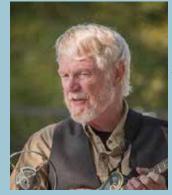
JUNE, 2021 VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

# Randolph Bulletin

# Serving the Heart of North Carolina





In this months issue we remember the life of Tommy Edwards, a much loved traditional bluegrass musician and teacher.



The Wealth of the Community Series: featuring Tony Williamson

Tony Williamson

# Look Inside to See the Latest Sales from Your Local Hardware Store! FARM-MART SHOME CENTER

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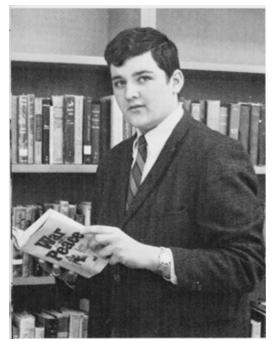
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The Randolph Bulletin PO Box 315 Ramseur, NC 27316

### The Wealth of the Community Series

# **Tony Williamson**

One of the most talented artists to come from Randolph County is Tony Williamson. He is a world class mandolin player and musician. If you Google Tony Williamson, you will see a list of his many accomplishments and notice that he is almost always listed as a native of Chatham County. Chatham County is where Tony has lived for many years, but I remember him from my youth at Ramseur School and consider him as a Randolph County (Ramseur) native. Tony started school at Ramseur in the first grade, a year ahead of me in 1960, but we shared many of the same classes at Ramseur. I remember in Ms. Madge Caviness's combined 5th and 6th grade class, Tony and I were rivals, always competing to see which one would outdo the other. I especially remember a spelling contest where we were the two finalists, and Tony



Taken from Eastern Randolph Links 1971 Yearbook

beat me for the honor of being champion. I was never practically good at spelling or English either for that matter. Tony has always excelled in whatever he chose to do. He was Randolph County finalist for the Morehead Scholarship in 1971 when he graduated from Eastern Randolph, and went on to earn the highest degree from UNC at Chapel Hill. I lost track of Tony for a long time after graduation, but Tony and his brother Gary continued to make headlines in the bluegrass music community. Several years ago, the two Williamson brothers came to our church, Parks Crossroads Christian, and performed some old time gospel tunes with Tony on his famous mandolin and Gary on Guitar. He has lived an interesting and eventful life, full of challenges and certainly many accomplishments.

There is no doubt that Tony is smart, but his talent for music, especially the mandolin, is extraordinaire. Along with his older brother Gary, the two became a sensation in the Bluegrass World. Currently Tony lives in Chatham County with his wife in a restored 19th century home and operates Mandolin Central, a company dedicated to finding, restoring and selling classic Mandolins.

David McCarty, a staff writer for Fretboard Journal, Bluegrass Unlimited and Mandolin Magazine had this to say about Tony:

"Quite simply, what Tony Williamson doesn't know about mandolin is probably not worth knowing. As a player, collector, dealer, historian and mandolin community activist, Williamson has helped keep the mandolin's great American legacy alive while uplifting and encouraging generations of modern players. From bluegrass, to classical, pop and other forms, Tony Williamson is a national treasure."

Tony was a recipient of the 2018 North Carolina Heritage Award as a visionary musician, composer, musical instrument expert and teacher.

He has been performing and receiving awards for nearly 50 years and continues to perform live and travel internationally today.

Tony was raised in rural Randolph County into a family of wood-workers and musicians. His grandfather, Alfred, made his own musical instruments and inspired his grandchildren with his love of music and stringed instruments. Tony and his brother Gary won first place in the coveted "World Championship" at Union Grove, North Carolina in 1969 with their band The Bluegrass Gentlemen and were featured on the cover of Bluegrass Magazine. In 1975, Tony went on the road with a touring band, the Bluegrass Alliance, whose alumni include Vince Gill, Sam Bush, and Tony Rice. Afterward, he worked with a succession of bands that led him to the top of his field playing classical, jazz and folk music. His credits include performances on stage and recordings with Alison Krauss, Chris Thile, Earl Scruggs, Bill Monroe, Bobby Hicks, Tony Rice, Vassar Clements, David Grisman, Sam Bush, Mike Marshall, Ricky Skaggs, Jerry Douglas, Don Stiernberg and Robie and Linda Williams of Prairie Home Companion fame. In addition to the prestigious NC Heritage Award, his list of honors includes the IBMA recorded event of the year in 1994 and many on stage performances such as repeat performances at the Merlefest Festival, an annual music festival held in Wilkesboro, NC.



Tony Willimason, 1960 Ramseur School 1st Grade

David Ryoko of the Chicago Tribune said back in 2001 that "Tony Williamson is among the finest mandolinist alive and his instrumental passages dazzle.... This is great music". Tony's tours have included performances in almost every state in the US, as well as appearances in France, Ireland, Japan, Taiwan, Brazil, Peru, Canada and Italy. He brings to stage a love of music, a deep connection to his North Carolina roots, an enthusiasm to take those roots to creative new realm and a wonderful knowledge of musical instruments and their history.

Acoustic Musician Magazine wrote "Mandolin Virtuoso Tony Williamson sure can play, and what he doesn't know about mandolins, nobody does!"

Tony will be back performing in public this fall, beginning with performances at Mearlfest the weekend of September 18, 2021.

\*Courtesy: Tony's Bio on the Mandolin Central website. http://www.mandolincentral.com/tonywilliamson-bio



Tony with his beloved Lloyd Loar signed Master Mandolin. For the past 4 decades these two have been constantly together.



Tony And Gary Williamson (The Williamson Brothers) From Chatham County, North Carolina.

