



# TOPSAIL TIMES

TOPSAIL ISLAND, HOLLY RIDGE, HAMPSTEAD AND SNEADS FERRY



● **28th January, 2022** ● **American-Owned. Free Press.** ● **Volume II, Issue 3** **FREE!**

## January 2022 Ice Storm



Photo Courtesy of Lisa Lewis

Snow, ice and bitter cold winds traveled along the east coast of the Carolinas last week creating chaos. Flights were canceled for both arriving and departing flights, schools were closed and grocery stores were packed with eager buyers wanting comfort food. Forecasters were concerned with not only the ice and snow, but for the possibility of wide spread power outages.

Many areas, including North Topsail Beach, did experience power outages. Extreme cold, not common in the coastal areas of North and South Carolina, is also to blame for busted water pipes. Several ocean front homes fell victim to this event the day after the initial freeze, when things began to melt. The news media played a guessing game with ice and snow fall totals, especially in North and South Carolina, but one thing was certain, winter weather would be affecting millions.

Black ice on the roadways led to several accidents and caused area

bridges to be closed to all traffic.

State DOT trucks were seen spraying roadways with a brine mixture before the event started in hopes of minimizing the ice. Bags of salt, sand and cat litter were being sold and spread by hand on steps and walk ways. Several area businesses decided it was safer for employees and customers to remain closed.

Is it likely that the coastal areas will receive another winter storm? Almost all sources say yes. Unlike the storm of 1989 that left the area blanketed by 20" of snow, this event was mostly ice and slush.

Areas as far south as Charleston were coated in a white layer of winter which certainly makes for some beautiful photos. Most residents will admit they enjoy a little winter, as long as it only lasts a day or two.

Keep your hat, scarf and mittens by the door because I think we may see a bit more!

### Snow Totals

Pasquotank County 8 inches  
Pitt County 6 inches  
Cumberland County 4.7 inches

Lenior County 4.5 inches  
Johnston County 4 inches  
Durham County 3.8 inches

Halifax County 3.4 inches  
Wake County 3.4 inches  
Orange County 2.3 inches

Onslow County 1 inch  
Pender County .5 inch  
Carteret County .4 inch



Ice-Covered Watts Landing Road Area  
Courtesy of SCPD



Photo Courtesy of David Ogorman





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# Topsail Times

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**TOPSAIL TIMES NEWSPAPER**



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# Topsail Gun Gal: Shot Show

By Dorothy Royal

The gun world depends on such major events as the famous "Shot Show" in Las Vegas to show off the new and greatest items coming to the market. With Covid cases on the rise the number of venders and visitors have been greatly reduced, but don't fret, new items are still on the horizon.

Are you a fan of the Browning High Power 9mm pistol? Well you are in luck. Both EAA Girsan and Springfield are coming out with a P35 model.

Kalashnikov USA has come out with a new self-defense shotgun called "Chaos" which resembles a Mossberg Shockwave but is magazine fed.



Kalashnikov USA "Chaos"

Bond Arms, known for derringers, will be introducing the Stinger which is only 1/2 an inch thick

Magnum Research BFR (biggest finest revolver) 20th anniversary will be introduced in 45-70 but don't wait, only 20 of these will be produced.



Magnum Research  
20th Anniversary Revolver

The Mossberg 9mm pistol will now have company when the MC2SC with red dot is introduced. This Sub compact will certainly be popular.



Mossberg MC2SC 9mm

Trailblazer, a NC company known for their credit card sized handgun will be introducing their new "Pivot" 9mm survival rifle in 2022. Ultra compact at 20.9" long, this rifle will use Glock magazines and fold for easy carry/storage. The MSRP is listed at \$1,795.

With ammunition still playing hard to get, I strongly recommend finding a nice .22lr rifle, pistol or revolver to use for target practice at the range. .22 long rifle ammo is coming back in and now is the time to grab a few boxes and head outdoors (check with your local laws please).

One of the coolest items I have used this past year has been a .22lr conversion for my AR-15 rifle. Most kits come with 3 magazines and make the day at the range very affordable. Easy to use, just replace the bolt and off you go but please don't forget to oil your firearm!

Number one issue with jamming is a dry gun.

You wouldn't drive your car without oil would you? Of course not. Gun oil does not have to be expensive but it is vital to the function of your firearm in your care program.

