan Harper-Bryce Sellers, 8-5.

On Tuesday, South Columbus defeated Fairmont by a 7-2 score .

Three Rivers Conference baseball, softball standings

BASEBALL			SOFTBALL		
	Conf.	Overall		Conf.	Overall
	W-L	W-L		W-L	W-L
Whiteville	13-0	16-3	Whiteville	13-0	20-2
Fairmont	10-3	18-4	South Columbus	11-2	15-5
South Columbus	9-4	15-7	East Columbus	8-5	13-6
West Columbus	7-6	15-8	South Robeson	7-6	9-8
Red Springs	5-8	11-10	Red Springs	6-7	12-8
St. Pauls	5-8	12-11	Fairmont	4-9	7-12
East Columbus	2-11	5-17	St. Pauls	3-10	6-15
South Robeson	1-12	3-16	West Columbus	0-13	0-13
Monday's results			Monday's results		
Whiteville 11, East Columbus 1 (6 innings)			Whiteville 4, East Columbus 1		
Red Springs at Fairmont, 7			South Robeson 10, West Columbus 0 (5 innings)		
			Red Springs 9, Fairmont 3		
Tuesday's results			Tuesday's results		
West Columbus 11, St. Pauls 0 (5 innings)			St. Pauls 12, West Columbus 6		
Fairmont 12, East Columbus 7			East Columbus 12, Fairmont 3		
Whiteville 17, South Robeson 2 (5 innings)			Whiteville 18, South Robeson 4		
South Columbus 8, Red Spirngs 6			South Columbus 14, Red Springs 5		
South Columbus 10, Red Springs 0 (5 innings)					
Friday's games			Friday's games		
South Columbus at Whiteville, 7			South Columbus at Whiteville, 7		
West Columbus at East Columbus, 7			West Columbus at East Columbus, 7		
Fairmont at St. Pauls, 7			Fairmont at St. Pauls, 7		
South Robeson at Red Springs, 7			South Robeson at Red Springs, 7		



Photo submitted by Dean Benton

Safe at home

West Columbus base-runner Madison Benton beats the tag at home plate in the Vikings' 11-0 Three Rivers 1A-2A Conference baseball victory over Fairmont last Saturday at the WCHS field.



Photo by Grant Merritt

East Columbus High School batter Kirklyn Wayne strides into a pitch in the Lady Gators' Monday night softball game with visiting Whiteville.

Dixie Boys meeting on May 5

A credentials meeting for teams in the 2016 Columbus County Dixie Boys Baseball League will be held on Thursday, May 5, at the Whiteville Recreation Center.

All teams should be represented and have all necessary credentials on hand.

For more information, contact Terry Bell at 653-3810.

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For BB&T, Matthew Hanna had three hits, and Logen Little, Jayce Hatcher, Cody Rice, Layton McLean, Clayton Lowery, Paxton Bass and Eli Hill had two hits each. Also getting BB&T hits were Brycean Edwards and Kamari Smith.

Westyn Hill and Gabriel Priest each had two hits for J Ray, and Jack Holcomb, Will Erwin and Caleb Fowler had one hit each.

Quality Cleaners 13
Civitans 0

Briley Tedder, Holland Pridgen, and Josisas Biehl led Quality Cleaners with three hits while teammates Caden Hagood, Ty Mishue, Corey Faison, Samuel Barrios had two hits each. Also getting BB&T hits were Trey Greene and Thymond McGlockton

For Civitans, Kendall McAlister had one hit while Collin Hooks, Tucker Herring, Justin Spaulding, Robert Chapman and Noah McNair had one hit apiece.

Pack 'walks' past Gators; clinches title

By **FRANKLIN DAVIS**
Sports Writer

LAKE WACCA-

MAW- Walks are the bane of a baseball coach's existence.

East Columbus pitchers walked seven Wolfpack batters and all seven scored in Whiteville's 11-1 victory at "The Swamp" Monday night. The game had been postponed from Friday due to wet grounds.

The win secured the outright Three Rivers Conference championship for Coach Brett Harwood's Wolfpack.

Whiteville scored three times in the third inning without benefit of a hit. Two walks, a fielder's choice, a sacrifice fly and throwing error gave Whiteville a 3-0 lead. Brooks Baldwin retired the first 11 Gators he faced. East Columbus' first base runner reached on an infield error in the fourth frame.

Three consecutive walks by East starter Alex Moore loaded the bases to start the Whiteville fifth. Connor Grainger greeted Gator reliever Brad Olsen with a bases-clearing triple to extend the lead to 6-0. Hunter Cartrette doubled in Grainger.

Cartrette scored as the Gators executed a double play. Grayson Ward singled and made the score 9-0 when Dylan Lawson doubled.

Hunter Reeves broke up Baldwin's no-hit bid on the first pitch in the Gator fifth. Bray McKeithan singled. Jameon Brown's double scored Reeves and made the score 9-1.

Baldwin avoided further damage with two strikeouts. In the sixth inning, Baldwin's two-run single after two more walks gave Whiteville an 11-1 advantage. Nydir Carr pitched the sixth for the Wolfpack, striking out two and hitting a batter.

Baldwin struck out six and walked no one in his five innings to earn the win. Grayson Ward led Whiteville with two hits. Connor Grainger drove in four runs.

Whiteville improves to 15-3 and 12-0 in conference play. East falls to 5-16 and 2-10 in the TRC.

Lady Gators trip Fairmont

FAIRMONT - Valerie Carter was the winning pitcher and Sayeh Campbell rapped out three hits Tuesday as they helped pace the East Columbus Lady Gators to a 12-3 win over Three Rivers Conference opponent Fairmont.

Kelsey Carroll and Kirklyn Wayne each added two hits for Coach Morgan Jacobs' Lady Gator squad, which upped its Three Rivers Conference record to 8-5 and season record to 13-6.

Legion meeting set for May 8

Coach Brett Harwood has announced that a meeting for players interested in playing on this summer's Whiteville American Legion Post 137 baseball team will be held Sunday, May 8, at Legion Stadium.



Photo by Grant Merritt

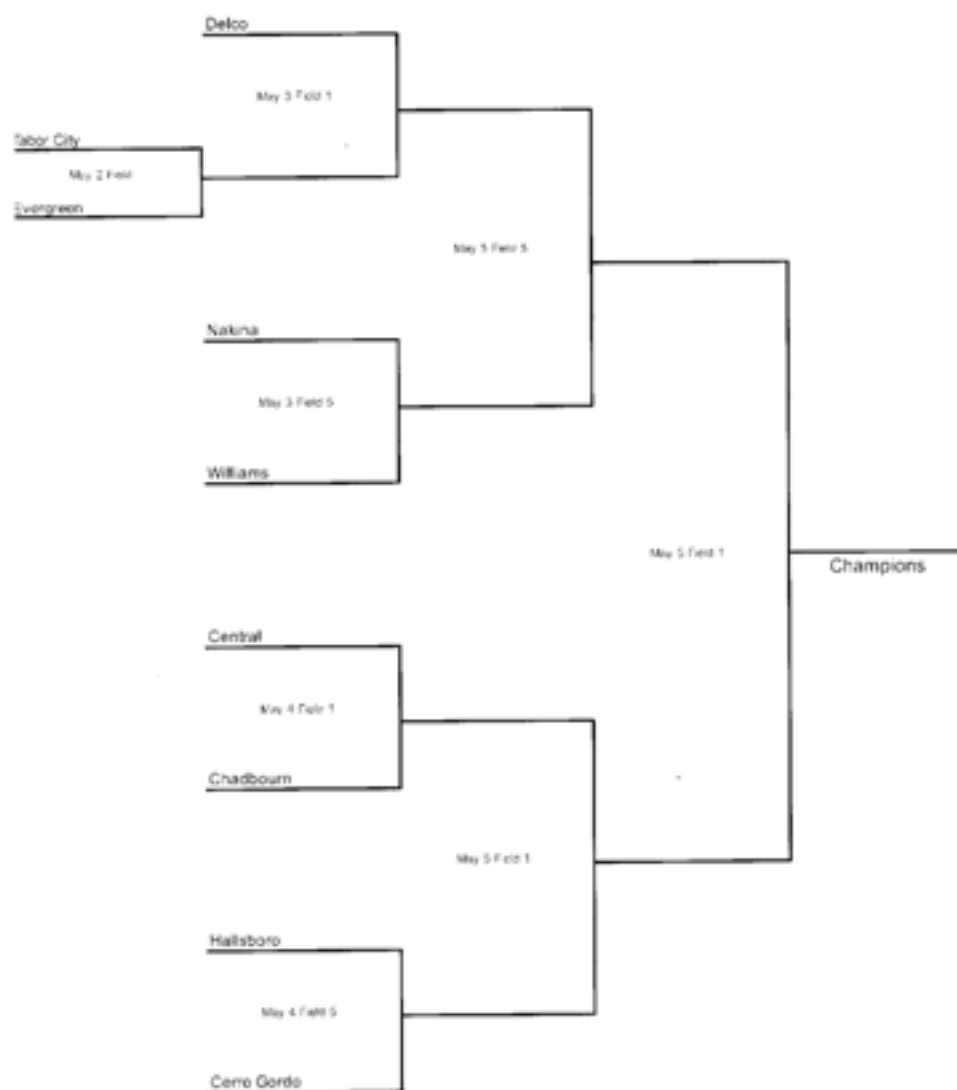
Whiteville High sophomore Brooks Baldwin pitches for the Wolfpack in its 11-1 Three Rivers Conference baseball win over East Columbus on Monday. In the background is WHS first baseman Connor Grainger.

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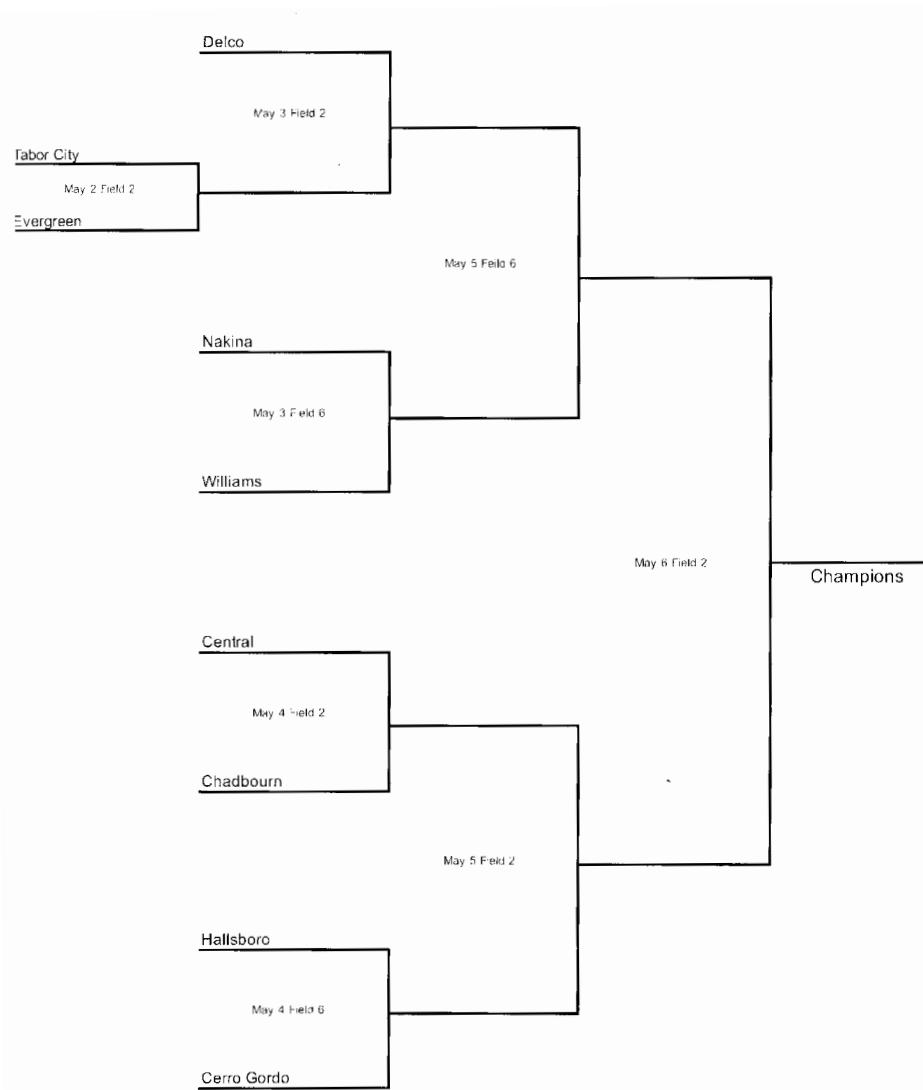
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Jiggs Powers Tabor City Invitational Baseball



Jiggs Powers Tabor City Invitational Softball



Hallsboro baseball defeated Williams 7-3 on Monday. Elijah Bunting was the winning pitcher. Fisher Reaves had two hits and scored two runs for the Tigers.

Tabor City earned a walk-off win against Cerro Gordo 5-4. Colton Nealey's base hit scored Rajon Graham with the winning run.

In softball, Hallsboro edged

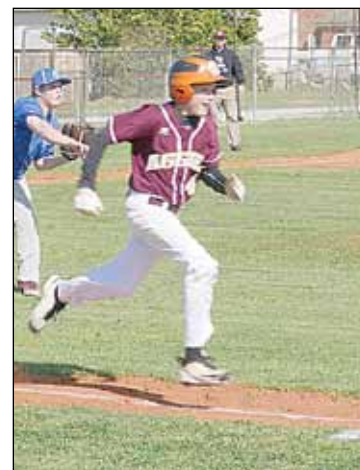
Williams 6-5. Hannah Andrews collected three hits for the Tigers. Autumn Johnson added two hits. Alanna Deal had a hit and was the winning pitcher, striking out seven. Alexis Jacobs also singled. Other Monday softball saw Tabor City top Cerro Gordo 15-3.

Tuesday, the Central Hornets baseball team improved to 11-0 with a 12-2 victory over

Nakina. The Hornets got a solid four and one-third innings pitching performance from Zack Hunt. Hunt gave up one run, two hits, struck out four and walked one. Jake Harwood pitched the final two and two-thirds innings. He gave up one run, one hit, struck out seven and walked one. Central was led at the plate by Lincoln Ransom's three hits and three

RBI. Other Hornets with hits were Jake Inman and Harwood with two hits each. Andrew Lewis and Zack Ivey each collected one hit.

Cerro Gordo defeated Evergreen 12-1 in baseball. The Lady Stingers edged Evergreen 4-3. Evergreen advanced the tying run to third base in the final inning, but could not score.



Middle school sports

Columbus County JV Baseball/Softball Standings					
JV Softball			JV Baseball		
	Conference	Overall		Conference	Overall
SCHS	11-0	14-0	ECHS	11-2	14-4
WHS	10-1	11-2	SCHS	10-2-1	15-4-1
ECHS	7-4	8-5	WCHS	7-5-1	9-8-1
WCHS	3-7-1	3-7-1	WHS	6-7	6-11
Recent Results					
Whiteville 12 ECHS 7			ECHS 7 Whiteville 4		
ECHS 17 Fairmont 0			ECHS 11 Fairmont 3		
SCHS 18 Red Springs 0			Red Springs 6 SCHS 5		
WCHS 17 St. Pauls 3			WCHS 5 St. Pauls 5		

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McDONALD'S PRESENTS

Whiteville High School



**Eden
Brown**
Softball

One of the most versatile players in WHS softball history, Brown is hoping she and the rest of the Lady Wolfpack squad can close out her final season on a huge note this spring. “We’ve done pretty well the past couple of years, and we hope we can make a strong finish this year,” said Brown, the WHS second baseman who has also started as catcher and third base during her four seasons on Coach Olivia Scott’s squad. The daughter of Tim Brown and Robin Rothfuss has already signed to play softball at UNC-Pembroke along with fellow WHS senior Malerie Leviner. In 2014, the WHS softball squad finished runner-up in the state 1A finals and advanced to the Eastern N.C. 1A finals last season. She has also been a standout on the WHS volleyball team.

