



Pamlico County Training/Pamlico Central School Alumni Association, Inc.

Save the Date! Founders Day Celebration - 15526 NC-55, Bayboro (The Original Site of the PCT-PCS School) All Events Held at the Hubert L. Monk Memorial Gym
 Friday, September 26, 2025 6-9pm - Meet and Greet ~ Saturday, September 27, 2025 10am to 12pm Tour Campus -
 Take a Walk Down Memory Lane with Luncheon and Business Meeting from 12-3pm
 Contact Jacqueline Gibbs-Matthews, Chairman: (301) 502-2164
 Terry Garrison, Vice Chairman (252) 432-3577



Vol. 57 No.38, 14 Pages

The Pamlico News

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Your County News Source Since 1968

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Hesed Place presents
 "Wanna Heal?"
 Conference 2025

Hey New Bern and Beyond - are you ready to heal? No matter where you are on your journey, we've got space for you. This two-day experience is for anyone age 16+ - survivors, supporters, and those simply seeking a deeper understanding of healing.

Whether you've lived through trauma, or you're walking beside someone who has, this is a space for clarity, connection and hope. We'll explore the whole self - body, mind, heart, soul and spirit - with powerful speakers, breakout sessions, and local support resources. At Hesed Place, we believe healing should be accessible to everyone. That's why we are offering this event at NO-COST!

Dynamic Presenters! - Amy B. Connor, OTR/L - Trauma-Trained Occupational Therapist and Hesed Place Founder, and Dr. Lori Basye, OTR/L-No Boundaries International, President & Co-Founder.

Conference takes place September 27 & 28, 311 Middle Street, New Bern, NC. Visit HESEDPLACE.COM/WANNA-HEAL25 for tickets and information.

Friendraiser!

On Friday, September 26, from 4-7pm PrimeTime and Neuse Neighbors Network will hold their annual Friendraiser, Kick Back, grab a brew and a bite to eat. Bring a friend, make new ones or just stop by to have a good time and learn more about how Neuse Neighbors Network and PrimeTime are working to make our community stronger, healthier and happier for our neighbors and loved ones. La Cocina Del Coqui Food Truck will be there from 4-7:30pm serving Puerto Rican and Cuban food with music provided by Brant Island Strings at 5:30pm. The event will be held at New Village Brewery in Oriental on Broad Street. Donations are welcome! Special thanks to the New Village Brewery, La Cocina Del Coqui and Brant Island Strings for their support!

The Pamlico Chorale

Make music a part of your life. Performing members and the artistic director of the Pamlico Chorale invite you to SING WITH US! Please join us on Mondays, 6:00-7:00 PM in the fellowship hall of the Oriental United Methodist Church* as we begin preparing for our Fall and Winter Concerts. The Pamlico Chorale is a volunteer group sponsored by the Pamlico Arts Council. No auditions necessary.

*LOCATION: 404 Freemason Street, Oriental, NC



TURNAGE
 Construction & Trucking Co. Inc.
 2373 NC Hwy 304, Bayboro, NC 28515

Pamlico Grove Apartment Complex Clears Hurdle to Proceed

by: Hiram Lupton

The North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR) last week issued a Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and a Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds for the proposed Pamlico Grove Apartment Complex to be located in Grantsboro. This combined notice clears another hurdle for the much-debated affordable housing community. The 48-unit multifamily complex will have four 2-story residential buildings, a community center, gazebo, covered picnic area, playground, paved parking and associated infrastructure and will be located on a roughly 6-acre site just off NC Hwy 55 behind the new urgent care facility that opened earlier this month. The total cost is anticipated to be \$12,698,854.00, of which just over \$7 million will come from an Affordable Housing Development Fund Program grant administered by NCORR. The apartments have sparked some confusion about their nature and developers and officials have been quick to point out that this is not "section 8," low-income housing. It falls under the definition of affordable housing and strives to address a shortage of mid-level income housing in our area that targets younger families just starting out, and older residents on a fixed income. "We feel that when these apartments are complete, they will provide some much-needed housing in our community and be an asset to our county," said Grantsboro Mayor Tom Newman. "I'd like to thank those who have supported this and worked hard to help make it happen." No date on the start of construction has been given.



Parcel 1 shows the location of the new Carolina Quick Care while Parcel 2 shows the site of the new Pamlico Grove Apartments.

Working Lands Trust Secures 1,500-Acre Farmland Easement in Pamlico County to Preserve North Carolina's Agricultural Heritage

Pamlico County, NC (July 29, 2025) — Working Lands Trust (WLT) is proud to announce the successful completion of the second and final phase of the McCotter Promised Land Opportunity Zone (PLOZ) Farm Easement, permanently conserving an additional 1,568 acres of prime farmland and working forest in Pamlico County, making it the second largest agricultural easement secured in conjunction with state and federal partners. With the previous phase — closed in 2023 — protecting 1,200 acres, the total acreage now safeguarded under the McCotter PLOZ Farm Easement stands at a historic 2,768 acres, making it the largest conglomerate of agricultural conservation easements funded with state and federal funds under one landowner in the history of North Carolina.

This conservation milestone represents years of collaborative effort among landowners, public and private partners, and conservation leaders. It was made possible through generous support from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (ADPTF) and the Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program.

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Commanding Officer Col. Brendan Burks commented, "This easement acquisition is a great achievement for America's Air Station and a tremendous win for the warfighter. It protects critical farmland and preserves operational capabilities within military airspace for low altitude pilot training."

Pamlico County has long played a pivotal role in North Carolina's agricultural history. Known for its fertile coastal plain soils, the region has supported generations of farmers cultivating corn, soybeans, cotton, and timber. Historically, the area thrived on diversified farming, with deep roots in both commodity agriculture and small-



scale family farms. Today, Pamlico's working lands continue to feed the state and nation, while also contributing to climate resilience and rural livelihoods.

"Promised Land OZ is pleased to partner on the strategic preservation of McCotter farm to feed and protect future generations of Americans," remarked John Heneghan, Manager of Promised Land Opportunity Zone Funds.

Mikey Fulk, Executive Director of Working Lands Trust, remarked: "This project is a model for what farmland preservation can achieve. It demonstrates the strength of partnerships, the foresight of landowners, and the growing recognition that agriculture, conservation, and military readiness are interconnected. The McCotter PLOZ Easements help ensure that Pamlico County remains a place where farming is viable, valued, and protected."

■Continued on Page A06

LIKELY WEATHER OVER THE WEEKEND



Saturday, Sept 20th **85°Hi** Humid with a blend of sun and clouds



Sunday, Sept 21st

78 °Hi

Mostly cloudy and humid; an afternoon shower

Rock, Sand & Topsoil
 Custom Excavation, Bulldozer & Backhoe Services
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Pamlico Community College

Enthusiastic new leader has plans for Pamlico Community College's Cosmetology, Esthetics programs

By Sandy Wall

As an Esthetics instructor, it's not surprising that Shanna Lewis has plans to dress up the appearance of Pamlico Community College's Cosmetology Building in Bayboro.

She'd like to see a fresh coat of paint for the building's interior, the creation of a mural on an exterior wall, and perhaps other improvements.

But as the college's newly named coordinator of Beauty Arts Programs, Lewis's plans for the Cosmetology and Esthetics programs housed in the building are more than just skin deep. She wants to grow enrollment in both Cosmetology and Esthetics, which she now leads, and she plans to explore adding new courses and programs in massage therapy, nail technician, natural hair care, and others.

"We have a vision of growing," the peppy Lewis said in a recent interview. "This has always been my vision."

The 47-year-old Virginia native also wants to build on the work of recently retired Program Director/Instructor Debi Fulcher, who led the college's Cosmetology and Esthetics programs for many years.

"She was a good role model," Lewis said. "I watched her like a hawk."

For his part, PCC President Zac Schnell says he is impressed with Lewis's enthusiasm and commitment to the programs' growth and success.

"Shanna brings new excitement to our college's Beauty Arts Programs," he said. "Her vision for Cosmetology and Esthetics goes far beyond mere surface beauty. She's actively looking to grow programs that transform PCC students and the community."

Lewis has been intrigued by beauty and style since she was a little girl. When she wasn't playing with Barbie dolls, she was dressing up in her grandmother's high heels and costume jewelry and experimenting with bright red lipstick.

"I was definitely not the tomboy playing in the dirt," Lewis said with a chuckle.

She got her first experience working in the beauty industry at age 14 when she was hired as a shampoo technician – then called a "shampoo girl" – at a salon in her hometown. Lewis maintained her interest after her move to North Carolina, eventually enrolling at PCC to study Cosmetology.

She earned a Cosmetology diploma at Pamlico in 2007, and she went on to earn a Cosmetology Instructor certificate later from Carteret Community College.



When she's not on the job, newly named Coordinator of Beauty Arts Programs Shanna Lewis stays busy with a new grandson. She's married and has three grown children. Contributed photo

graduate and skilled instructor. Woodham teaches the Beginning Cosmetology students, and McGarrell teaches the Advanced Cosmetology students.

Pamlico's Cosmetology and Esthetics programs are ideal for creative men and women who want to help people look their best. The programs feature small class sizes and individualized attention. High school students are eligible to begin the hands-on programs even before they graduate.

Graduates of the programs are eligible to test for their respective state licenses and embark on career paths that can be both potentially lucrative and personally satisfying.

For more information, contact Lewis at 252-249-1851, ext. 3135, or slewis@pamlicocc.edu.

Sandy Wall can be reached at 252-249-1851, ext. 3010, or swall@pamlicocc.edu.

Dr. Justin Rose



Mondays, 6-7:30pm

Sept 8th - 29th

Hybrid format
(in-person or online)

Pamlico Small Business Center

701 N Main St
Bayboro, NC
252.670.2468

Unlock the Power of Artificial Intelligence
to Supercharge Your Small Business
Operations and Marketing Success



FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER, VISIT:

www.PamlicoSBC.com



Land/Home Sales
Property Management
Appraisals Development

Agent of the Week

Linda Hoff

Broker

Here's what one of Linda's customers had to say...



We are a couple from Germany and were looking for a property in the coastal area of North Carolina, to build our dream vacation/retirement home. First we checked out Zillow and tried to contact several different realtors which offered applicable properties. We never got a reply. Then we contacted Linda and she answered immediately to our request. Even though we are living overseas in Germany with a time difference of 6 hours, we never had an issue to get in contact or to get quick replies on our mails. Because we are not so familiar with the requirements and legal regulations for buying land in the states, we had many questions that needed clarification. Linda never got tired of answering and explaining all in detail until we were satisfied.

The complete process from showing possible options including the pros and cons of each property and area, until closing was very smooth and without any issues. She realized very quickly what was important for us and we found the perfect spot in no time. We can recommend Linda without any limitation. Working with her has been a perfect example of how working with a realtor should be.

Ulf & Sabine, Germany



BAYBORO – Attention investors and first time homebuyers. This 2BR/1BA detached single home has a deck out back, a Rinnai tankless water heater, and an efficient layout. Located in the heart of Bayboro, close to New Bern, Grantsboro and Oriental.

OFFERED AT \$165,000



NEW BERN – Fairwinds 2BR/2BA Condo in Fairfield Harbor. Open floor plan, screened deck and open deck, roof replaced last year. Community boat dock, pool, golf course, and restaurant.

OFFERED AT \$209,000



ORIENTAL – Wide-water views of Smith & Green Creeks from Oriental West Condos unit A-1. Fully furnished, first floor unit, 2BR/2BA, w/deep-water deeded boat slip.

