Ag people in the news

Members of the N.C. Soybean Producers Association elected its officers for 2015. Jeff Peed of Aurora was elected president, John Fleming of Scotland Neck was elected vice president, Jeff Tyson of Nash-ville will serve as secretary and Bernard Lennon of Evergreen will serve as treasurer.

The group also elected the following directors.

- Greg Manning of Nash-ville representing Edgecombe, Halifax and Nash counties;
- Reggie Strickland of Mt. Olive representing Duplin County;
- Philip Sloop of Mt. Ulla representing Alexander, Catawba, Cleveland, Da-vie, Davidson, Iredell, Lin-colin, Randolph and Rowan counties;
- Logan Watson of Monroe representing Gaston, Meck-lenburg and Union coun-ties;
- Jason Starnes of Salisbury representing Alexander, Catawba, Cleveland, Da-vie, Davidson, Iredell, Lin-colin, Randolph and Rowan counties;

(See People, pg. 2)

Ag Awareness Day at the Legislature draws crowd

Ag Awareness Day at the Legislature drew more than 1,000 people focused on highlighting the state's No. 1 industry - agriculture. Top photo, Gov. Pat McCrory talks about his support for North Carolina agriculture at the rally at the Capitol. At left, representatives from Robeson County head into the legislature to visit with members of the General Assembly. Above, Rep. Garland Pierce visits with agriculture supporter from his district.

I hope you can see from the photos above that we had a great day and great turnout for Ag Awareness Day at the Legisla-
ture. For those of you who traveled to Raleigh in support of this event, "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!"

With warmer weather, I know there is a lot to do on the farm to get ready for the planting season. So I know that being at the rally meant making a personal sacrifice.

More than 1,000 people came together for the rally and office visits with legislators. It was great to have such good turn-out, but equally as important, it was great to let legislators know just how big and important agriculture is to our economy, to our rural communities and to the farm families whose livelihood depends on this industry.

Legislators are used to seeing representatives from my de-partment, the N.C. Farm Bureau, the N.C. Grange and other ag and commodity groups, but hearing from a neighbor back home reso-nates even more. After all, these are the people our legislators are here in Raleigh representing.

Agriculture definitely has friends among the legislators, and I was thankful we had nearly a dozen legisla-tors join us at the rally along with Gov. Pat McCrory, Sen-ate President Pro Tem Phil Berger and Speaker of the House Tim Moore, who were all on the program.

Gov. McCrory has been talking about agriculture since early in his administra-

(See Ag Awareness Day, pg. 2)
New manager joins the Charlotte Farmers Market

A former extension agent has been named the new manager of the Charlotte Regional Farmers Market. Amie Newsome replaced Fred Cole, who retired in December. She is the first female full-time manager of the market.

Newsome spent nine years as an agent with Johnston County Cooperative Extension. She has worked for retail gardening centers, nursery wholesalers and has taught agricultural education at Southern Vance High School in Henderson. Newsome has a degree in horticulture from N.C. State University.

“The Charlotte Regional Farmers Market has been serving farmers and consumers in the Queen City for more than 30 years,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “Amie brings a lot of fresh ideas that will help the market continue to serve Charlotte’s diverse community for years to come.”

Newsome said she wants to create a family atmosphere for shoppers and vendors. She plans to work with farmers and crafters to improve their stands and presentation. In addition, she hopes that vendors will work together to share best practices with one another. Newsome also hopes to explore new partnerships with local food trucks, restaurants, universities and schools.

“There are dozens of farmers markets in the Charlotte area where farmers can sell their products,” Newsome said. “My job is to make sure that those farmers see the Charlotte Regional Farmers Market as a viable option to sell their goods.”

The Charlotte Regional Farmers Market is one of four state-owned farmers markets operated by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The market, located at 1801 Yorkmont Road, is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More information is available at www.ncagr.gov/markets/facilities/markets/charlotte/.

