



VOICES

Providing an Outlet for Creativity in the Cape Fear Region

Volume 2, Issue 4

A Veteran-Owned Small Business

FREE

April 2021

The Issue Inside

Stories & Articles

Classifieds

Help Wanted

<http://capefear-voices.org>

Cape Fear Voices

Editor

Eric Mens

Lead Layout Designer

Giancarlo D'Alessandro

This Month's Writers

Peggy Bradt

Jim Buell

Dr. Sabrina Cherry

Brendan Connelly

Gerald Decker

Ken Formalarie

Richard Fry

Ana Johnson

Sheryl Keiper

Eric Mens

Jan Morgan-Swegle

Maryann Nunnally

Veronica Pastecki

Janet Stiegler

Frank Stritter

Bob Weiland

Brayton Willis

The Teen Scene Inc. is not affiliated with any other newspaper or organization. We are registered in the State of North Carolina dba Cape Fear Voices. We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3), funded by advertisements, contributions, and grants. Your support is needed to allow Teen Scene and Cape Fear Voices to achieve our mission and help promote and publish the work of creative minds in the Cape Fear area. We can be contacted at editor-teenscene@gmail.com or editorcfv@gmail.com.

All rights to the contents of this paper are reserved to Teen Scene, Inc., Cape Fear Voices, and the writers of each piece.

What is Happiness?

by Sheryl Keiper, Brunswick Forest, Leland



They say that happiness is all in the mind. I'm not sure I agree with this.

There is a dorky TV commercial for a heating/air conditioning service. A dorky guy stands there and says, "Ah, happy air," and he breathes deeply, and he smiles.

I wish feeling happy wasn't this easy. I even tried take-out Chinese food at the restaurant called "Double Happiness." I didn't feel any happier after that eggplant veggie dish.

I tried singing, "Oh, Happy Day." I thought of renaming my greyhound "Happy." Nothing is working.

During this stressful Covid time, how many people are really happy? There is no live entertainment, no concerts, no karaoke, no church choirs. I have discovered that when I sing (and it's not really that often) that my cat Sherman howls. Am I that bad? Out of practice?

Maybe he's unhappy, too.

But the critters are never unhappy. If I could learn their secrets to happiness, maybe I could emulate them. Hmmm, good food. Is this the secret to being content? Eating the same food every morning? Is the secret in having routine bathroom experiences? Perhaps the state of happiness lies in napping contently.

Napping used to be considered a luxury during the working years, but maybe it's a rite of passage now. I knew of two teachers, one in his 60's and one in his late 20's, who mastered the supreme art of napping in the faculty lounge. They would

both close their eyes while sitting upward (one actually snored for most of the 40 minute prep period), and they would both wake up totally refreshed and manage to leave for their next class with a bounce in their step.

Well, maybe a short "happy" nap would work. My dad, who was employed as an inspection state worker and then an office worker for the State of NJ, would come home, lay on the living room carpet, flat as a pancake, and nap at 4 every afternoon for about 20 minutes. I used to ask him why he didn't "nap" in his bed. His answer always was that he was used to napping in the foxhole trenches in Europe during World War II as an infantry soldier. He said that he and his buddies would take turns watching for the enemy. He would then get up from the carpet, exactly 20 minutes later, to start dinner before my Mom arrived home from work at 5.

Well, even comedy shows are the vibe during Covid lockdown. I've tried some of the stand-up comic ones and some mainstream ones, and I just don't think they are funny. I can't even utter a chuckle.

I do apologize. I have discovered the secret to happiness - reruns of the sweet Golden Girls - Blanche, Rose, Dorothy, and Sophia. These girls know how to be happy. They needed and loved each other.

I think that is the secret to happiness, especially during these difficult Covid days - needing and loving someone - having a purpose every day - making sure my three critters eat, sleep, and do their daily constitutions.

In return, they show their love for me in innumerable ways.

A Balancing Act

by Ronnie Pastecki, Brunswick Forest



A balancing act starts early between a child and her parents. Who determines bedtime, and what is acceptable behavior? Negotiations among siblings put a more delicate spin on this fulcrum. It continues between a teenager and her friends. Who and what is cool and

who and what is not? So many futures are envisioned, but do you have the courage to pursue your dreams? Are your plans based on reality, or are they just fantasies of what might be? The possibilities seem limitless, but fear of leaving the known dampens your goals.

The balancing act becomes more pronounced once you become man and wife. Blending family traditions and child-rearing practices are just the opening gambits. Juggling career goals, family obligations, and time to be a couple once again strain even the strongest of marriages at times. There always seems to be one more thing that needs to be done, and there is little energy left to do it. Deadlines and pressing demands at work are pitted against family needs. "It's your turn to take a sick day as our daughter has strep throat again. I took off the last time!"

Things don't improve when the balancing act is between an adult child and aging parents. Watching helplessly as you see your parents decline, you assume responsibility for financial and medical needs. This is in addition to wrangling teenagers, graduate school, and work. Sleep deprivation becomes a way of life as you try to be all things to all people.

These stages in life bring conflict, angst, and frustration. They also signal love, concern, and expectations. Having experienced all of these stages throughout my life, I have emerged relatively unscathed. I may be tarnished about the edges perhaps but burnished with the love and care of those critical people in my life. I like to think that I have grown more patient and compassionate, less judgmental, and more open to differing mindsets.

I wonder what lies in the balance to come for me? Isolation, infirmity, and loss? No, thank you. There is still time to grow a garden, explore new lands and expand my knowledge and understanding. It is time to watch my children succeed in life and see the world as something new and exciting with my grandchild. There is still time to reflect and act on what can yet be accomplished.

Time to balance my life.

Spring Forward

by Sabrina T. Cherry*



* Dr. Sabrina T. Cherry is an Assistant Professor of Public Health at UNC Wilmington. You can read more about her work at sabrinacherry.com



Spring is in the air.
How beautiful to see.
Spring has finally arrived.
A welcomed change in pace and temperatures for me.

Spring is in the air.
New things will begin to bloom.
Spring is in the air.
For summer, I will make room.

Spring is in the air.
But I carry the heaviness of winter just before.
Spring is in the air.
And I reflect on how often I felt like I couldn't take much more.

Spring is in the air.
And I welcome hopes of something new.
Spring is in the air.
And I am reminded of how much work there is still left to do.

Spring is in the air.
People are waiting to gain immunity.
Spring is in the air.
But I am still pondering, considering, reflecting on all these pandemics have done to me.

About Teen Scene and Cape Fear Voices

Contact Information

For *Cape Fear Voices*
editorcfv@gmail.com

For *Teen Scene*
editorteenscene@gmail.com

Who Are We?

The Teen Scene Inc. is not affiliated with any other newspaper or organization. We are registered in the State of North Carolina dba (doing business as) Cape Fear Voices. The Teen Scene, Inc. is a non-profit organization that produces a monthly literary publication written by and for teenagers. Teen Scene's mission is to promote writing skills among area teens. Teen Scene also strives to develop the business skills of teens who take an active role in running the publication and managing its activities. As a nonprofit organization, we plan to offer scholarships to teens who wish to pursue a career in journalism.

Teen Scene Relationship to Cape Fear Voices

Teen Scene is a monthly, free to the public, publication created by and dedicated to teenagers in the Cape Fear Region. *Cape Fear Voices* (CFV) is also a monthly free publication that showcases the creative works of adults living in the region. CFV will provide an outlet to publicize other regional nonprofit organizations that work to improve the lives of children and families in the area. In each instance, we intend to provide a quality outlet to publicize the region's literary and other creative talents.

Our Philosophy

We will work to publish the highest quality product. For *Teen Scene*, we will accomplish this by recruiting dedicated teens who are willing to put in the time and effort to develop their skills. Our role in either *Teen Scene* or *Cape Fear Voices* is solely to promote and showcase individuals' creative talents in the Cape Fear Region. As such, we will not publish any religious or political work that may otherwise be submitted for publication.

Our Status as a Tax-Exempt Organization

The Teen Scene, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code 501(c)(3). Our Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 45-0539098. Donors can deduct contributions they make under IRS Code Section 170. Teen Scene is qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers, or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. We will acknowledge all donations in our monthly publications unless otherwise requested by any donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Our Funding Sources

We need public support to allow both *Teen Scene* and *Cape Fear Voices* to achieve our stated missions and, especially, to make a difference in the lives of students.

Donations may be sent to:

The Teen Scene, Inc.
Post Office Box 495
Leland, NC 28451

Governance

An appointed Board of Directors governs Teen Scene and Cape Fear Voices. The Board serves in an advisory capacity to ensure that both publications are operated and published in an ethical and accountable manner.

Board members will represent a broad spectrum of current and retired professionals with extensive experience in working with teens, publications, marketing, and leadership. Directors volunteer their time in an advisory role to ensure that our programs most adequately address the proper standards and ethics for fulfilling our mission.

Gerald Decker, President
Eric Mens, Vice President

Board of Directors

Claire Boon
Debbie L. Channell
Terri Delfino
Jim Nys
Jenny Stedham

Advisory Board

Howard Cohen
Beverly Haedrich
Jan Morgan-Swegle
Mike Stedham
Elizabeth Wassum

Cape Fear Voices Submission Requirements

Cape Fear Voices intends to showcase the works of the area's many talented local writers, poets, and craftspeople as well as the work of local non-profit organizations (e.g., American Legion, Brunswick Family Assistance, Kiwanis Club, etc.).

- We are looking for contributors to submit their poems, stories, pictures, or articles for publication.
- We will not publish any political or religious material and will censor profanity, no matter how good the work submitted might otherwise be.
- All submissions must be in Times New Roman 12, single spaced, and include the title and author's name. Please limit your submissions to 500-600 words.
- We will print excessively larger works in serial form, but it is the author's responsibility to determine proper cutoff for each piece, keeping in mind the 500-600 word limitation per each submission.
- Any photos intended to accompany a submission must be sent as JPG files.
- All written works must be sent to editorcfv@gmail.com and received by the 15th of each month for publication in the following month's issue.

Notice on Subscriptions and Mailing



To centralize responsibility for *Cape Fear Voices* subscriptions, we have established a separate email account for our readers and subscribers to use. As a practice, we send papers to our subscribers during the first week of each month. Recently, as reflected in several emails we have

received, mail delivery is experiencing delays. These delays may be due, in part, to the fact that Leland-area deliveries are first sent to the central USPS sorting facility in Charlotte, NC, before being returned to the Leland Post Office for delivery to area customers. Our local postal facility is prohibited by policy from "holding" mail for Leland deliveries at the local facility as was previous practice. We ask for your patience as we encounter and work through these delays. All subscription-related emails should be sent to cfvsubscriptions@gmail.com.

How to Subscribe

Individual subscriptions to *Cape Fear Voices* are available on an annual basis at a cost of only \$24, including the cost of postage. If you want to make sure that you never miss a copy of *Cape Fear Voices*, please send a check payable to:

Cape Fear Voices
P. O. Box 495
Leland, NC 28451

Summer Ad Rates

In the spirit of an upcoming summer with lots of fun and sun, we would like to offer a 20% discount on summer ad rates.

Is it worth it to you? Obviously we think it is because you will be helping area schools promote writing and have their own page in our monthly publication. We are proud to say that our distribution has now grown to 2500 email copies, 1400 hard copies and website availability-especially for advertisers.

We now have five area schools working with Teen Scene. If you would like to support the publications for one of those schools, just designate which school page you want your ad to appear.

Pick your school or encourage your school to participate:

North Brunswick High School
Leland Middle School
West Brunswick High School
Brunswick County Early College High School
Myrtle Grove Middle School

Certificate Winner- Last month we made a mistake in editing and offered a \$25 gift certificate to whoever found the most errors. Congratulations to Janet Stiegler for finding the most mistakes in our March edition. We hope to never have such a winner again.

Mark Your Calendars Upcoming events:

**March 29 - Vietnam Veterans
Commemoration**

**April 10 - Cape Fear Voices Writers
Award Dinner - Blossom's
Restaurant, Magnolia Greens**

The Great Lockdown of 2020: How I Survived

We are hard at work doing the editing for our book. Thanks to everyone who submitted articles. It is coming together. We will have more info next month on exactly when it should be available.

Looking for Sales Rep

Teen Scene, Inc. of Leland is looking for an enthusiastic Sales Rep to sell advertising space for our monthly newsletter to businesses and individuals. Reps are needed in the Wilmington, Leland, and Shallotte areas. As an independent contractor, you will set your own hours. We offer an excellent commission, and no previous sales skills are needed. Good P/R and communication skills are required, and you must be able to provide your own transportation. A perfect opportunity for a teacher, college student, or retiree who needs a little extra income.

Cape Fear Voices Ad Rates

	1-Edition	3-Editions
Full Page	\$225	\$600
Half Page	\$130	\$350
Quarter Page	\$70	\$180
Business Card	\$35	\$90
Celebrations	\$6	

To place an ad contact us at:
editorteenscene@gmail.com

The coupon entitles bearer to

**ONE FREE
HUG**

Redeemable anytime

The Seasons of My Life

by Jan Morgan-Swegle, Compass Pointe



Over the years, I have heard many people talk about their age. Referring to his love of golf, a man I knew who was nearing retirement age told me that he was “on the back nine” of his life. Throughout her life, my mother used to say, “there is nothing more cruel to a woman than age.” But my father looked at age in a totally different way. He used to say, “there may be snow on the rooftop, but that doesn’t mean there isn’t fire in the furnace.” And even musician, Yoko Ono, weighed in on age. She said, “Spring passes, and one remembers one’s innocence. Summer passes, and one remembers one’s exuberance. Autumn passes, and one remembers one’s reverence. Winter passes, and one remembers one’s perseverance.” As we creep back to some level of normalcy in the world, I decided to explore the seasons of my own life.