OFFERED AT \$350,000



NEW BERN – Handicapped-accessible, waterfront 2BR/2BA fully-furnished condominium located in Oriental Harbor Place Condominiums. Community pool, air-conditioned commercial elevator (rated 2,500 pounds), and views of surrounding water.

OFFERED AT \$359,500



ARAPAHOE – Water views of Neuse River, 2.64 acres, 2BR/2BA, chef's kitchen with new appliances & granite countertops. Relax on the 2 large, screened porches. This 1,370 sf house is situated amongst the trees with a private drive through your own forest.

OFFERED AT \$625,000



See all Listings & Visual Tours at
www.orientalncwaterfront.com
1-800-347-8246 • 252-249-1014

Or contact Allen Propst
252-671-4644

704 Broad St, PO Box 750, Oriental, NC 28571



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

by: Hiram Lupton

- September 17th – 1787, The United States Constitution was signed by members of the Constitutional Convention. "We the People..."
- September 18th – 1947, The United States Air Force became an official branch of the military.
- September 19th – Today is National POW/MIA Recognition Day.
- September 20th – Today is National Pepperoni Pizza Day.
- September 21st – Today is Wife Appreciation Day. I appreciate my wife. I especially appreciate her when she cooks me dinner.
- September 22nd – Fall begins today at 2:19 P.M.
- September 23rd – Today is National Snack Stick Day.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- September 17th – 1923, Singer/songwriter Hiram King Williams (Hank Williams, Sr.)
 September 17th – 1951, Actress Cassandra Peterson (Elvira)
 September 19th – 1928, Actor William West Andron (Adam West)
 September 20th – 1934, Actress Sophia Costanza Brigid Villani Scicolone (Sophia Loren)
 September 21st – 19??, Pamlico County Parks & Recreation Director Jeremy Forbes
 September 22nd – 1958, Singer Joan Larkin (Joan Jett)
 September 23rd – 1930, Singer Ray Charles Robinson (Ray Charles)
 September 23rd – 1959, Actor Jay Greenspan (Jason Alexander)



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to several letters and advertisements surrounding the upcoming Town of Oriental election for new Commissioners. I feel compelled to share my observations, particularly regarding Commissioner Bonnie Crosser's campaign and tenure. First, let's talk about advertising. Commissioner Crosser has invested heavily in promoting her image with three small ads paid for by Frank Roe and one notably large ad, likely funded by Crosser herself. Why do other candidates not feel the need for such extensive advertising? Perhaps they have nothing to hide and don't need to push their image so forcefully. Crosser's supporters often dismiss criticism as "lies", but after speaking with those directly involved, I ask: how could so many of us be telling the same "lies"? Her lawn signs proclaim, "Fears and Feelings are not Facts" and "Honesty Puts Principles before Personalities." Yet, in my opinion, fear has been a defining feature of her leadership. During her tenure, I've witnessed an unprecedented number of town employees leave their positions, citing the toxic atmosphere she created. While Crosser may claim they planned to leave anyway, those individuals have said otherwise, that they left because they couldn't endure the working conditions. Let's address the "facts". Crosser touts saving the town over \$230,000 by outsourcing services like meter reading and lawn care. But this savings came at the cost of eliminating three Public Works positions. The result: A fragmented workforce. The lawn is mowed, but not edged; weed control is handled with Roundup. The meter reader reads meters, nothing more. Gone are the days when our staff did everything, especially during crises like Hurricane Florence, when employees camped in Town Hall to serve the town before tending to their own damaged homes. This used to be a team. Every member understood the town's needs and worked together to meet them. Now, fear and division reign. And the biggest concern? Our Town Manager, Diane Miller, has indicated she will retire depending on who is elected as commissioners. I challenge anyone to find a Town Manager who has done more, found more grants for funding, worked as hard for Oriental than Diane Miller. So, back to Crosser's signs: Honesty, Principles, Personalities. I urge voters to reflect on who truly embodies these values. Who do you trust to lead our town forward... not with slogans, but with integrity and collaboration?

Sincerely, Carol Small Oriental

Abe Lincoln was a professional wrestler long before he became the 16th President of the United States.

Food of the Month: Turkey Gravy

PCFLO is selecting a Food of the Month for each month during 2025, and our selection for September is turkey gravy. Help provide PCFLO clients with holiday meal ingredients by bringing turkey gravy to your church during any Sunday during the month. You can also bring turkey gravy to the PCFLO collection box at the Food Pantry at 108 Straight Road in Oriental.

Looking ahead to October, the Food of the Month will be stuffing. Thanks for your support!!

Concerned about your drinking?

You are not alone, there is help available!

Come join others who have found a Solution!

Alcoholics Anonymous: New Bern Hotline (252) 349-0898

Meetings in Pamlico County:

(If you think you may have a problem, you are welcome to attend)

Tuesday 8pm - Oriental Group - Open Discussion Meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Church 600 Ragan Rd. in Oriental, NC (2nd brick building on left off Hwy 55)

Thursday *7:30pm** - Recovery and Beyond Group - Beginner/Open Discussion Meeting at Alliance United Methodist Church, 687 Main Street in Bayboro, NC (close to DSS/Senior Center)

Friday 8pm - Oriental Group - Open Discussion Meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Church, 600 Ragan Road in Oriental, NC (2nd brick building on left off Hwy 55).

Sunday *7pm - Oriental Sunday Night Group - Big Book/12 & 12 Study Meeting held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 402 Freemason St. in Oriental, NC (2nd brick church on the left)

<https://aaeasternnc.org/> <https://aanorthcarolina.org/> <https://www.aa.org/>

The Pamlico News

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The Pamlico News Editorials and Opinions section features opinion articles, newspaper editorials and letters to the editor on the issues of the day.

The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Pamlico News. Any content provided by authors are of their opinion, and are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, club, organization, company, individual or anyone or anything.

COMMUNITY

OBITUARIES



Debra Jo Thomas, 67, of Lowland, passed away September 9, 2025, at Grantsbrook Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

Debra was a devoted and loving mother who faced life's challenges with strength and grace. She raised her children on her own, doing everything within her power to provide for them and surround them with love. Over the past year at Grantsbrook, she became a guiding light to many – often greeting people at the door with her warm smile and offering kindness to all who crossed her path.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Gerald "Bud" Thomas and Mary Mercer Thomas and a brother, Charlie Thomas.

Debra is survived by her children, Jennifer Ford (James) and Zach Heath (Amanda); brother, Jerry Thomas (Donna); nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. A Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 27th at the Hobucken Community Center.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made directly to the funeral home at Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home, PO Box 99, Alliance, NC 28509, to assist with the cost of her services.

Debra will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who were blessed to know her.

Arrangements by Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home & Crematory, Alliance.

Roland Johnny Ward Jr., 76, of Oriental, NC, passed away at home on September 9, 2025, surrounded by his family.

Born on November 15, 1948, in Charleston, S.C. to Roland Ward Sr. and Norine D. Ward, Johnny went to work at an early age to help his mother provide for his six younger siblings. He became the man of the house at age 13 and held that position for the next 64 years until his time of passing. Johnny married the love of his life, Cynthia "Rosie" Ward, in 1967. Together they raised a family of three sons over the next 58 years.

Johnny loved nothing more than to see his family and friends enjoy themselves. Whether it be hunting or fishing with his three sons or watching his family and friends spend an afternoon cooking out by the pool in his backyard. He was known for his steadfast work ethic and owned a successful restoration company for nearly 40 years where he taught his boys the value of a dollar and how to make one as well. He was a man of his word; he had a saying "Say what you

mean and mean what you say." He helped countless guys that were in need of a steady job and several of his guys stayed employed by his company for up to 30 years. Johnny always looked after his family as well as his employees.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Rosie Ward and two of his three sons, RJ and Dewey. Johnny was also survived by nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Also surviving are three of his six siblings, Jackie, Gerry and Billy.

He was preceded in death by his middle-aged son, Brandon, and three brothers, Allen, Ross, and Teddy.

A service will be scheduled at a later date. Family will contact relatives and friends once plans have been finalized.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Hospice of Pamlico, PO Box 6, Bayboro, NC 28515, in his name.

Arrangements by Daniels-Sadler Funeral Home & Crematory, Alliance.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Oriental's Town Board Works Best with Collaboration

Having been one of your Town Commissioners going on 12 years, I would like to share my thoughts on our Board's lack of collaboration. Any Board works healthier with open collaboration and respect for members. It is not about whose position on an issue is better than other Commissioners' positions, but what is in the best interest of the Town. Effective collaboration starts first with each Commissioner's respecting the others, which sadly is missing with this Board.

In my experience with previous Boards, we did not always agree, but there was a respectful working relationship. Town business was conducted in a civil manner with consideration for all. We are a small town where open collaboration and constructive communication is paramount to a successful Town and Board. When several Board members seize the stance that their positions are best for all and disregard input from Town residents, staff, and other Commissioners, then the best interest of the Town is lost to personal agendas.

Excluding the two incumbents, we have nine candidates running for election. The voters should choose five to replace all as the Town deserves a functional Board and there are nine qualified candidates to fill these five positions.

Charlie Overcash, Commissioner

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Horoscopes

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

This week sharpens your focus with daily routines and well-being. Aries. It's an excellent time to streamline your schedule, tackle neglected tasks and prioritize self-care.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Creativity and joy are themes for you this week, Taurus. Engage in hobbies, spend time with loved ones and embrace fun pursuits. Your artistic side may be especially inspired

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Your home and family life take center stage right now, Gemini. You might be focused on domestic projects, redecorating or spending quality time with the people you love.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Communication is key this week, Cancer. Expect a busy social calendar. Important conversations and new learning opportunities also may pop up. Your words carry weight.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, financial matters are center stage this week. This is a good time to review your budget, look for new income or make sensible investments. Your practical instincts are strong.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

This week is all about you, Virgo, especially if your birthday falls during these days. Focus on personal goals and self-improvement. Set strong intentions for the year ahead.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

It is time for rest and introspection, Libra. You might feel a need to retreat and recharge your batteries in the days to come. Pay attention to what your body is telling you.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Social connections and networking are driving you right now, Scorpio. Spend time with friends or host a party so others can stop by and mingle. You also can join group events.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, your career and public image are in focus this week. Opportunities for advancement or recognition could arise. Be professional and show off your leadership skills.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Expand your horizons, Capricorn. This is a great week for learning, planning travel or exploring new hobbies. Try to step outside of your comfort zone as much as possible.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you might be dealing with financial arrangements or deepening a close bond with someone. Regardless, trust and vulnerability are important concepts right now.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Personal and professional relationships are your priority this week, Pisces. It's important to compromise and seek harmony in all you do.

VIRGO Traits & Overview

Virgos is the star sign born between 23rd August and 22nd September 2023. This zodiac sign works HARD at coming off all effortless and perfect. They have extremely high standards, none more so than for themselves, and they obsess over everything. They are fantastic detail-people, love organising stuff, and can be relied on to make everything go smoothly.

Virgos can come off as uptight or critical, but actually their Mercury ruler does present a lighter side to their character. They love gossip, information, education, entertainment. Their mind is sharp, bright and shrewd. Virgos make great friends, they are 100% solid and also (secretly) naughty fun.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Look at your financial situation holistically



Dan M. Roberts

When you plan a trip, you consider not only the destination but also the climate, activities that interest you, transportation needs, anticipated costs, best time to go and coverage for your work, home or pets. It's a holistic approach — looking at your trip from a variety of angles.

