



TOPSAIL TIMES

TOPSAIL ISLAND, HOLLY RIDGE, HAMPSTEAD AND SNEADS FERRY



● **17th December, 2021** ● **American-Owned. Free Press.** ● **Volume I, Issue 5** **FREE!**

Ladies and Gentlemen, There's a New Chief in Town

By Dorothy Royal

After 28 years with the Surf City Police department, Chief Ron Shanahan is retiring.

From a group of 30 applicants for the position, Lieutenant Phil Voorhees was selected to take over as Chief on January 1st, 2022.

Lieutenant Voorhees started his law enforcement career with the Chicago Police Department. He worked there for five years before discovering the wonderful Topsail area while on vacation one winter. After leaving the 60 degree NC winter weather to return to minus 2 below zero in Chicago, Lt. Voorhees made a decision. North Carolina was going to be his new home. He packed up his family and by June 2007 he settled in and began working with the Surf City Police Department. 14 years later he has now been appointed as Chief.

A bit nervous but excited, future Chief Voorhees is looking forward to continuing with the great programs and community involvement that Surf City Police Department is known for.

The highly successful "Operation Medicine Drop" which gives people a safe way to dispose of unwanted medications, is conveniently located in the waiting area of the new police department. The department takes the prescriptions for disposal twice a year to the SBI office. The last delivery was a whopping 66.03 pounds of medications taken in October. That is certainly a lot of medications that won't fall into the wrong hands.

"Text A Tip" is also a great way to help keep our community safe. This program allows people to share information and photos (or short videos) simply on their phones.

"Coffee with a cop" will continue, giving area residents a chance to meet one on one with the officers that keep our streets safe.

"Shop with a cop" just completed another successful year of taking area kids in need shopping for Christmas. 10 children, accompanied by officers, went on a shopping spree for clothes, shoes (if needed) and of course, presents. Each child was allotted \$150.00 and the day was a great success.

One of the new items on schedule for early spring is the Citizen's Police Academy where area residents can apply to be part of a group that will meet weekly and learn about the inner workings of the police department.

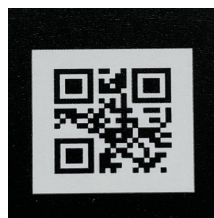
After January 1st, Chief Voorhees will be looking forward to a seamless transition with no disruption to the workings of the police department. The new Chief plans on working on a five year strategic plan to ensure that the needs of the community and the department are met regarding training and technology. The police department currently has 2 drones and a few traffic cameras to assist with investigations as needed.

A new addition to the department is a robot, not yet named, that will help keep the officers safe while performing their duties. The robot was a donation to the department from the military and looks like a Mars explorer and hopefully will get a name soon. It would be great if the robot made an appearance during the Citizen's Police Academy.

The Town of Surf City will continue to be in safe hands and I encourage the members of the community who don't yet know the future Chief Voorhees to reach out and say hello. The police department is a part of the community and each member is part of the Surf City family. Congratulations Chief Voorhees, I know you have great things in store for the community!

Scan this QR
Code to

Text-A-Tip



Surf City Police Stats

11/30/21 – 12/06/21

CALLS FOR SERVICE

- 4 Citizen Complaints
- 2 911 Hang-Ups
- 4 Assist Citizens
- 5 Hazard Preventions
- 2 Alarm Activations
- 2 Suspicious Persons
- 3 Traffic Collisions
- 2 Motor Vehicle Breaking & Entering/Larceny
- 2 Noise Complaints
- 1 Verbal Domestic
- 2 Animal Complaints
- 1 Fraud Report
- 1 Disturbance
- 1 Larceny Report

CITATIONS

- 19 State Citations
- 7 Written Warnings
- 1 Town Ordinance Violation

ARRESTS

- 1 Driving While Impaired

ASSIST OTHER AGENCY

- 1 Pender County Fire/EMS
- 556 Business Checks





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Topsail Times

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Local Organization Shout-Out



Able Buddies NC provides the opportunity for intellectually disabled individuals to become interactive members of their community. We encourage self confidence, independence, and social acceptance, therefore giving purpose to those otherwise overlooked.

