

The Pamlico News

Your County News Source Since 1968



To the Pamlico County High School Class of 2025

On behalf of Pamlico County Schools, I want to extend my heart-felt congratulations to each of you on this milestone achievement. Graduation is more than a ceremony; it is a celebration of the hard work, dedication, and perseverance that have carried you to this point.

Over the years, you've demonstrated resilience through challenges and shown strength of character in the face of uncertainty. Whether in the classroom, on the field, or out in the community, you have represented Pamlico County with pride and purpose. We have watched you grow into young men and women of promise, and we are proud of the legacy you leave behind. Your talents, your leadership, and your contributions have made a lasting impact on our schools and our community. As you begin this next chapter, we hope that the lessons you've learned will continue to shape and support your journey. You are forever a part of our story, and we will always be cheering you on. With pride and best wishes,

Jeremy B. Johnson, EdD
Superintendent
Pamlico County Schools Shelby

Becky Lansche, Principal's Welcome:

Good evening, everyone. My name is Becky Lansche, and I have the honor of serving as the principal of Pamlico County High School. It is my pleasure to welcome you to this very special evening as we gather to celebrate a momentous occasion-the graduation of the Class of 2025.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Pamlico County High School, as well as the Pamlico County Board of Education, I warmly welcome each of you to our Commencement Exercises.

We are joined tonight by several distinguished guests:

- Dr. Jeremy Johnson, Superintendent of Pamlico County Schools;
- From the Pamlico County Board of Education: Chairman John Prescott, Vice-Chairman Jamie Gibbs, Ms. Cathy Dunbar, Ms. Jaclyn Jones, Ms. Helen Gibbs, and Mr. Erik Smith.

Also joining me on stage are the dedicated faculty and staff of Pamlico County High School. Their tireless support and unwavering commitment to our students have shaped the experience we celebrate tonight.

I would also like to introduce our assistant principal, Mr. Brandon Spiece, who will be assisting on stage this evening. Mr. Spiece's leadership and encouragement throughout the year Grad Script 2025

I have been invaluable, and I am deeply grateful for his continued dedication to our students and school.

The students seated on stage will be introduced later in the program.

Seniors, this has been a year of "lasts"-your last first day of school, your last Homecoming game, your last Prom. For some of you, those "lasts" couldn't come quickly enough. You may have wished the time away, eager to step into the next chapter. But one day, you'll look back and realize that these years held some of the very best moments of your life-moments of laughter, growth, friendship, and discovery.

Graduation is a dignified academic ceremony-a time to reflect

on your hard work, perseverance, and the many milestones you've reached along the way. The Class of 2025 has demonstrated remarkable dedication, whether in the classroom, on athletic fields and courts, through artistic performances, or during academic and extracurricular competitions.

Each of you has followed your own journey to arrive at this moment. You are an exceptional group-defined by your talents, resilience, and ambition. It has been a true privilege to witness your growth and success. Tonight, we celebrate you. You are the heart of this ceremony, and we are proud to honor all that you have achieved.

To begin our program, it is my honor to introduce our first speaker.

Our first speaker is the daughter of Amanda & Robbie Mehring. If you've been paying attention, you've seen her leading the charge in ROTC, playing her violin at many school events, and running over the river and through the woods as part of the PCHS Cross Country and Orienteering teams. She is described by her teachers as an academic powerhouse and this year became the first North Carolina State University Park Scholar Pamlico County High School has ever had. She has been a loyal employee of Coastal Pet Clinic and will pursue many years of college to become a veterinarian. Please welcome to the stage, a trailblazer for the PC HS class of 2025 and her sister Lila's very best friend, Ms. Shelby Wells Mehring.

Shelby Mehring - Reflections from the class of 2025

Good evening, and happy graduation! Thank you to Dr. Johnson, Mrs. Lansche, Mr. Spiece, board members, faculty, staff, friends, and family. I would also like to specifically recognize the teachers on this stage for their dedication to their students oftentimes at the sacrifice of their own families. Additionally, the many teachers who are not here tonight because they taught us very early on in our lives should not be forgotten. I calculated that I had approximately 45 teachers over the course of 12 years. These are our unsung heroes.