In the Spring of my life, I was young and happy. Days went quickly by, and the world around me entertained me. I had no worries or responsibilities, and the game of “Life” was one big playground. I swung at the clouds and discovered the thrill of speed on two wheels. I learned something new every day, and I knew that springtime was the best time of my life.

In the summer of my life, I found true love, and that love lasted until the next school year when I found a true love all over again. I danced and flirted and saw boys scan my body as I grew older. I marched across a stage in my cap and gown and hoped that school rooms would give way to dorm rooms, but that was not to be. National Guard guns and books are not a good mix. I went to work, but my passion was still books and pens.

I found my real true love, who left me alone after a few short years. He left me with a little girl who had brilliant red hair and eyes that are the color of North Carolina skies in the summer. As I struggled to raise her, I

Peter the Rabbit’s Fate

by Eric Mens, Brunswick Forest



My younger brother Joe was our father’s favorite child. Joe was the firstborn child in Papa’s second marriage and occupied a special place in his life. Being of Eurasian descent, our family was heavily influenced by Asian culture, and “firstborn” sons were coveted.

After Joe’s mother and our father divorced, Joe would spend every other weekend with our “new” family. His arrival on Saturdays was always marked with fanfare – usually with a cake and gifts waiting for him when he arrived at our house. Erica and I, offspring from Papa’s first marriage, would often feign pleasure with all the hoopla that marked Joe’s arrival.

One year, Papa decided to surprise Joe, who was eight at the time, with a rabbit for Easter. Papa told the family about his plans and announced that “we” would build a rabbit hutch. I enlisted the aid of my friend Chester who lived on a farm several miles down the road from our farm. We had met at the beginning of the school year. Chester was a year older than me and a high school freshman. Together, we scrounged for materials in our barns.

Relying on pictures in one of Chester’s “Boys Life” magazines, we built a grand structure made of 2 x 4’s, plywood, and chicken wire. One end held a wooden enclosure to protect the rabbit from the elements. We hinged the roof so the hutch could be cleaned and replenished with fresh straw. When it was finished, we placed it in a garden adjacent to the house.

When Easter came, Joe was thrilled with his gift. He named him “Peter” after the rabbit character in his favorite children’s book. When Joe spent the weekend with us, he would spend hours dotting on the rabbit, letting it hop around the yard, and feeding it lettuce and carrots. When it was time for Joe to return to his mother’s home, he carefully returned the rabbit to its hutch. I fed and cared for Peter when Joe was not visiting. Spring became summer, and as autumn approached, Peter had matured nicely into a rotund ball of white fur.

One day, Papa announced that we were going to eat Peter for dinner. I protested loudly, but my protestations accomplished nothing. He then told me that I was going to kill and prepare the rabbit for dinner. I had never killed anything in my life! I wanted nothing to do with something I knew would upset Joe. Papa ignored my protestations, and I finally gave up knowing the consequences if I did not obey him.

The next day after school, Chester came to help. It was a windy autumn day with a chill in the air. Grey clouds swirled ominously above us as we set about our work. Without going into the gruesome details of Peter’s demise, suffice it to say that it involved a baseball bat. Peter’s high-pitched squeals are hard to forget. When all was quiet again, Chester simply got on his bike and rode home.

Holding Peter by his feet, I trudged into the house and lifted Peter to present him to Papa. He smirked and told me to finish my job. Retrieving a knife from a kitchen drawer, he handed it to me, opened the basement door, and said simply, “Go!”

I made my way down the familiar, creaking wooden steps. On reaching the earthen floor, I skirted the iron furnace to a dimly lit table in the rear of the basement. Papa had placed a stack of newspapers on the table for me.

I covered the table with newspaper and carefully laid Peter on his back, his legs splayed out. As I examined him in the dim light, I began to cry. Tears flowing freely, I apologized to Peter repeatedly for what I had done and what I was about to do to him.

Almost intuitively, I began making the cuts that would help me best preserve his furry coat. With each step of the process, I quietly cursed my father. Tears streamed down my face, but I continued to handle Peter with care. When I was done, I hung Peter’s white coat from the floor joists to cure.

I carried the carcass upstairs to the kitchen and presented it to my father. Papa seemed quite pleased. I did not eat the stew that evening. My brother has never forgiven me.

found that I was always tired—always stressed. I had worries and responsibilities, and this time, the game of “Life” was real. I struggled, I fell, I cried. I railed against God, but one day I grew up, I stood up, I stopped crying, and found my strength. I started college in a non-traditional way. I learned something new every day, and I knew that the summertime was the best time of my life.

In the fall of my life, I found the person that God always intended for me. The love we share is like a beautiful warm blanket on a cold night. He is not only caring but a wonderful caregiver. He is kind and funny and treated my little girl like his own. In being part of a team, I found peace in my life that had escaped me for so long. I was happy and successful and looked forward to each day and what it taught me. I helped people achieve their goals and, in doing so, found that I was achieving more than I ever imagined I could. I learned something new every day, and I knew that the fall was the best time of my life.

And now, winter is my season. I’ve stopped setting my alarm clock to get up early in the morning, approaching the day at a slower pace. I listen to quiet music and sounds and celebrate the colors around me that adorn our home. The children are grown, replacing themselves with children of their own, starting the cycle all over again. I don’t do power lunches anymore; I spend time on our lanai watching birds and bunnies investigate our yard as they claim it as their own. I am at peace in these walls with life and myself. Men don’t scan my body anymore, not like they did when I was twenty-four, but that doesn’t bother me because the lines and bumps that define me represent all seasons of my life, the highs and the lows.

It is the winter of my life. I am playing the final round of the game of “Life,” and I know, I just know that winter will have been the best time of my life.

Growth in Leland

by Bob Wieland, Magnolia Greens

Most of us are aware of our town’s incredible growth. Just how much and in what areas are grist for an essay. So, let’s get started.

The 2000 federal census listed just under 2,000 residents. The 2020 census recorded just over 26,000. We are the fastest growing town in the fastest growing community in a fast-growing state! The powers that be claim that’s an average growth of over 7% annually. I say it’s a 1,300% growth in 20 years. Either way, it’s impressive.

Let’s go back to 2000 for a picture of what was here, or rather what was not here. No modern Town Hall, library, Senior Center, park, nature trail, and so forth. No Walmart, Harris Teeter, Lowes, Aldi’s, Waterford, Mallory Creek, Brunswick Forest, Compass Pointe, large medical, veterinary, and dental practices, and so many others.

Better yet, picture almost nothing except what’s on Village Road. That was pretty much what commercial business was here. Congratulations to them for so many are still present. What else wasn’t here? Traffic lights on Highway 17. Not a single one! We now experience nine commencing southeast coming off the Memorial Bridge to Lanvale Rd. Currently two more SE of that intersection with more to come. The “thrill” of attempting a left turn onto Rt. 17 from Lanvale Rd. is gone. Thankfully.

In 1999 we purchased our lot in Magnolia Greens. It was such a risk that I hesitated, and trepidation set in. Picture almost nothing here and MG being the first and only major development, and my reluctance becomes understandable. We backed out of our original lot purchase, and when we hesitated and withdrew our deposit because, “Who’s going to buy on Palm Sunday?” Well, somebody did! So, my wise bride proclaimed, “We’re buying a lot.” When we saw it, the road wasn’t even in; we rode in the salesman’s four-wheel drive to see it. Incidentally, recently, we ran into him. He is now selling in another major community.

So, what else illustrates our growth? How about our excellent medical practices? As “New Parts Bob,” who has had two knee replacements and a reverse shoulder replacement in the last two years, I know of what I speak. Our other medical issues have also been received excellent care (disclaimer - some of that has been received in Wilmington).

We all know of the major developments on Highway 17 south that will add thousands of residents. Take a ride on Lanvale, Village, and Old Fayetteville Roads - “mini” developments are proliferating. New stores are another super growth reality. Proximity to the city of Wilmington and all it offers. Enough said. If I left anything out, please forgive me - the list would be quite long.

So why the growth? Let’s examine the economic aspects first. Number 1 is real estate taxes. We just could not afford the LI taxes; unlike unwilling to pay them - we really couldn’t. Also, consider energy costs. On LI, we had one of the highest electric rates. Here it’s a bargain. Our auto insurance is half; also, 3% tax on a vehicle purchase compared to almost 9%. We recently purchased a vehicle. The LI tax would have been nearly \$2,000 more! Gasoline is 20 cents more per gallon, and heaven help you if you’re a smoker because those things are twice as expensive. Only minuses are alcohol is more expensive, 2% tax on food, and the personal property tax. I think we have a good deal.

On the list comes an area that was an exurb. At the time, that meant uncrowded, light traffic, and farms. Golf courses where a golfer could get a suitable playing time at a reasonable price. Sadly, three of those courses (none in Leland) a short drive away have recently closed. They were replaced by two in Leland, however. Also, in the recreational area, are magnificent nearby beaches - only a short drive for “Lelanders.”

I’d be remiss if I didn’t mention two important extras. Excellent air quality. Never mentioned, but as a person who’s last nine years of employment was in a position of improving air quality in one of the most polluted areas in the United States, I can attest to what those ramifications are. It’s no small thing, folks. Lastly was and is the Southern courtesy. It starts with waving hello and greeting people, allowing people to merge into your lane, holding the door for folks, and using a lot of “THANK YOU’s.” And pretty much “getting along.”

Eli Manning - An Elite Man

by **Brendan Connelly**, Brunswick Forest



I would like to share a story with you that our good friends Pat and Billy Barry told us many years ago.

The focal characters in this story are Brynn Moynihan, a good friend of Pat and Billy's daughter Keriann, Brynn's mother, and former New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning. It shows how great a human being Eli Manning is. He is not just an athlete.

At the time, Brynn, her mother, and Eli Manning lived in an apartment in Hoboken, New Jersey, a small town where parking can be difficult.

One day, Brynn and her mother went grocery shopping. Brynn had to park the car. Brynn left the groceries on the street with her mother. Brynn told her mother to stay right there while she went to park the car. When Brynn came back roughly five minutes later, her mother is gone, and so are the groceries.

While Brynn is gone, her mother sees a young, strong man who she thought was one of her daughter's friends walking by.

The mother stops him and says, "Young man, can you help me carry up these groceries?" Of course, he said "yes," and he even



helped her put the groceries away.

A few minutes later, Brynn walks back into the apartment and is in shock!

Brynn asks, "Mom, what is Eli Manning doing in our apartment?"

The mother responds, "I thought he was one of your friends. I said, 'Young man can you help me carry my groceries?'"

Eli Manning is much more than just an athlete. He showed great kindness to take time out of his day and not think anything of it to help the mother out. It is the kind of man he is - a loving, caring family person who puts others before himself.

I thought you would appreciate hearing a story about how a pro athlete shows his compassion and humanity. Eli is truly Elite!



6-Week Writing Sessions via Zoom

Prompts ~ Exercises
~ Encouragement ~

WriteStoriesWorthSharing.com



by **Janet Stiegler**, Brunswick Forest



"Are you sure it's okay, Monique? I thought we needed permission from the authorities to travel outside Moscow's city limits." Monique and I were suitemates on a study abroad program at Moscow State University. Our four-month stay was almost over, and she was eager to visit relatives she had outside Kyiv. Convinced it would be fun to see another Soviet republic, I agreed to go along. Five years my senior, Monique spoke French, Russian, and a smattering of Ukraine. She knew how to work the system, and I trusted her advice.

"It's all arranged, Janet," she assured me. "I've taken care of everything. Just remember your passport and those strips of Pravda." We didn't go anywhere without our student passports, so that part of her advice was gratuitous. But Pravda, the official newspaper of the Soviet Union, was our toilet paper. And you never knew when or where you would need toilet paper.

When we left the following morning, it was still dark outside. Winter was setting in, and the few trees sprinkled around the Stalinist-style cement block buildings had already lost their leaves. Lodged against the train window, I took in the drab suburb stations, their walls plastered with posters of Comrade Brezhnev. As the distance between stops increased, I glimpsed a man or woman bent over in ochre fields, harvesting their crops. What a hard and monotonous life!

We had to change trains at least three times, and at each transfer station, Monique would converse (and sometimes flirt) with the conductors so we would make our connections without a hitch. After one officious bureaucrat scrutinized my passport and appeared ready to escort us off the train, Monique went into a lengthy discourse, dramatically wiping a tear from her cheek. My stomach was in knots, but she patted my lap, an indication she had things under control. Sure enough, the conductor handed back our papers with a grunt, and the train lurched forward.

After traveling most of the day, we disembarked at a small station on the outskirts of Kyiv. Monique's Uncle Vanya greeted us with flowers. Here was the niece from America! I tried to follow the animated conversation taking place in the car's front seat, but the pace of discourse and use of idiomatic expressions left me in the dark. Periodically, Uncle Vanya glanced into the rearview mirror, smiled, and threw out an English phrase for my benefit. I smiled back, relieved that I could finally let down my guard.

