

Bucolic briefs

The Equestrian Exchange Tack Consignment Sale to buy and consign anything related to the equestrian sport will be held March 24-27 at the Holshouser Building, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh. Sale features saddles, tack, driving equipment, show clothing for all disciplines of riding, barn supplies, carts, horse trailers and other animal items. Bar code tagging on event website allows consignor to view sales from home. Tagging guidelines mandatory. Consignors drop off priced, tagged items March 22 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and March 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sale dates are March 24-27. A special premier shopping night open to public for \$10 cash only will be March 24 from 5 to 10 p.m. Open shopping with free admission is March 25 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and March 27 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Some items discounted 1/2 off March 27. Unsold items to be picked up on March 29 from 3 to 8 p.m. or March 30 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. or they are donated. Please make arrangements if you want unsold items returned. Items cannot be stored or transferred sale to sale. Refer to donation page to see how we help our equestrian programs in our community. Consignors earn 70%, donate unsold items to NC non-profit equestrian organizations if desire. Volunteers all ages needed, shop before consignors, consignors shop before public. Sign up on website. Payment accepted: cash, NC checks with 2 IDs approved, debit and credit cards with fee/per card transaction. N.C. government regulations for COVID followed for everyone's safety. DROP and GO and PICK up and Go (no wait or scanning in items waived) consigning available, see website. Waivers to be signed at drop off. For more information go to www.EquestrianExchange.com or contact Lynn Beeson 336-362-6248 or Tanya Wright 540-977-1950.

We're gearing up for a HUGE day of Tractors, Trains & Fun! Join us to see modern tractors, antique farm equipment, farm life demonstrations, and much more! With kid's activities, music, and hayrides this is an event the whole family can attend! This annual event is reserved for students, home school groups, and other pre-formed groups on Friday, April 1, receiving special admission rates. The general public is invited to enjoy the fun on Saturday, April 2, from 9am till 2pm, ending out the day with a Parade of Tractors at 3 p.m. And don't forget the Train Rides! Along with our regular passenger train ride, hop on our Caboose Train pulled by the JEDDO COAL Steam Locomotive #85 on April 2nd. Visit our website, nctransportationmuseum.org, or call us at 704-636-2889 to enter your tractor or farm equipment or to purchase tickets.

As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay safe 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 harvester 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 Safety and Health Bureau, go to www.nclabor.com or call 1-800-NC-LABOR (800-625-2267). NCDOL is also on Facebook and Twitter (@NCDOL).

Beekeepers with bees for rent and growers interested in bee pollination services can post their information on the BeeLinked website at www.ncagr.com/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 filling out an online Submit Your Ad form on the BeeLinked page or by contacting NCDA&CS at 919-233-8214 or by email at NCHoneybee@ncagr.gov or call NCSU at 919-515-1660. The NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division

regulates the movement of agricultural or related items capable of spreading harmful insects, diseases, and other pests. Beekeepers participating in this program will be required to comply with all honey and bee industry regulations.

The N.C. Ag Finance Authority provides credit to agriculture in areas where financing is not available at reasonable rates and terms. The agency originates, services and finances farm loans, rural business loans, disaster loans and cotton gin loans. It also offers tax-exempt ag development bonds for agribusiness processing, ag-related manufacturing or ag waste disposal. For more about Ag Finance Authority programs or to request a loan application, call 919-790-3949 or email at RequestLoanInfo@ncagr.gov.