Tony is a well-known mandolin virtuoso, with several solo projects to his credit.

Their grandfather was in Company B, 52nd Regiment of the North Carolina Troops who marched with General Lee up Seminary Ridge, July 3, 1863 in the Battle of Gettysburg. He survived.

First band: The Bluegrass Gentlemen (1970) which made the cover of Bluegrass Unlimited magazine.

Gary earned his Ph.D in educational research from Stanford University. He works full-time for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Tony owns a musical instrument company called Mandolin Central.

1977, Gary was a member of the Bluegrass Alliance.

1978, Tony worked with the Richard Greene band.

1989-1991, Tony was a member of the group ASH&W (He was the "W").

1994, Tony performed with a one-man show called "The Sound of the American Mandolin." He has a degree in music from the University of North Carolina.

1995, Tony and Gary formed a duo called The Williamson Brothers.

1995, Tony released solo project "Across the Grain" (Plucked String).

1996, Tony released solo project "All for Naught" (Mandolin Central).

1998, The Williamson Brothers released "My Rocky River Home" (Mandolin Central).

1999, the Tony Williamson Trio released "Christmas at Doobie Shea" album (Doobie Shea).

2000, released Let Us Cross Over the River album (Doobie Shea).

2003, Tony released Sessions at McBain Mill album (Bonfire).

2003, the Williamson Brothers released "Still Light of the Evening" album (WildChild).

2011, Tony released "Lloyd Loar Mandolins" album (Mandolin Central).

2013, The Williamson Brothers released"Bluegrass!" album (Flatt Mountain).

2018, received the North Carolina Heritage Award.

# An Ode to the Single Mom on Father's Day

by Debra Vernon



I don't think anyone ever plans on being a single parent. On that much-anticipated wedding day, the future seems so bright and everyone thinks that surely, this was meant to be. Time passes, and children often come along to bring additional blessings to your life. Ah, the family unit is complete. How much better can life be?

But sometimes, due to circumstances that can never be planned for, situations occur that break the union that wasn't intended to be broken. Sometimes death snatches a loved one away, and suddenly there is a void that will never be entirely filled again. Other times, the love that was so strong at the beginning proves not fervent enough to endure those tough times that all marriages encounter. And, there are also those who abandon marriage to pursue other interests or other people. Whatever the cause, the cocoon of safety and assurance that once enveloped us is shattered, and life is never quite the same again.

That's where I found myself long ago, when my daughter had just turned 6, and was getting ready to graduate from kindergarten. Suddenly, we weren't your typical family unit anymore, just a mom and daughter wondering what in the world the future held for us.

Fortunately, due to God's goodness, and a family that loved us more and more with each passing day, we grew together through the ensuing years. Was it easy? Gracious no. Was it hard? Heavens yes – both financially and emotionally! But there were blessings to be found in every circumstance, and if we looked for them, we were sure to encounter them, tucked away in the most mundane moments of life. So, this month, when we celebrate Father's Day, I want to salute the single moms out there who fulfill the role of dad.

You know who you are: the one trying your darnedest to fix the leak under the kitchen sink with just a pair of pliers. Or the one looking under the hood of the car, trying to figure out just exactly where the air filter is, so that you can change it yourself, and not pay someone else to do it. Or perhaps, while fixing that leaky toilet, you didn't realize you had not turned the water connection off before proceeding to work your plumbing magic (though this did make for a good laugh for your daughter who is watching the fountain of youth spring up in your bathroom).

And, since there is only one of you filling the role of two, you sometimes overbook yourself, and try to be in two places at one time, such as work and the school awards ceremony. And, when the kids are sick, you can't trade off with a spouse and say, "Honey, you take her to the doctor today; I did it last time". You also go into work sick, so that you can save your sick days for when the kids are sick.

You cash in some of your vacation time to buy them a computer, so they can have the opportunity to do better in school. You stay up at night and figure out how your "in-come" relates to your "out-go" and then figure it again to see what must be paid now and what can wait. You're the one putting the bicycle together on Christmas eve to help Santa out. You're the one who helps with homework, dries the tears from the effects of young love gone wrong during science class and, in general, keeps the home fires burning. You mow the lawn, service the car, clean the house, wash the clothes, cook the meals and anything else that needs to be done, as there is no one else to do it. But there, among all the things that you do, lies the secret of happiness – giving the best you have for the best part of you, your child. Someone once said, "I never knew that my heart could exist outside my body, until I had a child". Isn't that the truth?

The values instilled in me as a child served me well during those lean years. My own childhood was quite different, as I was blessed with a wonderful mom and dad, whose marriage lasted "until death do us part". This Father's Day, I will stop to honor the memory of my dad, who left this earth way too soon. It is because of him, and the many things I learned from him, that I have been able to fulfill the role of dad for my own daughter.

It's on occasions like this that I realize how much has been accomplished over the years. Remember the little skinny girl who graduated from kindergarten the year my husband left? She matured into a very bright and wonderful young woman. She knows the value of a dollar, that anything worth having is worth working hard for and that mom will always love her, no matter what. She's married to a fabulous man, which means I've gained a son. And I now have three wonderful grandchildren, and this MiMi loves them with all of her heart and then some!

Would I recommend rearing a child on your own, without the presence of both parents? No. But when faced with such a situation, I know it can be done. So happy Father's Day to the single mother who fills the role of dad, regardless of the reason. You are to be commended on all you do to provide for and protect your family. You are special, you are needed, and you are the one God has chosen to lead your family. It's quite the challenge, with disappointment and failure sure to come. But, just as with any garden, you reap what you sow. Keep on sowing lots of love, lots of patience, lots of kindness and lots of goodness and hopefully you will see your children grow up and provide a bountiful harvest you can be proud of. That was my goal, and my harvest has been wonderful.