Upon arrival at the family apartment, a young man was working on a truck. "This is Sasha," Uncle Vanya said as Monique embraced her cousin. "He recently finished his military duty. Now he fixes cars." Uncle Vanya put his arm around his nephew's shoulder and pulled him close. "Sasha is back and safe with his family again." I nodded my understanding; a two-year conscription was mandatory for all male citizens between 18 and 27. Sasha was tan, fit, and handsome. Not a bad catch for some lucky woman!

As we brought our things upstairs, Monique informed me of the weekend's plans. "We will sleep here at my uncle's apartment tonight, then travel to the countryside to meet the rest of my extended family. My grandmother is preparing a big celebratory lunch." Although I felt like an interloper, crashing a party in honor of my friend, Monique reassured me. "They already consider you family."

When I asked to use the bathroom, Uncle Vanya led me back to the landing and pointed to a closed door. Hanging on the walls inside were five toilet seats, each marked with an apartment number. Okay, so which is theirs? Not wanting to go back and ask, I picked the one that looked the cleanest, placed it over the naked bowl, and sat down. Thankfully, there was a roll of coarse toilet paper on the floor, which saved me further embarrassment since I had left the strips of Pravda in my suitcase. I tried to relax, but you can't linger in a communal bathroom. Listening intently for any noise outside, I did my business and slipped out.

(To be continued)



Attention Parents

The Teen Scene staff will be offering Study Skills Classes starting in August 2021. The class will consist of 6 sessions, with a maximum of six per class. More than one class will be scheduled if there is a demand. We will have more details in the May edition. If interested, please contact us at editorteenscene@gmail.com.

Oschter Haws: The Pennsylvania Dutch origins of the Easter Bunny

(article sourced online on www.mcall.com & www.mentalfloss.com)

Spring is the season of rebirth and renewal. Plants return to life after winter dormancy and many animals mate and procreate. Many pagan cultures held spring festivals to celebrate this renewal of life and promote fertility. One of these festivals was in honor of Eostre or Eastre, the goddess of dawn, spring and fertility near and dear to the hearts of the pagans in Northern Europe. Eostre was closely linked to the hare and the egg, both symbols of fertility.



As Christianity spread, it was common for missionaries to practice some good salesmanship by placing pagan ideas and rituals within the context of the Christian faith and turning pagan festivals into Christian holidays (e.g. Christmas).

In AD 595, Pope Gregory sent a mission of 40 monks to England with instructions to convert the pagan inhabitants to Christianity. They

were advised to allow the outward forms of the old, heathen festivals and beliefs to remain intact, but wherever possible to superimpose Christian ceremonies and philosophy on them. The Eostre festival occurred around the same time as the Christians' celebration of Christ's resurrection, so the two celebrations became one, and with the kind of blending that was going on among the cultures, it would seem only natural that the pagans would bring the hare and egg images with them into their new faith (the hare later became the more com-

mon rabbit).

The Easter bunny we know got its start in the 18th century with German Lutherans who settled in Pennsylvania. "Oschter Haws" is German for Easter hare. Eventually the tradition spread across the country. Pennsylvania Dutch children would leave their hats in a secret place as a sort of nest for the Easter bunny. Boys would leave woolen caps and girls would leave bonnets, with the hopes that overnight while they slept, the bunny would leave them treats. The Oschter Haws would leave decorated eggs and other treats in the nest for well-behaved children. The custom of coloring Easter eggs was originally started by the early Christians of Mesopotamia, who dyed eggs red to represent the blood of Christ, but was not officially adopted by the Church as representing the resurrection until 1610, when Pope Paul V proclaimed the prayer:

"Bless, O Lord, we beseech thee, this thy creature of eggs, that it may become a wholesome sustenance to thy faithful servants, eating it in thankfulness to thee on account of the resurrection of the Lord."

The Pennsylvania Dutch didn't have egg-dyeing kits in the 1700s. They used onion skins, cabbage leaves, tree bark and other natural materials to color eggs. As Easter gradually became commercialized in the following centuries, the hare became a more common rabbit and the egg became chocolate. Yum!



Laughing in the Golden Years: A lot of Historic Events Took Place In the Month of April...

WHAT I SAID THEN AND WHAT I SAY NOW

by Maryann Nunnally, Porters Neck



There is a world of difference between being a parent and being a grandparent. When I was a parent of five children, I loved all my kids unconditionally, but I often disliked their behavior and made them understand that I disliked it. I love my grandchildren unconditionally, also, but I often find their behavior hilarious, or at least I think the parent who used to be my child deserves every bit of his or her child's rebellious acting-out. At any rate, I think I was too strict and not flexible enough when I was a parent, and since hindsight is 20/20, I am much more open to my grandchildren's behavior because, as a senior citizen, I have become much more understanding.

My approach to discipline has mellowed over the years. For example, when my five were upstairs horsing around, I would stand at the base of the steps and bellow, "Stop whatever you're doing right now." And if that didn't bring at least the noise to a halt, I would make the big threat. "Don't make me come up there, or you will be sorry." When I heard my daughter say the same thing to her boys, I opened my mouth and said, "Honey, they are not hurting anything. Let them go. I don't hear them doing anything that bad."

"Right," she said. "Mom, when they had totally destroyed their room, are you going to go up there and clean up the mess?" I just shrug and laugh.

Not long ago, I heard my son say to his teenage daughter, "Where do you think you're going in that outfit?" I immediately voiced my opinion by saying, "Isn't she cute dressed in that short shirt? Good thing she has her mother's pretty legs."

"Mom," he groans, "please stay out of this. I am not letting any daughter of mine leave here looking like that it public." I bite my tongue, but truthfully, I don't think she looks all that bad.

Last year another of my sons called me terribly upset because his daughter, along with some of her friends, removed their socks and threw that at the school bus driver. All year long, according to other students, the bus driver had insulted them, calling them "idiots," "spoiled babies," "jerks," and some unprintable names. Finally, the sock-throwing students, along with my granddaughter, decided to take their revenge on the driver. My son was so disturbed by the sock throwing incident that by the time he finished ranting, he had blown it up to his daughter smoking pot and being carted off to jail. I did not want to sound too casual about the whole thing, but I did point out, while stifling my laughter, that they might have thrown their shoes. Socks did not sound all that bad to me.

One of my most boring lectures, when I was a parent, was to say, "When I was your age, I didn't get an allowance, walked two miles to school every day, wore my sister's hand-me-downs, got one pair of shoes a year, never missed a day of school, ditto for church on Sundays, and had complete respect for my parents."

Now that I have changed my tune, I tell my grandkids, "When I was your age, I had the best time. I loved walking to school with my friends, attending youth group at church, trading clothes with my sister, and sneaking out when my parents knew nothing about it. I see my adult children rolling their eyes, and one of them says, "Mom, don't tell the kids that kind of nonsense. You know you never sneaked out." I just wink at my grandchildren, and they know I am a really cool grandmother.

April 1, 1945 - Easter morning and April Fool's day; America's Fifth Fleet and 180,000 soldiers and Marines landed in Okinawa to begin the last major battle of WWII and the bloodiest.

April 4, 1968 - Civil Rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was shot and killed by a sniper in Memphis, Tennessee.

April 6, 1917 - Following a vote by Congress approving a declaration of war, the U.S. entered WWI in Europe.

April 9, 1865 - After over 500,000 American deaths, the Civil War effectively ended as General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant in the Virginia village of Appomattox Court House.

April 12, 1861 - The American Civil War began as Confederate troops under the command of General Pierre Beauregard opened fire at 4:30 a.m. on Fort Sumter.

April 14, 1865 - President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded while watching a performance of *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theater in Washington.

April 17, 1961 - A U.S. backed attempt to overthrow Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba failed disastrously in what became known as the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

April 18, 1775 - The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere and William Dawes occurred as the two men rode out of Boston about 10 p.m. to warn patriots at Lexington and Concord of the approaching British.

April 18, 1942 - The first air raid on mainland Japan during World War II occurred as General James Doolittle led a squadron of B-25 bombers taking off from the carrier Hornet to bomb Tokyo and three other cities.

April 30, 1789 - George Washington became the first U.S. President as he administered the oath of office on the balcony of Federal Hall at the corner of Wall and Broad Streets in New York City.

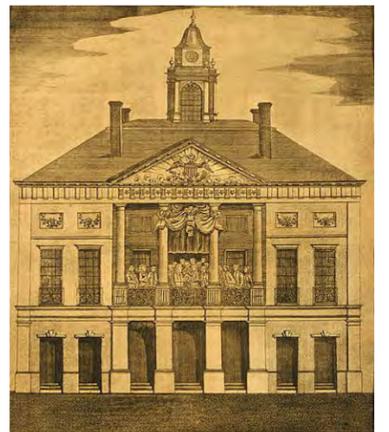
April 30, 1945 - Hitler committed suicide.



This Currier & Ives print (1865) of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.



US Marines from the 2nd Battalion, on Wana Ridge during the battle of Okinawa in May, 1945



Federal Hall, New York City, site of George Washington's first inauguration.

"King George and Broadwords"

by Jim Buell, Magnolia Greens*

That was the Loyalist cry as they charged across Moore's Creek Bridge to attack what they thought was a small Rebel force. The Loyalists expected to quickly move them aside as they made their way to Wilmington and eventually Port Brunswick (Brunswick Town) to join a larger British Naval Squadron, laying out plans to conquer the North Carolina colony in the name of King George.

So, you ask, where is Moore's Creek? Approximately a 30 minute drive time from Leland, you will find Moore's Creek National Battlefield, a National Park in our own backyard. The significance of this battle (approximately 10-15 minutes long) was that this event represents the first significant Patriot victory in the Revolutionary War, thus stalling a full-scale planned British invasion of the South. The victory allowed North Carolina's representatives to the Continental Congress to vote for Independence. They were the first colony to take such action. (Thus, the motto on our license plates "First in Freedom.")

The park is a hidden gem that is a wonderful place to visit, learn about important historical events that took place in the Cape Fear region, enjoy a walk through the park and its nature trails, stop for a picnic lunch under the shade trees, and kick back and relax away from the hustle and bustle of life, even for a short period.

The battle took place on February 27, 1776. Each year, the park hosts an anniversary event with reenactors taking part as Scottish Highlanders who settled the region but retained their loyalty to Great Britain and those representing the local Patriots who had homes here and were looking to break



away from the King's oversight. This battle indeed was America's first Civil War as families, neighbors, fathers, sons, and brothers fought against each other to advance their chosen cause.

A small battle with larger implications, the Patriot victory at Moore's Creek spurred revolutionary sentiment in the Carolinas while discouraging loyalist feelings in the colonies. Historian Edward Channing noted that "if Britain had conquered the South in early 1776, it is conceivable that rebellion would never have turned into a revolution. At Moore's Creek, Carolinians turned aside circumstances that may have made British conquest possible."

Come out and visit, enjoy the park, and learn about our nation's history that took place so close to home. Then let your friends and family know about this gem in our backyard that all will enjoy visiting.

You can explore more about Moore's Creek at www.nps.gov/mocr or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/moorescreeknps.

*Jim and Sally Buell volunteer at Moore's Creek National Battlefield and are Leland residents.

**Right Service
Right Price**

*Like our service? Tell everyone!
Think we can do better? Call my cell!
828-674-8521*

David W. Sink, Jr



David W. Sink, Jr 104 Woodland Drive
Owner Leland, NC 28451

Work: 910-769-2824 Fax: 910-769-2855
www.lelandmeineke.com
davidsink@lelandmeineke.com

Enough

by Ken Formalarie, Magnolia Greens



Many are the clichés of life we live with, but because of this Covid Pandemic, none so stunningly capture the life and times currently besetting us more than: “These are the good old days!” I have repeated these words out loud to myself on many occasions simply because I need reminding that life in the present with those we love, while we have them, is precious and never to be taken for granted.

Try spending a day capturing every little thing you have done in writing. It will quickly bring to your awareness that life is moving in a circle around you and you in it. Life does not have to be punctuated by great events to justify its existence. Life just is. Whatever we choose to fill our time with is of no consequence as long as every passing moment will be cherished as though it may never come to be ours again. Try looking back at a day or a night from your past. If you remember it with fondness, then you will appreciate the moment you are in equally because your current moment will be a memory in the future. Appreciating all that we now have and being satisfied with it is enough.

An old friend once wrote a letter to me saying: “Of all the things we need in life, I wish you enough.” He asked me to apply it to anything I could think of so as to measure all that was the worth of my life:

- *I wish you enough money to live comfortably but without pretense.*
- *I wish you enough love to know the fullness of life but never to be an entitlement.*
- *I wish you enough sense to learn to live with moderation, not extremes.*
- *I wish you compassion, just enough to make a difference quietly for others.*
- *I wish you enough creativeness to color life without nourishing an ego.*
- *I wish you enough strength to be available when needed but never to dominate.*
- *I wish you enough memory to relive the joys of your life but filter out the pain.*

As April arrives with Easter, a collective wisdom that we humans have always had will once again be awakened and made available to us via this Pandemic. It is a gift of sorts, a pause, and a breather to let us ponder through suffering and loss how fragile life is but also how eternal and resilient our survival instincts are. Try using this simple, powerful word to measure yourself: we will always find a way if we have just “enough.”