It's wise to apply that same holistic thinking when you plan for your financial future — that is, bringing into the picture all elements of yourself.

Here are some things that may affect your financial strategy:

- *Your views on helping your family* — Your decisions about helping your family are clearly going to be a major part of your financial strategy, and this is true at virtually all stages of your life. When your children are young, you'll need to decide if you're going to save money for their college education, and if so, how much, and in what investments. When they're young adults, you may also need to decide how much financial support you're willing to provide for major expenses such as down payments on a new home or a new car. And when you're drawing up your estate plans, you'll need to consider how and when to distribute assets to your children, grandchildren or other family members.

- *Your personal beliefs* — As someone with civic, ethical and moral concerns, you may feel compelled to make charitable gifts throughout your life and then make philanthropy part of your legacy. To accomplish these objectives, you'll want to include gifting techniques in your financial strategy today and your estate plans for tomorrow. Of course, for the estate-planning component, you'll need to work with your tax and legal advisors.

- *Your purpose in life when you retire* — Having a purpose can bring fulfillment beyond financial security. Leading up to retirement, your purpose may involve providing for your immediate family, bringing value to your profession or contributing to your community. When you retire and step off your career path, you're entering a new world of possibilities. How will you define, and live out, your new sense of purpose at this stage of your life? Do you seek to broaden your horizons by traveling around the world? Or spend more time volunteering? Can you pursue hobbies that give you a chance for self-expression? Each of these choices will carry different financial implications for how much you'll need to accumulate for retirement and how much income you will need to take out each year from your retirement accounts, such as your IRA and 401(k).

- *Your health* — Your physical and mental health can play big roles in your financial plans and outlook. On the most basic level, the healthier you are, and the better you take care of yourself, the lower your health care bills will likely be during retirement, which will affect the amount you need to put away for health care. And you also may need to prepare for the costs of long-term care, which can be enormous — in fact, a private room in a nursing home can easily cost \$100,000 per year, according to Genworth, an insurance company.

It can be challenging to weave all these elements into a single, unified vision, so you may want to get some help from a financial professional. But, in any case, be prepared to look at your situation holistically because, when putting together a lifetime's financial strategy, every part of your life matters.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Fire Ants (*Solenopsis invicta*)

Insect Note by Teresa Casey, Pamlico County Extension Master Gardener

Description: Red Imported Fire Ants (*Solenopsis invicta*) inhabit all or parts of many southeastern states in the US. Fire ants are small, only about 1/8 to 1/4-inch long. Variation in size is a distinguishing feature as many other ant species are uniform in size. Fire ants have a bent or elbowed antennae, a thorax followed by two nodes on the abdominal petiole and a bulbous hind part that is the abdomen. Fire ants are the only ants that have two bumps or nodes between the thorax and abdomen.

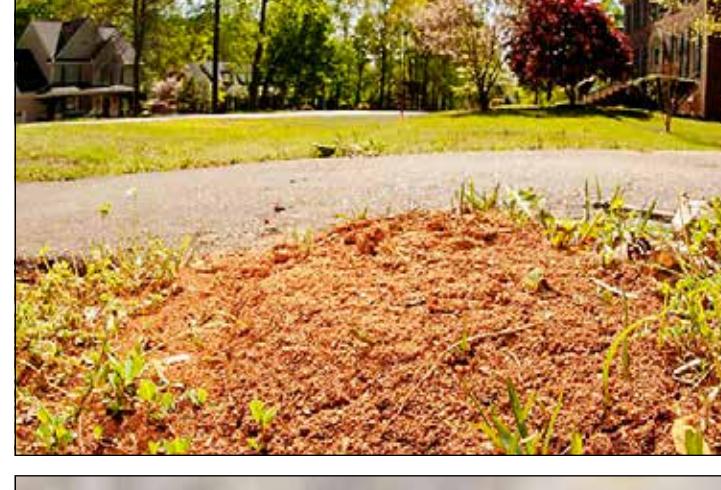
Fire ant mounds are usually a distinct dome-shape with no opening at the top, which are found out in the open, not in the woods. Where imported fire ants are common, most homeowners recognize them by the mounds they build or the stings they inflict. Their aggressive nature compared to other ant species is one such trait. If a mound is disturbed, usually hundreds of fire ant workers will swarm out and run up vertical surfaces to sting.

Damage: Fire ants in established turfgrass are considered serious nuisance pests due to mounds interfering with ball play on golf courses, damaging equipment, and are unsightly in home lawns. Additionally, when encountered by humans, pets, livestock and other animals, their stings can cause serious pain and injury. Worker ants bite with chewing mouthparts and inject venom with their stingers aggressively and repeatedly. A day or so later, the imported fire ant's unique venom forms a characteristic white fluid-filled pustule or blister at the sting site.

Biology: Fire ant mounds vary in size and are a good indicator of the size of the colony. A mound that is 2 feet in diameter and 18 inches high, for example, can contain as many as 100,000 workers, several hundred winged adults and a queen. Fire ant colonies consist of three adult types: winged males, reproductive and worker ant females. Winged males start to fly when temperatures are between 70-95°F (spring and fall) and mate in flight. Winged males die shortly after and successfully mated females will search for a place to establish a new colony, shed their wings and start digging chambers in the soil for their eggs. New queens lay between 12-25 eggs that hatch within 7-10 days. Established queens can lay as many as 800 eggs per day. Larvae hatch from the eggs and develop for 7-10 days before pupating. Adults emerge in about two weeks. Worker ants are wingless, sterile females that protect the colony by feeding the queen, defending the nest, foraging for food, and caring for the brood.

Control: Wait until warmer weather (between 70°F and 85°F is ideal) to treat for fire ants. During the colder seasons, the colony may have moved or burrowed well below the surface where treatments will not reach them. When treating for fire ants, sprinkle bait around the mound, not on top! Fire ants do not exit their mound from the top, but instead through side tunnels that can be several feet away. You can find additional guidance online through NC State Extension for both chemical and non-chemical control options at https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/red-imported-fire-ant-in-north-carolina#section_heading_10301.

It may take several weeks for baits to be taken into the nest and shared with the other ants. Baits contain an insecticide combined with food that the target insect finds palatable or attractive. In the case of ants, workers find the bait and carry it back to the colony, where it is fed to the larvae, workers, and queens. Foraging workers may consume some of the liquid portion of the bait before returning the particle to the colony. Read the label carefully to determine the proper amount and check what protective equipment you need to wear, e.g., waterproof gloves.



Also, if using chemicals, follow the label instructions! Doubling the "recipe" will not kill twice as many fire ants, but it could cause environmental harm.

References:

<https://ant-pests.extension.org/identifying-fire-ants/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLANjhXwcWE>
 NC State Extension Homegrown, Mike Waldvogel, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOqQlzsMwsw>
<https://ant-pests.extension.org/broadcast-baits-for-fire-ant-control/>
<https://homegrown.extension.ncsu.edu/2019/07/19/controlling-fire-ants-in-your-yard/>
<https://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/insects/fire-ants-in-turf/> Great resource

I'm not saying I'm overreacting. I'm just saying there are good times. There are bad times. And there are bad times to hand me a chainsaw.



New Items for Deer Season

- Wildlife Mix - Fall/Winter planting
- Deer Licks
- Clover
- Deer Corn
- Purple Paint
- Muck Boots

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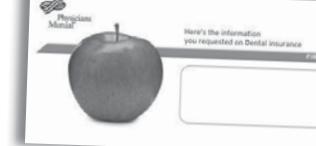
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PCA Soccer

by: Hiram Lupton

It was a mixed week for Pamlico Christian Academy Soccer. The Mariners had a pair of long road trips sandwiched around a home match that were all conference contests. On Monday they travelled to Goldsboro to do battle with Faith Christian Academy and although competitive, they returned with a 4-1 loss. Nathan Gibson scored the only PCA goal in the match. Tuesday saw the Mariners at home (Lawson Creek Park) to take on Jacksonville Christian Academy and the Mariners dominated the Conquerors 9-0. A lot of bright spots in this one as many of the young Mariners got time on the pitch. Braxton Crabbe and Emmett Nelson had a pair of goals each for PCA. The Mariners finished up a busy week with a trip to Wilson to take on the Community Christian Cyclones. This was another close, competitive match with the Cyclones outlasting the Mariners, 5-2. PCA continues to improve with every outing and now sits at an even 6-6 for the season with another busy week on tap this week, with conference matches against New Bern Christian Academy (16th) and Unity Christian Academy (18th) and a home non-conference contest with Jones Senior (19th) to finish up the week.



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COASTAL REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Fall 2025 Collection Events

PAMLICO COUNTY
Saturday, September 20, 2025
9:00am - 1:00pm
Pamlico County Courthouse
202 Main Street, Bayboro

CRAVEN COUNTY
Saturday, October 4, 2025
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Craven Community College
800 College Court, New Bern

CARTERET COUNTY
Saturday, October 11, 2025
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Carteret Co. Health Dept
3820 Bridges Street, Morehead City

Accepted Materials

- Cooking oil
- Drain openers
- Batteries
- Paint: Latex* and oil based; paint thinners
- Automotive fluids: gasoline, used motor oil, anti-freeze
- Pesticides: Lawn, garden, and farm pesticides and fertilizer

10 gallons max per vehicle. *Dried latex paint may be disposed of via normal waste collection

Non-Accepted Materials

- Commercial waste
- Infectious, biological, or radioactive wastes
- Explosives
- Ammunition

No Mystery Cans!
Everything must be labeled or easily identified.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:
You will be asked to remain in your vehicle at all times. We will remove your items from your vehicle. Contractors are **not** permitted to bring items for disposal (residential wastes only)

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ACS Athletics
Bobcats take on the Lakers

by: Hiram Lupton

The Arapahoe Charter School Volleyball team continues to work hard and last Monday they hosted the Mattamuskeet Lakers. The Bobcats fought hard but the Lakers prevailed in both Junior Varsity, 2-1 (25-17, 20-25, 15-9), and in the Varsity match, 3-0 (25-14, 25-23, 25-12).

Hurricanes at the Net
Pamlico Opens Conference Schedule with Two Wins

The Pamlico County High School Volleyball team had another busy week with three road matches including two conference battles as they open up defense of their Coastal Plains title. On Tuesday they crossed the river and headed to East Carteret and the Hurricanes proved to be too powerful of a storm, defeating the Mariners 3-1 (25-11, 25-18, 24-26, 25-12). On Wednesday Pamlico stepped out of conference and headed to the crystal coast to take on Swansboro. The Pirates proved to be a worthy foe and came out on top 3-1 (25-20, 25-27, 23-25, 25-13). Finally, on Thursday, the Hurricanes hit the road to Jones Senior to tangle with the Trojans. Pamlico dispatched their old rivals 3-1 (25-20, 22-25, 25-18, 25-7). The two wins put the Hurricanes on top of the conference along with Northside-Pinetown who they will face off with in Bayboro this Tuesday to see who remains at the top of the standings. Pamlico will also face Southside on Thursday.