# A Father's Day Thought by Debra Vernon



Twenty two years ago, my life changed dramatically. An early morning phone call from the hospital charge nurse on an otherwise lovely April morning brought the words, "your father passed away a few moments ago". I remember telling her, "he's not my father, he's my daddy".

There is a difference between the two. A father might impart wisdom, but my daddy stood alongside and showed me how to do things. A father may say he loves you so that others may hear, while my daddy showed me every day, in many ways, how much he loved me. A father may take pride in his accomplishments, but my daddy bragged on how smart all his kids were. A father might scold or scorn, while my daddy was known to let "the belt" do his talking, because he knew the value of discipline and wanted to raise his kids right.

Was he a perfect father? No, he was not. But he was the best daddy a girl could ask for! I miss him more it seems with each passing year. He's sitting up there in heaven now, waiting for his kids to come home through the gates of glory! One day I will go to be with him. I will shout out, "Daddy, it's me, Debra"! And he will turn and smile as I run towards him. What a glorious day that will be. For there I will be with my Father and my daddy, and we will spend eternity together, and never have to say goodbye again.

So if you're fortunate enough to still have your dad here with you, cherish him and spend as much time with him as you can. For we have a tendency to forget that while we are growing up, our parents are growing old. JUNE, 2021

# Thomas "Tommy" Edwards July 20, 1945 - May 22, 2021



I was saddened to learn that Tommy Edwards, a much loved traditional bluegrass musician and teacher, passed away on Saturday morning, May 22, 2021. Tommy was an exceptional musician who will long be remembered by the people who knew him. He was 75 years old and had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer earlier this year. I remember "Mr. Edwards" as a soft spoken, laid back history teacher during my 8th and 9th grade at Ramseur School. Later I discovered that he was also one of the best bluegrass musicians and songwriters in the business. I am thankful to have seen him perform countless times, and to own many of his recordings. His band, The Bluegrass Experience is regarded by many as one of the all time best Traditional Bluegrass Bands.

In North Carolina's central Piedmont, as throughout the Old North State, Tommy Edwards was a bluegrass music legend. A founding member of The Bluegrass Experience, Edwards was a prolific songwriter and lightning-fast guitarist whose vigorous downstrokes imbued his songs with power and tone, earning him World Champion Guitarist trophies at the 1970 and '71 Union Grove Fiddlers Convention.

Edwards passed away the morning of May 22, following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 75. On Friday, May 21st, Governor Roy Cooper awarded Edwards the Order of the Longleaf Pine. The state's highest honor is "awarded to persons for exemplary service to the State of North Carolina and their communities that is above and beyond the call of duty and which has made a significant impact and strengthened North Carolina."

Edwards was born and raised in Siler City, NC., an hour south of Camp Springs, site of the late Carlton Haney's famed bluegrass festivals. As a teen, Tommy worked in his father's grocery store, where he honed the work ethic and relaxed social skills he would carry with him throughout his life.

It was in Siler City that Edwards formed the Green Valley Ramblers with brothers Paul and Donald "Earl" Beane and future Blue Grass Boy, Jerry Stuart. In 1971, Edwards and the Beanes enlisted Thomas "Snuffy" Smith, Charles Lee Conard and "Fiddlin" Al McCanless and formed The Bluegrass Experience, the award-winning combo celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

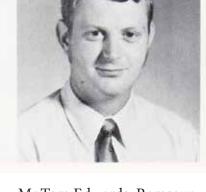
championship brought invitations to perform at prestigious venues, including University of Chicago and Finland's National Folk Festival. The band won its most ardent followers closer to home through their nine-year Thursday night engagement at Chapel Hill's Cat's Cradle from 1972 through '81.

A 1970 graduate of East Carolina University and a U.S. Army veteran, Edwards taught history and coached sports for 30 years in the Chatham County School District. He blended his love of history and music into his songwriting, contributing five of 13 songs to his 2011 CD, "North Carolina: History, Mystery, Lore and More." He also shared his passion with listeners on "Bluegrass Saturday Night," the weekly broadcast he hosted for 16 years. His show featured classic and contemporary recordings as well as interviews with artists featured on his show. Tommy's dedication to promoting and preserving North Carolina's heritage was recognized by his induction into the prestigious North Caroliniana Society.

Edwards' retirement from teaching allowed him the freedom to pursue his bluegrass obsession. He took full advantage, performing at street fairs, wedding receptions, music clubs, IBMA's World of Bluegrass – anywhere and with anyone fortunate to accompany him on stage. Tommy's solo albums feature such bluegrass luminaries as Bobby Hicks, Russell Johnson, Jim Mills, Matt Hooper, and Dewey Brown. His shows were nearly always attended by former students, their children or grandchildren. A true Southern gentleman, he was revered by all were fortunate to know him.

Almost any afternoon, Tommy could be found behind the counter of the antiques store he and his wife, Cindy, operated in downtown Pittsboro, a few blocks from their historic home. Folks would meander through, examining the diverse array of items along with vintage guitars, banjos, mandolins for sale or trade. Often as not, Tommy would be picking out a tune or holding an impromptu jam session with a friend or musician passing through town from one gig to the next.

To younger musicians, including Mandolin Orange's Andrew Marlin and Chatham Rabbit's Sarah McCombie, Tommy was mentor, friend, and musical partner. He was generous and patient, offering encouragement and complementing the musical savvy of his youthful friends.