Over the years, our class has had some great memories. In high school, our first pep rally was a disaster, we were so quiet the seniors boo'd us. But 3 years later we became the loudest and got gender reveal powder forever banned from all future pep rallies. Prior to highschool we were unfortunately retained at Anderson for an additional year due to Hurricane Florence after we thought we'd finally made it to middle school. At Anderson we were also likely the first class to get silent lunch every day, and walk laps during recess all together. I can still hear the teachers saying "5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1 - Silent LUNCH" And finally, I will never forget the field days we had in primary school. I think the laughs we had going down the slip-n-slide were some of the best we ever had.

We all have little silly things that we've struggled with over the years and for me — it is puzzles. For some reason, the pieces never come together easily for me. Even the wooden ones that were supposed to be easy!! Early on, I remember watching as other kids did their puzzle, and they seemed to easily find their next piece. The pieces they used clicked together and formed a picture easily. The ones I often used didn't fit, and never made a clicking noise. I would unsuccessfully try to force them into place, and it would take me much longer to finish a puzzle. I was very frustrated by this, and I think my parents were even a little worried. Unfortunately, I never outgrew my struggle with puzzles. It still shows up in my life even now. Who knew it could be so hard to pack a suitcase?

Looking back, life is a bit like a puzzle. Up until this point, a majority of choices have been made for us by either our parents, or other important people in our lives. Like what we eat for dinner, or if we go to church. All of these little decisions and events fit together to make our life. Until now, the vision for the puzzle we have been putting together has been largely understood.

As we move forward into the next phases of our lives, the next puzzle pieces we should choose are not quite as clear. Some of them may not fall into place easily, or we may try to force them. Where should I go to college, should I join the military, what job do I want? These are just a few of the many pieces that could fit into our puzzles. Even the small things are uncertain. Just this past week, I found myself overwhelmed by what seemed like, endless number of classes at NCSU. There are just so many options and paths to go down. Out of the 100s of undergraduate majors, am I sure I'm picking the right one?

I'm sure that like me, you have been given tons of advice over the past few months, or maybe if you're lucky like me, you've had people giving you advice throughout your life. My Granddaddy loves to send his grandchildren random pearls of wisdom. For example, he once told me to never buy a house with a Homeowners Association because of the dues. I was in middle school. He also told me to never date a socialist. Once again, I was in middle school. The point is that we have all been given tons of advice and plenty of options. But the choice is ours. We get to pick the next puzzle pieces in our lives. The ones that fit into the person we want to become, not the pieces that don't click into place.

As we all struggle to pick our next piece, I know that many of the ones we already have were helped shape by Pamlico County Schools and the people in this room. This school may be small, but it is filled with heart and grit. One of the most important pieces in my puzzle is my sister, my best friend. She has stood by my side through everything and will always be my number one fan. I hope everyone has a piece of their puzzle like her. I know we are all off to a great start as we go out in the world to find our next puzzle piece, carrying with us the love and support that got us here.

Annie King - Reflections from the class of 2025

Sometimes, life throws you curveballs. One April morning in 2022, a voice interrupted my freshman English class casually ordering all students and staff to report to the football field. None of us knew what to think but we knew we were getting out of class. I immediately found my people but nobody knew what was going on. The track team came together, taking selfies with Coach Rose, and having fun. It started off as a pretty day so we were laid back, soaking up the sunshine and unexpected free time with our friends.

But then my phone rang, and my auntie said "are you ok?!?" Everything felt different with that question because that's the moment I learned someone had called in a bomb threat to Pamlico County High School. I was scared. We all questioned, "Is this real?" and felt a bit insecure wondering what could happen next.

Our then superintendent, Mrs. Lisa Jackson was given a microphone and she very calmly told us what was happening and what would happen next. My worries started to even out. What felt like only moments later, my dad pulled up and I was taken home for an afternoon nap.

That bomb threat is my favorite high school memory. It highlights some of the most precious parts that make Pamlico what it is.

That day was all about people. Before we knew what was really happening our entire student body was together in one spot and nobody was alone. You heard laughter. You saw people playing around. You saw huddles of friends chatting and taking pictures. You saw teachers doing the same.

When people realized we were dealing with a bomb threat the mood changed, but the people didn't. They weren't laughing as much, but they were checking on each other, calling their parents, and hugging their friends.

It was all about the people. We were scared, even though there was some part of me that thought, "this could never happen here." We were scared, but I never thought I wasn't safe.

