



UNCP's New Gardening Program! p.2



Soccer Wins Again p.7

October 30, 2019

Volume 81, Issue No. 5

Pembroke Man Struck and Killed by CSX Train

By Stephanie Sellers
Copy Editor

Lifetime Pembroke resident, 72-year old James B. Locklear Jr., died Oct. 22, after impact with the CSX train at the corner of Vance and W. Railroad Street. The accident occurred about two blocks from UNCP's Old Main entrance.

A CSX spokesperson said that at 3:15 p.m. a pedestrian was struck by a CSX train and fatally injured.

Pembroke police responded at 3:15 p.m and by 5:02 p.m. traffic was cleared.

“Railroad operations are dangerous. This is a tragic reminder of the importance it is to steer clear of the tracks,” the CSX spokesperson said.

Accounts of the tragedy from police and witnesses vary.

Pembroke Police Chief Ed Locklear said, “The conductor said he (Locklear) was caught when he appeared to “speed up” at the V-intersection of the tracks and was caught by something from the passing train.”

Locklear had made it over the tracks but was struck by a handle or rail from a passing train car and fell to the side of the tracks, according to the police chief.

Eyewitness Lucky W. Barton was present as the incident occurred.

Barton was Locklear’s neighbor and friend and the last person to speak with him.

Barton said, “He had come from Russell’s Barber Shop. He just got a hair cut and I saw him with his bag in his hand. I pointed, “Mohawk, where you going?”

“And all of a sudden I heard the train,” Barton leaned up from his chair, “Mohawk, I yelled to him, “Don’t go across that track!”



First responders gather at the scene where 72 year old James “Mohawk” Locklear was pronounced dead after being struck by a CSX train. PN Photo/Stephanie Sellers



Lucky Barton, a friend and neighbor of the victim. Barton was the last person to speak with Locklear. PN Photo/Stephanie Sellers

The conductor blew down hard on the horn and Mohawk was on the other side.

“Prisoners in a van were jumping out and over tracks. I got there and he was in the fetal position. I saw his canary yellow socks and said, “He’s dead.”

Barton said that Locklear was thrown ten feet from where he had initially crossed.

Emergency responders parked in the middle of the road to block traffic and near the tracks in the grass while the ambulance turned off its lights and investigators questioned witnesses.

From the corner of Vance Street where the impact occurred to the lead engine span approximately six city blocks indicating the length of time it took to stop the train.

The National Safety Council states that at 55 miles per hour it may take the length of about 18 football fields to stop. The only course of action an engineer has is to apply the emergency brake.

The CSX train tracks are just yards away from the entrance to UNCP’s busy campus.

“Every time I cross those tracks, I think about life and death and how easily it can swoop right by,” UNCP student Hunter Kirby said.

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The Pine Needle
UNCP Student Newspaper
Founded in 1947

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The Pine Needle is an active member of the following organizations:

American Scholastic Press Association

Associated Collegiate Press

North Carolina College Media Association

The Pine Needle is supported by student fees and is printed twice a month by Mullen Publications on 100 percent recycled paper.

The Pine Needle does not print anonymous letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. When submitting a letter to the editor, please indicate your name.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Accessibility Resource Center, DF Lowry Building.

The Buzz about BAGS - UNCP’s “new” B.S. Agricultural Science Degree



Brandon Herron, Intern at the Campus Garden & Apiary, weeds the echinacea bed. PN/ Photo Stephanie Sellers.

By Stephanie Sellers
Copy Editor

UNCP now offers a Bachelor of Science with an emphasis in agricultural science.

Electives include courses covering animal husbandry, plant cropping, niche farming—including beekeeping, food systems with a focus on environmental laws and regulations, sustainable agriculture and agricultural technology. The program uses immersion for real-life experience to take to the job market upon graduation.

The program will use the Campus Garden and Apiary, nearby farms and Native American groups that share knowledge bases in medicinal plants.

The university is working on grants to obtain equipment, lab instruments and land for a large-scale industrial hemp program to integrate with the new B.S. program, Bachelor’s of Agricultural Science.

“Techniques in Horticulture,” available in Spring 2020, is the new program’s first course. This course teaches basic

botanical concepts such as morphology, anatomy, taxonomy, physiology, genetics and propagation. It also covers the history of horticulture and the evolution of horticulture as an industry.

Dr. Bryan K. Sales, an assistant biology professor is excited to bring horticulture to UNCP.

Students are encouraged to volunteer at the Campus Garden and Apiary. A student does not need to be enrolled in a biology program to participate. Apply through the Science Education Club under Dr. Rita Hagevik. Students without technological and equipment experience will be trained. The program is part of UNCP Serve which offers financial rewards and service honors upon graduation.

“One student overcame her fear of being outdoors and her depression by volunteering at the garden. Now she is in PA school and says it was a life-changing experience,” said Dr. Rita Hagevik.

This year’s intern at the Campus Garden and Apiary is a future marine biologist,

Brandon Herron.

“The Campus Garden and Apiary is open for students who would like to expand their knowledge base on gardening, bees and nature. No experience is required. A major focus is promoting the pollinator species. It is a great place to try out gardening and enjoy fellowship,” said Hagevik.