Not sure what to use? Stop by any local gun shop and ask. Most people have recommendations that are readily available. Always keep a bottle or spray in your range bag.

Remember knowledge is power and a clean, oiled firearm is essential for a fun day at the range.



CMMG Bravo .22LR Conversion Kit



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Bond Arms Stinger



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## Gun Gal's Top 10

### TOP TEN THINGS ABOUT WINTER WEATHER DRIVING

1. No vehicle is good on ice.
2. Give your vehicle plenty of time to warm up before driving and make sure all windows are free and clear of ice or snow. Visibility is key.
3. Salt your steps and driveways (keep a container of table salt in your vehicle or by front door).
4. Plug in your diesel. Older trucks have a plug at front of motor. Keeps glow plugs from straining.
5. Have winter rated windshield washer fluid and antifreeze.
6. Always keep an emergency pack in your vehicle of food, water, blankets and flashlights.
7. Bridges freeze faster and can have black ice.
8. Let people know where you are going. Sliding off the side of the road is possible.
9. Keep your phone charged when traveling and activate your "find my phone" feature.
10. Avoid driving if you don't have to and if you must drive keep plenty of space between you and the car in front of you. This can happen quickly.

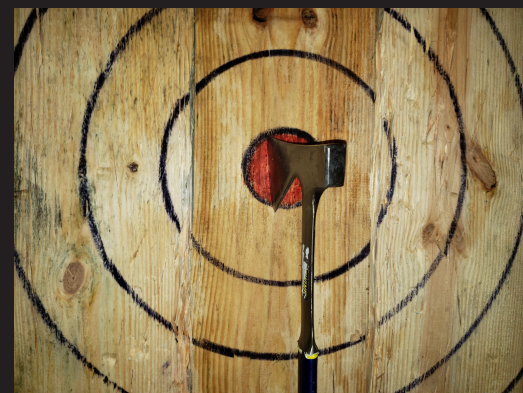






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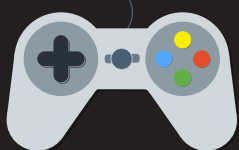
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## A Customer I'll Never Forget

**By Becky Borneman**  
Special to the Topsail Times

Did anyone else catch the amazing College Football Championship game between Alabama and Georgia? I watched it from beginning to finish on pins and needles. There's just something about football. Back in early November, a gentleman named Steve Mundy came into Coral Cottage to purchase some gifts for his family. He walks in and boldly asks if he can get the Georgia Bulldog special which I promptly replied, "of course, the special is DOUBLE the retail price." We laughed and trash-talked each other's teams for a while.

I love College Football. It's when the sport is played with one's truest heart.

These boys are playing for their future or they're playing their last few years of football ever. The hype of school tradition, the mascots, the fans in the stands...I grew up going to FSU football games in a stadium that has grown immensely over the years, now holding 79,560 fans. It's the largest continuous brick structure in the United States...in little Tallahassee.

I'll never forget the night FSU beat Auburn in the National Championship for the 2013 season. It was a back and forth game, Auburn leading, FSU leading. Emotions were running high. It came down to the last 79 seconds of the game. Auburn scored a touchdown giving them the lead of 31-27. We were on pins and needles. This is the point in the game

that you stand up from wherever you're seated and continue to watch the rest of the game pacing. Literally pacing. With 13 seconds to spare...FSU scores the final touchdown. Mom and I jumped up and down, ran to the front door, stood on the front porch and for 2 fairly reserved Southern girls, yelled and whooped and hollered so loud I'm sure we woke up the neighbors.

Mr. Steve & I have kept in touch and I even pulled for his beloved Bulldogs for the championship, just for him. Watching the Ala vs. Ga game brought back many great memories of cheering on FSU in the same setting. The pride I felt for the Bulldogs as they pulled off a National Championship title after 42 years was overwhelming. The emotion on the field

exuded through the TV from both the coaches and the players. They deserved that win.

Now no matter what football team you love, whether it be the Seminoles, the Bulldogs, the Tarheels or the Wolfpack...there's nothing that compares to the friends I've made through Coral Cottage!



