



TOPSAIL TIMES

TOPSAIL ISLAND, HOLLY RIDGE, HAMPSTEAD AND SNEADS FERRY



● **5th November, 2021** ● **American-Owned. Free Press.** ● **Volume I, Issue 2** **FREE!**

Topsail Area Community Mourns the Loss of Two Men in Holly Ridge Plane Crash

By Dorothy Royal

On the 21st of October, late in the afternoon on a warm sunny day, four friends boarded a small private plane at the Holly Ridge airport off Sound Road. Within the first minute of take-off trouble was detected and the plane failed, crashing in the tall pines that surrounded the airport. By the time the emergency personnel arrived, the pilot, William Roberts and one of his guests, Willie "Jamie" Hobbs Jr, were gone. The two young passengers were injured and taken to area hospitals.

The plane, a 1980 Mooney M20J, was owned by the pilot. During the investigation it was reported that all parts of the plane have been accounted for and were being tested to see if a cause can be determined. The full investigation

could take over a year.

Bound by the universal language of music, both Will Roberts and Jamie Hobbs were local celebrities in their own right and will be missed by all. Will Roberts was a self-proclaimed musician, amateur radio operator, former engineer, and airplane pilot. Jamie Hobbs Jr. was a father of three, a musician, an auctioneer, and an avid boater who enjoyed the outdoors whether hiking, camping or just riding.

Both men leave behind a legacy and fans who will always keep them in their hearts.



Willie "Jamie" Hobbs Jr

William Roberts

When a life is lived to the fullest, when no day is wasted with excuses, when the sun sets and the soul is happy, there is a feeling of a life well lived.

Local Holiday Festivities



Veteran's Day Ceremony
November 11th, 2021 @ 11AM
Liberty Fountain Park
404 Sound Road, Holly Ridge, NC



Will be hosted by the town of Holly Ridge and the VFW Post 9983.

Surf City Christmas Tree Lighting
November 20th, 2021 @ 6-9PM
Surf City Town Park
517 Roland Ave, Surf City, NC

Holiday Market
November 26th, 2021 @ 9AM-5PM
14061 NC-50, Holly Ridge, NC
Will be hosted by Mia's Marketplace and Coral Cottage

Holly Ridge Christmas Tree Lighting
December 3rd, 2021 @ 6PM
In front of Holly Ridge Fire Dept.
109 Holly St, Holly Ridge, NC 28445

Christmas Hayride with Santa
December 4th, 2021 @ 3PM
Kiwanis Park
586 Sloop Point Road, Hampstead, NC





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Topsail Times

Print Dates 2021

Nov 5th
Nov 19th
Dec 3rd
Dec 17th

TOPSAIL TIMES NEWSPAPER



Publisher

Topsail Times Newspaper, LLC

Contributing Writers

Dorothy Royal
Carol Overstreet
Becky Borneman
Rita Rendon

Contributing Photographers

Rebecca Royal
Carol Overstreet

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.

www.ablebuddiesnc.org

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Pop-Tarts and Prop Guns, What is This World Coming To?

Topsail Gun Gal By Dorothy Royal

Special to the Topsail Times

Hollywood knows movie magic but when that magic goes wrong, new rules and regulations are quick to follow.

On the set of his new film, Rust, Alec Baldwin was given a prop gun and told it was "cold" which in movie talk means "safe to use".

Unfortunately, that information was wrong and it resulted in the death of Cinematographer, Halyna Hutchins and an injury to the director, Joel Souza.

Mr. Baldwin was not being filmed at the time of the accident but was apparently practicing how to draw the gun while on the set.

So many questions.

First and foremost in the world of gun safety, Rule #1 – ALWAYS TREAT A GUN AS IF IT IS LOADED. Apparently in all his years of training this lesson was overly relaxed and forgotten. If you practice with this rule in mind, regardless of whether a gun is loaded or not, accidents will be avoided.

Rule #2 – Always check your own weapon to make sure it is empty and clear. Do not ever take the word of others when something is so important. I have seen this rule broken time after time when a person is looking at a firearm to purchase. Don't depend on

anyone but yourself! Safety first.