Senior Hayley Shamblin

Senior Claire DeLancey

Mariner Volleyball

by: Hiram Lupton



Julia Koontz (#51) with a putback at the net

Danielle Palgyi (#1) returns serve

Pamlico Christian Academy took on three conference opponents last week and although they were winless, they took the fight to their opponents and continue to improve. On Monday the Mariners lost on the road to Faith Christian Academy, 3-1 (14-25, 27-25, 18-25, 28-25) in a very competitive match. Tuesday saw them return home to do battle with Jacksonville

Christian Academy and the Conquerors conquered the Mariners 3-0 (25-8, 25-6, 25-18). Finally, on Friday the Mariners took a long road trip to Wilson to take on Community Christian and the Cyclones took it to the Mariners 3-0 (25-5, 25-13, 25-15). Three losses but the Mariners displayed a never say quit attitude in all three. Keep fighting girls, the wins will come.

■Continued from page A1

Working Lands Trust Secures 1,500-Acre Farmland Easement in Pamlico County to Preserve North Carolina's Agricultural Heritage



"This is the second largest conservation easement in the history of the Farmland Preservation program, and it serves as a perfect reminder of the long-term, strategic benefits that come from investing in farmland conservation to support our state's top two industries — agriculture and the military," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "I am proud of our continued partnership with the United States Marine Corps, the U.S. Navy and the Working Lands Trust."

Without funding from federal and state governments, projects that support food security and national security would not be possible. Demand for farmland preservation is at an all-time high, but state and federal funding are falling far short. We encourage state and federal lawmakers to fully fund farmland preservation programs so this important work can continue.

The McCotter PLOZ Farm Easement is more than a transaction — it's a symbol of what can be accomplished when we act with urgency and collaboration to protect the lands that sustain us. Working Lands Trust is proud to be a part of this legacy and invites all North Carolinians to help shape the future of rural resilience, agricultural preservation, and natural heritage.

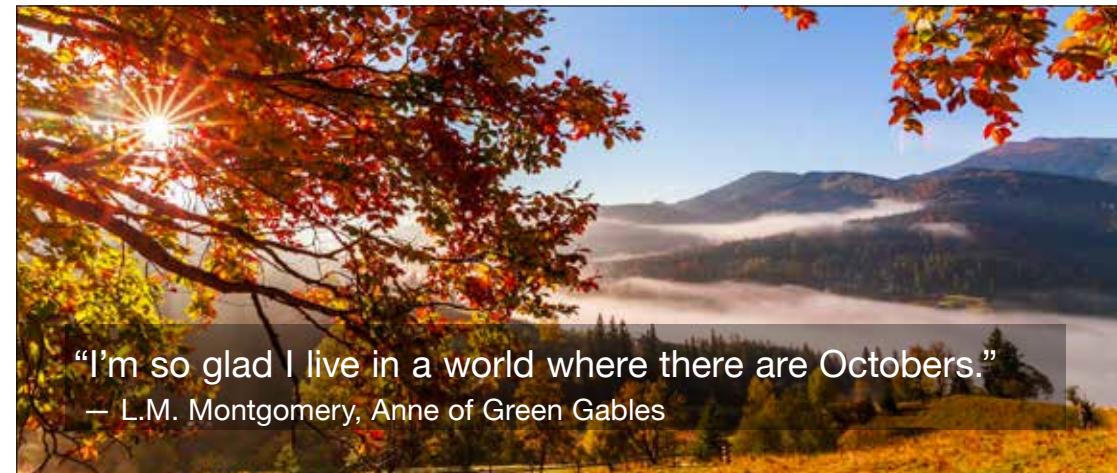
About Working Lands Trust:

Working Lands Trust is a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving North Carolina's working farms, forests, military readiness, and rural heritage. Through strategic partnerships and innovative conservation tools, WLT helps landowners protect their property, sustain their communities, and strengthen the future of agriculture in the state.

PCHA Begins Fall Shows

by: Hiram Lupton

It has been a hot summer but cooler weather is here just in time for the Pamlico County Horseman's Association's fall riding shows. Saturday the club hosted their first gaming show of the fall with great weather and great attendance. The remainder of the schedule this year includes two schooling shows on September 27th and October 25th that begin at 9 AM along with another gaming show set for October 11th at 4 PM. For more information on the Pamlico County Horseman's Association and their events, check out their website at www.pamlicohorseclub.com or follow them on Facebook. The George R. Brinson Memorial Riding Arena is located at 127 River View Road in Arapahoe.



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**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
PAMLICO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND DEBTORS OF
BERTHA M. MIDGETTE
File No.: 19E000096-680**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against deceased, are notified to exhibit them to CHARLENE MIDGETTE, ADMINISTRATOR CTA on or before NOVEMBER 25TH, 2025, at the address listed below or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named ADMINISTRATOR CTA.

This 19TH OF AUGUST 2025

**ESTATE OF BERTHA M.
MIDGETTE
C/O CHARLENE MIDGETTE
PO BOX 385
ALLIANCE, NC 28509**

Publish AUGUST 27 AND
SEPTEMBER 3, 10 AND 17, 2025.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
PAMLICO COUNTY
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF
JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
FILE NO.: 25SP001049-680**

**IN RE: REGISTERED ESTATE
NUMBER 9**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
PURSUANT TO
N.C.G.S. § 43-17.2**

TO: All persons having or
claiming an interest or estate in
Registered Estate Number 9.

NOTICE is hereby given that a
petition was filed by Petitioner
Reserveco Inc., by and through its
attorneys K&L Gates LLP, in the
office of the Clerk of the Superior
Court of Pamlico County, alleging
that the Certificate of Title for
Registered Estate No. 9 had been
lost under the circumstances stated
therein, and praying that new dupli-
cate certificates of title be issued to
the Petitioner.

The land referred to in Certificate of
Title for Registered Estate No. 9 is
bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a concrete monument,
a corner in the line dividing Beaufort
and Pamlico Counties, and running
thence North 88 degrees 45 minutes
East 17 feet to an iron pipe in
the center line of the old Sand Hill
Road, and running with the center
line of said Road, South 58 degrees
15 minutes West 154 feet; South
47 degrees 10 minutes West 182
feet; South 73 degrees 45 minutes
West 424.5 feet; South 43 degrees

Sept. 4, Main St., Bayboro, order for arrest fail to report
change of address - sex offender
Sept. 4, NC Hwy 306 S., Arapahoe, destruction/damage/
vandalism of property
Sept. 4, Kershaw Rd./Janiero Rd., Oriental, driving
under the influence
Sept. 5, NC Hwy 55, driving while impaired, driving
while license revoked/impaired revoked, order for arrest
carrying concealed gun
Sept. 5, Longview Dr., Bayboro, simple assault

Sept. 5, Main St., Bayboro, simple assault
Sept. 5, Main St., Bayboro, failure to appear driving
while license revoked, failure to appear expired registration
Sept. 7, Main St., Bayboro, possess controlled substance
prison/jail premises, simple possession of
Schedule IV controlled substance, possession of drug
paraphernalia not for marijuana
Sept. 8, Main St., Bayboro, injury to personal property
Sept. 9, NC Hwy 55, New Bern, order for arrest child

West 217.5 feet; South 28 degrees
25 minutes West 230 feet; South
15 degrees 45 minutes West 236.5
feet; South 19 degrees 30 minutes
East 310.5 feet; and South 17
degrees 55 minutes West 46.5 feet,
which point is marked by an iron
pipe set in the edge of said Road 18
feet from the center thereof; thence
North 87 degrees 45 minutes West
1,620 feet to an iron pipe; thence
North 2 degrees 15 minutes East
3,739 feet to an iron pipe; thence
South 42 degrees 45 minutes East
3,473 feet to the concrete monu-
ment, the point of beginning, con-
taining 121.5 acres, more or less,
as shown upon plat attached to the
Decree of Registration hereinafter
referred to and made a part there-
of. LESS AND EXCEPT that 47.48
acre tract conveyed at Book 216,
Page 704, and more particularly
described as follows: BEGINNING
at a point in the southeast corner
of the tract herein conveyed which
point is located as follows: begin-
ning at an existing axile in the
southern margin of Bettline Road
and running thence to an existing
iron pin in the southern margin of
Bettline Road North 86° 32'
32" East, 930.27 feet, thence from
such pin the following courses and
distances: North 3° 53' 08" West
544.87 feet to an existing iron pin;
North 1° 41' 08" West 371.70 feet
to an existing iron pin; North 1° 46'
54" West, 420.36 feet to the point
of beginning, the same such point
being South 87° 03' 38" West, 83
feet from an existing iron pin in
the western line of Old Sand Hill
Road. From such beginning point
heretofore described, running the
following courses and distances:
North 25° 15' 00" East, 482.78 feet
to a point; North 33° 54' 21" East,
71.54 feet to a point; thence North
29° 57' 36" East, 174.04 feet to
a point; thence North 16° 29' 43"
East 548.02 feet to a point; thence
North 20° 35' 44" East, 100.71 feet
to a point, thence North 24° 55' 10"
East, 154.31 feet to a point; thence
South 87° 20' 23" West, 1512.86
feet to a point; thence South 20°
11° 33" West, 1502.64 feet to a
point, thence North 87° 03' 38"
East, 1442.99 feet to the point and
place of BEGINNING, such property
containing approximately 47.48
acres according to a survey dated
December 31, 1981, made by Wiley
C. Rodman, III, Land Surveyor No
L2266, being bounded on all sides
by the property of Texasgulf Inc.
and being part of the J. Peter Grace
Tract of the Grantor.

PIN: 6544-11-8100-000
REID: E02-4

See also Torrens Book 1, Page 27
(Registered Estate No. 9)

Said petition will be heard and
considered, and an order entered
thereon, at the office of the Clerk
of the Superior Court of Pamlico
County, on the 2nd day of October,
2025, at 2 o'clock p.m.

This 19th day of August, 2025

/s/ Sandy H. Harris

Asst. Clerk of Superior Court

**NORTH CAROLINA IN THE
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
PAMLICO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND DEBTORS OF
DONALD ELBERT HARDISON
File No.: 25E001141-680**

All persons, firms and corporations
having claims against deceased,
are notified to exhibit them to
RHONDA H. GLASER, EXECUTOR
on or before NOVEMBER 25, 2025,
at the address listed below or be
barred from their recovery. Debtors
of the decedent are asked to make
immediate payment to the above-
named EXECUTOR.

This 25TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025

**ESTATE OF DONALD ELBERT
HARDISON
C/O RHONDA H. GLASER
182 OAKWOOD DR
NEW BERN, NC 28560**

Publish AUGUST 27, SEPTEMBER
3, 10 & 17, 2025

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Guy Credle
File No. 25E001092-680**

All persons, firms and corporations
having claims against Guy
Credle, deceased, of Pamlico
County, North Carolina, are notified
to exhibit the same to the under-
signed on or before December 10,
2025, or this notice will be pleaded
in bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make imme-
diate payment to the above-
named ADMINISTRATOR CTA.

This 10th OF SEPTEMBER 2025

**ESTATE OF RONALD DOUGLAS
HARDISON
C/O BEVERLY H. GUIMBAL
159 PRESCOTT RD
NEW BERN, NC 28560**

Publish SEPTEMBER 10, 17, 24,
AND OCTOBER 1, 2025.

**Patricia Chadwick, Ancillary
Administrator
c/o Howard Stallings Law Firm
PO Box 12347
Raleigh, NC 27605**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons, firms and corporations
having claims against the Estate
of MICHAEL EDWARD NORTH,
Deceased, of Pamlico County, N.C.,
are notified to present the same to
the Personal Representative listed
below on or before December 10,
2025, or this Notice will be pleaded
in bar of recovery. All debtors of
the said Estate are asked to make
immediate payment. This 10th day
of September, 2025.