Uga the University of Georgia Mascot  
Photo Credit to JaxBulldogs



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# Sea Turtle Hospital News



By Karen Sota

Our hospital has been unusually quiet over the past few months, with the only admissions being the thirteen cold-stunned Kemp's that were stranded in New England late last year. Under our expert care they quickly recovered and were moved into Sea Turtle Bay where they have been enjoying spacious accommodations and a complimentary breakfast while waiting for their ride to warmer off-shore waters.

Standing in a Sick Bay that was so empty it echoed we kept asking ourselves "but where are OUR cold stuns?" By "our" we mean the turtles from North Carolina waters that just didn't get the message that the weather was about to turn on them. Last week we got our answer.

Seven cold-stunned victims that had initially been evaluated at CMAST (Center for Marine Sciences and Technology in Morehead City) arrived at our door. Thankfully, we have some big doors because one of our new patients tipped the scales at over two-hundred pounds, and another one at over one-hundred pounds! As you've probably guessed by now, they're both loggerheads. On the ride down with them were four small greens and one

young Kemp's. And since they were all still on the frosty side they were settled in one of our "cold rooms" to begin their gradual warm-up. By the time you read this they will have been moved into Sick Bay to begin their care and treatment, including that all-important first meal.

But they needed names, and thanks to our turtle-loving public who voted on our website for the "theme" for turtles coming in this year we have a lengthy list of (drum roll) Crayola crayon colors. And I mean a long list. Crayola has been remarkably busy naming crayons since the big box of sixty-four (with the built-in sharpener!) back in the 50's. And I'm guessing that at least some of you reading this are smiling at the memory of getting one of those for your very own! So, without further delay, introducing our very own 2022 Carolina cold-stuns: loggerheads Sepia and Cotton Candy; Kemp's Fern and greens Sea Glass, Oatmeal, Cool Mint and Scarlet. With the Carolina weather finally acting more like winter it won't be too long before we add more colors to our box.



Green Sea Glass

## THE HOSPITAL IS NOW CLOSED FOR TOURS

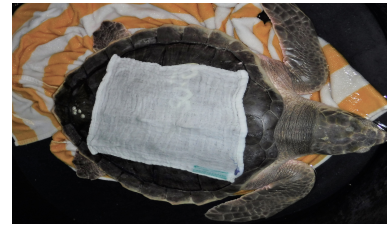
We are closed for public tours until spring of 2022. Winter is a busy season for us – cold stun season. It's the time of year when our staff puts in the really long days, coming in and leaving in the dark. But our online gift shop and adoption center stays open 24/7 so you can order our exclusive hospital merchandise and adopt your favorite turtle(s) with a visit to our website:

[www.seaturtlehospital.org](http://www.seaturtlehospital.org).

Your support through gift shop purchases and adoptions goes directly to the care of our patients. And thanks to all of our supporters for a spectacular 2021! And wait until you see what we have planned for our gift shop in 2022 – stay tuned.



Loggerhead Sepia



Kemp's Fern

## COLD STUN SEASON IS OFFICIALLY HERE

Yes, officially, with the arrival of our seven new patients. Please be our extra eyes for spotting any turtle in distress.

The smaller ones are especially vulnerable as they have less fat to protect them and not a lot of experience with cold snaps. Don't assume a turtle is beyond help because it can't move. They are stunned and motionless.

If you spot anything unusual, please call our Director of Beach Operations, Terry Meyer at: 910-470-2880.

If she is not available, you may call the hospital during operating hours: 910-329-0222.

We will take the information and we will meet you to retrieve the turtle that will then be brought to us for follow-up.

The State of NC hotline for stranded, sick, and injured turtles is 252-241-7367.

The state number picks up 24/7.

Please note that all our work with sea turtles, at the hospital and on the beach, is authorized by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, ES Permit 22ST05.



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# The Early Folks

**By Carol Ann Ross**

Special to the Topsail Times

From what I understand folks have been coming to Topsail Island for a long time. Certainly they were coming here long before 1949 when our little stretch of sand was named, and they came here for an obvious reason, fishing. Oh, they brought cattle and hogs over and did some gator hunting and wild kale gathering, but fishing was the main reason folks came here before the 1940s (when the military leased the land).

Lots has happened since then, lots of changes have occurred, some good, some not so good. Still, those who came here early got to experience some of the simple pleasures of living on a barrier island, they also had to work hard to realize their dreams.