Rule #3 – Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to use the firearm. Apparently this rule was also broken. If a person is practicing pulling a gun from a holster for whatever reason, the finger does not need to be on the trigger. Finger straight out.

In the world of training it is very common to see "blue guns" which are generally a weighted thick plastic gun, molded to be identical to several makes and models that feels like a real gun but has no components to fire any type of projectile other than a laser.

Several versions of blue guns are sold with laser training kits that can be used at home, at the office or anywhere you feel the need to train safely.

These are a fantastic option for people who want to practice "drawing" a gun or practicing a stance or body motion when acting out a scenario of self-defense or target shooting.

I also strongly recommend a person practice carrying one of these to get used to having a gun on them (when preparing for conceal and carry). I know this may sound silly to some, but not everyone grew up with firearms and the act of suddenly having one on you, in a holster or in a purse, may be a completely foreign feeling and can be very stressful. Getting familiar with the

weight and the proper way you decide to carry is very important and should not be taken lightly. Not everyone wants to carry the same way, or should. It is very common for people to try two or three methods of carrying (types of holsters and body location) before they find the right fit. Don't be afraid to try something new, there are more types of holsters on the market today than ever before.

Growing up as a child, Kellogg Pop-Tarts were part of my Saturday morning routine. A yummy warm pair of strawberry pop-tarts covered in melting butter with a big glass of juice and Saturday morning cartoons. Yeah baby, that was the life! Kids today don't know what they are missing.

Enter Anita Harris, a person who is not impressed by the false claims of the strawberry filling being packed with strawberry goodness. In fact, she discovered that the filling itself contains 2% or less (which of course would be 1%) of real strawberries. What is this lie that we have been fed? Apparently a mix of dried fruits including pears, apples and a dash of strawberry with a ton of RED #40 food coloring has been leading us astray all along. She has had enough!

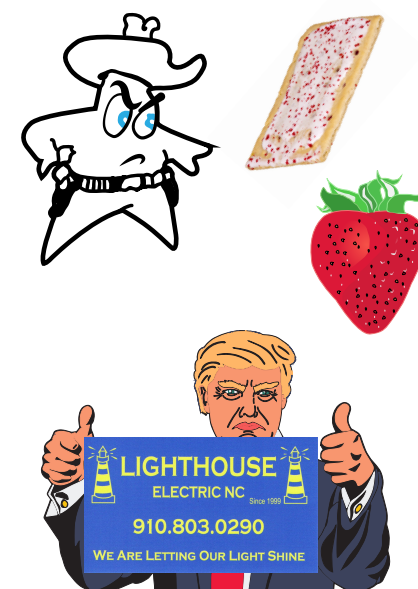
With five million dollars on the line with this class action lawsuit, Kellogg's is paying attention.

Let's be honest, did anyone ever really think that a pop-tart, regardless of the flavor, was a real healthy meal choice? I'm not sure I cared but then again our choices were limited. We had strawberry, blueberry, apple, and brown sugar cinnamon and that was it, and we were happy.

Today Kellogg's has over fifty flavors packed into the toasted pastry. Kids have too many choices these days – maybe that's why no one can focus anymore!

Remember knowledge is power, keep to the simple safety rules and accidents won't happen, and go out and enjoy a simple strawberry pop-tart (once they fix the formula), covered in melting butter while wearing your pajamas and watching cartoons.

Yes, life can be that simple again.



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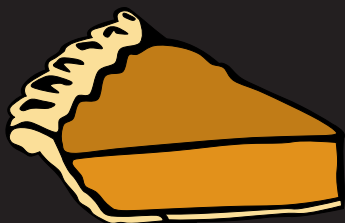
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Fashions Come and Go but the Jean Jacket is Eternal

By Becky Borneman

Special to the Topsail Times

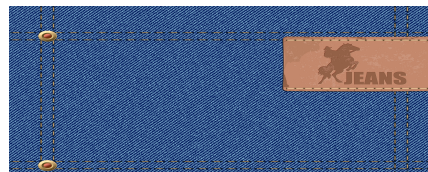
How many jean jackets do you have? I've asked this question to almost 25 people in the last week and the average is FIVE! I first thought that that was a lot of jean jackets. Then I got to thinking...I have my white one, my dark denim, my light denim, my frayed edged one, my mint green one and my black one. SIX! I have six! So who am I to judge?