Mr.Tom Edwards, Ramseur School Photo, 1970

Tommy is survived by his wife of 43 years, Cindy Edwards, and current Bluegrass Experience band mates, Stan Brown, Mike Aldridge, Keith Thomas, and Snuffy Smith. Truly original, Tommy leaves a legacy of friends, music, and memories North Carolina is not likely to experience again.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Chatham Arts Council, PO Box 418, Pittsboro, NC 27312 and Pinecone, PO Box 28534, Raleigh, NC 27611.

A public celebration of Tommy's life will be held in June. Date, time and location to be determined.

--Intro by WT Cox, Obituary courtesy of Donaldson Funeral Home

# "Father's Day", What it means to me.



When I was growing up, this was just another day, not really special, but kind of. We would recognize Dads at our church on Sunday, but I did not realize just how special of a day it was until I lost my father.

My Dad would always go to his father's house and just spend time with him on Father's Day. I thought that was so boring. They usually did not do anything but sit and talk. Our family celebrated the birthdays, and special days like Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. These holidays were always a full family event where Aunt Velma and her family and ours would get together with my grandparents, have a meal and spend the day together. Father's Day was more of a personal note, just a time we would go and spend with PaPa. When Granddaddy passed away in 1977, it was just me and my Dad, but I still made it a point to go and spend a little time with him on Father's Day. I did not realize just how important that time would mean until years later.

My Dad was a simple man. Everything he did, he did for his family.. that was his enjoyment. When I was 12 years old, he offered to let me work for him after school and during the summer at his lumber yard. Since I always had to earn whatever money I had, this was something I eagerly agreed to. I would ride with him sometimes when he layed off new home sites and my job was to hold the scale rod so he could get measurements from his survey instrument, or to hold a stake so he could drive it into the ground with a sledge hammer. During the summer, if I was not helping prime tobacco with our neighbors, I would work at the Building Supply and stack lumber from our sawmill so it could be air dried and then planned into lumber for the houses we built. My wages were 30 cents an hour. I remember thinking that was a lot of hard work for such little pay, but in hindsight, a young kid like me could not be too much help, me and my cousin Eddie worked hard, but we also goofed off a lot too. My Dad never said anything. I wondered why, unless the work we did was really great... but it was not. Years later I realized that Daddy just wanted to be able to spend time with me. He seemed to work all the time, leaving home at 6:30 and coming back after 7... he worked 7 days a week and that was what was needed back then to keep a family going. I just did not realize how much my Dad really wanted to be with me.

Sometimes we would go fishing on Sunday afternoons after Church, that was a special time for me and my Dad. I remember him making a wooden boat in the barn one year so we could paddle down the river like he had done in his youth. Daddy spent many hours sanding, and putting in solid brass screws into a flat bottom "Jon" boat that he planned to take down Deep River. When it was finally finished, and had several coats of varnish applied, we were ready. I caught up a mess or worms from around the barn and Daddy fixed a picnic lunch (actually my mother made the sandwiches, but it was Daddy's idea). We went down to the wildlife landing off Hwy 64 and put in at the Sandy Creek landing. Once we paddled down into the river, where we were met with sheets of gooey, dark brown dye floats. The river was a patchwork of goo. The cotton mill in Franklinville used to dump their waste into the river before it was regulated. The paddles that Daddy had hand carved became stained with dye, and (336) 824-4488 www.randolphbulletin.com info@randolphbulletin.com

it was obvious that even if we caught some fish, we could not eat them because of the pollution. I was disappointed, but my Dad lost a chance to spend time with his son. Looking back, at all the things my Dad did for me over the years, I realize now that most were just opportunities for him to spend time with me. What I would give to have another day with my Dad... just an hour. Just time to tell him how much he meant to me and how much I loved him. The older we get, the more I realize just how precious just spending time with someone can be.

Daddy suffered from dementia and Alzheimer's disease the last couple years he was alive. I tried to spend as much time with him as I could because I realized his days were numbered. Every day I would make an effort to see him and sit and talk, even if just for a little while. Sometimes he had difficulty understanding, but at other times, he would remember the times we had together and reflect. The last thing my Dad said to me was not spoken words. He looked at me and squeezed my hand as he lay in the Hospice bed. "It's OK Daddy, I will take care of momma... I love you," I said. And then my Dad was gone. He died peacefully, knowing that he would soon be in the presence of Christ. I was left still wanting to say so many things to him... I was not ready to let him go. I still had fishing trips I hoped to take.

On Father's Day, I remember the pain of losing my father and the emptiness I felt afterward. I guess that is why Father's Day is so special to me. I remember my Dad, but most of all, I remember how much my Dad enjoyed just being around and spending time with me.

I am thankful for all the memories of my Father, and regret that I did not make time for more.



"A man's worth is measured by how he parents his children. What he gives them, what he keeps away from them, the lessons he teaches and the lessons he allows them to learn on their own." —Lisa Rogers

#### TEA TALK

# Whatcha Matcha???

by Mary Murkin

The word matcha may be new to you, but it is being described as the new darling of the tea world. Essentially, matcha is green tea leaves that have been grown in extremely protected conditions, deveined and destemmed, and then stone ground into a very delicate powder. Some matchas have additional natural flavors added. To make the tea drink called matcha, a half teaspoon of the powder is measured and whisked into eight ounces of hot water and then consumed.

The practice of grinding tea leaves into a fine powder and whisking into water to drink has been documented back to the tenth century in China. However, zoom forward to the twelfth century, and matcha was being used in traditional Japanese ceremonies. We tend to attribute the Japanese with the origin of matcha, but they are only who catapulted it forward in such a way that the rest of the world began to take notice.