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Table of Contents

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Surf City's New Chief | 1 |
| Topsail Gun Gal | 3 |
| Fashion Statements | 5 |
| Local History | 6 |
| Business Appreciation | 7 |
| Lake Linda Scavenger Hunt | 9 |
| Thank Yous | 10 |
| Lake Linda's Christmas Lights | 12 |
| Surf City's New Business; Big Pharma | 13 |
| Recipes; Word Search | 14 |

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Santa's Got a Brand New Gun

Topsail Gun Gal
By Dorothy Royal

A photo from a Colorado’s sheriff’s office has created quite a stir when a man was shown seated, applying for his Conceal and Carry permit. The problem? The man strongly resembled the “big man” from the North Pole. The caption under the photo was simple, “Guess who came in to receive his Concealed Hand-gun Permit today?” Apparently not everyone has a sense of humor. Come on people lighten up, of course Santa has a conceal carry permit! How else could he deliver all those awesome hunting guns and Henry rifles in the south and the west (just not California).

Thinking about having a bonfire for the holidays? How about you hold off on that idea until we get some darn rain! A statewide burn ban is in force until further notice and no one, I mean no one, wants to see an entire community lost to fire.

A new store has opened in Massachusetts just in time for Christmas. “Let’s Go Brandon” is a shop that offers collectibles including shirts, hats, signs, stickers and more. You know what would be really great? If this store opted to sponsor NASCAR driver Brandon Brown’s race car.

Are you tired of getting friend requests from people you don’t know? Has your social media account been filled with more advertisements than actually fun or important information? Well, just wait, it’s going to get worse, much worse. Debt collectors are now allowed to contact you through social media. What does this mean? Simple, a collection agency can now contact you through social media, and once they do, they can consider that your “validation notice” which means they can start reporting to credit bureaus 14 days later. Are there rules? Absolutely. All contact must be “private” and they must tell you up front who they are (they can’t send a vague friend request). Can you block them? Yes. Is this abuse of social media? Absolutely.

Waiting for a FedEx package? Some people may be waiting a very long time as now two sites have been found in Alabama where hundreds of FedEx labeled packages were found dumped in a wooded area. I wonder what those tracking numbers reported. “Your package is in transit” might no longer cut it.

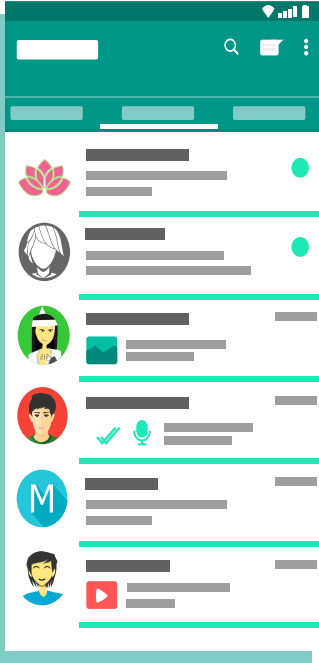
How strange is it that Hawaii has a blizzard warning and will most likely see more snow than several areas in Canada

this year? Hawaii and snow. Doesn’t make sense.

A Maryland homeowner accidentally burned down his million dollar home. The reason? He was trying to get rid of a snake infestation. I completely understand this.

Fun idea for 2022: We need to stop naming hospitals after dead people. How about naming them after someone who can give us some hope like Keith Richards - Thanks Todd Thomas.

Remember knowledge is power, Santa is listening so you better be good, and keep your wits about you on social media – the game has changed.



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Children's

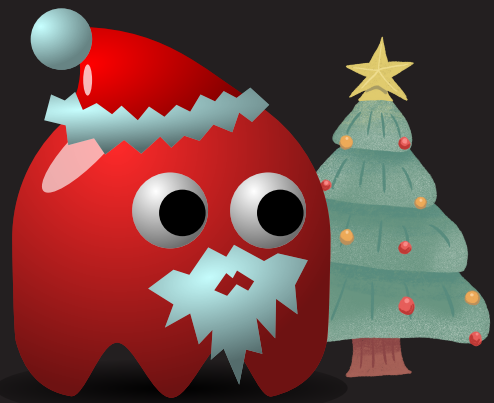
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Jeans Ain't What They Used To Be... Thank Goodness

By Becky Borneman

Special to the Topsail Times

When I hear the term "mom jeans," I can't help but think of the SNL skit with Tina Fey and Amy Poehler prancing around in these "Mom jeans" that I can't imagine any of us would want to be caught dead wearing. I had a moment of panic when I ordered jeans for the store and they arrived and I did not realize that they were the pull on kind, instead of a zip up or button. I thought, oh my gosh what am I going to do with these? These are like mom jeans. Who wants to pull their jeans up? Boy I was wrong.