GOLF TOURNAMENT for Brandon's Battle

Brandon's Battle invites you to help support pediatric cancer patients and their families with their 1st Annual Golf Tournament.

Date: Monday, April 12, 2021

Locations: Magnolia Greens, Leland, NC



\$400 per team of 4

Registration is open online at
www.brandonsbattle.com

Or call **717-332-3401**

Ask for Lisa

Volunteers Needed for Statewide Spring Litter Sweep

Last year, Adopt-A-Highway groups, NCDOT employees, and other volunteers removed nearly 939,000 pounds of litter during the spring litter sweep.

RALEIGH – Volunteers across North Carolina are needed to help clean up trash along roads during the N.C. Department of Transportation's annual Spring Litter Sweep from April 11-25. Each April and September, the department calls on volunteers to help remove litter from roadsides. Volunteers from local businesses, schools, non-profits, churches and community groups play an important role in keeping North Carolina's roads clean.

“Every day, more people make North Carolina their home or do business here,” said David Harris, NCDOT's Roadside Environmental engineer. “With that, comes increased litter and trash on our roads. We need others to help us keep our state beautiful and safe, and it starts with each of us doing our part.”

Volunteers wear gloves and safety vests and are given cleaning supplies such as reversible orange and blue trash bags. People wanting to participate should contact their local litter management coordinator online at: <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/adoptahighway>.

Last year, Adopt-A-Highway groups, NCDOT employees and other volunteers removed nearly 939,000 pounds of litter during the spring litter sweep.

Visit the Litter Sweep webpage for more information online at:

<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/litter-management/Pages/litter-sweep.aspx>

Questions can be directed to Litter Management at (919) 707-2970.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS:

The Making of the North Carolina Gullah Geechee Greenway/Blueway Heritage Trail (Part 3)

by Brayton Willis, Magnolia Greens

Many North Carolina communities, large and small, have made public investments in greenways. Kinston, for example, recently completed the first phase of its downtown Arts Riverwalk and Durham has over 30 miles of greenways and trails within its City limits. As communities build or expand greenways, they should understand and consider the value that these trails can bring.

The list of project champions grows.

I have been overwhelmed with the great support and partnerships we have developed over the past few years since we started this effort. The Towns of Navassa, Leland, and Belville, Brunswick County, and the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization have issued resolutions of support for this effort.

Additionally, we have received letters of support and project commitment from the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Foundation, Cape Fear Council of Government's Rural Planning Organization, Towns of Navassa, Leland, and Belville, Brunswick County, Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization, Southern Environmental Law Center, Terry Benjey Bicycling Foundation, Cape Fear Cyclists, and Brunswick Environmental Action Team.

One important partner in the early stages has been the East Coast Greenway Alliance. With their help and guidance, we hope to link the Gullah Geechee Greenway/Blueway Corridor into the 3,000-mile East Coast Greenway. This would connect many of the historic and cultural features of Brunswick County to the larger greenway effort, thus exposing a greater audience of travelers to the language, customs, and crafts of the Gullah Geechee while weaving our area's historically significant sites into the region's mosaic canvas of cultural legacies.

Goals of the Brunswick County Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Greenway / Blueway Corridor

1. Recognizing the important benefits of the Gullah Geechee greenway/blueway project, the NAACP has developed six overarching goals:
2. Educational outreach by increasing a local, regional and nation-wide understanding and awareness of Gullah Geechee people, culture, and history.
3. A post-pandemic economic recovery platform that supports tourism and businesses while promoting the preservation of the land and natural resources that are important to a healthy way of life and a sense of place;
4. Documentation and preservation of historic places that connect and bond our residents and visitors to the fabric of our society by preserving, celebrating, and providing access to them;
5. Promote healthy living by creating new recreational opportunities that provide safe, inexpensive avenues for regular exercise for people living in our rapidly growing rural, urban and suburban areas;
6. Protect the environment and important habitat and provide corridors for people and wildlife; and
7. Provide a link to the larger matrix of the 3,000-mile East Coast Greenway.

Recent Support for Greenways and Blueways

Recently, representatives from more than 160 organizations across America signed a letter to Congress urging leaders to pass a Greenway Stimulus, which would be used to build off-street trails, on-street bike lanes, and generous shared-use sidewalks to connect communities in all 50 states.

The East Coast Greenway Alliance estimates that such an effort could create 170,000 jobs nationally in construction and planning and could generate up to \$250 billion in local economic development. That's a 50 percent higher return on investment than most highway projects, according to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

The National Park Service River, Trails and Conservation Technical Assistance Program

Greenway/Blueway development is a new adventure for the NAACP. It is probably the first of its kind sponsored by the NAACP in the country. But it is an important step forward to preserve and celebrate the Gullah Geechee heritage and culture.

In the upcoming months, the Brunswick County Branch of the NAACP will be submitting an application requesting technical support from the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program.

The National Park Service's planning professionals have the capability to partner with community groups to help them design trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers, protect special places, and create recreation opportunities.

(To be continued)



THE TEEN SCENE

This edition sponsored by
Katie's Art and Frame, Leland, NC

Volume 2, Issue 4

Tomorrow's Voices Today

April 2021

Teen Scene Editor

Gerald Decker

Layout Designer

Cathryn Adams

This Month's Writers

Teen Scene Staff:

Cathryn Adams

Ana Johnson

Sam Cahenzli

North Brunswick High School

Olivea Badovinac

Shawn Blake

Ivy Fischl

Icarus Hack

Tiffany Huynh

Joelle Lowery

West Brunswick High School

Sam Cahenzli

Katelyn Lewis

Jennifer Argo

Myrtle Grove Middle School

Kaden King

Olivia Watson

The Teen Scene Inc. is not affiliated with any other newspaper or organization. We are registered in the State of North Carolina dba Cape Fear Voices. We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3), funded by advertisements, contributions, and grants. We can be contacted at editor-teen-scene@gmail.com or editorcfv@gmail.com.

All rights to the contents of this paper are reserved to Teen Scene, Inc., Cape Fear Voices, and the writers of each piece.

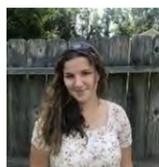


West Brunswick High School

Preparing Today's Learner for Tomorrow's Future

To All the Boys I've Loved Before - A Love Letter

by Jennifer Argo, Senior, West Brunswick High School



The third and final movie from the "To All the Boys I've Loved Before" trilogy was released February 12th on Netflix and has fans going crazy.

Lara Condor and Noah Centineo star in all three of the "To All the Boys I've Loved Before" films. Promotional photo from Netflix.

The first of three movies were released and gained popularity back in 2018. Jenny Han, author of the trilogy, released her first novel of the series in 2014. Over the past few years, the movies and books have only risen in

their popularity. But the age-old question remains: which is better--the books or the movies?

I personally prefer books over movie adaptations because of how well they are written and the level of detail, thank you for asking! In this case, the books are much more authentic and detailed, but I must say, the movies are pretty spot on. They cast the lead roles of Lara Jean and Peter perfectly, and the actors perfectly encompassed the adored characters.

Now let's talk about differences. When moving a book to the screen, it's logical to assume that there will be some differences between the two. Here are a few of the most prominent differences:

Stormy from "To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You" is a character in the second book who greatly affects Lara Jean, but in the third movie, her character is totally cut.

In the third book, Margot's college boyfriend comes home to spend the holidays with her and her family, spotlighting areas of Lara Jean and Peter's relationship that LJ hadn't noticed before.

Another big difference is the location of the trilogy. In the movie, Lara Jean ends up going to NYU while in the book, she goes to UNC.

In both the book and movie, Lara Jean makes a big deal about what her and Peter's song will be. In the book, the song is "Let's Stay Together" by Al Green while in the movie it's "Beginning Middle End" by Leah Nobel.

Despite the minor differences, the overall arc and development of the story and the character relationships remain untouched, gripping readers and viewers alike. Both the books and movies are well worth your time.

Mental Health in a Pandemic: Worries from Students and Words from Experts

The COVID-19 Pandemic is negatively affecting student's mental health.

by Jennifer Argo, Senior, West Brunswick High School



Staring at screens for 10 hours a day and not being able to hug family members or friends is detrimental to a person's mental health. According to The Harvard Gazette, as the number of deaths increases, the number of people being diagnosed with anxiety and depression increases along with it. Mental health is a topic that many people don't take seriously, but in reality, it affects everyone.

In that same article by The Harvard Gazette, professor of the practice of global mental health Shekhar Saxena said, "COVID is impacting the older age group more, but anxiety and depression are being faced by the young adults much more, which is exactly the opposite of what we've seen in some of the earlier crises. It's the young adults and the children who are being impacted, and the effects are going to be long-lasting."

It's common to cope with stress through alcohol and drug use and keeping your schedule filled, but those aren't healthy coping mechanisms. Examples of healthy ways to manage your stress are educating yourself about COVID-19, wearing masks, avoiding alcohol and drugs, going to therapy, and finding a hobby.

With all the deaths and tragedies in the world, grief seems to be a constant feeling right now.

According to an article from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Adolescents may also experience grief in ways that are both similar to and different than children and adults. Adolescents may experience significant changes in their sleep patterns, isolate themselves more, frequently appear irritable or frustrated, withdraw from usual activities, or engage more frequently with technology."

These behaviors have become increasingly common of late.

"During COVID-19, I've found it extremely difficult to keep my mental health on track," said senior Ryan Connick. "It had been a very difficult struggle to find ways to keep myself busy and to keep both my body and my mind healthy on my own, but I found a way, and I learned that it is possible to improve your mental health simply by making small alterations to your lifestyle. It most certainly is difficult but not impossible."

So many lives were lost this year, and the world is in the midst of a pandemic. It's okay to take a break and just breathe. Despite what anyone says, there is ALWAYS time to focus on mental health.

In the Harvard Gazette article, Chan School Dean Michelle Williams said, "The past year has been terribly damaging to our collective mental health. There is no vaccine for mental illness." References: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>

Homeless Shelters and Covid

by Sam Cahenzli, Senior,
West Brunswick High School



In a year where a pandemic, civil unrest, and a change in leadership has occurred, there is one thing that many have forgotten - the homeless. Due to Covid, many people lost their jobs, which meant that homelessness skyrocketed. Issues related to Covid also may make it more difficult for policymakers to evaluate and address the whole scope of need in American cities. That could lead to lasting outcomes for America's poor.

Every January, nationwide data is accumulated about people and households who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness. But the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed such information gathering this year. Tragically, the ones who have been pushed from their houses due to financial problems are likely to stay invisible in many communities.

Over the following four years, the fallout from the pandemic is anticipated to cause continual homelessness to climb 49% nationwide, according to Economic Roundtable, a California-based nonprofit city research organization. The analysis predicts that the homelessness disaster will peak in 2023, with a further 603,000 American adults without a stable roof over their heads.

On a given night, roughly 568,000 people in the United States are experiencing homelessness, according to a 2019 January report. Due to Covid-19, the numbers, as stated before, have gone up. The problem is, according to some experts, the information we need to address the issue is delayed. Let me repeat that vital information that our country needs is delayed. Even with some cities using last year's numbers and rounding them up accordingly, you have other cities like Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego who are fudging their numbers. Glad to know that when we all need to work together and be honest, some are having issues with that.

Other issues that face all shelters are lice, theft, violence, rats, and roaches. In many shelters, they allow you to stay for thirty days, but that does not mean you will be able to stay in the shelter the whole day. After those thirty days, you'll be kicked out, no matter what it's like out. Shelters aren't safe either. They protect you from the elements, but not from each other or anything else that can crawl in. Some that are really underfunded are only good due to having a roof. People who have stayed in the worst of shelters say that they'd rather be on the street.

With everything that's going on in the world currently, this is something that you need to remember. Now I'm sure that after reading this, you're thinking about ways to help; one way is to drop off essential items such as food, clothing, and now masks. Another way is to spread awareness about shelters and to talk more about them.

Artists You Aren't Listening to But Should Be

by **Katelyn Lewis**, Editor in Chief of *West Wind*, West Brunswick High School Senior

If you enjoy music just as much as I do, here are a couple more songs you can add to some of your Spotify and Apple Music playlists.

Records are one of my favorite ways to listen to music. They add so much appeal to songs, and it's also very relaxing!

Music is something that many of us enjoy. We can always find comfort in our favorite songs and playlists. One of my favorite things about music is that there are so many different styles of music that can fit any mood you're feeling. The few artists that I have picked for this column are some of my favorite artists at the moment.

My first artist choice is an alternative band called *The Neighbourhood*. I love their songs because most of them are super relaxed and really help me focus on what I'm doing at the moment.

- My personal favorite song by them is called "Cherry Flavoured." The mellow sounds of the drums combined with the slow strum of guitars makes it a super relaxing song.
- Another favorite song of mine is "Stargazing." This song is one that I kept on repeat the first time I listened to it. I love the beat it has, and it is definitely one of those songs you could listen to while on a road trip.
- My last song choice is called "Stuck with Me." This song is another super relaxed song that I listen to a lot when I am doing my school-work. It helps keep me focused but still keeps me in a good mood.

My next artist choice is another band called *Arctic Monkeys*. They have some rock elements combined with some alternative sounds as well. The use of electric guitars and drums really make their songs enjoyable.