There is so much to share about matcha! Most important to cover are the health benefits. In terms of nutritional content, one cup of matcha equals ten cups of regularly brewed green tea. It is mind boggling to know that one serving of matcha has 137 times more antioxidants than one cup of regularly brewed green tea. When you drink matcha, you are essentially ingesting the whole tea leaf (minus the veins and stems) and receiving one hundred percent of the nutrients of the leaf. Matcha is rich in fiber, chlorophyll and vitamins.

Do not be fooled by matcha look-a-likes or wannabes. Another powdered tea drink is called sencha. It is full grown, regular tea leaves (still with veins and stems) that is ground into a powder. In short, matcha tea leaves are grown in protected conditions, including being shade-covered for a month before they are picked. These younger, sweeter tea leaves are deveined and destemmed before being ground into the delicious sweet, earthy tasting matcha powder. A pure matcha tea is more expensive than a low quality matcha or a sencha tea because the process to acquire it is much more labor intensive.

Matcha tea is a simple and easy way to add mighty health benefits to your everyday diet. Get some, start whisking and then "Bottom's up!"

Mary Murkin is the owner of Carriage House Tea which is sold at Brightside Gallery, 170 Worth Street, Asheboro, NC. Contact her at: carriagehousetea@gmail.com.



# Getting The Most From Your Garden: Methods Of Canning

by WT Cox

Hopefully everyone has their garden planted and soon all that hard work will begin to pay off and enjoy the bounty of the harvest. The first harvest is always a special time for me. All that hard work digging, plowing, pulling weeds, fertilizer and weed killer, staking up plants and watering, not to mention trying to keep hungry deer and rabbits away will finally be paying off. I love going into the garden in the morning just before work and snatching a few fresh okra or cucumbers right off the vine. And garden fresh tomato sandwiches with mayo and pepper; I look forward to them every year. But, if you are like me, most of the time the garden provides more than I can use. A couple tomato plants if grown right will provide plenty of tomatoes, but I planted 30. A couple rows of half runners would be enough for my wife and me, but I planted much more... you get the picture. After the first couple of pickings, your thoughts turn to "what am I going to do with all these veggies?" They were too much work just to let go to waste. So, why not do what country folk have done for generations? Can it! Canning can be a very rewarding experience. It allows you to enjoy those fresh vegetables all year long. But canning can also be disappointing, especially if you don't do it right and lose all those veggies to spoilage. Here are a couple methods I use to can my beans and tomatoes. This method was handed down to me from my mother, who learned from my grandmother... a time tested method.

# **Canning Green Beans**



Use fresh picked string beans. String and wash. Put into a large pot with water and bring to a boil for a couple minutes then pour off water, and add fresh water. It is important not to use the water used in boiling the beans, anything not removed in the initial washing will come off in the boiling process, so use clean water after the first boil. You are NOT cooking the beans - just preparing them for canning, so only leave the beans in the water for couple minutes, and when ready, quickly remove the first water and add fresh water while they are still hot. Then while still hot, fill canning jars full with beans, packing them down tight with a spoon.

Add some water from the mix and a ½ teaspoon of salt, and ½ tee spoon of sugar. Then put in a pressure cooker for 5 minutes, 10 lb pressure. While hot, remove and let sit. Lids

will "seal" with a pop. You will have "fresh" garden grown green beans all winter long.

# **Canning Tomatoes**

Use Ripe garden tomatoes, washed and stems removed with "spots" trimmed.

Wash and place in a large metal bowl. Boil a pot of water and pour over the tomatoes. Let them sit until cool then remove the "skin". It should peel right off with very little effort.

Slice and pack into jars. Take a spoon and push them down into the jar and drain off the excess water and juice. You should pack the jars tight because tomatoes contain a lot of water. I usually add small amounts of salt/sugar, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon each, but it is not necessary.

Put into sealed jars and place into a large canning pot and fill  $\frac{1}{2}$  with water, then bring to a boil. Hold boil for 3-5 minutes, and let cool. Lids should seal with a pop. Remember, it is not necessary to cook the tomatoes, you just want to preserve the tomatoes to be used later. Under pressure and heat, the tomatoes will release a lot of water. It is best to pack raw, force out water, then heat to seal jars. When the lids "pop", you will have tomatoes that can be used in soups, spaghetti sauce or pastas for the next year.

# FIRST GRADE

Bill Allen Parks Allen Stevie Allen Jimmy Boykin Tommy Bray Edwin Bridges

Linda Brown Milton Brown Kent Burgess Reva Burgess Wayne Burgess Gary Caviness

Judy Chaney David Cox Eddie Cox Sammy Cox Sandra Cox Tim C. Cox

W. Tim Cox Tim Cranford David Craven Mark Davis Lynne Hill Frankie Hancock

Jones Howell Joy Hudson Julia Kennedy Craig Macon Jimmy Moody Beckey Norton

Eddie Pate Beth Phillips Sandra Roberts Freddie Sesta Jackie Souther Linda Vest

Ashley Watkins Teresa Williams Sandra Williamson Myra Wolfe Benny Wood Sharon Wright



Chris York



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How many of these first grade pictures do you recognize?

This is my first grade class of 1961 at Ramseur School. We were divided into two classes, one taught by Miss Nellie Turner and the other by Miss Elma "Pete" Burgess. I was in Miss Burgess's Class. She was a stickler for discipline, and I was not too well behaved. I remember we had "nap" time every afternoon after lunch. We laid down brown paper on the floor and all the kids took a short nap. I think that was so the teachers could recoup after several hours managing a bunch of 5 and 6 year olds. We stayed in the same classroom all day, except for a short recess where we could climb on the monkey bars on the playground. Lunch time consisted of a short 30 minute trip to the cafeteria, where we washed our hands in the circular fountain that was in the entrance. The cafeteria was one of my favorite places. It was filled with rows of long tables surrounded with wooden chairs and the aroma of freshly baked yeast rolls filled the air. You could purchase a small carton of Coble milk for 3 cents and ice cream in a cup with a wooden spoon for 5 cents if you had the money.