I knew which adults to look at and they were calm. Our Superintendent was serious, but steady. Our staff was helping and still smiling. I knew which friends to go to and heard the words, "Bro, it's gonna be ok." I saw Sheriff Chris Davis leading the buses on a lawnmower because, of course, it's the County.

Before the bomb threat and after the bomb threat, nothing really changed. My people were my people. I knew who to look at. I knew who to go to.

We've always been able to come back to the same place, the same people and the same safety. But tonight, that changes. We can always come home, but it will never be the same. High school has ended and a new journey begins.

In some ways that feels a bit too scary but in other ways it feels like a challenge. Find your new people, find your new place wherever you go, and bring Pamlico with you.

What we have here is special because it's the people who make it special. It's us. It's the class of 2025. It's the people who love us and push us. It's the history of being a Hurricane.

We are what's special about Pamlico and we can take that anywhere in this world.

So as we prepare to walk across this stage and turn our tassels, I challenge you to make a difference and bring Pamlico with you.

Tassel Turn Ceremony - Samyiah

To my classmates, friends and fellow graduates, stand with me. (pause)

Before the turning of our tassels I would like to share a quote with you all: "Believe in your infinite potential. Your only limitations are those you set upon yourself."

Moving our tassels from right to left does not only symbolize our academic achievement, but also represents our moment of transformation. It marks the shift from students to graduates, from who we have been to who we're becoming.

This tassel turn may feel like a small motion but it represents our success and growth. With that being said Congratulations, Pamlico County High School Class of 2025, you did it.

Class of 2025, turn your tassels!



Wishing You Success

May your graduation be the first of many achievements to follow.
Keep up the great work, and we know you will continue to reach new heights of success.

Congratulations, graduates. We're proud of you!

SALES • DEVELOPMENT • PROPERTY MANAGEMENT • APPRAISALS

Office: 252-249-1014
Fax: 252-249-2700
Cell: 252-671-4644

allenpropst@orientalncwaterfront.com
www.orientalncwaterfront.com

ALLEN PROBST
Owner/Broker/GRI

SALES • DEVELOPMENT • PROPERTY MANAGEMENT • APPRAISALS

Office: 252-249-1014
Fax: 252-249-2700
Cell: 252-671-4643

angie@orientalncwaterfront.com
www.orientalncwaterfront.com

ANGIE PROBST
Broker

P.O. Box 750, Oriental, NC 28571

PCHS
GRADUATES 2025



Jesus Aguilera



Riley Banks



Tucker Banks



Tariq Barber



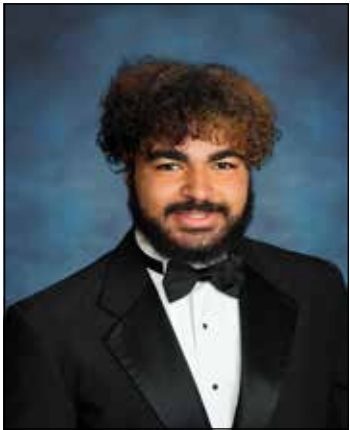
Cadence Barr



Kimberly Beltran-Lopez.