East Columbus High School



**Kaleigh
Patrick**
Softball

The starting third baseman for the Lady Gators is having a strong junior season as both a hitter and fielder. She had two big doubles and came up with two big “hot-corner” players in Friday night’s Three Rivers Conference clash with arch-rival Whiteville. The daughter of Michael and Tammy Patrick and younger sister of ECHS softball coach Morgan Patrick, also plays on the Lady Gator volleyball team in the fall. “Sports keep me active,” said the ECHS honor student. “I have always enjoyed the competition. The Lady Gators will close their regular-season schedule on Friday with their Senior Night game with cross county rival West Columbus.

West Columbus High School



Zhanaysha Dawson
Softball

Dawson is a senior outfielder on coach Caroline Newman's Viking softball squad. Despite her team's lack of success record-wise, Dawson enjoys the competition. She also enjoys the opportunity to communicate and interact with her teammates and the opposition. Her speed in the outfield is her biggest asset. Dawson says Coach Newman has been her biggest influence. "Coach helps us get better, is always there to listen and gives the best advice," Dawson was a cheerleader, member of the basketball team and in the Beta Club at West Columbus. She plans on attending N.C. A&T and majoring in biology. She hopes to become a doctor. Her favorite athlete is Kevin Durant and Hamburger Helper is her favorite food. Dawson describes herself as, "bubbly; I love to talk and laugh."

South Columbus High School



**Hunter
Shelley**
Baseball

Shelley is a top offensive and defensive performer for the Stallions. His speed makes him a good leadoff hitter and also helps him cover lots of ground from his defensive position in centerfield. Hitting is his favorite part of the game. Shelley says he inherited his love of baseball from his father. Last week's 12-2 win over Fairmont has been his best moment in baseball. South Columbus had lost eight straight to the Tornadoes. Coach Bradley Strickland says, "Hunter is one of my captains. The team looks to him to set the tone for everything that happens. He carries that responsibility like a leader is supposed to." When not playing baseball, Shelley enjoys hunting, fishing and participates in church activities. He plans on becoming a welder after graduating from high school. David Ortiz is his favorite athlete and steak is his favorite food.




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NASCAR INSIDER

by RICK MINTER / Universal Uclick

Carl Edwards bumps past Kyle Busch to victory in Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond Int'l Raceway



Carl Edwards took the checkered flag in the Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond, his second Sprint Cup victory in a row.

Bristol winner Carl Edwards got his second straight Sprint Cup win with a victory in Sunday's Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond International Raceway. But to get it, he bumped his Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Kyle Busch from the lead on the final lap.

Although Busch was not critical of Edwards afterward, it was clear from his measured comments that he wasn't happy about the move Edwards made. Busch, who re-

covered to finish second, went through his post-race media obligations, but did not address the bump.

Asked if he expected a bump from Edwards on the last lap, Busch responded: "Our Banfield Camry was real awesome today. We had a great race car. My guys made some awesome adjustments to it. It was really good for us to have an opportunity to run and race for the win like that."

His answer, when asked

for a response to Edwards' explanation that he and Busch can race without worry because both have won a race this season and are virtually assured of berths in the Chase, elicited little reaction as he essentially repeated his earlier answer.

"My guys give me great race cars each and every week," he said. "We continue to have fast Camrys. We'll be continuing to run up front and race for wins."

Edwards said having

fast teammates -- he and Busch together have won the past four Cup races -- inevitably leads to scenarios like last Sunday's.

"The double-edged sword of having great teammates is, sometimes you have to race like that," he said, adding that he thought Busch's car was losing speed in the final laps. "It looked like maybe his tires went away. Going down the back straight, I thought he'd spun his tires; they were hot."

"I knew I was going to run the bottom. Somehow he knew I was going to run the bottom, too. So he went there. He squared up the car, slowed down. He was pretty certain I was going to bump him. At that point, it's like, man, we're so much faster into the corner, I had to try something."

Team owner Joe Gibbs said he's not sure how Tuesday's regular team meeting will play out this week or what he will say to the two drivers.

"I think when something like this happens, I don't think there's a game plan

for it," he said. "You have no real organized way of handling it. What you do is you start out and work your way through it. That's what we'll do."

But, Gibbs said, it won't be easy.

"It's a tough thing, because it's certainly painful for one side," he said. "You're on such a high with the other side. It's a tough thing."

Sunday's race saw eight drivers lead at some point, with 23 official lead changes.

Joe Gibbs Racing placed all four of its drivers in the top 7 at Richmond, as Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin finished sixth, followed by Matt Kenseth.

Hendrick Motorsports, which has two wins this season (both by Jimmie Johnson, at Atlanta and Auto Club Speedway), had two drivers in the top 5 at Richmond, as Johnson finished third, ahead of fourth-place Kasey Kahne, who scored his first top-5 of the season.


Stewart-Haas Racing's Kevin Harvick, who won earlier this year, at Phoe-

nix, was fifth.

Tony Stewart, in his first Sprint Cup start of the season, finished 19th and moved to 40th in the points standings, 101 markers behind Matt DiBenedetto in 30th.

To make the Chase, Stewart, who missed the first eight races because of a non-racing back injury, must win a regular-season race and be among the top 30 in points after the first 26 races.

He plans to start next week's race at Talladega Superspeedway, and then turn his No. 14 Chevrolet over to Ty Dillon. That will allow Stewart to be credited for the points earned by the car, but keep him out of harm's way at a track that has been known to have some nasty crashes.



"Sometimes you have to race like that," Edwards said about his contact with teammate Kyle Busch.

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The City of Whiteville Police Department is currently seeking qualified applicants for its Police Officer position. All applicants must have obtained a completion of a two year associate degree in Criminal Justice or graduation from high school supplemented by basic lexpndtw-2 courses in police science, or an equivalent combination of education and experience, must be NC BLET certified and meet Training & Standards as established by the State of NC. Police Officers in this position performs a full range of law enforcement duties in the areas of community policing, school resources, traffic, investigation, and patrol duties. Applicants are subject to pre-employment screenings and must possess a valid NC driver's license. The starting salary for this position is \$30,381.

For consideration, submit a City application (DO NOT SUBMIT AN F-3 WITH YOUR APPLICATION) and cover letter identifying applicable skills and experiences to: City of Whiteville HR Director, Attn: Police Officer, PO Box 607, Whiteville, NC 28472. To obtain a City Employment Application, please contact the HR Director, 910-642-8046 ext. 1009, online at whitevillecity.com under Employment Opportunities, or via email: rivenbark@ci.whiteville.nc.us. Deadline for application submission is April 29, 2016 at 5:00 pm.

DMA SALES, LLC in Tabor City is seeking an experienced customer service representative. Starting wage of \$10/hr with full benefits. Submit resumes to hr@dm-access.com

EXPERIENCED RECEPTIONIST Wanted at local medical office. Please provide prior receptionist experience and references when you submit your resume. Submit resume to Receptionist P.O. Box 1437, Whiteville, NC 28472.

FTCC-FAYETTEVILLE TECHNICAL Community College is now accepting applications for the following positions: Director of Financial Aid. For detailed information and to apply, please visit our employment portal at: https://faytechcc.peopleadmin.com/. Human Resources Office. Phone: (910) 678-8378 Internet: http://www.faytechcc.edu. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

BODY MAN HELPER wanted with at least 1 year experience. Call 910-640-1963.

255 Drivers & Delivery

ATTN: DRIVERS - AVG. \$60k+/yr. \$2k Sign-On Bonus. Family Company w/Great Miles. Love Your Job and Your Truck. CDL-A Req. (877) 258-8782. drive4melton.com

DRIVER TRAINEES- PAID CDL TRAINING! Stevens Transport will cover all costs! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Earn \$800 per week! Local CDL Training! 1-888-748-4137 drive4stevens.com

HIGH-TECH CAREER with U.S. Navy. Elite tech training w/great pay, benefits, vacation, \$ for school. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 800-662-7419

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL Drivers! - Free Healthcare! Regional & OTR positions open. Pay starting at 40cpm. 1yr. experience required. Call 864-649-2063 or visit Drive4JGR.com. EOE.

260 Health/Medical

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT- (CNA) - Autumn Care of Shallotte has full-time and part-time- all shift C.N.A positions. Performs patient care activities and related services necessary in caring for the personal needs, safety, and comfort of patients. Please come by our facility and complete an application. Autumn Care of Shallotte, 237 Mulberry St. Shallotte, NC 28459. EEO/M/F/Disabled/Veteran Employer

CNA'S NEEDED. Call 910-207-6550 for details.

HEALTHY LIVING HOME CARE. Looking for RN part time or full time. Call 910-641-0000

PRIVATE DUTY LPN OR RN

AssistedCare at Home is hiring LPNs and RNs with acute care or private duty nursing experience for a pediatric case in Clarkton. Various, flexible shifts include weekdays, weekends, overnights and daytime hrs. LPNs/RNs must have current NC license and at least 1 year of skilled nursing, recent vent experience and CPR/First Aid certification. Must have reliable transportation, valid driver's license and car insurance. \$500 sign-on bonus (inquire during interview)! We offer competitive pay rates, direct deposit, ongoing education and paid CPR/First Aid renewal. Come join our team of dedicated and caring professionals! Send resumes to careers@assistedcare.net or call (910) 332-2346, ext. 303. Assisted-Care is an EOE.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Premier Living & Rehab Center
Responsible for Payroll functions and Accounts Payable entry. Candidate should possess general office, interpersonal and computer skills. Ability to be flexible and multi-task. Assists Administrator with various projects related to insurance, employee benefits, new employee orientation and other duties as assigned. Should be familiar with FMLA, ACA, Worker's Comp., etc. Please submit resume to: gparn@premierlivingnc.com or fax to 910-646-4071 along with cover letter and salary requirements.

SERVICES

275 Financial Services

SELL YOUR STRUCTURED settlement or annuity payments for CASH NOW. You don't have to wait for your future payments any longer! Call 1-800-316-0271.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-800-371-1734 to start your application today!

295 School/Institutions

AVIATION GRADS WORK with Jet-Blue, Boeing, Delta and others start here with hands on training for FAA certification. Financial aid if qualified. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-441-6890.

ENTRY LEVEL HEAVY Equipment Operator Career. Get trained - get certified - get hired! Bulldozers, Backhoes and Excavators. Immediate lifetime job placement. VA benefits. National average \$18-\$22. 1-866-362-6497.

MEDICAL BILLING TRAINEES NEEDED! Doctors & Hospitals need Medical Office Staff! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Online Training gets you job ready! HS Diploma/GED & Computer needed. Career technical. edu/nc. 1-888-512-7122

310 Business Services

****Watts Backhoe & Tree Service***
Insured, tree removal, bucket truck, top soil, fill dirt, marl for driveway, land clearing. Free estimates. 640-2463 or mobile 770-0534.

ALL THINGS BASEMENT! Basement Systems Inc. Call us for all of your basement needs! Waterproofing, Finishing, Structural Repairs, Humidity and Mold Control. FREE ESTIMATES! Call 1-800-698-9217

Bobby Hinson Construction
Lot clearing, pond building, bushhogging, lots and hedge rows with mini excavator. Call 640-7606.

LARRY HINSON'S BACKHOE
All types of backhoe work, lot clearing, sand, top soil and marl. Call 654-4503.

NAME YOUR PRICE lawn mowing, pressure washing, etc. Your price we mow. Handy Man Lawncare. (Reasonable). 918-5353.

SKIP'S LAWN CARE & pressure washing, utility tractor work, etc. 910-234-3418

AUTOMOTIVE

320 Cars

2012 KIA SOUL +, auto, Plus Trim Pkg., steering auto control, alloys, 53k. \$12,500. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

2013 FORD FIESTA SEDAN SE trunk spoiler, moonroof, alum wheels, 58k. \$10,800. Fair Bluff Ford. 649-7531

2014 FORD FUSION S, 2.5L auto, SYNC, ABS brakes, local trade, 30k. \$15,500. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

2014 FORD MUSTANG 3.7L V6 convertible auto, SYNC, Tech pack, alloys, 25k. \$19,900. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

2014 NISSAN MAXIMA 3.5 S, V6, auto CVT, intell.Key Push-Button start, 25k. \$18,500. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

Bank Owned Online w/Bid Center
AUCTION
2.03± ACRES & HOUSE IN WILLIAMS, NC
COLUMBUS COUNTY, NC
Begins Closing: Thursday, May 12, 2016 - 3pm
BID CENTER: IRON HORSE AUCTION CO. OFFICE IN ROCKINGHAM, NC
IRON HORSE AUCTION COMPANY
Auctioneers & Brokers
800.997.2248 - NCAL3936
ironhorseauction.com

WILL SELL TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER AT OR ABOVE \$20,000
LIVE ON-SITE AUCTION
608 N. Franklin St. • Whiteville
1,500 SQ. FT. HOME ON .20 ACRE LOT
2 BEDROOMS, 1½ BATHS, VINYL SIDING, HARDWOOD FLOORS
PREVIEW: SAT., MAY 7, 10:00 A.M.
AUCTION DATE: SAT., MAY 7, 11:00 A.M.
For info, pic, video visit CarolinaAuctionRealty.com
Auctioneer Tom Jordan License #7126 (919) 832-8005

AUTOMOTIVE

2015 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 S, intelligent w/push-button start, Bluetooth, 16k. \$17,900. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

330 Trucks

2014 FORD F-150 XL reg cab 4x2 long bed, power plus pack, cruise, trailer hitch, 21k. \$22,800. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

335 SUVs/Vans

2013 FORD EDGE SEL, 3.5L V6 auto, SYNC, heated leather, 36k. \$24,900. Fair Bluff Ford 910-649-7531

2014 FORD ECONOLINE 350 Super Duty XLT, 15 passenger, loaded, tilt and cruise, 38k. \$26,900. Fair Bluff Ford. 910-649-7531

2015 FORD ESCAPE SE, Turbo SYNC, auto, MyFord Touch, with camera, 22k, \$22,500. Fair Bluff Ford 910-649-7531

360 Motorcycles

2005 HARLEY DAVIDSON, 1450 Super Glide. \$11,000 New helmet, jacket, new tires, grips & foot rubbers. 910-654-4440

REAL ESTATE

****Publisher's Notice****
Equal Housing Opportunity

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, North Carolina and Columbus Fair Housing Law which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-765-9372.

410 Permanent Homes

3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH house for sale. Located on W. Lewis St. in Whiteville. Call 234-6644.

735 WASHINGTON ST. approx. 2000 hsf, 3 BR, 2 BA brick home. .39 acre well landscaped lot. Vinyl trim, living, dining, kitchen, utility rooms. Two carports, 3 outside storage. Hardwood, carpet, gas logs. 3 ton heat pump. Great condition. \$150,000. Call Sam 910-642-5405.