“Students first volunteer through the UNCP Serve site to see if they will like the work. Then they can become a Garden Intern and then can become a Garden Manager. The Science Education club supports the project too,” said Hagevik.

Herron pointed at a beehive behind the warning sign, “We call that one the mean hive. They are just trying to protect themselves. In cold weather, bees are less active and confine themselves inside the hives. When disturbed, they react defensively.”

The apiary has native bees, wild bees and honeybees. It also has three types of hives, the Australian Flow Hive, the Top Bar Hive and the traditional Langstroth Hive. A future beekeeping

workshop is planned and will be open to the public. Dates will be listed on the Campus Garden and Apiary website.

To purchase honey from the campus apiary, contact Timothy Hinton at tjh023@bravemail.uncp.edu.

The entire process is operated on campus and they even have their own centrifuge to separate the honey from the comb. With Christmas approaching, buying honey products from the university is a great way to demonstrate pride for UNCP.

UNCP’s Campus Garden & Apiary grows a variety of pollinator attracting plants for the bees. It also grows milkweed; which monarch butterflies need to survive. It is a food source, an egg-nesting source, and provides predator deterrence. Monarchs consume milkweed toxins, which is poisonous to most species, and it stays in their system, so when birds and other small predators eat monarchs, they become ill and thus, avoid monarchs in the future.

The garden features sunflowers, pollinator crops, including winter cover crops of red and white varieties of clover, and seasonal vegetables. Volunteers get to enjoy growing the crops and including the healthy vegetables in their diets. The garden includes sustainable practices with compost and has a tiered-garden system on display.

As part of their community outreach, UNCP’s Department of Biology offers Kids in the Garden Program. Middle and high school students learn a variety of topics including STEM education through immersion, at no cost. Applications for the year-round program are on the UNCP Website.

The creative process in UNCP’s Comic Culture

Jarod Hoffman
Contributor

Comic Culture is a show that takes place on campus that discusses what artists, illustrators and designers go through to make their comics.

With many people being involved, from the professor who hosts it to the students who help make the magic happen, it is a wonderful show.

The host of UNCP’s “Comic Culture,” Professor Terence Dollard shows us his passion of working and being on the show.

Dollard takes his practice seriously, but he has kind, fun-loving heart. He makes jokes and has random quirky interjections that keeps everything laughable and interesting.

“Comic Culture” began to fill in for lost time in 2013, but as Dollard continued to host it, he found the show to be a hidden gem.

Dollard has a passion for

the creative process in all forms of art: what goes on in the mind of someone that is in a trance of preforming, writing, or drawing, and how it conveys itself into these masterpieces that people cannot get enough of.

Dollard thought to himself multiple times, “How could I do a documentary on this creative process? How can you explore what this musician [or artist] is thinking?” Then later something hit him while working on the show, “but wait, this is the creative process!”

The thing that Dollard was looking for was close to him.

While Dollard enjoys working on “Comic Culture,” it is a time investment. Professor Dollard teaches four different classes, and as every teacher knows that is a lot of work, but Dollard makes sure that Comic Culture does not lack attention.



Professor Terence Dollard. Photo/UNCP-Communications and Marketing

Comic Culture is filmed every Thursday, and each episode needs to be edited. Edits generally take anywhere from two to three hours, and with student papers, assignments, questions and responses, it can take up to three days for Dollard to complete this weekly task.

He discussed the

difficulty of this task since his time slot on PBS can only be a certain time. “Crunching an hour-long panel into a little under 30 minutes is a time-consuming task,” says Dollard.

Comic Culture airs on PBS five times a week and a new episode is filmed every Thursday.

Students meet professionals at UNCP’s Etiquette Dinner

By Ashley Caesar
Contributor

UNCP hosted an etiquette dinner and networking event for students to interact with over 15 local professionals on Oct. 22.

During this event, students learned proper business etiquette, while having many opportunities to network with professionals from various career paths.

“We wanted to create an open environment for students to network and sell themselves,” said Tennille Wilson, the Assistant Director of Career Counseling at UNCP.

“Students are finding opportunities in line at Starbucks! Anywhere you go is an opportunity to network.”

Organizers encouraged students to gather in the back of the U.C annex and talk to the many professionals that awaited them.

Among the professionals were detectives, UNCP administration, FBI agents and CEOs. Each student was provided with a list of sample questions to help guide their discussions with the professionals at the event.

Questions included “What recommendations can you give to someone looking to enter this field?” and “What are the most significant changes you’ve seen in the industry over the past 5 years?”

Upon mingling, Mason Crawford, a student-



Student Tyrone Young enjoys food at UNCP’s Ettiquette Dinner last week. Photo/UNCP-Communications and Marketing

athlete was intrigued by his conversation with Art Malloy, the Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

“We spoke about Marketing opportunities, and I had the chance to learn more about his role at the University,” said Crawford.

After the students were done mingling, the etiquette dinner hosted by Karen Thompson began.

Among the 18 tables that were set up, one professional sat at each table and students chose which professional they’d like to seat themselves with for the remainder of the event.

Thompson then covered etiquette musts including first impressions, hosting at business meals, handshaking and place setting. She even went over the differences between 4-course meals and 6-course meals.