Jordan Bennett



Eric Brantley



Adam Brinson



Anastacia Brock



Lucas Browne



Sage Bryant



Allie Burroughs



Erika Bush



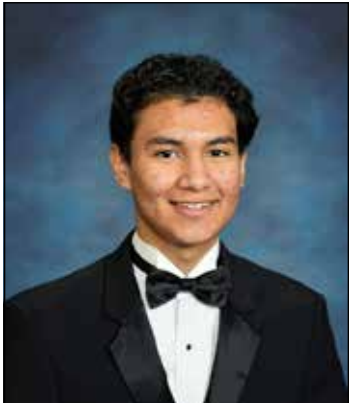
Lucio Bustamante



Landon Cahoon



Evan Caraway



Anthony Chaparro-Alvarez



Zyneiah Collock



David Curtis



Isaac Cuthrell



Aiden Doucette



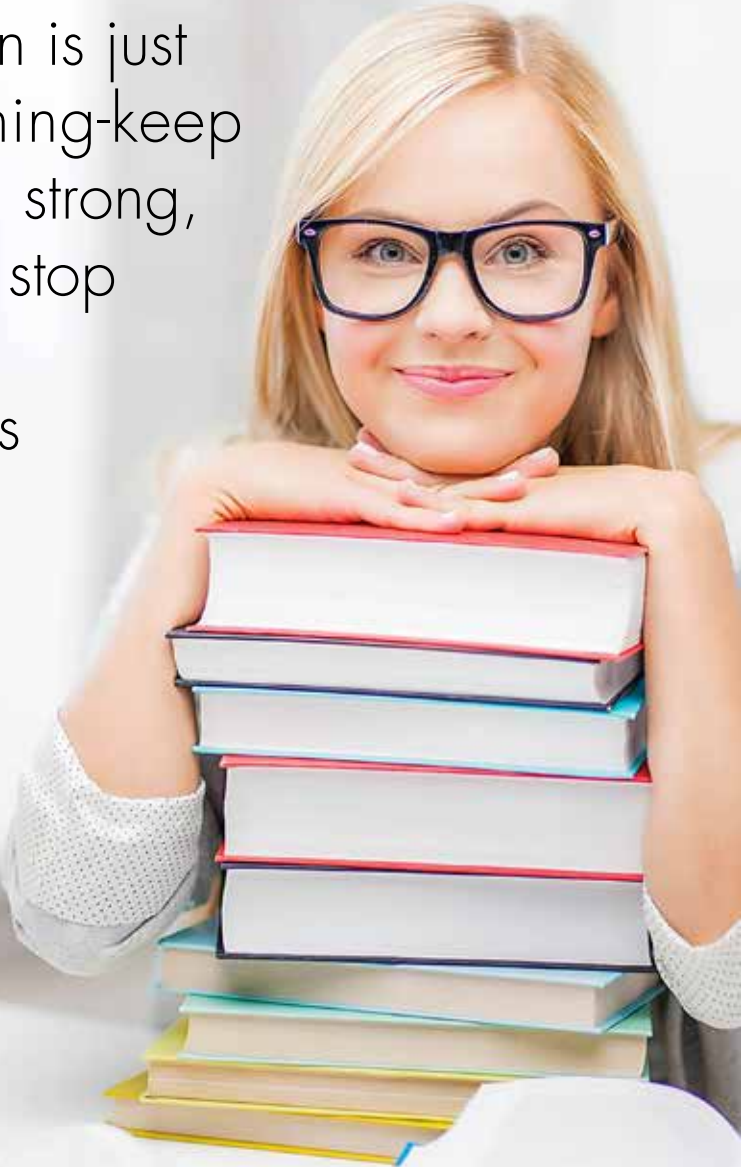
Areya Doucette



Ladonta Edwards

“I intend to live forever. So far, so good.”

Graduation is just
the beginning-keep
your vision strong,
and never stop
seeing the
possibilities
ahead!



CONGRATULATIONS!



PAMLICO
FAMILY
EYE CARE

CLASS of 2025

13820 HWY 55 E Alliance, NC 28509 Phone: (252) 745-4100

Congratulations
Graduating Class of 2025

Auto • Life • Health
Business • Retirement

13636 NC Highway 55
Bayboro, NC 28509

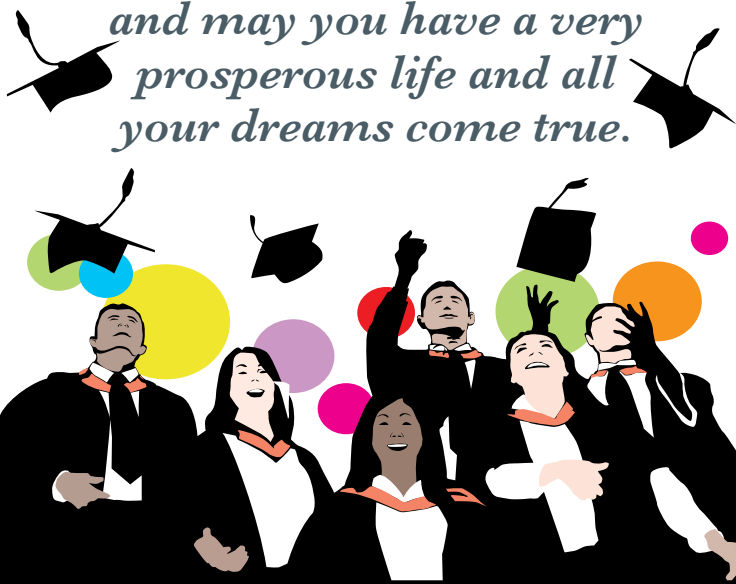
(252) 745-4165

Helping you is what we best.