Pro Carpet Cleaning
\$19.99
PER ROOM / AREA
(2 room minimum)
"Clean Carpet At A Low Price"
Owned/Operated by
Randy and Myra Williamson
642-6888
Mobile 840-2388

BOYS & GIRLS HOMES
of North Carolina
TEEN MOM CO-PARENT FOR LAKE HOUSE
Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina, Inc is accepting **applications** for the position of **TEEN MOM CO-PARENT FOR OUR B&GH Lake House – a Teen Mom & Baby Home**. This position requires a high school diploma. This is an exciting team LIVE-IN position for individuals with a desire to work with teenagers. You are educating and providing role models for young women and their babies.
This position requires two (2) LIVE-IN co-parents' responsible for three (3) teen moms and their babies. Responsibilities will include: coordinating doctor visits, transporting to school, jobs, daycare, guidance with shopping, meal preparation, light housekeeping, teaching life skills, as well as other similar duties. There will be flexible time off between the hours of 8:00am and 2:00pm providing no appointments or travel are needed. You will have two weekends off each month. A rent-free apartment is included with this position.
Exempt salaried position. Schedule and salary to be discussed during interview process. We offer an excellent benefit package. This position is located on the Lake Waccamaw campus. EOE
You can apply online at www.boysandgirlshomes.org, by email at tesa.bush@bghnc.org, or fax to 910-646-3609 and/or mail applications to Boys & Girls Homes of NC, Inc – P. O. Box 127, Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450 – Attn: Tesa Bush, Human Resources Manager. For questions, please call Tesa Bush at 910-646-3083 ext 205..

AmeriGas
Propane Refills
SAVE 20% OR MORE
From exchange prices
Quick Lane
TIRE & AUTO CENTER
106 Quality Street, Whiteville
910-640-FAST (640-3278)

REAL ESTATE

RENTALS

500 Houses

1 ACRE LARGE 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Garage/workshop. Near Whiteville. No pets. 910-640-3896.

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, carport, central heat/air. Between Cerro Gordo & Fair Bluff. 910-654-3894.

2 BR HOUSE in Iron Hill Community. \$325 month. \$325 deposit. Call 910-234-0659.

2 BR HOUSE, hardwood floors, CH/A, nice area. No pets Deposit & references req. Call 910-808-8098

3 BR, 2 BATH house, carport, \$650 month. Security deposit required. Call 910-368-6652.

LAKE WACCAMAW, lake front town home, 2 BR, no smoking, no pets. \$700 month. Deposit and references required. 910-840-1713

520 Apartments

MADISON HILL APARTMENTS
206 S. Madison St., Whiteville, NC
One Bedroom Apts.
Laundry Facilities • Community room • 24 hours maintenance
Rental assistance up to 100% based on income. Income restriction may apply
Seniors 62 years and older 910-642-8883
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 am to 2 pm
Professionally Managed by Community Management Corporation


2 BEDROOM APARTMENT. No pets. Please call J.L. Powell & Co., Inc. Call 642-4049.

REAL ESTATE

530 Mfg. Housing

APT. FOR RENT, 2 BR, 1 bath. Private back yard. Excellent location. \$550. Mack Thompson 625-6762

2 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME, East-over Park. Call J.L. Powell & Co Inc. 642-4049.

2 BEDROOM MOBILE home, powerstat, heat pump, credit report and criminal history report required. \$450 per month. Call 642-2056.

2 BR 1 BATH MOBILE HOME private lot behind Tractor Supply. \$500 firm. Call 840-2485

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH doublewide. Whiteville School District. \$600 per month. Call 910-754-5665.

570 Commercial

FOR LEASE - Available medium offices 4 room. Memory Plaza. Call Memory Enterprises 910-642-5824.

FOR LEASE - Small 3 room office available. Memory Plaza. Call Memory Enterprises 910-642-5824.

FOR RENT Downtown Commercial Building. Spacious parking. Call J.L. Powell & Co., Inc. (910) 642-4049.

FOR RENT/LEASE - 1,200 sq. ft. 6 room office. Powell Plaza. Call Memory Enterprises 910-642-5824.

NEW OFFICE FOR RENT, convenient location near hospital. Call 910-640-8098

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Sale

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE OF NORTH CAROLINA
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
COLUMBUS COUNTY
16SP41

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE FORECLOSURE OF A DEED OF TRUST EXECUTED BY BRUCE KETCHAM AND MIRANDA KETCHAM DATED DECEMBER 22, 2007 AND RECORDED IN BOOK RB 918 AT PAGE 491 IN THE COLUMBUS COUNTY PUBLIC REGISTRY, NORTH CAROLINA

Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in the above-referenced deed of trust and because of default in the payment of the secured indebtedness and failure to perform the stipulation and agreements therein contained and, pursuant to demand of the owner and holder of the secured debt, the undersigned substitute trustee will expose for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the usual place of sale at the county courthouse of said county at 10:00AM on May 12, 2016 the following described real estate and any other improvements which may be situated thereon, in Columbus County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

Lying in the Town of Chadbourn Chadbourn Township, Columbus County, containing 0.22 acres and being set forth on a plat for Elva B. Stephens by Billy M. Duncan, R.L.S., dated January 14, 1987, which plat is recorded in Plat Book 45, Page 20, and is incorporated by reference for further particularity of description.

And Being more commonly known as: 210 East Second Ave, Chadbourn, NC 28431

The record owner(s) of the property, as reflected on the records of the Register of Deeds, is/are Bruce A. Ketcham. The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance “AS IS, WHERE IS.” Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale. Any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. This sale is made subject to all prior liens and encumbrances, and unpaid taxes and assessments including but not limited to any transfer tax associated with the foreclosure. A deposit of five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is required and must be

LEGAL NOTICES

tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale. This sale will be held open ten days for upset bids as required by law. Following the expiration of the statutory upset period, all remaining amounts are IMMEDIATELY DUE AND OWING. Failure to remit funds in a timely manner will result in a Declaration of Default and any deposit will be frozen pending the outcome of any re-sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, the Substitute Trustee or the attorney of any of the foregoing.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR LEASEHOLD TENANTS: If you are a tenant residing in the property, be advised that an Order for Possession of the property may be issued in favor of the purchaser. Also, if your lease began or was renewed on or after October 1, 2007, be advised that you may terminate the rental agreement upon written notice to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time notice of termination is provided. You may be liable for rent due under the agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

The date of this Notice is April 21, 2016.

Grady I. Ingle or Elizabeth B. Ells
Substitute Trustee
10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400
Charlotte, NC 28216
(704) 333-8107
http://shapiroattorneys.com/nc/
13-049850
April 28, May 5, 2016

Advertisement for Bids
Columbus County
Whiteville,
North Carolina 28472

Sealed bids will be received by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, at the Columbus County Administrative Building, Conference Meeting Room, 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, on June 1, 2016 at 9:00 o'clock a.m., and then the said bids will be opened and immediately read and made public at the said office at the appointed time and location as above stated for

LEGAL NOTICES

: furnishing of meals to the Columbus County Department of Aging and Adult Services for the fiscal year 2016-2019, beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019 for the Title III-C Nutrition Program. The instructions for submitting the said bid or discussion concerning the specifications of the said bid may be obtained from Amanda Harrelson, Director of the Department of Aging and Adult Services, or Pat Harrelson, Nutrition Supervisor, at 910-640-6602 or at the office located at 827 Washington Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, or by writing to Post Office Box 1327, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, during normal business hours (8:30 o'clock a.m. through 5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday through Friday). All bids are subject to deposits as set forth by the North Carolina General Statute 143-129(b), as amended, and the instructions for bidders therein contained. No proposal shall be considered acceptable by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, unless at the time of the filing of the proposal, the same shall be accompanied by a bid deposit with the Columbus County Board of Commissioner's in the form of cash, cashier's check, or certified check on some bank or trust company, insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, in the amount equal to no less than five (5%) percent of the proposal or in lieu thereof in making cash deposits as above described; the bidder may file a bond executed by a corporate surety, licensed with-in the State of North Carolina, for the execution of the said bonds, on the condition that the surety shall, upon demand, forthwith pay all payments to the Columbus County Board of Commissioners of North Carolina, upon the said bond. If the bidder fails to execute the contract in accordance with the bid and upon failure to perform agreements there under, that the surety shall pay to Columbus County an amount equal to double the amount of the said bond.

The Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, reserves the right to award the said bid to any person, firm or corporation, considered to be in the best interest of Columbus County, and to reject any and all bids not acceptable.

Columbus County Board of County Commissioners
By: Buddy Byrd, Chairman
Attested by: June Hall, Clerk to the Board
Michael Stephens, County Attorney
April 28, May 5, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
The undersigned, JAMES MICHAEL PENNINGTON, II, has qualified as Administrator of the Estate of JAMES MICHEAL PENNINGTON, late of Columbus County, and this is to notify all persons having claims against said Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before July 7, 2016, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 28A-14-1, or this notice shall

LEGAL NOTICES

be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the following address:
This the 7th day of April, 2016.
JAMES MICHAEL PENNINGTON, II, ADMINISTRATOR
114 King Drive
Summerville, SC 29483
LISA P. GREENE,
RESIDENT PROCESS AGENT
P. O. Box 1467
Whiteville, NC 28472
Williamson, Walton & Scott, L.L.P.
Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 1467
Whiteville, NC 28472
April 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2016

NOTICE TO EXECUTOR
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Minnie Delossie Williams, deceased, late of Columbus County, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of the first publication, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 28th day of April, 2016.
Charles Williams
Administrator of the estate of Minnie Delossie Williams
1469 Thelbert Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28301
April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 2016

NOTICE TO EXECUTOR
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Sandra Logan, deceased, late of Columbus County, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of the first publication, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 14th day of April, 2016.
Mattie Logan, Administratrix of the estate of Sandra Logan
1523 Little Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2016

NOTICE TO EXECUTOR
Having qualified as Executor of the estate of Sarah Lewis Wright, deceased, late of Columbus County, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of the first publication, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 14th day of April, 2016.
James Lewis Wright, Executor of the estate of Sarah Lewis Wright, 199 Linkside Ct SE
Lenoir, NC 28645
April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2016

**Notice of Public Hearing
Whiteville Planning Board**

The Whiteville Planning & Zoning Board will hold a public hearing as follows:
Date: May 2, 2016
Time: 12:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the agenda will allow
Meeting Location: Whiteville City Hall, 24 Hill Plaza
Conditional Use Permit: Request from Phil McPherson for a conditional use permit for a Bed and Breakfast at 209 East Wyche Street (tax parcel #4173). Citizens interested in the proposal are invited to attend and participate in the public hearing. Changes may be made in the above proposal as a result of debate, objection, or discussion.
Hiram J. Marziano, II
City of Whiteville
Planning Director
910-640-1380
April 21, 28, 2016

Tabor Villa Apartments
Phone (910) 653-2948
In exchange for a rent-free apartment

- Officer will provide a marked patrol car on the premises while he is at home.
- Officer will walk the grounds in uniform at different times of the day and night (depending on his work schedule), controlling, breaking up crowds, and controlling disturbances.
- Officer will assist property staff with enforcement of trespass list.
- Officer will routinely drive through the area while on duty as work load allows and with permission from Supervising Officer.
- Officer will compile monthly reports of any calls made to Police Department and Sheriff's Department and provides such to Manager.
- Officer will attend monthly meetings (or as needed) with property staff to update staff on resident and/or property concerns.
- Officer will attend resident meetings to help establish and maintain Neighborhood Watch.

2 Bedroom units with 1.5 baths
Amenities include: Electric Range, Refrigerator, Central Heat & Air, Carpet & Tile Floors, Laundry Hook-ups, Mini Blinds, Playground
400 Green Sea Rd. -Box 605
Tabor City, NC 28463
Tabor Villa Apartments
Call Debbie at (910) 653-2948

Brenda Worley Realty
Featured Property of the Week



852 Bill Hooks Rd - This is a great starter home or someone looking to down-size. It is located in the North Whiteville community and features sunroom and large outside building. it features 2 Bedroom and 2 Bath with sunroom. Call Rusty today for a showing. (910) 770-9949



102 Memory Plaza
Phone 642-9970
Evenings 642-4200
Fax 642-9983
www.worleyrealty.com

John Donoghue Automotive

16 Chevy Colorado
Crew Cab, Z-71, #11313


Was \$34,580
SALE \$31,248

16 Chevy Equinox
#11262


Was \$26,420
SALE \$22,950

15 Chevy Tahoe LT
#P11258


Was \$58,975
SALE \$42,150

15 Chevy Silverado
LT, 4x4, #P11395


Was \$41,951
SALE \$29,965

<p>09 Toyota Tacoma Crew Cab, PreRunner</p> <p> Sale Price \$15,995</p>	<p>10 GMC Acadia</p> <p> Sale Price \$11,985</p>	<p>11 Chevy Traverse Only 35K Miles</p> <p> Sale Price \$14,950</p>	<p>15 Nissan Altima</p> <p> Sale Price \$13,995</p>	<p>13 GMC Acadia SLT</p> <p> Sale Price \$26,500</p>	<p>07 Chevy Colorado</p> <p> Sale Price \$6,995</p>
<p>00 Chevy S-10</p> <p> Sale Price \$2,995</p>	<p>12 Ford Fusion SEL</p> <p> Sale Price \$11,985</p>	<p>11 GMC Sierra Denali HD, 4x4</p> <p> Sale Price \$31,500</p>	<p>12 Chevy Equinox LT AWD</p> <p> Sale Price \$11,985</p>	<p>12 Chevy Suburban LTZ</p> <p> Sale Price \$29,985</p>	<p>07 Chevy Silverado Z-71, 4x4</p> <p> Sale Price \$16,975</p>

John Donoghue Automotive
www.johndonoghueautomotive.com

910-642-2400
Highway 130 East • Whiteville

*All prices plus tax & tags and \$299 doc fee. See dealer for details on all leases & financing options.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Co-Executrixes of the Estate of Lois Ruth Hardie, deceased, of Columbus County, State of North Carolina, the undersigned does pursuant to North Carolina General Statute § 28A-14-1 hereby notify all persons, firms, associations or corporations having claims against the estate of the said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 22nd day of July 2016 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, associations or corporations indebted to the said estate will please make payment immediately. This the 14th day of April, 2016. Willa Dean Fowler Executrix of the Estate of Lois Ruth Hardie James E. Hill, Jr, PLLC Attorneys at Law 109 Courthouse Square Whiteville, NC 28472 Telephone: 910-642-8136 April 21, 28, May 5 & 12, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Co-Executrixes of the Estate of Raleigh Orben Fowler, deceased, of Columbus County, State of North Carolina, the undersigned does pursuant to North Carolina General Statute § 28A-14-1 hereby notify all persons, firms, associations or corporations having claims against the estate of the said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 8th day of August 2016 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, associations or corporations indebted to the said estate will please make payment immediately. This the 31st day of March, 2016. Beverly C. Wallace & Cheryl Fowler McLaurin Co-Executrixes of the Estate of Raleigh Orben Fowler James E. Hill, Jr, PLLC Attorneys at Law 109 Courthouse Square Whiteville, NC 28472 Telephone: 910-642-8136 April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executor of the ESTATE OF RUTH N. JENKINS, late of the County of Columbus, State of North Carolina, I, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 28A-14-1, hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to present them to the undersigned by the 14th day of July, 2016, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 14th day of April, 2016. STEVEN A. BRYAN, EXECUTOR P.O. Box 963 Whiteville, North Carolina 28472 O. RICHARD WRIGHT, JR., ESQUIRE WRIGHT, WORLEY, POPE, EKSTER & MOSS, PLLC Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 457 Tabor City, North Carolina 28463 Telephone: (910) 653-2082/3682 April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA COLUMBUS COUNTY The undersigned, JAMES GORDON PARKER, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JAMES IRVIN PARKER deceased, late of Colum-

LEGAL NOTICES

bus County, NC, this is to notify all persons having claims against said Estate to present them to the undersigned Executor on or before July 10, 2016 at Powell & Powell, Attorneys, PO Box 428, Whiteville, NC 28472, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor. This the 5th day of April, 2016 JAMES GORDON PARKER Executor Red Hill Road Whiteville, NC 28472 c/o J. Coburn Powell Powell & Powell, Attorneys PO Box 428 Whiteville, NC 28472 Telephone: (910) 642-2728 April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF COLUMBUS Having qualified as Administrator/Attorney of the Estate of Lula Beatrice Freeman, deceased, late of Columbus County, North Carolina, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 8th day of July, 2016, or this notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 7th day of April, 2016. Don W. Viets, Jr. Administrator/Attorney for the Estate 135 Washington Street Whiteville, NC 28472 Telephone: (910) 642-7019 April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016.