While she discussed the various etiquette techniques, the students and professionals ate a four-course meal consisting of salad as the first course, Lemon Sorbet as the second course, chicken breast piccata as the third course and lastly NY Style cheesecake for desert.

Thompson also made trips around the room in between

the presentation to intervene in students’ conversations with professionals and serve as a guide to help students practice the etiquette skills they’d learned throughout the presentation.

“We really want to be a part of our community, and through interacting with students here, we can recruit them. It’s a win-win opportunity for the company,” said Linda Faircloth, a regional manager for PNC Bank.

Most of the students in attendance of the event were juniors and seniors that were about to take the next step in

their journey to their career.

Students admitted that pressures of graduating and beginning their careers made them more inclined to be involved with the events hosted by the career center.

The dinner lasted from 5:45-7:45 p.m and concluded with the fourth course of the meal.

Students left with optimism about the connections that were made and were encouraged to retrieve the business cards from the professionals they engaged with throughout the event.

Halloween’s origins: from Samhain to All Hallow’s Eve

By Sara Fox
Copy Editor

The origins of Halloween can be traced back to the Celtic festival of Samhain.

According to Cady Lang, a writer for Time, the Celts, who lived in what is now Ireland, the United Kingdom, and northern France, celebrated their new year on the first day of November. The day before marked the end of summer and the arrival of the long, brutal winter period.

The Celts believed that the day before the new year was when the veil between the world of the living and world of the dead was thinnest, and therefore allowed spirits to return to Earth.

They also believed that the presence of spirits made it easier for Celtic priests, called Druids, to make predictions about the future.

“Druid priests [would] light a community fire using a wheel that would cause friction and spark flames. The wheel was considered a representation of the sun and used along with prayers,” according to History.com.

Pope Gregory moved the Christian celebration of All

Saints’ Day from May 13 to November 1, according to Tom Harris, an author of the article, “How Halloween Works.”

The influence of Christianity had spread to the Celtic lands by the 9th Century where it gradually mixed with and replaced Celtic rituals and rites. In 1000 A.D., the church named November 2 All Souls’ Day to honor the dead.

“Officially, the Church chose this new date to mark the papal dedication of a church honoring the saints. But many historians believe the Church really moved the observance to correspond with Samhain and other pagan fall festivals,” wrote Harris.

All Souls’ Day was celebrated similarly to Samhain. Bonfires and parades were held and people dressed in costumes, often as angels, saints, and devils.

“All Souls’ Day lives on today, particularly in Mexico, where All Hallows’ Eve, All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day are collectively observed as “Los Dias de los Muertos” (The Days of the Dead),” wrote Harris.

November 1, All Saints’



Residents of St. Paul, Minn., enjoy Halloween festivities at the Governor’s Mansion in St. Paul with former Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton. Tribune Photo/Leila Navidi, Minneapolis Star Tribune

Day, was commonly referred to as All-Hallows or All-Hallowmas. The day before became known as All-Hallows Eve, and eventually, Halloween.

Angelica Copeland, a junior UNCP student of Irish decent, explained that she

knew bits and pieces of the story.

“Halloween is a Celtic holiday,” said Copeland.

“There’s something to do with that night and how it has to deal with a haunting,” she speculated.

Shelby Canady, a senior,

said, “I think Halloween was originally to scare off the demons before the day of the dead so that the good spirits could come back the next day because that’s usually when the day of the dead is.”

With a few ingredients, make pumpkin spice lattes at home

By Addie Broyles
Austin American-Statesman

If you’re a pumpkin spice person, you’ve probably already had at least one Pumpkin Spice Latte, and if you’re really into PSL, perhaps your cupboard is overflowing with pumpkin spice chips, salsa, cookies and granola bars.

Fall has become synonymous with pumpkin spice everything, and although I’m not one to line up for PSL at Starbucks, I do love the taste of pumpkin spice right about now.

When I was in Missouri



Cups with tasty pumpkin spice latte. Tribune Photo

last week visiting my parents, my sister was also visiting from Idaho. She mentioned, in passing, that one of her

friends was really into making her own pumpkin spice latte creamer, which sounded yummy enough to try myself.

Recipe Homemade Pumpkin Spice Creamer

- 16 ounces heavy whipping cream, divided
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 3 tablespoons pumpkin puree
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk

Whisk 1/2 cup of cream, syrup, pumpkin puree and pumpkin pie spice in a microwave-safe bowl. Heat the mixture for about 30 seconds in the microwave and then whisk. Heat again for another 30 seconds and whisk. Add the vanilla extract, sweetened condensed milk and remaining whipping cream. Whisk until well combined. (You can also do this by shaking the mixture in a large container with a lid.) Strain with a fine colander at least once and then store in the refrigerator until you’re ready to use it.

Día de los Muertos: The Day of the Dead

By Eric Velasquez
Staff Writer

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is usually thought of as the Mexican version of Halloween, and although there are decorated skull candies and the focus is on the deceased, the meaning of the celebration is far from that of Halloween’s ghouls and witches. Originating in Mexico from a mix of Catholic traditions that the Spaniards brought as well as some influence from indigenous Aztec rituals, Día de los Muertos is a two-day celebration that starts late on the 31st of October and lasts until the 2nd of November. Día de los Muertos is a celebration held to welcome back the spirits, and it is widely believed that the first night is when the “gates of heaven are opened” for the spirits of the deceased to come to earth and reunite with their family. The start of the celebration is to welcome the spirit of deceased children, with the following day including the deceased adults.