Congratulations
Graduates

The best of wishes to you
and may you have a very
prosperous life and all
your dreams come true.

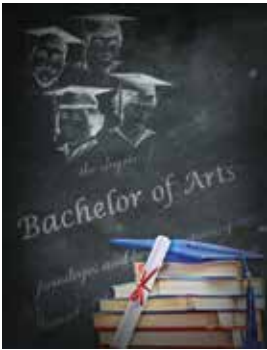


Daniels-
Sadler
Funeral Home
& Crematory

52 Bryant Street
Alliance, NC 28509

745-4966

bachelor degree



The number of bachelor's degrees awarded by colleges and universities has increased considerably in the twenty-first century. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, roughly 1.238 million bachelor's degrees were awarded by colleges and universities in 2000. By 2021, that figure had nearly doubled, reaching 2.066 million. The number of students who earned associate's and master's degrees also grew by considerable margins between 2000 and 2021, with each nearly doubling. Doctorate and professional degrees remained a little more steady, though the number of students who earned each increased from just under 119 million in 2000 to 194.1 million in 2021.

CONGRATULATIONS

As you turn the page to the next chapter, the future is yours to write. Fill it with new experiences, good people and rewarding choices that help make the world a better place.

Best wishes to all of the dedicated seniors who are celebrating their graduation today!

The Pamlico News

800 Broad Street • 249-1555
www.thepamliconews.com

HAPPY GRADUATION

CLASS OF 2025

PamlicoDemocrats.com

Paid for by the Pamlico County Democratic Party

Let's Hear It for Our Graduates!

We're giving a big hand to the dedicated seniors who have worked so hard for this day. Their perseverance and accomplishments make us proud to be a part of this community. Keep up the great work, grads!

Congratulations, Class of 2025!