Miss Pete Burgess and her sister Savannah were both tragically killed in an automobile accident in October of 1963 on Forshee Road just a few hundred yards from their home. She was a Sunday School teacher at the Baptist Church in Ramseur and very well thought of in the community. Many students had their first introduction to school with Miss Burgess.



info@randolphbulletin.com



# **DIY Hummingbird Feeder**



Hummingbirds may be some of the smallest birds in the world, but fluttering those tiny wings can be quite a workout. Flapping away at up to 90 beats per second burns up calories fast; to maintain their momentum, hummingbirds need to eat—a lot! To satisfy their speedy metabolisms, these busy birds consume half their body weight in bugs and nectar, feeding every 10-15 minutes and visiting 1,000-2,000 flowers per day.

You can help these hardworking foragers get the nutrients they need by providing them with their favorite post-workout meal—nectar. This hummingbird sweet treat can be made right at home with a few simple ingredients. By filling your feeder with this DIY delight, you can complement nectar-rich plants and watch these beautiful little birds feed and flitter all day.

#### **Materials:**

1/4 cup refined white sugar

[Please do use refined white sugar! Honey can promote dangerous fungal growth, while organic, natural, and raw sugars contain levels of iron that could be harmful. Plain white table sugar is sucrose, which, when mixed with water, very closely mimics the chemical composition of natural nectar.]

• 1 cup boiling water • Bowl • Spoon

Note: There's no need for red dye here. Red coloring is not necessary and the chemicals could prove to be harmful to the birds. Steps:

- 1. Mix sugar and boiling water until sugar is dissolved.
- 2. Cool and fill feeder.
- 3. Hang up your feeder outside and wait for the hummingbirds to come.

(336) 824-4488

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# Stratum of Society

by Jones Lamar Howell

As geologists dig into the earth, they come across different strata of soil and rock. It seems in our attempt to revolutionize our society, we have dug down to an even lower stratum. Let me attempt to put them in descending order of their exposure and destruction:

civility is built upon

mutual respect, which is built upon

recognizing individual worth, which is built upon

equality, which is built upon

recognizing the innate rights of human, which is built upon

the belief that those rights come from God.

The bedrock of civilized society rests upon God.

When there is no recognition that our rights and basic worth as humans are innate and come from our Creator, then humans become the center of existence. They establish purpose, meaning, and administration of the world, essentially becoming the arbiters of life and death, work and even play.

Then society is taxed with the job of making everyone equal, and since they have no absolute standard, this task is one by the exertion of power. Whoever has the power, can enforce their will. Even when the goal of power, which ostensibly is to establish security and stability, has been accomplished, the exercise of power doesn't end because giving up power is risky to the powerful.

So, can we get back the layers we have uncovered and disturbed? Not likely. It takes time to build a civil society, and an uncivil one is too busy trying either to survive or keeping others from doing so.

#### Joke of the Month:

I have a phobia of German sausages...

Yes, I fear the wurst!

# Nothing Forbidden

by Jones Lamar Howell

What if there were no moral prohibitions
And you could do what you wanted
No consequences, no risks, no secrets
Simply
Plowing headlong through barriers
Wallowing in sheer physical pleasure
Entertaining any and every fantasy
No self-government, no rule of any kind
Everything saccharine, frothy, sensational
Of course, nothing would get done either.
Self is a terrible master
and a very regretful slave.

Joke of the Month: In a hat shop a saleslady gushed: "That's the hat for you! It makes you look ten years younger."
"Then I don't want it," retorted the customer. "I certainly can't afford to put on ten years every time I take off my hat!"

**Joke of the Month:** A high school student stared thoughtfully at the second question on his exam, which read, "State the number of tons of coal shipped out of America in any given year."

Suddenly, his brow cleared, and he wrote, "1492: None."



# **OBITUARIES**

Courtesy of Loflin Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Ramseur.

We at the Randolph Bulletin send out our thoughts and prayers to the families who recently lost loved ones.

# **David Shackley**

David Glenndon Shackley, 74, of Staley, died Saturday, May 29, 2021 at his residence.

#### Nancy Craven

Nancy Stanley Craven, 90, of Ramseur, died Saturday, May 29, 2021 at McLeod Seacoast Hospital in Little River, SC.

#### Pat PateStaley

Pat McAlister Pate, 69, of Staley, died Saturday, May 29, 2021 at Randolph Health in Asheboro.

## Floyd Caviness

Floyd Quincy Caviness, 96, of Seagrove, died Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at his residence.

## Jacqueline Rawlings

Jackie White Rawlings, 78, of Ramseur, died Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at Laurels of Chatham in Pittsboro.

#### Sherri Wood

Sherri Stein Wood, 49, of Franklinville, died Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro.

### Michael Brady

Michael Warren Brady, 72, of Asheboro, died Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at Randolph Hospice House in Asheboro.

### Judy Abernathy

Judy Stuart Abernathy, 74, of Randleman, died Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at her residence.

# Mary Chilton

Mary May Chilton, 83, of Asheboro, died Thursday, May 13, 2021 at Randolph Health in Asheboro.

# Lounette Ingold

Lounette Murray Ingold, 89, of Asheboro, died Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at Cross Road Retirement Community in Asheboro.

### Jimmy Sweatt

Jimmy Sweatt, 63, of Asheboro, died Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at his residence.