- My favorite song by them is "505." This song starts off slow, but once it hits the chorus, it is super loud and fun. I enjoy listening to this song when I am driving or just hanging out at home.
- Another good song by them is "Fireside." This song has a very steady beat to it which adds to its appeal. I would totally recommend this song for people who need something to enjoy while also wanting to get stuff done.

- My last song choice is "I Wanna Be Yours." This song is super slow and relaxed. I always find myself listening to this song if I need to just take a break from school work or whatever I am doing at the moment and enjoy the music.



Photo by Katelyn Lewis

My last artist choice is one that I mentioned a while back. *Lennon Stella* is one of my favorite artists. When I talked about her a few columns back, she had not yet released her new album. Since its release, I have listened to it non-stop, and it is definitely one of my comfort albums.

- My favorite song from her "Three. Two. One." album is "Pretty Boy." This song is one I play when I am driving late at night. Its consistent drumbeats and guitar strums make this song amazing.
- Another song I love is "Weakness." This song is a long one but so worth the eight minutes it takes to get through it. While the melodies are super calm and relaxing, the lyrics hold a different tone. Speaking on topics like our society and certain feelings that today's youth struggles with.
- My last song choice is "Bend Over Backwards." This song is one of the more upbeat songs compared to the rest of the album. However, it also has significant lyrics that everyone should really listen to, like one verse when she says, "There's a heavy cost to letting someone else call the shots." I like to think of this song as an anthem because it is a call for self-empowerment and self-advocacy.

Hopefully I have added some new songs to your Spotify or Apple Music playlists. There is always new music waiting for you around the corner. Don't be afraid to listen to something you wouldn't normally see yourself listening to. You might just find your next favorite artist or song.



North Brunswick High School

We are happy to welcome North Brunswick High School to the list of area schools participating in *The Teen Scene* program. NBHS is the fourth school in Brunswick county to participate in our program.

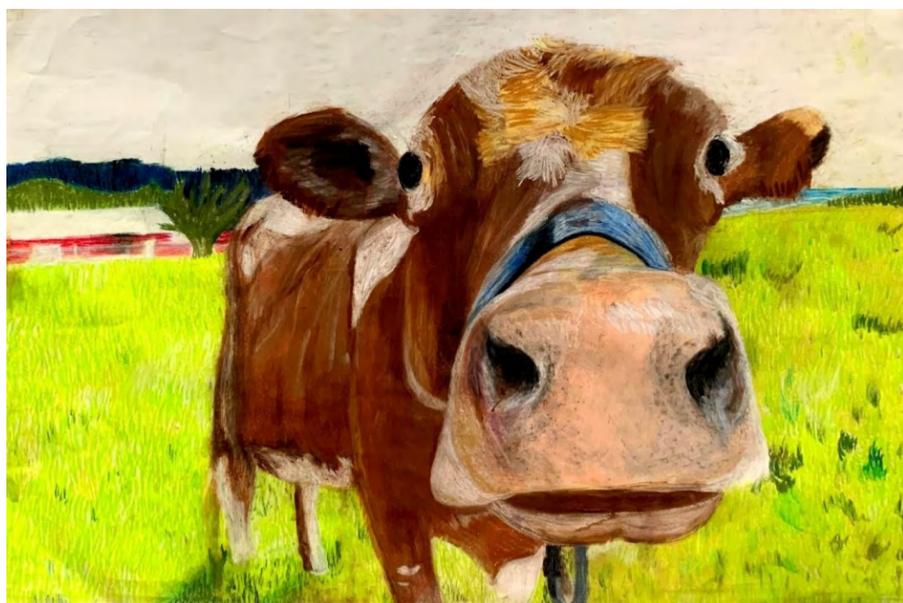
We would like to extend our thanks to the Principal, Dr. Steven Sullivan, and our designated contact person, Ms. Melissa Julian.

NBHS recently held an art show. Their work was displayed in South Port through the Annual Franklin Square Gallery High School Exhibition. NBHS won 7 total awards. We are proud to share with you some our best.

Tiffany Huynh,
12th Grade First Place 2D



Icarus Hack,
10th Grade 2nd Place Graphics



Shawn Blake,
10th Grade Best of Show



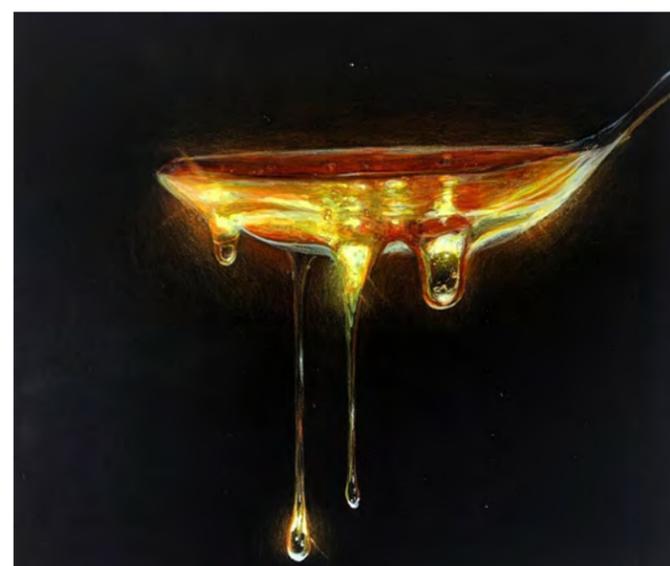
Ivy Fischl,
12th Grade Honorable Mention



Olivia Badovinac,
9th Grade 3rd Place



Joelle Lowery,
11th Grade Honorable Mention



MYRTLE GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are happy to welcome Myrtle Grove Middle School to the list of area schools participating in *The Teen Scene* program. Myrtle Grove Middle School is the first school in New Hanover County to join our program. We would like to extend our thanks to the Principal, Ms. **Cindy Bliss** and our designated contact person, Mrs. **Reagan Mauk**.

A reminder to students that on **April 12**, the first day back after Spring Break, the following events are scheduled.

- Boys Basketball Tryouts Begin
- Cheerleading Tryouts May Begin
- Cross Country Tryouts May Begin
- Football Tryouts Begin
- Softball Tryouts Begin

For more information, visit:
<https://myrtlegrove.nhcs.net/about-us/calendar>



Teen Scene Trivia

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Bronze is an alloy of tin and which other element? | Ans: Albert Einstein |
| If "the Fellowship of the Rich" is part 1, what is part 2? | Ans: Arizona |
| Which dynasty ruled China from 1368 to 1644? | Ans: Ming |
| In which state can the Grand Canyon be found? | Ans: "The Two Towers" |
| Who published a paper on the equation E=mc ² in 1905? | Ans: Copper |

Still Finding Me

by **Olivia Watson**, 6th Grade, Myrtle Grove Middle School

My name is Olivia, I am in the sixth grade. I will be honest, I've been a follower, but I have also been a leader. I like arts and music. I love to write. I've been told to be my own person. Not you... not them, but me.



I've followed some trends, I've laughed at things I didn't know. I've tried to fit in and I've followed the crowd. I've changed the way I dress and I wanted to fit in. I've been mean to people and I've regretted it. But now I realize all of that doesn't matter. Who was I doing this for? It wasn't for me, it was for them.

Now I spend my time drawing and singing in the shower. I enter in so many contests and I get good grades. I still wear jeans and sweatshirts. I like those. These things make me happy and that's all that matters. I'm still trying to find out what I want to do. I'm still finding me.



Editor's Note

Brunswick County 4-H Teen Council Meetings



Brunswick County 4-H would like to invite you to join a 4-H Teen Council meeting. Brunswick County 4-H encourages youth to develop new leadership skills to not only help them in their community but in their professional lives as well. Working on community involvement through volunteering will provide youth with the opportunity to connect with local leaders and business owners. Other opportunities include learning about healthy living, boosting self-confidence, and making lifelong friendships by connecting with individuals who share similar passions and interests.

Individuals between the ages of eleven and eighteen are welcome to join Teen Council. Meetings will be held once a month- time still to be determined. As a member of Teen Council, participants will engage in goal setting, have the opportunity to be an officer, implement projects in the community, engage in fun and educational activities, as well as become involved in community volunteering.

A Harvard Business study revealed fascinating statistics relating to goal setting and success. The study went on to find that the 14% of individuals who set goals are 10 times more successful than those without goals. The 3% with written goals are 3 times more successful than the 14% with unwritten goals. By setting goals teens are more aware of their actions, efforts, and time management.

If you are interested in joining Brunswick County 4-H Teen Council or any other 4-H club or program that is offered please contact Jamie Fox, 4-H Youth Development Program Assistant, 910-253-2599 or jfox4@ncsu.edu

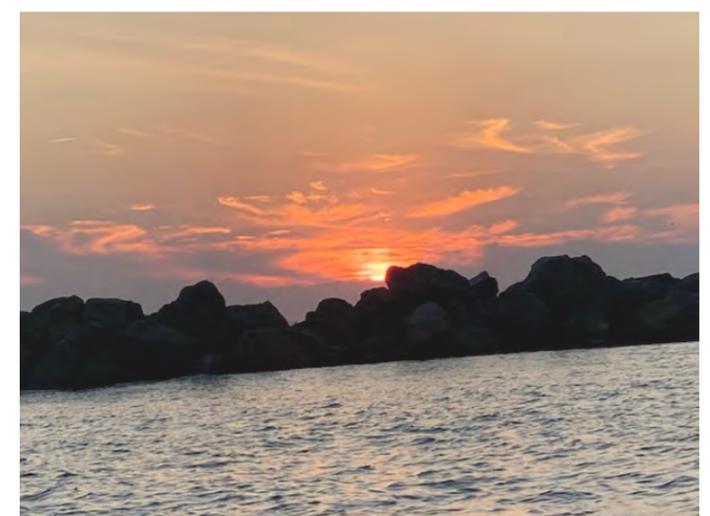
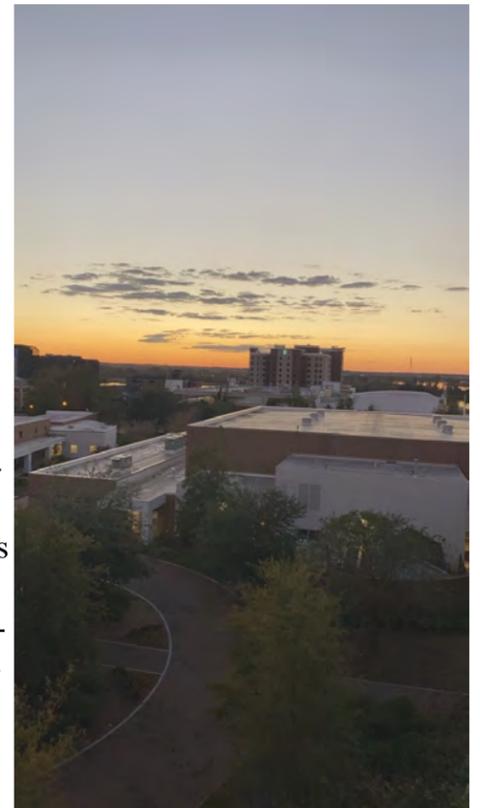
About N.C. Cooperative Extension

North Carolina Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership of NC State Extension, The Cooperative Extension Program at N.C. A&T University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), and local government partners statewide. Extension delivers research-based education and technology from NC State and N.C. A&T that enriches the lives, land, and economy of North Carolinians. Extension professionals in all 100 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee provide educational programs specializing in agriculture, youth, communities, health, and the environment.



Kadin King,
6th Grade
Myrtle Grove
Middle School

Kadin is an amateur photographer who enjoys pictures of area sunsets. He captured the peaceful calm of a Cape Fear Sunset.



Meet The Teen Scene Writers

This month we are happy to spotlight three of our staff writers. A staff writer is a teen who has enrolled directly with us to write. During these crazy Covid times, we have worked out a program for "School" writers. Eventually we would like to have all staff writers in order for us to fulfill our primary mission of working to improve teen writing skills and business skills.

When we have a full complement of staff writers, they will actually run *The Teen Scene*. They will be writing the business plans, writing, editing, doing the layout and implementing the plan. We will teach them how to run this business.

Writing skills and business skills are two critical areas of learning where we can assist professional educators in preparing these young people for life's endeavors. There will always be a program for dedicated pages for interested schools. We want to be the student voice for your school. We appreciate the teachers and principals who have joined us in this effort. Now, introducing:

- Ana Johnson**-Cape Fear Community College
- Cate Adams**-Brunswick County Early College High School
- Sam Cahenzli**-West Brunswick High School



Cathryn Adams

Early College High School



I'm a nineteen-year-old graduate from Brunswick Early College bound for UNC Wilmington in the fall. I am very excited to graduate high school. As much as I enjoy my school environment, five years is more than enough for me. My first job is as a pet trainer at the brand-new Shallotte PetSmart.

I'm proud to be chosen for the job; it's a lot of work but rewarding.

Layout editing for *The Teen Scene* is my second job, which I heard about from Mr. Decker through a teacher at school. I started because I've always known I wanted to go into English but couldn't decide if I prefer editing, writing, publishing, or teaching. *The Teen Scene* gives me the best of all worlds; I'm majoring in English education, I can write as I choose, and I'm earning valuable experience and insight into the publication process.

