



•Pack boys overcome St. Pauls challenge. •Lady Gators fall again. •Stallion girls edge Fairmont. •Scott to coach Region 4 All-Stars in 2016 State Softball Games. •Red Springs sweeps Vikes.
See page 1-B.

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

The News Reporter

Thursday, February 4, 2016



Volume 125, Number 63
Whiteville, North Carolina

75 Cents

Inside

4-A

•Three arrested in serious assaults.

Next Issue



Monday's *American Profile* features "CUTE & CRAFTY: Easy Valentine's Day Gifts and Treats."

DIDYOB?

Did you observe ...

Melissa Reaves of Lake Waccamaw running into Gov. Pat McCrory on Sugar Mountain? The governor was wearing his Carolina Panthers jersey. ... Editor Les High giving a guest lecture in a digital media economics class at the UNC School of Media and Journalism Tuesday? His daughter Carly is in the class.

County Deaths

Whiteville
Patricia Ann Gore
Arvell Duncan
Johnny Ray Davis
Joseph Wilkins Jr.
Doris Stanley
Chadborn
Robert Lonza Brown
Ernest Wayne Williamson
Hallsboro
Annie Thurman
Sean D. Nixon Rhoda
Tabor City
Diane Merritt Faulk

Index

Editorials 10-A
Obituaries 8-A
Sports 1-B
Crime 4-A
Living 1-C

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Byrd says park board not diverse enough

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

Columbus County Commission Chairman Buddy Byrd expressed concern recently about a lack of racial diversity on the board of the Columbus Veterans' Memorial Park.

The county has committed \$75,000 to the project planned for property in the New Hope community.

"The groundbreaking ceremony recently was very honorable but I was deeply concerned that there were no minorities on that board," Byrd said Monday.

He later acknowledged that he learned that District Judge Fred Gore, who is African American, is a member of the veterans park board.

"This (county) board committed \$75,000 in taxpayer dollars and that board needs to be totally diversified. The whole entire (sic) county needs to be represented. Everybody that went to war and fought needs to be recognized totally," Byrd said Monday.

Audience member Robert Adams, whose wife, Anita, is vice president of the veterans park committee, responded to Byrd.

See Byrd, page 6-A



Staff photo by FULLER ROYAL

Music fan

Five-year-old Ian Martin enjoys a snack while waiting for his grandfather, Curtis Martin, to begin demonstrating his collection of musical instruments Friday night at the Columbus Arts Center. See story in next Monday's issue.

For 33 years, Gray kept tabs on Columbus County farming

By RAY WYCHE
Staff Writer

If it was grown commercially on a Columbus County farm, Coke Gray knew about it — and kept records on how the crop turned out.

Gray recently retired as county executive of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) local connection for overseeing its multitude of regulations, advisories and records relating to Columbus County farming activities.

For two years after graduating from N.C. State University in 1975, Gray was FSA's county executive for Tyrell County in the northeastern part of the state. He then assumed the same post in Beaufort County. When the county executive position in Columbus County came open, Gray applied and was chosen to



Coke Gray discusses his three decades with the USDA.

fill the position by a committee in February 1984.

"Columbus County was one of the first five counties in the nation selected to be equipped with computers by the USDA," he says. It is

one of the leading counties for the number of farms in North Carolina.

As director, Gray was chosen to be a trainer, teaching employees the ins and outs of managing the office

See Gray, page 8-A

Lennon's skills yielded 150-year history

■Freeman resident produced document heralding history of Livingston Baptist Church south of Delco.

By BOB HIGH
Staff Writer

The spry 79-year-old Charles Lennon Jr. of the Freeman community — halfway between Bolton and Delco — learned much of his skill in producing historical documents about his church during a 40-year career with the *Star-News* in Wilmington.

Lennon's knowledge includes how to repair hot-lead Linotype machines, the mainstay of newspapers as workers typed the galleys of upside down and backward letters that yielded stories and advertisements when sheets of white paper were pressed to the rows of inked metal.

Lennon was so proficient that he and his boss George Hutchinson of



Charles Lennon Jr. of Freeman

Wilmington spent several summers at *The News Reporter* repairing and servicing the newspaper's machinery in the early 1960s.

Linotype repairs
Lennon's knowledge continued to grow as newspapers moved from

See Lennon, page 6-A

Suspects arrested for 2014 Bolton killings

■Victims were ages 74 and 52 and were found wrapped in blankets in November 2014.

By BOB HIGH
Staff Writer

A young male and female were arrested late Wednesday and charged with the murders of two women in Bolton in November 2014.

Justin Gray Reynolds, 28, of Bitmore Road in Brunswick and Megan Alicia Haynes, 27, of the 2300 block of Howard Cox Road, Tabor City, are charged with the double murders of Jeanette Nancy Thutt, 74, and Donna Reynolds Gore, 52, of Blacksmith Road, Bolton. Mrs. Gore was the mother of Reynolds.

The bodies of the two women were found at night on Nov. 3, 2014 wrapped in blankets in an outbuilding on Thutt's property along Blacksmith Road just north of Bolton.

Reynolds was already in jail for an unrelated theft charge. Haynes was arrested at her home.

Thutt, who reported the theft of tools, cash and medication on Oct. 22, 2014, had been re-

See Two arrested, page 4-A



Reynolds



Haynes

County okays incentive plan for Shodja expansion

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

Columbus County commissioners packed a lot into one of their shortest meetings in recent history Monday night. The board approved a \$41,000 economic development incentive grant for Shodja Textiles/Whiteville Fabrics, changed the county land use ordinance and agreed to pay just 50 percent of the cost of a school construction feasibility study, among other actions.

Meeting for less than an hour, commissioners conducted a public hearing on the Shodja grant, a grant, which will help as the company expands in the former Conflandey building in the Southeast Industrial Park, a \$1.5 million investment by the company.

Shodja president Camron Shodja told the board that his company already has added 15 workers and probably will add another 15-20 workers at the facility over the next two years.

Shodja said that his employees currently are working 10- and 12-hour shifts six days a week. "We started our business here in July 2000 with two employees," Shodja said, "and we have grown to 50 employees. Most of our employees work 10 and 12 hour shifts six days a week. We have a very low turnover rate and most of our employees have been with us for eight and 10 years or more. What we do is very specialized, and we're asking for the grant to be approved to help with our cash flow situation as we expand."

Under the terms of the grant, approved unanimously by the board, the company would receive \$41,309 over a five-year period, and annual payments will be made only after the previous year's property taxes have been paid.

See County, page 8-A



Officers for the 84th annual N.C. Strawberry Festival elected Thursday night were, from left, Secretary Hilda Bullard, President Guy Long and Treasurer Joy Bullard. The group will elect a vice president at its next meeting on Feb. 11.

Plans coming together for 84th Strawberry fest

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

Plans are beginning to come together for the 84th annual North Carolina Strawberry Festival in Chadbourne. The festival's board of directors met Thursday and elected officers for the upcoming festival. Parade day - the big day of the more than week-long festival - will be Saturday, May 7.

Guy Long was re-elected president of the festival and Joy Bullard and Hilda Bullard were re-elected treasurer and secretary, respectively. The group will elect a vice president at their next meeting on Feb. 11 and that person is expected to become president for the 85th festival next year.

Festival events will kick off in late April with a pancake supper at Chadbourne Elementary School, residential and commercial display contests and a walk-a-thon/run-a-thon.

A chicken bog fundraiser for the Chadbourne Depot Museum will be held Tuesday, May 3, at the event field be-

hind Hardee's and opening ceremonies will be held with featured entertainment still to be named.

The Rev. Timothy Lance, pastor of

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church,

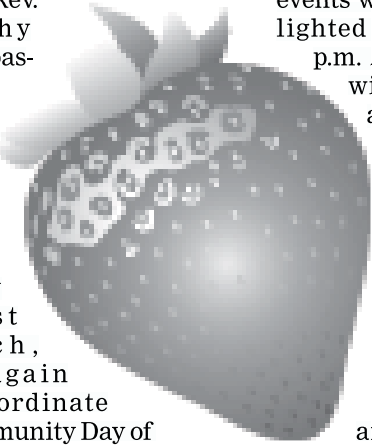
once again will coordinate the community Day of Prayer observance at noon on Thursday, May 5, at the gazebo beside the Chadbourne Fire Department. Later that evening the Strawberry Festival Jam Variety Show will be held in the West Columbus High School Auditorium.

Fun Time Amusements will offer rides Friday and Saturday, May 6-7, and the Evening of Strawberry Encounters dinner will be held Friday

evening at a location that will be finalized at the next board meeting.

The usual "festival day" events will be Saturday, highlighted by the parade at 2 p.m. Also on tap Saturday will be arts and crafts and food products contests. An all-day variety show will be held at the event field, except during the parade. The strawberry luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. at the Chadbourne Pentecostal Holiness Church, followed by an auction of strawberry quality contest entries.

Saturday night after the parade, the N.C. Strawberry Festival Scholarship Pageant will be held at West Columbus High School.



Winter's sting felt in January weather

By RAY WYCHE
Staff Writer

Winter came to Columbus County last month with the average maximum temperature for the month being 51.39 degrees, the lowest since 1988's 47.33 degrees.

January had 20 days in which the thermometer dropped below freezing with the coldest two days being Jan. 19 and 20 when 21 degrees were recorded on each day.

December 2015's coldest

reading came on Dec. 20 and 21 when the thermometer fell to 29 degrees.

The average maximum temperature for the month of December 2015 was 68.39 degrees.

Reasonably warm weather in the fall and early winter added to the perceived discomfort brought on by January's temperature drop.

Agriculture activity is at a standstill at the present as the only crop growing is the cold-hardy winter wheat.

Lt. Gov. to meet with small business owners Feb. 16

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) will host a small business roundtable with Lt. Gov. Dan Forest at Southeastern Community College, T-building, Room 20 on Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Registration for small business owners will begin at 9:45 a.m. Small business owners

should RSVP Karen Crockett at 919-833-9480 or Karen.crockett@nfib.org.

NFIB is a lobbying organization with headquarters in Nashville, Tenn. and offices in Washington, D.C. and 50 states. Its mission is to promote and protect the right of members to own, operate and grow their businesses.



Voter ID

The Columbus County Board of Elections will host a public forum regarding the Voter ID requirements for the 2016 Primary Election. The forum will be held today, Thursday, Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, 929 Washington St. in Whiteville.

Feb. 5-6 Women of Worth conference is sold out

The Women of Worth conference, slated for Feb. 5-6 at Bowers Auditorium on the campus of Whiteville High School, is sold out, according to organizers.

"We do have a waiting list if tickets become available," said Edna Dowless.

The conference on faith for, and by, women and launched by Western Prong Baptist Church is in its sixth year.

This year's guest speak-

ers and performers include Jennifer Rothchild, a woman who has been blind since she was 15 years old; Gwen Smith, an author and worship artist; and Tammy Trent, an author, speaker and Christian Music Hall of Fame member.

Last year, 675 to 700 attended the local conference, with more than five states represented.

"We never anticipated anything like that," said Lisa

Clark, co-chair and founder.

As of last week, more than 700 tickets had been sold.

Women of Worth kicks off at Bowers Auditorium on Friday, Feb. 5 (6:30-9:30 p.m.) and runs through Saturday, Feb. 6 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.).

A waiting list is available. Tickets are \$45 for singles and \$40 per person in groups of 10 or more.

For information call 840-2148 or visit iTickets.com.

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Chadbourn declines to finance building purchase by academy

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

The Chadbourn town council unanimously declined an offer from the Whiteville-based Van Eyken Foundation to purchase the former Grainger Food Store on South Brown Street.

The town owns the building and had been asked to finance the purchase in quarterly payments of \$625, totaling \$12,500 over a five-year period.

Instead, the board declared the property to be surplus and instructed town attorney Harold G. "Butch" Pope to prepare documents to advertise the building for sale by sealed bid, subject to upset bids, with a minimum opening bid of \$10,000.

"This is a payment plan," Town Manager Bob Jones told the council of Van Eyken's letter to the board offering to buy the building, "and I wouldn't

recommend that you finance any property you're selling."

"I agree," David Worley commented. "Either they're going to purchase this (by paying upfront) or we move forward with some kind of bidding process. The empty parking lot is worth more than they want to pay for it."

The property was appraised at about \$50,000 before the roof fell in recently because of water damage.

In other business, council took no action on a December letter from an attorney for Carolina Southern Railroad demanding that the town respond by Dec. 31 to an offer to donate the railroad depot in Chadbourn to the town.

"I was blind-sided by this letter," Town Manager Jones told the board.

Carolina Southern Railroad no longer owns the depot. Mayor Phillip Britt, Councilman Donald Ray Bass and

Town Attorney Butch Pope all said that, after receiving the December letter, they talked with Bill Henderson, executive vice president of R.J. Corman Railroad Group, which now owns the property, and the letter from the Carolina Southern attorney was immaterial. R.J. Corman has in recent weeks been repairing and restoring the depot.

Pope told the board, "There's no validity to this letter" from the attorney for Carolina Southern.

In other business, the board repeated a vote from last month to rezone a block of property from residential to commercial because Councilman James Green inadvertently voted on the matter last month even though he owns one of the properties in question. The new vote was taken with Green recusing himself from the matter.

The board also went into a 53-minute closed session to discuss an individual employee and to preserve attorney-client privilege. After the closed session, Pope said that no action was taken. The "attorney-client" privilege reason for the closed session involved litigation with a former employee, Pope said, but he would not give more information.

Chadbourn council wants more info about ABC board finances

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

The Chadbourn Town Council decided Tuesday night that they want a better explanation from the West Columbus ABC Board, which operates the liquor store in Chadbourn, of why the ABC board was unable to distribute any profits to the town for the three-month period ending Dec. 31.

Council passed a motion, 4-1, to ask ABC board members, accompanied by their accountant, to attend a special called meeting at 7 p.m. on Feb. 11 to discuss the matter.

In an undated and unsigned cover sheet accompanying a financial report dated Dec. 31, the ABC board informed the council, "As a result of the above (a statement that the ABC board had only \$68,718.66 in working capital) the ABC Board is not required to make a distribution. Please inform the ABC Board if there are any questions."

There were plenty of questions and council members Colene Kelly, David Worley, Rashad Roberts and James Green voted to ask the ABC officials to be at the special Feb. 11 meeting accompanied by their accountant. Council-



Staff photo by Allen Turner

Chadbourn council member Colene Kelly, left, makes a point during a discussion Tuesday night of West Columbus ABC Board finances. Also pictured, from left, are council members David Worley and Rashad Roberts and Mayor Phillip Britt.

man Donald Ray Bass voted against the motion.

Bass said that he had talked with ABC board chairman Tony Freeman, who informed him that the ABC system "did not meet their requirement with the state...for that quarter and that was the reason there was no distribution."

Kelly clearly was not satisfied with the documents provided by the ABC board. "When you look at this page they're turning in and asking us to just take ... this is not a well-organized document." A holder of a master's degree in public administration, Kelly assured the board that she knows how to read a financial statement.

Kelly questioned a disclaimer from the accountant who prepared the financial statement, Alan Thompson of Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co. of Whiteville, in which he stated, "Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures and other financial

statements required by the modified basis of accounting ordinarily included in financial statements ... If the omitted disclosures ... were included ... they might influence the user's conclusions about West Columbus ABC Board's assets, liabilities, equity, revenues and expenditures. Accordingly, the financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters."

Prior to voting to schedule a special meeting with the ABC board, the council voted down 2 to 3 a motion to table the ABC discussion until their March meeting. Councilmen David Worley and Donald Ray Bass wanted to do that, but Kelly, Roberts and Green voted against waiting until March.

Green asked, "What's the point of asking someone for information that they constantly refuse to give us?" His rhetorical question went unanswered.

Animal shelter earns high marks again

By JEFFERSON WEAVER
Staff Writer

Another recent surprise inspection at the Columbus County Animal Shelter brought even more good news to the facility and the animals held there.

The shelter received an overall rating of "Approved," as well as "Acceptable" grades on 79 different sections in the inspection. The rating is the highest available from the Veterinary Division of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NC-DACS).

"The inspection also noted that improvements had been made on areas of concern noted in the last inspection performed in December of last year," Supervisor Joey Prince said. Those problems, which were noted as minor, have been corrected, according to the NCDA report.

"The inspection report also highlighted the recent upgrades made to the shelter," Prince said.

In recent weeks, the shelter has completed a new cat room that provides a calmer atmosphere for cats and kittens, as well as a "maternity ward" for mother cats and newborn kittens. While the county has a major problem with irresponsible breeding of dogs, Prince said, the overpopulation of cats remains a crisis.

The state inspector also noted the new intake forms that ensure compliance with all state regulations, and new rabies vaccination program that the shelter has implemented.

Prince said plans are in place to install four additional dog kennels, which would increase the amount of space available for dogs at the shelter by about ten percent.

"We hope the new kennels can be installed before the summer," he said. "We're still working out all the details, but it will be a big boost to our shelter."

The kennel expansion will replace the old cat room,

Prince said.

"This area became available when the new cat room was established," Prince said, noting that the staff and volunteers came up with the plan for both the new cat facility and the planned kennels.

Prince praised the staff and volunteers, and said the newest state report "reveals the amount of work that both staff and volunteers have put into the shelter over the past few months."

"This inspection reflects well on our team and the recent improvements we have made to our shelter," he said. "We also need to thank our community whose donations of materials, dog and cat food have made all of this possible."

Prince pointed out that the New Hanover County Shelter handles the same number of dogs as Columbus every year, but New Hanover's shelter operations budget is \$1 million more than the \$239,410 budget that funds the entire department here.

A donated exercise area at the shelter is on hold until the ground dries sufficiently for construction to begin, Prince said. A local Boy Scout troop and volunteers from Whiteville Janitorial Supply will construct the fenced-in area. County maintenance workers have already marked off utility lines and other infrastructure, and the scouts are ready to start work - but the ground, Prince said, "is still squishy."

"Right now the ground is just too wet to bring in the sand and fill," he said. "We've been checking it regularly, but we really need 10 or 12 days for it to dry enough to start work."

"Still, this just shows how our volunteers and community are really getting behind the shelter," he said. "People are showing their love for the dogs and cats. We couldn't do it without our volunteers."

The Columbus County Animal Shelter is located at 288 Legion Drive in Whiteville, North Carolina and is open

See Shelter, page 8-A

VFW's family day is slated for Feb. 13

■ VFW photos and history sought.

The Columbus County Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars will host a family day on Saturday, Feb. 13, beginning at 10 a.m., at the National Guard Armory in Whiteville.

The event will celebrate the organization's 70th anniversary.

Bounce houses and other activities for children are planned.

Information about the VFW will be available and residents from across the county are asked to bring any historical photographs they have of VFW posts and members from Riegelwood, Bolton, Hallsboro, Lake Waccamaw, Whiteville, Tabor City, Nakina and Chadbourn posts.

Information gathered will be included in plans for a future museum at the Veterans Memorial Park planned south of Whiteville.

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The News Reporter

(USPS 387-600)
Published twice weekly by
The News Reporter Co. Inc.
127 W. Columbus St.
Whiteville N.C. 28472
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 707,
Whiteville, N.C. 28472-0707
Periodical postage paid at
Whiteville, N.C., 28472-0707

Postmaster: send address changes to P.O. Box 707, Whiteville, N.C. 28472
Jim High, Publisher
Mail Subscriptions (Columbus County) \$35.00 - Mail
Other N.C. Counties \$49.00 - Other
Home Delivery \$48.00 year
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Crime briefs

Probation

Thurman Devon Jones, 22, of Pinewood Drive, Whiteville, was put on probation for two years here last week after he pleaded in Superior Court to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods.

He had two pairs of stolen shoes, owned by Quintella Adams, in an April 2014 case. His prior record includes convictions for larceny in 2013, and assault/affray in 2010. A term of 120 days was suspended.



Jones

Restitution

James Jeffrey Reaves, 36, was ordered to pay restitution of \$2,500 to a North Myrtle Beach, S.C., victim, as part of his year's probation after Reaves pleaded to misdemeanor breaking and entering, and larceny in Superior Court here recently.

Reaves' prior record showed convictions for assault on a female in 1999, armed robbery in 2000, unlawful use of a phone, and threatening phone calls, both in 2014.



Reaves

Revoked

Jonathan Ray Callihan, 29, of Leland, was sent to prison for 18 to 40 months recently when his probation in two felony larceny cases was revoked. He was convicted of the two thefts in Brunswick County in December 2014. Records show Callihan has a credit of 110 days in the two cases.



Callihan

Shoplifters

Breanna Rose Ellis, 20, of Bladenboro, and Estelien F. Davis, 60, of Calabash, were arrested recently by Whiteville police for stealing items at Walmart in two separate incidents.

Davis was seen switching price labels on items, and is charged with stealing \$120.10 worth of goods on Feb. 1. Ellis stole \$81.80 worth of merchandise, including two cell phone chargers and a quart of motor oil.

Break-ins, thefts

The following were victims of a break-in and/or theft reported on date shown:

- Feb. 2 - Marvin Alvin Smith, Mill Pond Road, Whiteville - break-in of vehicle, theft of cash.
- Feb. 2 - Ester Simmons Batten, Whitehall Road, Whiteville - break-in, theft of 1.5-carat diamond earrings.
- Feb. 2 - Harry Dean Little, 12000 block of N.C. 130, Whiteville - break-in, theft of 32-inch RCA TV, Life Pro heater.
- Feb. 1 - Carol Ann Jacobs, Lakeland Circle, Hallsboro - break-in, theft of medications, Emerson TV, assorted jewelry and jewelry box, jar of coins, tools, nail polish.
- Feb. 1 - Dana Soles Meares, Peacock Road, Tabor City - break-in, theft of TV.
- Feb. 1 - Giffen Barnes Andy, Princess Ann Road, Chadbourn - break-in, damage to 55-inch TV.
- Feb. 1 - Clara May Long, Old 74, Evergreen - theft of 250-gallon propane tank.
- Jan. 28 - Felding Lee Hammond, Gardenview Drive, Whiteville - break-in of vehicle, theft of cash, bankcards.
- Jan. 28 - Taj Bernard Powell, East Columbus Street, Whiteville - break-in of Maverick 12-gauge pump shotgun. Recovered.

NC to get \$2.1 million for faulty promotion of drugs Amgen to pay \$71 million for improper drug marketing

Drug manufacturer Amgen will pay North Carolina and 48 other states \$71 million to resolve allegations that the company unlawfully promoted two medications, Attorney General Roy Cooper said.

"Drug companies have a duty to put safety before profits, and that means marketing medicines for approved uses only," Cooper said. Cooper's Consumer Protection Division filed a complaint and consent judgment in Wake County Superior Court against Amgen Aug. 18. North Carolina will receive more than \$2.1 million as its share of the judgment. The settlement resolves allegations that Amgen illegally used a practice called off-label marketing to promote two biologic medications, Arenesp and Enbrel, for purposes that had not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or for which there was not competent and reliable scientific evidence.

Once the FDA has approved a particular use of a drug as safe and effective, drug companies are prohibited from marketing it for any unapproved use. The FDA has approved Arenesp to treat certain types of anemia by stimulating bone marrow to produce red blood cells. In the complaint and consent judgment Cooper filed, North Carolina and the other states allege that Amgen illegally promoted Arenesp for dosing frequencies longer than the FDA approved label without competent and reliable scientific evidence to substantiate the extended dosing frequencies. The states also contend that Amgen unlawfully marketed Arenesp for anemia caused by cancer without credible scientific evidence or the required FDA approval.

Enbrel is approved by the FDA to treat a number of conditions, including certain types of arthritis and plaque psoriasis. The states allege that Amgen promoted Enbrel for mild plaque psoriasis even though Enbrel is approved by the FDA to treat only chronic moderate to severe plaque psoriasis.

In addition to paying \$71 million, including \$2,142,922.31 to North Carolina, Amgen is required to change its marketing practices to avoid false, misleading or deceptive promotion of Enbrel or any medication in the same class as Arenesp. The consent judgment bans Amgen marketing and sales professionals from preparing materials for or submitting supplementary information to drug reference books used by medical professionals. Amgen is also prohibited from misrepresenting the sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits or qualities of Enbrel or any medication in the same class as Arenesp.

"Patients and doctors deserve accurate information about medications based on sound science, and that's what this agreement requires," Cooper said.

Two arrested

Continued from page 1-A

ported missing for about a week, and a missing persons report was filed with the Columbus County Sheriff's Office early on the date the bodies were found.

It is believed the two women had been dead for some time. Thutt is believed to have been killed five to seven days before her body was found.

Three vehicles were missing

from Thutt's residence, and two of them were recovered by the time the bodies were found. The location of the two recoveries was not announced.

District Attorney Jon David and Sheriff Lewis Hatcher have called a press conference at 11 a.m. today. See Whiteville.com for an update from the press conference.

Assaults prompt arrests

Robert Glenn Williamson, 46, of Paul Willoughby Road, Evergreen, and Marvin Lyndale McFadden, 39, of Church Street, Chadbourn, have been arrested on identical charges in separate incidents of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious injuries.

And, Jonathan Av Rose, 31, of Camp Ground Road, Whiteville, has been arrested on charges of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injuries.

Williamson, arrested recently for manufacturing non-tax paid liquor, is charged with using a shotgun to injure Bernice Andrew Smith on Jan. 19, 2016, according to the warrant

obtained by Sheriff's Deputy Christi Caraballo.