### Zane Thomas

Zane Lee Thomas, 54, of Bear Creek, died Saturday, May 1, 2021 at his residence.

If you would like more information about our obituaries, please email us at info@randolphbulletin.com or call at 336-824-4488.

Options are available if you would like to have a picture and/or longer obituaries.

# SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL RANDOLPH BULLETIN NEWSPAPER

As you may know, the bulk of our support comes from local businesses advertising in our paper. Those ads are seen by over 5500+ households in Eastern Randolph County on a monthly basis. We offer our paper ABSOLUTELY FREE to everyone in Ramseur, Coleridge, and Franklinville. To continue to offer this paper we ask that you support us with your Classifieds, Advertisements, or Donations so we can continue to provide the Randolph Bulletin. Contact us at info@randolphbulletin.com, or stop by our office in the Zack White Leather building at 809 Moffitt Street, Ramseur. Our phone number is 336-824-4488.

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# REAL ESTATE

**Building Lot/\$25,000.00:** Inside Ramseur City Limits. Lot #9, Parksfield Sub-Division. Paved Street, City Amenities, 1.219 Acres, Wooded. In Cul-de-sac. along Parksfield Trail. Water & Sewer Tap grandfathered at only \$100. Call 336-824-8646 or 336-633-1008

**Building Lot/\$24,000.00:** Inside Ramseur City Limits. Lot #12, Parksfield Sub-Division. Paved Street, City Amenities, 1.072 Acres, Wooded. Appx 220 ft road footage along Reed Creek Court. Water & Sewer Tap grandfathered at only \$100. Call 336-824-8646 or 336-633-1008

**Building Lot/\$24,500.00:** Inside Ramseur City Limits. Lot #13, Parksfield Sub-Division. Paved Street, City Amenities, 1.107Acres, Wooded. Appx 200 ft road footage along Reed Creek Court. Water & Sewer Tap grandfathered at only \$100. Call 336-824-8646 or 336-633-1008

**Building Lot/\$25,500.00:** Inside Ramseur City Limits. Lot #17, Parksfield Sub-Division. Paved Street, City Amenities, 1.256 Acres, Wooded. Large footage along Reed Creek Court and Reed Creek. Water & Sewer Tap grandfathered at only \$100. Call 336-824-8646 or 336-633-1008

**Building Lot/\$26,000.00:** Inside Ramseur City Limits. Lot #19, Parksfield Sub-Division. Paved Street, City Amenities, 1.260 Acres, partially wooded. large paved road footage along Reed Creek Court. High elevation & creek front along Reed Creek. Great Location for non-traditional home. Water & Sewer Tap grandfathered at only \$100. Call 336-824-8646 or 336-633-1008



# Yellow Stripey Things





The Carpenter Bee can be very destructive. They bore into wood and can destroy the trim and siding on a home. On my front porch we have a swing my father made years ago. He made it from a cedar tree that he cut down and milled into lumber. These pesky Carpenter Bees have bored holes into it several times over the years. Until recently, I have not been able to keep them away. They even bored a hole into a shovel handle I had leaning next to my house. They will eat just about anything made of wood. Well, I have discovered that WD-40 will keep these pesky critters away. Just spray is on the wood surface and they will not come near it. If you spray it into the bore hole, you will kill the larva and thus keep them from multiplying. You can also make a simple trap to catch Carpenter Bees. Just construct a small 6" square box with a lid, bore a hole in one side and insert a 2" piece of black plastic pipe. Leave the pipe extended about 1/4" on the outside and about 1 ½" on the inside. The bees will see the hole and curiosity will make them climb in, then they cannot figure out how to escape. This is a simple way to trap them. We also sell manufactured Carpenter Bee traps at Cox Home Center.



# Sweet & Hot Beef Jerky Recipe

If you work outside during the cold, winter months, there is nothing better to warm you up than some good old, hot jerky. Making jerky is a labor of love. It is not cheap to make and takes a lot of preparation, but it is well worth the effort. Here is my recipe.

Start with 2+ lbs of lean sirloin, cut into 1/8" to 1/4" strips.

Thoroughly Mix ingredients in large bowl:

1/3 cup brown sugar

1 cup Worcestershire Sauce

1/2 cup Soy Sauce

Teaspoon garlic powder

Teaspoon Onion powder

1 cup Pineapple Juice

3 tablespoon black pepper

1/4 cup crushed red pepper

1 tablespoon sea salt

2 tablespoon garlic salt

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Arrange the strips of meat in a large pan and cover with each layer with the mixture., apply evenly to each layer of meat... cover with foil and place in fridge for 24 to 36 hours

Dehydrate for 5 – 6 hours. Most dehydrators have settings for jerky. Make sure to check after 4 hours.. if strips are thin, they will dry quicker. You don't want to over dry. The pineapple juice will add sweetness to the jerky, and the red pepper will add the kick.

(Reprinted from "The Reluctant Bachelor Cook Book by TW Dubson)



# **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# 48th Annual Fall Festival Returns to Downtown Asheboro in 2021

Asheboro, NC - The Randolph Arts Guild Board of Directors is pleased to announce the 48th Annual Fall Festival, to be held the first full weekend in October 2021. Historic Downtown Asheboro and participating vendors will welcome festival goers on Saturday, October 2nd, 9 am – 5 pm and Sunday, October 3rd, 11 am – 4 pm.

The inaugural festival was the Old-Fashioned Fall Festival held in 1972 with approximately 30-35 vendors and was located only Sunset Avenue in Downtown Asheboro. Today, the Randolph Arts is planning for a safe, fun, family friendly event. Vendors will showcase their handcrafted goods, delicious food, local businesses, and non-profit information. Our Festival attracts between forty and sixty thousand visitors each year, consistently attracting and highlighting some extremely talented artists and craftsmen from within and around Randolph County.