**TARA KATHLEEN HOWARD
Executor
c/o GREGORY T. PEACOCK
Ward and Smith, P.A.
Attorneys at Law
Post Office Box 867
New Bern, NC 28563-0867**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons, firms and corporations
having claims against deceased,
are notified to exhibit them to LARS
K. FORSBERG, ADMINISTRATOR
CTA on or before DECEMBER
10TH, 2025, at the address listed
below or be barred from their
recovery. Debtors of the decedent
are asked to make immediate
payment to the above-
named ADMINISTRATOR CTA.

This 17th OF SEPTEMBER 2025

**ESTATE OF GANTLEY H. HUHN, JR.
C/O LARS K. FORSBERG
1250 CORTEZ AVE
BILLINGS, MT 59105**

Publish SEPTEMBER 17, 24, AND
OCTOBER 1, 8, 2025.

REPORTS

Sept. 4, Main St., Bayboro, order for arrest fail to report
change of address - sex offender
Sept. 4, NC Hwy 306 S., Arapahoe, destruction/damage/
vandalism of property
Sept. 4, Kershaw Rd./Janiero Rd., Oriental, driving
under the influence
Sept. 5, NC Hwy 55, driving while impaired, driving
while license revoked/impaired revoked, order for arrest
carrying concealed gun
Sept. 5, Longview Dr., Bayboro, simple assault

Sept. 5, Main St., Bayboro, simple assault

Sept. 5, Main St., Bayboro, failure to appear driving
while license revoked, failure to appear expired registration

Sept. 7, Main St., Bayboro, possess controlled substance
prison/jail premises, simple possession of
Schedule IV controlled substance, possession of drug
paraphernalia not for marijuana

Sept. 8, Main St., Bayboro, injury to personal property

Sept. 9, NC Hwy 55, New Bern, order for arrest child

support warrant service

Sept. 9, Water St., Bayboro, simple assault

Sept. 9, NC Hwy 55, New Bern, assault on a female by
male at least 18 years of age (2)

Sept. 10, NC Hwy 306 S., Grantsboro, break or enter
any building - intent commit felony/larceny, larceny after
breaking or entering

Sept. 10, Seawell Farm Rd., Vandemere, littering 15-50
lbs.

Sept. 10, Main St., Bayboro, second degree trespass

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**Estate of Nettie Melvin
File No. 25E001092-680**

All persons, firms, and corporations
having claims

AROUND THE COUNTY

Pamlico Betty Jo Rodgers, Correspondent



I have been enjoying the cooler weather. It appears the corn has all been harvested and now the soy beans are beginning to turn from green to yellow. They will be brown before they are harvested. My grape vines had plenty of grapes this year, but they were not as sweet as usual. I think it may have been due to the hot dry weather this summer. The birds, squirrels, raccoons, and an occasional two legged animal seemed to enjoy them though. I do not think our bear ate any because my vine is still intact.

I have seen a lot of opossums and turtles on the road this week. Watch out for our wildlife.

Pamlico Methodist Church is planning for their homecoming on October 5, 2025 at 10:00 am. They are encouraging anyone who has ever attended to come and celebrate with them. They are also working on a cookbook with recipes from former and present members of the church. I sent them some of my mother's recipes as well as some of my own. My mother attended there when she lived in Pamlico as a young child, and I attended there for many years until I was called into the ministry. I cannot attend because that is World Communion Sunday, and I will be at Stonewall Methodist Church with my congregation.

The high school athletic teams have been busy in competition and in service projects. Our cross country team came in first place. Yeah!

Grantsboro Jeff Roberts, Correspondent



Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. As I sit here today at my desk thinking what to write, the words usually flow out of me easily as I am very passionate about writing this small piece each week. Today the words are a little more difficult to write, today marks the one year anniversary of my beautiful Mothers, Catharine Roberts, death. A lot of you knew her, she was known in this area for her seamstress abilities as she was one of the very few in the area.

Earlier in life you could have found her at Duval's in Arapahoe, yeah that's right Duval's the local service station, meeting place, and beauty parlor. Duval's is now Gary's Downeast Restaurant. However back then Duval's wife Mrs. Mary operated a salon on the side of the building. She loved doing hair; it was one of her early accomplishments in life. She soon opened her own salon on the vacant lot beside her house. She did hair up until the scissors started hurting her hands due to arthritis.

Scissors would soon be back in her hand but a pair with bigger handles. Scissors for sewing and alterations. This was something that my mom was absolutely incredible at. There weren't many things she couldn't do, or should I say wouldn't. She did not care for any outfit containing sequins. They were a pain, I could understand why. She held onto this profession for most of her life. She did it when she was sick, in pain, or anything else that may have been bothering her as she always wanted to take care of her clients, many of them were lifelong. When she retired, well for her that meant when she closed her shop, because she would still take care of a few.

She loved to be outside. You could catch her on her days off in the yard somewhere taking care of the many rose bushes she had. She preferred them to bouquets as they produced year after year not just for a few lasting moments. She was a devoted Christian and read the bible daily. I can honestly say she walked with Jesus in her heart wherever she went.

Whortonsville Reba Tiller, Correspondent



This was not a good week for me to have what I hear a lot of folks are having, head cold, sore throat, aching body, and plain down feeling lousy that lasted all week! Thank goodness I was able today to go to church and play for the service, but so many folks were out of town or sick we had a small congregation. Then the news that Charlie Kirk had been shot and was dead was the worse thing to hear. Such a wonderful young man, a lovely wife and two beautiful children, a person who could go on college campuses, debate with young people and only give a positive message. He had a brilliant future ahead of him but it was cut short by a radical young man whose life will be over, but in a different way from Charlie who I am sure is resting in the arms of Jesus. I do feel for the shooters family that had to turn him in. I have been busy this week calling Duke Hospital to learn about my friend Fonrose Rice who has been there all week. My sister-in-law in

I understand the volleyball team assisted with Independence Day at Pamlico Primary School.

Stonewall Methodist Church had 60 in attendance Sunday; seventeen of them were children. What a blessing it was for all who were there. Remember crochet class meets on Tuesdays at 9:30 am and this week, the Ina Gaskin's Circle will meet at Brantley's Village Restaurant at 11:00 am. This is a time of devotion and fellowship. Bible Study is Wednesdays at 6:30 pm followed by choir practice at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a member to come enjoy the fellowship at any of these events.

Celebrating birthdays in September are Ethan Rodgers (9/16), James Paul (9/17), Peg Witt (9/18), Asa Gatlin IV (9/20), Sue Sanders (9/27), Donna Gordon and Fay Bond (9/29), and Tim Carey and Reid Carey (9/30). Ms. Fay Bond will turn 102 on her birthday, and there will be a special celebration for her at the waterfront.

Celebrating anniversaries during September are Chris & Maria Machle (9/27). Kevin & Suzie Rodgers flew to Los Angeles and attended AGT to celebrate their anniversary. Then they went to the Santa Monica Pier and had a special supper before they flew back to Texas.

Have a blessed week. Insecure? Take Spiritual Vitamin I. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13)

My mom's last few weeks were not easy ones. We laughed, we cried, and we prayed, but we were together. I stayed there those last 2 weeks taking care of her. You know Hospice is a wonderful thing but it isn't easy as they are just your guide on what you need to do. The family are the ones that take care of every need throughout the day. I did things I didn't know I could do. She would argue with me, but in the end it was me and only me that she seemed to listen to. She trusted me because I was honest with her. She always told me to be honest with her, and finally I was, not so much back in the day. She would look at me and tell me, now don't you cry. She couldn't handle it if her baby cried. So I held them in, I didn't cry, if they did start I quickly wiped them away. Then she passed and I couldn't cry, I wanted to but I couldn't and still can't.

Finally my mom is in heaven walking the life she earned, she still visits me. Yes, she visits me because when she does I smell cigarette smoke. Those that know, know. I love you mom.

Until next week, I leave you with this picture.



Durham fell and is in a Rehab Center near Mebane. A niece in Harrells had a slight stroke and checking on my school buddy in Cape Carteret that fell and because of poor circulation in his legs cannot walk. It has been a terrible week for me. Hope next week everyone will be recuperating so we can enjoy the rain that is supposed to come in to water our pecan trees. The squirrels have been enjoying the green ones they eat on and then throw down on the ground. I took soup to the Woodmen meeting on Saturday and only three people showed for the meeting. As I said, not a good week for me! There was one bright light last week. My friend Louise Lee called and told me they had the most delicious Pumpkin Rolls at Food Lion, so I picked one up and she was so right!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK—HOPE NEXT WEEK IS A BETTER ONE AND EVERYONE WILL BE WELL!

It takes eight minutes and nineteen seconds for light to travel from the sun to Earth.

Notice of Public Hearing 2025 CDBG-Neighborhood Revitalization Application Pamlico County

On October 6, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Patsy H. Sadler Room on the second floor of the Pamlico County Courthouse, located at 202 Main Street, Bayboro, the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing to receive final public input on an application for CDBG-Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) funding prior to submission of application. Pamlico County intends to apply for up to \$950,000. The program will focus on rehabilitation / reconstruction of owner-occupied, low-moderate income housing and improvements at the Pamlico County Senior Center located at 800 Main Street in Alliance. The proposed program will not involuntarily displace any individuals as a result of the program. The public is invited to provide comments. Pamlico County will respond to all written comments within 10 calendar days. Pamlico County encourages comments and will make good faith efforts to involve historically underutilized businesses, veteran owned businesses and Section 3 individuals and businesses in execution of the program.

Persons with disabilities or who otherwise need assistance should contact the person listed below at least one day in advance of the hearing. Accommodation will be made for all who request assistance with participating in the public hearing. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact the individual listed below to accommodate this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma a petición. Póngase en contacto con el individuo enumerado a continuación para dar cabida a esta solicitud.

Sara Deskar, Grants Administrator
Pamlico County
302 Main Street
Bayboro, NC 28515
(252) 675-5880 Phone: (252) 753-2139

Fair Housing Complaint Procedure Pamlico County CDBG Program

The Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act) and the North Carolina Fair Housing Act prohibit housing discrimination. Pamlico County has adopted the following procedures for receiving housing discrimination complaints to promote fair housing and ensure the rights of housing discrimination victims are protected. Any person or persons wishing to file a complaint of housing discrimination in Pamlico County may do so by informing the individual listed below of the facts and circumstance of the alleged discriminatory acts or practice. Upon receipt of a housing discrimination complaint, Pamlico County shall acknowledge the complaint in writing within 15 calendar days, inform the Funding Agency, and inform the North Carolina Human Relations Commission about the complaint. Pamlico County will offer reasonable levels of assistance to the Human Relations Commission in the investigation and reconciliation of all of Pamlico County's housing discrimination complaints. Pamlico County will publicize in the local newspaper, with the TDD#, who is the local agency to contact with housing discrimination complaints. It is the policy of Pamlico County to implement the CDBG program to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, familial status, or handicap. If you have any questions about the complaint procedure or would like to register a complaint of fair housing discrimination, please contact the individual below or, for the hearing impaired, TDD assistance is available at 7-1-1 and providing the facts and circumstances of alleged discriminatory act or practice.

Language Access: This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact the individual listed below for accommodations for this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma a petición. Póngase en contacto con el individuo enumerado a continuación para dar cabida a esta solicitud.