McFadden is charged with using a firearm to cause serious injuries to Jarvis Merrell McKinnon of Evergreen on Dec. 12, 2015, by shooting into McKinnon's vehicle. McFadden is also charged with three counts of shooting into an occupied vehicle, an SUV occupied by McKinnon

Aaron Williams and Paula Monroe, according to warrants obtained by Chadbourn Police Detective Rene Trevino.

Rose, according to Sheriff's Deputy Blake Ashley's warrant, used brass knuckles on Jan. 15 to injuring Anthony Charles Monroe. Rose also used a baseball bat, records show.



Williamson



Rose



McFadden

Prison for sex offender

Samuel Lee Jr., 51, of Enterprise Street, Chadbourn, was sent to prison last week for a term of 145 to 234 months after he pleaded in Superior Court here to attempted first-degree sex offense.

Convicted of a sex offense in Maryland in 1988, Lee was involved with a child under the age of 13 in an Oct. 17, 2014 incident. Lee has a credit of 466 days toward his prison sentence.



Samuel Lee Jr.

Drivers plead in DWI cases

Amos Brian Holt, 40, of Whiteville, pleaded guilty to driving while impaired (DWI) here recently in District Court, and was put on unsupervised probation for a year, fined \$100, and told to do 24 hours of community service within 30 days.

Holt's blood-alcohol was 0.16 when arrested last year by a Highway Patrol trooper. Holt also got a suspended 60-day jail term. Holt appealed the conviction. Other recent DWI convictions included:

- James Edward Malpass,

43, of Leland, pleaded guilty in a 2006 DWI case, and was sentenced to 45 days in jail. He had a blood-alcohol level of 0.22 when arrested.

Brashawnika Williams, 21, of Savannah, Ga., refused probation after pleading guilty to DWI, and was sentenced to 30 days in jail. Williams also pleaded guilty to misdemeanor assault on a Highway Patrol trooper, plus fleeing to elude arrest. His jail terms were consolidated into the DWI conviction.

Two arrested for fraud

Christopher Ellis, 25, of Spruce Street, Whiteville, and Jerry Paul Britt Jr., 41, of Honey Hill Road, Hallsboro, have been arrested on fraud charges in two separate cases.

Whiteville Police Detective Scott Moody obtained warrants that charged Britt with three counts of selling stolen property to Pawn South in Whiteville, each case in De-

cember. Britt is charged with getting \$70 from the pawnshop on Dec. 17, another \$50 on Dec. 23, and \$30 on Dec. 28, 2015.

Ellis is charged with getting \$30 from the same business on Nov. 19, 2015 for presenting stolen property, and another \$25 on Nov. 21, according to warrants obtained by Whiteville Police Detective Sgt. Andre Jackson.



Britt



Ellis

3 face break-in or theft cases

Four separate defendants have been arrested recently on charges ranging from breaking and entering, and larceny, to theft of a firearm.

George Robert Matheson, 26, of Ash Street, Bladenboro, faces charges in two Columbus County break-in and theft incidents.

He is charged with breaking into Bristol Kay King's home along U.S. 76, Cerro Gordo, on Nov. 2, 2015, and stealing two TVs, an Apple tablet, assorted jewelry 10 computer games and two dresser drawers with a total value of \$2,631, according to warrants obtained by Sheriff's Detective Matt Parker.

Michael Dale Wright Jr., 32, of Kenny Jordan Road, Tabor City, was arrested on a charge of possession of stolen goods - a washer, dryer and electric cooking stove. The warrant,

obtained by Sheriff's Detective Ken Elliott, shows the items, valued at \$300, were stolen from David Jeremy Fowler during the period of Jan. 6-11, 2016.

Wright is a registered sex offender, and spent some time in prison after his conviction in September 2000 for taking indecent liberties with his victim.

Tyler Edward Sutton, 20, is charged with felony larceny in a warrant obtained by Elliott. Sutton is charged with stealing an enclosed Pace trailer, gun safe, four-wheeler, dirt bike, three grass trimmers, jack hammer, pool table, hammock, four bags of yard ornaments, four bicycles and a yard blower, all owned by Sadie Walker.

The theft happened on Jan. 12-13, 2016, and the items were valued at \$7,400.



Wright



Matheson



Sutton

'Ghost' Hammonds arrested on felony monitoring charge

Frankie "Ghost" Hammonds, 25, of Vinegar Hill Road, Clarendon, has been arrested on a felony charge of interfering with an electronic monitoring device while on parole from prison.

Hammonds, convicted in May 2013 of shooting into an occupied home, was paroled from prison on Dec. 2, 2015, records show. He began serving

time in the shooting case on May 17, 2013. Records show Hammonds' parole was revoked this week, and he is to be returned to prison to serve more of a term of 33 to 51 months.

Hammonds served two months in 2011 after a breaking and entering conviction, and nine months in 2009-10 for robbery and breaking and entering, according to state records.



Hammonds

Man had stolen gun

Donavon Branch, 23, of Red Springs, was arrested by Tabor City police this week on charges of possession of a stolen pistol, and possession of a firearm by a felon in a warrant obtained by Officer Justin McPherson.

Branch had a stolen Interatec .45 pistol, owned by Christopher Tom, on Feb. 2. Branch was convicted in Horry County, S.C., in July 2014 of manufac-

turing and possession of three types of drugs, according to the warrant.

Cocaine arrests

Residents of Chadbourn and Fair Bluff have been arrested on charges of possession of cocaine with intent to sell, plus maintaining a vehicle as a place to keep and sell the illegal drug.

Fair Bluff Police Officer K.H. Grice obtained the warrants that charge Terrance Flowers, 28, of Railroad Avenue, Chadbourn, and Tretavius Jerome Isiah, 25, of Steele Street, Fair Bluff, in the cocaine incident on Feb. 2, 2016. Both men are also charged with maintaining a 2006 Chevrolet Impala as the place to keep and sell cocaine.



Flowers



Isiah

Tabitha A. Etheridge
ATTORNEY AT LAW



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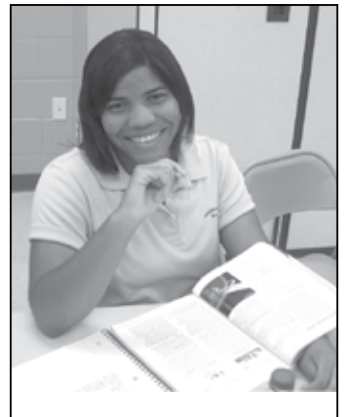
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Lennon

Continued from page 1-A

hot metal to cold type in the 1960s, and eventually to computerization, the method used by most newspapers today to produce their daily or weekly product.

"George and I went to *The News Reporter* and we cleaned the brass keys and replaced clutch pads, just about everything that was needed to keep the Linotype machines running," Lennon recalled.

Lennon was raised by his parents Charles Stencil and Juanita Peterson Lennon. His father operated the C.S. Lennon store at Freeman, located at the site of the old Pierce, Wyche and Company business, and presently occupied by the Dyno Cam Company near the intersection of U.S. 74-76 and N.C. 11.

History interests

Lennon is a deacon of the Livingston church, and presently serves as president of the men's Sunday school class.

He began collecting photos and historical documents about the Livingston church, and soon produced a glossy booklet on the church's history dating to 1865, the last year of the largest struggle in this nation's history - The War Between the States.

In addition to producing the church history, Lennon's interests cover the history of the Freeman, Acme, Delco, Armour, Byrdville and Riegelwood communities.

His aunt, Viola Peterson Squires of nearby Kelly in Bladen County, had a collection of the "Livingston-Waccamaw Tidings" booklets, and he purchased 10 of the reproduced issues for \$50.

He donated all the "Tidings" items to his church's archives.



Two men and woman from Whiteville, names and explanation included in photo layout.



Two bobcats killed on rabbit hunt. See today's Page 1-C for details.

The "Livingston-Waccamaw Tidings" booklets were published during the four years of World War II by the Rev. Evans Ulrich, pastor of the Livingston and Lake

Waccamaw Baptist churches. Sermons printed

The booklets contained countless photos of the men and women from Ulrich's churches serving in uni-



Jo Ellen Peterson crying.

form across the world, plus messages from the service personnel, photos of their friends, ships and the locations where they were serving.

Also included were printed sermons, plus special articles on the dangers of alcohol, and letters and stories from military personnel about receiving free issues of "Tidings."

Lennon relishes the information contained in the booklets as it marks events involving his many connections to longtime stalwart families of the eastern end

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THE GREEN SWAMP APIARIES
Paul Kendall, Prop. Lake Waccamaw, N. C.

Paul Kendall, then living at Lake Waccamaw, advertised his Swamp Angel Brand honey in one of the "Tidings" issues.

of Columbus County.

Tornado noted

Charles Lennon married Lucille Harrelson of Tabor City, a daughter of Rosiah and Lisa Norris Harrelson. He has two sons, Harvey and Bryan, both living near him in the Freeman community. Lennon follows his father's example of being a lifelong subscriber to *The News Reporter*.

"I've been reading that newspaper for decades," he noted.

Lennon enjoys seeing photos in the issues of "Tidings." The December-January issue for 1942 and 1943 includes a detailed report about the tornado that swept across Hallsboro, Lake Waccamaw, Bolton and the Council community on Dec. 1, 1942.

The greatest damage was in the Honey Hill section of

Hallsboro, where Otha Hill, 38, a skidder operator for the N.C. Lumber Company, was killed in the debris of his home.

Several others in the lumber company's batch of homes were injured.

Also featured in this issue were the success of Andrew Lennon's hog killing at Freeman, and photos of deer killed by J.M. Graham, Peyton Stanley, Ralph Stanley, James Wilson, Walter Burney, Leland Hickman, plus Purvis Stephens and Mrs. Clyde Wayne. Successful hunters Jasper Smith, Eurie Peterson, Hardy Croom and A.A.

Peterson were also mentioned.

More from the group of "Tidings" publications will be reported in the coming months.



Commissioner Giles "Buddy" Byrd questions the lack of diversity of the board of the Columbus County Veterans Memorial Park Monday night.

Byrd

Continued from page 1-A

"The veterans park committee is composed of volunteers. Fred Gore volunteered along with the rest of them. I've suggested that some of the inactive committee members go their ways and that more people be appointed. We have no respect of whether a person is black, red, yellow, green or white," Robert Adams said. "All served together, died together and lived together. Any of you who want to volunteer, regardless of race or ethnic background, we'll put you to work."

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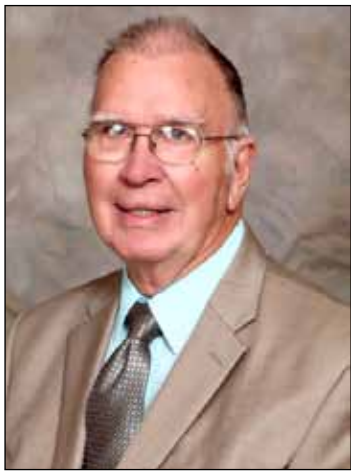


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Deaths

The News Reporter, Thursday, February 4, 2016 -- 7A

DEATH NOTICE



JOHN DAVID HEAFNER SR.

MOCKSVILLE -- Mr. John David Heafner Sr., 79, went to be with his Lord Sunday, Jan. 31, 2016 at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center in Salisbury.

Mr. Heafner was born Feb. 28, 1936, in Mecklenburg County to the late Arvel Elon and Nola Belva Eller Heafner. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Harry Elmer Heafner and James Horace Heafner.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Heafner was retired from Roses Stores Inc. in 1981 and opened Ben Franklin in Mocksville in October of 1981.

He was a member of First Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder and helped with many activities. Mr. Heafner was an active member of the Civitan Club, Salvation Army and was also a Gideon.

A memorial service will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at First Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends in the church fellowship hall immediately following the service. Eaton Funeral Service, Inc., 325 N. Main Street is handling the arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Ouida Gayle Shuman Heafner; three children, Melinda Gayle Braddy (Raymond Scott), John David Heafner Jr. (Anne) and Anthony Byrd Heafner (Marion); one brother, Arvel Elon Heafner (Wilda); five grandchildren, Lauren Nichole Hagler (T.J.), Sarah Rachel Euart (Chris), Anna Gayle Heafner, Zachery and Zoey Zerull; and seven great-grandchildren, Alexis, Alex and Kay Lee Hagler, Emily, Jason and Anthony Euart and Levi Heafner.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be considered for Storehouse For Jesus, P.O. Box 216, Mocksville, N.C. 27028; Gideon's International, P.O. Box 182, Mocksville, N.C. 27028.

Online condolences may be made at www.eatonfuneralservice.com.

DONALD CAMERON NEILL

ELIZABETHTOWN -- Donald Cameron Neill, 80, died Monday, Feb. 1, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents, Wiley Lee Neill and Lizzie Warwick Neill; and his wife, Josephine H. Neill.

The family will receive friends from 3-3:45 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3 at Bladen-Gaskins Funeral Home in Elizabethtown. Final rites will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the funeral home with Revs. Andy Ottoway and James Nobles officiating. Burial will be in Bladen Memorial Gardens in Elizabethtown.

He is survived by one son, Ricky Neill of Elizabethtown; one daughter, Kimberly Goins of Elizabethtown; one brother, Ralph Neill; one sister, Rachel Gregson; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

DEATH NOTICE



ARVELL DUNCAN WHITEVILLE -- Arvell Duncan, 85, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2016 at Columbus Regional Healthcare.

He was the son of the late Victor Duncan and Elverta Sellers Duncan Johnson. He was also preceded in death by one brother, Kenneth Johnson.

He was a retired farmer and was also employed by Kaiser Fertilizer Company in Whiteville for many years. During the 1970's he was owner and operator of Country Club Gas and Grocery.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4 at Worthington Funeral Home in Chadbourne. Final rites will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5 at the funeral home with Revs. Donald Conway and Chris Yarusinsky officiating. Interment will be in Whiteville Memorial Cemetery.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 62 years, Nancy Carroll Fipps Duncan of the home; one daughter, Vickie Duncan Harrelson (Jimmy) of Whiteville; one son, Kenneth Arvell Duncan of Madison, Ohio; three brothers, Grady Duncan (Martha) of Chadbourne, Richard Johnson (Carolyn) of Tabor City and Ronnie Johnson (Carolyn) of Gaston, S.C.; three sisters, Dorothy D. Borino of Chadbourne, Willa Dean D. Boyd of Mebane (James) and Carrie J. Rising (Jack) of Whiteville; three grandchildren, Veronica Tyle (Brian), Erin Harrelson and Kelli Anne Duncan; and three great-grandchildren, Elizabeth Tyle, John Arena and Nicolas Arena.

BEMC seeks community grant applications

Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) invites local agencies and groups to apply for a 2016 BEMC Community Grant. Begun in 2003, the program provides grants up to \$2,500 to local groups that provide family services programs, civic and community programs, cultural and arts programs, emergency services, and community development activities. The deadline to apply is Feb. 15.

Last year, 34 projects were selected from a field of more than 50 applicants to receive funding totaling about \$50,870 for projects in Brunswick and Columbus counties. Funding for these grants comes directly from proceeds from the equipment auction held at BEMC's annual membership meeting each September.

"These grants are used to help people of all ages in our communities; children and young families as well as those dealing with health issues, the homeless, and of course, our senior citizens," said Don Hughes, CEO and General Manager of BEMC. Since inception, more than \$410,000 in Community Grants has helped hundreds of projects benefiting citizens throughout the BEMC service area.

"This program is a very visible part of the co-op's ongoing commitment to community. It supplements our Bright Ideas educational grants for teachers, the Warm Homes, Warm Hearts community heating assistance campaign, and our participation in many other community efforts and events," said Hughes. "BEMC Community Grants are another way we can extend a helping hand to local community groups."

To learn more and how to apply visit www.bemc.org or call (800) 842-5871.

DEATH NOTICE



ORAL KENNY ARNETT CLARKTON -- Oral Kenny Arnett, 70, died Monday, Feb. 1, 2016 at home with his family by his side. He was born July 20, 1945 in Exeter, Calif., the son of Oleta E. Arnett and the late Hargle Arnett.

He was owner and operator of his own security firm and was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He attended Pentecostal Freewill Baptist Church in Clarkton.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 5 at Clarkton Cemetery with Rev. Charlie Tatum officiating. Peacock Funeral Home of Whiteville is handling the arrangements.

He is survived by his wife, Linda G. Arnett of the home; his mother, Oleta D. Arnett of Stockton, Calif.; two sons, Ricky D. Arnett and wife, Cathy, of Clarkton, Ken Arnett and wife, Octavia, of Redman, Ore; one daughter, Penny Sarafin and husband, Joe, of Stockton, Calif.; three brothers, Paul Arnett and wife, Shirley, of Griffin, Ga., David Arnett and wife, Ester, of N.V., Steve Arnett and wife, Lori, of Stockton, Calif.; one sister, Arlene of Washington; and eight grandchildren, Courtney Sarafin, Hannah Arnett, Chanss Arnett, Jessica Dart, Steven Arnett, Corey Sarafin, Joey Sarafin, Jennifer Sarafin.

Online condolences may be made at www.peacockfuneralhome.net.

SEAN DARCINA NIXON RHODA

HALLSBORO -- Sean Darcina Nixon Rhoda, 18-month-old-son of Shaniqua Bellamy and Gary Rhoda Jr., died Friday, Jan. 29, 2016 at Columbus Regional Healthcare in Whiteville.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5 at Second Saint Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 1900 Cherry Town Road. Burial will be in Hallsboro Memorial Park. Viewing will be held from noon-7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4 at Peoples Funeral Home of Whiteville and Friday, Feb. 5 following the service at the church.

Surviving, in addition to his parents, are two brothers, Urijah Rhoda and Abijah Rhoda, both of Dublin; two sisters, Emily Martinez and Tinyauh Rhoda, both of Elizabethtown; maternal grandmother, Barbara Harper of Hallsboro; and paternal grandparents, Gary and Arlisha Rhoda of Elizabethtown.

Friends may visit the family at 3298 Sam Potts Highway, Hallsboro.

DORIS STANLEY

WHITEVILLE -- Doris Stanley, 80, died Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016.

Arrangements will be announced by McKenzie Mortuary.

JOSEPH WILKINS JR.

WHITEVILLE -- Joseph Wilkins Jr., formerly of Delco, died Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016.

Arrangements will be announced by McKenzie Mortuary.

DEATH NOTICE

ELIZABETH ANNE HOPE FUQUAY VARINA -- Elizabeth Anne Hope, 65, passed away Monday, Feb. 1, 2016 at her home. She was born Jan. 24, 1951 in Rockingham, to Harry and Lois (Watson) Hope.

Anne was preceded in death by her father, Harry Anderson Hope Jr.

Throughout her life, Anne brought much joy, love, and happiness to all who knew her. She enjoyed music, the mountains, the coast of N.C., WWE Wrestling, and her beloved Cockatiel of 22 years, Olivia.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4 at Brown-Wynne Funeral Home 200 SE Maynard Road, Cary.

Anne is survived by her mother, Lois of Fuquay Varina; her sisters, Karen Hope Chapman (and husband, Tom Chapman) of Atlanta, Ga. and Emily Hope of Fuquay Varina; her aunt, Geraldine Lee (and husband, Gene); and uncles, Donald Hope (and wife, Carmen) and Paul Price.

The family requests that memorial contributions, in memory of Elizabeth Anne Hope, be made to the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, CB#7295 UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599-7295.

DE'SHAUN LAMAR DAVID ELIZABETHTOWN

De'Shaun Lamar David, 7, died Friday, Jan. 29, 2016 at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

Final rites will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at Round Branch Baptist Church, Bladenboro. Burial will be in the church cemetery. There will be no viewing. D&A Funeral Service of Chadbourne is handling the arrangements.

He is survived by his mother, Charity Alford; his father, James David Jr.; one sister, Meriah Waddell; maternal grandmother, Jacqueline Alford; paternal grandmother, Lettissa Graham; and paternal grandfather, James David Sr.

Friends may visit the family at 117 McAdams Dr. #16, Elizabethtown.

PATRICIA ANN GORE

WHITEVILLE -- Patricia Ann Gore, 79, died Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016 at Columbus Regional Healthcare.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at Mill Branch Missionary Baptist Church, 645 Harrelsonville Road, Whiteville. Burial will be in Cherry Grove Cemetery. Viewing will be held from noon-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5 at Peoples Funeral Home of Whiteville and Saturday, Feb. 6 following the service at the church.

Surviving are four daughters, Sandra Gore, Judia Gore and Patsy Brown, all of Whiteville and Gloria Davis of Baltimore, Md.; two sons, Larry Gore of Fayetteville and Dany Gore of Whiteville; and two sisters, Willie Gray Gore of Whiteville and Ludella Holland of Baltimore, Md.

Friends may visit the family at 711 Bitmore Road, Whiteville.

ANNIE THURMAN

HALLSBORO -- Annie Thurman, 80, died Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice and LifeCare Center in Whiteville.

Arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral Home of Whiteville.

Friends may visit the family at the home of Joanne Williams, 99 Thurman Road.

ROBERT LONZA BROWN CHADBOURN -- Robert Lonza Brown, 58, died Friday, Jan. 29, 2016 in Charlotte.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at Zion Wall Freewill Baptist Church, 415 West Institute Street, Chadbourne. Burial, with military honors, will be in Belvue Cemetery. Viewing will be at held from noon-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5 at Peoples Funeral Home of Whiteville and Saturday, Feb. 6 one hour prior to and following the service at the church.

Surviving are his wife, Annie W. Brown; one son, Robert Lonza Brown Jr. of Charlotte; one daughter, Maeshawn Brown of Raleigh; his mother, Aleese Brown of Chadbourne; three sisters, Evelyn Brisbon and Emily Williams, both of Chadbourne and Mary Hardie of Durham; and one brother, Henry Charles Brown of Chadbourne.

DIANE MERRITT FAULK

TABOR CITY -- Diane Merritt Faulk, 62, died at McLeod Regional Hospital in Florence, S.C. Born April 15, 1953 in Horry County, she was the daughter of the late Luther Merritt and Betty Ruth Floyd Merritt. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by three brothers, Jimmy Merritt, Kenneth Merritt and Lacy Merritt.

No services will be held. Inman Ward Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

She is survived by two daughters, Crystal Williams of Whiteville and Cindy Mishoe of Tabor City; three sisters, Frances Ward of Loris, S.C., Betty Ruth James of Tabor City and Linda Nelson of Clarksville, Fla.; four grandsons; and one great-grandson.

JOHNNY RAY DAVIS WHITEVILLE -- Johnny Ray Davis, 58, died, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice and LifeCare Center. He was the son of the late Stencil R. Davis.

He was a veteran serving in the U.S. Air Force.

Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Worthington Funeral Home in Chadbourne.

He is survived by his wife, Cynthia Russ Davis of the home; one son, John Bradley Davis of the home; his mother, Annette Thompson Davis of Whiteville; three siblings, Shirley D. Callahan and Daniel Jeff Davis, both of Whiteville and Juanita M. Coulson of Sunset Beach.

ERNEST WAYNE WILLIAMSON

CHADBOURN -- Ernest Wayne Williamson, 57, died Sunday, Jan. 31, 2016 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice and LifeCare Center in Whiteville. He was preceded in death by his father, Horace Mitchell Williamson; and a sister, Carol Lynn Hunt.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at Williamsons Crossroads Baptist Church with Rev. Carroll Fonvielle officiating. Worthington Funeral Home in Chadbourne is handling the arrangements.

He is survived by his wife, Terry Ann Pridgen of the home; two daughters, Mandy Melissa Edge Cook and Maya Michelle Mayes, both of Georgia; his mother, Defean Barnes Williamson of Evergreen; siblings, Horace Williamson of Boardman, Patty W. Nance and Harvey Williamson, both of Harveygreen; and seven grandchildren.

Challenge to internet age More than half of consumers in South prefer info over the phone

Despite the impact of the digital revolution, more than half of consumers in America's South prefer to receive information over the phone rather than going online, research has revealed.

The study of 2,234 U.S. respondents, conducted by audio branding specialist PH Media Group, found 51 per cent of people in the region favor the phone when searching for basic information on a company, such as opening hours or details of products and services.

The result might come as a surprise, given Americans spend an average of 11 hours each day using electronic media, but older generations are particularly fond of the phone.

Across the U.S., 57 per cent of 55 to 64-year-olds and 53 per cent of 45 to 54-year-olds prefer calling over using the internet, compared to less than half of 35 to 44-year-olds (49 per cent), 25 to 35-year-olds (45 per cent) and 18 to 24-year-olds (42 per cent).

"Although we have entered a digital age, the results of this study suggest people still prefer the reassurance of being able to pick up the phone to receive a direct answer to queries they have about a particular business," said Mark Williamson, sales and marketing director for PH Media Group. "As such, it provides a clear message to businesses in the South that they should not neglect traditional methods of communication. Large

amounts of budget are devoted to ensuring websites are eye-catching, responsive and provide a positive user experience but call handling practice must also meet the same standards.

"At a basic level this means ensuring the staff is properly trained on how to answer calls but it also means carefully controlling all voice and music customers hear while on the phone. It is important to ensure all audio is brand congruent, reinforcing desired company values."

Further results revealed more than two-fifths of consumers (42 per cent) in the South prefer to receive information quickly via an on-hold message rather than speaking to a customer service advisor.

This trend is particularly strong among younger generations. Almost half of 18 to 34-year-olds (49 per cent) in America prefer to receive information via an on-hold message, compared to 32 per cent of people aged over 35.