My first jean jacket was given to me by Santa Claus. I asked Santa for a jean jacket so I could put all of my New Kids On The Block buttons all over it the way all the girls in Teen Beat did to theirs. Totally chic! But I remember the first jean jacket I fell in love with. It was my daddy's he would wear when riding

horses. It's wool lining smelled of hay and horses. I still have that jacket in my closet and it still has that stable aroma.

The jean jacket has been around for nearly 150 years thanks to Levi Strauss. It emerged almost 10 years after he invented Levi jeans back in the 1870's. The jean jacket has evolved since then and really took off with the youth of the 60's, seen almost as a sign of defiance of their parents white collar professional wear. Characters Tom Hanson, Marty McFly and John Bender (my 80's people will recognize these guys) made the jean jacket a closet staple when they donned them in iconic 80's movies and TV shows. Now Brittany and Justin might have set the denim craze as a whole back a little circa 2001 at the American Music Awards. Google that photo for a laugh!

Nowadays the jean jacket is worn every which way. In the photo, Joy is wearing her jean jacket over a cute leopard sleeveless dress allowing her to enjoy that dress through the Fall season. Coral Cottage Boutiques has several jean jackets for you to choose from and we carry them throughout the year. Stop in and add to your jean jacket collection!



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In The Beginning

By Carol Overstreet
Special to the Topsail Times

Surf City came to be in 1949 when a group of men, among them Roland Batts, Al Ward, Ed Yow and David Lucas met to determine what that specific part of Topsail Island was to be called. Ed Yow, an enterprising lawyer from Wilmington, had been purchasing land on the island for several years before World War II. He pictured a small oceanfront community and dreamed of one day developing the area. Ed visited it often to go fishing, often walking along the shore daydreaming and fashioning quaint cottages among the windblown water oaks and dunes. More often than not he brought his good friend Al Ward with him on these walks. Al was a Realtor from Wilmington and shared Ed's vision of an everyman's vacation spot.

Roland Batts, son of J.H. Batts, also shared an interest in developing the narrow barrier island, or sandbar. His family had owned land there since the 1860s and his dream of living on the island had been blossoming since his childhood when he led cattle from the mainland across the shallow water to graze and from his days of coming there to seine fish with family and friends.

Prior to 1948 the nameless island had been leased from local farmers and by the government for a secret guided missile program known as Operation Bumblebee.



"The Banks" in the 1930s
Photos provided by Carol Overstreet

Observation towers were then built throughout the island, as well as a launch pad for the missiles. One might say that Operation Bumblebee was a precursor to Cape Canaveral since after eighteen months, the program pulled out and headed to Florida.

Before being used as a missile site, Topsail Island was an anti aircraft training range during World War II.

As part of Camp Davis (located in Holly Ridge) it was home to several barracks, an officer's club, warehouses, fire houses and other facilities. Though the island was used as a training range for the Army, military personnel enjoyed the natural resources and amenities and hundreds came to enjoy the ocean and the fishing there.



Surf City License Plate

Before the 1940s, and before the government used the land, it was used mostly for grazing cattle and fishing. No homes were on the island except for the occasional fishing shack. There was no electricity, no roads and no access to the island except during low tide or by boat.

Seine fishing was a big deal in those days and families from Sloop Point to Sneads Ferry partook in the activity. These millions of tons of fish gathered on those seine fishing days were harvested and taken to Wilmington where they were sold to the highest bidder.

Those were salad days for the folks of this area. Read next week's article to learn more about seine fishing. It's hard to believe that folks worked that hard for something they needed, but they did.