I would like to highlight one of those families who began visiting “the banks,” as it was once called. The family is the Bland family and they have been around since the 1740s, making their home Burgaw. You’ll notice as you drive south on Topsail Island that many streets bear their name, so undoubtedly they were part of the early pioneers here.

In 1907, John Thomas Bland, Sr. purchased three quarters of a mile of sand, beach grass, and windswept oaks, leading from the dunes to the sound.. That bit of land was located just this side of the old tower on the line between Surf City and Topsail Beach. In fact, some of the purchase is across the Topsail Beach line.



Dot Bland with her sons at the Bland house on Topsail Island

*Photos provided by Carol Ann Ross*

Not much was here then, farmers were still bringing their cattle across to graze on the natural grasses and lots of seine fishing was going on. By around 1928 the Blands had built a small fishing shack on their property and though it offered no electricity, it did offer shelter from the sun and a place to cook up those fish they caught. It was certainly a nice place to come and relax, and by the early 1950s, Bill and Dot Bland were bringing their four sons, Bob, Bill, Tom and Richard, over to the island to enjoy the beach.

Until their present residence was built in 1973, the family parked a trailer on their property and camped. They also built a permanent screened in porch to park it near. Ahh, the living was easy and simple and so very uncomplicated, except when the boys were busy carving out the little roads

and trails through the junipers, oaks and briers leading to the sound.

In 1973, Bill Bland retired from the N.C. State Forestry Service and his wife Dot (still employed as a Ford Motor Company Leasing Manager) began construction on their home on Topsail Island. Together they worked to make their beach house dream come true. Bill and Dot built the entire downstairs of their home themselves along with the garages and apartments. Contractors built the upstairs and the wrap-around porch.

The present residence of the Bland family has seen its share of hurricanes and changes to the island. In 1996 Hurricane Fran did real damage to much of Topsail, with the Bland house sustaining some as well. The roof, the gutters and some siding, had to be replaced.

Needless to say, they fared well compared to neighboring buildings that were completely destroyed.

Perhaps the construction of the Bland house had something to do with that.

The Bland house is a beach house. I like it because it’s not fancy or ostentatious, it’s a simple family style home built with comfort and love in mind. Hopefully it will be here for many more generations.



The Bland Family

The Bland family has been around for a while, originating from the Burgaw area and dating back to the 1740s .

You may notice, as you drive south on the island, the names of the roads bearing the Bland name. This purchase of land extended from the ocean to the sound.



The Bland fishing shack



Present day Bland family home



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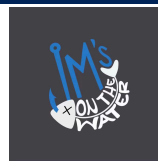
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# Acts of Kindness

**By Dorothy Royal**

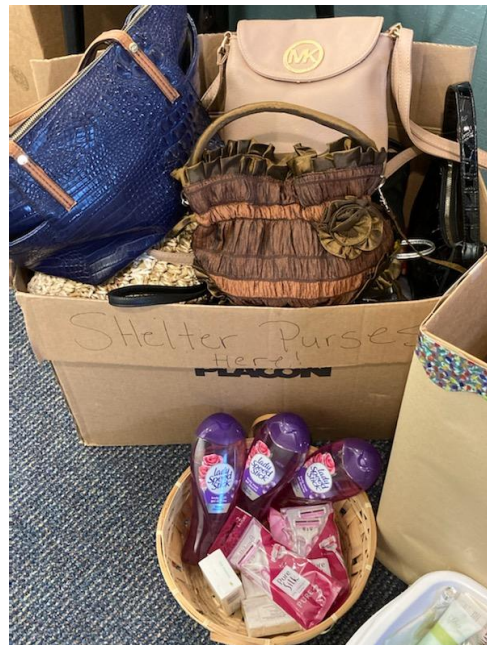
Kay Burros, a local Holly Ridge resident and celebrity to anyone who has seen her in a Halloween costume (this woman knows no boundaries), together with Peggy Gentry, have put together the purse for a purpose campaign, **"Pack a Purse Roundup"**. The focus of this program is to take unused purses that are in good condition and fill them with essential toiletry items for women in shelters or women in need.

The purses will be filled with basic things like hair care, cleaning wipes, feminine products, soaps and deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

The goal is to make this an annual event after the holidays when people are taking the time to clean out their closets.