"Traditionally, being left on hold is perceived as an irritation for consumers but these results suggest it can actually become a positive if managed correctly," Mark added.

"By implementing solutions such as on-hold marketing, companies can turn previously 'dead air' into a valuable opportunity for communicating key information to customers while they wait on the line."

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County

Continued from page 1-A

Schools

Commissioners unanimously declined a request from the Columbus County Board of Education that the county pay 75 percent of the costs of a \$26,500 school construction and consolidation feasibility study of possibly consolidating some county schools. Instead, they agreed to pay 50 percent of the costs, as they had agreed to do several months ago. At the time, it was thought that Whiteville City Schools also would participate and, like the county school system, absorb 25 percent of the costs. However, the city school system has since decided not to take part.

The county board of education had agreed to pay \$6,625, or 25 percent, of the costs of the study. Following Monday's action, the county will pay only \$13,250 of the remaining balance. The Columbus County School Board will have to pay the remaining \$13,250.

Commissioner James Prevatte's motion, seconded by Edwin Russ, to pay for only 50 percent of the cost of the study, passed unanimously.

Land use board

Following another public hearing, commissioners unanimously and with no discussion amended the county's land use ordinance to change the membership of the board of adjustment from five voting members with two rotating non-voting members to seven voting members.

County Finance Director Bobbie Faircloth gave an annual departmental update to the board showing her department had been able to accomplish its goals of refinancing water district debt at lower interest rates, eliminating water district taxes, and completely paying off other debts like construction of Social Services and Farm Services buildings, as well as lease payments on vehicles.

"In a comparison of the first six months of last fiscal year to the first six months of this fiscal year, we have seen a one percent increase in revenues and a two percent decrease in expenses," Faircloth said. "The departments are doing a wonderful job of monitoring their budgets."

Shotguns to officers

Commissioners approved a request by Sheriff Lewis Hatcher to sell 55 surplus shotguns to the officers who currently use them for \$100 each. Hatcher said that rifles are now favored over shotguns in police work and that he had checked with weapons brokers and manufacturers who said they would be willing to pay \$40 each for the shotguns. However, he said his officers also had indicated a desire to purchase the weapons themselves and would be willing to pay \$100 each.

"I'm asking board approval to let my officers buy the shotguns for \$100 a piece and take the money and use it to help replace these shotguns with rifles," Hatcher said. Only officers currently active would be able to buy the shotguns, Hatcher said. The motion to authorize Hatcher's request was entered by Prevatte, seconded by Trent Burroughs and passed unanimously.

Lottery

In the commissioners' comments portion of the meeting, Prevatte expressed concern about how proceeds from the N.C. Education Lottery are being distributed. "The education lottery is not an education lottery anymore," Prevatte said. He said that when the lottery originally was established, 60 percent of its proceeds was to go to education, with at least 40 percent of that earmarked for school construction. "Now only 26 percent goes to education," Prevatte said, "and 58 percent of that is earmarked for support personnel and only 19 percent is for school construction." Prevatte wants Columbus and other counties to lobby the legislature to change the way lottery proceeds are distributed to benefit schools more.

Home health

When Chairman Byrd's time came to comment, he



Camron Shodja, president of Shodja Textiles/Whiteville Fabrics, addresses county commissioners during a public hearing Monday on an economic development grant for the company.

said a question arose last week about the board agenda. "I'll never try to control what's on our agenda," Byrd said. "A question came up about the hospital and the home health department and I volunteered to speak with Mrs. Carla Hollis (Columbus Regional Healthcare CEO) and I called Trent (Burroughs, another county commission appointee to the hospital advisory board) and ran it by him and we agreed let's bring it up at the hospital meeting, which we did Thursday. I told them our board was interested in knowing the direction we're going in. Mrs. Hollis assured us they'll have a recommendation to us by our first meeting in March, so that's why I took it off as a line item."

Commissioner Ricky Bullard replied, "I was the one asking questions. I accept not to push it, but county policy states that any time a commissioner asks for an item to be on the agenda, it will be on the agenda if requested in time to place it."

In other commissioners' comments, Russ observed that the board should ask Clerk June Hall to draft a resolution recognizing the Veterans of Foreign Wars on their upcoming 70th anniversary local observance on Feb. 13. The board unanimously agreed that Hall would draft such a document and that board members would sign it in time for it to be presented to the VFW prior to a 70th anniversary ceremony at 10 a.m.

Commissioner Amon McKenzie praised the departmental report given by finance director Bobbie Faircloth.

Commissioner Charles McDowell asked County Attorney Mike Stephens to inquire about whether other counties are restricting the use of drone aircraft. "I had a concern expressed in my district about drones hovering over other people's property," McDowell said.

Commissioner Trent Burroughs said that he and Byrd recently had attended a meeting of the Southeastern Partnership where they heard a prediction that manufacturing is "coming back." Byrd added, "China now says it's cheaper to make products over here than it is to make it over there and then ship it over here."

Byrd also announced that an unnamed group will be getting together and try to bring in federal help for area farmers. He said a meeting will be held at West Columbus High School, but the date and time still haven't been set.

In other business the board unanimously passed a resolution supporting passage of the Connect NC Bond referendum and postponed hearing an update on the county's em-



Sheriff Lewis Hatcher asks county commissioners for authority to sell 55 surplus shotguns Monday night.



Commissioner James Prevatte expresses concerns about state lottery funds and the managed care organization Eastpointe, which provides mental health services in the county.

ployee wellness program from Doctor's Director Healthcare because the presenter could not be present Monday.

Shelter

Continued from page 3-A

for animal adoption Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The shelter maintains a Facebook page highlighting all of its dogs and puppies (<https://www.facebook.com/ccacdogs/?ref=hl>) and also one for its cats and kittens (<https://www.facebook.com/Urgent-Cats-of-CCAC-Whiteville-North-Carolina-296428980416840/?fref=ts>). The shelter's phone number is 910-641-3945.

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Gray

Continued from page 1-A

to help them be better prepared for possible selection as county executive. This added duty required him to travel all over the nation.

The Columbus County office is one of the top four or five Farm Service Agencies in the number farms it services in the state.

Columbus County's Farm Service Agency was formerly known as the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), and was best known as the agency that granted tobacco allotments. A committee granted the allotments, but overseeing and record keeping of the regulated tobacco plantings were big parts of the FSA's duties. This oversight of any agriculture commodity grown in the county was the FSA's - and ultimately Gray's - responsibility.

"We had a lot of small tobacco allotments," Gray says, which required as much attention as did large tobacco acreages.

Probably every piece of land that was farmed had a tobacco allotment. Farm values were in large part determined by the number of acres (later pounds) of tobacco the farmer was allowed to grow. One farmer in Brunswick County tells of finding a 100-acre farm for sale at an attractive price, and visiting a banker to arrange financing. The first question the banker asked, "How much tobacco (quota) is on it?" When the farmer replied, "none," the banker immediately ended the interview.

The tobacco allotment system was still in effect in 1984 when Gray took over the Whiteville office. He was no stranger to the complications involved in tobacco sales; his family owned Columbus County Tobacco Warehouse.

He says that after only a short period in his new position, he realized he was in charge of an office with knowledgeable and compe-

tent workers.

"I got great employees when I got here and continued to have a great staff," he says of the FSA office workers. "They were doing a good job. They had been doing a good job for a long time."

Gray spent 32 years of his 35-1/2-year career with USDA in Columbus County, his native county. His stay as county executive gave him an overall view of how agriculture was changing in Columbus County.

"Probably one of the biggest things (changes) is that farms got bigger and the use of modernized machinery," he says. "When I first came, we had about 4,000 farms and about 2,000 farmers."

Now, there are fewer people who actually farm full time. Many have full-time jobs elsewhere and, thanks to improved agricultural chemicals and more efficient machinery that have greatly reduced hand labor, these "part-time" farmers can successfully tend large acreages.

Gray pointed out that in the days when tobacco was an allotted crop, local FSA offices were responsible for verifying that the growers' tobacco fields were no larger than the allotments allowed. Each field had to be measured on the ground.

"It was a favorite summer job for school teachers," he said.

As an example of the progress made in the way FSA did business in earlier days when tobacco was the big money-maker for farmers, the sizes of tobacco fields before the quota system was done away with were determined from actual measurements of the field. Now, the information is obtained from aerial photographs in the FSA offices.

Gray says the staff learned to distinguish different crops from looking at the photographs.

Gray's office keeps records of yields for all commercial crops grown in the

county, generating information about the amounts of commodities, a valuable service for large livestock feed and farm chemical companies. The information is also used by the USDA to ensure that a sufficient amount of each commodity is available.

"Our whole purpose is to be sure there is an abundant supply of food and fiber produced," Gray says.

He was part of a local team that estimated the yields expected from different crops grown in the county. The local estimates became part of the state's total expected harvests of each commodity.

Record-keeping was the heart of the FSA's reason for being.

"Maintaining farm records is a big part of our work," Gray says.

These days, Gray is no longer keeping count of the number of bushels of corn and other farm commodities produced in Columbus County, but his interest in agriculture continues.

He owns a general farm and has some rental property, and the outdoors is beckoning him. His free time is spent hunting and fishing, and he spends any left over free time on his hobby of taxidermy.

He is just getting settled to the retired life, and he looks back with fondness at his years as the USDA's man in Columbus County.

"It's been a great job, a great career."

And now he finds himself free to engage in his favorite outdoor pastimes, hunting and fishing.

"I'm looking forward to it," he says.

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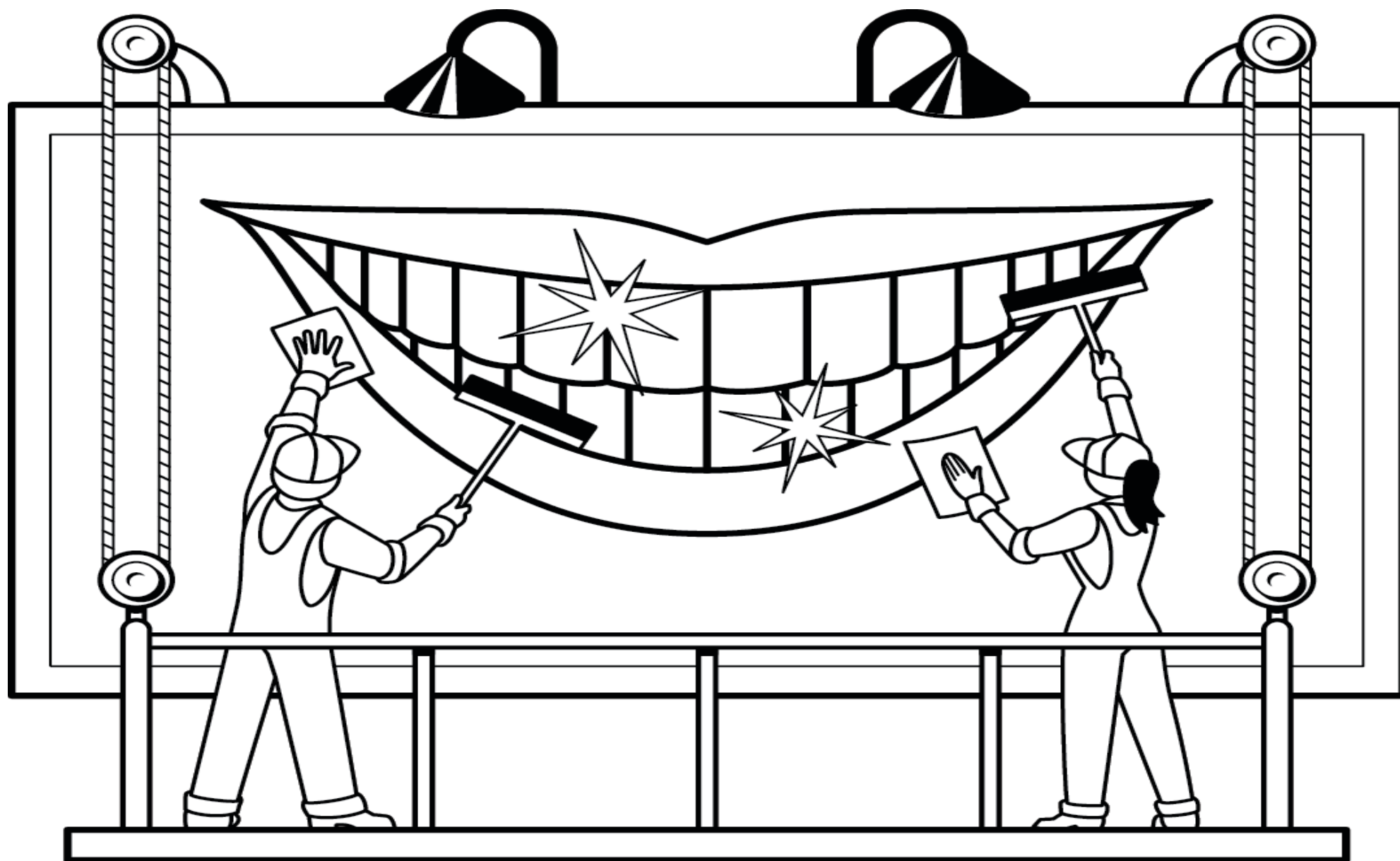
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Editorials

The News Reporter, Thursday, February 4, 2016

Commissioners should chip in more for school facility study

The Columbus County Board of Commissioners voted Monday to pay for half the cost of a school construction feasibility study for Columbus County Schools. The school board had asked commissioners to consider paying for 75 percent of the cost of a \$26,500 study that Szostak Design of Chapel Hill is putting together.

Originally, the commissioners agreed to pay half of the cost. The original plan included Whiteville City Schools paying for 25 percent of the cost and being part of the study. The city schools opted out.

The county schools must come up with the extra \$6,625.

In recent weeks commissioners have toured the aging schools in the county – some of which have outdoor bathrooms with no heat and no hot running water, sagging floors that squeak with every step and crumbling facilities that are 90 or more years old.

The willingness to see the conditions firsthand was a step in the right direction. Agreeing to participate in the cost of a study was also a step in the right direction. Monday's vote wasn't a step in the right direction.

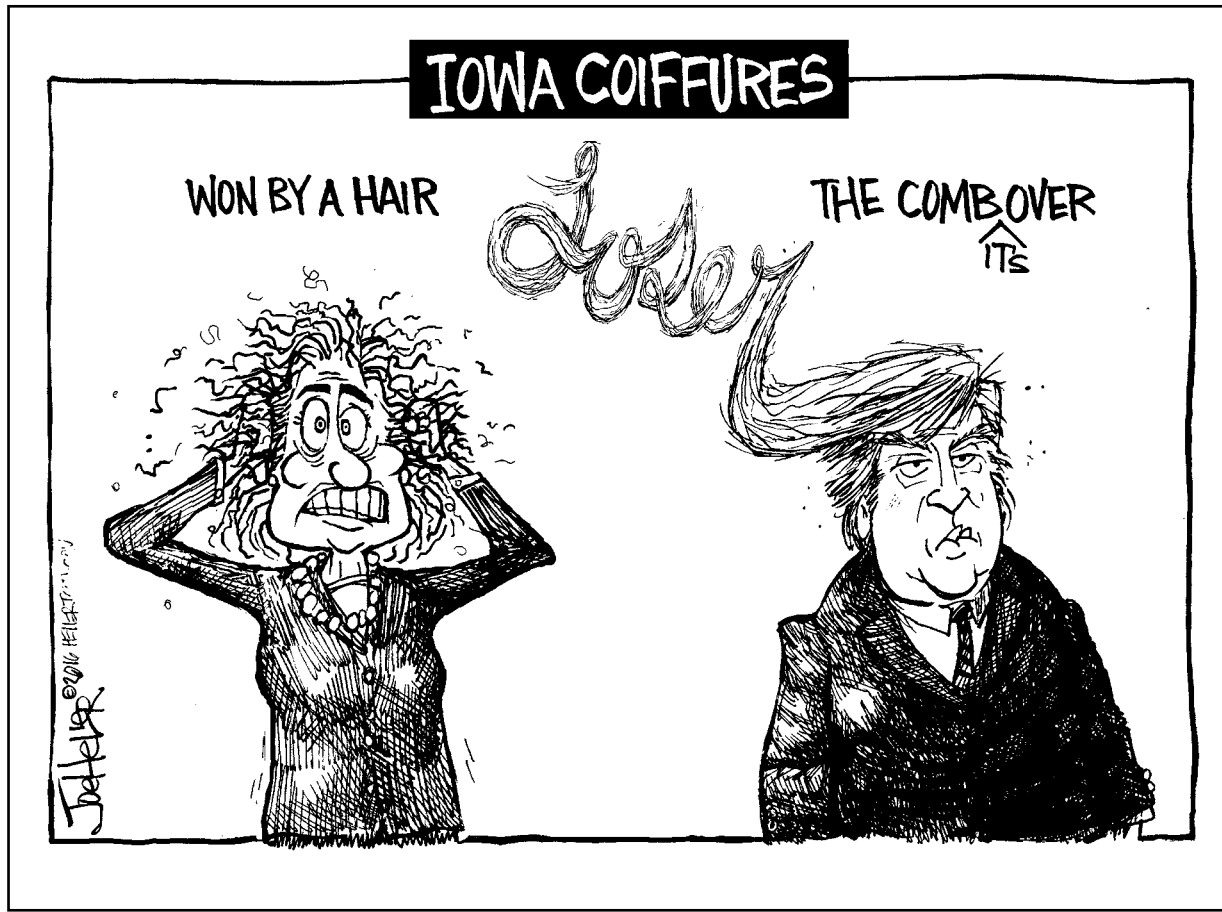
It is puzzling why commissioners would not see fit to appropriate an extra \$6,625 to a plan that is desperately needed.

The \$6,625 is a fraction of a percent of the county's more than \$70 million budget. The county may be facing more than \$180 million in school building capital needs. Some schools are nearly 95 years old.

The extra \$6,625 the school board asked for commissioners to appropriate is money that would be well spent. Informed decisions make for better decisions.

Ironically, it was on the same night that the board was told expenses were down and revenue up for the county. Social Services and Farm Services Agency buildings are now paid for and certain vehicle leases paid off.

School construction funding is the responsibility of the board of commissioners under state law but it is a shame that on some decisions, like this one, the board wasn't compelled to chip in the extra funds.



Ramblin' with Ann

By ANN WORTHINGTON

A few days ago, my husband came slipping into our home, hands behind his back and said, "Give me a hug, and I will give you this."

Since I like giving him hugs, it didn't take me long to grant his wish, and he pulled out a beautiful box of candy.

How sweet and a nice surprise. Of course, it was heart-shaped, and that made the occasion even more special.

I thought about the ways I have seen Valentine's Day celebrated.

I thought about the years my husband was a member of the Lions Club that met in Whiteville for many years.

The club always honored their wives with an evening of dining on a delicious meal and a wonderful evening of entertainment.

Most of the time, we were presented with a gift for Valentine's Day.

What a joyful time of fun and laughter and getting to spend time with the club members and their spouses.

I thought about the many years I worked with beautiful little students at Whiteville Primary School and all the exciting activities we enjoyed.

One of them was the preparation we would make to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Most of our valentines were hand-made from red and white construction paper, glue and the use of scissors.

We decorated the room with hearts, and the best part was when our grade parents came and gave us a fabulous Valentine's Day party.

Wow, we were happy. I remember when I was in grade school, students could buy valentines and slip them into pockets we had made to receive a card from anyone who wanted to give us a card.

If a young boy was sweet on a girl, he would even slip a piece of candy in her pocket.

Thinking about all the ways we show our love at Valentine's Day, I wondered what if we showed our love to others every day.

Just a kind word and a friendly word of encouragement to someone might not take a lot of our time, but perhaps it would mean so much to someone hurting that we are not aware of.

So, my reader friends, join with me to tell someone you love them every day and get that warm, cozy feeling that I do.

Until next time, don't forget God loves you, and so do I.

Public opinion

Good deeds, proud manager

Wow ... that is all I can say about the citizens of Whiteville and Columbus County. Recently, my wife and I went to the Food Lion on the north end of Whiteville. We were on the way home and turned in at Walgreens to look for a movie. As I turned in, I heard a tremendous noise. I knew by the sound it was an accident. As I turned in, there were a few vehicles in the parking lot and I could not see what happened. As I got into the parking lot, I saw a car on its side at the corner of J.K. Powell and Washington Streets, smoke was everywhere.

The smoke was actually coming from the airbags that had deployed but at the time, no one was thinking of that. Everyone was concentrating on getting the people out of the vehicle.

My wife said, "Go see if you can help." I immediately opened the door, saw a light, which was the headlight and thought the car was about to catch on fire. Obviously others did too. I saw at least 7 or 8 men literally running to the car. I got to the vehicle and they had al-

ready started rocking the vehicle. There were men lined up along the vehicle, the length of the vehicle.

They rocked it twice and it fell over on its wheels. One gentleman stated, "We got to get the door open." There was a small crack and he grabbed the door and folded it back – not a little, but folded it back.

Several people reached in got the driver out. I was looking in the back seat for any passengers. I ran over to the passenger side to help get the passenger out. A couple of folks had the passenger out and had begun talking to him. I asked if he was okay. I went back around to check the car again and the same gentleman who opened the door said, "Turn the car off". I reached up under the steering wheel and turned the motor off. It was still running. I asked if anyone had called 911. One lady stated she had them on the phone.

I looked around and people were coming from every direction to see if they could help. I saw people gathered around each person in the accident consoling them and making calls to family members. It was amazing. By this time, help was coming. I could hear the sweet sound of sirens

from the City of Whiteville Fire Department, City of Whiteville Police Department and the Whiteville Rescue Unit coming. Sheriff Deputies happened to come by and stopped as well. As all the departments were coming to the rescue, the gentleman who opened the vehicle door came up to me and said, "Y'all got this, I am gone".

He ran off into the dark ... gone. I do not know who he was, but to him and to all the others who helped, called and consoled victims. Thank You.

I am very proud to live in a city and county that has such great people. What makes me the most thankful and very humble, is that the mayor and city council have given me an opportunity to be the manager of a city with such great people. With no thought of danger to themselves, everyone involved jumped and ran to the aid of someone they will probably never meet and may never see again. That deserves a thank you. Each of you knows who you are and above all, the Lord God knows who you are and good deeds will not be forgotten.

Darren Currie
Whiteville City manager

Volunteer Viewpoint: Advice for jobseekers

By MELODY PREVATTE
Volunteer Services Director

Need advice on how to get a job? Get volunteer experience. A 2013 study, "Volunteering as a Pathway to Employment: Does Volunteering Increase Odds of Finding a Job for the Out of Work?" found that individuals who volunteer have a 27 percent higher chance of being employed than non-volunteers.

This is true regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, geographical area or job market conditions. Additionally, the study also found that "volunteers without a high school diploma have a 51 percent higher likelihood of finding em-

ployment than non-volunteers without a diploma. Among rural volunteers, the likelihood increases to 55 percent."

The report goes on to reflect that volunteers are more likely to be employed a year before non-volunteers. Volunteering develops skills, expands professional contacts, and creates a positive impression, all of which are important in a competitive job market. The full research article can be found at http://www.nationalservice.gov/sites/default/files/upload/employment_research_report.pdf.

One of the challenges Columbus County RSVP staff face is

the hiring of our volunteers. Our volunteers are dedicated, passionate, on-time, excited about their jobs, have knowledge, possess life-experiences, and bring customers into the agency where they are assigned. Volunteers speak passionately about their service. This communication encourages others to get involved. Can you think of one employer who doesn't want these characteristics in an employee? We can't.

Everyone has something to offer. Everyone has time or talents from which other individuals will benefit. Everyone has

Continued on next page

Commentary

Limericks by Bob Aldrich

Does the Flint populous have recourse,
For rules EPA failed to enforce?
Just the taste and the smell
Should be enough to tell
The Flint River's a bad water source.

The equal opportunity grants
Assure needy students have a chance
But nobody condones
Welshing on student loans
With bad faith guarantees in advance.

The gold mask of King Tut was defaced
When the beard, keepers broke, was replaced.
Their glued patch didn't match
When attached left a scratch
Egypt's museum board was disgraced.

Thumbs up

• To the various people, passers-by and strangers who came to the aid of those involved in recent a car wreck in Whiteville.

• To Noah's Ark Rescue and Lisa Saunders and Charlene and Stan Bush. Thanks to their efforts, Josh, a three-legged dog has a new home and extended life.

• To the many people who turned out to donate blood at Old Dock/Cypress Creek Fire Department and Whiteville United Methodist Church recently.



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

NASCAR Hall of Fame brings memories

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer

I haven't been to a NASCAR race in more than 20 years, and I don't follow the sport as closely as I used to, especially as closely as I did as a teenager. But since 2010, when they first started inducting members into the NASCAR Hall of Fame, every January I have memories of what were some heady times for me as a teenager.

My freshman and sophomore years in high school, I worked during race weeks in the press department of Darlington International Raceway. Well, actually, I only worked race weekends for the spring race, which was called the "Rebel 300" (later a 400-mile run), because I was in school during the week. However, I got to work the entire week for the Labor Day Race, the Southern 500.

I was only a glorified gofer, but the programs for the four races at which I worked listed me as "Assistant Director of Public Relations" for the racetrack. I worked for nothing, of course. Nothing, that is, but the privilege of getting to meet lots of famous folks and getting to mingle with many of them.