NOTICE TO EXECUTRIX

Having qualified as Executrix of the estate of Annie Maxine Bullard Cain, deceased, late of Columbus County, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of the first publication, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 14th day of April, 2016. Deborah M Pratt Executrix of the estate of Annie Maxine Bullard Cain, 7001 Daybreak Lane Wilmington, NC 28411 April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the estate of Annie Thurman, deceased, late of Columbus County, the undersigned hereby notifies all persons having claims against the

LEGAL NOTICES

estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of the first publication, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 14th day of April, 2016. Manwell Thurman Administrator CTA of the estate of

LEGAL NOTICES

Annie Thurman, 808 West Burkhead Street Whiteville, NC 28472 April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Administrator of the ESTATE OF MARTHA BROWN STORY BUFFKIN, late of the County of Columbus, State of North Carolina, I, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 28A-14-

LEGAL NOTICES

1, hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to present them to the undersigned by the 28th day of July, 2016, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will make immediate payment to the undersigned' This the 28th day of April, 2016. Billy B. Buffkin, Administrator

LEGAL NOTICES

265 Singletary Road Whiteville, NC 28472 O. RICHARD WRIGHT, JR., ESQUIRE WRIGHT, WORLEY, POPE, EKSTER & MOSS, PLLC Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 457 Tabor City, North Carolina 28463 Telephone: (910) 653-2082/3682 April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 2016

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Notice of Sale

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
FILE NO.: 15 SP 126
IN RE: Deed of Trust executed by
Cape Fear Land & Timber Corpora-
tion in favor of William H. Sessoms,
Jr., Trustee, securing indebtedness
payable to Horry County State Bank,
registered in Book 844, Page 587,
of the Register of Deeds of Colum-
bus County, N.C.; C. Greg William-
son, being appointed as Substitute
Trustee by instrument recorded in
Book 1078, Page 310, Columbus
County Registry.
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 5,
2016 at 12:00 Noon
PLACE OF SALE: Columbus County
Courthouse Door
Whiteville, North Carolina
PURSUANT to an Order entered
by the Clerk of Superior Court of

Columbus County, on April 5, 2016,
after a hearing, which hearing was
held pursuant to Chapter 45 of the
General Statutes of North Carolina
providing for notice and hearing prior
to foreclosure sales; and
UNDER AND BY VIRTUE of the
power of sale contained in a certain
Deed of Trust recorded March 1,
2006, executed by Cape Fear Land
& Timber Corporation in favor of Wil-
liam H. Sessoms, Jr., Trustee, secur-
ing indebtedness payable to Horry
County State Bank, and recorded
in Book 844, Page 587, Columbus
County Registry, and the said Deed
of Trust being by the terms there-
of subject to foreclosure, and the
holder of the indebtedness thereby
secured having demanded a foreclo-
sure thereof for the purpose of satis-
fying said indebtedness, the under-
signed Substitute Trustee will offer
for sale at public auction to the high-
est bidder, for cash, at the Columbus
County Courthouse door in White-
ville, North Carolina, at the time and
place as set forth hereinabove, the

lands secured by said Deed of Trust,
the same lying and being in Colum-
bus County, North Carolina, and
being more particularly described
as: Lying and being in Whiteville
Township, Columbus County, North
Carolina, and being more particularly
described as follows:
Lying and being in Whiteville Town-
ship, Columbus County, North Caro-
lina, and being all of that certain tract
of land containing 1.21 acres total,
as shown on map for Randy Thomp-
son and Charles Inman, dated May
18, 2005, by Jimmy Dale Etheridge,
P.L.S. Said map is incorporated
herein by reference for a more accu-
rate and complete description of the
property conveyed herein.
This being the same property con-
veyed in Deed in favor of Cape Fear
Land and Timber Corporation dated
September 20, 2005, and recorded
in Deed Book 829, Page 179, Colum-
bus County Registry.
The record owner, as reflected on the
records of the Register of Deeds not
more than ten (10) days prior to post-

ing this notice, is Cape Fear Land &
Timber Corporation.
Any person who occupies the prop-
erty pursuant to a rental agreement
entered into or renewed on or after
October 1, 2007, may, after receiv-
ing a notice of sale, terminate the
rental agreement by providing writ-
ten notice of termination to the land-
lord, to be effective on a date stated
in the notice that is at least 10 days,
but no more than 90 days, after the
sale dated contained in the notice
of sale, provided that the mortgag-
or has not cured the default at the
time the tenant provides the notice
of termination. Upon termination of a
rental agreement, the tenant is liable
for rent due under the rental agree-
ment prorated to the effective date
of the termination.
The property to be offered pursu-
ant to this Notice of Sale is being
offered for sale, transfer, and con-
veyance "AS IS, WHERE IS". Nei-
ther the Trustee nor the holder of the
note secured by the deed of trust/


security agreement, or both, being
foreclosed, nor the officers, direc-
tors, attorneys, employees, agents,
or authorized representatives of
either Trustee or the holder of the
note make any representation or
warranty relating to the title or any
physical, environmental, health or
safety conditions existing in, on, at
or relating to the property being offered
for sale, and any and all responsibili-
ties or liabilities arising out of or in
any way relating to any such condi-
tion expressly are disclaimed. This
sale is made subject to all prior liens
or encumbrances, and unpaid taxes
and assessments including, but not
limited to, any transfer tax associ-
ated with the foreclosure, for pay-
ing, if any. A deposit of five percent
(5%) of the amount of the bid or
seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00),
whichever is greater, is required and
must be tendered in the form of cash
or certified funds at the time of the
sale. This sale will be held open ten
days for upset bids as required by
law. Following the expiration of the

statutory upset period, all remaining
amounts are immediately due and
owing. The highest bidder will be
responsible for the payment of rev-
enue stamps payable to the Register
of Deeds and any final court and or
auditing fees payable to the Clerk of
Superior Court which are assessed
on the high bid resulting from this
foreclosure sale.
An order of possession of the prop-
erty being sold may be issued pursu-
ant to N.C.G.S. 45-21. 29 in favor of
the purchaser and against the party
or parties in possession by the Clerk
of Superior Court of the county in
which the property is sold.
This the 5th day of April, 2016.
C. GREG WILLIAMSON,
Substitute Trustee
WILLIAMSON, WALTON, & SCOTT
L.L.P.
136 Washington Street
P.O. Box 1467
Whiteville, NC 28472
910 642-7151
April 28, May 2, 2016

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Jamestown 1 Lb. Bacon \$1.79 Lb.	20 Lb. IQF Chicken \$12.99	8 Oz. Crystal Farm Cheese 5/\$10	15.4 Lb. Bag Our Family Charcoal \$4.99	29.3 - 30.6 Oz. Maxwell House Coffee \$5.99
24 Pack Nestle Water \$2.99	Zucchini Squash 89¢ Lb.	Red Globe Seeded Grapes \$1.79 Lb.	Fresh Cantaloupes 2/\$4	18 Pack Pepsi 2/\$10



Zeb, the jolly fisherman, keeps 'em all in stitches

Editor's Note: The following story about the late Zeb Bullard by Bob High, then a reporter for the Wilmington Morning Star, is reprinted from the Star's issue of Nov. 4, 1958.

WHITEVILLE – The river was smooth as glass, except for the countless bends where the sun seemed to be swallowed in small whirlpools.

A gaunt, crinkle-faced man sat at the rear of the boat slowly wielding a paddle and keeping the small skiff moving with the slow current.

Another man sat in the bow of the craft, calmly placing a popping minnow under the treetops and alongside stumps. They weren't saying much.

Then Zeb spoke.
Quietness shattered
"The last time I was on this stretch of water it rained so hard that the river rose high enough to see under it."

The quietness was split by the hoarse laughter of the fisherman, whose mirth resounded back and forth across the narrow river.

It was just after noon and the quietness had been shattered many times in the morning by the same laughter, tuned with the throaty sounds of Zeb's merriment.

The thin, jut-jawed man with the paddle was Zeb Bullard of Columbus County, who has the reputation of being the most humorous liar in the world.

His tall tales have kept the people around the tobacco center of Whiteville in stitches for years.

His first love is fishing, and the fisherman in the boat could be anyone who asked Zeb to go with him. Zeb is content to just paddle.

Different farms

The saga of Zeb, the storyteller, is long and varied. He has lived on so many different farms in the county that some people say he has just a few to go before he makes a circuit.

Some farms have been his home more than once. He moves without warning, and if you want to keep up with him you have to inquire constantly as to his whereabouts.

Seldom will you visit him twice under the same roof.

His second wife – his first died about 30 years ago – said she tried to keep up with the times they moved, but lost count. He has moved more than 100 times, and now lives one mile west of the courthouse in Whiteville on the Smyrna Road.

Kitchen window

Zeb moves so often, he has said, his chickens sleep with their legs crossed, ready to be tied and thrown into the car or truck at any time.

The self-styled storyteller has seven children, and they are all married and have families.

Samples of his storytelling include: "The wind of Hurricane Hazel blew so hard the house went out the kitchen

window.

"We had a mule once that was so thin that when I used him in the field I had to tie a knot in his tail to keep him from going through the collar.

Holes in sheets

"The road to my house is so crooked I ran the battery down on my car one night, blowing the horn at my own taillights.

"My wife was washing sheets the other day, and when she hung them out to dry there were so many holes in them the game warden thought they were seines and arrested her for netting.

"Last week, when we were planting corn, the rows were laid out so crooked the mule was eating corn out of the planter before we were halfway down the first row."

The tale of Noah

The tales could go on and on. Zeb is a legend around Whiteville, and everyone smiles when his name is mentioned.

One of Zeb's favorite tales is about Noah and the Ark.

"When the Big Rain came, there was this here fellow who climbed into the tallest tree on the highest mountain he could find, and water was just about to the top of the tree when Noah and his Ark went by.

"The fellow hollered to Noah to pick him up, and Noah said he was sorry but there were no other passengers allowed.

"The fellow told Noah to go on because he didn't think

it was going to rain much anyway."

The subject of his jests varies as do the days in the year. He will pop out with a tale on any subject at any time, all totally unexpected.

Mule in field

One man went to get Zeb to go fishing with him, and he found the tenant farmer following a mule and plow in the midst of a tobacco field.

When the word fishing was mentioned, Zeb dropped the reins, leaving the mule in the middle of the crop, and he went to his house to get his fishing pole.

"Don't worry about the mule. He ain't going nowhere. Some of the children will be home from school directly, and they'll put him up," Zeb told the astonished man.

Someone asked Zeb how old he was, and he said, "I don't know right off hand, 'cause they didn't keep such good records back then, but I can remember when there weren't no stars, and the moon was just half the size it is now."

Sometimes Zeb is caught in one of his "lies" unknowingly. He was telling how many fish he and his companions caught at Lake Waccamaw, and said they used six dozen minnows

in two hours.

Hung trotline

When asked why he didn't use cut bait, Zeb unthinkingly said, "We ran out."

Another time he was telling how he used to gather 100 dozen eggs a day from one farm where he lived. He was asked how many chickens he had, and Zeb said, "Three hundred fryers."

Many of his tales involved

"The wind of Hurricane Hazel blew so hard the house went out the kitchen window."

Zeb Bullard

fishing. "Once I set out some trotlines, and I saw the next day when I was checking them where one got hung in a bush with the bait about 10 inches out of the water.

"I eased up quietly because I could hear loud splashing, and when I came out from behind the willow tree I saw this big bass leaping out of the water trying to get the bait. I could tell he'd been there all night doing that because every time he came out of the water sweat would just roll off him."

Picture of worm

Then there's the story about fish biting so fast that he quickly ran out of worms. He drew a picture of a worm on a piece of cardboard, held it about head high and had to dodge the fish as they jumped in his boat.

Another was about the man who could cast a plug so far that when he hooked a large

fish Zeb had to shoot the fish with salt tablets to keep him from spoiling before the fisherman could get the fish into the boat.

Once he was paddling a fisherman in the Waccamaw River and as they moved through one of the innumerable curves in the river, Zeb quipped, "The Lord could have made the world in five days if he hadn't taken the time to put so many twists and turns in this river."

Sheller backfired

Zeb didn't go far in school, but he remembers the third grade. "When I was a boy I was so thin that one day in the third grade I turned sideways, and the teacher counted me absent."

Some of his jokes are about his farming days, where he was born, reared and lived 95 percent of his life.

"I was shelling corn one day with one of those gasoline-powered shellers when just as I put in the next to the last ear, the machine backfired and before I could stop it had put 60 bushels of corn back on the cob."

Another was about the time he was resting on the front porch and a storm started with a gust of wind so hard it blew a rocking chair off the porch. "It went across the front yard and field so fast that lightning struck at it three times, and missed every time."

Holes in house

Zeb said he once lived in a tenant house with so many

holes in the floor that when a dog walked through the dog was under the house half the time. The same house had so many holes in the outside walls that when a big wind blew his family had to sleep in shifts. Some had to hold the sheets down while the others slept.

Zeb was riding with a friend one day in the early 1950s as the friend drove deep into the vast Green Swamp exploring new logging roads where few people had ever traveled. Many of the roads, also used for fire lines, came to an abrupt end.

Acres in lake

As the driver turned around in one, Zeb spotted a cardinal on a nearby tree, and said, "That bird probably thinks I'm Noah."

Once the jolly Zeb was in bed in a Lake Waccamaw cottage, spending the night to get an early start the next day with a fishing trip on the lake. The lights had just been turned off when Zeb asked his host how many acres was the lake.

The host got out of bed and tried to find a brochure that answered Zeb's question, but couldn't immediately find it. "Why do you want to know?" the man asked Zeb.

"Well, if the lake dried up and I had to plow it I'd want to know how much to charge the man," Zeb said with a straight face.

Anybody want a fishing companion who will keep you laughing all day?

Zeb's two wives had seven children

■Late humorist worked for High family for many years.

By **BOB HIGH**
Staff Writer

Zeb Bullard was 71 when he died of cancer on April 15, 1961. His second wife, Hannie Barnhill Bullard, died on June 12, 2003. They had five children, some still living, and there are many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The self-styled humorist Zeb Bullard was a man known to thousands in Columbus County during his 71 years of living in tenant houses on at least 50 different farms all over the county as he and his children worked to crop and barn tobacco, pick and shuck corn, and do all the never-ending odd jobs that are part of a farmer's life.

Zeb told a "lie" at the drop of a hat. "We once lived so far back in the woods I had to ride a pregnant mule when I went to the mailbox to make sure I got back home."

Photo of fish

"I caught a real big fish one day at Lake Waccamaw. I tried to find some scales to weigh it, but they were all too small. I took a picture of that fish, and the negative weighed 37 pounds."

"One spring it was so wet when we lived near Bolton that when I planted corn in the Green Swamp I had to sit on a fence and use a sling-shot to plant every seed."

"The wind of Hurricane Hazel was so powerful one chicken I had laid the same egg twice."

"I was riding through the Lee's Lake cut south of Hallsboro one damp evening, and I heard all the frogs croaking except one."

There's more!
Shooting blackbirds

"I was planting corn one day that was so hot the corn was popping out of the planter. The mule thought it was snow and froze to death."

"I always wanted to shoot into a flock of blackbirds, but it was hard to get close enough. One day a large flock of them dropped into a cornfield across the road from my house. I got my shotgun and went quietly to the edge of the field. Just as I fired a shot I caught my foot on a vine and tripped. The shot went under them, and I didn't get a single bird, but I got two bushels of feet."