Let's go back to where the craze for jeans for women started. I have to say the earliest picture I can find is of Marilyn Monroe wearing some adorable

fitted jeans that accentuated her figure nicely. But in my generation growing up, all I remember is Brooke Shields modeling Calvin Klein jeans. She was in every magazine I saw and on every billboard. She was the go-to model for jeans.

However, by the time I got to the age of really caring about fashion, Guess jeans and jeans from The Gap were all anyone was wearing.

Growing up, I attended a small private Catholic school from kindergarten through eighth grade where we wore plaid skirts or plaid jumpers to school every day except for 4 days. The "once a quarter no uniform day" was coveted. We planned for weeks on what we would wear on that one day that we could truly express ourselves, but still staying "pure"

of course.

At 12 years old, my mom would drop my friends and I off at the mall for a few hours, with nothing but a quarter to call home and a little mad money from babysitting (can you imagine that today?) and we would try on jeans for hours between The Gap, 5-7-9, Wet Seal and American Eagle to get the base of our outfit for our no uniform day. I would wear those jeans that I bought that day on our day of expression with pride. I can't even remember the shirts I would pick to wear but I remember the jeans.

Now, a few weeks ago when I opened up that mistakenly ordered box of jeans, I thought to myself OK we can do one of two things. Beg for them to take them back and claim a moment of insanity when I ordered, or put them out there

and see what happens. We chose the latter. And boy I'm glad we did. Those jeans have been the best jeans myself, my coworkers, and my customers have put on in years. They are comfortable, they slide right on, they have actual pockets in the back (no mom jean pockets). Come by Coral Cottage and slide on a pair of these magical pants. I can almost bet you will leave wearing them as did these three lovely ladies in the photo. Available in sizes Small through 3X at Coral Cottage Boutiques for \$44.95



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Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

By Carol Ann Ross

Special to the Topsail Times

A few of years ago I was walking on the beach on Christmas Day, there was no one else on the beach at the time and I guessed the regular walkers were all still inside enjoying their gifts and such. But there I was walking on the beach I love the most, when much to my surprise a helicopter came overhead. It swooped down close enough that I could hear the whoops and hollers from the three men hanging from the open bay door, dressed as Santa, all waving to me, saying Merry Christmas. I waved back, called back, and watched them sail out of sight. Wow! How neat was that?

Ever since then I have been thankful for that day, it's a great memory. It reminded me of the old days when the simplicity of seeing Santa was the most important thing of all. In essence, the sight made me feel like a kid again-like I was a kid again on Topsail and we were both still young.

Christmas on Topsail Island, back in the old days, was a hoot. Of course, back then there were no lights on the poles, no big sales at the stores, no floatilla, no big tree in the park-heck, there was no park. But one thing we did have was the simplicity of the season. We had each other and our community. Small though it may have been, members of the



Kenny Batts, Alvin Batts, Carol Ross, Ron Church with Santa early 1960s at the VFW.
Photos provided by Carol Ann Ross

community presented through the churches, the VFW, and local business owners, celebrations for the kids and adults.

The VFW always put on a big event with Santa and gifts from the Marines (Toys for Tots). I remember those times well, it was a really big deal. Standing in line, waiting for your gift, wondering what you would get. Wow, again!



Santa in Chopper

Sometimes Santa would ride in on a jeep or a big truck, but he'd always have a big sack of toys for all the kids. The VFW always had a huge tree with lights and bulbs. Members came days before to decorate - that in itself was a party too.