World War II Bumblebee Tower

NOVEMBER 2021

11/1	Mon	H	4:55 AM	L	10:59 AM	H	5:16 PM	L	11:25 PM
11/2	Tue	H	5:44 AM	L	11:53 AM	H	6:04 PM	-	-
11/3	Wed	L	12:07 AM	H	6:31 AM	L	12:46 PM	H	6:51 PM
11/4	Thur	L	12:50 AM	H	7:18 AM	L	1:37 PM	H	7:39 PM
11/5	Fri	L	1:35 AM	H	8:06 AM	L	2:29 PM	H	8:27 PM
11/6	Sat	L	2:21 AM	H	8:56 AM	L	3:22 PM	H	9:17 PM
11/7	Sun	L	2:10 AM	H	8:48 AM	L	3:17 PM	H	9:10 PM
11/8	Mon	L	3:02 AM	H	9:43 AM	L	4:14 PM	H	10:08 PM
11/9	Tue	L	3:59 AM	H	10:43 AM	L	5:16 PM	H	11:12 PM
11/10	Wed	L	5:03 AM	H	11:46 AM	L	6:21 PM	-	-
11/11	Thur	H	12:22 AM	L	6:14 AM	H	12:54 PM	L	7:26 PM
11/12	Fri	H	1:33 AM	L	7:29 AM	H	2:00 PM	L	8:26 PM
11/13	Sat	H	2:41 AM	L	8:40 AM	H	3:02 PM	L	9:20 PM
11/14	Sun	H	3:39 AM	L	9:44 AM	H	3:56 PM	L	10:06 PM
11/15	Mon	H	4:29 AM	L	10:38 AM	H	4:44 PM	L	10:47 PM
11/16	Tue	H	5:13 AM	L	11:26 AM	H	5:27 PM	L	11:24 PM
11/17	Wed	H	5:52 AM	L	12:10 PM	H	6:06 PM	L	11:58 PM
11/18	Thur	H	6:29 AM	L	12:50 PM	H	6:44 PM	-	-
11/19	Fri	L	12:31 AM	H	7:04 AM	L	1:28 PM	H	7:20 PM
11/20	Sat	L	1:04 AM	H	7:39 AM	L	2:06 PM	H	7:56 PM
11/21	Sun	L	1:38 AM	H	8:15 AM	L	2:44 PM	H	8:32 PM
11/22	Mon	L	2:14 AM	H	8:52 AM	L	3:24 PM	H	9:11 PM
11/23	Tue	L	2:51 AM	H	9:31 AM	L	4:05 PM	H	9:52 PM
11/24	Wed	L	3:32 AM	H	10:14 AM	L	4:49 PM	H	10:38 PM
11/25	Thur	L	4:19 AM	H	11:01 AM	L	5:37 PM	H	11:30 PM
11/26	Fri	L	5:14 AM	H	11:52 AM	L	6:26 PM	-	-
11/27	Sat	H	12:28 AM	L	6:16 AM	H	12:47 PM	L	7:17 PM
11/28	Sun	H	1:28 AM	L	7:23 AM	H	1:45 PM	L	8:06 PM
11/29	Mon	H	2:26 AM	L	8:30 AM	H	2:42 PM	L	8:55 PM
11/30	Tue	H	3:22 AM	L	9:33 AM	H	3:37 PM	L	9:42 PM

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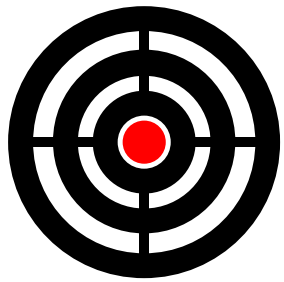
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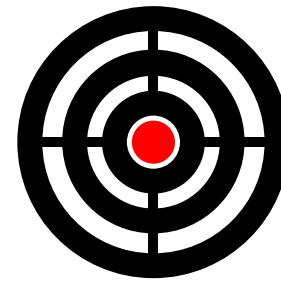


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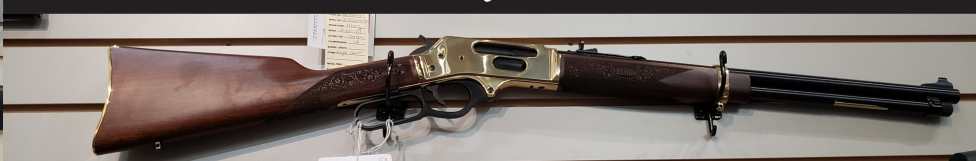
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Opossum or Possum

However You Say it, is a Very Misunderstood North American Animal

By Rita Rendon

Fun Facts:

Five fingers on front feet and four fingers and a thumb on rear feet, which makes it perfect for climbing.