"It was so hot the other day lightard knots were looking for shade."

Married twice

Zeb was born Sept. 5, 1889,



Zeb Bullard

a son of Ethemore and Polly Millican Bullard, who lived in the Western Prong community in the northern part of Columbus County. Zeb eventually married Minnie Ward in the 1920s.

Minnie died Jan. 27, 1926 from childbirth complications with the couple's third child, who had been born dead a week earlier.

Zeb was working for Oscar High about 18 months later, and delivered some furniture to the home of Edison and Annie Flowers Barnhill in

the Evergreen area. Hannie Barnhill, then 15, was in the yard sweeping the bare earth when the new furniture arrived. Hannie and Zeb exchanged looks, and it wasn't long before Zeb came courting, and eventually asked for permission to marry Hannie.

'Tell me a lie'

They were married on June 17, 1928, and Hannie bore five children. Zeb's first two children were Essie Mae who married Thurl Efrid, and Thurston Bullard. Hannie's five were Elvera, who married K.M. Shaw, James, Merle Dean, who married Mike Linker, Joyce, who married J.T. Ward, and Margaret, who married Boyd Thompson.

Zeb was walking by a man's house one evening, and the man hollered to Zeb to stop and tell him a lie. "I can't," Zeb replied, "Ed Brown just died and I'm on my way home to get my wife so we can go visit his widow."

The shocked man went in, took a bath, shaved, got his wife and went to Ed Brown's home. They were astonished to see Brown sitting on his front porch, as healthy as ever.

Cobwebs caught prayers

The next time the man saw Zeb he fussed at him for

telling him Ed Brown had died. "Well, you wanted me to tell you a lie, and that's the first one I thought of that evening," Zeb explained.

Zeb also told the story about when he was helping clean the rafters inside the Western Prong Baptist Church. "There were so many cobwebs in the rafters they caught several of (a certain man's) prayers and the prayers never got out of the church."

Zeb was a legend with the High family for several generations. He lived on Oscar High's pecan farm along Smyrna Road at least four times, and often worked in High's store on the Courthouse Square, plus he was the fishing companion of Robert and Walter High, and he often went fishing with Oscar High's grandson Joseph Schulken.

One of Oscar High's granddaughters was at the store one day, and somehow the subject of the great flood and Noah became the subject of some conversation.

"I hope that if God floods the earth again he lets the Highs be like Noah," the young girl said.

"I do too, because I think I can catch a ride with them," Zeb said with a wink.

The News Reporter, Thursday, April 28, 2016 -- 2C

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Celebrate Recovery every Monday

Celebrate Recovery is held every Monday at Living Word Church. Dinner is from 6-7 p.m. with main meeting from 7-8 p.m. Small groups meet from 8-9 p.m. and Joel's Place at 9 p.m.

This is a 12-step Christ-centered recovery with freedom from physical abuse, grief, financial difficulty, drugs, alcohol, depression, anxiety, gossip, love and relationships, sexual addiction, food addiction and anger.

For more information call Pastor Ron at 918-5355, Becki at 642-4461 or Darren at 770-0511.

The church is located at 6374 Chadbourn Hwy.

Rehobeth AMEZ Mother's Day

Rehobeth A.M.E Zion Church will celebrate Mother's Day Sunday, May 8 at 11 a.m. Rev. Annette McKoy will be the guest speaker.

Rev. Harrison Branch is the pastor.

Freeman initial sermon set at Community PH

Sister Karla Freeman will preach her initial sermon Sunday, May 1 at 4 p.m. at the Community Prayer House.

Apostle Tanty Freeman is the pastor.

Welcome PFWBC revival service

Welcome Pentecostal Freewill Baptist Church will hold its revival Sunday, May 1 -Wednesday, May 4. The service will begin at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 1 and Monday-Wednesday at 7 p.m. nightly. There will be special singing each night. The guest minister will be Rev. Tyler Jernigan.

The church is located at 3104 Old Cribbtown Road.

For more information call 653-9284 or Pastor Rev. Donald Carlyle at 863-3995 or 876-0287.

Pancake dinner in Chadbourn



Chadbourn Elementary School and Chadbourn Middle School, in collaboration with the Chadbourn Strawberry Festival Committee, will host a pancake and sausage dinner on Thursday, April 28 from 5-8 p.m. in the cafeteria at Chadbourn Elementary School.

Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased at either

school.

The meal includes all the

New Light BC sets pastor's anniversary

New Light Baptist Church will hold its pastor's anniversary Sunday, May 1 at 3 p.m. for Rev. Franklin Graham's 13th anniversary.

The speaker will be Rev. Donald Thompson of Sandhill Missionary Baptist Church of Bladenboro along with his choir and congregation. Graham is also the moderator of Brunswick Waccamaw Association of Whiteville.

pancakes one can eat inside. Proceeds from the event will benefit both schools.

Call 654-3825 or 654-4300 for more details or tickets.

Mother's Day cake sale Sunday, May 1

Mt. Hebron African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church will hold a Mother's Day cake sale with homemade cakes.

The cake bakers will be Gloria Askew, Elsie Alston and Marva Beard. Cakes to be prepared are Pecan Pie Pound, Five Flavor Pound, Chocolate Layer, Sour Cream Pound, Sweet Potato, Pineapple Layer, Coconut Layer, Seven-Up, Plain Pound and Marble Pound.

All cakes are \$15. Order cakes from any church member or call 252-289-5978. Orders will be received up to May 1. You will be contacted for pickup.

N.C. Watermelon Festival contacts

The N.C. Watermelon Festival in Fair Bluff will be held July 22, 23 and 24. The events and contacts are:

Pageants

Ages 1 to 13 years

T.J. McPherson 918-9994

Teen Miss and Queen scholarship

Carolyn Foley 207-3303

Judy Enzor 234-0756

Kari Godwin 843-340-9003

Mr. and Mrs.

Kari Godwin 843-340-9003

Parade and arts & crafts

Miriam Haynes 640-8891

Calendar Kids, Pet Calendar, Cupcake Photo Shoot

Carolyn Foley 207-3303

Judy Enzor 234-0756

Bathing Beauties and Little Gents contest

T.J. McPherson 918-9994

For more information email NCwatermelonfestival@gmail.com



CHURCH DIRECTORY For Columbus County and Surrounding Areas

How to Become a Part of Our Church Directory . . .

Our church directory features a weekly church profile, helpful information about area churches, a devotional thought and daily Bible readings.

If you would like your church included on this page, we invite you to call us today at 642-4104, ext. 237. For only \$21.50 per month (six month commitment), we'll include your church in this weekly directory, plus in our web

AFRICAN-METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Mount Horeb AME Church
187 Otis Donnell Nixon Rd., Evergreen
Church Phone 654 1887
Rev. Sylvester Colvin • 910-371-0604
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sun Morning Worship 11:00 am
Wed. 6:30 pm

St. James AME Church
225 West Walter St., Whiteville
Church Phone 642-8832
Rev. Dewey C. Farmer, Jr., Pastor
Sun Church School 9:45 am
Sun Morning Worship 11:00 am
Wed. 6:00 pm

AFRICAN-METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION

St. Mark AME Zion Church
114 W. Virgil St., Whiteville
Rev. Charlean Mapson, Pastor
Church Phone: 910-642-7327
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sun Morning Worship 11:00 am
5th Sunday Fellowship meal at noon
Bible Study/Prayer Service
Tuesday - Noon and 7:00 pm
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Abundant Life Assembly of God
5384 James B. White Hwy. S., Whiteville
Pastor Jerry J. Spivey • 910-642-5003
pastorspivey@embarqmail.com
Sunday 10:00 am, 10:45 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:30 pm

Whiteville Assembly of God
516 N. Madison St. (Former location of Missionary Alliance Church)
Bishop Randy Hunt 910-914-0007
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Wednesday, Family Night 7:00 pm
BAPTIST

Calvary Baptist Church
5028 Pleasant Plains Church Rd., Whiteville
Rev. Kenneth Barnes • 910-642-6904
Sunday 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Chadbourn Baptist Church
504 N. Howard St., Chadbourn
910-654-3992
Dr. Danny Russell, Pastor
cbcoff@embarqmail.com
www.chadbournbaptist.com
Sunday School 9:45 am, Worship 11:00 am
Adult Choir 5:00 pm, Discipleship Training 6:00 pm
Wednesday: Children's Choir 6:00 pm
Prayer Meet/Child's Mission 6:30 pm



First Baptist Church
412 N. Madison St., Whiteville
910-642-2139
Rev. Ryan Clore, Pastor
fbcoffice@embarqmail.com
www.fbcwhiteville.com
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, Wed. Supper 5:30pm, Bible Study 6:30 pm



First Baptist Church of Lake Waccamaw
300 E. Sam Potts Hwy., Lake Waccamaw
910-646-3727
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm, 7:00 pm, Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm

Happy Home Baptist Church
2670 Happy Home Rd., Nakina
Richard Collins, Pastor • 910-642-7284
www.happyhomebaptistchurch.org
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Lennon's Cross Roads Baptist Church
13804 Haynes Lennon Hwy., Evergreen
Dr. Fred Senter, Pastor • 910-642-4436
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 2nd Sunday of each month 6:00 pm Special Fellowship Activity, Wednesday 7:00 pm

Macedonia Baptist Church
100 Macedonia Church Rd., Evergreen
Jimmy Caines, Pastor
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am 2nd & 4th Sun, 6:00 pm every Sunday, Wednesday 7:30 pm

Nakina Baptist Church
7883 Seven Creeks Rd., Nakina
Rev. J. Darryll Hester • 910-499-1598
nakinabaptistchurch@centurylink.net
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

New Hope Baptist Church
252 Rough and Ready Rd., Whiteville
Dr. Darrin Moore, Pastor • 910-642-6345
www.nhbcwhiteville.com
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Peace Baptist Church
653 Love Mill Rd., Whiteville
Pastor Chip Hannah • 910-642-0251
www.peacebc.org
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Sunday 5:30-7:00 pm Awanas
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Piney Forest Baptist Church
4509 Andrew Jackson Hwy. SW, Chadbourn
Rev. Willard McPherson • 910-654-5284
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 7:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church
3111 Walter Todd Rd., Clarendon
Rev. Wayne Faulk • 910-653-4421
Sunday Worship 10:30 am & 6:00pm
Sunday School 9:30am, Worship Wednesday 7:00 pm

Trinity Baptist Church
201 S. Thompson St., Whiteville
Randy K. Speight, Senior Pastor
910-642-7764
tbc4me@embarqmail.com
www.trytbc.org
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 6:45 pm

Western Prong Baptist Church
167 Peacock Rd., Whiteville
Rev. Ronnie Wilson • 910-648-2744
westernprong.org
Sunday 8:30 am Worship, 9:45 am Sunday School, 11:00 am Worship, 5:45 pm AWANA, 6:00 pm Youth Group, 7:00 pm Bible Study
7:00 pm Worship
Wednesday 7:00 pm

White Marsh Baptist Church
341 White Hall Rd., Whiteville
Rev. Ray Yow • 910-770-5487
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Williamsons Crossroads Baptist Church
4071 Princess Ann Rd., Chadbourn
Interim Pastor Carroll Fonvielle 642-6459
Cell 840-5589 Diana Fonvielle 625-9889
Sunday 10:00 am, 11 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

CHURCH OF GOD

New Life Community Church
107 Maultsby St., Whiteville
Rev. DeWayne Dickerson
910-642-0130
newlifewhiteville@gmail.com
Sunday 9:30 am, 10:30 am
Thursday 7:00 pm
Friday Safe Harbor Youth Center 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Whiteville Church of God
506 N. Lee St., Whiteville
Pastor Chris Yarusinsky • 642-3395
whitevillecog@yahoo.com
Facebook: Whiteville Church of God
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm
Spanish service: Wednesday & Saturday 7:00

FREEWILL BAPTIST

Avants Chapel FWB Church
947 Cedar St., Cerro Gordo
Pastor Mack Watts • 843-756-0417
ww0417@sccoast.net
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:30 pm

Oak Grove FWB Church
Oak Grove Church Rd., Bladenboro
Rev. Henry Ward • 843-236-3564
Sunday School 10:00 am, Service 11:00 am
Sunday evening 6:30 pm
Wednesday 7:30 pm


INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

Lynn Hill Independent Baptist Church
620 Lynn Hill Rd., Whiteville
Pastor William A. Schalk • 910-914-0002
http://pastorpreacher.com/lynnhillbc.html
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

MISSIONARY BAPTIST

First Missionary Baptist Church
505 S. Wilkes St., Chadbourn
Reverend Virgil Hugh Reaves
910-654-3225
www.firstmbcchadbourn.org
Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am
Sunday 11:30 am 12:30 pm
Radio Station WVOE 1590 AM
Wednesday 12:00 pm Noon Day Prayer
Wednesday 6:30 pm Bible Study

First Missionary Baptist Church, c. 1900



505 South Wilkes Street
Chadbourn, NC 28431
910-654-3225
www.firstmbcchadbourn.org
Reverend Virgil Hugh Reaves

look forward to our many annual events, programs, and celebrations that are held throughout the year. We at First Missionary Baptist Church seek to uphold the doctrines of the New Testament of the Holy Bible. As such, First Missionary Baptist Church holds membership with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, the Lumber River Baptist Association, Columbus-Bladen Missionary Union, the Columbus County Mass Union, and the Chadbourn Fellowship Alliance. First Missionary Baptist Church also supports Shaw University in Raleigh, NC and foreign missions through the Lott-Carey International Missionary Association.

We are a church of believers and missionaries who seek to spread the gospel of the Revelation of God by proclaiming our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A variety of programs and activities are available for all ages. In addition to the traditional programs, First Missionary Baptist Church offers a Children's Church, a Women's Ministry, and Afterschool Tutoring and Mentoring Program, Monthly Outreach and Feeding Program, Liturgical/Praise Dance Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Health Ministry, Christian Education Ministry, religious and cultural trips and excursions, and many other activities. First Missionary is also open to everyone on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. First Missionary is a church for all seasons!

The doors of the church are always open, and First Missionary Baptist Church welcomes all who choose to worship and fellowship with us as we grow closer to God and to our fellow man.

Come Worship, Study, Fellowship and Grow with us!

Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5548 Silverspoon Rd., Whiteville
Pastor T.A. Lance • 910-648-2476
moderatorlance@aol.com
www.mombcwhitevillenc.com
Sunday 9:45 am, 10:50 am
1st & 3rd Sunday BTU at 4:00 pm
Wednesday 6:45 pm

Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church
824 Cherry Grove Rd., Cerro Gordo
Pastor Dr. Thomas Southerland
910-739-8458 Cell 910-774-6800
Sun School 10 am,
Service 11 am: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sundays
Wed Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7 pm

CATHOLIC

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
302 N. Lee St., Whiteville
Rev. Marco Antonio Gonzalez-Hernandez
fr.marco.gonzalez@raldios.org
www.bccratholics.org • 910-642-3895

Eucharist/Santa Misa
Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 English Mass
Domingo 12:30 pm Spanish Mass
Martes (Tues.) Spanish 7 pm Misa de la tarde
Thursday (Jueves) English 6 pm English Mass
Holy Day of Obligation 7:30 pm Bilingual Mass

Tuesday/Martes 6-7 pm Confessiones
Thursday/Jueves 5-6 pm Confessiones

CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY

Missionary Alliance Church
623 Warrior Trail, Whiteville
Rev. Justin Dubose • 910-640-3223
www.missionaryalliance.com
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am
Wednesday 6:30 pm

EPISCOPAL/LUTHERAN

Grace Episcopal Church & Christ the King Lutheran Church
105 S. Madison St., Whiteville
910-642-4784
gracechurchwhiteville@embarqmail.com
www.gracechrist.bizland.com
Sun Services 10:30 am
Wed 6:00 pm evening prayer, soup supper.