Upcoming farmers market events

Western N.C. Farmers Market, Asheville, 828-253-1691

• April 11 -- Fifth Annual WNC Farmers Market Car Show
• April 10 & 11 -- 10th Annual BBQ Cookoff & Bluegrass Show
• April 14 & 28 -- Master Gardener plant clinics
• April 24 & 25 -- “Growing in the Mountains!” Plant Show
• May 1-3 -- 26th Annual Heritage Festival
• May 9 & 16 -- Master Gardener plant clinics
• June 13 & 27 -- Master Gardener plant clinics
• July 17 -- Watermelon Day
• July 11 & 25 -- Master Gardener plant clinics

Charlotte Regional Farmers Market, 704-357-1269

• May 15 -- Strawberry Day

Robert G. Shaw Piedmont Triad Farmers Market, Colfax, 336-605-9157

• April 11 -- Grand Day
• April 24 -- Greenhouse Vegetable Day
• April 25 -- Fire Safety Day
• May 2 -- NC CASH Chili Championship
• May 8 -- 20th Anniversary Celebration
• May 22 -- Strawberry Day featuring a Strawberry Recipe Contest
• May 29-31 -- Spring Craft Fair
• June 20 -- Wing Festival
• July 10 -- Blueberry Day
• July 17 -- Peach Day featuring a Peach Recipe Contest

State Farmers Market, Raleigh, 919-733-7417

• April 16 -- Greenhouse Vegetable Day
• April 25 -- WPTF Weekend Gardener Show
• May 14 -- Strawberry Day

Spring is here and with its arrival comes increased activities at farmers markets across the state. Look for the freshest N.C. food products available at local and regional markets.

The following are upcoming special events at the state-operated farmers markets.

To keep up with the latest on the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, check out the department’s blog at www.ncagr.gov/blog, where you can also find social media links for Facebook and Twitter.
Spring is ideal time for homeowners, gardeners to submit soil samples

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Urges gardeners, home owners and landscapers to prepare now to submit soil samples over the next few months to optimize growing conditions. Beginning in April and until the last day of November, there is no charge for soil testing, and sample results are usually ready within about a week of submitting samples.

Testing for soil pH is extremely important to determine the lime needs for flower beds, vegetable gardens and lawns, said Jagath Kamalakanthan, agronomist with the department’s Soil Testing Lab. If soils are not limed properly, excessive amounts of lime can damage roots. Also, an incorrect soil pH can affect nutrient availability.

It is also important to make sure a sample adequately represents a given area. To do this, collect soil from 10 to 12 places randomly throughout the area, mixing them well in a plastic bucket. Once mixed, fill the NCDAC&S soil box to the brim. If soil falls over the edge of the box, separate samples for different areas—vegetable gardens, flower beds, etc. A soil sample collection guide is available at www.ncagr.gov/agronomy/pdf/samhome.pdf.

Beekeepers with bees for rent and growers interested in bee pollination services can post their information on the Bee Linked website at www.ncagrc.com/belinked. The site is hosted by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the N.C. State University Apiculture Program. Anyone interested in listing their information can do so by sending an email to NCHoneybee@ncagr.gov or call NCSU at 919-515-1660. The NCDAC&S Plant Industry Division regulates bee equipment in the state. A current list of beekeepers in our region can be found at the NCDAC&S website at www.ncagr.gov/beelinked. The site is hosted by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the N.C. State University Apiculture Program. Anyone interested in listing their information can do so by submitting an email to the Beelinked Program. The website is www.ncagr.gov/beelinked. The meetings will be held at the Horse Camp in the Badin Lake Recreation Area near Troy. The meetings will be held March 28, May 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, and Nov. 9 at 6 p.m. The meetings will be held at the Food City Conference, 225 SW Blvd., Sylva. The Back Country Horsemen of Uwharrie is a non-profit organization and chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of North Carolina and America. The website is www.bchometr.com.

The Back Country Horsemen of Uwharrie works in alliance with other chapters across North Carolina, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service to ensure that forests will be available for equestrian use. Its main focus is on ensuring the Uwharrie National Forest will remain a place that can be enjoyed by equestrian enthusiasts. Members of the BCHU volunteer their time and resources to maintain trails.

As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay at work, the N.C. Department of Labor offers safety videos on a variety of topics through its YouTube channel. Video topics include: preventing green tobacco sickness, hazard communication, tobacco harvesting safety, heat stress, migrant housing requirements, forklift safety, and information about the NCDOL’s Gold Star Growers program. The videos are in English and Spanish to increase understanding of safety hazards and preventing accidents. To learn more about the NCDOL and the Agricultural and Health Board, visit ncagriculture.com or call 1-800-NCLABOR (800-625-2267). NCDOL is also on Facebook and Twitter (@NCDOL).

Classifieds Ads

SUBMITTING ADS: Ads are free to NC residents & can be submitted by mail to 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001; online at www.agreview.com; or by fax to 919-733-5047. Ads must include name, address including zip code, phone number including area code, and price or price range for every item being sold. Deadline for each issue is midnight on the first working day of the month prior to publication.