Way back when, a race and the preparations for it constituted a nearly week-long series of events. While qualifying now is accomplished in a day, maybe two, back then the time trials stretched over several days. And the racetrack and the corporate sponsors of championship racing back in those days (companies like Pure Gasoline, B.F. Goodrich Tires, and others) took it on themselves to make sure the drivers from out of town were entertained and fed free of charge the entire

week. There was a social event every night, and those dinners were almost always at the old Florence Country Club.

They always brought in celebrities for the race, and those celebrities also attended the pre-race social events. One of the perks of my unpaid job was that I got to attend those dinners and, as such, got to meet (and be photographed with) such people as retired baseball great Dizzy Dean, and Milburn Stone and Ken Curtis, better known as "Doc" and "Festus" of the old television show "Gunsmoke." I got to meet Jim McKay of ABC's "Wild World of Sports" and Peter DePalo, who was the first race car driver to ever win an Indianapolis 500 at an average speed of greater than 100 mph.

But it was getting to meet and rub elbows and socialize with those stock car drivers, some of them famous and many others unsuccessfully seeking fame, that I enjoyed most.

That's why I always take an interest when the NASCAR Hall of Fame inducts five new members each year, something they've been doing since 2010. So far, there's been at least one inductee each year that I knew or at least had a passing acquaintance with so many years ago.

When they first started inducting folks into the Hall in 2010, there were two such people, both of whose names you'll recognize. Junior Johnson was a racing legend, and Richard Petty had long ago been nicknamed "The King."

I never spent much time with Junior Johnson, although he was at those dinners I attended. I spent a little time with Richard Petty. In my 15- and 16-year-

old mind, he was already a legend (although I don't think they were calling him "The King" yet). He had won a bunch of races, though. Today, he isn't that much older than me, relatively speaking, but then he was.

He was only in his late 20s, 12 years older than I, when he posed with me for a picture after winning one of the races I worked in Darlington.

The second year of the Hall of Fame, they inducted three people with whom I'd had some personal dealings. I had attended those social events with all three – David Pearson, Bobby Allison and Ned Jarrett – but Ned Jarrett was some kind of special.

He took me under his wing after he saw me in the pits and garage area during time trials, or qualifying. He kept other drivers and their crew members from pulling pranks on me that they were itching to pull. Ned Jarrett, who is the father of another Hall of Fame member, Dale Jarrett, is still living in Hickory.

He is an absolute gentleman and one of the finest and nicest people I've ever met.

When the third class was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2012, the only inductee I'd had more than just passing dealings with was Cale Yarborough from Timmonsville, S.C. His racing career was just getting started when I was working at Darlington. I didn't know him very well, although we did meet at some of those dinners.

My main connection with Yarborough, though, is that I was taken to the infield hospital as a result of an accident during one of the races.

It was during the spring race one year that Yarborough's car somehow ended up on its roof, upside down, on the guardrail in the first and second turns.

It stayed on the guardrail for a bit, but finally went over and outside the track.

I worked in the press office on the ground beneath the first turn pressbox (didn't get to watch the races except for the first couple of laps) and when I stepped outside after Yarborough's car left the racetrack, an ambulance trying to reach him couldn't get past because of a piece of debris from his car that was blocking the

road. I reached down and grabbed it to pull it out of the way and it was hot! So hot that I got second degree burns on my hands, and they insisted that I go to the infield care center. Yarborough wasn't hurt in the wreck, and I'm told I was the only person they treated in the infield hospital that day.

The late Buck Baker was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2013, and I first met him (and got his autograph) before I started working at the racetrack. Later, I enjoyed going to those dinners and seeing him sitting at the next table.

Among the 2014 inductees were the late Glenn "Fireball" Roberts and Dale Jarrett, son of the aforementioned Ned Jarrett.

Fireball Roberts died from burns sustained in a racing accident before I started working at the race track, but I did meet him at the last Darlington race in which he competed before he was killed. I don't know what it's like today, but way back then they opened the pits to the public following each race and all the drivers stuck around to meet their fans and sign autographs. My Fireball Roberts autograph was a treasured page in my autograph book. Dale Jarrett, of course, came along long after I had worked at the track. He's many, many years younger than me. But I did deal with

him a few years ago as a member of the media. He's not quite the gentleman his dad is, but nobody is.

Fred Lorenzen and Rex White were the 2015 inductees into the Hall of Fame. White stopped competing the year before I started working at the track, but I met him in the pits the previous year and got his autograph. Fred Lorenzen was still competing during my days as a gofer in the press department and got to spend some time with him.

I was sure that when they inducted the most recent class into the Hall of Fame last month that my stretch of having known one of the inductees probably had come to an end, because it had been more than 50 years since I had hung out at the track.

But there was an inductee this year who I did know so many years ago, the late Curtis Turner (no relation, I assure you). I kind of steered clear of Curtis Turner, even when I didn't have to, because I was scared of him. He was a gruff and brusque sort of fellow, and I shied away from him. Others who knew him well told me that he was a really nice guy.

I'll be surprised if anyone with whom I've had any connection is inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame next year, but you never know. After all, I was surprised this year.



Volunteer

Continued from page 10-A

something to give back to the community. As little as one hour a week can help a child increase their reading skills. As little as 45 minutes a week can demonstrate a healthy adult role model resulting in children increasing their good

decision making skills. Just an hour a week visiting with a homebound senior citizen can make the difference of that individual living safely in their own home or being confined to a long-term care facility.

Columbus County RSVP

has a variety of volunteer assignments requiring different amounts of time and we can be flexible in scheduling your hours.

Together we can find the right schedule and volunteer opportunity for your time and

talents. To learn more about volunteering opportunities and how to these opportunities can help jobseekers, contact the RSVP Office by calling 910-642-7141, extension 294, or via email at Melody.Prevatte@scnc.edu.

Whiteville City Schools Summer Food Service Program 2016

Participant Training: Scheduled as needed at Whiteville City Schools
107 West Walter Street, Whiteville, NC.
Contact Kathryn Faulk/Jamesie Gentry at 910 642-4116

Dates: Monday-Thursday - June 13-August 26, 2016

Times: Whiteville High School Cafeteria: Breakfast 9-9:30 a.m.

Lunch: 12:00-1:00 p.m. and TBD for off-site sponsored activities

Location: Whiteville High School cafeteria and community sponsored activity
Locations throughout Columbus County (food must be picked up at WHS Cafeteria) Available to: Children between the ages of one year and 18 years of age who are participating in a summer academic and/or enrichment program or who walk into cafeteria during meal service times.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and/or snack: nutritionally balanced meals are served at no cost to children between the ages of one year and 18 years of age at approved SFSP sites.

Potential Summer Food Service Sites:

1. Whiteville High & Edgewood Elementary School Cafeterias
2. School sponsored academic programs
3. Recreational programs
4. Community summer enrichment
5. School sponsored enrichment programs
6. Bible schools

Age Requirements:

~ All children between the ages of one year and 18 years of age who go to an approved open site or who go to an eligible enrolled site during meal service times.

Site Supervisor Training:

~ Two hour training sessions offered on multiple dates, locations and ongoing throughout the SFSP operation dates TBD.

School Nutrition Services Kathryn A. Faulk, Director
107 West Walter Street, Whiteville, NC 28472 Telephone: 910-642-4116



Southeastern Partnership holds annual meeting in Whiteville

Keynote Speaker Explains South's Manufacturing Renaissance

About 100 business, government and community leaders from around southeastern North Carolina gathered last Thursday evening at Whiteville's Vineland Station for the first-ever annual meeting of The Southeastern Partnership. Included were investors, partners, allies, elected officials and others.

"The annual meeting was a celebration of economic progress in the Southeast as well as the successful transition this organization has made to its new, grassroots-oriented partnership model," said Jeff Etheridge, chairman of the Southeastern Partnership. The event was also an opportunity for those new to the regional economic development partnership to get to know each other.

"In the last two years we've grown from 11 counties to 16, and we have a few leaders who are still relatively new to our ranks," said Etheridge, a longtime business and community leader who lives in Whiteville.

Attendees heard Etheridge

and Partnership President Steve Yost review programs and discuss results.

In fiscal year 2014-15, the Southeastern Partnership generated 86 qualified leads, worked 72 unique projects, made 205 building and site recommendations and organized 31 visits with company decision-makers.

"The majority of our projects came from the U.S., but 29 of the 72 were from foreign-based companies," Yost said. "International opportunities and foreign direct investment are central to our regional development vision."

Greg Fennell, chief commercial officer for the North Carolina State Ports Authority, told the crowd that fiscal year 2015 had been a record year for container traffic at the Port of Wilmington.

"We had an 18 percent increase in business, the fastest growth of any East Coast port that year," Fennell said. Among the port's newest customers are Enviva, Sanderson Farms and Acme Smoked Fish, all companies recruited to the region by local economic developers working in concert with the regional partnership, private allies and state partners.

Mike Randall, owner and publisher of *Southern Business & Development* magazine, was the keynote speaker for the event. "Re-shoring is behind the manufacturing renaissance currently underway in southern states," Randall said. "Make it where you sell it' is a new phenomenon that will last many years," he told the gathering.

Technological advances, productive workers and simpler supply chains make manufacturing in the South more profitable than in China.

"That's why U.S. manufacturers are now returning and Chinese companies are also locating here," he said. "They're coming, and they've got to play by our rules."

Headquartered in Elizabethtown, The Southeastern Partnership pursues a mission to "provide strong economic development leadership in southeastern North Carolina through innovative marketing and collaborative regional initiatives that will support the creation of new jobs, generate capital investment, and secure new business locations."

For additional information, visit www.ncse.org.

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Casino Night is UNCP fundraiser

The Givens Performing Arts Center at UNC Pembroke will hold its annual Casino Night fundraiser Friday, Feb. 12 from 7 to 11 p.m. at the University Center Annex.

It is an opportunity to support the arts while having fun Vegas-style. Guests will have the opportunity to play a variety of casino games, including blackjack, roulette, poker and more. Live entertainment will be provided by The Band PUNCH, and a buffet-style dinner and spirits will be served. A raffle will be held for prizes, including a trip for two to Las

Vegas provided by Debbie's Destinations.

Guests will receive "play" casino chips to get started. A casino company will provide professional dealers who will manage the authentic tables and explain the game rules.

All proceeds will support of the Givens Performing Arts

Center. Tickets are \$150 per couple and \$650 for a reserved table of eight. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Reservations must be made by Feb. 9.

For more information or to RSVP, call 910-521-6361, or visit www.uncp.edu/gpac.

Scholarship season here for N.C. Community Foundation

The North Carolina Community Foundation announces the opening of scholarship season, according to Leslie Ann Jackson, NCCF director of grants and scholarships.

NCCF administers more than 150 scholarships for students throughout the state. Eligibility criteria and deadlines are specific and vary widely by scholarship and location. Deadlines vary but typically range from March to May. To determine if you or your student qualifies, visit NCCF's website at nccommunityfoundation.org/scholarships.

Jackson said that scholarships provide a good opportunity for North Carolina students to further their education.

"Our aim is to raise awareness throughout the state about opportunities offered through scholarships held with the North Carolina Community Foundation," she said "We're proud to facilitate scholarships on behalf of our fund holders who invest in the next generation of North Carolinians."

The NCCF is the single statewide community foundation serving North Carolina and has made \$101 million in grants since its inception in 1988. With more than \$237 million in assets, NCCF sustains 1,200 endowments established to provide long-term support of a broad range of community needs, nonprofit organizations, institutions and scholarships. The NCCF partners with 60 affiliate foundations to provide local resource allocation and community assistance in 67 counties across the state. An important component of NCCF's mission is to ensure that rural philanthropy has a voice at local, regional and national levels.

For more information, visit nccommunityfoundation.org, like us on Facebook and follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter @NCCF.

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Sweet Talk

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Only \$25

Sample below approximate size

Compose your special message using the form provided. Then give us a call at 642-4104, come by our office, or mail your message with payment to The News Reporter, P.O. Box 707, Whiteville, NC 28472. Payment - either by credit card, cash or check - must accompany placement. Deadline for publication is Monday, February 8th.

To our dear daughter, Lynn,
We love you.
You have made our lives very special.

Keep that beautiful smile always.
Happy Valentine's Day.
Love,
Mom & Dad

PHOTO

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Your Message: (25 words or less) _____

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Sports

The News Reporter, Thursday, February 4, 2016 - Page 1B

Lady Bulldogs capture victory

Pack boys overcome St. Pauls challenge

By DAN BISER
Sports Editor

Tyrell Kirk scored 10 of his team-high 14 points in the fourth quarter Tuesday night as the host Whiteville High boys basketball team rallied from a six-point halftime deficit to post a 51-45 Three Rivers Conference victory over the St. Pauls Bulldogs.

The comeback win snapped a two-game losing streak for Coach Jerry Singletary's WHS squad. The Wolfpack took a 7-3 conference record and 10-4 season record into Wednesday night's home game with West Columbus.

St. Pauls, which went on a 17-8 run in the second quarter to gain a 30-24 halftime lead, slipped to 7-4 in conference and 15-5 overall.

"This is an important win for us, coming off the losses to Fairmont and Red Springs," Singletary said. "I was pleased with the way our guys stayed with it tonight."

"We weren't real sharp the first half - a lot of missed shots and St. Pauls was beating us on the boards - but we turned some things around in the second half and worked at pushing ourselves through some situations," Singletary said.

Germaine McNeil joined Kirk in double figures with 12 points and Lamarr Green came off the bench to provide nine points and some strong rebounding for the Wolfpack.

Deonte Bridgers tallied 14 points to lead St. Pauls. Donta Burden followed with 12.

The score was tied at 37 going into the fourth quarter

when Kirk and guard Ted Davis sparked an 11-5 Wolfpack run over the first five minutes of the period to gain a 48-42 lead.

Three foul shots by Kirk in the final minute of play sealed the Wolfpack's second win of the season over the St. Pauls squad.

In a foul-plagued girls game, St. Pauls came away with a 51-43 win after playing the Lady Wolfpack to a 27-27 halftime deadlock.

Whiteville guard Madison Hinson scored 10 points in the first half, but became a victim of early foul trouble. She sat out much of the second half and fouled out in the final quarter.

Nsaia Rogers also scored 10 points, including a 3-pointer at the final buzzer.

The Lady Wolfpack converted on only nine of 27 attempts from the foul line as its conference record fell to 5-5 and season record to 6-8.

St. Pauls post player Destiny Hardin had a big second half and finished with 14 points with most coming off conversions of offensive rebounds. Aquilla Rozier followed with 12 points for St. Pauls, which was coming off a big homecourt victory over East Columbus last Friday.

The Lady Bulldogs improved their conference to 4-7 and overall record at 15-5.

Whiteville will travel to play East Columbus Friday while St. Pauls is scheduled to entertain South Columbus.



Photo by Grant Merritt

Whiteville High point guard Tre Davis (left) goes in for a lay-up against St. Paul's Dante Burden in Tuesday night's Three Rivers Conference boys basketball game at the WHS gym. Whiteville came back from a six-point halftime deficit to capture a 51-45 win over the visiting Bulldogs. The WHS victory snapped a two-game losing streak for Coach Jerry Singletary's Wolfpack. Whiteville, which took on West Columbus last night in a TRC game (see results at whiteville.com) will play Friday night against long-time county rival East Columbus at Lake Waccamaw.

Stallion girls edge Fairmont

VINEGAR HILL - The South Columbus girls came away with its second one-point win over Fairmont this season in a 38-37 decision on Tuesday.

Hailey Sarvis bucketed 16 points and Cailin Turbeville scored 13 for SCHS, which led 22-11 at halftime before holding off a strong second-half charge by the Fairmont squad. The win put the Lady Stallions' conference record at 4-7.

Nya Graham had 16 points to pace Fairmont.

In their earlier meeting, South Columbus had defeated the Fairmont squad 37-36 in overtime.

In the boys game, undefeated Fairmont clinched at least a tie by thumping the Stallions 64-37 after trailing the SCHS squad 19-17 at halftime.

Alshaquan Williams had 16 points for Fairmont, which put its season record at 16-0. Kendrick Green led South Columbus scorers with 14 points.



Staff photo by Franklin Davis

Quaker signee

Brennan Ivey, a standout lineman for South Columbus High School the past two seasons, signs a national-letter-of-intent Wednesday to play football for Guilford College in Greensboro. Pictured with Ivey at the signing are, front row, left to right, mother Kelly Ivey, father Anthony Ivey, and grandmother Clara Cartrette. Back row, brother Brady Ivey, aunt Marti Hardee, SCHS principal Eddie Beck, athletic director Willie Gore and coach Bryant Edwards. The Guilford College Quakers compete in the Old Dominion (NCAA Division III) Athletic Conference. Ivey was a two-time All-Three Rivers Conference and All-Columbus County selection.

Harrelson inducted in Dixie Girls Softball Hall of Fame

Darin Harrelson (center) of Lake Waccamaw received induction into the Dixie Girls Softball Hall of Fame at the organization's state meeting, held Jan. 30 at Southern Pines. For the past 18 years, Harrelson has served many leadership capacities, from coaching to long-standing board member, of the Columbus County Dixie Girls Softball League. He has served two terms as board president and remains very active in the program. Through his work and leadership, girls recreation softball has made steady growth in Columbus County, and local teams have made regular appearances in state tournament and World Series play. Pictured with Harrelson at the induction ceremony are East Columbus Dixie Softball League president Stuart Carroll (left) and North Carolina Dixie Softball Director Ron Hudson.



Lady Gators fall again

ROWLAND - The East Columbus Lady Gators were handed their second straight Three Rivers Conference loss Tuesday as they were edged by South Robeson and high-scoring guard A'terria Quick 70-68.

Quick tallied 37 points for the Lady Mustangs while East Columbus' Charity Powell and Marlena McClure countered with 26 and 23 points respectively.

East Columbus, which had suffered a 49-48 loss to St. Pauls last Tuesday, is now in a three-way tie for the TRC lead with South Robeson and Red Springs, all with 9-2 records.

Coach Candra Powell's East Columbus squad trailed 34-32 at halftime, but led 51-48 at halftime. Carrington Mitchell and Nytia Lewis aided the South Robeson cause with 10 points each. East Columbus' Tia Campbell had eight points and Mia Campbell contributed seven. Until last week's setback at St. Pauls, the ECHS girls team had not had a Three Rivers conference loss since the 2012-13 season.

South Robeson won the boys game 72-52 after charging to a 37-18 halftime lead.

The host Mustangs got big offensive outings from Davonte Banks with 26 points and Dakota Clark with 10.

The Mustangs improved their conference record to 4-7.

East Columbus, which suffered its 10th straight conference loss, got a 15-point effort from Kushod Tucker.

Friday night will feature a pair of match-ups between the TRC's 1A teams.

East Columbus will play host to Whiteville Friday night in a big county rivalry match-up.

South Robeson will travel to play West Columbus Friday.

SCC baseball - 2016 Rasic ready to lead Rams

By FRANKLIN DAVIS
Sports Writer

The SCC Ram baseball team was scheduled to open its 2016 campaign in a Wednesday doubleheader at Florence-Darlington Tech (see result at whiteville.com).

New SCC head coach Milan Rasic, a California native, has welcomed back seven returning players, including former West Columbus Viking standout Tanner Daniels. Blake Glass, Christian Kercado, Kevin Williams and Royce Woolfolk also return with substantial experience from 2015.

Whiteville High graduates C.J. Hammonds and Ryan Dudney, both members of the two-time defending state 1A champion Whiteville High School baseball team, are among other additions to the 2016 Ram squad.

Rasic, who came to SCC from College of Albemarle in Elizabeth City, is still in the process of determining exactly how everyone on the roster can contribute to the team's success and excel individually.

Although the weather has not allowed extended outside practice time, Rasic said, "We must have the proper mindset to apply our daily routine in instances where the weather is not going to be optimal. We will focus on what we have and not worry about what we don't."

He went on to say that his personnel will dictate the Rams style of play and it may take several games before he can define areas of strengths to highlight.

The Rams will focus on dictating pace of play on the field. SCC's defensive approach will be similar to



Milan Rasic

last season with the pitchers working quickly and "keeping the fielders interested." Rasic also emphasizes "one percent." He believes that if every player can improve an aspect of their game by one percent every day, the team will be successful.

Rasic said he was familiar with many of the Rams' Region 10 opponents from his time at COA. He is aware of and embraces the proud tradition of SCC baseball. He also praised his predecessor, Coach Scott Johnson, for his help in making the transition a smooth one.

Will Wallis, formerly the head coach at Pine Grove High School in Ripley, Miss., is serving as Rasic's assistant.

On Saturday, the Rams are scheduled to journey to Fayetteville to take on the Methodist University JV in a doubleheader, beginning at noon.

SCC will open its home schedule Feb. 9 with a 1 p.m. doubleheader against the North Carolina Wesleyan JV.



Photo by Grant Merritt

Whiteville High School's Ashlin Floyd puts in a lay-up in Tuesday's Three Rivers 1A-2A Conference basketball game against visiting St. Pauls. St. Pauls won the game 51-43.

Three Rivers Conference basketball standings

BOYS			GIRLS		
	Conf.	Overall		Conf.	Overall
Fairmont	11-0	16-0	East Columbus	9-2	14-4
Red Springs	8-3	13-8	South Robeson	9-2	15-5
Whiteville	7-3	10-4	Red Springs	9-2	14-6
St. Pauls	7-4	15-5	Whiteville	5-5	6-8
South Robeson	4-7	5-14	South Columbus	4-7	5-12
South Columbus	3-8	4-12	St. Pauls	4-7	5-14
West Columbus	2-8	4-11	Fairmont	3-8	5-12
East Columbus	1-10	2-19	West Columbus	0-10	2-13

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Whiteville 51, St. Pauls 45
 South Robeson 72, East Columbus 62
 Red Springs 65, West Columbus 53
 Fairmont 64 South Columbus 37

WEDNESDAY'S GAME

West Columbus at Whiteville

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Whiteville at East Columbus
 South Columbus at St. Pauls
 Red Springs at Fairmont
 South Robeson at West Columbus

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

St. Pauls 51, Whiteville 43
 South Robeson 70, East Columbus 68
 Red Springs 60, West Columbus 41
 South Columbus 38, Fairmont 37

WEDNESDAY'S GAME

West Columbus at Whiteville

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Whiteville at East Columbus
 South Columbus at St. Pauls
 Red Springs at Fairmont
 South Robeson at West Columbus

Scott to coach Region 4 All-Stars in 2016 State Softball Games

Olivia Scott, who has guided the Whiteville Lady Wolfpack softball team to a 64-19 record over the past three seasons, has been named head coach of the Region 4 all-star team in the June 21-22 North Carolina State Games that will be held in Raleigh.

Scott, who played high school softball at Whiteville High and went on to play for Coastal Carolina University, said she was called Monday about being selected for the position.

"It's awesome," she said, "and it came as a total surprise. We've had several players compete in the State Games in the past, but this is the first time for a coach. It's a real honor, and I'm looking forward to the experience."

Scott will bring on two coaches from the Region 4 teams to serve as assistants. She said there will be three



Olivia Scott

player try-outs for positions on the team during the spring.

Current high-school freshmen, sophomores and juniors are eligible to try out for State Games play.

The State Games softball format has all-star teams from the eight regions of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. It consists of two four-team pools with teams in each pool playing a round-robin format.

Top finishers from round-robin play will advance to the semi-finals, and semi-final winners will advance to the championship game.

Region 4 consists of schools, in Columbus, Robeson, Bladen, Cumberland, Hoke, Scotland, Richmond, Moore and Lee counties.

Scott has coached the Lady Wolfpack to the past two Three Rivers Conference championships. Her 2014 WHS squad advanced to state 1A finals, and her 2015 team made it to the fourth round of the state 1A bracket.

Red Springs sweeps Vikes

RED SPRINGS - The Red Springs Devils jumped to a 19-8 first-quarter lead and rambled to a 65-63 Three Rivers 1A-2A Conference boys basketball win over the visiting West Columbus Vikings.

Tavion Atkinson led Red Springs scorers with 16 points, followed by Eric Graham with 13 and Monte Wilkerson with 11. The Red Devils were coming off a 52-41 homecourt victory over Whiteville last Friday.

West Columbus' Latreyl McCollum connected for four 3-point shots and finished with 14 points. Jacob Baldwin finished with eight points for the Vikings, who played the Whiteville Wolfpack Wednesday night at Whiteville.

Red Springs has a big Three Rivers Conference match-up with unbeaten Fairmont Friday night at Fairmont.

The Red Springs girls continued their TRC surge with a 60-41 win over the Lady Vikings.

West Columbus will take to its homecourt Friday against South Robeson.



Photo by Grant Merritt

Lady Ram opener

Southeastern Community College pitcher Bobbie McDaniel goes through her delivery in last Saturday's season-opening doubleheader with visiting USC-Salkahatchie. Salkahatchie won both games by scores of 11-2 and 8-1.

Liberty tops CCA

It was a high-scoring affair between Liberty and home-standing Columbus Christian on Monday. When the dust settled, Liberty came away with a 60-48 win.

The game was close through the first three quarters. Liberty held a one-point lead entering the final period.

Abigail Bullock and Hannah Watts each scored 20 points for Columbus Christian.

The Pacers will close regular-season play with a game at Antioch Christian.