Adult opossums do NOT sleep while hanging from their tails. A tail, also considered a fifth arm, is mainly used for holding, gathering leaves and balance. Babies may hang around once in a while.

Possums breed twice a year, in the spring and in the fall.

A mother possum can have up to 13 babies but the average litter is 6-9

A mother possum will carry her babies in her pouch for ten weeks before they start venturing out.

On the scale of 1 to 10 for best moms, a possum is a 3. In the event that one of her babies falls off her back, she will not return for it. Sorry kid, if you can't catch up, you are left behind.



Possums do not get rabies due to a lower body temperature.

Possums are immune to most snake bites. Scientists have been working for years to figure this out.

Possums can eat up to 5,000 ticks in a season. Yum yum.

The only marsupial in Canada and the United States

A possum will "play dead" to protect itself but the action is involuntary and may last for hours.

A possum will also give out a terrible smell to deter attackers.

Very large possums have a design flaw as their hearts don't keep up with the size needed to keep the blood flowing. This of course leads to a shorter life span.

The average life span of a possum in the wild is three to five years.

The next time you encounter one of these hairless ears and tail monster from the deep forest, remember, looks aren't everything and

sometime you have to look past the fangs and surprised look to realize Mother Nature put this critter here for a great purpose. Just be kind.

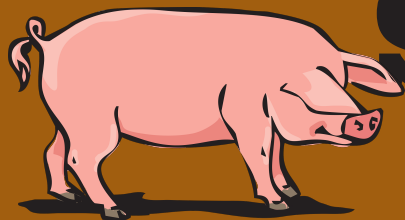
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animal welfare and wildlife rescue organization.

Outdoor wildlife photos provided by Rebecca Royal



SURF CITY BBQ AND CATERING



"Surf City's Best Prime Rib, Brunswick Stew and Banana Pudding!"



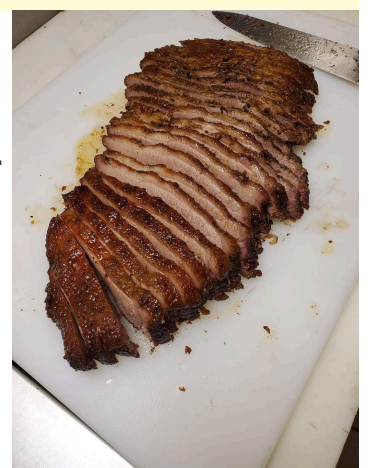
**Daily Lunch
Specials Served
Tuesday - Friday**