Potter Oil Company

24250 NC-33, Aurora, NC 27806
252-322-4031 • 1-800-962-8473
www.potteroil.com

PCHS GRADUATES 2025



Tyler Elks



Najiya Exum



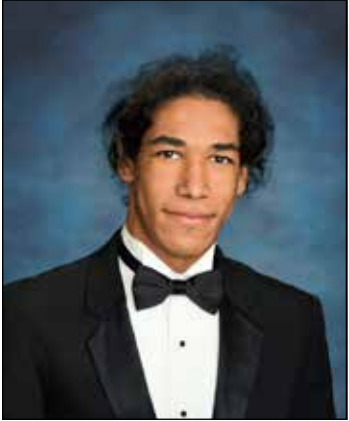
Guy Eyster



William Ferebee



Luke Fox



Caleb Frankhauser



Jaiden Gaskins



Layla Gautier



Nathan Gibbs



Ariana Godette



Jasmine Greene



Laticia Greene



Coleton Hall



Adrianna Hamilton



Janay Harding



Darius Harper



Diana Harper



Kendall Harris



Hunter Harrison



Sakura Hayashi



Kandice Hodges



Ava Ireland



Trinity Jones



Fritz Kemmerer Hott

PCHS GRADUATES 2025



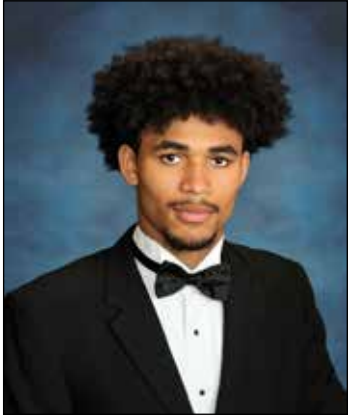
Madison Kihlstrom



Annie King



Jacquin Kirkman



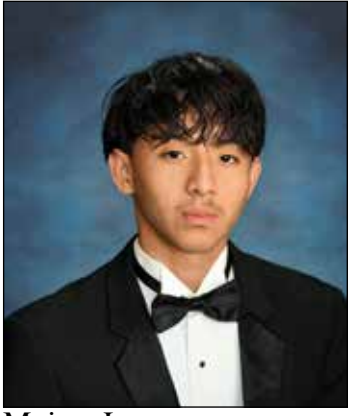
Koby Lane



Allyson Leaming



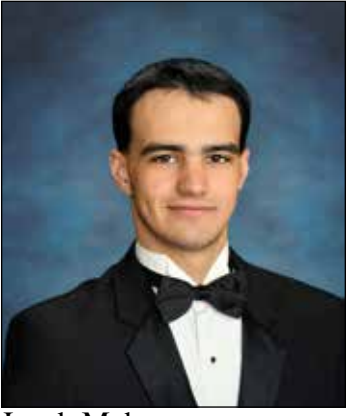
Iyahna Lodge



Moises Lopez



Jahsun Louick



Jacob Maher



Samyah Maiden



Taylor McHenry



Shelby Mehring



Kiyoshi Midgette



Kathryn Montanye



Kylie Morgan



Ethan Murray



Janelle Norris



Charles North



Yazmin-Rae Olguin



Alani Ollison



Abdiel Perez



Patricia Pickard



Alexander Ponto



Hannah Poole

DELAMAR & DELAMAR, PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SARA DELAMAR

RESIDENTIAL

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

SMALL BUSINESS

INCORPORATION, SET-UP

ESTATE PLANNING

Congratulations

Class of

2025

408 MAIN STREET • BAYBORO, NC

745-3222 • FAX 745-7477

HARDISON TIRE

Onward & Upward

Wishing our Class of 2025 graduates much success and happiness on the road ahead.

Thanks for setting the example with your hard work and dedication. We're very proud of you.

Congratulations!

Hardison Tire Company.

P.O. Box 160


Alliance, NC 28509

745-4561 • 745-4161

www.hardisontire.com

24 Hour Towing & Wrecker Service

252-745-3777



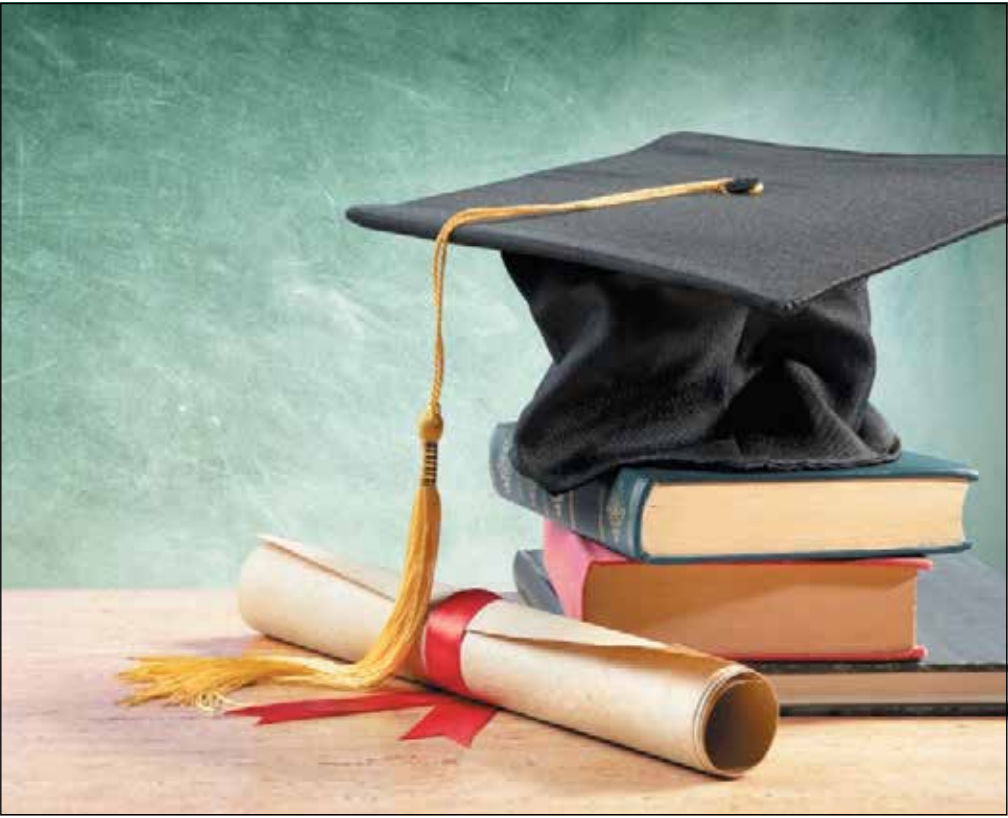
Axelson
CHIROPRACTIC & REHAB

Refine Your Body And Your Life

Congratulations 2025 Graduates!