Unlike the dark tones and colors of Halloween, or the intentions to frighten and create an eerie and somber tone, the



Display at the 18th annual Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration at the Sherman Heights Community Center. Photo by: (Howard Lipin /UT San Diego).

decorations for Día de los Muertos contain an array of color. There are ofrendas, or altars, built for the deceased that are decorated with flowers, candles, fruits and food, pictures of the deceased, and incense. The altars are meant to be a

guide for the dead to direct them into the world of the living. Marigold petals are also scattered across gravesites to create a path for the dead back to their place of rest. The ofrendas contain many of what the deceased may have liked such as their favorite foods. Toys are left on the graves of children, as for adults it is not unusual to find items such as cigarettes and some alcoholic beverages such as mescal or pulque.

Some of the traditional items that may be left are skull candies, atole, hot chocolate, and pan de muerto (bread of the dead). The reason for leaving these offerings onto the altars of the deceased are because it is believed that on their journey from the land of the dead and into the world of the living, the spirits get hungry and thirsty.

Día de los Muertos is

a celebration of the lives that once were with family having a central role. There is much involvement in the celebration such as parades and gatherings. The celebrations pay tribute to the deceased, keeping their memories alive.

Those who can’t participate in celebrations such as the ones in Mexico, celebrate it in their homes. While not set traditionally, many of the practices all have their roots set within the bases of remembering their loved ones. For many, the 2007 Disney-Pixar film *Coco* gave them a grasp of the meaning of this celebration.

Gabriela Morales doesn’t celebrate The Day of the Dead, although she would like to acknowledge it more.

“I think it’s neat. I’ve seen *Coco* a few times and it makes me feel like home... like it’s nice that

some people out there recognize their dead and I wish my family did, all my mom does is put up candles.”

Similarly, America Leon and her family light candles as well.

“I actually don’t celebrate it, but we do set candles for my grandparents.”

“Well three years ago I didn’t have anyone to celebrate it for, but now I do. Ever since I saw *Coco*... it’s foolish but that’s why I started. I don’t do the traditional things, I just put up his photo and his favorite snacks” Jamilex Orta said.

Orta creates this ofrenda for her grandfather, who she was very close to.

The snacks she refers to are fruit such as guayaba, which “he really liked”, as well as mantecadas, which are a form of Mexican muffins.



A decorative pumpkin made for the Day of the Dead. Photo by America Leon

Music Department Thriving ‘I Am Boss’ Over Breast Cancer

By Jay Freeman
Contributor

In 2018, The University of North Carolina at Pembroke was listed as a top ten university with a B.M.us program in Music and Musical Theatre.

Today, with over 103 students with a major in music, 26 graduates of music for the Spring 2019 semester, and a doubled increase in the departments’ faculty and staff, the music program at UNCP continues to shine both on and off stage.

In Dr. Aaron Vandermeer’s 13th year as chair of the music department, he says he still does more and more research on music to this day.

“Music is new for everyone!” Vandermeer says.

Vandermeer has always had a passion for music. “It’s in all parts of my life. My dad taught me to play the piano and was a part of his own band, as was I.

I’m so grateful for those lessons.”

After earning his master’s and doctorate degree from Indiana University and his previous experience as a band director, Vandermeer accepted the job as chair of the music department following Dr. Timothy Altman stepped down from the position. Altman says, “We always have improving to do.”

“Music has become a part of all parts of my life.” said Vandermeer. “I believe we are becoming bigger and better.”

A Bachelor of Arts in Music, a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, a Bachelor of Arts in Music with Elective Studies in Business, a Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre, an academic concentration, and minors in Music, Sacred Music, Jazz Studies, Musical Theatre, and Media Integration are all available to students of

UNCP who desire to leave the school with accredited experience and knowledge on their chosen area of focus.

Getting Involved

Non-majors can still be involved with program in other ways.

Students are also able to earn college credit by signing up for free vocal and instrument lessons located in Moore Hall.

The 11th annual Holiday Extravaganza features both UNCP faculty and staff, as well as UNCP students, as they have an opportunity to sing and perform.

The event will be held on Friday, November 22 at 8:00 PM in the Givens Performing Arts Center.

By Eric Velasquez

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and here at UNCP, I Am Boss held a breast cancer awareness informational fundraiser. The proceeds of the fundraiser will be donated to the Gibson Cancer Center located in Lumberton.

Octavia Johnson, president of the on-campus organization I Am Boss, was excited about the turnout for the event.

Johnson mentions that the organization offers “empowerment of its members”, in that it “enhances each student” as well as “prepare them with skills they can use during and after their college experience”. The events held are for anyone who is interested, and students are urged to join.

Women should check for any lumps or changes on the breast. A self-breast check should be done once a month.

I Am Boss was created

in 2014 by Robin Johnson, who is also the advisor for this organization.

“It started out for little people [children] and to help them out as they grow” explained Robin Johnson.