**Winter Hours
Tues-Thurs 11-8
Fri-Sat 11-8:30**



**Smothered Chicken
BBQ Pork
Applewood Smoked
Chicken
Flounder, Shrimp,
and Catfish
Pork Ribs
and Family Packs**



Large Party Seating Available and Catering for all your Entertaining Needs

**Located at 13500 Suite 112, Highway-50, Surf City, NC
(910) 328-4227**

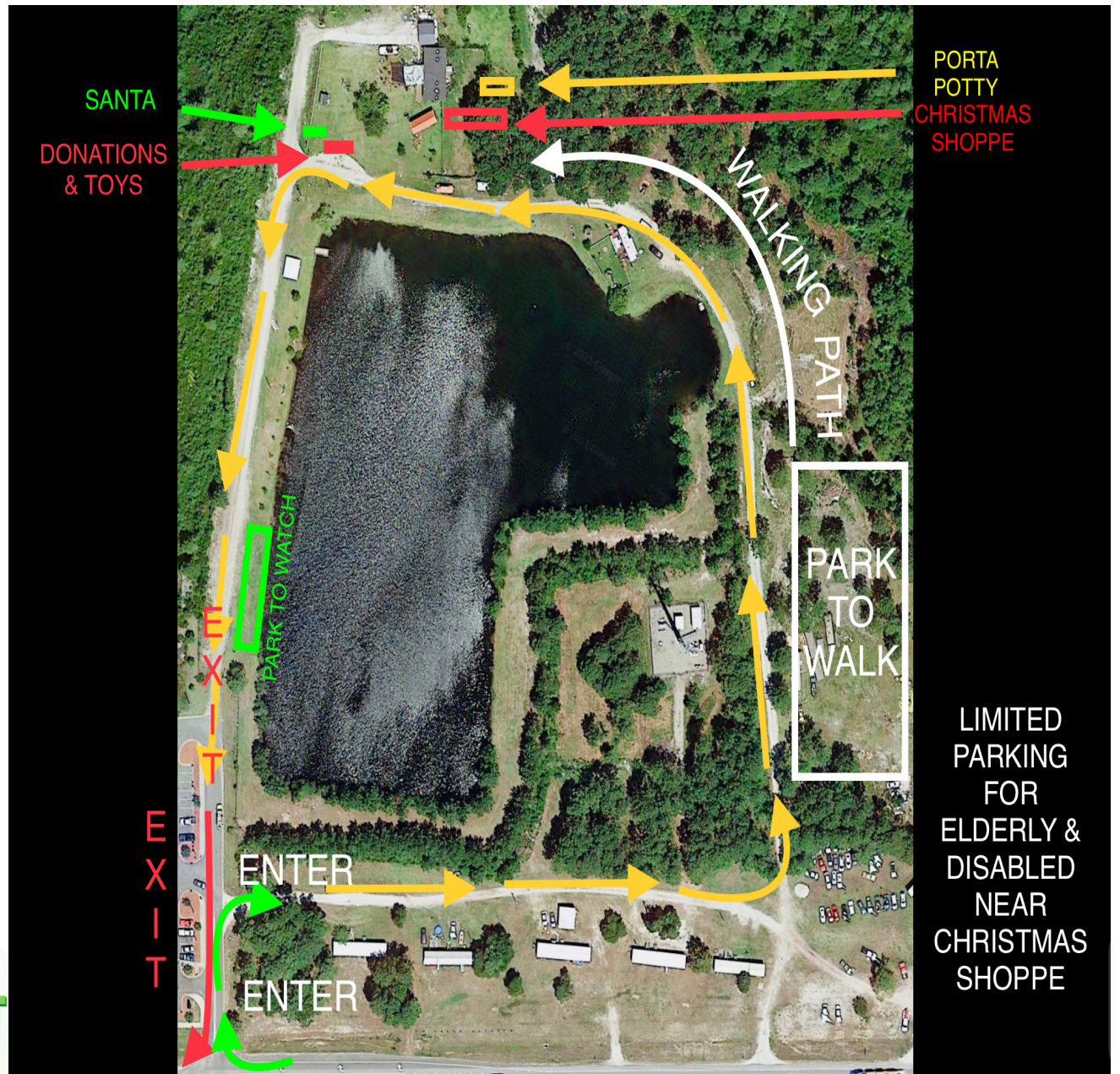
Fun Facts:

- 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"
- Lake Linda's CHRISTmas Lights is now a 501c3 non-profit organization that needs your help
- This year Lake Linda's apparel will be available at the gift shop to help show your support



Mike & Tonia Register
 Lake Linda's CHRISTmas Lights
 501(c)3 Organization
 910-279-3892
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Lights turn on November 25th!