13550 Hwy 55 East Alliance, NC 28509

(252)745-0334



✓ Sports Injuries

✓ Neck Pain

✓ Knee Pain

✓ Hip Pain

✓ Headaches

✓ Low Back Pain

✓ Shoulder Pain

✓ Sciatica



The *helpful* place.

Where We Help Build Futures!

Congratulations
Class of **2025**

PAMLICO HOME BUILDERS & SUPPLIES, INC.

Hwy 55 Alliance, NC 28509 • 252-745-4111



Congratulations Class Of 2025

Coastal Pet Clinic

56 Ireland Rd Bayboro, NC 28515 • 252.745.5161



DIVERSIFIED Inc.
Auto & Tire

Congratulations
Class of 2025

12006 NC Highway 55 E Alliance, NC • 745-9078

PCHS
GRADUATES 2025



Maggie Popperwill



Molly Popperwill



Kristen Powell



Xavier Powell



Rachel Prescott



Natalie Reed



Stephanie Rice



Leland Rios



Charlie Roach



Peyton Robinson



Natalie Sanders



Ray'Le Sawyer



Summer Sawyer



Holli Scott



Johnson Sheaffer



Autumn Shelton



Aubree Sinclair



Taryn Small



Tristyn Small



Donavan Still



Damien Sturgill



Shelby Tabor



Larry Tribby



Shelbi Tribby-Kowalski

PCHS GRADUATES 2025



Luisa Valles de Los Santos



Elena Vilches



Cameron Wade



Jaylah Wright



Landon Yeates



Education Statistics

Data from the National Center for Education Statistics indicates that business was the most popular bachelor's degree conferred during the 2019-20 school year. NCES data indicates that 387,900 bachelor's degrees in business were conferred during that school year. "Business" included programs such as management, marketing, and related support services, as well as culinary, entertainment, and personal services. Next up was health professions and related programs (257,300 degrees) and social sciences and history (161,200 degrees). Curiously, despite a growing emphasis on STEM in many secondary school curriculums, just 6 percent of bachelor's degrees (128,300) were conferred in engineering.

*Congratulations Taylor McHenry & Kylie Morgan,
PCHS Graduating Class of 2025*

First Citizens Bank
409 Broad Street, Oriental, NC 28571
252-249-1462

Congratulations Tideland EMC
Scholarship Winner
Kendall Harris
Pamlico County
High School Class of 2025

Tideland EMC has awarded a \$500 community college scholarship to Kendall Harris of Grantsboro. She is the daughter of Danielle Bond, Randall Harris and Matthew Bond. She will attend Craven Community College in pursuit of a nursing degree. Her scholarship is renewable for a second year of enrollment.

At Tideland Electric, we believe in the power of education.

Tideland EMC
Real People. Real Power.

Congratulations Class of 2025

“Celebrate endings—for they precede new beginnings.”
– Jonathan Lockwood Huie

PAMLICO COUNTY SCHOOLS

Congratulations Class of 2025 The Future Belongs To You

Wendy, Ben, Kelly, EJ,
Dayna, Chasity, Tiffany,
Natalie, Kathryn and
Sherri Hicks, DVM

**Oriental Village
Veterinary Hospital**
407 Broad St, Oriental, NC 28571
252.249.2149

GRAD CONGRATULATIONS



You DID IT!

We are so proud of you Diana!
We know you are going to have a wonderful year at NC State next year.
We love you,
Mom, Dad, Casey & Davis



Diana Harper



You DID IT!

We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments!
We love you,
Grandma & Family



Darrius Harper



You DID IT!

Ethan,
Congratulations on this amazing achievement! We're so proud of the kind, strong, and driven person you've become.
We love you more than words can say.
Mom & Dad



ETHAN MURRAY



You DID IT!

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments and the fine young man you are becoming.
May God continue to bless.
We love you,
Mom, Dad & Kaleb



Hunter Harrison



You DID IT!

We are so proud of you! This is just the beginning of all the amazing things you're going to do!
Love,
Mom, Antonio, Dad, Gigi, Princeton, Landy, Debra & Jamie



Jaiden Gaskins



You DID IT!

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. I can't wait to see what the future holds for you.
We love you all the way to Florida,
Mama, Matt, Kendra & Cassidy.



Kendall Harris



Congratulations,

Rachel Prescott

We love you!
Mom, Dad & Luke



You DID IT!