Chadbourn DY player registration

The Chadbourn Dixie Youth Baseball program will hold player registrations at J. Homer Thomas Memorial Park on the following dates and times:

Saturday, Feb. 6 - 10 a.m. until noon - Majors/Minors/Coach-Pitch/T-Ball, ages 5-12.

Saturday, Feb. 13 - 10 a.m. to noon. Registration for Majors/Minors/Coach-Pitch/T-Ball, ages 5-12.

Saturday, Feb. 20, 10 a.m. to noon for Majors/Minor/Coach-Pitch/T-Ball.

Registration fee is \$30 for Majors, Minors and Coach-Pitch. T-Ball is \$20.

For more information, contact Brenda Tedder 840-1955, Chris Rector 625-8968 or Donald Bass 840-6403.



Photo by Nicole Hopkins

Pacer royalty

Victoria Moody (center) was crowned 2016 Columbus Christian Academy Homecoming Queen during last Friday's basketball halftime festivities. At left is 2016 CCA Homecoming Princess Hannah Watts, and at right is 2015 CCA Homecoming Queen Savannah Batterson.

Cerro Gordo Dixie Youth sets player registrations

The Cerro Gordo Dixie Youth Baseball program will hold player registrations at the Cerro Gordo Dixie Youth Complex on the following dates and times:

Saturday, Feb. 6 12 noon to 1 p.m. Registration for Majors/Minors/Coach Pitch/T-Ball - ages 5-12.

Saturday, Feb. 13 12 noon to 1 p.m. Registration for Majors/Minors/Coach-Pitch/T-Ball - ages 5-12.

Registration fee is \$30 per player. Feb. 13 is the final registration date.

For more information, contact Kiley Hinson (512-4524), Rick Benton (840-5857), Kevin Bowen (640-9626) and Kris Ward (232-7424).



Photo by Jennifer Hester

Hallsboro's Kylie Moore (15) and Central's Larayveana Andrews (33) battle for the game-opening tip in last Thursday's Columbus County Middle School League girls basketball game at the Central gym. Central won 34-28 to stay unbeaten.

Dixie softball sign-ups now underway

Sign-ups for Columbus County Dixie Girls Softball will be held Feb. 6 and Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. until noon at the following locations:

- Buckhead Store
- Lake Waccamaw Town Hall
- Nakina Middle School Gym
- Riegelwood concession

stand at girls fields
 - Tabor City Sports Complex concession stands at girls fields.

Also, Monday through Friday, Feb. 1-Feb. 19 at Whiteville Town Hall (Hill Plaza) and Chadbourn Town Hall.

The league is open to players of ages 4-18.

Registration fee is \$50 per

player.
 New players should bring birth certificates to sign-ups.

For questions, please contact the following league presidents:

Willie Wilkins (Central Columbus), 640-0102; Melissa Sykes (South Columbus), 625-9491; Stuart Carroll (East Columbus), 770-0499.

Hallsboro Dixie Youth sign-ups scheduled

Hallsboro Dixie Youth Baseball sign-ups for tryouts will be held Feb. 13 and Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. until noon at Mike Mobley Field.

All players will come back to the field Feb. 27 from 10 to 11:30 for workouts. For questions and further information,

contact T.J. Wilson (840-9214), Mike Mobley (918-4656) or Ashley Barnhill (840-6831).

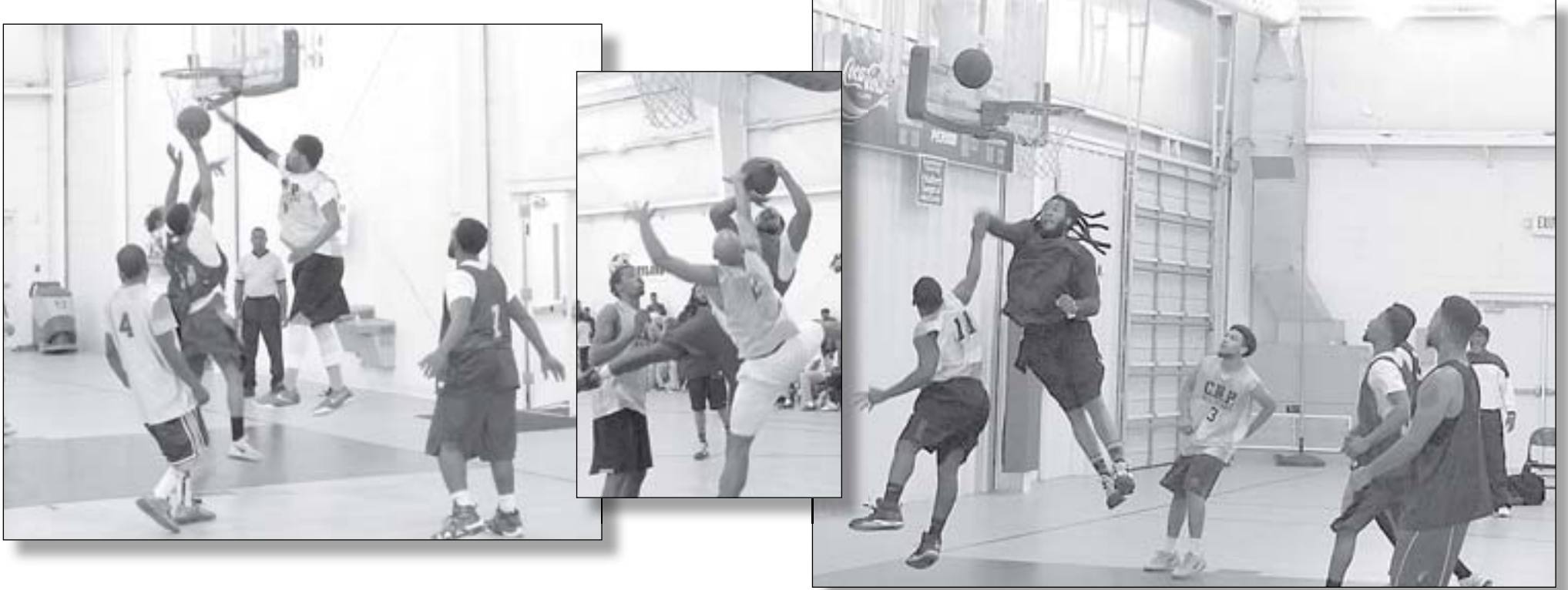
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Phillip Powell
Basketball

After having a standout sophomore season on the Wolfpack football this past fall, the 5-foot-8, 165-pound Powell is doing much the same for the WHS basketball team. Powell provides a lot of strength and quickness in his "off-the-bench" role for the Wolfpack. Despite his size, he is a strong rebounder and he adds durability as defender in full-court pressure situations. The son of Gary and Mary Powell makes sports a year-around thing as he also plays baseball and competes in track in field. "Phillip is one of several players we count on to come in and give some good minutes off the bench," said WHS basketball coach Jerry Singletary. "He sees the floor well and does a really good job of getting after the basketball." Weightlifting has been Powell's favorite class at WHS this year. He hopes to get the opportunity to play college football.

East Columbus High School



Olivia Kissam
Bowling

The ECHS senior qualified for the state high school bowling tournament last week as an Alley Gator team member and individual competitor. She and the rest of Coach Tara Williamson's squad will compete in the state finals next week at Fayetteville. The daughter of Sharon and Greg Kissam has been part of three girls athletic teams - volleyball, softball and bowling - during her high school career. She joined the bowling team as a junior having already made a strong impact on the Lady Gator volleyball and softball teams. She also serves as vice-president of the ECHS student council and is a member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club as well as the school's FFA chapter and FCA huddle. "Bowling has been lot of fun, and our team has seen a lot strong competition this season, bowling in the Lumberton league. Pre-calculus is her favorite class at ECHS."

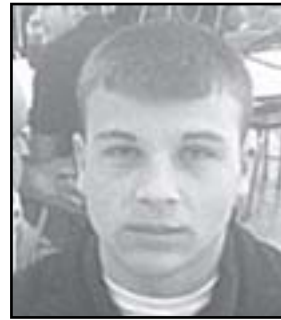
West Columbus High School



Fred Evans
Basketball

Evans played one of the best games of his career against Fairmont last Friday. He scored 20 points and had several steals and assists. His work on the offensive boards may not have shown up in the statistics, but his effort kept several balls alive that teammates corralled and put in the basket. Despite these efforts, West Columbus lost 77-62. However, the game was much closer than the final score indicated. Evans exhibited his senior leadership with his ability to play under control despite the helter-skelter tempo throughout the game. He also exhibited good sportsmanship during a game that was very physical. Evans was a key member of the Vikings football squad. He is also recognized as one of the top track athletes in the area. Evans hopes to continue to compete athletically at the next level.

South Columbus High School



Dylan Long
Bowling

Long is the son of Billy Long and Jennifer Holcomb. He says bowling allows him to spend more time with his friends. Long says, "We all get along well and know how to have fun and play well at the same time." He gives Coach Gore credit for his support and constant encouragement to excel. Long's biggest bowling thrill was finishing first among the individual boys his freshman year. "Nobody expected very much from a first-year bowler, but I surprised everyone, including myself." Long enjoys hunting and hanging out with friends in his free time. He hopes to attend N.C. State and pursue a degree in engineering. Chemistry is his favorite class at South Columbus. Spaghetti is his favorite food. Long describes himself as "outgoing, friendly and someone who enjoys being with his friends."



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060 Special Notices

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PINNACLE FAMILY SERVICES is looking for individuals interested in becoming Therapeutic Foster Parents and are willing to open their hearts and their home to a child in need. MAPP classes begin on 2/09/16 @ 6pm at the Whiteville. Contact: Alvin B Brown at 910-705-7021 for more information. We will have an Orientation meeting on February 5, 2016 at 10:30 am at 80 Jefferson Plaza, suite 114, Whiteville, NC 28472-3710

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MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE. Saturday, February 6th, 7am-12 noon. 258 Old Lumberton Rd. Whiteville

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Minimum requirements: Qualified applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent; possess a Basic Law Enforcement Certification issued by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and must possess a valid North Carolina operator's license. Applicants for this position will also undergo an extensive background investigation to include; a criminal history check, drug screening, medical and psychological examinations. Candidate must be in good physical condition and able to carry out the required functions of a Police Officer as well as possess strong communication skills. This position does require working rotating shifts.

Salary based on qualifications, excellent benefit package. Applications with certifications, F-3 and resumes should be forwarded no later than March 1, 2016 to: Police Chief J.K. Bellamy, 3 West Third Street Ocean Isle Beach N.C. 28469 or by email to ken@oibgov.com.

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Administratrix CTA
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Earl Arthur Walters
c/o Michael W. Willis,
Attorney for the Estate
P.O. Box 2392
Whiteville, NC 28472
Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016

**530 Mfg. Housing**

2 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME FOR RENT, 5 MILES EAST OF WHITEVILLE.. Call 642-7844.

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

2 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS. Name your sec. deposit & rent. Job & credit check required. 910-207-8853

2BR, 1 BATH, appliances, incl. landscaping. \$400 month, \$250 sec. deposit. Nakina 910-770-1922

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH mobile home for rent or lease to own. Bladenboro area. 910-840-3518.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH mobile home for rent or lease to own. Chadbourn area. 910-840-3518.

570 Commercial

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

610 Mfg. Housing Lots

MOBILE HOME LOTS FOR RENT. 294 Thompsontown Rd., Whiteville. Tony Stanley 840-2454.

LEGAL NOTICES**EXECUTOR'S NOTICE**

The undersigned, having qualified as on the 27th day of January, 2016, as Administratrix CTA of the estate of Earl Arthur Walters, deceased, late of Columbus County, hereby notifies all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 9th day of May, 2016, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

SHORT BROS.**RENT-A-CAR**

\$19⁹⁵ DAILY

Hwy. 701, South of Whiteville

642-4175

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7. You want to hit the yard sales.
8. You want to know who got in trouble.
9. You want to save money.
10. You need a plumber, handyman or realtor.

The News Reporter
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NOTICE OF ELECTION

Columbus County, North Carolina

A primary election will be held on **March 15, 2016** in **Columbus County** to vote on the candidates for the offices of **US PRESIDENT (REP,DEM,LIB), US SENATE (REP,DEM), US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 07 (REP), NC GOVERNOR (REP,DEM), NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (DEM), NC ATTORNEY GENERAL (REP,DEM), NC COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE (REP), NC COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE (REP), NC COMMISSIONER OF LABOR (DEM), NC SECRETARY OF STATE (REP), NC SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (REP,DEM), NC TREASURER (DEM), COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2 (DEM), COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3 (DEM)**

The following referendum will also be voted on in the Primary Election:

The issuance of two billion dollars (\$2,000,000,000) State of North Carolina Public Improvement Bonds constituting general obligation bonds of the State secured by a pledge of the faith and credit and taxing power of the State for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to fund capital improvements and new facilities for the State, including, without limitation, the construction and furnishing of new facilities and the renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities for, without limitation, the University of North Carolina System, the North Carolina Community College System, water and sewer systems, the State's National Guard, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, attractions and parks, and the Department of Public Safety.

For 
Against 

Most voters will be asked to present acceptable photo identification when presenting to vote in person at the polls, with exceptions for voters who are unable to obtain acceptable photo identification, have a religious objection to being photographed, or are victims of a natural disaster. The acceptable forms of photo identification are a NC Driver's License or DMV-issued Identification Card (expired up to four years), US Passport or Passport Card (unexpired), Military ID Card or Veterans Affairs ID Card (unexpired, if there is an expiration date), and certain Tribal Enrollment Cards. **VOTERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN ONE OF THESE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION MAY STILL VOTE IF THEIR INABILITY IS DUE TO A REASONABLE IMPEDIMENT** such as a lost or stolen ID, lack of transportation, illness or disability, a lack of proper documents, work schedule, and others. These voters may vote a provisional ballot after completing a Reasonable Impediment Declaration and providing an alternate form of identification or the last four digits of their social security number and their date of birth. Acceptable alternate forms of identification for voters who complete a Reasonable Impediment Declaration include their voter registration card or a current utility bill, paycheck, government check, bank statement, or other government document bearing the voter's name and current address. Alternative voting options are available for voters who do not present acceptable photo identification for a reason other than a reasonable impediment to obtaining one. Voters who use curbside voting may also present one of the alternative forms of identification described above. No identification is required to vote an absentee ballot by mail. Free Identification Cards for registered voters are available from the NC DMV. For assistance with obtaining acceptable photo identification for voting or for more information on exceptions and alternative voting options, contact the NC State Board of Elections voter outreach team toll-free at 1-866-522-4723 or visit www.VoterID.nc.gov.

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day

PCT	POLLING PLACE NAME	ADDRESS	CITY STATE ZIP
P01A	BOGUE-HALLSBORO FIRE DEPT	753 HALLSBORO RD S	HALLSBORO, NC 28442
P02B	BOLTON - BOLTON FIRE DEPT	225 9TH ST	BOLTON, NC 28423
P03	BUG HILL 1 - PIREWAY(NAKINA) FIRE SUBSTATION	18032 SEVEN CREEKS HWY	TABOR CITY, NC 28463
P04	BUG HILL 2 - OLD ZION WESLEYAN CHURCH	10172 SWAMP FOX HWY E	TABOR CITY, NC 28463
P05	BUG HILL 3 - NAKINA BUG HILL SENIOR CENTER	11300 SEVEN CREEKS HWY	NAKINA, NC 28455
P06	CERRO GORDO - CERRO GORDO FIRE & RESCUE	75 RAILROAD ST E	CERRO GORDO, NC 28430
P07	CHADBOURN-CHADBOURN MUNICIPAL ANNEX	208 E 1ST AVE	CHADBOURN, NC 28431
P08	CHERRY GROVE - COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER	9814 SWAMP FOX HWY W	CERRO GORDO, NC 28430
P09	FAIR BLUFF-FAIR BLUFF FIRE AND RESCUE	653 RAILROAD ST	FAIR BLUFF, NC 28439
P10	EAST LEES - OLD DOCK COMMUNITY BLDG	12820 NEW BRITTON HWY E	NAKINA, NC 28455
P11	NORTH LEES - PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL	61 PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH RD	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P12	SOUTH LEES - MACEDONIA FREEWILL BAPTIST CH FELLOWSHIP HALL	216 CRUSOE ISLAND RD	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P13	WEST LEES- VFW POST #6066	4604 ERVIN T RICHARDSON RD	NAKINA, NC 28455
P14	RANSOM-UNION HALL LOCAL 738	102 HWY 87	RIEGELWOOD, NC 28456
P15	TATUM - WOW LODGE 1088	6847 HAYNES LENNON HWY	EVERGREEN, NC 28438
P16B	WACCAMAW - LAKE WACCAMAW FIRE DEPT	203 FLEMMINGTON DR	LAKE WACCAMAW, NC 28450
P17	WELCHES CREEK - WELCHES CREEK FIRE DEPT	45 MILLE-CHRISTINE RD	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P18	WESTERN PRONG-WESTERN PRONG COMMUNITY CENTER INC	185 WOOTENS STORE RD	CLARKTON, NC 28433
P19	WHITEVILLE 1-WHITEVILLE RESCUE UNIT BUILDING	106 FLOWERS PRIDGEN DR	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P20A	WHITEVILLE 2 - VINELAND STATION DEPOT	701 E MAIN ST	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P21	NORTH WHITEVILLE - NORTH WHITEVILLE FIRE DEPT	747 PEACOCK RD	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P22A	SOUTH WHITEVILLE - ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL	5384 JAMES B WHITE HWY S	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P23	WEST WHITEVILLE - AMERICAN LEGION POST 137	76 LEGION DR	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P24	WILLIAMS 1 - ROSELAND FIRE DEPT	9527 CLARENDON-CHADBOURN RD	CHADBOURN, NC 28431
P25B	WILLIAMS 2 - LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	9237 JAMES B WHITE HWY S	WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
P26B	SOUTH WILLIAMS-THE RITZ CENTER (Rear Entrance)	213 HICKMAN RD	TABOR CITY, NC 28463

One-stop early voting will be held at the **Columbus County** Board of Elections office beginning March 3, 2016 and ending March 12, 2016. Hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. March 3, through March 11, 2016 and 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on March 12, 2016.

Satellite One-stop Early Voting will be available at the following sites March 3rd 2016 through March 11th, 2016 weekdays from 1:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.

The Bolton Town Hall – 221 9th St, Bolton NC
The Chadbourn Municipal Annex – 201 E. 1st Ave., Chadbourn NC
Fair Bluff Fire & Rescue Bldg. – 653 Railroad St., Fair Bluff NC
E. Columbus Sr. Center – 2696 General Howe Hwy, Riegelwood NC
The Ritz Center – 213 Hickman Rd., Tabor City NC (Rear Entrance only)

Canvass Day will be held in the **Columbus County** Board of Elections office on **March 22, 2016**.

Absentee ballots are allowed. Requests for an absentee ballot must be made on a State Board of Elections Absentee Request Form, available at the County Board of Elections office and at all one-stop early voting sites, and received in the **Columbus County** Board of Elections office or any one-stop early voting site by 5:00 p.m. on **March 8, 2016**. Completed absentee ballots must be returned to the **Columbus County** Board of Elections by 5:00 p.m. on **March 15, 2016**.

All residents of Columbus County who are registered to vote with the Columbus County Board of Elections may vote in this election. **Voters who are previously registered need not re-register for this election. THOSE VOTERS WHO ARE REGISTERED UNAFFILIATED MAY VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION.** Unaffiliated voters will be given a choice of ballot at the polling places. Those residents of **Columbus County** who are not registered to vote must register on or before Friday, **February 19, 2016** in order to be eligible to vote on Election Day. Those voters who are not registered by Friday, **February 19, 2016** may register and vote during one stop early voting only, and will be **required to provide documentation of their identity and residence**. Voters who wish to change their party affiliation or who have changed their name or address must notify the Board of Elections in writing by **February 19, 2016**. Voters who fail to notify the Board of Elections of a change to their name or address must update their information when presenting to vote, and may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Voters who require assistance with casting their ballot are entitled to assistance by an appropriate person of their choice or an election official. Registration facilities and polling places are accessible to the elderly and handicapped. Curbside voting is available for voters who are not physically able to enter the polling place.

At the Precincts on Election Day and at the One-stop voting site, buffer zones will be clearly marked off with yellow caution tape (50 ft from the main entrance of voting place entrance). Only individuals arriving for purpose of voting or an individual filing a challenge may enter this area. There shall be no campaigning or Electioneering inside the buffer zone area nor should anyone impede a voter's access into this area. Precinct officials will designate an area on the premises where campaigning and electioneering will be allowed.

For additional information about registration, location of polling places, absentee ballots, early voting at One-Stop locations or other election matters may contact the Columbus County Board of Elections: 50 Legion Dr., Suite A, in Whiteville, NC 28472. Telephone: (910)640-6609 E-mail: columbus.boe@ncmail.net

Harold Fipps, Chairman
Columbus County Board of Elections

January 28, February 4, 11, 18th 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Tax Foreclosure Sale

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO.: 15 CV 1189
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS,
Plaintiff

vs
EDWARD DEWEY RAY, JR. a/k/a DEWEY RAY; PHILLIP STEVENS, Beneficiary (Lienholder), Defendants

NOTICE is hereby given that the COUNTY OF COLUMBUS as a body politic incorporate of the State of North Carolina, is exercising its power and authority to assess, levy and collect taxes against real and personal property located within its boundaries in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the Default Judgment and Order of Sale entered on the 9th day of December, 2015 and is foreclosing on the following land of EDWARD DEWEY RAY, JR. a/k/a DEWEY RAY in order to satisfy the property assessed but unpaid taxes upon certain lands. Pursuant to the Judgment entered on the 9th day of December, 2015, William E. Wood has been appointed Commissioner with the authority to sell the following land at the Courthouse Door, Columbus County Courthouse in the City of Whiteville, Columbus County, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock noon on the 18th day of February, 2016 and will sell to the highest bidder for cash all interest in the following described real estate:

Lying and being in Lees Township, Columbus County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

For a tie line begin at a nail in the centerline of S. R. 1165 where said center line intersects with the extended center line of an existing farm road running through the Cornelius Daniel Gore and wife property as shown in Deed Book 374, Page 14; and runs thence with the said extended farm road centerline South 69 degrees 57 minutes 28 seconds West 113.81 feet to an iron; thence South 77 degrees 55 minutes 54 seconds West 561.77 feet to an old iron; thence South 78 degrees 02 minutes 29 seconds West 79.38 feet to an iron in the Eastern property line (where it intersects with the said center line of said farm road) of the Ernest Houston White property as shown in Deed Book 235, Page 379, THE POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING; thence from said beginning point South 14 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds West 197.36 feet to an iron; thence South 74 degrees 06 minutes 44 seconds West 478.92 feet to an iron; thence North 14 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds East 197.36 feet to an iron in the center of an existing 20 foot farm road; thence with the centerline of said road North 65 degrees 04 minutes 10 seconds East 127.46 feet to an iron; thence North 76 degrees 13 minutes 42 seconds East 132.96 feet to an iron; thence North 78 degrees 02 minutes 29 seconds East 220.69 feet to an iron, the POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING and being all of the 2.00 tract of land as shown on said plat referred to above.

Also conveyed hereby is the non-exclusive use of that easement conveyed by Cornelius Daniel Gore and wife to Ernest Houston White by Easement dated the 30th day of January, 2004, and recorded in Book 803, Page 160, of the Columbus County Registry together with

the rights and privileges contained therein for purposes of ingress to and egress from said 2.00 acre tract of land to S. R. 1165 and is to run with the land. See also Book 803, Page 163 Columbus County Registry.

This property includes a 2003 OAKWOOD doublewide mobile home serial #HONC055363WAB located upon the subject property as a fixture and part of the real estate pursuant to NC Law.

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 Commissioner nor the County of Columbus, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representatives of either the Commissioner or the County of Columbus make any representation of 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 responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed.

Also, this property is being sold free and clear of all taxes, special assessments, prior liens or encumbrances of record against said property except as may have priority under Federal or State Law, if any.

A cash deposit of 20% of the purchase price, or \$750 whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale with the balance remaining due to be paid in full by cash or certified funds at the Office of the Commissioner within three (3) days after the entry of the Judgment of Confirmation by the Clerk of Court. Hearing before the Honorable Amy W. Nance, Assistant Clerk of Superior Court for Columbus County, North Carolina was held in connection with this foreclosure on the 9th day of December, 2015 at which time Clerk Amy Nance authorized this foreclosure sale as required by statute.