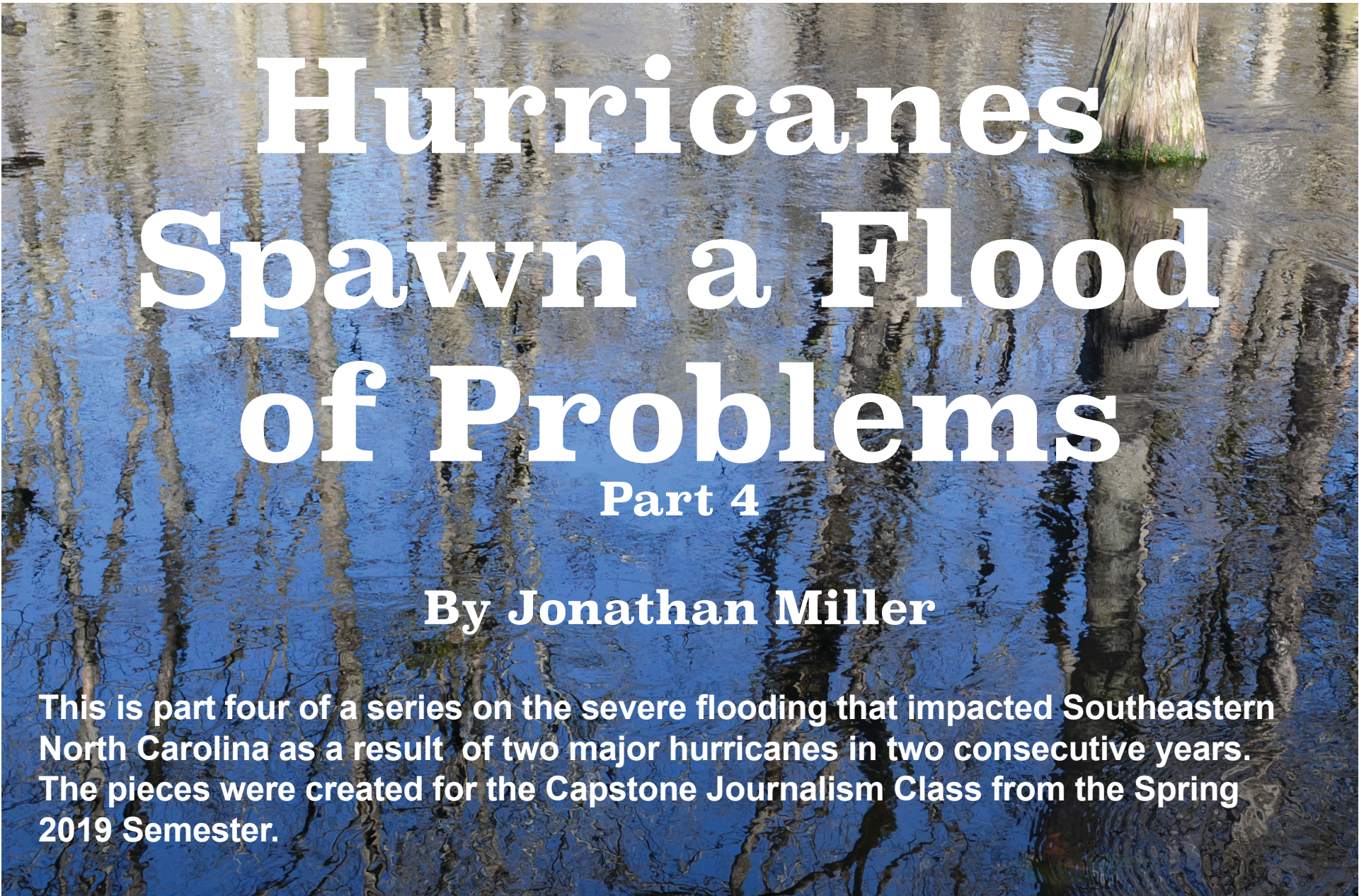
She had her 12-year-old daughter in mind during the creation of the organization, as she wanted there to be something that would she could be a part of.

“I love the Girl Scouts, I really do, but I feel that I Am Boss has broader reach,” Robin Johnson said.

Although the Girl Scouts have plenty of events to teach traits to girls, Robin feels that her organization gave more focus on traits that can be used in life.

One of the previous events that was held was the “build a bra” event.

Participants would “bring in a bra, and we had a variety of decorations for them to design their bra”.



Hurricanes Spawn a Flood of Problems

Part 4

By Jonathan Miller

This is part four of a series on the severe flooding that impacted Southeastern North Carolina as a result of two major hurricanes in two consecutive years. The pieces were created for the Capstone Journalism Class from the Spring 2019 Semester.

Hurricane Florence arrived on the Carolina Coast in the fall of 2018 and destroyed infrastructure, property, displaced residents, and the recovery is not over. Making matters worse is the areas’ recent encounter with a similar hurricane two years ago; Hurricane Matthew. Hurricane Matthew was first hypothesized to be a storm that would only be experienced once in every half millennium.

Only two years later Hurricane Florence was said to be a storm bringing in the type of waterlogged destruction only to be seen every 1,000 years, and it impacted the same region.