We are so proud of you. You pushed through and made it!
We love you very much!
Momma, Sissy, Granny, Papa, Uncle Furney, Carl & Michael



STEPHANIE RICE



Congratulations,

Zeb Cuthrell

We are so incredibly proud of you Zeb! We can't wait to see all of the wonderful things you will accomplish in the future.
We love you so very much!
Love, Mama, Daddy, and Marlin



Congrats!

Ally Leaming

Wearesoprouduofyouandcan'twaittoseewhat the future holds for you! We love you so much!
Daddy, Mommy, Kaity, Ruger, Wesson & Oakley





Congratulations,

Yazmin-Rae Guadeloupe Olguin

Yazmin-Rae we are all so proud of you, and we can't wait to see what the future brings for you, we all are excited to see where you go.
Love Mommy and Family.



"Graduation is an exciting time. It's both an ending and a beginning; it's warm memories of the past and big dreams for the future." –unknown

Considerations for seniors looking to go back to school

The picture of a traditional college student is one in his or her late teens or early 20s. However, a deeper look may reveal that college student demographics are more diverse than one might imagine. In fact, senior citizens can rest assured that if they plan to return to the classroom, they're likely to find students around their age.

According to the senior citizen resource Elder Guru, just over 0.3 percent of university students are over 65. Even though that is a low number in the grand scheme of things, it is an indication that seniors have a presence on college campuses. And that number is expected to rise. Universities are increasing efforts to include seniors as important parts of their student bodies. Here are some things seniors considering going back to school may want to know.

- Incentives are available. Many schools are looking to expand their elder student body populations by making it easier for them to go to school. That means seniors may be able to attend for little to no cost through tuition waivers and discounts. Speak with an admissions officer about your options.



- Lay the foundation for a new career. A survey from the Rand Corporation found that 39 percent of workers age 65 and older who were currently employed had previously retired at some point. Going back to school may provide a foundation for new skills that can make it easier to advance in a second career. Heading back to classes also can help people stay competitive in a current job.
- Engage and socialize. Going back to school provides seniors with an opportunity to engage with their peers and younger students. Returning to school may expose

older adults to new experiences, technologies and customs they may otherwise never have enjoyed.

- Embrace the excitement of a new environment and its challenges. Heading back to college can be challenging, which is something seniors looking for mental stimulation may enjoy. Senior Finance Advisor reports that heading back to school and lifelong learning has been linked to better health, improved financial situations and even a reduced risk of dementia.
 - Staying informed. Going back to school can enable seniors to stay technologically informed and learn about movements and other factors that are helping to shape the modern world.
- Seniors have many reasons to return to the college classroom, and such a pursuit can pay numerous dividends.



Congratulations

Entire Graduating Class of 2025!



304 Main Street, Bayboro
252.745.3443
www.fromtheheartfloristnc.com



World Wide Marine Training, LLC

U.S.C.G. APPROVED TRAINING & TESTING

Captains Licenses

Officer(OUPV)★Qualified Rating(AB)★
Radar★Towing★Sailing★Endorsements
and more!

22532 NC Hwy 55 East, Oriental, NC
252-249-2135
www.worldwidemarinettraining.com

Congratulations Class of 2025

Congratulations

Here's to a Bright Future!



Class of 2025

Willis Electric Company

Bayboro, NC • 252-745-3501

We are extremely proud of the entire Class of 2025!

**Pamlico Community College congratulates
all area graduates on their accomplishments!**



*If you plan to continue your
educational pursuits after high
school, consider enrolling at
Pamlico Community College!*

*PCC can prepare you for a
great hands-on career with
short-term training options
or can get you started on a
four-year degree at a fraction
of the cost of university tuition!*

*PCC features small classes,
which means more
personalized attention for you!
Our faculty members and staff
want to help you succeed!*



*Scholarships and other
sources of financial aid are
available to students who
qualify!*

*Check out all of the great
opportunities available here!*



**Contact the college today to discuss your
options for the upcoming Fall 2025 semester!**



PAMLICO

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Recognized as a national leader in student success!

5049 N.C. 306 South
Grantsboro, NC 28529
252-249-1851, ext. 3001
studentservices@pamlicocc.edu
www.pamlicocc.edu

Pamlico Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Associate Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates. Pamlico Community College also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Pamlico Community College may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website <https://sacscoc.org/>