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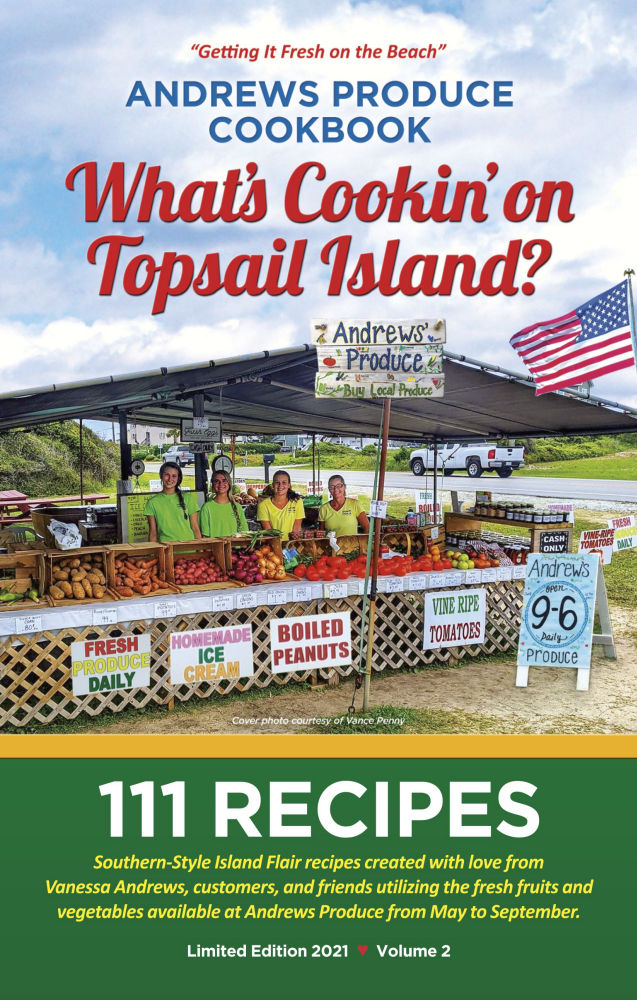


**Maple Hill and Holly Ridge
 Drivers Pay Attention!**

On Monday, October 11th, a bridge replacement will begin on Highway 50 over Sandy Run Swamp. The North Carolina Department of Transportation says the bridge will be closed to traffic during the construction project which is forecast to run into the late spring. Detours on Haws Run Road and Padgett Road will give keep traffic flowing on either side of NC-50.

For more information, got to:

www.drivenc.gov



HOMEMADE STOVETOP STUFFING

yield: 6 SERVINGS prep time: 15 MINUTES cook time: 20 MINUTES total time: 35 MINUTES

Skipped the boxed stuffing and try this super EASY stovetop version instead. I promise. It tastes a million times better!

INGREDIENTS:

- 10 slices sourdough bread, diced into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 1/2 teaspoon dried sage
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon dried rosemary
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 cup chicken stock, or more, to taste
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley leaves



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Spread bread cubes in a single layer on a baking sheet. Place into oven and bake until crisp and golden, about 4-5 minutes; set aside.
3. Melt butter in a large skillet over medium high heat. Add garlic, onion, carrots and celery. Cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, about 3-4 minutes. Stir in sage, thyme and rosemary until fragrant, about 1 minute.
4. Stir in bread cubes and gently toss to combine. Stir in chicken stock and parsley; cover and remove from heat. Let sit for 10 minutes.
5. Serve immediately.

This delicious recipe brought to you by Damn Delicious

What's for Lunch?

Creamy Chicken Tortellini Soup

ANDREWS PRODUCE SHOPPING LIST

Vidalia Onion
White Button Mushrooms
Fresh Garlic

INGREDIENTS

1½ tablespoons olive oil
1½ cups Vidalia onion, chopped
1½ cups carrots, diced
1 pint white button mushrooms, sliced
3 cloves garlic, minced
4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
1 pound chicken breast filets, sliced in ¼-in strips
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 teaspoon dried thyme
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
¼ cup unsalted butter
⅓ cup flour
2½ cups milk
Bag of three-cheese tortellini
4 cups fresh spinach
½ cup heavy cream
Finely shredded Parmesan cheese, for serving



DIRECTIONS

- Heat olive oil in a large stockpot over medium-high heat.
- Add sliced chicken, and cook until browned and cooked through.
- Add onion, carrots and mushrooms then sauté 3 minutes
- Add garlic and sauté 1 minute longer.
- Add in chicken broth, oregano and thyme and season with salt and pepper.
- Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low. Cover pot with lid and allow to simmer 10-15 minutes to incorporate all the flavors.
- Melt butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add flour and cook, whisking constantly 1 minute.
- While whisking vigorously, slowly pour in milk. Season with salt and pepper and bring mixture just to a light boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and set aside.
- Meanwhile, add thawed tortellini to soup. Cover pot with lid and allow to boil over medium heat for about 7 minutes (or time directed on package).
- Add spinach during last 1 minute.
- Stir in white sauce. Serve warm with parmesan cheese.

Word Search

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