The Randolph Arts Guild is currently accepting applications for craft, food, commercial business and information vendors.

# Ramseur Area Civitan Awareness

If you have a desire to volunteer for community service, meet new people for fellowship and friendship, check out Ramseur Area Civitans. Its members help where the needs arise, from collecting food for Ramseur Food Pantry, to volunteering at local community events, supporting area schools' special needs classes, school reading incentive program, Boys and Girl Home of NC, and Special Olympics. The club welcomes new people that have a talent for fund-raising or a heart for community service.

The Ramseur Area Civitan Club was chartered on July 27, 2010 and the club is going on its eleventh year of serving the community. The club meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Jordan Memorial Church in person or by on-line meetings utilizing Zoom.

Civitan is an organization of volunteer service clubs around the world and places a special emphasis on helping people with developmental disabilities. Civitan is one of the major supporters of Special Olympics on the local and state levels. Civitan clubs also fund and organize special camps, such as Victory Junction Camp in Randleman, and events for people with developmental disabilities.

Ramseur Area is part of Area 5 East of North Carolina District West, visit District West Website at: www.ncwest.civitan.net Membership in Civitan is open to anyone who is at least 18 years old and who wants to make a difference in the lives of those around them. To learn more about Civitan, visit www.civitan.org.

If interested in learning more about the club, contact Club President Norval Kraft at (561) 373-1398 or contact Club Secretary Merita Wall at balltoo@embargmail.com or check out the Facebook page "Ramseur Area Civitans."



#### June 5th, 2021:

Something new and exciting is coming to Millstone Creek Orchards the first Saturday in June – Vivian and Dot's Vintage Market, a vintage inspired open-air event. Vivian and Dot Vintage Finds along with vendors that complement their rustic vintage style will bring a collection of high-quality antiques and vintage items to the Orchard. On Saturday, June 5th from 9-5pm, experience a day at the Orchard while shopping vintage finds, enjoying live music, strolling the farmers market, indulging in fresh ice cream, and don't forget to try an apple cider slushie!

#### June 7th, 2021:

#### **Public Hearing: Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance**

The public is advised that at 6:30 p.m., on Monday, June 7, 2021, the Ramseur Board of Commissioners will meet in the council room at Ramseur Town Hall, 724 Liberty Street, Ramseur, North Carolina, to consider amending the definition of "convenience store" in the Ramseur Zoning Ordinance to clarify its meaning. This amendment, if approved, would change the definition to read as follows:

CONVENIENCE STORE – A retail establishment primarily engaged in the sale of gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene, and automotive products, and offer the incidental sales of food, beverages, and other frequently or recurrently needed merchandise for household or automotive use. Convenience stores do not include automotive service stations or vehicle repair.

The public is invited to attend this meeting and will be given the opportunity to express their views.

#### **Public Hearing: Randolph County EDC**

The Town of Ramseur partners and financially supports the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation for their economic development services. The Town of Ramseur contributes \$1000 annually to the Randolph County EDC and receives many services such as: Attraction of new industrial/manufacturing and site selection services, retention and expansion of existing businesses, workforce development resources and assistance.

A public hearing will be held on Monday June 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to approve the Randolph County EDC appropriation for 2021-2022. The public is invited to attend.

#### June 19th, 2021:

#### **Orchard Waterfront Concert Series**

Three nights this summer, come out to Millstone Creek Orchards to enjoy a beautiful evening, sitting waterfront and listening to live music from a few talented local bands and musicians. Bring a few blankets or lawn chairs to enjoy lawn seating or reserve a picnic table below. In addition to great bands and live music, guests can also enjoy an evening hayride around the stunning orchard grounds and fish in our two on-site ponds. Their venue is BYOB (beer and wine only), and all guests must be 21+ to attend.

Concert series line-up: June 19th: Just3 Jazz

July 17th: Musical Roundtable (Finn Phoenix & Chris Bonelli)

August 21st: TBD

#### Cruise n' Main

Go to Downtown Ramseur the 3rd Saturday of June, July, August and September 2021 from 4-7pm for the Cruise'n Main Car Show. Food Truck and others will be here. WZOO will be doing a live event tune into their station.











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#### June 2021 Happy Father's Day Sale

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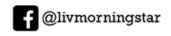
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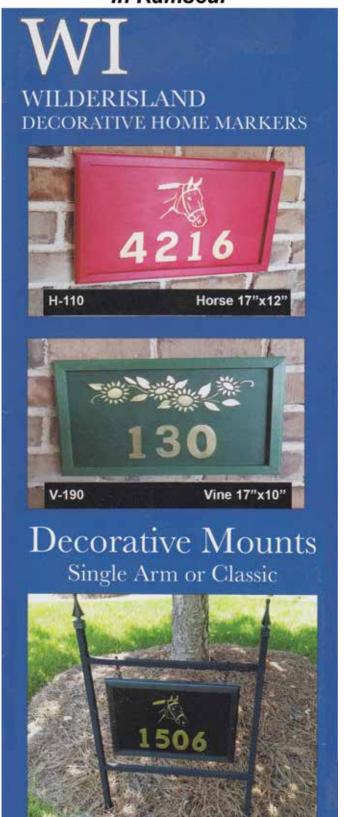
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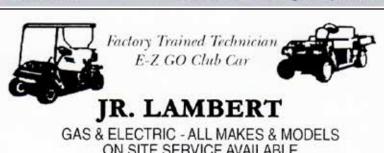


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