The little Baptist church in Surf City had a Christmas show with the wise men and baby Jesus in the manger. The choir would sing all the seasonal hymns. The preacher would read from the Bible the story of the birth of Jesus while kids reenacted the scene. I remember that usually Silent Night would be the last song, it always made me cry. I also remember my dog Whitey outside howling along.



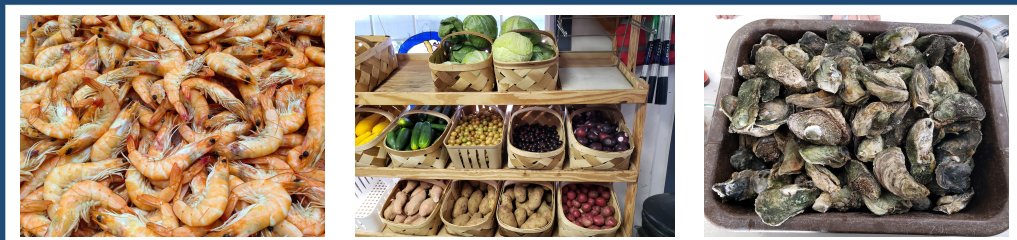
Tim and Todd Thomas with their father George in the 1960s

One event, maybe special only to me, was my dad's planter punch. On Christmas Day, after we opened up our gifts, my father, Frank Ross, would open up

the Texaco station, (across from IGA) and offer a huge bowl of punch to those who wanted to stop by and chew the fat and wish each other a good year. Daddy never let me drink this punch, but he did let me eat the fruit from the bottom. Maybe that's why it is such a fond memory. Anyway, the visit may have been for only a few minutes, but people from all over the island would stop by to have a cup of punch with my father, exchange a few kind words with a fellow



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resident and then be on his way. Now, that is truly the spirit of Christmas.

We try to remember what Christmas is all about. We all know it is not about stuff. It is what we make, wrapping our love with words and gestures.

He is the reason for the season. Regardless of your beliefs, Christmas is called so because of one thing-one event. We don't call it Washingtonmas or Trumpmas or Zeusmas. I try to remember that, because sometimes I'm a great little sinner. Still, my goal is to be better, to be more like HIM. Christmas does that for me. It reminds me of the people I have loved, do love and always will love - Of those I could have been kinder too, more forgiving of, and more thankful.

I have no crystal ball, broke that years ago, so what is yet to come is beyond my knowledge. However, for the future, I wish peace and joy, self worth, and accomplishment to my friends and family-and our world.

For the people who are active in my present, I wish peace and joy, and my thanks for our friendship.

For those from the past, I offer thanks for being a part of my life. Your mere existence, brought color and smiles and warm fuzzy feelings that will last throughout time.

So, have yourself a merry little Christmas, may the love of the season keep you warm and full forever.
Merry Christmas.



Dee Dee and Yogi Paliotti in the early 1960s with Santa



Business Appreciation

Running a business is always stressful, especially when working with credit cards. We recently had a problem one night after batching and we realized a customer's card was charged the wrong amount. In a panic, I contacted the customer support line (it was 11pm on a Saturday) and was pleased when someone answered right away. The agent listened and helped me resolve the issue in a simple format that took away my stress. Less than five minutes later problem was solved. I have never worked with a company this great. I strongly recommend BEYOND and suggest that anyone with a business that takes credit cards give JoAnne DeRossett a call today. My rates are low and I can personally attest to customer service!



JoAnne DeRossett

joanne.derossett@getbeyond.com

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Stump Sound News



Eleanor Hall is the Stump Sound area resident puzzle assembler and can be found at City Café working hard. She might even let you help!



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It was the night before Christmas and all through the house not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. Except Bob. Bob was seated before the fire with care, a drink one hand, the other in his hair. Had he really pulled off the perfect Holiday? He had wondered the same thing while having breakfast at City Cafe.

Bob had taken his mother in law to New Attitude and now her hair sparkled and bounced and she no longer looked like a dude. He ordered her Paparazzi jewelry from Anne and picked it up yesterday and hid it in the coffee can (don't worry he will add a bow).

All the food was prepared and ready to serve. He had wings from Southern Roots Grille for his old cousin Merve. A quick trip to Thomas Seafood and the crab dip was ready. A fishing day at Seaview Pier and now he had trout for uncle Eddie.