This the 28th day of January, 2016.
WILLIAM E WOOD
COMMISSIONER
100 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
WHITEVILLE, NC 28472
TELEPHONE: 910-642-3965
STATE BAR NO.: 5901
February 4, 11, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of Martha Watts Caldwell, 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.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

This the 14th day of January, 2016.
Jimmy Lenneau Caldwell,
Executor of the estate of
Martha Watts Caldwell
520 Trader Mill Road
Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of MAURICE LEVONE SELLERS, deceased, late of the County of Columbus, State of North Carolina, the undersigned, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 28A-14-1, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to present them to the undersigned

LEGAL NOTICES

by the 26th day of April, 2016 a date three months from the first publication of this Notice, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 26th day of January, 2016.
Susan Renee Nobles,
Executrix for the Estate of Maurice Levone Sellers, Deceased,
Joseph L. Ray, Attorney at Law
Joseph L. Ray, PLLC.
P.O. Box 190
Tabor City, North Carolina 28463
(910)653-2273
Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
The undersigned, DEBORAH SUE COOK FAULK and ENGLISH DARWIN COOK, have qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of MARIE MERCER COOK, 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 April 28, 2016, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 28A-14-1, or this notice shall be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment

LEGAL NOTICES

to the undersigned at the following address:
This the 28th day of January, 2016.
DEBORAH SUE COOK FAULK,
CO-EXECUTRIX
174 Cape Fear Drive
Whiteville, NC 28472
ENGLISH DARWIN COOK,
CO-EXECUTOR
112 Waverly Circle
Salsbury, NC 28144
Williamson, Walton & Scott, L.L.P.
Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 1467
Whiteville, NC 28472
Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 2016

John Donoghue Automotive

15 GMC Terrain

#P11295



Was \$33,786
SALE \$23,950

15 Chevy Suburban LT

#P11292



Was \$62,450
SALE \$44,900

15 Chevy Silverado

Crew Cab, #11009-1



SAVE \$12,000

Was \$43,985
SALE \$31,985

15 Chevy Camaro

Convertible, #P11306



Was \$32,879
SALE \$22,560

12 Chevy Cruze LT



Sale Price \$9,995

12 Chevy Captiva LT



Sale Price \$11,995

08 Chevy Tahoe



LTZ, 4x4
Sale Price \$19,985

06 Buick Rendezvous



Sale Price \$6,995

05 Chevy Silverado



Crew Cab, Z-71
Sale Price \$11,995

13 GMC Sierra



2500HD, Diesel, 4x4
Sale Price \$24,995

09 Jeep Wrangler



Unlimited, Soft Top
Sale Price \$19,950

11 Chevy Equinox LT



Sale Price \$7,995

15 Nissan Altima



Sale Price \$14,995

15 Toyota Tacoma



Premier SR-5
Sale Price \$25,995

12 Chevy Silverado



Crew Cab, Z-71, 4x4
Sale Price \$25,995

16 Chevy Malibu



Sale Price \$18,955

John Donoghue Automotive

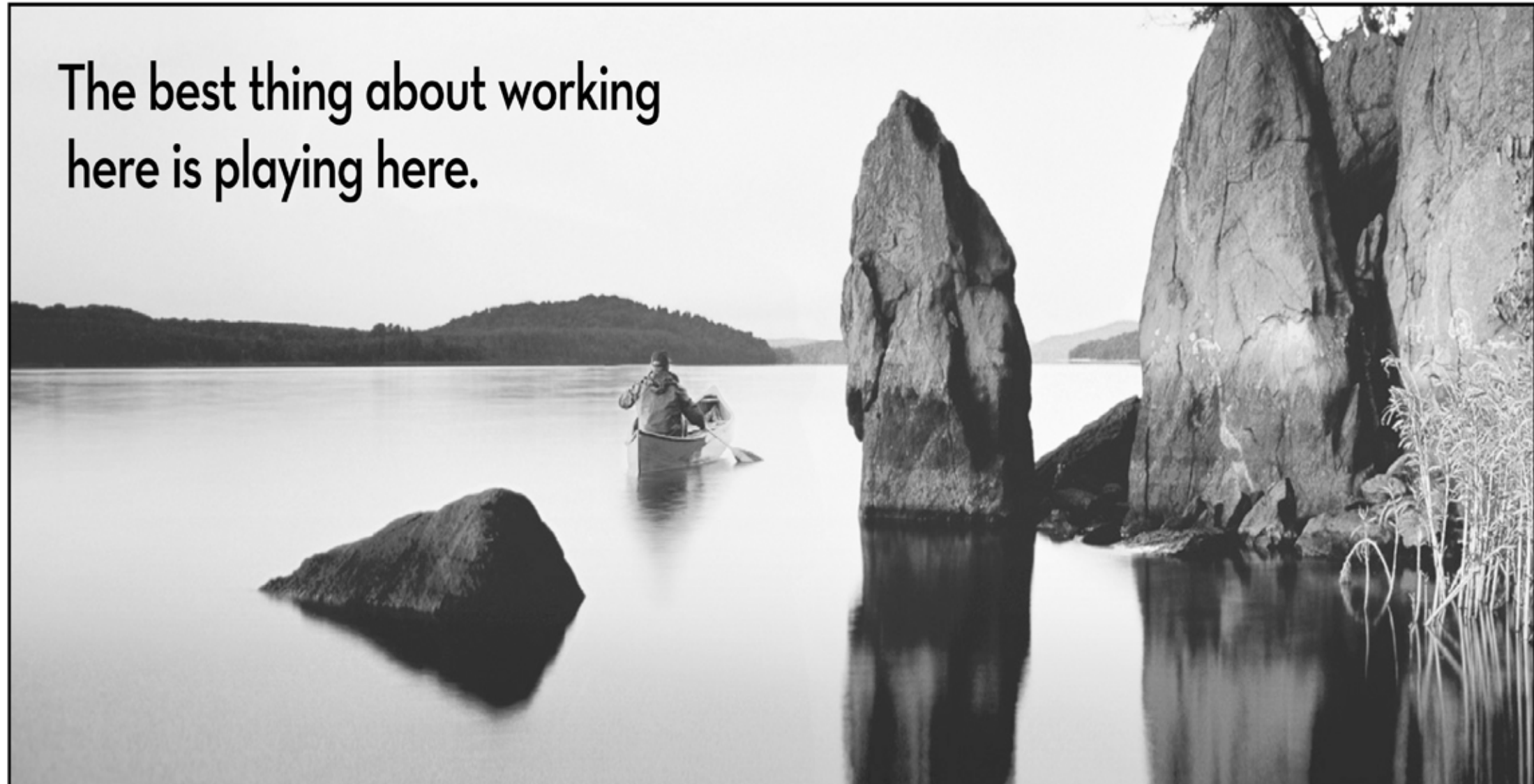
www.johndonoghueautomotive.com

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of David M. Hooks, Sr., 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 within three (3) months from January 21, 2016 which is the date of the first publication of this notice, or this notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.
This the 14th day of January, 2016.
Ms. Martha Hooks Stevens
3976 James B. White Hwy S.
Whiteville, NC 28472
Don W. Viets, Jr.
Attorney for the Estate
135 Washington Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
Telephone: 910-642-7019
Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2016.

Scott, 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 April 28, 2016, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 28A-14-1, or this notice shall 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 21st day of January, 2016.
ESTHER ACKERMAN SCOTT
Executrix
P.O. Box 97
Fair Bluff, NC 28439
Williamson, Walton & Scott, LLP
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 1467
Whiteville, NC 28472
Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2016

or can be viewed at A.O. Hardee & Son, 55 Park Street Ext., Little River, South Carolina.
Please contact A.O. Hardee & Son, Inc. concerning your intentions to bid these projects. If you have any questions or need more information please contact Thomas Gunn at (843) 249-1264. Or you can email thomas@aohardee-son.com
February 4, 11, 2016

Time Warner Cable

Time Warner Cable's agreements with programmers and broadcasters to carry their services and stations routinely expire from time to time. We are usually able to obtain renewals or extensions of such agreements, but in order to com-

erMAX West, OuterMAX (SD & HD), MaxLatino (SD & HD), 5StarMAX (SD & HD), MovieMAX (SD & HD), Cinemax On Demand, TV One (SD & HD), NHL Network (SD & HD), ShopHQ/ EVINE Live (SD & HD), POP/TVGN (SD & HD), Music Choice On Demand and Music Choice (channels 1900-1950), DW Amerika, Outdoor Channel (SD & HD), Al Jazeera (SD & HD). In addition, from time to time we make certain changes in the services that we offer in order to better serve our customers. The following changes are planned:
H2 Network may be replaced by Vice Channel on or around February 29, 2016.
WGN America may be repositioned from Starter TV to Standard TV on or after March 15, 2016.

A free preview of STARZ will be provided to all TV customers with a Digital Set-Top Box April 8-10, and may contain PG, PG-13, TV-14, TV-MA and R rated programs. To block this preview and for Parental Control information, visit twc.com or call 1-800-TWCABLE. Restrictions may apply.
The new services listed below cannot be accessed on CableCARD-equipped Unidirectional Digital Cable Products purchased at retail without additional, two-way capable equipment: None at the time.
For more information about your local channel line-up, visit www.twc.com/programmingnotices.
February 4, 2016

Public Hearing

Brunswick Volunteer Fire Department is announcing a public hearing at the Fire Department February 9th, 2016 at 7:30 pm.
This meeting is to discuss the need, and purchase of a new fire truck. All interested persons are invited to attend.
Brunswick Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
1465 Vinson Blvd.
Brunswick, N.C. 28424
February 4, 8, 2016

Request for Bids

COLUMBUS COUNTY OVERPASS (C203781)
Project No: C 203781
Attention: WBE, MBE And DBE Subcontractors
Requesting quotes
BID DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2016 2:00PM
A.O. HARDEE & SON, INC. is seeking certified MBE/DBE/WBE subcontractors and material supplier prices on the above referenced project. Items to be sublet to include: clearing & grubbing, staking, site excavation, borrow, grading, drainage, hauling, demolition/removal, asphalt paving, traffic safety and supplies, bridges, MSE walls, traffic control, signs, erosion control, grassing, pipe supply, and pavement markings.
Your quotation must be in accordance with items provided by A.O. Hardee & Son, Inc. and in accordance with specifications. All materials and work must be to the specifications of the NCDOT. All subcontractors on these projects will require insurance. Plans and specifications are available on the NC DOT website

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
FILE NO.: 16E11
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RONALD DALE MCKEITHAN
Having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of RONALD DALE MCKEITHAN, Deceased, late of Columbus County, North Carolina, the undersigned hereby notify all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to it on or before the 28th day of April, 2016, or this notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.
This the 21st day of January, 2016.
BETTY CAMPBELL MCKEITHAN
Administratrix of the estate of RONALD DALE MCKEITHAN
Deceased
3141 OLD NORTHEAST ROAD
LAKE WACCAMAW NC 28450
Telephone: 910-840-9058
MATTHEW J. TEDDER
Attorney for the Estate
110 West Nance Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
Telephone: (910) 642-8147
Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLUMBUS
The undersigned, Esther Ackerman Scott, has qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Christopher Martin



URGENT EMERGENCY

When it's urgent, but not an emergency.

Runny noses, scrapes and fevers don't make appointments. And neither will you at Columbus Regional's new Urgent Care facility. Whether you took a nasty spill or your child brought home a cold, you can rest easy knowing that help is just around the corner — no trip to the ER necessary. Get the attention you need, quickly and affordably. And the best part? You'll be getting the same professional, trusted care that comes with any Columbus Regional Healthcare service.

Now open 7 days a week, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

We are part of the CRHS network of providers, including primary care, occupational medicine and surgical specialists. Just another way CRHS is #morethanahospital.

Located on the CRHS campus at 508 Jefferson Street.

910-641-8600 | crhealthcare.org/urgent-care

- Open 7 days a week
- 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- No appointment necessary
- Quick and affordable care
- Occupational medicine
- Part of the CRHS network

Larry Burroughs, P.A.
Marie L. Campbell, D.N.P.



GET READY to START YOUR ENGINES



NASCAR SEASON...

The NASCAR season is about to begin, and The News Reporter will cover all of the action starting February 11, just in time for Daytona. Join us for all the rubber burning, gear jammin, rubbing and slamming action!

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!

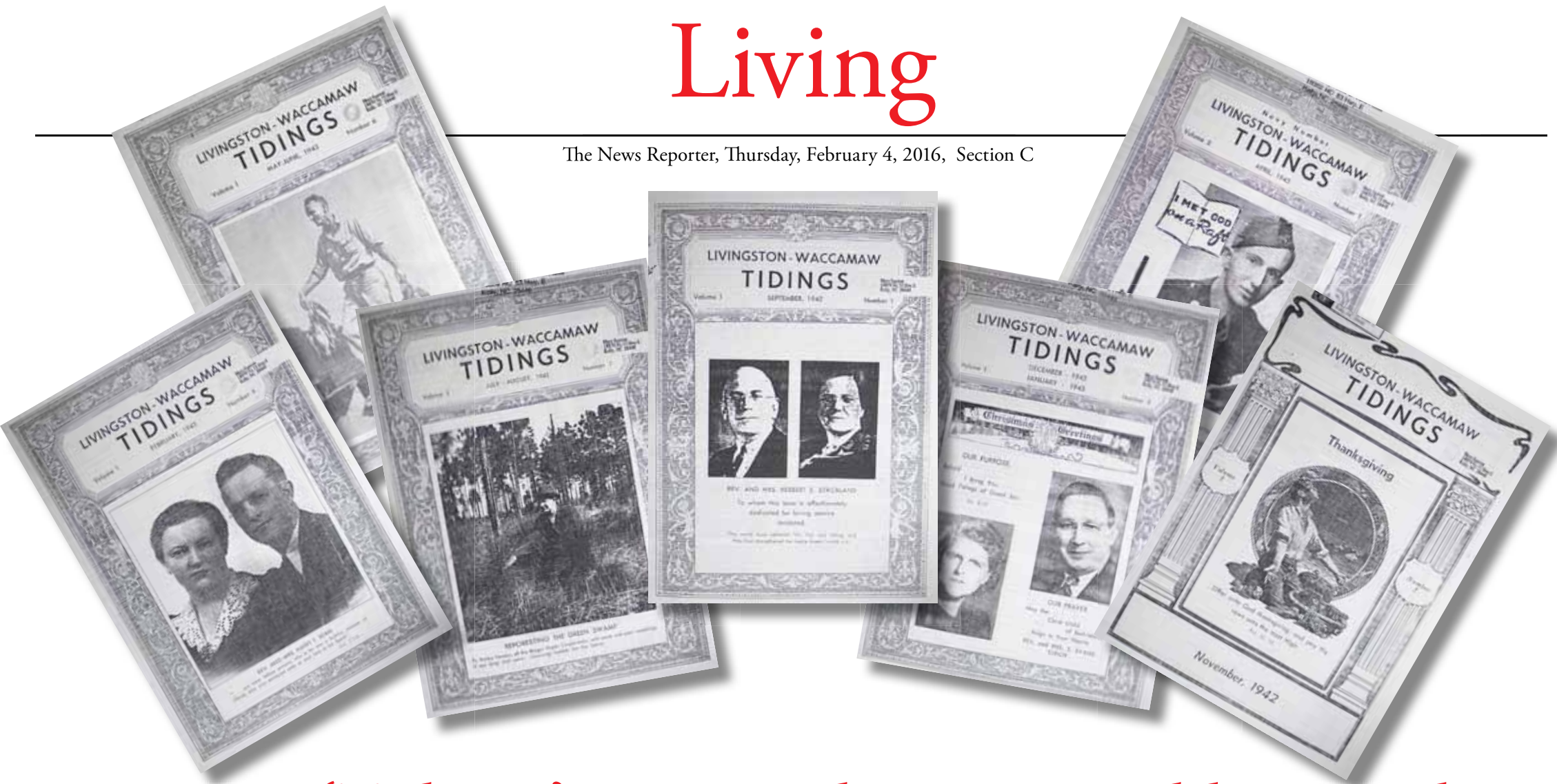
What better place to advertise than the News Reporter's NASCAR page, to reach all of the racing fans in the county. Here's your chance to get your business out front and on the fast track to getting noticed.

For more information call 642-4104, ext. 236, 238, or 239

The News Reporter

Living

The News Reporter, Thursday, February 4, 2016, Section C



Wartime 'Tidings' presented news on soldiers, sailors and Baptist church members at home and abroad

By **BOB HIGH**
Staff Writer

The Rev. Evans Ulrich, pastoring Baptist churches in Delco, Acme, Whiteville and Lake Waccamaw, plus at times churches in Leland, Freeland and Ash in Brunswick County, worked in his office quarters of his Lake Waccamaw home many long nights as he pro-

duced on a typewriter reams of words for his "Tidings" magazines that were shipped free to World War II servicemen and women all over the world.

And, they were distributed to members of his churches and other interested people in Brunswick and Columbus counties.

Thanks to Charles Lennon, a 79-year-old retired newspaper

production worker from the Freeman community in eastern Columbus County, several more of the "Livingston-Waccamaw Tidings" books from World War II are available

Lennon copied several issues obtained from the Lee Roy and Vera Russ family and the Mary Squires families, both from Kelly in the southern edge of neighboring Bladen

County.

The local news sent to young men and women fighting for our country across the world included marriages, births, deaths, church meetings, hunting and fishing trips and other usual and unusual events taking place among the various communities.

One of the most unusual photos in the April 1945 issue

of "Tidings" was one showing Tom Gaddy of the Ash community with two bobcats, killed by his brother Walter on a rabbit hunting trip to the Pee Dee River near Rockingham.

The male bobcat weighed 24.75 pounds, and the vixen was 12.75 pounds. The two bobcats were sent to the N.C. Museum in Raleigh where they were exchanged with the Har-

vard University Museum in Massachusetts for a rare bird.

Another unusual photo was that of little Jo Ellen Peterson of the Delco area. She's shown crying, and Editor Ulrich used it to remind church members how they might feel when they don't get a letter from their service family member in those far-away places across the globe.



The submarine *USS Argonaut* was lost in action Jan. 10 1943 to Japanese destroyers near Rabaul, New Britain in the South Pacific. The *Argonaut* ferried Carlson's Raiders to Makin Island near Guadalcanal where the men attacked the Japanese airbase. The Raiders were taken off Makin by the same sub and returned to Pearl Harbor. Gunner's Mate Jason Stanley from the Wananish community at Lake Waccamaw was one of the crew of 102 sailors lost in the sub's sinking.



Part of the *USS Argonaut's* crew in Pearl Harbor after the Makin Island raid. A captured Japanese flag is at the mouth of the ship's cannon at the right center of the photo.



Gunner's Mate Jason Stanley from Wananish.



Patricia Mae Croom and James Huffham, both of the Livingston church at Delco, were married in early 1943 at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Troy W. Croom.



Army PFC Thomas Edison Dale, a soldier from the Freeman community, was killed in action.



Highway Patrolman James A. Lennon of the Delco community was described as a hero at home in the April 1945 issue of "Tidings." Lennon stopped a truck loaded with \$20,000 worth of stolen tires, headed to a black-market seller somewhere.



These photos of Columbus County servicemen were in the April 1945 issue. Top, from left, James W. Wooten of Acme, Marvin Jones and Garland Anderson, both of Whiteville, and Howard McLaughlin of Acme. Bottom, from left, Tom Wallace and Curtis Flynn, both of Delco, Robert G. Pridgen, nephew of Q.M. Lennon of Delco, and Frank Chavons of Brunswick County.



Four more Columbus County men serving in the military. They are, from left, H.T. Hood Jr. of Lake Waccamaw, E.W. Hobbs of Delco, W.E. Pope Jr. of Lake Waccamaw, and Clyde Congleton of Acme.

Religion

The News Reporter, Thursday, February 4, 2016 -- 2C

SERVICES

Acme Presbyterian Church, Hwy. 87, Riegelwood, holds children's and adult Sunday School at 9 a.m. with nursery provided, and worship service at 10 a.m. with refreshments.

Celebrate Recovery meets at **Peace Baptist Church**, 653 Love Mill Rd., Whiteville, each Thursday from 6-9 p.m. For more information call 642-0251. Partial funding by Good Shepherd Ministries.

The DivorceCare recovery seminar and support group meets at **Peace Baptist Church**, 653 Love Mill Rd., Whiteville, each Thursday from 6-8:30 p.m. Childcare is provided through fifth grade. DivorceCare features nationally recognized experts on divorce and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include Facing My Anger, Facing My Loneliness, Depression, New Relationships, KidCare and Forgiveness. For more information call Peace Baptist Church at 640-2877. The pastor is Chip Hannah.

GriefShare seminar and support group meets at **Peace Baptist Church**, 653 Love Mill Rd., Whiteville, each Monday from 6-8:30 p.m. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. For more information call Peace Baptist Church, 642-0251, 640-7237 or 770-1271. Chip Hannah is the pastor.

Members of **The Lord's Chapel** are on a mission to provide items to the community, at a minimal fee, from their year 'round backyard sale. It is located at 2886 Hallsboro Road South, Hallsboro. The shop is open Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and closed on Wednesday. Items donated will be greatly appreciated. Proceeds go to The Lord's Chapel.

Good News Community Youth Outreach Ministry Inc., 1138 Giles Byrd Rd., Hallsboro has changed the date of their Informer Bible study from Thursdays at 7 p.m. to each Saturday at 3 p.m. to benefit seniors who may not be able to travel at night. For more information call 646-4898.

Honey Hill Missionary Baptist Church services. Sunday school is held at 10 a.m. and service begins at 11 a.m. Sunday night service is held at 6 p.m. and Wednesday service is at 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 6140 Honey Hill Rd., Hallsboro. The new pastor is Troy Little.

Victory in Jesus Ministries of Whiteville will hold two morning worship services. The ser-

vice times are 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. each Sunday with Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. Believers night Bible study is held on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Voices of Victory services are aired weekly on WMIR 1200 AM in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on Fridays at 4 p.m. with streaming available via the internet. The ministry is located at 626 S. Madison Street. Tracey A. Troy is the pastor. For more information call 642-5416 or visit victoryinjesusministries.org

New Ebenezer Faith Ministries will hold its 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays - Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Morning worship is at 11:15 a.m. Intcessory Prayer every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Bible study/youth night is held every Friday at 7 p.m. Every 2nd and 4th Friday is "Dine on us" from 6-9 p.m. (Feeding the community). The church is located at 1705 Southport-Supply Road, Bolivia. Bishop Ronnie McCray is the pastor.

Agape House of Worship will hold its Bible study every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Sunday services at 11:30 a.m. Agape HOW is located at 199 Forest Drive, Whiteville. Bennie Benjamin is the pastor.

Fellowship Independent Baptist Church will hold its Bible study every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 3070 Hallsboro Road North. Elder Shawn Maynor is the pastor.

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church will hold Sunday school every Sunday at 10 a.m. and worship service every 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11:15 a.m. and Midweek service every Wednesday at 7 p.m. The church is located at 14853 Sam Potts Hwy., Bolton. Rev. Timothy Ray Moss is the pastor.

Lynn Hill Baptist Church will hold a new Sunday school series on "The book of Revelation." Pastor Schalk is teaching a thought-provoking series of power-point messages on the book of Revelation. Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. and the main worship at 11 a.m. There is also an informative power-point series on Sundays at 6 p.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. The church is located at 620 Lynn Hill Road, near the intersection of Hwy. 74 and Union Valley Road. For more information or directions call 914-0002 or 642-5820.

The **Waccamaw Siouan Tribe** will hold its council meetings the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Tribal Grounds on Old Lake Road, Bolton.

The **House of Prayer and Deliverance** will hold its worship service every Sunday morning with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. and morning worship at 11:15 a.m. Weekly services are held each

Piney Forest 16th annual law enforcement appreciation luncheon

Piney Forest Baptist Church will hold its 16th annual law enforcement appreciation BBQ luncheon Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.



Area members of the N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, N.C. Highway Patrol, Chadbourne and Fair Bluff Police Departments, Columbus Sheriff's Department, Court Officials, Prison Administrators and Superintendents are encouraged to attend. Retirees are welcome.

The church is located at 4509 Andrew Jackson Hwy. SW in Chadbourne.

Willard McPherson is the pastor. For more information call McPherson at 770-1592, Sharon Caines at 654-4470 or George Baysden at 654-3911.

Wednesday at noon. Intercessory prayer and Bible study are on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. HOPD is located at 1113 S. Madison Street. Barbara P. Powell is the pastor.

First Missionary Baptist Church will hold Sunday worship services. There will be two services every first through fourth Sunday at 8:30 and 11 a.m. The fifth Sunday will be at 8:30 a.m. only. The church is located at 501 Martin Street in Elizabethtown. Cliff E. Freeman Jr. is the pastor.

New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church Sunday school is held each Sunday at 10 a.m. and morning worship service each second and fourth Sunday beginning at 11 a.m. A special prayer time is held each Wednesday at noon and Bible study is held each Wednesday evening beginning at 7 p.m. The church is located on Mill Pond Road in the Brunswick community. For more information call 445-1022. Rev. Anthony Rowell is the pastor.

Leamon Rogers Memorial Chapel on the Boys and Girls Home Campus at Lake Waccamaw is now holding a worship service every Sunday morning from 9-10 a.m. The service is open to the public. The weekly worship service will include a mixture of traditional and modern messages and music. For more information call Rev. Michael Jones at 646-3083.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Alcoholics Anonymous meets

at First Presbyterian Church, 511 N. Thompson St., Whiteville on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday nights at 8 p.m. A guest speaker will be at the meeting on the last Thursday of each month. The church is located on Thompson Street in Whiteville.

Narcotics Anonymous meets at Highest Praise Church, 109 N. Madison St., Whiteville on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m., at Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church, 15956 Old Lake Road, Riegelwood on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m.

AI-anon meets at **First Presbyterian Church**, 511 N. Thompson St., Whiteville on Mondays at 8 p.m.

Diabetes Support Group meets at Columbus Regional Healthcare, Education Center, Classroom 2 the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information call Shauna Nobles at 642-9458 or 641-8208.

Brain Injury Support Group meets at Columbus Regional Healthcare, Education Center, Room 1A the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information call Shauna Nobles or Sonja Green at 642-8011 ext. 9458.