Beekeeping supplies & hardware, & tools, new & used, $50 to $3,000. Contact Don Hopkins, state apiarist, NCDA&CS, 1060 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001 for information.

Bees, Supplies, & Services For Sale

Bees & beekeeping supplies, colphives or hives, new hives, supers, frames, foundation, feeders, tools, & protective clothing, $1 to $50. Contact: Tethea Nadeau, 252-359-7463. Beekeeping equipment, 3 lb. pkg, cypress wooden warre, all safety gear & tools, $97.50 + tax. John Pleadman, Trisceton 3-417-5137.

10 frame shallow supers w/ frames, treated by state, $15. Bob Mathis, Tobiasville 336-793-8258.

5 frame nuc, pick up late, 04-15, $150. Brett Callaway, Fletcher 828-696-6629.

5 frame nuc, $135, colpl. new hives w/bees, qy disc. avail., $255. Barry Harris, Burlington 919-352-7686.


8 frame med, supers & other beekeeping supplies, $1-25. Parry F., Wake Forest 919-630-5485.

5 frame deep nuc, ready mid 04-15, $15, Glenn Godfrey, Sanford 919-776-9517.


Equipment For Sale


Magneto’s, various tools, 3 lb. bag & 2 lbs. bag with box, $95. up; 1979 Ariens Rocket V tiller w/ rear tines, $925. Dave Payne, Madisonville 828-561-4312.

1947 Ford Ferguson, rebuilt motor, new battery & front tires, runs, GC, $3,000. Robert Williams, Yadkinville 336-468-2773.

Late model NH #67 hay baler, good paint, sheltered, GC, $1,700. Maysville 910-743-0091.

DR Rotor hog tiller, 3 ft, $1,300. James Blackburn, Wilkesboro 336-998-5193.


JD M flat belt pulley attach., $75; front end w/front wheels, no sulkies, $125. David Motior, Siler City 919-545-1447.

Dirt scoop, 3 pt., rev., LNC, $175. LNC, 433-746-5563.
1952 AC CA tractor, 2 disc planters, Vicon monitor w/250 ft. cab & air, mowing machine w/f-2 cutter bar, factory rear mount saw dust blower, 1/4 hp, $300. John Fink, Newell 704-568-2582.

Int’l 1100 & bean planter; 2 disc pull type, pro, 3 teeth, $500; Cohn 11,600 lb., 1140 ft. swath, cultivator, $390; 700 lb. roller marker, $250. Cook Fletcher, Catawba 704-442-7901.

MF 235, diesel, 5 b. bush hog, 5 ft tillage vote, VGC, $5,500; 15 ft. field marker, $2,500; NH 848 baler w/new air bags & chains, used 1 season, $4,000. Cecelia Pritchard, Asheboro 336-492-2244.

300 grain head, 20 820 special rotor, 30 in. spacing, dry fert., quick link, $6,500. Mac Rushing, Monroe 704-476-7401.

NH 310 sq. baler, slightly used, great for picking corn, Salisbury 704-239-3843.


NF 311 small sq. baler, sheltered, $4,000; Pettibone hay rake, $1,600. Luke White, Wilkesboro 704-385-9717.


Cot. fert. disc. 1 row, Andersons, liquid, $800; fertilizer & paint, incl. disc & extra for full cult., $750 OBO; Cot. disc fert. hopper box, ready for frame, $275. Jimmy Covington, Pittsboro 910-796-3565.


1974 Ford 5000, diesel, good tires, new clutch, remotes, $7,700; King Kutter finish mower, $600; 1 ft. 7", sweeper boom, 3 pt. hitch, pto, $450; Tractor Supply Swamp box, 6 ft, $750; 20 disc harrow, 6½ wide, 3 pt. hitch, $600; Bandit box, 7 ft, $450. Dusting Systems, Lexington 336-234-9571.


2011 NH 507 sq. baler, $15,000; NH 507, $9,500; 300 grain head, $8,500; 2000 baler, $3,400; Baler Dynamis, $1,000. M. Lee Thompson, Milton 336-234-9106.

1973 Ford 5000, diesel, good tires, new clutch, remotes, $7,700; King Kutter finish mower, $600; 1 ft. 7", sweeper boom, 3 pt. hitch, pto, $450; Tractor Supply Swamp box, 6 ft, $750; 20 disc harrow, 6½ wide, 3 pt. hitch, $600; Bandit box, 7 ft, $450. Dusting Systems, Lexington 336-234-9571.