At Herring's Outdoor Sports, he picked up a kayak and hat for his teenage cousin, Durword Vonzack.

At DDT Furniture he found plenty of things, including an outdoor dining set that looked like tree rings.

For his niece he bought puzzles, pillows and art that glitters at Beach Furniture Outfitters.

He had taken the family through Lake Linda's Christmas Lights, not once but twice.

As he sat by the fire and took another swig, he wondered what his mother-in-law was up to now that she no longer needed her wig.

In the kitchen Gertrude sat on the phone, telling her friend Edith about her new home. She just loved her realtor, Kelly Pollard and decided to make her a fresh batch of collards. Lighthouse Electric had made all her Christmas lights bright, while Tammy Lamberth made sure all her insurance was right. She loved her new Topsail throw, so soft and unique that she bought on Black Friday from Coral Cottage Boutiques!

She picked up a few gift certificates for Bob and her daughter that day. She got him one at Paradise Axe and Arcade so he and the family could go play. She bought one at JM's On The Water so that they would have to take her to dinner, including her daughter. She bought herself a nice revolver at Surf City Guns so she could go shooting with all of her sons.

As Bob overheard his mother in law exclaim she was moving real soon, he smiled real wide and toasted the moon. Just a few more days to go and she would be out, he threw open the door and loudy did shout,

"Merry Christmas to all and to all a goodnight, just a few more days and the world will be right,"

Lake Linda Scavenger Hunt

What is the radio station you should tune in to while going through the light show?

How many deer are there to the left of the entrance?

(Across from the parking area for the walking trail)

How many camels are located along the walking trail?

What color is the horse-drawn wagon by the lake house?

_____ and _____

How many ball ornaments are on the red and white bells along the walking trail?

What is Snoopy laying on by the Christmas Shoppe?

How many boxed presents does Santa have on his sleigh by the lake?

How many gingerbread men are on the slide?

How many trees total are along the lake in front of Santa and his sleigh?

(includes small green trees, light-up trees, and big christmas tree)

What is the word located across the lake from the Christmas Shoppe?

How many Charlie Brown characters are there along the archway?

How many angels are there at the exit of the light show?

Want to be entered for a prize?

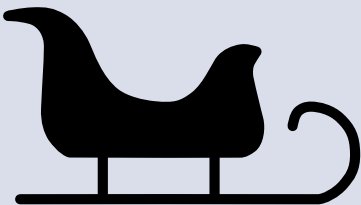
Give us your:

Name _____

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and drop the filled-in scavenger hunt into the donation box by Santa for a chance to win!



Thank You

Every year for the last several years I have had the honor to serve the Pender County Community in the capacity of the "Big Jolly Red Fella". This year is no different then the all the other years. The children are our future and it is our responsibility to protect them. I have served in this capacity prior to elections and will continue to serve in this capacity and many others well after the elections. I am a proud Pender County community member and look forward to many more years of doing my part to make our community strong and enjoyable. Please make sure to do your part especially this time of year and give back to our community.

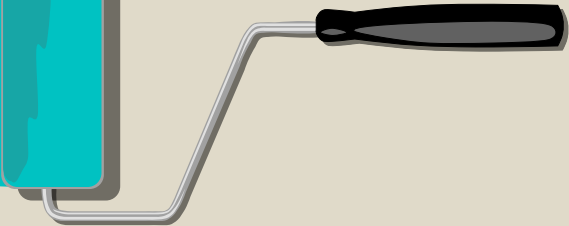
- Joe Cina

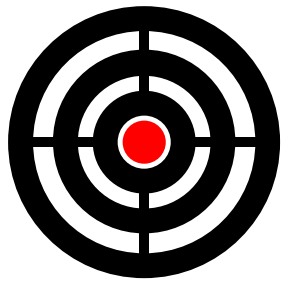


I was lucky enough to be at SushiGem and picked up your publication. I have lived at North Topsail for over 20 years and already have learned more about the history of our community thru your publication.