Sara Deskar, Grants Administrator
Pamlico County
302 Main Street
Bayboro, NC 28515
(252) 745-4131

Vandemere Sandra Snipes, Correspondent



Greetings from Vandemere!

Much has happened since our last update. First and foremost, our hearts remain heavy in light of the senseless violence that too often lowers our flags to half-staff and brings our nation to mourning. If we took more time to truly listen and understand one another, we would likely find that our common ground far outweighs our differences. We continue to hold in prayer those who have lost loved ones and our nation as it seeks healing. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." (Psalm 30:5)

In recent months, I've had the great privilege of meeting Pastor Vera Price and James Robinson of Saint James AME Zion Church. Together, we hope to inspire community support for the revitalization of this historic church. It will be a journey, but one well worth taking; we have a powerful story to tell! Check out their new website at <http://www.saintjamesamezion.com>, and don't forget to write a response on their Facebook.



Meanwhile, the Town has been busy preparing for exciting things ahead. Trunk or Treat will be here before we know it! Join us on October 31, 2025, to pass out candy, volunteer, and enjoy an evening of fun with our children and families. For details, call 252-745-5480. We always look forward to this joyful tradition!

Beyond community events, our Town Council and Planners are hard at work pursuing another round of grants to improve the quality of life for Vandemere, Township 4, and Pamlico County as a whole.

Learn more about Vandemere and upcoming events like Trunk or Treat at www.vandemerenc.com

There are 222 owl species in the world. Most are nocturnal, but a few are active during the daytime, such as the Barred Owl.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, October 20, 2025, a public hearing, as required by N.C.G.S. 105-317, will be held by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Pamlico, North Carolina (the "Board") regarding the proposed adoption of uniform schedules of values, standards, and rules (the "schedules") to be used in appraising real property for property tax purposes as of January 1, 2026. The hearing will commence at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, and will be held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 202 Main Street, Second Floor, Bayboro, NC 28515.

The schedules were submitted to the Board at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 15, 2025. A complete copy of the schedules is available for public inspection at the office of the Pamlico County Tax Administrator, 202 Main Street, First Floor, Bayboro, NC 28515. A complete copy of the schedules is also available online at the Pamlico County website, www.pamlicocounty.org, under the "Proposed 2026 Schedules of Values" portion of the Tax Administration section.

The hearing will provide a reasonable opportunity to be heard for persons wishing to express their views on the proposed adoption of the schedules. Prior to any regular meeting of the Board or during normal business hours, citizens may submit written comments by addressing them to: Board of Commissioners of Pamlico County, c/o Tracy Boyd, Clerk to the Board, PO Box 776, Bayboro, NC 28515. Citizens who wish to speak must sign up in the Commissioners' Meeting Room prior to the meeting.

COUNTY OF PAMLICO, NORTH CAROLINA

Tracy Boyd, Clerk to the Board

Dated: September 15, 2025

Hospice of Pamlico Co., Inc. seeks part-time bookkeeper.

About Us:

Hospice of Pamlico Co., Inc. is a mission-driven nonprofit organization dedicated to providing the highest quality end-of-life care and support to our patients and their families. We provide Hospice Care, Bereavement Counseling and Community Education.

We are seeking a detail-oriented and trustworthy Bookkeeper to join our passionate team and help ensure our financial operations run smoothly and transparently. This is a part-time position, requiring two days per week. Compensation will be commensurate with experience.

Key Responsibilities:

- Maintain accurate records of financial transactions using bookkeeping software
- Manage accounts payable and receivable
- Reconcile bank statements and prepare monthly financial reports
- Assist with budget tracking reporting
- Ensure compliance with nonprofit accounting standards
- Collaborate with staff to track expenses and allocate funds appropriately
- Prepare documentation for board and independent CPA reviews

Qualifications:

- Proven experience in bookkeeping or accounting
- Proficiency in QuickBooks or similar accounting software
- Excellent attention to detail and organizational skills
- Ability to work independently and maintain confidentiality

Why Join Us?

- Make a meaningful impact in your community
- Supportive team environment
- Be part of a mission that matters

To Apply:

Please email your resume and a brief cover letter to info@hospiceofpamlico.com.



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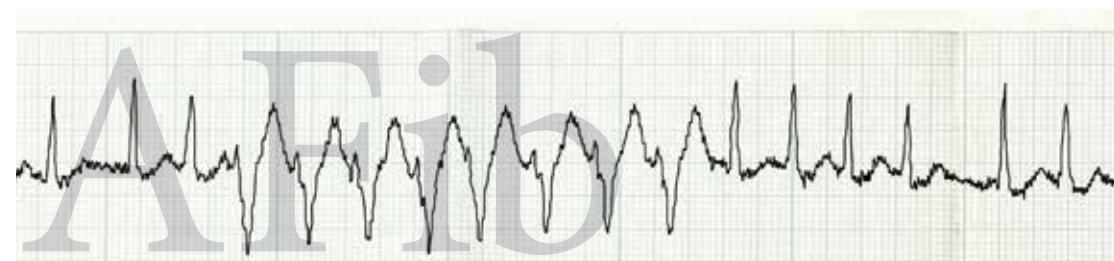
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Hours: Mon. – Fri. 7:00 am to 6:00 pm • Sat. 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

"ROAD-ARIANS": Oriental Rotary Club recently held a New Bern Trash Trap cleanup, and their most interesting find was this road sign. After their cleanout, they dropped it off to a North Carolina Department of Transportation office. Thank you to the Oriental Rotary Club (and Sound Rivers' friend Jim Kellenberger, pictured left) for adopting the New Bern trash trap! Find out how you can adopt at trash trap at soundrivers.org!



Atrial fibrillation (AFib) is the most common type of treated heart arrhythmia. An arrhythmia is diagnosed when the heart beats too slowly, too quickly or irregularly. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, when an individual has AFib, the beating in the upper chambers of their heart is irregular, which compromises blood flow from the upper to lower chambers. The CDC notes that researchers estimate roughly 12 million people in the United States will have AFib in 2030. The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada reports that one-fourth of all strokes after age 40 are caused by AFib and that people with the condition have a three to five times greater risk for ischemic stroke than those who do not have AFib. A 2019 report from the American Heart Association indicated high blood pressure accounts for roughly 20 percent of all cases of AFib. The CDC notes advancing age, obesity, diabetes, smoking, chronic kidney disease, and European ancestry are some additional risk factors for AFib.

Pamlico County Heritage Day

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Hours: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Come out for a fun filled family day...

Museum and Heritage Center in Grantsboro

* Parking available at Motion Church with Handicapped Parking in front of Museum

ADMISSION FREE

The Dirt Road Band

will be performing from 11-2 Country Rock favorites.

Antique Farming Demonstrations

BBQ Sandwiches & Hot Dogs

Legendary Bake Sale

Old School House & Barber Shop Open

Blacksmith Demonstrations

Games

Craft Vendors

Antique Tractor Show

The official Kick Off
of our Golf Cart Raffle
that will be chosen on July 4th!!



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Drawing On July 4, 2026 Help Support Our History
pamlicohistory.wildapricot.org



Be here to share in all of the fun, we look forward to seeing you all here at the Pamlico County Museum & Heritage Center

Sweet Megg to Perform at Ol' Front Porch Music Festival in Oriental, NC

Sweet Megg, a genre-blending vocalist and songwriter, will take the stage at the Ol' Front Porch Music Festival in Oriental, North Carolina, on Friday, October 3, 2025, at 5 p.m. Known for her captivating performances that weave together early jazz, blues, country, and western swing, Sweet Megg brings a timeless yet fresh sound that resonates with audiences of all ages. She will also host a workshop focusing on the swing bandleader role in swing jazz and the evolution of swing jazz in country music at 2 p.m. on Friday.

Originally born and bred in New York City, Sweet Megg now calls Nashville, Tennessee, her home. Her musical journey has taken her across the globe, from the intimate jazz clubs of Paris to the lively honky-tonks of the American South. This rich tapestry of experiences has shaped her distinctive style, which effortlessly blends vintage influences with a modern flair. Her performances are a celebration of musical heritage, delivering soulful melodies and heartfelt lyrics that evoke both nostalgia and innovation.

Sweet Megg's appearance at the Ol' Front Porch Music Festival is a perfect fit for the event's celebration of folk, Americana, bluegrass, country, gospel, and jazz. Held in the charming, walkable village of Oriental along the Neuse River, the festival transforms front porches and the riverfront stage into vibrant performance venues. Sweet Megg's set promises to be a highlight, offering festival-goers a chance to experience her unique sound in the intimate, community-driven atmosphere that defines this beloved event.

The Ol' Front Porch Music Festival, now in its 11th year, is free to the public, thanks to generous sponsors and donors. The event runs Friday, October 3, from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 4, from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., featuring a diverse lineup of over 30 acts, including artists like Rissi Palmer, The Wildmans, and the Jeff Little Trio. Attendees can also enjoy local artisans, crafts, and food vendors, making it a full weekend of music and community spirit.

Don't miss Sweet Megg's performance at 5 p.m. on October 3, where her soul-stirring vocals and genre-defying artistry will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression. For more details on the festival schedule and lineup, visit olfrontporch.org.



Christie Lenée: Fingerstyle Virtuoso to Enchant Ol' Front Porch Music Festival

As the Ol' Front Porch Music Festival gears up for its 11th year in the charming waterfront village of Oriental, North Carolina, attendees are in for a treat with the performance of acclaimed fingerstyle guitarist Christie Lenée. Set to take the Riverfront Stage at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 4, 2025, Lenée's set promises to captivate with her intricate guitar work and soulful songwriting, perfectly complementing the festival's celebration of folk, Americana, and roots music.

Hailing from Tampa, Florida, Christie Lenée has carved a unique niche in the acoustic music world with her innovative fingerstyle technique and genre-blending compositions. A self-described "musical adventurer," she draws inspiration from legends like Michael Hedges, Andy McKee, and Tommy Emmanuel, weaving together elements of folk, pop, rock, and classical music. Her performances are a masterclass in guitar artistry, marked by percussive rhythms, harmonic complexity, and an infectious positivity that radiates from the stage. No stranger to Oriental, Lenée performed at the 2023 Ol' Front Porch Music Festival, enchanting audiences with her dynamic stage presence and heartfelt originals.



Lenée's rise to prominence includes winning the 2017 International Fingerstyle Guitar Championship, where her original composition "Song for Michael Pukac" earned widespread acclaim. Tracks like "Chasing Infinity," "Stay," and "Breath of Spring" showcase her ability to blend technical prowess with emotional depth, creating a live experience that one fan described as "exceeding expectations" for its uplifting energy and inspirational songwriting. Her music has been featured in Acoustic Guitar Magazine, further cementing her status as a leading voice in the fingerstyle community.

As Oriental welcomes Christie Lenée back for this free, community-driven festival, Lenée is poised to deliver a performance that will linger in the hearts of attendees long after the final note. She will also be performing at the New Village Brewery at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The festival features a diverse array of regional and local talent, and begins Friday October 3 at 1 p.m. and continues on Saturday with Christie's set at 11 a.m. With her guitar wizardry and uplifting spirit, she's sure to kick off Saturday's festivities with a memorable start. For more details on the festival, visit olfrontporch.org.