Gleaner F2 combines, diesel, in great shape, 1900’s, 1 head, corn, $13,000 OBO. T. Cooper, Beesmeyer City 704-689-6288.

Bear claw wood saw, 3 pt. hook up, 30 in. blades, $200; Cub tractor w/4 ft. cult., $2,100. John Shackle, Salisbury 704-633-6716.

Speed King seed tender, $9,200, JD 15 ft no till grain drill w/gauges, 15 ft. grain head, $2,400; Sherpa sprayer, 300 gal. tank, 52 ft. boom, $3,500; Woodchuck post hole digger, 15 ft. multiple feed wheels, $9,500; other avail. F.D. Riverbank, Willard 336-576-7901.


JD 2100 min. till, ripper, 3 shank, 1 season, $1,100; JD 7070 3 shank, 1 disk, 1 season, $2,500; JD 4886 row, hyd. markers, insecticide boxes, Martin row markers, $750; New Holland sub-compact, rear rolling baskets, $3,000. Don Cameron, Sanford 910-499-7012.
FARM SUPPLIES WANTED

Bruhn, Raleigh 919-790-0480.

ea.; 10+, $9.95/ea.; summit

Kenly 919-284-4133.
bu., $1.50/bu. Doug Barbee,

kiwi, thornless blackberry,

Asian pears, peaches, cold-hardy

varieties, early, mid & late

4-5 ft tall; 1 gal., 2-5 ft, many

Brown, Mooresville 704-309-3819.

99, $5/bushel; Ozark, $7.50/

& coastal, $4/bushel; Midland

planting $200 & up/ac. Carole

Vance, Newland 828-765-7216.
patsyhinson9@aol.com.

Whicker, Winston-Salem 336-

gal., $20; others avail. John Hood,

giants, 1 gal., $3; gold threads, 3

$15. Bob Whitaker, Mocks-

plants, healthy potted, 5-6 ft tall,

Vista Dr., Sylva NC, 28779 or

address, $6/5 tbsp. Jack Taylor,

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For Sale

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For Sale
The Got to Be NC Festival presented by Lowes Foods is just a month away, May 15-17 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh, and preparations are well under way.

Organizers are accepting applications from tractor clubs and individuals interested in displaying equipment during the event. Clubs and owners from across the state bring rare, restored and original tractors and engines to the event. Application forms can be found online at www.gottobencfestival.com.

In addition to the horsepower these tractors bring, this year’s event will feature plenty of kids activities, a daily tractor parade, a bluegrass music concert, a tractor pull, carnival rides, a barbecue cooking contest, BMX bike shows, lumberjacks and much more.

This family-friendly event in North Carolina is proud, showcasing the best food, wines and beers made in the state at the N.C. Food, Wine and Beer Expo, plus featuring talented local performers in the Got to Be NC Bluegrass Competition.

If North Carolina barbecue is more your style, you will want to plan to attend the Carolina Pig Jig on Saturday, May 16. This popular fundraiser for the Masonic Homes for Children in Oxford lets participants sample barbecue from around 40 different Masonic chapters. Chapters are competing for bragging rights, with fans voting for their favorite ‘cue.

Tomato growers offer college scholarship

The N.C. Tomato Growers Association is offering a $1,000 merit/need-based scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year. Any North Carolina resident who pursues a horticulture or agribusiness undergraduate or graduate degree at a four-year North Carolina college or university is eligible to apply. The deadline for submitting an application is April 30.

The award will be based on a student’s demonstrated scholastic achievement, initiative, leadership, financial need and extracurricular activities. The scholarship is contingent on the recipient maintaining at least a 2.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 on all course work during the scholarship period. The recipient must be enrolled for the entire school year to receive the full scholarship. Scholarship funds will be distributed through the financial aid office of the attending student’s college or university. The scholarship will be paid in two installments, $550 per semester.

Applications and additional information are available at www.ntomatoes.com or contact Melinda James, president of the N.C. Tomato Growers Association, at 828-526-3989, or by email at osagej@mson.com.

Completed applications should be mailed to: N.C. Tomato Growers Association, c/o Melinda James, 1604 Hale Ridge Road, Scaly Mountain, NC 28775.