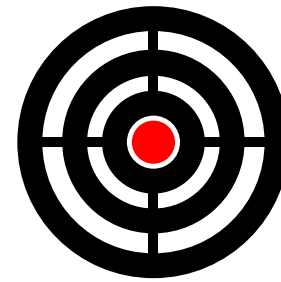
Articles by Dorothy Royal and Becky Borneman always bring a smile to readers faces. Thanks again for a great paper! I look forward to sharing your publication with NTB friends!!

- Hanna McCloud





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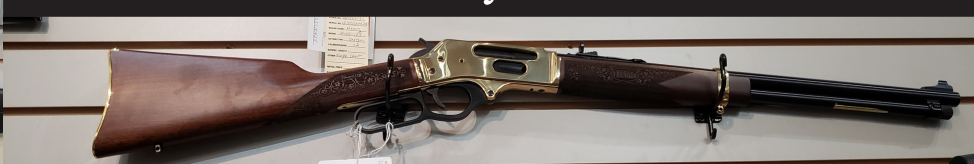
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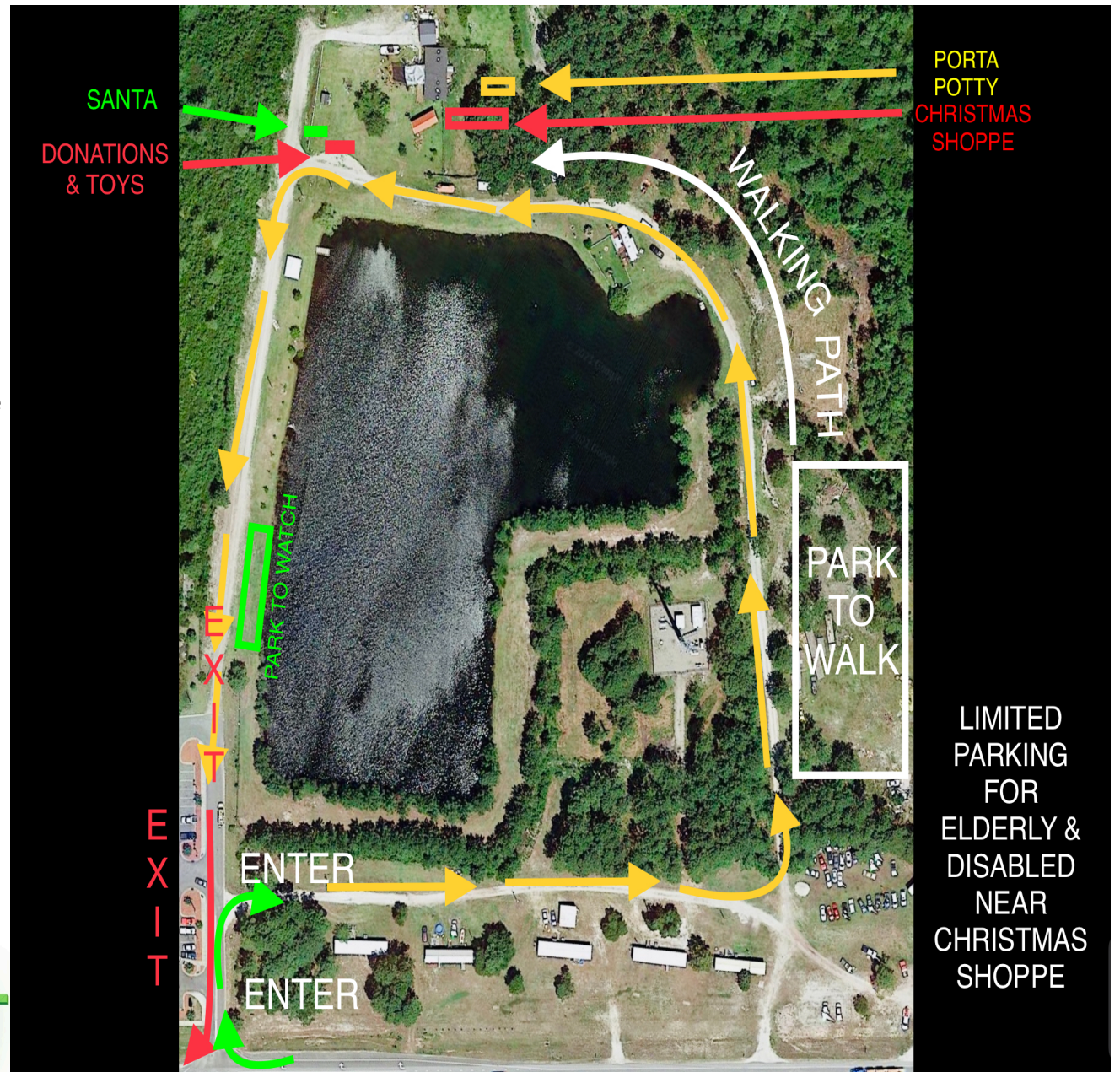
Fun Facts:

- In 2020, over 28,000 vehicles passed through the wonderful Lake Linda's CHRISTmas Lights
- Lake Linda's CHRISTmas Lights were featured on last year's ABC's "The Greatest Christmas Light Fight"
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Thursday, Dec 30th, starting at 10AM

Surf City Welcomes a New Business

By Raquel Royal

The town of Surf City has a new business that is as modern as it gets. The new Exotic Hemp Co. is located in a row of shops on Hwy 50 next to Salty Turtle. The shop contains a wide variety of goodies for people and pets. From liquid concentrates to body ointments and lotions, Exotic Hemp has what you need. Healthy CBD gummies and hard candies are available, but make sure you have your photo ID since the state requires a purchaser to be 21 years of age or older.

Is your pet nervous or afraid of loud noises? CBD products for pets can help and are available in drops or edible treats.

Exotic Hemp is currently working on a peanut butter infused with CBD and infused jerky for pets too.

The name Exotic Hemp came from Mason Rivenbark who was looking for a name that was both easy to remember and catchy.

The suppliers of their products are from North Carolina, Colorado Springs and California. Any of their products labeled NC-Cana come only from the North Carolina manufacturers.

Let the staff help guide you with recommendations for which CBD products are right for you. Education is key to learning about the benefits of CBD products. All employees are trained to be able to answer questions and assist

with needs. Only the best quality products are carried in their stores to ensure the best results. The mission of the crew at Exotic Hemp is to help people medicinally and to help people break away from big pharma.

Check out their website at <https://exotichempco.com> to get a 10% off coupon for your first visit. Are you a first responder or current or retired military? Exotic Hemp offers a 10% discount for every purchase! Teachers are included too! Veterans, be sure to check in on Veterans Day for a 25% discount.

Exotic Hemp is open 9am until 7pm at all their locations, including Wilmington and Hampstead. Stop by and say hello!



When Greed Takes Over Big Pharma

By Dorothy Royal

North Carolina was one of the seven states that sued self proclaimed "Pharma Bro" Martin Shkreli after his pharmaceutical company decided to raise the price of a life saving medication by 4000%. The life saving pill, which had been selling at \$17.50 per pill, was drastically jacked up to \$750 a pill when Martin Shkreli's company obtained exclusive rights to the medication. The only word that can describe such a vile act is greed. Shkreli sent out an email in 2015 proclaiming that the company will certainly have a handsome investment as a result of the price hike. What he didn't foresee was the outcry that generated congressional hearings over the matter.

His decision left patients in need with co-pays as high as \$16,000 which of course was unattainable by any standard.

The lawsuit that included North Carolina, New York, California, Illinois,

Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia alleged that the pharmaceutical company created an environment where other companies could not compete to create a less expensive generic drug and blocked access to key ingredients.

The settlement filed the first week of December requires the pharmaceutical company to provide up to \$40 million dollars in relief over 10 years to consumers who were impacted and requires them to make Daraprim available to generic competitors.

The CEO of Yyera, Kevin Mulleady (one of the companies responsible) has been banned for 7 years from working in the industry in any capacity or to face a \$250,000 fine.

Shkreli is currently serving a prison term for securities fraud (unrelated) and is scheduled to go on trial regarding this greed next week.

My only question is what happened to all those people unable to afford the drug for the last 6 years?