Public Hearing on County Tax Revaluation Set

by: Hiram Lupton

Representatives from Vincent Valuations as well as the Pamlico County Tax office were present at the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners meeting Monday evening to give a status report on the 2026 property revaluations. It is required by the State of North Carolina that taxable property go through a revaluation every 8 years, but counties can choose to conduct this necessary function more often. Pamlico County is on a 6-year cycle. The basics are that an independent appraisal firm, in this case Vincent Valuations, conducts a physical inspection of every property in the county, all 17,000 parcels. This is followed up by a desktop (computer) review of each property and another physical visit if

deemed necessary. Each property is then analyzed for its value which is based on several factors, including condition, improvements since the last valuation, and recent sales data of like properties in as close proximity as possible to the property being valued. Property owners are informed of their new property values and the county determines the new county wide tax rate based on the data presented to them. This, unfortunately is then followed by a bill to property owners for their property taxes. Notifications are set to be sent out in February and March of next year. If an owner does not agree with the value assigned to their property, they can appeal the findings to the tax office and if the issue cannot be resolved, they can then appeal to the County Board of Equalization and Review (BOER), a committee made up of county citizens. Evidence must

be presented that the value assigned to the property is in error and not just an opinion that "my value is too high." A final appeal that there is an error can be made to the State. That is, of course, the concise, short version of the process. Property value is a two-edged sword in some respects. Property is an asset, one which owners naturally would like to see the value of rise, particularly if they are considering selling. However, higher valuations often translate to higher taxes, and nobody likes to pay higher taxes. I say "often" because the amount of your tax bill not only depends on the value of your property, but the tax rate assigned to it. To better inform the public about the process and what they may expect in their 2026 tax bill, a Public Hearing date of October 20 has been set by the Board of Commissioners.

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Smart Start

Pamlico Partnership for Children
celebrates

Smart Start Month

with an Open House

Tuesday, September 22
from 2-4 pm

Door Prizes
Games
Popcorn
Rootle Corner
Book Giveaway

Pamlico Partnership office
702A Main Street, Bayboro, NC - 252-745-7850

International Dot Day



In preparation of International Dot Day, which takes place on September 15th, art students at Pamlico County Primary School have embarked on an exciting journey of creativity by crafting their own unique Dot Art. This project is inspired by the story "The Dot" by Peter H. Reynolds, which teaches valuable lessons about self-expression, the importance of believing in one's abilities, and the idea that a small mark can lead to great things.

Second Graders Welcome Rascal and New Technology!



Excitement filled the air in Ms. Wing's second grade classroom this week as students met their newest furry classmate, Rascal the hamster. The curious little pet quickly became the star of the day, scurrying around and capturing the hearts of all the children. Adding to the buzz, students also powered up their brand-new laptops for the very first time. With Rascal inspiring smiles and technology opening new doors for learning, Ms. Wing's class is ready for a year full of discovery and adventure.



Photographers from Strawbridge will be at PCPS on 10/6/25 for fall photos. These photos are the headshot pictures taken for the yearbook. Please send students to school already wearing their outfit for picture day. There is no need to send in an order form or any money prior to picture day. Picture proofs and directions for ordering will be sent home after picture day.

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One Heart, One Team –
Pre-K is Off to a Great Start!

Our youngest learners have kicked off the school year with big smiles and eager hearts. With curiosity leading the way, Pre-K students are already showing what it means to be part of our *One Heart, One Team* family. Here's to a year filled with discovery, laughter, and learning!

Independence Day Celebration Brings Smiles to Our School



September 12th was a big day as the PUPS celebrated Independence Day with pride! Decked out in red, white, and blue, children took an important step toward independence by walking into class on their own.

The morning was made even brighter thanks to the high school volleyball team, who lent a hand in the car rider line.

Their smiles, encouragement, and teamwork helped start the day on a positive note for students and families alike. The celebration was a wonderful reminder of the spirit and community that makes us so special.

annual alpaca visit

Students were all smiles during the annual alpaca visit, a favorite tradition that brings both excitement and learning to campus



A Great Start at PCPS



We are off to a wonderful start at Pamlico County Primary School! Our classrooms are full of energy, and it has been such a joy to see our students settling into routines and diving into learning.

What has made this start especially meaningful is the strong support of our families. Our school has already hosted several well-attended family engagement events. A full Open House allowed families to meet teachers and explore classrooms. Our first PTO meeting of the year drew an outstanding turnout of parents eager to support school initiatives. In addition, the Grandparents Day breakfasts were a highlight, filling the cafeteria with joy as students and their grandparents celebrated together. We are looking forward to our upcoming Pups' Pathways event on September 23rd and Trunk or Treat in October.

At PCPS, we believe school is strongest when families, staff, and students work together. We are so proud of the start we've had, and we look forward to many more opportunities this year to learn, grow, and celebrate as a community.

– Savannah Alexander, Principal

Music classes have been off to a great start- lots of singing, moving and instrument playing.



1st annual Grandparents Breakfast



Our 1st annual Grandparents Breakfast was one to remember! From the sound of laughter echoing down the halls to the warm hugs shared at the tables, it was clear just how much love and pride our students have for their grandparents.

Grandparents play such a special role in shaping our school family, and when they join parents, staff, and students in support of learning, amazing things happen. Together we are always stronger—*One Team, One Heart*.

September 23, 2025
5:00-6:30

PUPS' PATHWAYS
Exploring Careers Together

Meet and learn more about community helpers! This is a Title 1 event.



"In school they told me Practice makes perfect. And then they told me Nobody's perfect, so then I stopped practicing." - Steven Wright

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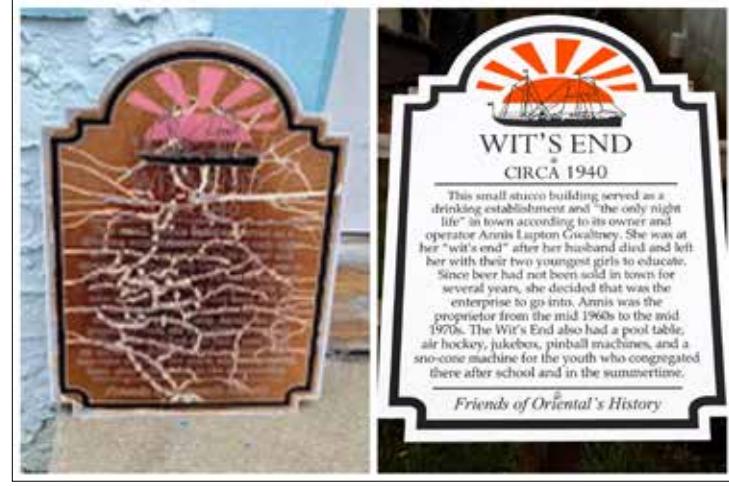
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COASTAL LIVING

Wit's End Gets New Marker



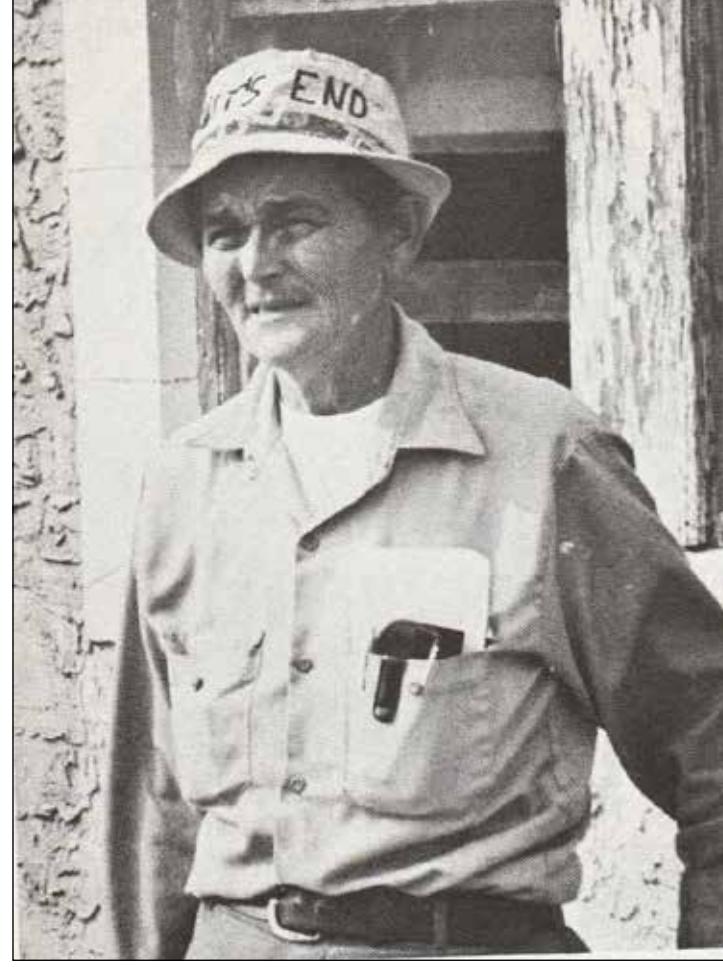
The old weathered sign (L) and the new replacement sign (R)

An iconic Oriental landmark has received a new historical marker. The nondescript stucco building has been around for a long time, dating back to the 1940's and has housed several different and varied businesses during its lifetime and has weathered a many a storm. It however, got its lasting name back in the mid 1960's when local proprietor Annis Lupton Gwaltney opened a "beer joint" in the building and named it the "Wit's End." Miss Annis was quite a unique and independent lady. She had held several occupations in her lifetime, from farming, justice of the peace, basketball coach, and a paper carrier, but when she opened the Wit's End in Oriental, she made her mark. In a 1975 newspaper interview she explained, "I went into business after my husband died to help get two girls on through college. I was about at my wit's end as to what to do. There had not been any beer sold in Oriental in four years. I decided that was the business to go in down here." That's how the business got its name. It became a local hang out for drinkers and nondrinkers alike. Teenagers would gather there to socialize and play cards and shoot pool. Even though it was a bar, parents didn't worry about their kids being there. As local Butch Hardison described in 2014, "Nobody worried where the kids were, even in the bar, because everyone looked out for each other and everyone knew that Annis Gwaltney, the owner, would make sure everything was as it should be." The Wit's End lasted until 1975 and Miss Annis passed away in October of 1976, but her legacy and the building live on. While several businesses have used the building since those days, it is currently a dive shop, to true locals it will always be the Wit's End. The daughters of Miss Annis had a historical marker placed at the location back in 2012 but it was washed away by hurricane Florence. It was later found



Dive Shop currently at the old Wit's End building

and returned to site but the ravages of nature had taken a toll on it. Betty Jo Rodgers, Miss Annis' daughter, and her sisters Mildred and Amy recently decided to have the sign replaced with a new one so that passer byes would know the history behind the walls.