“In an area like Robeson County, there is an immense area of 100-year floodplain, because it’s so flat and the areas that are close to the river, the swampy areas, are large,” said Martin Farley, professor and chair of the department of geology and geography at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Cities like Lumberton, which sit beside the Lumber River have floodplains within their city limits.

“My simple advice, don’t build in floodplains,” said Wesley Highfield, an associate professor of marine biology at Texas Agricultural & Mechanical University.

Some residents who live in floodplains are advised to move and simply choose not to. The cost of moving to another location or leaving behind a home that they hold dear is worth the risk of flooding.

For the floodplains to be fully evacuated and used for environmental conservation, the residents living in the area must all agree to let their land be purchased by the local government. This is difficult because the local government must first get all residents to agree to the process and secondly because the funding necessary for projects like this are often too great to be covered without outside sponsors.

Pembroke officials recently published new zoning plans that should alleviate damage from flooding experienced in past hurricane seasons.

In the wake of Hurricane Matthew many questions concerning public safety, emergency relief, and city plans for future disasters have arisen. One major area of concern is the possibility that the city of Lumberton and CSX, a railroad company, neglected to do all that they could to deter flooding, potentially endangering the lives of residents.

According to an article posted on WRAL.com, a gap created by a CSX railroad underpass through Interstate 95 in the town’s levees was the cause for significant flooding to the western section of Lumberton. The city of Lumberton opened a lawsuit against CSX claiming that the company prioritized its railways over the lives of Lumberton citizens.

North Carolina Dams have been pushed to their limits after Matthew and Florence came in such quick succession. Officials sent warnings to evacuate to cities like New Bern in fear of dams breaching and heavily monitored water activity around the dams. In Fayetteville, residents are suing the city because it failed to rebuild broken and damaged dams in the area.

Slow response rates to matters of public safety have left many citizens questioning their local government.

False reports of breaking dams were issued by members of communities like Hope Mills,

causing many families to evacuate prematurely in fear for their lives. Hoke County also experienced a similar situation where residents jumped the gun and, instead of waiting for official instruction, hastily left the area because of false reports of the dam breaking.

The dam in Hope Mills broke under the stress of the consistent downpour caused by Hurricane Matthew two years prior.

Due to Florence, dams in Anson County, Boiling Springs and Wilmington broke and caused considerable damage and resident displacement, especially in Wilmington’s case where the city was surrounded by water which trapped residents in the city limits.

According to data submitted to the National Inventory of Dams, North Carolina has 1,445 dams rated high hazard out of about 5,700 dams total. The hazard rate doesn’t indicate the condition of the dam but rather the risk the community will face if the dam were to break. However, of those 1,445 dams that are placed in precarious positions 185 are classified as being in poor or unsatisfactory condition.

Another area of concern is left unaddressed by local government - renovated drainage systems. In the city of Lumberton residents said that they don’t believe the city was prepared for Hurricane Matthew and that there was little changed in preparation for Florence.

“I can recall...driving around my neighborhood, watching the water rise, thinking this can’t happen again,” said James Bass, director of the Givens Performing Arts Center at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Many residents claim that they have yet to receive any help from FEMA after applying. In some cases, applicants were simply denied while in other cases the applicants were given

insubstantial amounts of money to make a lasting difference in their situation. Another issue with FEMA is the inconsistency with who is accepted and who is denied. Many claim that those in better financial positions and who suffered less from the storm are often given assistance priority over poorer, more needing applicants.

“They denied me, because I got help with the first flood...but I know people that they helped with Matthew and also helped them with [Hurricane Florence]” said Urshula Locklear, a resident of Pembroke whose trailer was damaged by both Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.

BreAnna Branch, Program Director for Communities in Schools of Robeson County, saw a need and filled it. Branch helped get the community of Lumberton involved in the relief effort by organizing groups of students from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and providing resources for middle schoolers whose families were impacted by the storm.

Branch stated “[The] Local community getting things done and mobilizing immediately...Our area knows our area,” on what matters most.

Members of the nearby University of North Carolina at Pembroke also came to the aid of those devastated by Hurricane Florence.

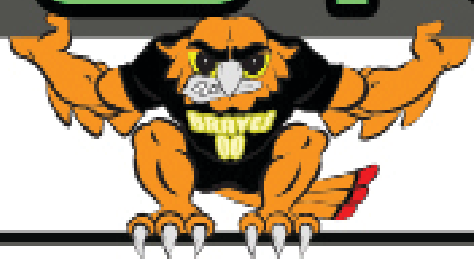
“I’m from the west coast so I never realized how much damage water could do,” said Michael Perez, a business marketing major who attends the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Perez, after seeing the destruction that Florence wreaked on the community raised over \$3,000 for the relief effort. “It’s a problem that a lot of people who aren’t from here don’t understand. When I showed them the pictures of the houses we were helping at they were happy to help.”



Fish line 1-40 Pender County, NC following Hurricane Florence. Photo by Jeff Garrett.

SPORTS



SECTION
B
The Pine Needle

Moonlight Madness Brings in New Season of Braves Basketball



Cortez Marion-Holmes, a freshman from Charlotte, NC, performs a one-handed dunk during the Dunk Contest for UNC Pembroke's Midnight Madness on Oct. 24, 2019 at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court. Photo by Trevon Knight/Pine Needle.