My parents are excited about my position. My mom is an English teacher at the Early College and has worked on newspapers before. She knew before I did that I had talent in and passion for English and literature. My dad lives across the country, so it means a lot to me that he goes out of his way to find the local paper I work on. Hi dad!

At *The Teen Scene*, I hope to encourage students to conquer their self-doubt about their own writing and get themselves published. Even now, I haven't completely grown out of my fear that my writing isn't good enough. My self-doubt still holds me back.

The first step is hard, but the second step is always harder. Publishing a piece despite your fear is hard enough, but making it a habit is a challenge. I want to make writing for *The Teen Scene* and *Cape Fear Voices* a habit not only for myself but so people similar to me will know it's possible.

Emily Rose Thorne

A former Teen Scene Writer

"I've always been a writer, crafting stories from the day that I could hold a crayon, so writing for *The Teen Scene* was a natural next step for me. I was considerably younger than most writers were, but Gerald Decker took a chance on me and allowed me to join despite my age. I can confidently say that *The Teen Scene* is where I discovered my drive for journalism. Telling true stories and informing my community appealed to me. I also loved being able to express myself. In high school, I wrote and edited for our school newspaper--something I would never have been brave enough to try without having already seen my name in print at *The Teen Scene*. My experience there helped me gain admission to the Center for Collaborative Journalism at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, at the age of 17. Since then, I've received two John M. Couric Fellowships, six Georgia College Press Association award nominations, and a Georgia Press Educational Foundation scholarship. I've interned with Atlanta Magazine and Georgia Public Broadcasting and have had the chance to see my work published and consumed statewide and nationally.

I also worked my way up the ranks at my college newspaper to Editor-in-Chief as I look forward to my senior year. Currently, I'm interning for *Macon Magazine* and *MedTruth*, a news and consumer advocacy publication. Without my experience at *The Teen Scene* almost a decade ago, I may never have discovered my passion for journalism or had access to these wonderful opportunities. Any young writer interested in a career in media should take advantage of the chance to explore their skills at *The Teen Scene*." - Emily Rose Thorne, former *Teen Scene* writer

A mother of two Teen Scene writers had this to say:

"*The Teen Scene* has gone a long way toward teaching my children responsibility, not only in meeting deadlines and doing what is expected of them but also as being responsible for the way they convey their ideas and opinions in writing. Working for *The Teen Scene* gives teens hands-on experience that is teaching skills for a job in the real world. How many businesses are willing to put teens in charge of important details? *The Teen Scene* does just that, and the result is a well-run newspaper--imagine that?! I have always believed that people will live up to your expectations of them. *The Teen Scene* puts this theory into action, and the kids have stepped up to the plate every time!" - Ami Sandlin, mother of two *Teen Scene* writers

Sam Cahenzli

West Brunswick High School



Hello! My name is Samuel Cahenzli. I am a senior at West Brunswick Highschool. My two favorite subjects are History and English. I've always loved history, I actually consider myself something of a history buff, especially when it comes to wars, mainly World War II. I can't really remember when I fell in love with history, but I do remember dressing up as famous WWII General, George S Patton, for a project in the fourth grade. I remember reading about him one day and just being fascinated by him, his leadership style, and his cleverness. One of my favorite facts about him is how he played a huge part in D-Day, even though he was nowhere near the actual landing sites. The allies knew that the Nazis were flying reconnaissance planes and taking photos of their bases, so they decided to come up with a plan to trick them. Patton and the allies set up a "ghost" army, where they used a mix of fake equipment and real equipment to fool Hitler into thinking the invasion would come from a different position.

I was born in New Jersey, but I lived in Massachusetts, then Connecticut, and then I moved to the Shallotte area nine years ago. We moved here to be with my grandparents. I can still remember my first winter here. One "winter day" it was seventy-five out as my mom and I walked the pier. That first year was also my first Christmas without snow. When we first moved, I wasn't fully on board, but it turned out to be the best thing. I was able to spend a year with my grandmother before she passed away. My grandmother was special to me, she always knew how to make me laugh and would always listen to my stories about school or whatever video game I was playing at the time, even though she had no clue what it was she always listen. I used to be afraid of speaking in public, but the first time I spoke in public with confidence was at her funeral, I didn't want to stop talking actually.

I wasn't always a fan of writing, but that all changed during my freshman year of high school. I had Mrs. Karwacki for honors English. Under her tutelage, I slowly started to enjoy writing, especially short stories. The teacher that really got me into writing was Mrs. Barefoot. I remember one of the short stories I wrote, it was four pages, but it was only supposed to be a page and a half. That has always stuck with me. If I start writing about something that I'm passionate about, I'll keep writing till I wear myself out. That's actually how I started to write the book I'm working on. I took a short story and turned it into something bigger.

I started writing with *Teen Scene* to try something new, and to get my name out there and to be able to make connections. My mom used to have her own radio show and was a published columnist, so I would say writing is in my blood. It would be amazing to one day publish my book and make a career out of writing and being an author. I wouldn't have heard about *Teen Scene* if it wasn't for an old English teacher reaching out to me and telling me about this. This opportunity came at a time when I most needed it. With schools being part remote learning I didn't have a chance to join any new clubs, but this came around and brought a well needed challenge to my life.

I plan on going to community college for two years, and then transferring to a four-year school. Before my love for writing, I wanted to pursue a career in the military. I've spent the last eight years in JROTC, where I earned the rank of Captain. In 2019, I was nominated for the Brunswick County Sheriff's Cadet program. During that eight-week program, I had an inside look at how they trained. I also was able to make strong connections. I am truly thankful for *Teen Scene* for giving me this chance to share about myself and to be able to write with them. I hope when you read my work it brings a smile to your face.

I plan on going to community college for two years, and then transferring to a four-year school. Before my love for writing, I wanted to pursue a career in the military. I've spent the last eight years in JROTC, where I earned the rank of Captain. In 2019, I was nominated for the Brunswick County Sheriff's Cadet program. During that eight-week program, I had an inside look at how they trained. I also was able to make strong connections. I am truly thankful for *Teen Scene* for giving me this chance to share about myself and to be able to write with them. I hope when you read my work it brings a smile to your face.

Ana Johnson

Cape Fear Community College



Hello to everyone! I hope you are enjoying the spring season as I have so far. I have always loved this time of the year, seeing the trees come back to life after braving the cold winter. Experiencing the flowers blooming and having warmer days! One of my favorite pas-

times is meditating in my backyard, at peace with nature and the birds. I could not practice this activity in the wintertime due to the frigid climate, so it is nice to get back into it!

Apart from those moments, I look forward to the end of the overbearing school year, as it has taken many tolls. Currently, I am attending Cape Fear Community College, preparing to graduate next month with my Associate in Arts degree. It is strange to think how I have been at this institution for two years; it feels like yesterday when I first walked to class. My favorite course that I took was my Writing and Inquiry class, which allowed me to re-discover my love for writing! With the excellent teachers I was assigned, I found the ability to push myself to a new level in my composition skills.

As someone who has lived in Wilmington for almost 11 years and been in North Carolina their whole life, I can say that I have had the vast opportunity to know the state. North Carolina is my home, from the beach to the mountains, and will always hold a special place in my heart. It will be hard to say goodbye to an area where most of my friends, family, and peers reside.

After graduation, I plan to attend Kennesaw State University in Georgia to major in Journalism and Emerging Media. I am ecstatic to be transferring to a four-year university as it will bring new experiences and opportunities. However, I cannot say that I am not nervous. As much as I hate to admit it, change is not easy to process; it takes time, patience, and understanding. Seeing my friends and I go on separate paths is beautiful. However, that means that we are slowly growing up, which is terrifying. I remind myself that to be the best version of yourself, you must allow new doors to open, even if it is out of your predicted comfort levels.

For the past seven months, I have had the fantastic opportunity to work with *The Teen Scene/Cape Fear Voices* newspaper, and I have enjoyed every second of it! Writing started as a simple hobby that I did sporadically as a child. However, I did not begin to love the process until the beginning of high school. After graduating high school last year, I wanted to find a way to continue evolving in my writing skills.

When I came across *The Teen Scene*, I saw it as a great way to connect with the community, not just in our area but all of Southeastern North Carolina. They have allowed me to develop creative ideas while also giving critical feedback that will further my journey. I wanted to start writing for *The Teen Scene* because I loved how their team works to showcase creative writing within the Cape Fear region.

Since being there, I have noticed an improvement in my overall structure skills, such as writing, editing, interviewing, etc. Also, I have met several individuals with such inspiring backgrounds! My family has been my primary support system throughout this whole process. I remember when my Mom and I stopped by Whole Foods a couple months back. As we were checking out, she noticed a *Cape Fear Voices/Teen Scene* stand along with other newspaper outlets around the area. Surprised, she showed me what she had found; it was exciting to witness my writing form from a simple draft to a printed paper!

Throughout reading the writers' amazing stories presented in this newspaper, I have been reminded time after time that writing is such a delicate craft that we should never take for granted. Allowing yourself to understand someone's perspective through written imagery can be so fascinating. I am incredibly grateful for the people I get to work with and will be saddened to leave as I move onto the next stage of my life. However, the lessons I have learned along the way will always stay.

Teen Scene, Inc. Adds New Board Members

We are happy to announce the appointment of two new Board Members for Teen Scene, Inc., the parent company of *Cape Fear Voices* and *The Teen Scene*. With each board member's addition, our goal is to keep recruiting the right mix of professional experience that will help us develop into a successful long-term program. With the additions of Terri Delfino and Jim Nys, we feel we have done precisely that. Last month we were fortunate to add Mike Stedham to our Advisory Board. It is evident that our "No Pay, Unlimited Vacation" policy is working for us.

Terri Delfino



Terri has years of experience in business management, marketing, sales, and event planning. Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, where she was the Operations Manager for a large sales force and business lobby organization. She later became the Business Manager for a large religious order.

Twenty years ago, she and her husband, Jim, moved to Roseburg, OR, and started a vineyard. They now have 18 acres of grapes in full production and make 1500 cases of wine each year. While Jim is responsible for the health of the grapes and the wine production, Terri manages the wine tasting room and Bed & Breakfast and is the General Manager in charge of wine sales, marketing, and summer events planning.

Her hobbies include playing the piano, tending the garden, feeding the farm animals, and starting her new beehive. They live on the vineyard property with their two dogs, Bella and Abby. They have two children and five grandchildren.

Jim Nys



James A. Nys is the President and Chief Human Resource Management Consultant for Personnel PLUS! Consulting Services, Inc. His firm specializes in Selection and Recruitment, Performance Appraisal, Personnel Policy Development, EEO/Affirmative Action, and Management Training for a wide variety of businesses throughout the intermountain west.

Nys has well over 25 years of experience in personnel management, working for the State of Montana and for the past 12 years as a private consultant. Nys is the author of several widely distributed employer's Human Resource handbooks, including his ever-popular books on avoiding wrongful discharge claims and hiring.

Nys holds a Master's degree from the University of Montana and has since 1991 taught human-resource-related graduate classes for four different Universities and several community colleges. He also holds the highest recognition in public speaking awarded by Toastmaster's International and is certified as a "Professional in Human Resources" by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). He was chosen as the 1999 Business Education Leader by the Montana State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management. Nys also serves as an expert witness in employment litigation matters. He has been the Montana state lobbyist for personnel professionals since 1983 and has lobbied at the national level since 2001.

Nys retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1988 as an Operations Specialist first class (OS1) after 22 years of service, including 5 with the Montana Army National Guard. During his military career, Nys spent almost ten years serving as an instructor of various naval subjects. Nys served as a military journalist in the Montana Army National Guard.

Mike Stedham



Mike teaches journalism at Jacksonville State University in Alabama, where he serves as faculty adviser for both the campus newspaper and the campus radio station. He has been a newspaper editor, a radio station news director, and a TV news anchor. His hobby is community theater, where he has written and directed numerous plays and musicals.

Many Thanks to the Sponsors of our First Cape Fear Voices/Teen Scene Writing Awards

We would also like to thank **Cindy Bryant, Regina and Joe Calla, Josh London, Janet Stiegler and Dale and Debbie Todd** for their generous support.



An Authorized Agent of



BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina

ADAM CLARK
AGENT
PO Box 1987
1205 Dickinson Drive • Leland, NC 28451
Bus | 910.371.2111
Fax | 910.371.2219
adamc.clark@ncfbins.com



AUTO • HOME • LIFE • HEALTH • BUSINESS • ANNUITIES • LONG TERM CARE



JOHN HACKER
Broker/REALTOR®, MRP, SFR, e-PRO



SEA COAST ADVANTAGE

(949) 275.3247 Cell
(910) 371.1181 Office
(866) 508.1181 Toll Free
(910) 371.1190 Fax
johnhacker@seacoastrealty.com
www.jhacker.seacoastrealty.com

481 Olde Waterford Way, Ste 104
Leland, NC 28451

Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated

Dreaming Up the Ideal Retirement Is Your Job. Helping You Get There Is Ours.

To learn more about why Edward Jones makes sense for you, call my office today.