Both Kay Burrows and Peggy Gentry share a love of community and hope to challenge the younger members of the community to keep this wonderful program running. It is the goal of these two women that younger people begin to realize their responsibility to help those in need. Every person needs to take hold of the members of their communities in need because together we are so much stronger than alone.

How successful has this been so far? Just ask Dale Best-Van Deusen at Swingbridge Nutrition in Surf City. Dale has been instrumental in collecting almost 50 bags so far in just over a week. With the help of Ashley Ritter and Haley Woods from The Daily Grind and Jennifer Marshall from Summerhouse, the pile is growing daily and so is the excitement in the community.



**Want to drop off a purse and/or items?**  
You can do that at any of the following locations:

- Swingbridge Nutrition at 103 Atkinson Point Road in Surf City every day except Wednesday.
- Paradise Axe and Arcade at 127 Sound Road in Holly Ridge every day except Monday.
- City Cafe on hwy 17 in Holly Ridge. Every day except Sunday and Monday.
- Salty Sistas at 2004 NC Hwy. 172 in Sneads Ferry. (Wednesday thru Saturday)

All purses and products will be picked up on Monday, February 28th throughout the day and will be donated to Share the Table who will distribute the purses to those in need.

*Share the Table is not a drop off point and would like you to use the four listed sites.*



*Kay Burros & Peggy Gentry presents*

## Pack a Purse Roundup

Asking all ladies with a new or slightly used purse that's no longer wanted! Please consider donating it filled with female personal hygiene products for adults and teens in need.

Most requested items are



Toothpaste  
Toothbrush  
Deodorant  
Hairbrush  
Nail Clippers  
Disposable Wipes  
Kotex  
Tampons  
Panty Liners  
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# OCPAW: Balloon Release and Our Environment

By Dotty Harding

Our beach community is a destination for folks to create a memory and celebrate an event, such as a wedding, birthday or the celebration of life. I often see people gathering on the beach for a balloon release as they gaze heavenly as this symbol of their love and respect lifts ever upward in remembrance.

However, if we would ponder this action somewhat longer than it takes for those balloons to disappear from our view, we perhaps will come across some facts that would give us pause.

Balloon launches are bad for the environment in several ways, but let's start with wildlife. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) points out that wildlife can confuse the small, bright pieces of a balloon as food. In a website blog, the agency says:

*"Balloons that are released into the air don't just go away, they either get snagged on something such as tree branches or electrical wires, deflate and make their way back down, or rise until they pop and fall back to Earth where they can create a lot of problems. Many balloons that are not properly disposed of end up in the ocean and along shores, becoming marine debris....Balloons can be mistaken for food, and if eaten and ingested, balloons and other marine*

*debris can lead to loss of nutrition, internal injury, starvation, and death. String or ribbon that is often found attached to balloons can cause entanglement. String can wrap around marine life causing injury, illness, and suffocation."*

The TURTLE ISLAND restoration network stated the following regarding the sea turtles... many turtles eat balloons because they think it is a jellyfish. When animals eat debris it becomes lodged in their digestive tract, trapping air and disrupting their ability to dive down. This leads to the animal's inability to feed or protect themselves and, eventually, the animal will starve to death.

Because balloons can travel far beyond their release point, farmers must be vigilant with their land and animals.

I was moved to tears to see the Facebook post of Tracy Trey Franklin from Greeneville, Tennessee:

*"Well I have the results from the vet. She choked to death on a balloon. The string was all down into her stomach but the bulk of the balloon was stuck in her throat. I wish people wouldn't release balloons. They end up in places that they shouldn't and donkeys will eat anything. My little Ninnie died over a memorial balloon someone let go! It was not a very big balloon but rather a small rubber*

*one. Now I will be checking every inch of my property for items like this. I can't deal with another death. PLEASE DO NOT RELEASE BALLOONS TO REMEMBER SOMEONE BY. THEY END UP HURTING OTHERS."*

Different counties ban balloons or have specific fines. I believe that knowledge is power and the majority of us never want to inflict harm purposefully, so please consider alternatives to balloons. Plant a tree, float flowers on the water, have a fundraiser, candlelight vigil, or colorful wind streamers or bubbles on the beach. You can make a difference!