By: Mike McGuinness
Sports Editor

"Moonlight Madness," held at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court last Thursday, had a little bit of everything: a three-point contest, a dunk contest, fan competitions that saw Mike Okeke win free tuition for next semester; but when the ball left Tyrell Kirk's hand to open up the intramural Black vs. Gold game, one thing was for certain—a new basketball season had begun for the UNCP men's and women's basketball teams.

Each squad played in a 15-minute intrasquad game, with the men opening up. Tyrell Kirk demonstrated a deft shooting touch, drilling three 3-point shots in the short scrimmage. Junior forward Spencer Levi showed a deep touch as well, to go along with a physical inside game, pulling down the most rebounds for the Gold squad. The Gold squad came out on top, beating the Black squad 31-29. The men's squad, who looked ready to get the season started, are looking to build upon their successful 2018-2019 season where they compiled a record of 21-10 (15-7 in the Peach Belt Conference) and their sixth straight appearance in the Division II NCAA basketball tournament.

The women's team, looking to rebound from a rough

8-20 finish to their 2018-2019 season, started their scrimmage much as the men's team did: by running and utilizing good ball movement to make open shots for the Lady Braves. Aliyah Farmer led all scorers with 6 points for the Gold, but the Black would ultimately pull out a win, 16-14. Both teams ran a frenetic pace, and showed much more than what last year's record would say of the team.

After the game, women's head coach John Haskins said "I'm proud of how hard this team works, and feel we can be competitive in the Peach Belt this season."

The Lady Braves kick off their 2019-2020 campaign playing in the PBC/Conference Carolinas Challenge against Southern Wesleyan and Barton on Nov. 8th and 9th, with their first home game falling on Nov. 13th against inter-state rival Fayetteville State at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court at 6 p.m.

The men's side opens up with two early season tournaments, followed by a game against Wingate before finally heading home to play four straight games at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court on Dec. 1 against Mount Olive.



Melanie Horne (facing forward) dribbles around Courtney Smith (4) during the Black and Gold Scrimmage as part of Pembroke's Midnight Madness event on Oct. 24, 2019 at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court. Photo by Trevon Knight/Pine Needle.

Soccer Improves to 5-1 at Home

By Zack Young
Sports Writer

Vs. Lander University

Wednesday, October 23rd the UNCP Braves hosted the Lander University Bearcats. The Braves won by a final score of 1-0. The lone goal was scored early in the match at the 9:40 mark by Junior Forward Alexis Pittman slightly inside the penalty spot. This was Pittman’s fifth goal of the season. With the assist was Sophomore Forward Bree Mason, her third assist on the season. The UNCP Braves controlled the corner kicks battle by a margin of 8:1. During the match, the Braves attempted 16 shots compared to the Bearcats’ 10. Senior Goalkeeper Gina Ryan registered a total of four saves in the match. The UNCP Braves Soccer home record against the Bearcats is now 7-4-1 in a Peach Belt Conference rivalry that dates back to 2001.

Vs. Georgia Southwestern State University

Saturday, October 26th the UNCP Braves celebrated their Military Appreciation day at Lumbee River EMC Stadium, hosting the Georgia Southwestern State University Hurricanes. The match remained scoreless



UNCP won games over the Lander Bearcats and the Georgia Southwestern Hurricanes to reach a 5-1 mark at home. PNPhoto/Trevon Knight

until the second period at the 71:41 mark when Sophomore Midfielder Maya Grimes scored her first goal of the season. On the other end with the assist was Junior Forward Alexis Pittman, her fourth assist on the year. The Braves earned a remarkable 15 corner

kicks in the match, which notched a new season high. The Braves offense picked up their sense of urgency, attempting a total of 23 shots. UNCP controlled the pace of the game, armed with a stark defensive effort the Braves surrendered only four shots the entire

match. Senior Goalkeeper Gina Ryan came away with two more saves, totaling 44 for the season. By holding the Hurricanes scoreless, Ryan now has 33 shutouts in her collegiate career. On the season the Braves have outshot their opponents by a margin of 245:113 and

have outscored them by a margin of 23:11. With this win the Braves improve to 5-1 at home this season and remain undefeated against Georgia Southwestern. UNCP Braves Soccer is now 14-0 all-time versus the Hurricanes.

Wrestling Hosts Black and Gold Intrasquad Meet



The UNCP wrestling team hosted its season-opening exhibition to prepare for the season’s upcoming meets. The 39th Annual Pembroke Classic is scheduled for November 10. PNPhoto/Trevon Knight

Pee Dee Region Paranormal Leads Haunted Ghost Tours



Scott "Phantom" Tomestic of Pee Dee Region Paranormal. Submitted photo.

By: **Stephanie Sellers**
Copy Editor

Pee Dee Region Paranormal offered its annual 2019 Ghost Walk in downtown Rockingham Oct. 17 – 20. The investigators will be featured on Robeson County’s WTNG-TV 7.2 in December as “Lost in the Static.” WTNG is managed by Pastor Walt Smith and embraces this investigative team that “prays” for its clients. The group gets a lot of possession cases and sometimes people who call in with strange things happening do not know someone in the house is possessed.