Debra Pickett
Financial Advisor
1144 East Cutlar Crossing
Suite 101
Leland, NC 28451
910-383-3797



edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Planned March 2021 NC Rice Festival Postponed Until 2022

LELAND, NC – February 2021 – The North Carolina Rice Festival, Inc. (NCRFI) is taking precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) by postponing its highly anticipated inaugural festival, originally scheduled for March 2021, until the pandemic abates.

The new dates tentatively proposed for the two-day celebration will be Friday and Saturday, March 4-5, 2022.

The 2022 and future North Carolina Rice Festivals will annually showcase the history of rice cultivation in Brunswick County and highlight the region's unique status as the northernmost sector of the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Corridor. Leading up to the planned festival, NCRFI successfully hosted its first fundraising event, a Gullah Geechee-themed dinner and entertainment program, in March 2020. That event, held in the town of Leland, attracted over 100 participants and featured celebrated live performers and exquisite Low-country dishes. Several additional public educational and social events were scheduled for the remainder of 2020; however, due to public health restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, those events have been cancelled.

In the interim, NCRFI currently is seeking funding support for its planning and marketing efforts. The organization recently was granted full rights to the festival name and brand from the Leland Tourism Development Authority (LTDA). It intends to work with the LTDA local and national historians, culinary experts, and community residents, to keep the festival and its rice culture-related themes in the public eye until large, in-person events are allowed to resume.

About the NCRFI: The NCRFI is a 501(c)(3) organization as defined by the United States Internal Revenue Code. Its mission is to support the development of tourism in Brunswick County by planning and producing a diverse array of activities and programs that will attract families, history enthusiasts, educators, and retirees to the Leland (Brunswick County), North Carolina, area each year. The NCRFI intends to accomplish its goals by focusing on Brunswick County's past as the top rice-producing region in the state of North Carolina and on the generally unexplored connections between the historic Gullah/Geechee Cultural Corridor of the United States and the inhabitants of West Africa's "Rice Coast" region.

NCRFI is an all-volunteer organization with a board consisting of nine civic-minded Brunswick County residents. Persons interested in supporting NCRFI may contact Board President George Beatty at:

northcarolinaricefestival@gmail.com.



The Historical Perspective of Gullah/Geechee Cuisine; Through a Chef's Lens (Part 2)

by Ana Johnson, Cape Fear Community College



Note: Part 1 of my interview with Benjamin ("BJ") Dennis IV was published in the March issue of Cape Fear Voices.

For the Gullah/Geechee people, their rich cuisine was one that would be embedded into their heritage for years to come. Their ancestors farmed and cultivated crops for over 3,000 years along the West African coast. Food was a way of expression, bringing over many traditional recipes from West Africa to America when perpetrators brought many Africans. They had expert knowledge of rice from living in countries like Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, etc.

"Rice was a special dish that ended up being weaponized against us. Rice in the true form for us was a seasonal thing. Any descendants, especially elders, will tell you that rice was almost a seasonal thing." The cooking skills evolved into the Gullah/Geechee cuisine we experience in the Lowcountry region today. Rich soil, warm temperatures, and resources allowed the Gullah/Geechee people to become skilled at harvesting crops year-round.

However, rice wasn't the only thing that was brought over for cooking purposes. "Enslaved Africans brought some of their main traditions; one example being the one-pot cooking method and communal dishes. There's a lot of those traditions combined with the Indigenous and some of the European styles of cooking." Dennis stated. These influences created a mash-up of all types of flavorful dishes, keeping the roots of the Gullah/Geechee heritage intact.

Dennis said that crops like okra, peanuts, hot peppers, corn, cowpeas, kale, benne seed, sweet potatoes, and others were leading characteristics of the cuisine, essential to the West Africans' diet even today. As far as protein, seafood is a massive resource that the Gullah/Geechee people actively prepared for meals. "Seafood was huge, even some of the older techniques of drying seafood, which was done in West Africa," he stated.

It seems the crop drying process was a momentous step in preserving the quality of key nutrients for extended amounts of time. As Dennis said, "Mainly, around this time of the year, folks would have okra dried for storage in the summertime. Even dried shrimp heads and preserved tomatoes would be considered for okra soup or gumbo in the wintertime."

When Gullah/Geechee cuisine was formulating in the coastal area of the South, their way of foodway preparation changed. The climate, soil, and water temperatures were slightly different from West Africa and could influence their culinary characteristics. Through the problematic changes, West African individuals infused their traditional techniques while quickly learning the new adaptations. Their contributions to the food industry created a sustainable system for the Carolinas, which was taken advantage of by slave owners.

With southern Lowcountry cooking gaining popularity across the United States and certain parts of the world, many forget that Gullah/Geechee cuisine is a highly used inspiration for developing this type of cooking style. Although there are some similarities, Dennis mentioned a couple of differences as well. "The main difference is there is a lot more focus on seafood and more of a focus on what was being grown in the yard."



An example of a Gullah Rice Dish

The Gullah/Geechee people differentiated their food from others by cooking with fewer dairy products. "There was not as much dairy as you may see in a lot of traditional European Lowcountry cuisine," Dennis continued.

With those differences in mind, you can see that Gullah/Geechee cuisine is the foundation of southern dining, especially in Charleston. I asked Dennis if he recommended any restaurants near the area that catered explicitly to traditional Gullah/Geechee foodways. He stated places like *My Three Sons of Charleston*, *Hannibal's Kitchen*, even a food truck named *Gullah Express*, located in Beaufort, SC. Other traditional recipes are kept in descendants' homes, allowing continued growth and culinary improvement between the close family and the community.

Dennis continues to work to ensure that the Gullah/Geechee cuisine gets recognized. "It comes to a point sometimes where it gets difficult when you see what's going on in the community; gentrification and a lot of our people not really educated and understanding the true roots of the culture." He continues to advocate and support events that genuinely represent the Gullah/Geechee heritage. A legacy that can be passed down through generations to come. "There are moments where I see an elder or a younger person who recognizes me and tells me that they appreciate what I do for our people, for our culture. That is what keeps me motivated at the end of the day."

For more information about Benjamin Dennis, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/degullahchef>

Gullah/Geechee Religion: Ring Shout, Rituals, and Reaves Chapel

by Ana Johnson, Cape Fear Community College



Ring Shout: Part 1

The extensive topic of religion has been interwoven into culture for some time. Just like other cultural avenues, like cuisine, artistic expression, language, etc., the pattern of religion is a way to connect with your heritage, not only within yourself but with the community you resonate with at the time. Religious practices are viewed as the art of applying communication, locating customs, and experiencing collective behavioral changes. Also, it serves as a form of developing cultural identity. Cultural identity is the sense of belonging to a particular group. Many religious practices can influence a culture's traditions and formulate growth as more generations evolve.

The reflection of religious practices allows for the motion of unique human connection and understanding the world around them. It will enable individuals to tell stories, create memories and form meaningful relationships. Unlike other

cultural avenues, the pattern of religion is seen as incredibly personal and holds valuable background to a person's distinct individuality. It can assimilate a standard of social norms and behaviors that make each culture experience a diverse setting.

Gullah/Geechee communities have primary influences that contribute to their religious practices, which are used today with the descendants. When West Africans were living along the Southern coast during the slave trade, they had to transfer segments of their homeland practices into a brand new territory. Like how they carried their language and traditions over, the enslaved Africans used preservation skills for cultural survival. Many religious beliefs were prominent in West Africa, including Islam and various traditional West African practices.

To discuss this topic more in-depth, I had the opportunity to speak with Griffin Lotson, the Vice-Chair Commissioner on the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Commission. He also manages the internationally acclaimed group, the Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters, based out of Darien, Georgia. They are a musical group dedicated to sharing the original songs and spirituals throughout the Gullah/Geechee community in the Lowcountry.

Lotson has traced his Gullah/Geechee ancestry for seven generations and has made it his mission to vocalize and research his culture. From his extensive research, he has spread a message of hope for the future of his people. As a current manager for the Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters, he mentioned how that position allowed a change of perspective in how he saw his heritage. "It started for me in about 2003; they (Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters) came to me and wanted to move onto the next level, and they thought I could help them. So, I decided to give it a try. Of course, I fell in love with the process of performing, and we were able to travel internationally, appearing in major television and documentaries."

Before the pandemic, the Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters performed roughly fifty shows every year. "Sometimes when we travel, we do three in one day, from one location to the next. We'll do one show at nine or ten, another at one or two, and another at three or four." Lotson stated.

Each show has a duration of about 30 minutes to an hour. "We teach that uniqueness and a panoramic view of the entire Gullah/Geechee culture and its ways." Lotson stated. The group hopes to pick up performing their craft more consistently in 2022, depending on the pandemic. It has been challenging to pause from an art form that they have been passionate about over the years. "We love it when we get those calls to perform for people. Some cry, some give money out of their pockets, and we don't even ask for it, just to help the cause continue. That's when we know we are doing a good thing and keeping the culture alive."

(To be continued)



Because of their geographical isolation and strong community life, the Gullah have been able to preserve more of their African cultural heritage than any other group of Black Americans.

How Can I Show My Support During Teacher Appreciation Week?

by Peggy Bradt, North Brunswick Kiwanis Club

Wow! What a school year this has been. Guidelines for safe education careen from all-remote learning, to split schedules, to possible in-class instruction for K-5, to -- what next? Meanwhile, teachers, students and parents scramble to cope with the myriad effects of the pandemic. Everybody is working to make the most of the days before school ends on May 27, but it's hard. Teachers, our front-line superhero workers, are stressed. This year, more than ever, we want to show them our support and our appreciation, but how?

One way is to partner with the North Brunswick Kiwanis Club (NBKC) for Teacher Appreciation Week, May 3-7. This year the club is providing gift cards, school supplies, snacks and displays of notes and artwork to uplift our teachers. Here is an opportunity for you to make a tax-deductible donation to NBKC specifically for these items, and to show your support for the hundreds of teachers in north Brunswick County.

NBKC's involvement in Teacher Appreciation Week is only one of many ways the club helps kids. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedi-

cated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. Tutoring, mentoring, leadership development, and scholarships for college or summer camps are among the activities of the club.

Please join us in celebrating our Brunswick County teachers with your donation to NBKC, earmarking your donation specifically for Teacher Appreciation Week. Donate online at northbrunswickkiwanis.org or mail to NBKC, PO Box 391, Leland, NC 28451.

For more information, contact Deb Watkins at debwatkins2u@gmail.com. You can also "Like" us on Facebook or visit us at northbrunswickkiwanis.org.



I Got to Thinking...

by Bob Wieland, Magnolia Greens

The very interesting article "Beach Music" (published in Cape Fear Voices, March 2021) got me thinking about Rock and Roll and Rhythm & Blues' history. Ms. Copland listed some of the GREAT music of that early era, including Sixty Minute Man. It could be that song, released in 1951, started the genre. The Dominoes, in some instances known as Billy Ward & the Dominoes, were a great group with a string of hits and group members that went on to go solo. The great Jackie Wilson had such a superb voice he could have sung opera and went on to a great career. Clyde McPhatter also was a member. Want some great sounds, then listen to his Treasure of Love, Without Love and, get this - I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas.

R & B, if we accept the 1951 date of origin, began then and lasted until 1955 when Rock and Roll and Doo-Wop came into being, but R & B though was still there in many songs. Being very young at the time, I

wasn't aware of the R & B music of the era, the exceptions being a few of the more popular hits. In 1994 an NYC FM station celebrated the R & B top hits of 1954, and I managed to record about 40 of these great songs and got an appreciation of what I hadn't heard 40 years prior. The good news is one can access the music online. Give it a try, folks. May I suggest you begin with the aforementioned tunes?

All the groups were Black and blended Rhythm with Harmony into a soft sweet swing. The song Green Eyes mentioned by Ms. Copland is another excellent example.

The Rock began in 1955. There were GREAT Black and White groups. Sixty-five years later, and we never tire. Not that there aren't other good music choices, and we enjoy many of them, but to us Oldies, we love those Oldies.



Clyde Lensley McPhatter was born on November 15th, 1932 in Durham, North Carolina. McPhatter's 1956 recording "Treasure of Love" sold over two million copies in the US alone.



December 1951 clipping giving thanks for "Sixty Minute Man" by The Dominoes voted as best record of 1951.



SOLSTICE by the SEA

This NEW Festival is brought to you by:

- Brunswick Arts Council
- Friends of Oak Island Parks & Rec
- The SoundHouse
- Southport Evening Rotary

Are you: 1) a vendor w/arts & crafts or other products to sell; or 2) representing a community group and want a 10x10 space? \$40 for vendors. Free for community nonprofits. Contact us at: execdir.brunswickartscouncil@gmail.com

Are you a food truck & want space at the rodeo for the Festival? \$100 per truck. Contact us at rgordon@ci.oak-island.nc.us

CALL FOR VENDORS!

1st Soundstock Solstice by the Sea Festival

June 19, 2021

10-8 pm

Food Truck Rodeo • Music • Vendors
Corn Hole Tournament • Fun

Creative Writers/Artist

Creative people to submit articles, pictures, drawings, poetry or short stories for publication in local paper. Ever wanted a place to publish your work? Cape Fear Voices might just be what you are looking for.

Contact: editorcfv@gmail.com

KATIE'S ART & FRAME

324 Village Rd Ste C
Leland, NC 28451

910.408.1757
katiesamselart@gmail.com

Your Community

MILITARY NEWS



United States Involvement in the Vietnam Conflict

by Frank Stritter, Holden Beach



How did the US become involved in the Vietnam Conflict?