Photo Credit to Tracy Trey Franklin

So in every act of kindness, we hold in our own hands the mercy of our Maker, whose purposes are in life and not death, whose love does not stop at us but surrounds us, bestowing dignity and beauty and hope on every creature that lives and suffers and perishes. Perhaps that is part of the animals' role among us, to awaken humility, to turn our minds back to the mystery of things, and open our hearts to that most impractical of hopes in which all creation speaks as one. For them as for us, if there is any hope at all then it is the same hope, and the same love, and the same God who

*(Dominion by Matthew Scully)*  
*"shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Rev.21:4)*



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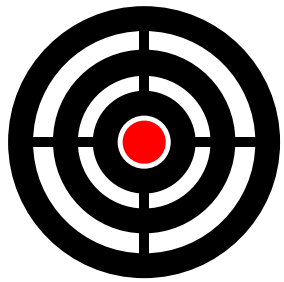
- Uncooked oats
- Cereal
- Cooked rice (ideally brown)
- Soaked dog kibble
- Wet dog or cat food
- Fresh coconut in the shell
- Baked potatoes
- Suet blocks / bird cake
- Raw peanuts / walnuts / others
- Raw sunflower seeds
- Wild birdseed
- Bread is better than nothing at all, but is very low in nutritional value.

Thank You for caring!

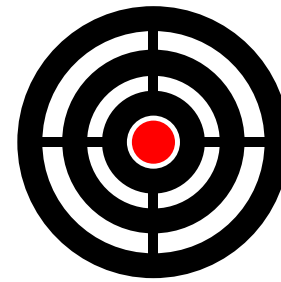


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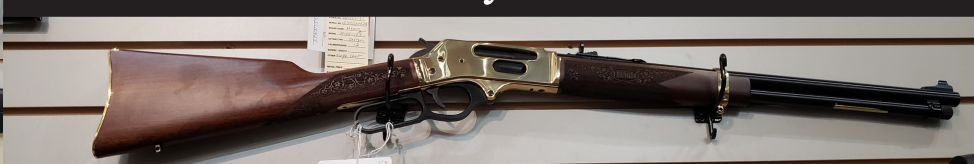
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# Ghost Gear

By Lise Gore

Our oceans are haunted. It is not your traditional ghost, it's more frightening than that.

According to a new report from the World Wildlife Fund between 500,000 and one million tons of fishing gear are entering the ocean each year. This lost or abandoned gear is called ghost gear and to be fair to fishermen and women it is most often lost since abandoning such equipment is costly.

Storms, getting snagged on rocks or the ocean bottom, being accidentally cut loose by other marine traffic are some of the main reasons the gear ends up in our oceans. There is also the issue of being discarded by those fishing illegally or in places where no disposal is available. Crab pots, lobster pots and nets are made of some of the strongest plastic available and it may take decades for the material to degrade. Modern Plastics are so strong they can last up to 600 years in the water! Ghost gear is lethal longer than we will be alive.

One of the major factors that make this type of pollution the most detrimental is the fact that this gear keeps fishing once it is abandoned. The impact on commercial fishing and the threat to marine life are astounding.

It targets harvest-able species of fish, lobster and crabs. It also impacts many of our endangered marine life since dolphins, turtles and sharks become entangled in the debris. Birds can also fall victim to the nets as they are attracted to marine life caught in the gear. Even coral reefs and seagrass can be smothered by the heavy masses of gear. There is also a potential danger to boats as propellers are sometimes entangled in the nets. This makes the lost gear a hazard at sea for all those who inhabit it.

In 2018, 300 sea turtles were found dead in a net off the coast of Mexico. In June of 2020, Italian divers were able to rescue a sperm whale trapped in a net. Snared fish either starve to death or are picked off by predators who then may become trapped as well. Ghost gear provides its own constant bait and can continue to kill wildlife for decades.

This is a global problem and if you consider that the ocean makes up 70 percent of the earth it is a global concern. Fortunately we do have organizations such as the Olive Ridley Project, Global Ghost Gear Initiative, World Wildlife, NOAA Debris program and many others including our own NC Coastal Federation.

This year the NC Coastal Federation began its fishing gear recovery project on January 8, 2022 and it will run till the end of the month. Rachel Bisesi, Coastal Education Coordinator said this is the 8th year the Coastal Federation has been involved in the project. They received funding from the General Assembly for the project which involves local commercial fishermen and women. During the annual closure of internal coastal waters to crab, eel fish and shrimp pots these fishermen and women take the opportunity to gather the ghost gear from north of the Highway 58 bridge to Emerald Isle.