HOLINESS

Chadbourn Church of God of Prophecy
3618 Joe Brown Hwy. S., Chadbourn
Rev. John McPherson • 910-654-3968
Sunday 10 am, 11 am, 6:00 pm,
Wednesday 7:30 pm - Classes for all ages

METHODIST-UNITED

Chadbourn United Methodist
300 E. 2nd Ave., Chadbourn
Rev. Pat Inman • 910-443-9786
rectorjr@ec.rr.com
Sun 9:45 am, 11:00 am
Prayer Tuesday 10:00 am

Fair Bluff United Methodist
1030 Main St., Fair Bluff
Rev. Neill Smith • 910-649-7749
fairbluffumc@tds.net
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday 7:00 pm Bible Study

Mishop Springs United Methodist
2756 Pine Log Rd., Whiteville
Pastor Sheena Cartrette • 910-640-2783
mishopspringsumc@gmail.com
mishopspringsumc.webs.com
Sunday 9:45 Sunday School, Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday 7:00 - Bible Study & Children/Youth



Living Word Church
6374 Chadbourn Hwy., Chadbourn
Pastor Ron Fields • 910-654-4164
www.livingwordnc.com
Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Northwood Church
2672 James B. White Hwy. N., Whiteville
Pastor Russell Honeycutt
910-642-7654
Sunday 10:30 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm Bible Study

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Chadbourn Pentecostal Holiness
518 N. Elm St., Chadbourn
Pastor Donald Conway • 910-654-4850
www.chadbournph.org
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sunday Worship 10:40 am, 6:00 pm
Teen Worship in Sanctuary 6:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Whiteville First Pentecostal Holiness Church
109 N. Madison St., Whiteville, NC
(corner of Madison & Calhoun Street)
Pastor, Rev. Myles Cartrette • 252-561-6874
www.whitevillefirstph.com
Service Times: Sunday 10:30 am
Sunday Worship 6:00 pm
Wednesday night 7:00 pm

PRESBYTERIAN

Chadbourn Presbyterian Church
600 E. First Ave., Chadbourn
Rev. C.F. McDowell III
910-654-3449
chadbournpresbyterian.org
Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am

First Presbyterian Church
511 N. Thompson St., Whiteville
910-642-2253
fpcwhiteville@embarqmail.com
Sunday School 10:00 am, Services 11:00 am

Westminster Presbyterian Church
307 S. Franklin St., Whiteville
910-642-2762
westminster_presbyterian@hotmail.com
Sunday 9:45 pm, 11:00 am

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh Day Adventist
1002 N. Franklin St., Whiteville
Pastor Kenneth A. Lee
910-642-0698
pastorlee3@gmail.com
Saturday 9:30 am, 10:45 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

If you would like your church included on this page for only \$21.50 per month, we invite you to call us today at 642-4104, ext. 237.

(six month commitment)

Tabor City

Happenings and Events

By Dianne Nobles Ward

Promotions Director, Town of Tabor City

The North Carolina Strawberry Festival is right around the corner. Get ready to celebrate the strawberry the first weekend in May in Chadbourn. There are lots of activities beginning with a pancake supper, chicken bog with music by “Black Water Band,” the Strawberry Encounters, dignitaries luncheon, variety show, talent at Food Lion, parade, pageant, cooking contest and so much more. To see a schedule of events go to: www.ncstrawberryfestival.com.

A new business is coming to Tabor City. “Main Street Café” will open its doors Saturday, May 14. The café will be serving country breakfasts as well as good ole country lunches. Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. until 2 p.m. and Saturday from 5-11 a.m. Their phone number is 377-3305 and their address is 110 South Main Street.

The Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce has many great activities planned for the coming months. Check out their many activities and info below:

A Neon Fun Run for kids in early June is currently being planned. Stay tuned for weekly updates.

The Tabor City Community Birthday Calendar sales continue. Call the chamber office at 377-3012 or the Tabor City Public Library at 653-3774 if interested in purchasing a calendar. Ad spaces are available at \$35 for a business card sized ad and \$10 for a one line business listing. The calendars will be ready later in 2016 for the 2017 calendar year.

Tabor City will be hosting the State Dixie Youth Baseball Tournament this summer. (Coach’s pitch...7 and 8 years of age) Opening ceremonies will be held Friday, July 1 at the athletic complex behind Food Lion. Games will begin Saturday, July 2. Tournament Chair Richard Miller and Wayne Owens, South Columbus Dixie Youth president, are meeting with volunteers in an effort to make certain everything is in order for those 16 teams arriving in July. Ad sales for the Dixie Youth Baseball State Tournament program book are also underway.

The Annual Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration is set for Saturday, July 2 at South Columbus High School.

In order to better serve you the Tabor City Visitor Center has put together a list of all of the festivals and their dates in Columbus County and surrounding counties.

The Tabor City Visitor Center hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Saturday’s from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Stop by and get information about the beautiful state of N.C. and her many destination spots. Free Our State magazines, phone books, N.C. and Tabor City maps are available as well.

That’s what’s happening in Tabor City this week. Until next week.....

Living Hope offers free prenatal vitamins

In an effort to better serve their pregnant clients and to promote better health in Columbus County, Living Hope Pregnancy Support Services has begun offering a free 6-month supply of prenatal vitamins to women who have positive pregnancy tests.

This allows a pregnant woman to begin taking prenatal vitamins as early as possible in her pregnancy to help ensure her health and the healthy development of her unborn child.

The vitamins have been provided to Living Hope through a grant from Vitamin Angels of Santa Barbara, California.

The provision of free prenatal vitamins is the newest service of Living Hope, which is celebrating 25 years of service to Columbus County. Other services include free pregnancy tests and estimated due dates necessary for applying

for Medicaid for Pregnant Women, and an Earn While You Learn incentive program.

Living Hope provides services free of charge to all women regardless of age, income or marital status.

The center is located at 116 Premiere Plaza, behind Waffle International in Whiteville.

Office hours are Mondays from 3-7 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-4 p.m.

For more information, call the 24-hour helpline at 642-2677.

Liberty Hospice needs volunteers

Liberty Hospice needs volunteers to provide patient support. Any adult or teenagers interested in providing support for terminally ill patients call Tonia Neal at 641-4095 or 733-5663.

The hospice is located at 44 McNeill Plaza.

Greater Restoration food distribution

Greater Restoration Enrichment Center in Whiteville has TEFAP and commodity food distributions every second Saturday and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 10 a.m. for Columbus County residents.

For more information call 641-0800.

GREC is located at 3490 James B. White Hwy. South.

Applications for Watermelon pageant

Applications for The N.C. Watermelon Festival pageant are available.

Forms for Calendar Kids and arts and crafts are available.

For more information call 234-0756 or 918-9994.

Shining Star banquet

Shining Star #381 Gleaners banquet will be held Saturday, May 7 at 5 p.m. at the Hannah Lodge #204. A donation of \$5 is asked.

The lodge is located at 101 Mill Quarter Road, Hallsboro. For more information call 646-3259.

JCPC meetings

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at noon in the Whiteville City Schools Civic Room.

Volunteers needed for Meals of Love

Lower Cape Fear Hospice is looking for volunteers to help with its Meals of Love program at the hospice care center.

Volunteers prepare meals that are shared by families visiting loved ones at the inpatient hospice care center at 206 Warrior Trail in Whiteville. Meals of Love allow families to concentrate on spending time with their loved ones and take needed breaks without having to leave the hospice care center.

“Home-cooked meals offer comfort to families dealing with a loved one’s life-limiting illness,” said Lisa Clark, community outreach coordinator for Columbus and Bladen counties. “Many of them express their gratitude at having access to snacks and meals. Having food available in the hospice care center’s family kitchen allows families to spend as much time as possible with their loved ones.”

The welcoming setting of the kitchen allows families access to needed nourishment and the opportunity to interact and gain support from other families going through the same experience.

“We rely on individuals and groups to volunteer to help with the Meals of Love program. Their kindness means a great deal to us and the families we serve,” Clark said.

For more information about Meals of Love and other volunteer opportunities, contact Clark at 620-2264 or email lisa.clark@lcfh.org

Sandy Plain has new pastor Turner

Sandy Plain Missionary Baptist Church announces the appointment of its new pastor Rev. Dr. Alphonse Turner Jr. of Fayetteville. Worship service is held every second and fourth Sunday at 11:15 a.m., Sunday school is held at 10 a.m. and Bible study is every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Turner is married to Roberta Thompson Turner, formerly of Chadbourn.

The church is located at 902 Farmers Union Road, Clarkton.

Applications available for David Lawrence scholarship

Applications for the David Lawrence Scholarship are available in the First Missionary Baptist Church office at 505 S. Wilkes Street, Chadbourn for interested graduating students. Pick up applications between 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday-Friday in the office. Applications must be completed and postmarked by April 25.

Mt. Tabor MBC sets pastor anniversary

Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church will host a celebration for their pastor, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Southerland’s third anniversary Sunday, May 1 beginning with morning worship at 11 a.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Sidney Locks of Greenville, N.C.

Following the morning service a meal will be served.

An afternoon service will follow the meal with Rev. Dr. T. Rodney Murray, senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Lumberton. Music for the afternoon service will be provided by the First Baptist Church Lumberton Choir.

The church is located at 824 Cherry Grove Road, Cerro Gordo.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Southerland is the pastor.

Shiloh Outreach community affair

Shiloh Outreach announces it’s a community affair “Laborers of love ministries” team will hold a community gathering Saturday, May 14 from noon-4 p.m.

A free meal and clothes will be given along with music, prayer requests and fun.

The location of the event is 2635 Sam Potts Hwy., Hallsboro.

For more information call 353-9150.

Coastal Museum April schedule

Following is the April schedule for the Museum of Coastal Carolina at 21 East Second Street, Ocean Isle Beach.

April 29 – 6 p.m. – Grand opening of Ocean Isle Memories art exhibit.

April 30 – 6:30-9:30 – Wine Fest Fundraiser:

For more information call 579-1016 or visit www.MuseumPlanetarium.org.

HomeCare MC sets special Olympics meeting

A special Olympics committee meeting will meet the first Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at HomeCare Management Corporation. The meeting is for individuals who want to help improve and grow the special Olympics program in Columbus County.

HomeCare MC is located at 2208 James B. White Hwy. N., Whiteville.

For more information call Jennifer Moore at 640-1153.

Columbus County Leadership committee meets Tuesdays

The Columbus County Leadership Council Steering Committee meets each second Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Bogue Community Park, Hallsboro.

This non-partisan, non-profit advocacy group encourages participation of citizens willing to collaborate to effect powerful, positive changes on the local, state and federal levels.

Group goals, bylaws, membership information and applications may be secured via email request at www.columbuscountyleadershipcouncil.weebly.com or send written request to Columbus County Leadership Council, P.O. Box 57, Hallsboro, N.C. 28442

For more information call Loris McClellon at 207-6574 or Bridget Stephens at 646-1164.

CrossPointe CC steak plate sale

CrossPointe Community Church (Boardman Pentecostal Holiness) men and women ministries will hold its annual steak plate sale Friday, May 20 from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Plates are \$10 eat in or take out and include steak, baked potato, salad, roll and desert.

The church is located at 11180 Old 74 in Evergreen.

Applications for S’Berry pageant

Applications for The N.C. Strawberry Festival pageant are available. Age requirements are 13-16 for princess, 17-22 for queen.

Applications can be picked-up At CresCom Bank, Amy’s Academy of Dance and BB&T in Chadbourn, or call Catherine Causey at 642-7924.

Birthday Bash set for Kevin Joyner

Kevin Joyner’s Birthday Bash will be held Saturday, May 14 at the Brunswick Waccamaw Association Building. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the Bash begins at 7 p.m. \$10 advance tickets and \$15 at the door, children 12 years and under are \$3. On the program will be Cinseer, The Gospel Legends, Shawn Brown and The Boyz, Lil David and The Bells of Joy, David Hammond, T Pooh and Inspiration, Maurice McZeke and MDK, Brothers-N-Christ and One Accord. Food will be sold and vendors are welcome.

For more information call 770-2032. The association is located at 600 Pine Log Road.

Whiteville AOG biker blessing/BBQ

Whiteville Assembly of God will hold a biker blessing and BBQ Saturday, May 21 at 11 a.m. There will be a “motorcycle run for the cross” to pray for the community and then end at the church for BBQ.

For more information call 234-2983.

Your pet Rx

With Charlene High

Pet perks

Most of us are aware of the therapeutic benefits of touch, and it works whether you’re a human animal or a domestic one. The most beneficial of these is the release of the hormone oxytocin. It acts as a neurotransmitter in the brain. In fact, the hormone plays such a huge role in pair bonding it’s often called the “love hormone.” This hormone is present in all living creatures and your dog or cat will join your family members in begging for it.

Rules to Remember

The first rule of petting is to never pet a dog or cat who doesn’t look comfortable around your guest or family member, or even you for that matter. Rather than reaching out to touch the pet that seems a bit evasive, try squatting down so you are closer to the pet’s level.

Some websites state that touching the ears, under the jaw, near the tail and so forth can be less of a pleasure for your pet, however I doubt most of us would agree with that. Petting a dog or cat under the chin or rubbing the ear can make for a happy pet.. Watch your pet’s reaction, something you should know before even petting him or her. Just as we have those days when you wake up on the wrong side of the bed or your arthritis is acting up, be aware that can happen to our pets as well.

Pay attention to their immediate reaction especially if unknown people are around. Amazingly your perfectly content dog or cat can become a recluse around other people especially if the day just isn’t going good for them. Avoid petting spots you know are sensitive to your dog or cat. Gently petting a dog or cat’s back or rear will definitely get you a rewarding look.

What Perks?

First of all the love hormone, oxytocin, will begin to work the bond between human and pet. Secondly, it has long been established that pets do help reduce stress, which in turn can help humans live longer. Lonely individuals have “perked up” when invited to live with a pet. Stress related diseases have also been reduced. One report stated that more than 55 percent of people were more relaxed, and 44 percent were less worried about specific problems like job security and finance.

Walking with your pet is the most beneficial perk to not only enjoy your pet but look at the benefits you will get by walking, such as losing weight, which in turn can actually help with cholesterol and diabetes. It’s not a cure-all but a definite help in reducing physical problems by reducing stress.

Simply petting your dog or cat can elevate levels of serotonin and dopamine and your pet has the unique ability to provide people with a sense of purpose. Pet owners are less likely to suffer from depression, have lower blood pressure, cholesterol, and triglyceride levels, which can reduce the risk of heart attacks. Studies have shown that pet owners over age 65 make 30 percent fewer visits to their doctors than those without pets.

Now you know why you enjoy your pet and on top of all that you will have some fantastic perks from doing so.

Proclamation

For

84th Anniversary of the North Carolina Strawberry Festival

WHEREAS, the Strawberry culture began in Chadbourn in 1895 when Joseph Addison Brown, a merchant farmer and North Carolina State Senator, brought and/or developed thousands of acres of timberland in the Chadbourn area for productive farm lands. With the Wilson Publishing Company of Chicago, Illinois, a colony was formed named “THE SUNNY SOUTH COLONY”; Thus, the advertisement for this desirable climate and fertile soil brought an estimated 146 families to the Sunny South Colony after 1895. Some of the colonists were successful and many of the local farmers began the cultivation of strawberries.

WHEREAS, the first planting of strawberries failed in 1895; but the next year, six and three-quarter acres of berries were planted and J.A. Brown sold berries for a value of \$5,562. In 1907, 547,000 thirty-two quart crates were shipped and Chadbourn became the Kinokya Strawberry Capital of the World. In 1907, the largest one day shipment of strawberries was made. One hundred-eighty railroad boxcar loads of strawberries, all of which had been harvested between sunrise and sunset, requiring 15,000 workers, was moved by rail from Chadbourn to points all over the country.