French Indochina was a French colony, so Nazi Germany's conquest of France in May 1940 allowed the Vichy French government to take control. The Japanese then invaded French Indochina, occupying it until the end of World War II.

In 1941 the Viet Minh, a communist movement led by Hồ Chi Minh, started a guerilla war against the Japanese. The US liked Hồ and the Viet Minh because of their fight against the Japanese.

When Japan surrendered in 1945, Hồ proclaimed the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to be independent of France. France then went to war with the Viet Minh but was only able to seize southern Vietnam. The Viet Minh resorted to guerilla warfare in retaliation.

In 1946 Hồ sent several communications to the US asking for support but never received a response. Instead, the US let the world know that the Viet Minh were communists and that the French presence in Vietnam was imperative to prevent an expansion of communism. Thus, Vietnam was identified by the US as a participant in the Cold War between the Soviets and the US. So, the US now turned against Hồ.

In 1947 the US stated that its US foreign policy existed to assist any country threatened by communism and then in 1950 began to back France by sending military supplies

In 1954 French troops were defeated by the Viet Minh at the historic battle of Dien Bien Phu. Hồ negotiated a favorable ceasefire ending French colonialism. French Indochina was dissolved into three countries - Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Failure to abide by the agreement led to the creation of North and South Vietnam, and subsequently, the Vietnam Conflict.

In 1955 President Eisenhower considered the partition of Vietnam to be a victory for the US in the Cold War. To ensure a noncommunist South Vietnam, Eisenhower offered support by deploying 700 military advisors to train the South Vietnamese army and economic aid.

In 1959 Hồ organized a guerrilla movement in the South called the Viet Cong, and the first US soldiers are killed in South Vietnam. US assistance was foundering when President Kennedy authorized an additional 500 military advisors to South Vietnam in 1961. Kennedy asserted that Americans would "pay any price, bear any burden" to support democratic nation-building that would counter communism in Asia. He signed the Foreign Assistance Act in 1962 that provided "... military assistance to countries on the rim of the Communist world and under direct attack" and in 1963 increased military advisors to 16,000. The US was then identified with what many believe to have been an oppressive South Vietnamese regime.

In 1963 President Johnson ascribed to the "domino theory," believing that South Vietnam was the victim of communist aggression. He said that, if the US failed to step in, a negative message would be sent that the US was not committed to containing communism. By 1964 the war was going badly for the South, but Johnson hesitated to send more troops, trying to balance his domestic "Great Society" against the mounting crisis in Vietnam.

Later in 1964, the destroyer USS Maddox was reportedly pursued by North Vietnamese torpedo boats in the Gulf of Tonkin. The destroyer fired warning shots, and the Vietnamese boats returned fire. In response, Johnson called for airstrikes on North Vietnamese patrol boat bases. Two days later, the US claimed that its ships were again pursued by torpedo boats, although the US later admitted that the second incident never occurred. Five days later, Johnson persuaded Congress to pass the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, authorizing him to "take all necessary measures" against any aggressor.

In 1965 the first American combat troops – the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade – waded ashore at China Beach introducing US ground forces into the mix. US involvement in the Vietnam Conflict escalated from that point until 1973. When our involvement was terminated, close to three million Americans had served in-country, with close to 60 thousand killed. Over three hundred thousand had been wounded, and nearly 16 hundred are still listed as MIA. So, all in all, an expensive military assistance mission.

Kentucky Derby at Blossom's

May 1st, 2021, @ 2:00 - 5:30 pm

VFW Post 12196 and Blossom's are teaming up to bring the best of Churchill Downs to Magnolia Greens. Come join us in some spring fun and excitement on one of the biggest days of Spring.

Wear your finest Derby hats and outfits. There will be a prize for the best dressed. There is no entry fee or tickets to purchase. Just mark your calendar, pick out your frippery finest and join us.

It will be outside but please wear your masks, social distance, and wash your hands.

Thank you to Compass Pointe Veterans Club

by Charles Jackson, BFA Director of Operations and Outreach



Brunswick Family Assistance would like to say "THANK YOU" to Compass Pointe Veterans Club for their generous support through a very successful food drive raising an amazing 4,703 pounds of food and \$2,255.00. BFA greatly appreciates these donations, as we could NOT achieve the level of support we strive to provide to those in crisis in our community.

Brunswick County Legionnaires Help a Veteran in Need

submitted on behalf of Gary Crowden, Chairman, Brunswick County Veterans Coalition

Early in February 2021, an American Legionnaire from American Legion Post 543 (St. James) was contacted by a veteran who was in dire need of assistance. He had moved from Pennsylvania in December and, with a limited amount of funds, was able to find a place to live. Unfortunately, as time moved on, his funds were depleted, and he found himself in a situation where he had no money and was about to be evicted from his current residence. Desperate for help he reached out to the American Legion. That phone call triggered an immediate call for Legionnaires in Brunswick County to rally and accept the mission to provide the needed assistance to get this veteran into suitable housing and fast.

American Legion Post 543 took the lead supported by Posts 550 (Shalotte) and 68 (Leland). The Commander of Post 550 in Shalotte identified a possible apartment complex where the veteran could stay. Armed with that information Post 543 took the veteran to Artesa Village Apartments in Sunset Beach to see if he would qualify. It did not take long to get the answer.

Artesa Village's property manager worked very closely with the veteran and the representative from Post 543 to secure the requisite documentation. The word came back that the veteran was indeed qualified. There was tremendous relief by all parties concerned that we had thwarted the possibility of another vet being homeless. But the story does not end there.

Although the veteran had secured the apartment, additional funds were needed to turn the electricity on. Post 543 took on this task and within hours they had secured the needed funds. But there was still more to be done. Now that the vet had an apartment and electricity, he needed furniture and other supplies. Again Post 543 took the lead. Some furniture was identified by the Post, but more was needed. That is when post 68 raised its hand and provided additional financial support along with transportation to get the furniture from 543 to the new domicile. Post 68 members also provided additional furniture and kitchen supplies.

To say the vet was overwhelmed by the support rendered by American Legion Posts 543, 68, and 550 would be an understatement. The collective efforts of three American Legion Posts gave this veteran a new chance. They will continue to make "buddy checks" to ensure this veteran moves in a positive direction and never has to worry about his future. The American Legion's credo, *No Veteran Left Behind*, was certainly exemplified in this case.



Leland VFW Post 12196 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Blossom's in Magnolia Greens. Dinner at 5:30. Meeting starts at 7 pm. For more information contact us at vfwpost12196@gmail.com or call 910-408-1934.

Your Community



BRUNSWICK
ARTS COUNCIL

Celebrate, Cultivate, Community Outreach

The Mission of the Brunswick Arts Council is to support, sustain, enhance and cultivate the arts in Brunswick County making cultural events, arts education and appreciation the arts available to the diverse range of county residents.

We are a community nonprofit working in partnership with NC Arts Council, Brunswick County, Parks & Recreation and other businesses and artists to help provide funding for programming, plays, concerts, shows, workshops, festivals, school events and other art activities. Operating “without walls” we hold our own activities in different spaces through the county.

Meet Brunswick Intarsia Artist: Bradley Eklund

by Megan Pedigo, BAC Intern, 2020

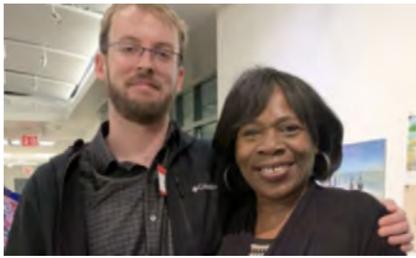


Photo Above: Bradley Eklund and Rhonda Bellamy of New Hanover Arts Council.

Bradley Eklund received a 2019 Regional Artist Grant to allow him to purchase a sander. Brunswick Arts Council (BAC) is a partner with this grant program - congratulations!

Bradley Eklund and his wife, Hazel Trinidad, are local wood artists who specialize in an art form known as Intarsia, which uses small segments of wood that can be shaped, carved, and assembled to create an image of some sort. They also create Free Standing Puzzles. These are

similar to jigsaw puzzles, except they stand up and use the same tools and techniques as Intarsia. Both of these art forms require much skill and ultimately are very time-consuming and tedious. Bradley would love to see more diverse artists and Intarsia artists come out and express their work.

How did you initially get into wood art?

“I was woodworking probably at 10 years old. My grandfather originally did it just as a hobby, and he kind of taught me a little bit. Then I went to high school, and we had a big woodworking shop there. I spent a lot of time there. I also had a neighbor who took me on as an apprentice, and he was an antique furniture replicator and restorer. He kind of taught me some things, also.” Bradley and Hazel initially took this up as a hobby, but have been doing it full time since 2014. He would describe himself as an “accidental artist,” for he did not intend for it to become a full-time job.

How has your art changed over time?

“We first started making things; they were just puzzles. We still make puzzles, but now we don’t use any stains or dyes, and we use premium and high-quality woods. It has just gotten a lot more refined.” They now create their own designs all from scratch and have a much bigger variety, while in the past, they purchased the designs from magazines.

What inspires you and your work the most?

“My wife and I are big environmental-minded people. Something that is really important to us is the environment and wildlife, so we try to capture that in our work. The other inspiration I’d say would probably be our kids. We have two kids, a nine-year-old boy, Tristan, and a five-year-old girl, Lily.”

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve been given?

“Never say never, because you never know, and if that were the case, I would’ve not thought that I could be doing this now.” Overall, it has taken a lot

of time and dedication, but what once used to be a hobby is now a full-time job for Bradley and Hazel. <http://www.entwoodcrafts.com>



CALL FOR ARTISTS AGE 50+ **2021 VIRTUAL SILVERARTS SHOWCASE & FOLLIES**

BC Gator Sr Games & SilverArts together with Leland Cultural Arts Center and Brunswick Arts Council invite ALL ARTISTS age 50 and older to enter the 2021 VIRTUAL SilverArts Showcase & Follies. This show is a statewide program sanctioned by NC Senior Games, Inc and is one component of Brunswick County Gator Senior Games & SilverArts. BC Gator SG & SA also offers over 40 athletic events.

Winners qualify to enter NC State Finals in Raleigh (September, 2021).

Enter VISUAL ARTS, HERITAGE ARTS, LITERARY ARTS, and/or PERFORMING ARTS with over 30 sub-categories accepted.

Entry fee is \$15.00 and includes *unlimited pieces of art work in Visual, Heritage, and Literary Arts, t-shirt, and goody bag.

*2 pieces are allowed in any one sub-category (example: 2 mixed media, 2 oils).

WHAT IS VIRTUAL? VIRTUAL for SILVERARTS & FOLLIES PERFORMING ARTISTS means SilverArts entries will be submitted at Leland Cultural Arts Ctr, judged, & displayed May 3-7 for limited numbers/socially distanced public viewing. Performing artists will submit videos for judging. All submissions will be featured in an online format (Facebook /website/email). SilverArts awards ceremonies will also be held via ZOOM (online meeting for artists only).

EVENT DATES MARCH 15 - APRIL 9
SILVERARTS SHOWCASE EVENT DATES MAY 3 - MAY 7

DRIVE-THROUGH ENTRY PACKET PICK-UP/ONSITE SIGN-UP (for onsite sign-up—cash/check only)

- *March 22: 11 am -12:30 pm/Brunswick Ctr at Leland
- *March 29: 11 am -12 pm/Brunswick Ctr at Calabash
- *April 5: 11 am -12:30 pm/Brunswick Ctr at Southport
- *Entry Packets also available at Leland Cultural Arts Center

ENTER ONLINE bcparks.recdesk.com

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation

Questions? k.haselden@brunswickcountync.gov 910.253.2670

WAA WATERWAY ART ASSOCIATION

30th Annual Spring Exhibit and Sale

Monday April 26 – Saturday May 1, 2021
11:00am to 5:00pm

At Sunset River Marketplace
10283 Beach Dr. SW, Calabash, NC 28467

Registration Deadline March 31

www.waterwayart.org
Raffle Proceeds Support
Brunswick County Schools Art Scholarships
Art work by KC Zuggler – Peoples Choice Award 2020

Thank you to our Art Association Partners: Brunswick Art Council, Bellingr Artworks and North Carolina Art Council

CELEBRATIONS!!!!

**Happy
Easter,
Everyone!**



Happy Birthday!

Brenda Bozeman April 1

Fred Azbell April 4

Hilary Conway Lloyd April 22

Shelby and Sydney Decker April 26



Family. Friends. Community.

Josh London Ins Agcy Inc
Josh London, Agent
1112 E Cutlar Crossing Ste 104
Leland, NC 28451
Bus: 910-383-1303

We're all in this together.

State Farm® has a long tradition of being there. That's one reason why I'm proud to support Cape Fear Voices.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



1801075.1

State Farm, Bloomington, IL

Cape Fear and Teen Scene Thanks Our February Advertisers

Does your wardrobe need some sprucing up?

Cape Fear Voices and Teen Scene shirts are now available to order. Shirts are available in short sleeve (\$20), long-sleeve (\$22), and short sleeve polo (\$25). Please log-on to www.thepaisleyumbrella.com to see colors, sizes, and designs available. All proceeds benefit Cape Fear Voices/Teen Scene.