Commercial fishermen partnered with Carolina Marine Patrol removed over 3,000 pots from selected areas last year. The pots that are collected are recycled and are available to the rightful owners once the clean up is completed.

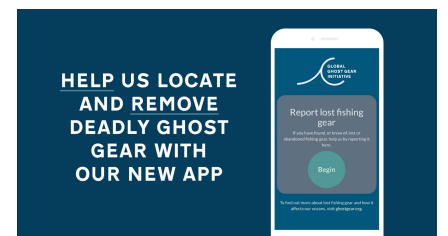
There is an effort to recycle ghost gear by companies like Green Plastics. Adidas makes a shoe partially made from ocean plastics. The Net Free Seas project creates bottle openers and other products from the nets. Skateboards are made from recycled ghost gear. A company called Bureo melts the gear into a plastic pellet called Net Plus that allows companies to use the plastic in their products such as skateboards,

sunglasses and games. Ford Motor Company is also using 100 percent recycled ocean plastics in their vehicles. The parts being used replace parts formerly made from petroleum based plastic. They are equal in strength and durability but take 10 percent less energy to produce.

With the continued awareness and efforts of us all we can stop the haunting in our oceans. And who knows you may be driving a car or wearing sunglasses made by these "ghost busters".



Photo Credit to GhostGear.org





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# Surf City Police Department Robot

By Dorothy Royal

The Town of Surf City Police Department has a new added member and its name is Robot. Officially the Talon MK2 Robot was used by the military to detect explosives, but now it has found a home where hopefully that won't be necessary. Surf City Police Sgt. Peterson has taken the lead on learning about and training other members of the department on the use of MK2.

A briefcase holds the key. Inside four screens show the view from all of the cameras on MK2. A joystick operates the tracks and the speed of the robot and the range is quiet impressive. With three forward cameras and one rear camera, not a lot goes unnoticed.

In the event of needing to see inside a door or vehicle, the neck can be lifted and extended.

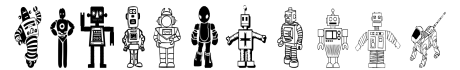
This is a great feature when an officer is seeking more information but wants to maintain a safe distance.

With a price tag of just over \$200,000.00 the donation was well received and only the purchase of batteries were required to get MK2 up and running.

Acquired by the Surf City PD through the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA),

the Talon MK2 robot's primary function with the police department will be to assist officers in the field.

And it is possible that the Talon MK2 will be making an appearance at the Surf City Police Citizen's Academy this February.



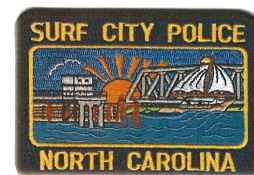
## VFW Post 9983 Award

By Walter Z.

A Marine Corps combat veteran has been named VFW Post 9983 and the North Carolina 5th District Law Enforcement Public Servant of the Year. Allan Bouakio, a four year veteran of the Onslow County Sheriff's Office was selected for his consistent excellence in the performance of his duties and his continuous growth in responsibilities and skills. Currently the Dixon Middle School SRO, he has served as a Detention Officer, Behavior Management Unit Detention Officer, Bailiff and is a member of the SWAT Team.

A Marine Corps SSgt., Bouakio had a combined five combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. He was awarded two Combat Action Ribbons, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal (W/four stars) and a Iraq Campaign Medal (W/four stars). He has also deployed to the Mediterranean and Norway.

This award is open to any individual who serves in a municipal, county, state or federal unit tasked with enforcement of laws pertaining to their area of responsibility. This award does not apply to individuals employed by private companies or security services.



## FEBRUARY 3 – APRIL 7, 2022 CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

Thursday Evenings 6:00PM to 8:15PM

Classes will be held in the Training Room at the new Surf City Police Department every Thursday between February 3 and April 7, 2022.

Come join your police department and learn about Administration, Traffic Operations, Investigations, Patrol Operations, Firearms, Investigations, Special Topics like Crime Prevention, School Resource Officer, Domestic Violence and Emergency Management. Experience firsthand K9 Demonstrations and Firearms Training Simulator!