WHEREAS, in order to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the strawberry industry, the first Strawberry Festival was inaugurated on May 26, 1926. There were many exhibits and activities, including a parade and dance.

WHEREAS, the parade and dance endured over the years and were annual events. Civic clubs continue to sponsor many of the events during the festival. Big Time Bands were brought to town for the annual dance. Tommy Dorsey, Guy Lombardo and many others were remembered by those who like to remember the “good ole days” with us.

WHEREAS, the Chadbourn Merchants Association sponsored the Strawberry Festival for several years. In 1970, the Strawberry Festival Association was formed. It is the oldest continuing agricultural festival in North Carolina. By charter, registered with the North Carolina Secretary of State, the Chadbourn Strawberry Festival officially became the North Carolina Strawberry Festival at Chadbourn, N.C. on January 17, 1985.

WHEREAS, the festival continues annually with the parade which is always held on the 1st Saturday in May. Much has been added over the years such as beauty contest, cooking contest, a strawberry quality contest, art exhibits, and strawberry shortcake. There are countless food and craft vendors, a car show and a fine variety entertainment show has been added. This celebration honors the strawberry farmers, merchants and workers of Chadbourn and Columbus County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phillip C. Bitt, Mayor of the Town of Chadbourn, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2016, as the 84th Anniversary of the North Carolina Strawberry Festival. I encourage all citizens of the Town of Chadbourn to participate in the events and activities associated with the Strawberry Festival during the week of May 7th, 2016 through May 7th, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of March, 2016.

Phillip C. Bitt, Mayor

Hazel Foster memorial gospel program May 21

The first annual Hazel Foster memorial gospel program will be held Saturday, May 21 at the Brunswick Waccamaw Association building located at 600 Pinelog Road. On the program will be The Swanee Quintet of Augusta, Ga., Rev. Matthew Mickens and the Highway Travelers, Minister Ricky McDuffie and the Family, Minister Brian McIntosh and Ministry Cinseer, The Mighty Echoes of Elizabethtown, Pastor Robert Williams and the Girls. Tickets are \$10 before May 1, \$15 advance tickets and \$20 at the door. There will be a raffle and plate dinners.

Foster taught special education at Whiteville High School for more than 31 years. She was also the WHS Varsity Boys Statistician for many years. Proceeds from the gospel program will be made in her honor to the WHS Varisty boys basketball team.

For more information call Allecia (Gigi) Foster at 445-9629.

Rainbow Tea

The Ransom Event Center will sponsor a “Rainbow Tea” Saturday, April 30 at 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for dinner and entertainment.

The center is located at 2694 General Howe Road, Hwy. 11, Riegelwood.

For more information call 655-2050, 508-3203 or 622-4585.

PLEASE RECYCLE

After You Read.

Visit Whiteville.com for the latest news and updates.

Reader prizes mustard miracle for leg cramps



By JOE AND TERESA GRAEDON
King Features Syndicate

Q. Thanks to whoever thought of using mustard for leg cramps. This remedy is totally awesome. At 2 a.m., I had the worst leg cramp. My entire leg was screaming. I grabbed the bottle of mustard and swallowed a spoonful. My leg quit

hurting within two minutes. I call it the mustard miracle.

A. We, too, have found that swallowing a spoonful of plain yellow mustard can stop a leg cramp quickly. We don’t know whether it is the vinegar or the turmeric included for yellow coloring in the mustard that works.

Not everyone wants to take mustard in the middle of the night, though keeping a packet of mustard in the nightstand can make it more convenient.

Q. I honestly hate anything cinnamon and usually avoid it, although my

husband loves cinnamon and ginger.

I am 53 and was diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes several years ago. I’ve never had my blood sugar go over 220 at any given time, so my doctor, who is a diabetes specialist, has me on metformin.

In the past few months, my fasting glucose levels have become completely normal again, between 73 and 92 every morning. So with my doctor’s knowledge, I’ve lowered my dose of metformin.

I believe this is due to two things: First, I try not to eat any white flour, rice or breads at all, and second, I’ve been taking cinnamon capsules every morning with my diabetes-formulated multivitamin.

I don’t have any eye-focusing problems that I used to have in the morn-

ings, no tingling, nothing. I’ve also lost 8 pounds. I think that all this together has improved my particular case.

A. Congratulations on your improved blood-sugar control and your weight loss. Your decision to avoid white bread and other flour products has probably contributed to your success. Cinnamon also can help prevent blood-sugar spikes after meals.

For more details on these and a variety of other approaches to control blood sugar, we offer our Guide to Managing Diabetes. Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (71 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons’ People’s Pharmacy, No. DM-11, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be

The News Reporter, Thursday, April 28, 2016 -- 5C

downloaded for \$2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Q. I read a newspaper column that mentioned cilantro herb in the diet could be helpful for psoriasis. I tried this, adding fresh cilantro to my diet. It is a very versatile herb, and I was delighted to experience dramatic improvement in my psoriasis symptoms. Bravo to you and the reader who originally gave the recommendation.

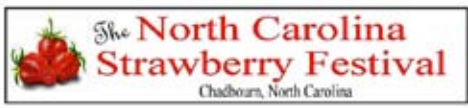
A. A few months ago, we heard from the reader who initially suggested this approach: “I have been using this as needed for more than 10 years. When I first notice small red patches, usually on my legs, I get two bunches of cilantro leaves and eat them over the next three days or so. The red spots go away.”

We have not found any scientific studies of eating cilantro leaves (*Coriandrum sativum*) to control the redness and itching due to psoriasis. Cilantro is a popular component of many cuisines, from Southeast Asia and China to Latin America and the Mediterranean.

Not everyone likes the taste of cilantro, however. For some people, the leaves taste like soap. They may wish to look for dietary supplements with cilantro in health-food stores.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Write to them in care of this newspaper or email them via their Web site: www.PeoplesPharmacy.com. Their newest book is “Top Screwups Doctors Make and How to Avoid Them.”

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The 84th North Carolina Strawberry Festival Association
Cordially invites you to the
Annual Luncheon
And
Strawberry Quality Contest Auction

Saturday, the seventh day of May
Eleven thirty o'clock in the morning
Chadbourn Pentecostal Holiness Church
Family Life Center Building
518 North Elm Street
Chadbourn, North Carolina

RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve _____ tickets @ \$20.00 per person.

Space is limited and reservations will be accepted on a first come first served basis. When your acceptance is received, a reservation tag will be prepared and held as your reservation at the door to be picked up when you arrive at the fellowship hall. Deadline for reservations is April 29, 2016.

Name and title you prefer to be printed on name tag (or tags) _____ Title _____

Please send your response to: Daniel Worthington, P.O. Box 200, Chadbourn, NC 28413

Phil Ford sponsorships still available

Sponsorships still are being accepted for UNC basketball great Phil Ford’s upcoming visit to Chadbourn. Ford will be grand marshal of the 84th annual North Carolina Strawberry Festival.

Sponsors will be able to attend a private reception, with photo opportunities, at the Chadbourn Depot Museum at 11:30 a.m. on parade day.

To sign up as a sponsor of the Phil Ford visit, contact Strawberry Festival President Guy Long at 840-6473. A list of sponsors will appear in a future edition of the *News Times*, as well as in the Strawberry Festival tabloid, scheduled for publication next week in *The News Times* and *The News Reporter*.

Pregnant? Need a crib or car seat?

Living Hope Pregnancy Support Services, a life-affirming Christian ministry, offers an Earn While You Learn program for pregnant women in Columbus County. This program is open all pregnant women, regardless of age, income, or marital status. Upon enrolling in the program, the expectant mother is paired with a client advocate. The advocate meets with the client for a series of eight one-on-one classes, selected to match the interests and needs of the client. The client earns “baby bucks” by completing her classes and homework assignments. At the completion of the classes, the expectant mom can trade her “baby bucks” for an Evenflo infant car seat or a BabySuite portable play yard plus a basket filled with clothing and supplies for her baby.

The center is located at 116 Premiere Plaza, behind Waffle International in Whiteville. Office hours are Mondays from 3-7 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-4 p.m.

For more information call the helpline at 642-2677. All services are free and confidential.

Yokefellows Prison Ministry seeking participants

Yokefellows Prison Ministry is seeking Christians in the Tabor City area to be a part of this ministry.

For presentation dates call 918-4531 or 653-2782.

Make-A-Wish needs volunteers

Wish Granting Volunteers are needed for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern North Carolina.

Wish Granters visit the family and help determine the wish of the child while explaining wish procedures and using their creative side to make the wish truly magical.

Wish Granters see firsthand the impact a wish can make on a child with a life-threatening medical condition.

For more information, contact Lisa at 919-821-7111 or lbrinkerhoff@eastncwish.org.

Pregnant?

We are here to help you.

Call us today at 642-2677.

Vineland Station

Available for wedding receptions & other events

642-3157

Cancer Support Group meets

The Cancer Support Group of Donayre Cancer Care Center of Columbus Regional Healthcare meets the second Wednesday of each month from 9-10 a.m. in the CRHS education department. The programs are free.

For more information and to register call 641-8220.

FUNDRAISERS

First Presbyterian Church women have cookbooks for sale for \$5 each. The cookbooks are available at the church located at 511 N. Thompson St., Whiteville. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1-2:30 p.m.

Whiteville United Methodist Church women have prints of the church steeple, by the late Martha Burns, for sale \$40 each. The print size is 17 x 23. Call the church office Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. for purchase at 642-3376.

Freeman to speak at Victory SDA

Brother Roy Freeman Jr. will by speaking at 11 a.m. at Victory Seventh Day Adventist Church in Riegelwood Saturday, April 30.

A meal will be served following the service.

The church is located on Oscar Blanks Road.

Steven L. Gates is the pastor.

Safe Harbor YC offers activities

Safe Harbor Youth Center, a ministry of New Life Church of God is open to families and children each Friday night from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Safe Harbor offers skating, basketball, Foosball, ping pong, volleyball, and other activities in a safe Christian environment.

Children three and under are free, children four and over are \$5, with skate rental \$1, and adults not skating with family are free.

For more information contact Pastor Dwayne Dickerson at 642-0130.

Weight Express meets Mondays in Chadbourn


People who want to lose weight and learn to eat healthier are invited to join “Weight Express” each Monday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Chadbourn Masonic Lodge at 417 E. Strawberry Blvd. Everyone is invited and there are no fees involved, although donations are accepted. For more information call George Baysden at 654-3911 or Rosa Watkins at 840-4904.

SHORT BROS. RENT-A-CAR

\$19⁹⁵ DAILY

Hwy. 701, South of Whiteville

642-4175



Find it!
in the
CLASSIFIEDS!

Strawberry Festival opening ceremonies scheduled Tuesday

Opening ceremonies for the 84th N.C. Strawberry Festival will be held Tuesday, May 3 at the N.C. Strawberry Festival Event Field located behind Hardees in Chadbourn. The event will begin at 5 p.m. with a chicken bog plate sale. Each plate is \$7 with all proceeds benefiting the Chadbourn Depot Museum. Outside tables and chairs will be provided for dining in or plates may be carried out. Strawberry shortcake may be purchased throughout the evening.

An evening of music, beginning at 6 p.m., will feature the local band Honey Don’t with music of all types. Following Honey Don’t will be the Carolina’s #1 beach band, Black Water Rhythm and Blues, featuring beach, pop, rock and roll, classics and soul.

Throughout the evening tickets will be sold for a 50/50 raffle. Ticket sells will continue until 9 p.m. at which time the winning ticket will be drawn. You must be present to win.

Bleachers will be provided; however, you may bring lawn chairs.

Church Builders/Walk into Your Inheritance OM food/clothing giveaway

Church Builders of Brunswick County and Walk Into Your Inheritance Outreach Ministries will hold a free food/clothing giveaway Saturday, May 21 from 8 a.m.-until.

The event will be held at 2072 Longwood Road, NW in Ash.

For more information contact Rev. William Boynton, Elder Utrillia Bryant Johnson or Elder John H. Johnson III at 294-0656 at 294-0656 or Elgin and Felicia Blake at 557-0438.

HomeCare MC STARS support group

The STARS support group will meet the 4th Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m. at HomeCare Management Corporation. The groups goal is to empower parents/caregivers who support individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities.

HomeCare MC is located at 2208 James B. White Hwy. N., Whiteville.

For more information call Twyla Hodges at 640-1153.

Williams Township FD open house/steak plate sale May 14

An open house and steak plate sale will be held at Williams Township Fire Department Saturday, May 14 from 11 a.m.-until. Plates are \$10 and include grilled steak, baked potato and salad. Delivery is available for 10 or more plates.

The fire department is located at 1655 F.M. Cartret Road, Whiteville.

For more information call James Spivey at 840-0038.

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The News Reporter

642-4104



Schoolhouse to White House



Do you think you might like to run for president of the United States one day? Maybe there's a future president in your class right now!

If there's a public office in your future, people will want to know more about you. But even if you don't become president, you will want to save souvenirs of your school years to show your kids someday. You might save:

- report cards
- art creations
- school photos
- papers with good grades.

Presidential libraries

When a president's term is up, he or she needs a place to store important documents, photos and other reminders of his or her life and time in office.

Today, there are presidential libraries administered by the National Archives honoring our last 13 presidents. People visit to do research and to learn more about their lives.

Before the presidential libraries were set up, the papers and important documents of our earlier presidents were distributed to many different sources. Some of these papers were even destroyed.

However, the largest collection of presidential papers from most of the earlier presidents is in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.



The Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

photo courtesy Library of Congress

Before the White House

These are photos and clues about five of our presidents while they were students. Can you guess the identity of each of them?



1 This photo was taken when this president graduated from Harvard. He always went to private schools. His keen interest in social activities, football, swimming and golf took so much of his time that his grades were not as good as they might have been.



2 He grew up on a peanut farm. When he was only 7 years old, he wrote to the Naval Academy to find out about its entrance requirements.

The Presidential Library system began with President Franklin Roosevelt's donation of his personal and presidential papers to the federal government in 1939.



Answers: 1. John F. Kennedy; 2. Jimmy Carter; 3. Ronald Reagan; 4. George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush; 5. Bill Clinton



3 He made the swimming and football teams in college. He had the lead in most of the school plays. He

was a straight "C" student who was interested in sports, acting and politics.

4 This photo was taken of this president-to-be when he was at Yale University. He is holding his young son, who later also became president.



5 This photo was taken on his 12th birthday. Later he was a Rhodes Scholar at the University of Oxford in England.

Resources



On the Web:

- presidentialtimeline.org
- trumanlibrary.org/kids
- bit.ly/1RxvfjC

At the library:

- "Our Country's Presidents: All You Need to Know About the Presidents, From George Washington to Barack Obama" by Ann Bausum

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of our presidents and their libraries are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ACADEMY, COLLECTION, CONGRESS, DOCUMENTS, FOOTBALL, HARVARD, LIBRARY, NAVAL, OFFICE, PHOTOS, PRESIDENT, PUBLIC, RESEARCH, RUN, SCHOOL, SWIMMING, TERM, YALE.