Compassionate Friends Support Group (Grief group for parents who have lost children to death) meets at Grace Episcopal Church, 105 S. Madison St., Whiteville the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 647-8401.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #962 of Columbus County meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at 1028 S. Madison St., Whiteville.

The American Legion Post #233 meets the first Tuesday

of each month at 6 p.m. at 313 Phillips St., Whiteville.

The American Legion Post #139 meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at 208 First Ave., Chadbourne.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8073 meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Vietnam Veterans building at 1028 S. Madison St. Whiteville.

Military Vet Riders Association meets on the last Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Vietnam Veterans building at 1028 S. Madison St. Whiteville.

Ladies Auxiliary #8073 meets on the second Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Vietnam Veterans building at 1028 S. Madison St., Whiteville.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter #35 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at 1028 S. Madison St., Whiteville.

Family and Community Hope Resources Inc. would like persons from 20-40 years of age to attend Community Development meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Columbus County Dream Center from 6:30-7:30 p.m. For more information call Shelle Blanks at 910-207-8982 or Yolanda Davis at 704-780-8350.

A Community Garden is available at **Chadbourne United Methodist Church**. Persons are invited to come and plant in the raised bed plots. For more information call 654-5250 or 654-4069 and leave message, name and number.

Veterans meet

Vietnam Veterans of America meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at 1028 S. Madison St., Whiteville.

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.

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 McClellan at 207-6574 or Bridget Stephens at 646-1164.

www.whiteville.com

Whiteville United Methodist

"We invite you to worship with us every Sunday"

Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m.

Minister - Rev. Paul Stallsworth

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Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church.

wumc@whitevilleumc.org
www.whitevilleumc.org

Be Strong & Take Heart



When faced with a distasteful situation there is often no choice but to take a deep breath and swallow hard. It takes a lot of strength to meet life's challenges. We can do so with hope and faith if we have God's wisdom to guide us. "Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord." (Psalm 31:24) Grow in strength as you worship each week and be prepared for whatever comes your way.

Weekly Scripture Reading

John	1 John	1 John	1 John	1 John	1 John	1 John
14:1-14	11:10	2:1-17	2:18-29	3:1-24	4:1-21	5:1-21

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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EMV chip more secure, but fraud remains a risk

Consumers who have gotten new credit and debit cards with EMV chip technology still need to be on the lookout for frauds and scams, Attorney General Roy Cooper warns.

"New technology can make card transactions more secure, but no credit or debit card is completely safe from fraud," Cooper said. "Consumers can't let down their guard when it comes to protecting their credit and debit cards."

How new cards work

Banks, credit card companies and retailers are transitioning from cards with the traditional magnetic strip to new cards and payment systems that use EMV chips. Older cards generate the same transaction information with each use, making it easier for information to be stolen from cards that are swiped through rigged payment terminals.

Cards with the EMV chip — named for its owners Europay, Mastercard and Visa — protect

personal information by creating a unique security code for each transaction. EMV chip cards make it more difficult for thieves to steal consumer payment information from in-store payment terminals, but they will not protect consumers from problems with lost or stolen cards. Scammers can still use stolen card numbers to make illegal purchases online or by telephone, because EMV chip cards will continue to use the traditional process for those transactions.

Many stores are still transitioning to EMV payment terminals, and gas pumps don't have to switch to the new technology until 2017, so consumers may notice that their new chip cards still include a magnetic strip. If consumers are asked to swipe their card to make a payment rather than using a new chip card reader, they won't get the additional security benefits that EMV chips offer.

Regardless of which type of

payment system is used, paying by credit card is generally safer than cash or check because you can dispute the charge if you don't get what you pay for and can stop damage quickly if theft or fraud happens, Cooper said.

Tips on EMV chip cards

- Keep your card safe. Store your credit and debit cards in a secure location when you're not using them. Know where your card is at all times.

- Destroy unused cards. If your bank or credit card company sends you a new EMV chip credit card, shred your old one and dispose of the pieces.

- Guard your PIN. If your card gives you the option of using it with a Personal Identification Number, make sure you memorize your PIN and keep

it secret. Don't use familiar numbers like phone, address, birthday or Social Security numbers as your PIN.

• Be cautious when shopping online. The process of paying online is the same, regardless of whether or not your card contains an EMV chip. Con-



tinue to follow our tips for safe online shopping.

Check credit report often
• Monitor your credit to spot irregular activity. Under federal law, every consumer is entitled to one free credit report

per year from each of the three major credit bureaus.

• Report suspicious activity immediately. If you notice an unfamiliar charge or payment on your credit or debit card accounts, report it to the bank that issued the card right away. If you spot an unfamiliar loan or line of credit on your credit report, you could be a victim of identity theft and need to act quickly to close the affected account, file a police report, and report it to the credit bureaus.

Watch for chip card scams

Consumers should also be prepared for scams that follow the release of new EMV chip cards, Cooper said. Last month, the Federal Trade Commission issued a warning about phony emails from scammers who pose as representatives from a major credit card issuer. The emails ask consumers to confirm their order for a new EMV chip card by clicking on bad links or reply-

ing with personal information that could be used to commit identity theft.

"While stores and banks work to adopt new EMV chip technology, look out for scammers using this as an opportunity to trick you," Cooper cautioned. "Never reply to an email or phone call that asks you to share personal information like your card or account number."

Each year, thousands of North Carolinians are affected by scams related to credit and debit cards. In 2014, the Attorney General's Office received more than 1,100 consumer complaints about credit scams and identity theft. If you believe you have been a victim of scam, report it to the Consumer Protection Division by phone toll-free within North Carolina at 1-877-5-NO-SCAM or file a complaint online. For more information on using credit and debit cards safely, visit ncdoj.gov.

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

version. We'll include your church name, address, phone number, pastor's name, service times and web address. You'll also have an expanded church profile, including church photos, run in the directory sometime during the six month period. We encourage you to help make this directory complete by having your church information included.



White Marsh Baptist Church

341 White Hall Rd.
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-770-5487
Reverend Ray Yow

White Marsh Baptist Church, located in the Welches Creek Township in Columbus County, was organized around 1765. It is the oldest church in the Columbus Baptist Association.

White Marsh was recognized in November 1976 by the North Carolina Baptist State Conven-

Services:
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7:00 p.m.

tion with a plaque honoring it as one of the 25 oldest Baptist churches in the state.

The church is currently led in worship by Rev. Ray Yow. We invite you to come and join our worship services and fellowship in Christian love as we celebrate 250 years on Sunday, October 11, 2015, beginning at 10:30 am with a covered dish lunch at noon.

<p style="text-align: center;">AFRICAN-METHODIST EPISCOPAL</p> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AFRICAN-METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION</p> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ASSEMBLY OF GOD</p> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Whiteville Assembly of God 516 N. Madison St. (Former location of Missionary Alliance Church) Pastor Randy Hunt 717-688-0501 Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:30 am Wednesday, Family Night 7:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BAPTIST</p> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Chadbourne Baptist Church 504 N. Howard St., Chadbourne 910-654-3992 Dr. Danny Russell, Pastor cbcoff@embarqmail.com www.chadbournebaptist.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</p>  <hr/> <p>First Baptist Church 412 N. Madison St., Whiteville 910-642-2139 fbcoffice@embarqmail.com www.fbcwhiteville.com Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, Wednesday 6:30 pm</p>	<p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Lennon's Cross Roads Baptist Church 13804 Haynes Lennon Hwy., Evergreen Dr. Fred Senter, Pastor • 910-642-4436 Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 2nd Sunday of each month 6:00 pm Special Fellowship Activity, Wednesday 7:00 pm</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Piney Forest Baptist Church 4509 Andrew Jackson Hwy. SW, Chadbourne Rev. Willard McPherson • 910-654-5284 Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 7:00 pm Wednesday 7:00 pm</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> 	<p>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, 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Worship Wednesday 7:00 pm</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Williamsons Crossroads Baptist Church 4071 Princess Ann Rd., Chadbourne Interim Pastor Carroll Fonvielle 642-6459 Cell 840-5589 Diana Fonvielle 625-9889 Sunday 10:00 am, 11 am Wednesday 7:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHURCH OF GOD</p> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FREEWILL BAPTIST</p> <p>Avants Chapel FWB Church 947 Cedar St., Cerro Gordo Pastor Mack Watts • 843-756-0417 www.0417@sccoast.net Sunday 9:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm Wednesday 7:30 pm</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INDEPENDENT BAPTIST</p> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MISSIONARY BAPTIST</p> <p>First Missionary Baptist Church 505 S. Wilkes St., Chadbourne Reverend Virgil Hugh Reaves 910-654-3225 www.firstmbcchadbourne.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</p>	<p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CATHOLIC</p> <p>Sacred Heart Catholic Church 302 N. Lee St., Whiteville Rev. Marco Antonio Gonzalez-Hernandez fr.marco.gonzalez@raldios.org www.bccatholics.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 Confessions Thursday/Jueves 5-6 pm Confessions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY</p> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EPISCOPAL/LUTHERAN</p> <p>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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOLINESS</p> <p>Chadbourne Church of God of Prophecy 3618 Joe Brown Hwy. S., Chadbourne Rev. John McPherson • 910-654-3968 Sunday 10 am, 11 am, 6:00 pm, Wednesday 7:30 pm - Classes for all ages</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">METHODIST-UNITED</p> <p>Chadbourne United Methodist Church 300 E. 2nd Ave., Chadbourne Rev. Pat Inman • 910-443-9786 refrectorj@ec.rr.com Sun 9:45 am, 11:00 am Prayer Tuesday 10:00 am</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NON-DENOMINATIONAL</p> <p>Glory Tabernacle Church 4513 Pleasant Plains Church Rd, Whiteville Pastor Clark Whittington 910-640-2991 www.gtconnect.org Sunday 10:30 am and 6:00 pm Wednesday 7:00 pm</p> <hr/> <p>Living Word Church 6374 Chadbourne Hwy., Chadbourne Pastor Ron Fields • 910-654-4164 www.livingwordnc.com Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Wednesday 7:00 pm</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS</p> <p>Chadbourne Pentecostal Holiness Church 518 N. Elm St., Chadbourne Pastor Donald Conway • 910-654-4850 www.chadbourneph.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</p> <hr/> <p>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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Chadbourne Presbyterian Church 600 E. First Ave., Chadbourne Rev. C.F. McDowell III 910-654-3449 chadbournepresbyterian.org Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am</p> <hr/> <p>First Presbyterian Church 511 N. Thompson St., Whiteville 910-642-2253 fpcwhiteville@embarqmail.com Sunday School 10:00 am, Services 11:00 am</p> <hr/> <p>Westminster Presbyterian Church 307 S. Franklin St., Whiteville 910-642-2762 westminster_presbyterian@hotmail.com Sunday 9:45 pm, 11:00 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST</p> <p>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</p>
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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

Congratulations to the Town of Tabor City for being awarded a Community Development Block Grant of \$2 million. Tabor City's project was scored as the top rated project in the state out of the 40 that were submitted and the eight that were funded. Our project will replace old sewer lines on West 4th, West 3rd and West 2nd streets as well as a portion of Bay Street. These sewer lines are more than 40 years old and empty into a sewer pump station that is overwhelmed during rainy periods. The time frame to complete this project is about three years. This \$2 million grant is the largest grant received by the town in 15 years.

Tabor City also received an award from the authority for help at the sewer plant. Town government submitted a request for a low interest loan of \$1,213,900 to replace and upgrade parts of the treatment plant. The authority ranked Tabor City's proposal as the third highest of the 14 that they approved. We were also thrilled to see that state officials include \$500,000 in "principle forgiveness." That is, in essence, a half-million dollar grant that lowers our loan to \$713,900. These two awards will go a long way toward improving the future of Tabor City and her citizens.

Don't forget to "Save the date" for the 70th annual banquet of the Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce. This year's banquet will be held Monday, Feb. 8 at the Ritz Center in downtown Tabor City. The cost to attend the banquet is \$25 per person. Call the chamber at 377-3012 to RSVP.

"Our State" Magazine has partnered with all of the North Carolina Visitors Centers and is implementing a campaign to give away "Our State" magazines to our visitors. Beginning this month you can pop by the Tabor City Visitor Center and pick up your free copy of the February edition of the magazine. We will be giving them out as long as our supply lasts so come and get your copy. Only one copy per person will be distributed.

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 chat with one of our friendly hostess's who will assist you in gathering information about the beautiful state of North Carolina and her many destination spots. Free phone books, North Carolina and Tabor City maps are available as well. We look forward to seeing you soon and telling you about all of the happenings and events in North Carolina and Columbus County.

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.

Clothing donations being accepted

Walk Into Your Inheritance Outreach Ministries is asking for clothing donations.

Donations can be dropped off at 1757 Stanley Road, Supply.

For more information call Minister Utrillia Bryant at 508-6861.

Graham Chapel AMEZ 100 in red

Graham Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church of the East Arcadia community in Riegelwood will hold its 15th Annual "One Hundred in Red" Program Sunday, Feb. 14 at 3 p.m. Special guest speakers, who will speak on the subject, "We love because He first loved us," Rev. Dr. Mary C. Nixon, pastor of St. Phillip A.M.E. Zion Church of Wrightsboro; Rev. James Jones, pastor of Baker's Creek A.M.E. Zion Church of Dublin; Sister Dora Jones of Mt. Zion A.M.E. Zion Church, Elizabethtown; Rev. Roxie Lloyd of Saint Luke A.M.E. Zion Church, Bladenboro; and the Rev. Rona Watson, pastor of the New Zion A.M.E. Zion Church of Lisbon.

Rev. William Peterson is the pastor.

New Mt. Zion hosts movie for women

New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church will host movie day for women Saturday, Feb. 20 at 3 p.m.

A free showing of the movie, War Room, refreshments and "girl talk" are included.

Child care will not be available for this event.

For more information call 445-6031.

The church is located at 1980 Mill Pond Road in the Brunswick community.

Rev. Anthony Rowell is pastor.

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.

Tabor City MA meeting Feb. 11

The Tabor City Ministerial Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church.

All area pastors are encouraged to attend.

Meetings are held monthly on the second Thursday.

For more information contact Pastor Jerry Martin at 653-3737.

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.

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.

St. Luke AMEZ to present play Feb. 6

The St. Luke Christian Education Department will present a play "Who moved my clothespin?" Saturday, Feb. 6 at 4 p.m. in the St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church fellowship hall.

Donations of \$12 for entertainment and dinner will be taken at the door.

The church is located at 410 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Bladenboro.

For more information call 231-9583.

Rev. Hardy Ballard Jr. is the pastor.

Whiteville Apparel lunch Feb. 6

Members from Whiteville Apparel will eat lunch Saturday, Feb. 6 at 11 a.m. at Southern Sizzler.

For more information call Geneva Thompson at 642-6602.

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.

Riegelwood AA meets Wednesdays

The Riegelwood group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. every Wednesday at the USW Local 9-738, 102 Old Stage Hwy. (87) at Riegelwood.

Special Olympics Interest meeting

A Special Olympics Interest meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 11 at 6 p.m.

This meeting is for individuals that want to help improve and grow the Special Olympics program in Columbus County.

The meeting will be held at HomeCare Management Corporation, 2208 James B. White Hwy. N.

For more information call Jennifer Moore at 640-1153.

Roseland VFD BBQ Feb. 6

Roseland Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual BBQ Saturday, Feb. 6. Plates are \$8.

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Call 642-4104**

St. Luke A.M.E. Zion 'tea' program

St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church will present "How's your tea?" Saturday, Feb. 12 at 5:30 p.m. Various speakers will share how cups of tea can reflect our daily living.

This program will support the youth missionary society of the church.

The church is located at 410 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Bladenboro.

Rev. Hardy Ballard Jr. is the pastor.

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

Zion Plain MBC food family/friends day

Zion Plain Missionary Baptist Church of Nakina will hold its Family and Friends Day Sunday, Feb. 14. It will be an all day service with dinner. Morning service begins at 11:15 a.m. with Pastor Rev. Mack Reed of Georgetown, S.C. speaking.

An evening service will begin at 3:30 p.m. with Rev. Derrick Farmer, pastor of Ohovah AME Church of Orum along with his choir and congregation.

Clothing donations being accepted

Walk Into Your Inheritance Outreach Ministries is asking for clothing donations.

Donations can be dropped off at 1757 Stanley Road, Supply (located near Cedar Grove Middle School).

For more information call Minister Utrillia Johnson at 294-0656.

Cypress Branch PFWB Family/friends Day

Cypress Branch Pentecostal Freewill Baptist Church will hold its Family and Friends Day Sunday, Feb. 7 at 10 a.m.

The group Willing Hearts will be singing from 10-11 a.m. and preaching will be from 11 a.m.-noon.

Soup and sandwiches will be served after the service.

The church is located at 1067 Small Road, Fair Bluff.

Rev. Perry Cribb is the pastor.

For more information call Cribb at 207-8882 or Jason Jordan at 843-385-3491.



Your pet Rx
With Charlene High

Something to think about

Oh those days when scratching just doesn't stop, "I've treated my dog for fleas but he's still scratching," you say to yourself. So off to the pet store or vet you go. Sound familiar? I recently received the following email at yourpetrxtopics@gmail.com requesting suggestions on this issue.

"We have a wonderful rescue dog, probably 13 years old, an elegant, loving companion. She is very healthy for her age but scratches often, and for long periods of time. Sometimes she also chews her feet, etc. She does not have fleas or anything visible that would seem to trigger the scratching. Our vet prescribed medication but it was making her too sleepy and we did not continue with it. She has been taken off commercial dog food for several months now in an effort to help and enjoys home cooked meals. Seems like that has helped a bit but we would truly love to assist her more so would welcome your thoughts and any advice."

The scratching can be from dry skin causing a form of dander/dandruff especially for those pets living indoors and subject to heat and air conditioning which tends to dry coats. This isn't as evident with the winter coats as it is with human dandruff. Or it could be mites, which do cause pets to bite and scratch, especially if there isn't evidence of fleas.

Do you feed dry food only? If so try putting a bit of oil on the food daily. Good old fashioned olive oil works and they love the flavor. Better still is salmon oil but difficult to get in this area. Revival Pet sells it online or go to any Tractor Supply store. I'm also sure you can find it in one of the major pet stores.

That's assuming the issue is dry skin, however, in any case adding olive or salmon oil is always a great idea especially if feeding dry food. Omega-3's are also great for the aging pet who may be showing a bit of joint pain. At times chewing can be related to pain just as we rub an arthritic joint. Also remember - it took years for a problem to be evident so don't expect overnight success.

It could take up to 30 days for relief to be evident. Salmon oil is very high in omega-3, as is olive oil which is also high in Omega-6 fatty acids. Don't overdo putting oil in their food. A teaspoon a day is more than sufficient.

Charlene High is the former publisher and editor of *Natural Pet magazine*, and has been involved with breeding horses, dogs and cats for more than 30 years. Do you have a question on our topic today? Then email yourpetrxtopics@gmail.com or write "yourpetrx" care of this newspaper.

You can also see us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/yourpetrxtopics>.

Church Combines Faith and Fitness for Columbus County

Columbus County will get the chance to lose weight, feel better and defy its title of the unhealthiest county in North Carolina during Healthy Choices 2016, a wellness initiative sponsored by Praise Tabernacle Seventh Day Adventist Church in Whiteville.

The program kicked off Saturday, Jan. 23 with registration and a health rally.

The six-month program consists exercise classes twice a week, as well as workshops hosted by local physicians Drs. Richard Berry and Stephen Mills.

Topics include how to quit smoking, how to lower cholesterol and high blood pressure, and many others to help community residents keep their new year's health resolutions.

Participants will track their progress in journals and be placed with a buddy for support. There will also be a group weight loss challenge with a \$250 cash prize to the person losing the most weight by the program's end in early summer.

"As part of the program, participants will be given incentives for joining up with local gyms, cooking classes, and other health education events," said Darryl Howard, pastor of Praise Tabernacle.

For more information call 640-0855.

The church is located at 3710 James B. White Hwy., South.

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.

Freeman to speak for Black History

Brother Roy Freeman Jr. will be the Black history speaker Sunday, Feb. 21 at First St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church at 4 p.m.

Lester Frink is the pastor.

OES annual BBQ/chicken dinner

The Order of the Eastern Star Whiteville Chapter #211 will hold its annual fried or BBQ chicken dinner Friday, Feb. 5 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge on Pecan Street.

The cost is \$7 per plate and consists of chicken, potato salad, green beans, hush puppies and cake.

For tickets or more information call Terri Davis at 770-7159.

Cerro Gordo Woodmen sets Valentine reception

Woodmen Life Chapter 130 located at 8119 Andrew Jackson Hwy. W., Cerro Gordo will hold its Valentine's day reception Sunday Feb. 14 at the chapter hall.

The reception is to celebrate 125 years of Woodmen. The community and other chapters are invited to drop in between 3-5 p.m.

President of the chapter is Harold Fipps.



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**CLASSIFIEDS SELL
CLASSIFIEDS SELL**

Plans coming together for 84th Strawberry fest

By ALLEN TURNER
Staff Writer



Strawberry officers

Officers for the 84th annual N.C. Strawberry Festival elected Thursday night were, from left, Secretary Hilda Bullard, President Guy Long and Treasurer Joy Bullard. The group will elect a vice president at its next meeting on Feb. 11.

Plans are beginning to come together for the 84th annual North Carolina Strawberry Festival. The festival's board of directors met Thursday and elected officers for the upcoming festival. Parade day – the big day of the more than week-long festival – will be Saturday, May 7.

Guy Long was re-elected president of the festival and Joy Bullard and Hilda Bullard were re-elected treasurer and secretary, respectively. The group will elect a vice president at their next meeting on Feb. 11 and that person is expected to become president for the 85th festival next year. They'll also finalize the naming of a grand marshal for the parade at that next meeting.

Festival events will kick off in late April with a pancake supper at Chadbourn Elementary School, residential and commercial display contests and a walk-a-thon/run-a-thon.

On Tuesday, May 3, a chicken bog fundraiser for the Chadbourn Depot Museum will be held at the event field behind Hardee's and opening ceremonies will be held with featured entertainment still to be named.

The Rev. Timothy Lance, pastor of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, once again will coordinate the community Day of Prayer observance at noon on Thursday, May 5, at the gazebo beside the Chadbourn Fire Department. Later that evening the Strawberry Festival Jam Variety Show will be held in the West Columbus High School Auditorium.

Fun Time Amusements will offer rides Friday and Saturday, May 6-7, and the Evening of Strawberry Encounters dinner will be held Friday evening at a location will be finalized at the next board meeting.

The usual "festival day" events will be Saturday, highlighted by the parade at 2 p.m. Also on tap Saturday will be arts and crafts and food products contests. An all-day variety show will be held at the event field except during the parade itself. The strawberry luncheon featuring Henderson as keynote speaker will be held at 11:30 a.m. at the Chadbourn Pentecostal Holiness Church, followed by an auction of strawberry quality contest entries.

Saturday night after the parade, the N.C. Strawberry Festival Scholarship Pageant will be held at West Columbus High School.

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.

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.

Services set at American Legion Post

Pastor Robert D. Williams Sr. and his congregation will hold services at the American Legion Post Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. until further notice.

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.

Free pregnancy tests and due dates available

Living Hope Pregnancy Support Services offers free pregnancy tests and estimated due dates necessary for applying for Medicaid for Pregnant Women. The services are available on Mondays from 3-7 p.m. and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-4 p.m. Living Hope is located at 116 Premiere Plaza, behind Waffle International in Whiteville.

All services are free and confidential. For further information, please call our helpline at 642-2677.

White Marsh BC to hold Focus

White Marsh Baptist Church will hold Focus on WMU Sunday, Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. The guest speaker will be Jackie Ray Pierce of Western Prong Baptist Church. She will be speaking about the mission trip that was taken in October 2015 to Nicaragua.

There will also be special music.

The church is located at 341 Whitehall Road.

Rev. Ray Yow is the pastor.

Global School of Ministry enrolling students

Global School of Ministry is now enrolling students.

Global School of Ministry is being offered free of charge through love offerings and donations.

Individuals interested in learning how to receive biblical training and education without paying the high cost of tuition are invited to contact Minister Patrina Wright at 234-3092.

By His Grace church announcement

By His Grace Ministries will hold church every Saturday at 5 p.m.

The minister of music is Torey Bessent.

The event will be held at the Waccamaw Community building, 5585 Waccamaw School Road, Ash.

Overseer Elgin Blake is the pastor.

Baldwin Branch MBC clothes closet reopens

The Baldwin Branch Missionary Baptist Church Clothes Closet has reopened. The regular operation is each fourth Saturday at 8 a.m.

Baldwin Branch is located at 4047 N.C. 242 Hwy. South in Elizabethtown.

Rev. Dr. Louie Boykin is the pastor.

Lake Waccamaw Food ministry to distribute food

Lake Waccamaw food ministry will distribute food to those in need.

The distribution days will be the second Wednesday and fourth Saturday of each month, from 9-10 a.m. at First Baptist Church, Sam Potts Hwy. Lake Waccamaw.

Food recipients need only a photo ID to receive free food.

The partnering churches are Lake Waccamaw Methodist Church, Lake Waccamaw Presbyterian Church, Little Wheel of Hope Church and First Baptist Church of Lake Waccamaw.

For more information call 646-3727.

www.whiteville.com

Tatum's 14th annual gospel sing anniversary

Tatum's 14th annual gospel sing anniversary is set for Saturday, March 19 at 6 p.m. at New Life Church. On the program will be the Beaverdam Boys from Beaverdam, Nadine and Stevie from Bolton and Joyful Sounds of Galivants, S.C. with a special appearance by T.J. Tatum.