Great Ideas for Christmas Eve Dinner

Glazed Baby Back Ribs

12 Oz Dr Pepper Or Favorite Brown Cola
1 Slab (2-1/2 to 2-3/4 Lbs) Baby Back Ribs
4 Oz Barbeque Sauce
3 Tbsp Molasses

Rub:

2 Tbsp Course Ground Sea Salt
2 Tbsp Ground Celery Seed
1/2 Cup Dark Brown Sugar
1/4 Tsp Ground Allspice
1 Tsp Cayenne Pepper
1 Tbsp Chili Powder
2 Tbsp Paprika



Pour soda into small saucepan and bring to a simmer over medium high heat. Simmer until reduced by 3/4. Stir in barbeque sauce. Remove from heat and set aside. To prepare rub, combine all ingredients in mixing bowl. Rub entire slab of ribs with molasses, then evenly coat entire surface with rub. Preheat oven to 250. Wrap ribs in 2 layers of plastic wrap. Wrap again with alluminum foil. Place ribs on sheet pan and bake for approximately 2-1/2 to 3 hours, or until bone can be easily pulled from the meat. Remove from oven and remove the foil and plastic wrap. Glaze the entire slab of ribs with sauce mixture. Raise oven temperature to 450. Place ribs back in oven, uncovered. Cook for additional 45 minutes, or until sauce starts to bubble and caramelize. Remove from oven and apply additional sauce as desired.

Prime Rib with Garlic Blue Cheese Dressing

1 (5 to 6 Lb) Bone In Prime Rib Roast Trimmed
1/4 Cup Fresh Rosemary Leaves
2 Tsp Ground Black Pepper
1/2 Cup Fresh Basil Leaves
6 Large Garlic Cloves
3 Tbsp Dijon Mustard
2 Tsp Kosher Salt
3 Tbsp Olive Oil
Dressing:
1 Medium Garlic Clove Thinly Sliced
6 Oz Blue Cheese Crumbled
Fresh Ground Black Pepper
3/4 Cup Heavy Cream



Let roast stand at room temperature for 30 minutes before grilling. Preheat grill. In food processor, finely mince garlic, rosemary, basil, salt and pepper. Add mustard and olive oil, processing to form paste. Smear paste over top and sides of roast. Grill the roast, bone side down, over indirect medium heat until cooked to taste, 1-1/2 to 2 hours for medium rare. Transfer to cutting board and remove bones. Loosely cover roast with foil and let rest for 20 to 30 minutes. The internal temperature will rise 5 to 10 degrees during this time. To prepare dressing, place cream and garlic in medium saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium high heat, then lower heat and simmer for 5 to 10 minutes, or until cream coats the back of a spoon. Remove pan from heat and stir in cheese. Season with pepper to taste.

Potato Puffs

1 Lb Mashed Potatoes
3-1/2 Oz Cheddar Cheese Shredded
1 Tbsp Parsley Finely Chopped
1 Small Onion Finely Diced
1/4 Cup All Purpose Flour

Ground Pepper To Taste
1/4 Tsp Ground Nutmeg
Oil For Deep Frying
3 Eggs Separated
1/2 Cup Milk



Combine potatoes, cheese, onion, parsley, and pepper in large bowl. Add sufficient milk to give a fluffy consistency, add egg yolks, nutmeg, ground pepper and flour. Mix well. Heat oil in deep heavy based pan until moderately hot. Beat egg whites to form stiff peaks, fold through potato mixture. Cook tablespoons of mixture (no more than 5 at a time) until golden and crisp. Remove puffs with slotted spoon, drain well on paper towel and keep warm. Repeat until all of mixture is used. Serve garnished with fresh chopped parsley.

All recipes from the
Town of Holly Ridge's
Liberty Fountain Cookbook
Volume II
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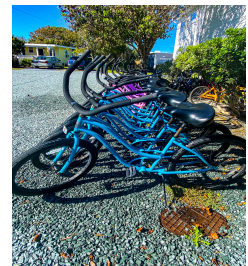
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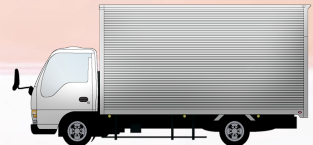
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