E U R P D Y M E D A C A L G A
C P D U U T N E D I S E R P P
I H O D N B S C H O O L G F J
F O C R K A L T E R M S Q E Y
F T U A J X P I H L A V A N R
O O M V N O I T C E L L O C A
S S E R G N O C K Y A L E L R
M Y N A G N I M M I W S H Z B
G Y T H V N H C R A E S E R I
X O S E R L L A B T O O F S L

Cook's Corner

Trail Mix Campwich

You'll need:

- 8 ounces light cream cheese
- 2 (1-ounce) fruit-and-nut bars, crumbled
- 4 tablespoons dried cranberries or raisins

- 6 tablespoons shredded and chopped carrots
- 12 slices multigrain bread



What to do:

1. Mix cream cheese, crumbled fruit-and-nut bars, cranberries and carrots.
2. Spread 2 tablespoons of cream cheese mixture on 6 slices of bread.
3. Top with 6 remaining slices to make sandwiches. Serves 6.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

1. what you sleep on (8) _____
2. spiny desert plant (6) _____
3. mammal with a flat tail (6) _____
4. expensive house (7) _____
5. large body of salt water (5) _____
6. hibernation season (6) _____
7. where stuff is made (7) _____

AN	VER	CAC	FAC
RY	TUS	TER	MA
TT	OCE	TO	BEA
MAN	SION	RESS	WIN

Answers: mattress, cactus, beaver, mansion, ocean, winter, factory.



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Mini Jokes



Charlie: Why did the bee's hair get sticky?

Cora: Because he used a honeycomb!

Colin: What did one hair say to the other?

Carlene: "You'd better not tangle with me!"

Eco Note



Do you recycle? Be a recycling detective.

Find out if your town or neighborhood has curbside recycling. If not, find the nearest recycling center. Either way, learn which materials are accepted and how they should be prepared. Then get recycling!

adapted with permission from "The New 50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth" by The Earthworks Group, Andrews McMeel Publishing (andrewsmcmeel.com)

For later:

Look up the 13 presidential libraries. On a map, circle each state that is home to a presidential library.

Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit:

bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html

Books from The Mini Page are wonderful resources and make great gifts! See all of our Mini Page products at MiniPageBooks.com, or call 844-426-1256 for more information.



COLUMBUS PEDIATRICS & ADOLESCENT CARE

800 Jefferson Street • Suite 116, Whiteville
642-2642





The Whiteville Optimist Club conducted its annual oratorical contest March 22. Award winners were, left to right, Sealey Scott, gold; Olivia Smith, silver; Jarrett Ward, bronze; and Maggie High, gold.

Oratorical awards given

Since its start in 1928, the Optimist Oratorical Contest has become the longest running program sponsored by Optimist International. Nearly 2,000 clubs participate in the program each year.

The contest is designed to inspire today's youth to motivate and inform others through the art of public speaking. It is designed for young people to gain experience in public speaking and provide them with an opportunity to win a college scholarship.

The 2016 oratorical topic was "How My Best Brings Out the Best in Others." Scott and High represented the Whiteville Optimists in the Zone Contest on April 7. Zone winners will compete for \$2,500, \$1,500, and \$1,000 scholarships in the NC East District contest in Goldsboro May 7.



Zone winners

Winners from NC East District Zone 2 in the 2016 Optimist Oratorical Contest were Maggie High, left, and Sealey Scott, right. Both are eighth graders at Central Middle School. High and Scott competed against oratorical winners from Elizabethtown and Laurinburg. All contestants spoke on the topic "How My Best Brings Out the Best in Others." High and Scott will represent Zone 2 in the NC East District contest in Goldsboro May 7. District winners receive scholarships of \$2,500, \$1,500, or \$1,000.

WCHS Class of '06 planning reunion

The West Columbus High School Class of 2006 is planning its 10-year class reunion.

If interested in participating in activities or taking part in planning contact Phylisa Collier at msp.collier@gmail.com or call Amber Lee at 336-493-9808 or join the class group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wch-sclassof2006.

We're On The Web:
www.whiteville.com

Whiteville City schools menu

Menus are subject to change. Assorted milk is served with each meal. Served daily: Fruit or Fruit Juice at breakfast and Chef Salad or PB&J Sandwich at lunch.

MONDAY, MAY 2: - Breakfast - Cereal Bar, Graham Crackers, Orange Wedges, Apple Juice. Lunch - Chicken Wings/Rolls or Pizza Quesadilla, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Mixed Dried Fruit.

TUESDAY, MAY 3: - Breakfast - Super Donut, Raisins, Orange Juice. Lunch - Domino's Pizza or Chic Filet/Bun, Crinkle Fries, Broccoli Dippers, Fruit Iceee.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4: - Breakfast - Apple Muffin, Pear, Fruit Juice. Lunch - Ham & Cheese/Bun or Hamburger/Bun, Glazed Carrots, Celery Stick Dippers, Peaches.

THURSDAY, MAY 5: - Breakfast - PB&J Pocket, Banaga, Apple Juice. Lunch - Sloppy Joe/Bun or Corn Dog Nuggets, Pinto Beans, Cuke Dippers.

FRIDAY, MAY 6: - Breakfast - Pop Tart, Mixed Dried Fruit, Orange Juice. Lunch - Pizza or Deli Turkey/Bun, Tater Tots, Grape Tomato Dippers, Applesauce Cups.

Columbus County schools menu

Menus are subject to change. Assorted milk is served with each meal. Students may select one meat, bread and milk, and a choice of two fruits and/or vegetables.

MONDAY, MAY 2: - Breakfast - Nutri Grain Bar, Craisins, Juice. Lunch - Cheeseburger or Chicken Nuggets, Pears, Broccoli, Potato Wedges, Roll.

TUESDAY, MAY 3: - Breakfast - Pop Tart, Apple. Lunch - BBQ Sandwich or Turkey/Cheese Wrap, Peaches, Baked Beans, Sweet Potato Chunks.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4: - Breakfast - Sausage Biscuit, Strawberry Cup, Juice. Lunch - Spaghetti or Toasted Ham & Cheese, Strawberries, Side Salad, Corn, Roll.

THURSDAY, MAY 5: - Breakfast - Muffin, Orange, Raisins. Lunch - Baked Chicken or Sliced Ham, Mixed Fruit, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Roll.

FRIDAY, MAY 6: - Breakfast - Mini Waffles, Applesauce, Juice. Lunch - Pizza or Chicken Salad Sandwich, Peaches, Marinara Sauce, Side Salad.

WCHS 50th reunion in May

The Class of 1966, the first graduating class of West Columbus High School is planning its 50th year reunion for May 14. All graduates include Chadbourn, Cerro Gordo, Evergreen and Fair Bluff.

Anyone who would like to help or attend the reunion should contact one of the committee members to provide contact information: Gary Bass, 840-3611 or colbass1@gmail.com, Nancy Yates Dove at ndovecc@hotmail.com or Ann Nobles Lanier at ealani-er@yahoo.com.



Pre-k students at Chadbourn Elementary School exercise collaboration, critical thinking, imagination, technology and fun as they acquire foundational skills in preparation for kindergarten.

Chadbourn Elementary Pre-K Night April 28

Chadbourn Elementary School will host pre-kindergarten registration night Thursday, April 28 from 5-7 p.m. in the

media center. NC Pre-Kindergarten is a free program for at-risk children.

Your child must be 4 years

old on or before Aug. 31, 2016.

You must bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, verification of income and proof of

residence.

For more information call Chadbourn Elementary School at 654-3825 or 642-5168 ext. 24022.

IP Foundation accepting grant applications through Aug. 1

\$55,000 awarded to schools, non-profits in 2015

The International Paper Company Foundation and International Paper's Riegelwood Mill will accept grant applications online at www.ipgiving.com through Aug. 1. Grants are awarded in the areas of environmental education, literacy, employee involvement and new critical community need.

In 2015, the foundation awarded \$55,000 in grants to area educational and non-profit groups, including nearly \$5,000 to purchase butterfly education kits for area schools.

"We are proud to support programs that strengthen our communities," said Floyd Whitmire, mill manager. "Thank you to our team members who volunteer their services to these important causes, and thank you to the organizations that are doing great work in the community."

For guidelines and more information about the 2016 grant process, visit www.ipgiving.com. All 2016 grant applications will be reviewed at the same time after Aug. 1, and funds will be distributed after Oct. 1. For questions about the online application, email Kim Clewis at Kimberly.Clewis@ipaper.com.

Columbus County recipients of the International Paper grants last year include:

Environmental Education

Cape Fear Resources Conservation and Development was awarded \$5,000 to support the Lake Waccamaw Trail Project.

The Nature Conservancy received \$1,800 to create a Green Swamp visitor brochure.

Southeastern Community College Foundation was awarded \$1,500 to support Earth Day 2016.

Operation Outreach received \$1,000 to purchase books for children at East Arcadia Elementary School.

Employee Involvement

Columbus Baptist Association received \$3,500 for its Toy Store Project.

Columbus County Schools was awarded \$3,000 to purchase materials for set design and royalty fees for high school musicals.

East Columbus High School received \$3,000 for materials and supplies for the new athletic facility.

Friends of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville received \$3,000 to sponsor the museum's Science Cinema program.

Acme Delco Middle School was awarded \$2,800 to purchase books and promote literacy.

Families First received \$1,500 for its dating violence

prevention program.

Wildlife Action was awarded \$1,500 to purchase educational materials and equipment for its camp programs.

Columbus County Education Foundation Inc. was awarded \$500 for the Bolton Safe Haven Summer Camp.

The Town of Bolton received \$500 to purchase CERT equipment, materials and supplies.

International Paper's Riegelwood Mill has been a part of the community since 1951. The International Paper Company Foundation, which was founded in 1952 as a philanthropic grant-making organization, primarily addresses existing and emerging educational needs, as well as civic needs within the communities where International Paper has operating businesses. The foundation also supports those organizations where employees actively volunteer.

WHS class of '67 plans 50th reunion

Whiteville High School Class of 1967 is planning its 50th year reunion 2017.

A meeting will be held Saturday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Dale's Seafood in Whiteville.

Send contact information to 352-9794 or 452-4329.

SENIORS

Health, Fellowship and Well-Being for Columbus County's Seniors

Published Monthly by The News Reporter

April 28, 2016 8-C

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY

Boosting brainpower with beverages such as grape juice



By **JOE AND TERESA GRAEDON**

King Features Syndicate

If there were a medicine to help you keep your brain functioning well, would you take it? Sadly, we are not aware of any such medication.

There is, however, increasing evidence that you

could maintain your cognitive edge with some fairly simple dietary changes. Just increase your intake of certain plant chemicals such as proanthocyanidins, anthocyanins and other flavonoids and polyphenols. These compounds provide the red, blue and purple colors in fruits.

The most recent research included 25 middle-aged working mothers in England. The study compared their performance on cognitive tests and a driving-performance simulator when they were drink-

ing 12 ounces of Concord grape juice or a look-alike, taste-alike placebo juice daily (American Journal of Clinical Nutrition online, Feb. 10, 2016).

The trial lasted six months and demonstrated subtle but significant improvements in spatial memory and driving performance when the women had been consuming Concord grape juice. (Welch provided the Concord grape juice and the placebo used in the study.)

This finding is important, because the women were healthy and their brains were functioning normally, despite the stress of working full time and having preteen children at home. How does Concord grape juice help the brain? Perhaps its ability to

increase the flexibility of blood vessels and improve blood flow might play a role (American Journal of Hypertension, January 2014).

Grape juice is not the only food that increases blood-vessel flexibility and enhances cognitive performance. Blueberries, blackberries and strawberries, like Concord grapes, are rich in colorful plant flavonoids. Animal research has demonstrated that including these berries in the diet improves cognitive function in aging animals and seems to boost the number of neurons in the memory center of the brain (*British Journal of Nutrition*, Nov. 28, 2015; *Nutritional Neuroscience*, June 2009).

There also have been studies showing that berry consumption boosts cognitive test scores in older adults and in children (Rejuvenation Research, February 2014; *European Journal of Nutrition* online, Oct. 5, 2015).

Another study showed that two months of daily high-flavanone orange juice

improved cognitive function in older adults compared with low-flavanone orange juice (*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, March 2015).

Unfortunately, we don't know how to tell whether the orange juice you buy at the grocery store is rich or poor in flavanone compounds.

We have a similar problem when it comes to cocoa flavanols. There is research demonstrating that flavanol-rich cocoa improves blood flow to the brain (*Psychopharmacology*, September 2015). Studies also show that older people consuming high doses of cocoa flavanols perform better on cognitive tests (*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, March 2015; Nutrition Reviews, October 2013). But the cocoa or chocolate that we buy at the supermarket is not labeled with its flavanol content.

We discussed the cardiovascular benefits of both Concord grape juice and chocolate with cocoa flavanols in our book "Best

Choices." It is available online at www.PeoplesPharmacy.com.

Of course, there are some disadvantages to boosting your brain function with chocolate bars or Concord grape juice. Both are high in sugar, and excess sugar is probably no better for the brain than for the waistline. But eating dark red, blue or purple berries or drinking Concord grape juice, high-flavanone orange juice or high-flavanol cocoa regularly sounds like a delicious way to stay sharp.

Joe Graedon is a pharmacologist. Teresa Graedon holds a doctorate in medical anthropology and is a nutrition expert. Their syndicated radio show can be heard on public radio. In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Write to them in care of this newspaper or email them via their Web site: www.PeoplesPharmacy.com. c) 2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



See Niagara Falls on Seniors Trip

By **CLARA CARTRETTE**
Staff Writer

Senior citizens will have an opportunity to visit Niagara Falls this summer on a five-day, four-night bus trip sponsored by the Columbus County Department of Aging.

In addition, the tour includes a side trip to Pennsylvania to shop at an Amish farmers market in Lancaster, and Hershey's Chocolate world, the sweetest place on earth, in Hershey.

Passports are required. Trip dates are June 13-17 and the cost is \$625 per person, double occupancy. The cost includes four nights hotel accommodations, four hotel breakfasts and two dinners, including one dinner in front of the falls. The deluxe motor coach trip also includes standard taxes, meal gratuities, and baggage handling. Travel protection can be purchased at \$79 per person for double occupancy and should include a separate check payable to PML Travel and Tours with initial deposit to ensure full benefits.

Tourists will feel the power and see behind the mist, myths and mysteries of one of the most storied natural wonders of the world on an IMAX presentation of "Niagara: Miracles, Myths and Magic."

There will be a guided

tour of Niagara Falls, a scenic tour along the Niagara River Parkway with views of the Majestic Canadian Horseshoe Falls and American Falls. See the Floral Clock, a clock constructed entirely out of flowers, visit beautiful Queenston Heights Park and see Brock's Monument, see Welland Canal and watch the locks lift and lower huge ships with ease, visit Niagara-on-the-Lake and more.

For more information and to make reservations contact one of the senior center directors: Michelle Dippel, 910-649-6881; Jean Powers, 910-640-6602; Ruby Shelley, 910-654-4423; Susan Prince, 910-653-3063; Catherine Spaulding, 910-655-4166; Jenny Godwin, 9120-640-3791; Warriette Hardy, 910-655-4754.

News from the Senior Tar Heel Legislature

The N.C. Senior Tar Heel Legislature (NCSTHL) met March 17-18 in Chapel Hill, with the focus to bring new information regarding issues that affect seniors statewide.

Suzanne Merrill, director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services, provided an update from the latest legislative session.

Reporting that one of the NCSTHL priorities, the restoration of funding for the Home and Community Care

Block Grant, \$969,549, was restored.

However, this is on a non-recurring basis.

Merrill spoke on several recent developments, some of the most notable being the unveiling of the state strategic plan for addressing Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias.

The plan in its entirety can be viewed at <http://www.nciom.org/publications/>.

The state plan recommen-

dations address the NCSTHL 2016 legislative priorities.

These include the expansion of the home and community based services, assuring an adequate system of protection by examining the Adult Protective Services and Guardianship statutes.

It also addresses "the adequacy of the work force to provide the system of protection and the passage of the Uniform Adult Guardianship

and Protective Proceedings Act by the NC General Assembly."

The State Plan will be available in a Institute of Medicine Report in early April.

Merrill also addressed Medicaid Reform legislation, noting Session Law 2015-245, which is an Act to transform and reorganize the state's Medicaid and Health Choice programs into a managed care service delivery system.



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