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Thursday Evenings  
February – April 2022



Simply Homemade Recipes



Tomato Soup

- 2 Slices of Onion Finely Chopped
- Salt & Pepper To Taste
- 2 Lb Fresh Tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp Tomato Paste
- 1 Tbsp Cornstarch
- 6 Peppercorns
- 2-1/2 Cups of Milk
- 1 Bay Leaf
- 1 Clove



Cut tomatoes into quarters. Blend cornstarch with a little milk, then add remainder of milk. Pour into large pot. Add tomatoes, bay leaf, clove, peppercorns and finely chopped onion. Bring to the simmering point and simmer until tomatoes are soft. Puree mixture with blender or food processor. Return to pot and add tomato paste. Mix thoroughly. Reheat and season to taste with salt and pepper.

All recipes courtesy of the  
Town of Holly Ridge's  
Liberty Fountain Cookbook  
(Volume II)  
Available for purchase at City Cafe!

Beef Stroganoff

- 6 to 8 oz Button Mushrooms Finely Sliced
- 2 Medium Onions Finely Sliced
- 1-1/2 to 2 Lbs Fillet Steak
- Salt & Pepper To Taste
- 1 Tbsp Tomato Paste
- 2/3 cup of Sour Cream
- 1 Tbsp Flour
- 2 oz Butter



Cut beef into strips. Season well with salt and pepper and toss in flour. Heat frying pan, put in half of butter, add onions and fry slowly until just colored, about 10 minutes. Add mushrooms, fry a few minutes adding more butter if necessary. Remove onions and mushrooms, add remaining butter to pan and when hot, put in the beef strips and fry briskly for 3 to 4 minutes. Return onions and mushrooms with plenty of salt and pepper. Shake all together over heat for 1 minute then add tomato paste and sour cream. Cook a few minutes longer until heated through. Serve at once or keep warm by standing in hot water for 15 to 20 minutes only. Serve with egg noodles.



Honey Bread

- 1 Cup Walnuts or Pecans Finely Chopped
- 1-1/4 Cups Sifted All Purpose Flour
- 1 Cup Whole Wheat Flour
- 2 Tsp Baking Powder
- 1/2 Tsp Baking Soda
- 2 Eggs Well Beaten
- 1 Cup Buttermilk
- 1/2 Cup Raisins
- 2/3 Cup Honey
- 3 Tbsp Oil
- 1 Tsp Salt



Preheat oven to 325. Sift the flour again with the salt, soda and baking powder. Add the whole wheat flour. In a separate bowl mix the honey, buttermilk and oil with the beaten eggs. Stir in the dry ingredients. Do not over stir. Fold in nuts and raisins. Spoon batter into a greased 9 x 5 x 3 inch loaf pan. Bake at 325 for 50 to 60 minutes.

Recipe photos courtesy of Cooking Nook, Raks Kitchen, and Spark Recipes respectively.

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## The Backyard Farmer

**By Dorothy Royal**

Mother Nature has decided that people have used up enough of her Hazelnuts. A common flavoring in local coffee shops, this product has been on the missing list for a few months. So what happened to all the hazelnuts? 70% of the world's hazelnuts come from the country of Turkey.

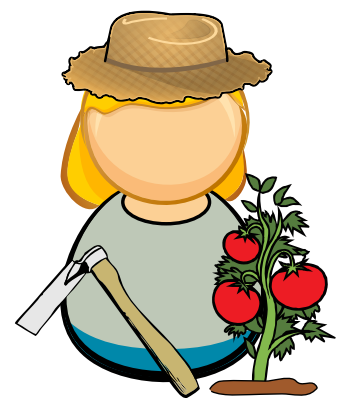
A currency crisis and bad weather including damaging hail storms have disrupted the chain.

Nutella, a product created during WWII during the chocolate shortage, may suffer the most. With the product consuming 25% of all hazelnuts on the market, a 60% price increase may be devastating. I guess we need to eat more chocolate.

Hazelnuts are native to North America. They grow from Louisiana to Georgia in the south and further north in Quebec, Canada.

They are a hardy tree that is generally resistant to disease and grow in a wide range of conditions. Want to grow one? You can and in most cases they resemble more of a bush than a tree and are easy to manage regarding size.

This would make a great future backyard farmer idea!





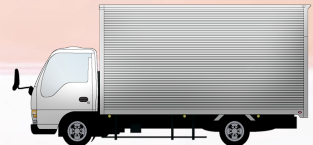
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