Horse Events

April 3-5 ... Region 12 & 15 Arabian Horse Show. Contact Ronn Marcell, 919-906-3516.
April 9-11 ... Raleigh Invitational Show. Contact Joyce Wilso, 919-365-5149.
April 16 & 19 ... North Carolina Open Benefit Show. Contact Richard Isley, 336-808-3302.
April 24-26 ... Easter Bunny Quarter Horse Show. Contact Margaret Byrd, 919-892-5221.
May 1 & 2 ... Double D Bar Cowboy Mounted Shooters. Contact Dave Lohrey, 919-671-7699.
May 2 & 3 ... Triangle Wide Horseman’s Association May Days. Contact Kim Spell, 919-201-3666.
May 6 & 9 ... N.C. Plantation Pleasure Walking Horses. Contact Ken Gilliam, 919-691-2569.
May 16 ... Watauga County 4-H Horse Show. Contact Heather Tar, 919-230-1093.
May 17 ... District 4-H Horse Show. Contact Bill Crouse, 919-824-1014.
May 20-23 ... Southern States Regional Morgan Show. Contact Liz Holmes, 919-765-2559.
June 6 & 7 ... NCAHA Open Summer Extravaganza. Contact Rory Meacham, 919-906-3510.
June 11-20 ... Tatted Triple Classic CHS Shows. Contact Judy Sullivan, 704-442-8304.
June 24-26 ... NCHA Annual Hunte Show. Contact NCHA Office, 919-538-4781.
Western N.C. Agricultural Center, Fletcher, 828-687-1414.
April 24-26 ... Cassie Mountain Classic Horse Show. Contact Steve Mott, 828-901-3904.
May 2 ... Sheriff’s Mounted Patrol Horse Show. Contact Wallace Mooney, 828-606-7971.
May 9 ... NC District 4-H Horse Show. Contact Melinda James, 828-775-1217.
May 3 ... Cinco de Mayo Rodeo. Contact Ron Stanley, 828-687-1414.
May 9 & 10 ... Asheville Spring Classic Horse Show. Contact Ray Cloninger, 704-458-1611.
May 13-15 ... Ashevile Lions Club Horse Show. Contact Jackie Rice, 828-707-8456.
May 22-25 ... Blue Ridge Classic of the Carolinas. Contact Jeff Rut右边, 844-880-4990.
June 25-28 ... East Coast Miniature Horse Show. Contact Bobby Bridges, 736-655-5530.
May 2-5 ... NCAHA-D4 Marketing Martingan AQHA Show and Futurity. Contact Susan Daniels, 919-894-8060.
April 11 & 12 ... Just Horsin’ “Round Open Schooling Show. Contact Barbara Davis, 252-341-9475.
April 16-19 ... Spring Fling Miniature Horse Show. Contact Bobby Bridges, 336-655-5530.
April 18 & 19 ... Williamson Spring Dressage. Contact Janice Malone, 919-602-6203.
April 25 & 26 ... April’s Just Horsin’ “Round Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Tew, 919-254-8069.
May 2 & 3 ... NE District 4-H Show. Contact Heather Hoff, 919-259-1997.
May 6-10 ... Barrel Horse Show. Contact Coulton Tomlin, 454-941-4893.
May 14-17 ... Carolina Classic Reining Horse Derby & ABH Futurity. Contact Mike Hancock, 252-937-9180, ext. 1204.
May 30 & 31 ... SE District 4-H Horse Show. Contact Matthew Durbin, 252-259-1077.
June 6 & 7 ... EHA Hunter Show. Contact Wendy Willson, 919-254-8069.
June 20 & 21 ... June’s Just Horsin’ “Round Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Tew, 919-254-8069.
Southern N.C. Agricultural Events Center, Lumberton, 910-635-5669.
April 4 ... Monica Britt-Bedl Racing. Contact Monica Britt, 910-671-9358.
April 6 ... Horse and Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-350-0878.
April 10 & 11 ... Southern Stock Horse. Contact Jenny Taylor, 919-323-9910.
May 4 ... Horse and Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-350-0878.
May 9 ... Borderbelt Ranch Sorting. Contact Jason Durden, 919-734-8754.
May 15-17 ... Carolina Cutting Horse. Contact Ken Gilliam, 919-734-8097.
May 23 ... Barrel Show. Contact Beth Herdon, 919-740-7900.
May 29 & 30 ... Youth Barrel Show. Contact Karen Kelly, 919-834-5527.
June 1 ... Horse and Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-350-0878.
June 12 & 13 ... Southern Stock Horse. Contact Jenny Taylor, 919-323-9910.

*Shows subject to change. Call before attending. More horse events listed in Bucolic Briefs.

The deadline for the June issue is May 1.
The deadline is June 1 for the July issue, and July 1 for the August issue.

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