Miss Annis

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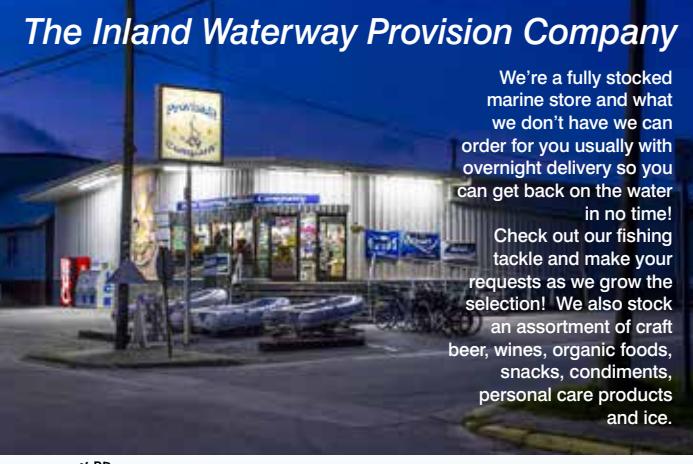


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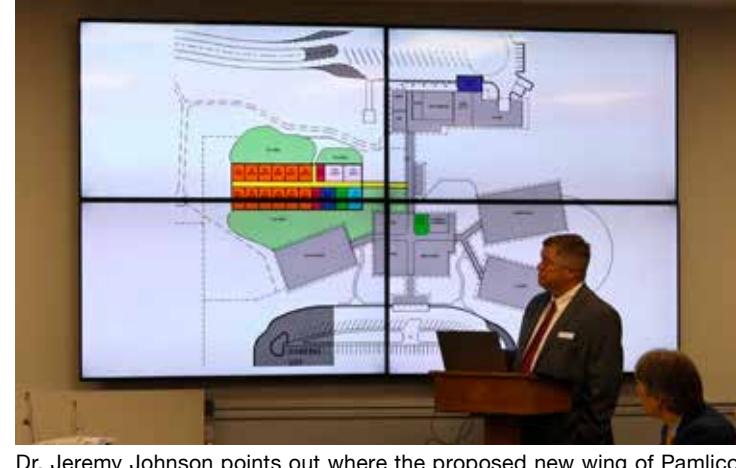
County Schools Seeking New Grant for Consolidation

by: Hiram Lupton

Dr Jeremy Johnson, Superintendent of Pamlico County Schools, appeared before the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners Monday evening and presented a formal request for support from the Board for a needs-based grant application to the State. The grant would go towards adding a new wing to Pamlico County Primary School (PCPS) to accommodate the two grades, 4th and 5th, currently at Fred A. Anderson Elementary School (FAA). The grant would also include enough funding for demolition of FAA, construction of two new ballfields at the site, and replacement of PCPS's heating and air conditioning unit. This would create a single Pre-K through 5th grade campus. The entire cost of the project would be \$34,338,270. The support the schools are seeking is not only in words but also funding. The grant requires a local match of 5% which equates to \$1,716,913. The presentation included a compelling argument for the project. FAA was built in 1967 and the aging school is facing a myriad of needed up grades from the roof, heating and air conditioning, and especially plumbing. These fixes add up to dollars that coupled with a needed upgrade of PCPS's heating and air system amount to about \$4.2 million in expenditures. Sinking money into an aging facility, the "band aid" option, along with several other factors has led the school system to this proposed consolidation project as the best solution. PCPS has the room to expand. There are projected long term savings in electricity expenditures by consolidation. There would also be some savings by merging of staff and reduced insurance costs not to mention the better learning environment for students. Although the county would be "upfronting" a 5% match, it is hoped that in the end, the actual cost to the county would be near \$0. This would be done by returning to the county the sales tax rebate from the state associated with this project and the 6-12 school construction that is currently underway, expected to be over \$1 mil-



The Pamlico County Board of Commissioners



Dr. Jeremy Johnson points out where the proposed new wing of Pamlico County Primary School will be located.

lion. As Dr. Johnson gave in his report two weeks ago to the board, that project is proceeding well with very little use of the contingency funds set aside for unexpected cost overruns having been spent. Much of this money would also be returned to the county to reach the hoped for \$0 net expenditures from the county. With the grant application period closing on October 3rd, the Board needed to make a decision on the matter now rather than later. There was some debate concerning the danger of enough contingency funding being available to return to the county. While nothing is guaranteed, Johnson and 6-12 project managers present at the meeting shared confidence that it would be. "I think the real risk is that we do nothing," stated BOC Chairman Ed Riggs. Board member Thomas Mills added that "I would rather see money go into consolidating rather than pouring more into Fred A. Anderson." A motion was made by Commissioner Ken Heath to support the proposal and sec-

onded by Commissioner Doug Brinson. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote. As Dr. Johnson pointed out, "There is no guarantee we will receive the requested grant, but if we don't apply, it is a guaranteed we won't. We must try."



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- * **Forklift Training, One-day class Sept. 20!**
- * **Phlebotomy, Evening-hybrid! Starts Sept. 24!**
- * **Microsoft Excel, Coming Sept. 25!**
- * **Notary, One-day class in Bayboro Sept. 27!**
- * **CPR Certification, One-day class Oct. 8!**



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Health & Wellness

What is Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)?

Inheritance

Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that affects red blood cells. People with sickle cell disease have red blood cells that contain mostly hemoglobin S, an abnormal type of hemoglobin. Sometimes these red blood cells become sickle-shaped (crescent shaped) and have difficulty passing through small blood vessels. When sickle-shaped cells block small blood vessels, less blood can reach that part of the body. Tissue that does not receive a normal blood flow eventually becomes damaged. This is what causes the complications of sickle cell disease. There is currently no universal cure for sickle cell disease.

Hemoglobin is the main substance of the red blood cell. It helps red blood cells carry oxygen from the air in our lungs to all parts of the body. Normal red blood cells contain hemoglobin A. Normal red blood cells that contain hemoglobin A are soft and round and can squeeze through tiny blood tubes (vessels). Normally, red blood cells live for about 120 days before new ones replace them.

People with sickle cell conditions make a different form of hemoglobin A called hemoglobin S (S stands for sickle). Red blood cells containing mostly hemoglobin S do not live as long as normal red blood cells (normally about 16 days). They also become stiff, distorted in shape and have difficulty passing through the body's small blood vessels.

When sickle-shaped cells block small blood vessels, less blood can reach that part of the body. Parts of the body that don't receive a normal blood flow eventually become damaged. This is what causes the complications of sickle cell disease although some individuals may be eligible for a curative bone marrow transplant.

Examples:

If one parent has Sickle Cell Anemia (SS disease) and the other is Normal, all of the children will have sickle cell trait.

If one parent has Sickle Cell Anemia (SS) and the other has Sickle Cell Trait (AS), there is a 50% chance (or 1 out of 2) of having a baby with either sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait with each pregnancy.

When both parents have Sickle Cell Trait, they have a 25% chance (1 of 4) of having a baby with sickle cell disease with each pregnancy.

Types of Sickle Cell Disease

There are several types of sickle cell disease. The most common are:

- Hemoglobin SS Disease, Hemoglobin SC Disease
- Sickle Beta-Plus Thalassemia
- Sickle Beta-Zero Thalassemia.

The majority of individuals with sickle cell disease have hemoglobin S, but some make a different type of abnormal hemoglobin like hemoglobin C, hemoglobin D, or hemoglobin E. Also, some individuals can have sickle cell disease because of co-inheritance of beta thalassemia. It is important to speak to your physician to understand what type you have.

Fall 2025 Motorcycle and Slingshot Ride In Memory of Jamal Jones

On Saturday, September 20, there will be a Memorial Ride in Memory of Jamal Jones at Pamlico Community College, 5059 NC Hwy 306, Grantsboro. Registration begins at 9am. Kickstands up at 10:30am. Registration Fee is \$30 per bike and lunch is included. Lunch available onsite for non-riders. Donations also accepted. Proceeds to benefit Sickle Cell Families. Sponsored by Pfizer. For more information call 252-634-8717.



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Running With the 'Canes

by: Hiram Lupton

The Pamlico County High School Cross Country team continues to work hard and improve. They traveled to Northside High School in Beaufort County last Wednesday for a meet between the most likely contenders for the conference title, Northside, Lejeune, and Pamlico. Lejeune, which has been the dominant team in the conference and region for a number of years took the win in both the girls and boys groups. Pamlico finished second in girls while Northside captured third. In the boys division, Pamlico and Northside flipped with the Panthers narrowly taking second over the Hurricanes. This week the Hurricanes head to East Carteret for another conference meet and will be hosting their own meet on September 24. The big date to circle on the running calendar will be October 15 when Pamlico will host the Coastal Plains Conference Championships.



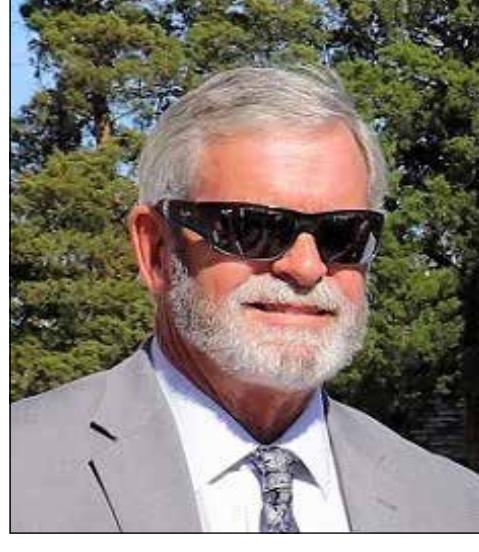
Reid Carey



Jessica Pichardo-Madrid



Statement from the Town of Aurora on the passing of Mayor Clifton Williams, Jr.



The Town of Aurora is deeply saddened to learn of the sudden passing of our Mayor Clifton "Clif" Williams, Jr. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of working alongside him.

Mayor Williams was a dedicated public servant whose commitment to Aurora and its residents was unwavering. His leadership, vision and tireless advocacy for our community have left an indelible mark on the Town he loved so dearly.

We honor his many contributions and join the people of Aurora in mourning his loss. The Town will share further information regarding arrangements and opportunities to celebrate Mayor Williams' life and service as it becomes available.

"If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships — the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world, at peace."
— Franklin D. Roosevelt



Breakfast with Friends
Brantley's Restaurant
Thursday's – September 18, 25
8:30 am
Please join the group at Brantley's (Center Room) for breakfast. The breakfast will continue every Thursday at 8:30. (Except for when they are closed). Come as you are able. Breakfast is on your own. All are welcome!

Prayer Shawl
Thursday's – September 18, 25
10:00 am
Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall
Crochet, knit shawls or lap robes to share with those that are in need of comfort and support. Please call Leigh Price for details. 919.219.2446.

Digital Skills Session - Smartphone
Intermediate
Monday, October 13
10am to noon at Oriental United Methodist Church.

Learn how to navigate smartphone settings, organize apps, and other tools.
Prime Time's mission is to provide services and activities promoting the well-being for the 50 plus community in Oriental and Pamlico County. Prime Time brings together many resources helping area residents sustain an independent and enriched quality of life. All are welcome! Have a suggestion for a program or day trip, please contact Debora Steenston @ 252.675.0909 or email director@primetimepamlico.org

Pamlico County Health Department & Coastal Pet Clinic

Presents:

Fall Rabies Clinic

When: September 20, 2025

Where: Courthouse Parking Lot

Time: 8-11am

Cost: \$10 per vaccine - **CASH** only

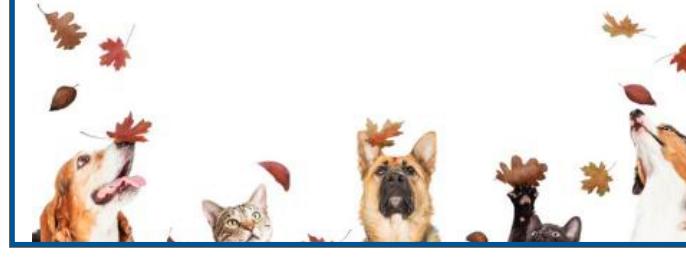
- All dogs must be leashed and remain in vehicle
- Cats/ferrets must be in carrier at all times
- Only one animal per carrier

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