Door prizes will be given away. Refreshments will be available.

The church is located at 107 S. Maultsby Street.

For more information call Johnny Tatum at 625-8816.

Beaverdam OFWBC revival/gospel sing

Beaverdam Original Free-will Baptist Church will hold its revival Monday, Feb. 29-Friday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m. nightly. Rev. Wesley Campbell will be the evangelist.

A gospel sing will be held Saturday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m. featuring The Rivertown Boys from Conway, S.C.

The church is located at 2665 Beaverdam Road, Chadbourn.

For more information call Pastor Buddy Seay at 918-3446.

Whiteville FPHC revival set Feb. 1-7

Whiteville First Pentecostal Holiness Church will hold its revival Monday, Feb. 1-Sunday, Feb. 7. Rev. Donald Conway, pastor of Chadbourn Pentecostal Holiness Church will preach nightly, Mon-Fri at 7 p.m. nightly. There will be special singing each night.

There will be a gospel sing Saturday featuring GLAD Trio and Joy Rivers Trio, also at 7 p.m. Sunday services will be at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. and will feature a former pastor and friend of Whiteville, Rev. Wiley Clark.

The church is located on the corner of Madison and Calhoun Streets.

Myles Cartrette is the pastor.

Praying for Revival

To every child of God consider this as your personal open invitation to attend a monthly prayer meeting to pray for revival in the local community.

This call goes beyond denomination, race and/or size of the building where you worship as a church family.

The location will change from month to month as other churches choose to host, but it will always occur on the First Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

The location for January's meeting will be Pierce Chapel AME Zion Church, 595 Portersville Road, Clarkton. The host Pastor is Johnas Freeman.

For more information call Franklin Spaulding at 641-2377.

Columbus County Bible College enrolling

Columbus County Bible College is now enrolling students for the spring semester 2016.

Day classes are also available.

The college is offering certificates in biblical studies, associate bachelor, master an doctorate degrees. This is an accredited Bible college.

For more information contact Dr. Tanty A. Freeman, dean of Columbus County Bible College at 619-7111 or 655-8971.

The college is housed in Community Prayer House, 17362 Sam Potts Hwy., Bolton.

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.

Kelly YFC Black history program

Kelly Youth Focus Center will hold its annual Black history program Saturday, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Westside Alumni Community Center. The speaker will be Rev. Phyllis Kelly of First Missionary Baptist Church in Chadbourn.

For more information call Hattie Kelly at 918-7583.

Valentine Gala cancer benefit

Living Springs Church will host a Valentine Gala cancer benefit Saturday, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m.

Donations are \$30 per person. Tickets must be obtained in advance from WBLA 'Da Branch' Radio Station 1440 AM in Elizabethtown or call Mrs. Willis at 316-8408 or Mary Williams at 991-6325. Tickets will not be available at the door. The church is located at 909 S. Poplar Street on Hwy. 701 North in Elizabethtown.

Cypress Branch PWFB BBQ fundraiser

Cypress Branch Pentecostal Freewill Baptist Church will hold its BBQ fundraiser Friday, March 11. Plates are \$7 and include BBQ, slaw, baked beans, roll and a slice of cake. Delivery is available for 5 or more plates.

BBQ will also be sold by the pound for \$7.

There will also be a cake bake sale to benefit the youth on a trip to the mountains. Call Nancy Stanley at 843-516-1502 to order.

The church is located at 1067 Small Road, Fair Bluff.

For more information call Debbie Batten at 910-770-2684, Larry Stanley at 843-421-5267 or Jason Jordan at 843-385-3491.

We're On The Web:
www.whiteville.com

New Light MBC Black history

New Light Missionary Baptist Church of Hallsboro will hold its Black history program Saturday, Feb. 6 at 5 p.m.

A movie will be shown entitled "Stand by me." Also on the program will be singing and praise dancing.

A Black history program will also be held Sunday, Feb. 21. The speaker will be Sheriff Hatcher.

Also a Black history program will be held Sunday, Feb. 28 entitled "In the olden days."

Rev. Franklin Graham is the pastor.

Methodists set Lenten services

The Chadbourn and Evergreen United Methodist churches have planned Lenten services for Ash Wednesday and the six Sunday nights preceding Easter.

The Ash Wednesday service will be in Evergreen Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

Services are at 7 p.m. with light refreshments and special music.

Services are scheduled as follows:

Evergreen UMC:

Feb. 14 – Rev. John Bracey.

Feb. 21 – Rev. Scott Gore.

Feb. 28 – Rev. Bob Bauman.

Chadbourn UMC

March 6 – Rev. C.F. McDowell III.

March 13 – Pam Muse.

March 20 – Dr. Sharon Edwards.

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The Mini Page

Next Week:
Valentines
from the past

Issue 05, 2016

Founded by Betty Debnam

Super Bowl 50



photo by Jim Bahn

Mini Fact:

Super Bowl 50 will be played in the home stadium of the San Francisco 49ers.

Super Bowl fun facts

- The highest winning score in a Super Bowl was 55, earned by the San Francisco 49ers against the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXIV in 1990.
- The Pittsburgh Steelers have won more Super Bowls than any other team (6).
- The Super Bowl is played on the first Sunday in February.
- The “home team” is the NFC team one year and the AFC team the next.
- Members of winning teams receive a Super Bowl ring. Each is designed a little differently, but all include jewels and the words “World Champions.”



photo courtesy nfl.com

Pictured is the New England Patriots ring from Super Bowl XLIX.

- Quarterbacks Terry Bradshaw (Pittsburgh Steelers), Joe Montana (San Francisco 49ers) and Tom Brady (New England Patriots) have won the most Super Bowls, with four each.
- There are 120 footballs used in each Super Bowl game.

Are you looking forward to a special Sunday coming up next week? Super Bowl 50 will be played on Sunday, Feb. 7, in California. It's a big anniversary of the annual game that decides a professional football champion.

The Mini Page takes a timeout to learn more about the Super Bowl.

Early leagues

The National Football League was founded in 1920. For many years, there was no championship game. The champions were the team that had the best record during each season.



But in 1933, the league split into two divisions, the Eastern and Western divisions. Division winners played a final game to declare a champion.

The American Football League was started in 1960 to challenge the NFL. The two leagues decided to have their champions meet in a game in 1967, after the regular season had ended. The NFL's Green Bay Packers and the AFL's Kansas City Chiefs played in Los Angeles in the first Super Bowl. It was the only Super Bowl that was not sold out. The Packers won, 35-10.

In 1969, the NFL and AFL merged into one league with two conferences, or groups: the American Football Conference and the National Football Conference. Today, the winners of each conference play in the Super Bowl.

A super name

Lamar Hunt, the original owner of the Kansas City Chiefs, started calling the championship game the Super Bowl, and the name stuck. Each year, a Roman numeral is used to identify the Super Bowl game.* Do you know what the Roman numeral is for 50? (Find the answer hidden in this issue.)

So far, no team has played in its home stadium. New Orleans and Miami have hosted more Super Bowls than any other cities.

A big event

Today, the Super Bowl is a huge event. Advertisers pay millions of dollars and create clever new commercials to show to the hundreds of millions of people watching on TV all across the world. Halftime shows feature popular singing acts. This year, Coldplay will perform at halftime.

Most Super Bowl fans will watch on TV, but thousands will get to see the game in person. The top ticket price for the 1967 Super Bowl was \$12. Today, people pay in the tens of thousands of dollars for a Super Bowl ticket!



The winning team of the Super Bowl receives the Vince Lombardi trophy, named after the coach of the Green Bay Packers, who won the first two Super Bowls.

L = 50

Resources



On the Web:

- NFLRush.com
- usat.ly/1NnqsvS

At the library:

- “Super Bowl” by James Buckley Jr.
- “What Is the Super Bowl?” by Dina Anastasio

* This is the first Super Bowl that will use the Arabic number (50) instead of a Roman numeral.

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of the Super Bowl are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ADVERTISING,
AMERICAN, BOWL,
CHAMPION,
CONFERENCE,
DIVISION, FOOTBALL,
GAME, LEAGUE,
NATIONAL, NUMERAL,
QUARTERBACK, RING,
ROMAN, SCORE,
SUPER, TEAM, TELEVISION, TICKET, TROPHY.

W V G N I S I T R E V D A N D
L E T E L E V I S I O N A A I
L M E C N E R E F N O C E T I V
A A K H B M U Y S I I R R I I
B G C Z A G H U P R O I O O S
T B I E A P P M E M N M C N I
O O T E O E A M A G L Q S A O
O W L R R H A N U M E R A L N
F L T K C A B R E T R A U Q X

Cook's Corner

Nutty Cheese Log

You'll need:

- 1 (8-ounce) package reduced-fat cream cheese
- 1/2 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/3 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans, divided
- crackers



What to do:

1. Allow cream cheese to soften in a bowl.
2. Mix in other cheeses and 1/4 cup chopped pecans.
3. Using a sheet of aluminum foil, shape cheese mixture into an 8-inch log.
4. Roll log in remaining chopped pecans.
5. Chill to combine flavors. Serve with crackers.

* 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. where food is digested (7) _____
2. it heats your house (7) _____
3. what you eat after supper (7) _____
4. not empty (4) _____
5. someone attending school (7) _____
6. crunchy green vegetable (6) _____
7. what you color with (6) _____

STOM	ERT	DENT	DE
LE	ON	SS	LL
FU	ACH	CE	NACE
FUR	STU	CRAY	RY

Answers: stomach, furnace, dessert, full, student, celery, crayon.

Mini Jokes



Eli: What did the football coach say to the broken vending machine?
Tom: “Give me my quarterback!”

Alex: What should a football team do if the field is flooded?
Aaron: Bring on their subs!

Eco Note



Even a tiny leak in your home can waste a lot of water. A leak that fills up a coffee cup in 10 minutes will waste more than 3,000 gallons of water in a year! The biggest leakers are faucets and toilets. Fixing leaky plumbing can save up to 22 gallons of water every day!

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:

Is your favorite team playing in Super Bowl 50? Ask your classmates and family who they'll be rooting for.

Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit:
bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html

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Education

The News Reporter, Thursday, February 4, 2016 - 7C



Sherida Coatney and Ian Ashley

MLT scholarships awarded

Sherida Coatney and Ian Ashley were recently announced as the recipients of Southeastern Community College's medical laboratory technology (MLT) scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to second-year MLT students who are about to enter their final semester of the program.

Funding for the scholarship is acquired through contributions from MLT Club fundraisers and donations from the community.

Coatney, of Clarkton, is a graduate of West Bladen High School. She completed her phlebotomy degree and has been working as a phlebotomist while studying medical lab technology. Ashley, of Wilmington, is a graduate of New Hanover High

School.

The medical laboratory technician is the scientific investigator of medicine who performs lab tests on body fluid specimens to discover biologic clues that lead to the diagnosis of disease. Graduates of the program have achieved a 90 percent overall pass rate on the certification exam since the program's inception in 1995. The program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (5600 N. River Road Suite 720, Chicago, IL 60018, 733-714-8880).

For more information, contact instructors Dawn Williamson, 642-7141 (ext 377), dawn.williamson@scnc.edu, or Patricia Wright, 770-7444, patricia.wright@scnc.edu.

Cape Fear Museum offers free educator workshops

Teachers, homeschool educators and youth group leaders looking for quality professional development experiences will find it at New Hanover County's Cape Fear Museum. Free educator workshops designed to jumpstart your creativity and inspire your students are available.

Cape Fear Museum At 814 Market Street In Wilmington will offer a Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop Feb. 19 from 1:30 to 8 p.m. This award-winning environmental education program is designed for teachers and informal educators working with students in pre-kindergarten through grade eight. Upon completion of the workshop, educators will receive a free 400-page PLT activity guide full of interdisciplinary instructional activities that use the forest as a window into natural and human-made environments.

Educators will engage in hands-on PLT activities, gain confidence in nature-based teaching, and learn how to use PLT activities to help their students develop creativity, flexibility, and higher-order thinking skills. Teachers will spend half of the workshop in the new Museum Park—an outdoor learning space that interprets how people, land and water have intersected throughout history in the Lower Cape Fear region.

Completion of six hours is required for CEU credits and to receive the PLT activity guide. Project Learning Tree is also one of the required workshops for individuals working toward their North Carolina environmental education certification. Space is limited to 25; participants must pre-register by Feb. 12 by calling 910-798-4362 or email cfmprograms@nhc.gov.com.

"When We Were British: Mapping British Influence on Early America for the K-12 Classroom" will be offered Saturday, Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. "When We Were British" is a digital project that explores the influence and impact of British history and culture on the roots of early America through judiciously selected primary source documents of the National Archives in London. This serialized collection focuses on a variety of research questions that illustrate these connections and make them relevant for K-12 teaching and learning. Once curated, each set of primary sources is visualized through mapping technology and geo-historical thinking strategies in order to focus on the power of place and the role of location. With this lens, this project seeks to understand where things are found, why they are found where they are, and how these things develop and change over the course of time.

Attendees will receive an enhanced digital textbook that contains the collection. It is co-sponsored by the N.C. Geographic Alliance and the N.C. Council for Social Studies. Space is limited; participants must pre-register by calling 910-798-4362 or email cfmprograms@nhc.gov.com.

Cape Fear Museum will offer Confidence in Astronomy, an astronomy teacher workshop, April 30 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in collaboration with the UNCW's Center for Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (CESTEM). Educators will practice setting up and taking down the Starlab portable planetarium, running a star show for students and using the solar telescope—equipment available for check-out from CESTEM. This workshop is offered at no cost to teachers. Space is limited to 25; participants may register by calling 910-962-3168 or online at <http://www.uncw.edu/cestem/pd.html>.

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.

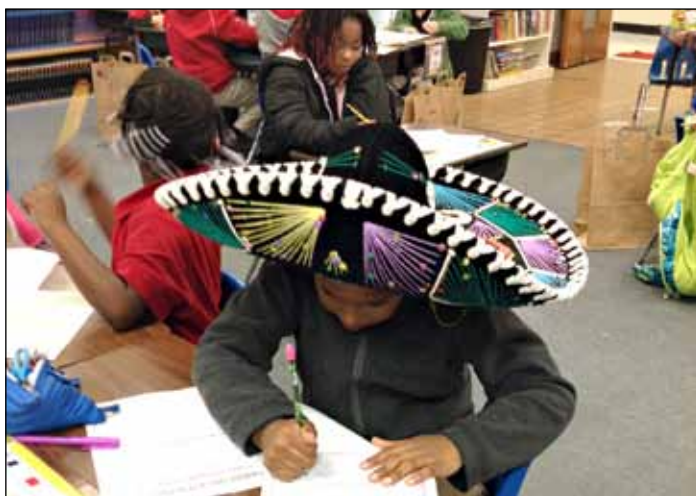
MONDAY, FEB. 8: - Breakfast - Nutri Grain Bar, Craisins, Juice. Lunch - Lasagna or Corn Dog, Peaches, Baby Limas, Corn, Roll.

TUESDAY, FEB. 9: - Breakfast - Pop Tart, Apple. Lunch - Cheeseburger or Sloppy Joe, Mixed Fruit, Oven Fries, Side Salad.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10: - Breakfast - Sausage Biscuit, Applesauce, Juice. Lunch - Catfish/Roll or Taco, Peaches, Baked Beans, Sweet Potato Fries.

THURSDAY, FEB. 11: - Breakfast -Mini Waffles, Orange, Raisins. Lunch - Chicken & Noodles or Cheeseburger, Apple, Oven Fries, Broccoli, Roll

FRIDAY, FEB. 12: - Breakfast - Cinnamon Roll, Raisins, Juice. Lunch - Pizza or Hamburger, Marinara Sauce, Side Salad, Pears.



Mexican traditions

Kristen Greene's second grade class at Whiteville Primary has been learning about Mexican traditions through reading and writing. Corey Faison, wearing a sombrero, is practicing skills that he learned through these studies.



An edible Ugly Sweater?

Marquasia Smith, a student in Karen Slusarczyk's foods class at Whiteville High School, is making an ugly sweater cookie. Students prepared dough for whatever shape they wanted and Marquasia made hers into the shape of a sweater. She put finishing touches with icing and decorating it in a variety of colors. In the spirit of the holidays she chose it to be an edible ugly sweater.

College bound next fall? Get FAFSA form help

With the start of the new year, high school seniors planning to attend college in the fall should begin the process of filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form.

The earlier the FAFSA is completed, the sooner the student and family will have information about the possibility of financial aid. To be considered for a share of the billions of dollars available in federal and state aid to students with financial need, you must apply.

When students complete the FAFSA, they're automatically being considered for federal and state grants, Federal Work Study and Federal Student Loans. Federal and state grants are gift aid—free money the student does not have to pay back. If eligible for Federal Work Study, a student has the chance to get a job on campus to help pay expenses.

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/wchsclassof2006.

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 eanlanier@yahoo.com by Feb. 14.

And the FAFSA helps determine whether a student may be eligible for subsidized as well as unsubsidized Federal Student Loans.

Families who would like help completing the FAFSA are invited to attend a FAFSA Day near them on Saturday, Feb. 20. This free event is open to assist high school seniors, their families and college students complete and submit their forms online.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Go to CFNC.org/FAFSADay or call 866-866-CFNC toll-free for a list of event sites and register for the one nearest you. More than 65 sites will be available the morning of Feb. 20.

During the week following FAFSA Day (Feb. 22-26), State Employees' Credit Union branches will be ready by appointment to help students and families with FAFSA completion.

WCHS Class of '66 plans reunion

The West Columbus High School Class of 1966, the first class to graduate at the school, is planning a 50th-year reunion for May 14. All graduates to include Chadbourn, Cerro Gordo, Evergreen and Fair Bluff are urged to participate.

Anyone who would like to help or attend the reunion is urged to contact one of the committee members and give them your contact information: Gary Bass, 910-840-3611 or colbass1@gmail.com; Nancy Yates Dove at ndovecc@hotmail.com; or Ann Nobles Lanier at eanlanier@yahoo.com by Feb. 14.

WHS '96 class plans reunion

Whiteville High School Class of 1996 is planning a 20th year reunion, which will be held the weekend of Oct. 15, 2016.

For more information email Blake Biser Brookshire at jblakebrookshire@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/groups/whsclassof96.



Earns Master's

Olivia Rae Scott, wife of Paul Scott, mother of Landon Scott and daughter of Jimmy and Amelia Williams, all of Whiteville, graduated in December with a Master of Arts in physical education from UNC Pembroke. She teaches at Whiteville High School, is certified in science and physical education and is also serving her fourth year as head coach of the varsity softball team. A 2007 WHS graduate, she earned a Bachelor of Science in biology in 2011 from Coastal Carolina University where she was a member of the Chanticleer softball program.

Meares earns Faculty Honors at Georgia Tech

Taylor Meares of Whiteville earned the distinction of Faculty Honors for Fall 2015 at the Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have a 4.0 academic average for the semester.

One of the nation's leading research universities, the Georgia Institute of Technology is in the business of creating the next—the next idea, the next technology and the next legion of agile minds well equipped to imagine and engineer the future. More than 24,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled, and Georgia Tech is ranked in the nation's top 10 public universities by U.S. News and World Report.

For more information visit www.gatech.edu.

Caswell Center scholarships are available

The Caswell Center Foundation Inc. has announced the availability of three \$1,000 scholarships for the 2016-2017 academic school year. To qualify, applicants must be a rising college senior or working toward a graduate degree with an allied health, education or psychology major in one of the following areas: occupational therapy, physical therapy, recreation therapy, psychology, nursing, speech-language pathology or social work and intend to serve persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities after graduation.

The scholarships will be available to qualified applicants residing in one of the 38 counties, which includes Columbus County.

To learn more about eligibility requirements or to receive an application, contact Danielle Howell, executive director, at (252) 208-3790 or danielle.howell@dhhs.nc.gov or visit www.caswellcenterfoundation.com. The scholarship application deadline is April 1.

Established in 1999, the Caswell Center Foundation Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that enhances the quality of life for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in eastern North Carolina.

Nakina Middle reverse raffle

The Nakina Middle School Mustang Club is selling \$50 tickets for its reverse raffle for a \$2,000 grand prize.

The drawing will be held Saturday, Feb. 27. Each ticket includes two steak dinners.

For tickets call the school or any Mustang Club member.

SCC's new hybrid medical lab program accepting applicants

Enrollment into the introductory course for the hybrid medical laboratory technology program at Southeastern Community College is open for spring registration. The hybrid courses in the program deliver lectures online with one campus lab day each week for each course. Clinical assignment is performed at local hospitals where many students acquire jobs before they graduate.

The Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) is the scientific investigator of the hospital. The MLT performs laboratory analyses on body fluid specimens to discover biologic clues that lead to the diagnosis of disease. Students who enjoy the investigative nature of science courses do well in the MLT program.

"The program appeals to students who want a career in healthcare, but do not want to go into nursing," says program director Dawn Williamson.

Admission requirements include a high school diploma/GED and acceptable placement test scores for high school math, algebra and reading.

The program consists of four semesters of campus lectures and labs followed by one semester of clinical practice at a local affiliated hospital. Graduates receive an associate in applied science degree from SCC and will be prepared to take the national MLT certification examination. Many years, the certification exam rate is 100 percent. Local health care employers are pleased with the quality of the MLT graduates and are eager to hire them to fill vacant positions.

The MLT program is approved by the N.C. Community College System and accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Inquiries about this exciting field of health care may be directed to instructors Dawn Williamson (ext. 377) and Patricia Wright (ext. 312) or visit the SCC website, scnc.edu/Students/Programs/MedicalLaboratory.

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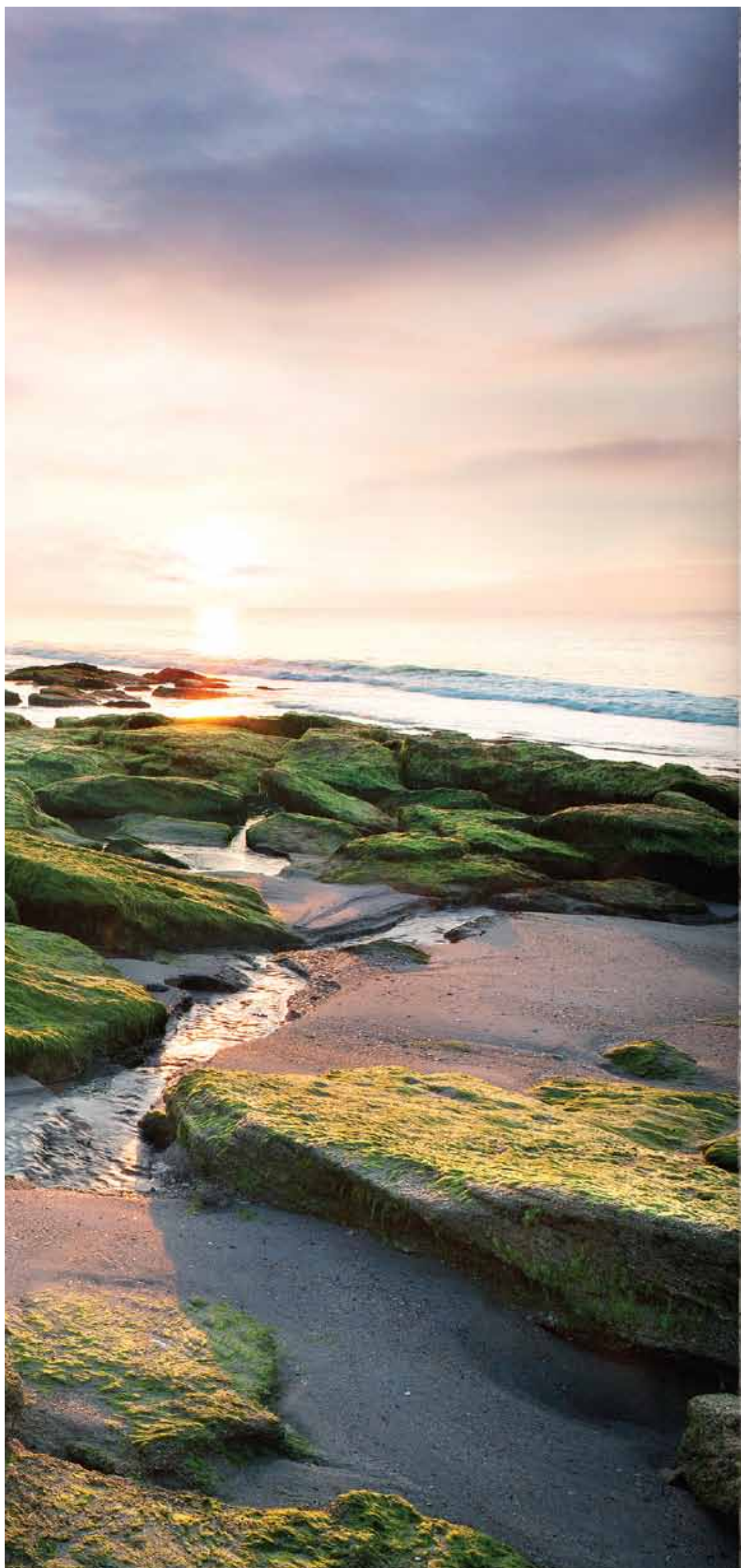
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