Co-Founder of Pee Dee Region Paranormal, Robert “Preacher” Humphries shared, “We are a non-profit and have never turned down a case.”

Co-Founder Brian “Doc” Horton, explained a case with a strange-acting man and Horton threw holy water on his arm and it made him start “burning.”

“We did not know what the crap we were doing, just did what we had to do, like an exorcism, but it came out. It worked with a lot of prayer,” said Horton.

The investigators go in to disprove hauntings, but sometimes cannot. Not every person that contacts them has a haunting. Sometimes it is self-explained, like a bathroom door moving from a broken window seal letting wind come through.



Andrew McInville and Brian Horton of Pee Dee Region Paranormal during Ghost Walk 2019 in Rockingham, NC in front of historic uptown theatre. PN/Photo Stephanie Sellers

At the freshly painted house that was once Legacy Funeral Home across from city hall, the crowd “oohed and aahed” as they stretched out to spy a foul ghoul.

Tomestic aimed at the bright yellow lights shining from behind the front door’s transom window.

After a foul smell was reported, local law enforcement found human remains and the funeral director was charged. A woman’s body was found downstairs with scented candles around her. She was supposed to be cremated. They still don’t know who the decomposed bodies were in the backyard.

“A lot of shadows are seen around here,” said Tomestic.

Andrew McInville, Co-Lead Investigator led the Uptown Ghouls Tour that began at the site of a previous church where caskets had been moved and since, there have been reported sightings of apparitions. The same thing reportedly happened at the fire station where the men continually report “unexplained activity.”

Harrington Square’s water fountain held the crowd’s attention until McInville spoke, “There were public hangings here through the 1900’s. Poor Robert Hildreth had a bad hanging and the noose was tied wrong. He swayed himself back and forth until he died.”

The investigators have electronic voice phenomena (EVP) from the theater investigation. The theatre was built around 1913 and held a grocery store. It became the strand theatre in 1939 and operated as an X-rated movie house in the early 1970’s. Women have been touched by unseen forces.”

Anyone with suspected paranormal activity is welcome to contact Pee Dee Region Paranormal at peedeeregionparanormal@gmail.com, (910)-995-2920, or (843)-206-4208.

The team has been called to investigate hauntings as far away as Canada and has also professionally investigated many of the historic sites in nearby Rockingham where it offered the 2019 Ghost Walk.

The historic haunting tour began with Scott “Phantom” Tomestic’s factual introduction, “I am a descendant of the head priest in the Salem Witch Trials of 1692.”

Tomestic dictated the haunting of Richmond County’s Historical 1853 Leak-Wall House where two wooden tombstones taken from the Scottish cemetery in Rockingham, one engraved “Duncan” and the other, “Solomon,” are displayed on

“The ghosts here do not like northerners,” said Tomestic.

SUNRISE

Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde SILENT BUT DEADLY

An Invitation from Herb Cameron



Last February, the Sunrise Theater hosted the return of silent movies. The evening turned out to be one of the most fun evenings at the theater in some time!

Guests dressed in period garb and enjoyed champagne, a costume contest, and the endearing silent classic, The Kid, starring Charlie Chaplin.

Silent movie buff, Tim Lussier, introduced the film which played to live piano accompaniment.

Those in attendance absolutely loved the evening and asked that we do it again.

Well, do it again we shall! But this time it will be a bit different!



On Saturday, October 26, just in time for Halloween, the Sunrise will present a special screening of the 1920 version of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde starring the legendary actor, John Barrymore.

One of the best silent film classics of all time, Barrymore’s performance in both roles is astonishing and displays his skill as an actor in a time before “talkies” became the norm.



In 1920, a movie critic cautioned his readers about John Barrymore’s appearance as Jekyll’s inner beast. “His Hyde”, the critic observed, “is a terrible being, with the most ghastly make-up we recall ever seeing in the films.” Movie reviews warned audiences that exposure to Barrymore’s Hyde was a point of concern with his “screen presence threatening the mental and even physical health of the public, especially for children exposed to the actor’s ghoulish character and the film’s possible pre-natal influences on expectant mothers.”



Tim Lussier will once again provide interesting and enlightening commentary on the history of the film and be available to answer questions following the viewing. We are also very pleased to announce that composer and pianist,

Nathan Shirley will accompany the film on keyboard. If you’ve never seen a film with live accompaniment, you are truly in for a treat. The experience is much more rich than that of the typical film score.



While having a film expert introduce the movie and a world-renowned pianist playing the score may sound a bit highbrow, don’t be fooled. The night is one of spooky good fun. Our wonderful sponsors,

Swank Coffee Shoppe and Boles Funeral Homes take their Halloween celebrations very seriously and have planned some truly ghoulish pre-show entertainment.

We hope you’ll join us for cocktails and costumes at 6pm with the film to follow at 7pm. While Halloween costumes are encouraged, they’re not required.

250 NW Broad St., Southern Pines

Tickets are only \$15 and all seating is reserved (assigned). You can purchase tickets [online](#), at the theater office, or by calling 910-692-3611.

See you at the movies!!!