The 2021 N.C. Mountain State Fair is gearing up for its most anticipated run ever, and fairgoers will find new grounds entertainment mixed in with all the favorites that they have waited to see.

“I can hear the excitement and anticipation building when I talk with fair vendors, staff, the midway operator, competitors and fairgoers. Everyone is eager to make this the best fair ever,” said fair manager Matt Buchanan. “That means guests will find loads of music, thrilling rides, engaging livestock shows, energetic clogging, mountain crafts, fun entertainment and delicious fair food to enjoy every day.”

New and returning entertainment

New to the grounds will be the Wild Wheels Wall of Death, a retro motorcycle thrill show that keeps alive the traveling motorcycle show tradition.

(See MSF returns, pg. 8)

From the tractor

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

Recently we announced the addition of tech company Bandwidth as a major new sponsor for the N.C. State Fair. With the company’s support, we are planning to offer accessABILITY Day at the fair on Oct. 17.

This is a special day for people with different abilities. Beginning at 9 a.m., rides, games and vendors will operate without lights and sound. Music on stages will be acoustic and guests can compete in specially designed inclusive and/or adaptive on-the-spot competitions.

You can read more about this partnership and accessABILITY Day on page 5 of the paper. We are excited about this day, Bandwidth’s sponsorship and what it will mean to people who may not have been able to attend the fair before.

People’s love of the State Fair and Mountain State Fair boils down to the personal experiences, lifelong memories and the sense of joy and nostalgia you feel in coming together in celebration. Members of my staff and I are proud that the fair can be more inclusive of people of all abilities and are looking forward to hosting this day with Bandwidth. The feedback about this announcement has been positive and heartfelt, and in reading the comments, I know this will be a great addition to the fair.

We have been blessed this year to have many businesses and organizations sign on as fair sponsors and we truly appreciate their support, whether they are new to the fair or a long-term sponsor.

The State Fair lost $9.5 million in revenue due to cancellation of the fair in 2020 and most scheduled events on the grounds. The State Fair is an enterprise fund that relies on the revenue generated by rentals and the fair to operate and pay staff.

Putting on a fair is a big and expensive undertaking, which is why the support of our sponsors is so important. I want to personally say “thank you.”

I appreciate the sponsors’ commitment to the ag community and North Carolina. I look forward to announcing more of our sponsors as we get closer to the fair.

Following a year like 2020, their support has allowed us to get our feet back under us. We have been hard at work planning for the Mountain State Fair Sept. 10-19 and the State Fair Oct. 14-24.

After a year to forget, we are planning a Mountain State Fair and a State Fair to remember! I hope you will make plans to join us this year.

Disaster assistance available for 2018-19 storms

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has received a $79.6 million USDA block grant to assist producers and woodland owners in 90 counties who suffered losses in 2018-2019 from Hurricanes Florence, Michael and Dorian. The application period runs July 1 to Oct. 1.

This program will offer direct payments to eligible poultry/livestock and plasticulture producers. Assistance will only involve losses associated with these hurricanes that were not covered under other USDA disaster programs.

This program will also offer technical and financial assistance to woodland owners in the emergency-declared counties that were affected by these hurricanes. Comprehensive forest management plans will be offered to those landowners in order to assess the storm impacts to their woodlands and identify beneficial management recommendations.

Eligibility requirements differ significantly between the agricultural and forestry categories of this block grant,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

“I would encourage farmers and forest owners who think they may be eligible to check the online links for the agricultural applications or contact their local N.C. Forest Service County Ranger Office for the ‘Woodland Recovery’ component.”

Poultry/livestock and plasticulture producers will need a current and completed IRS W9 form ready to scan into the application. Additionally, growers are encouraged to research and gather any evidence of poultry/swine structure damage and any damage evidence for plasticulture and greenhouses from those specific storms. They should be prepared to scan documents into the application for consideration of payment.

Details about the “Woodland Recovery” program will be available beginning mid-July by contacting a local N.C. Forest Service County Ranger’s office. A list of contacts can be found at https://www.ncforestservice.gov/contacts/contacts_main.htm.

For more information, including links to the poultry/livestock and plasticulture applications, visit www.ncagr.gov/disasterprogram or call 1-919-707-3362.

Upcoming Ag Review deadlines

The advertising deadline follows:
– Aug. 2 for September
– Sept. 1 for October
– Oct. 1 for November
– Nov. 1 for December
The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture hired Joe Reardon as director of Food Safety Programs. Reardon will lead NASDA’s cooperative agreements with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, working to ensure consumers in the United States continue to enjoy the world’s safest and healthiest food supply.

Reardon retired from the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services after 38 years of service, most recently serving as assistant commissioner for consumer protection. In that role, he oversaw the divisions responsible for food safety, agricultural emergency response, animal health and regulation of the structural pest control industry.

Reardon has led NASDA’s food safety team as a technical expert since 2016, drawing from his experience and work in various regulatory positions. “State agencies play a vital role in implementing and enforcing our nation’s system of food safety and inspection laws,” Reardon said. “I look forward to using my experience and deep understanding of our regulatory system to ensure states have resources needed to protect our food, and ensure producers are equipped to implement food safety practices on their farms and in processing facilities.”

NASDA CEO Dr. Barb Glenn welcomed Reardon’s leadership. “Joe’s highly reputable talent and experience in state and federal food regulation will bring strength to NASDA’s partnerships with FDA. His leadership will help NASDA better serve its members and pursue opportunities to forge additional food safety partnerships,” Glenn said.

Preceding Reardon also served as Senior Advisor for Federal-State Relations and Director for the Division of Federal-State Relations in the Office of Regulatory Affairs at FDA. There, he co-chaired the Food Safety Modernization Act Federal-State Integration Team. In 2017, Reardon has twice been honored by NASDA — in 2017 receiving the James A. Graham award for outstanding work in providing service to agriculture producers, and in 2013, in recognition of his tireless support of state and federal program collaboration.

NASDA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association which represents the elected and appointed commissioners, secretaries and directors of the departments of agriculture in all 50 states and four U.S. territories. NASDA grows and enhances American agriculture through policy, partnerships and public engagement.

The election of pork producer delegate candidates for the 2022 National Pork Producers (Pork Act) Delegate Body will take place at 1 p.m. Aug. 4, in conjunction with a Board of Directors meeting of the N.C. Pork Council at the N.C. State University Club in the Lutz Ballroom, 4200 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, NC 27601. The meeting is open to all North Carolina pork producers.

Any producer, age 18 or older, who is a resident of North Carolina and has paid all dues assessments through August 2020 may be considered as a delegate candidate and/or participant in the election. Eligible producers are encouraged to have a sales receipt proving that hogs were sold in their name and the checkoff money paid to AgriMarkets. The N.C. Pork Council, 1401 Sunday Drive, Suite 116, Raleigh, NC 27607, telephone 919-781-0361 or email ncnpck@ncagr.gov.

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The Bucolic Briefs: September 2021

The Town of Red Oak and the Red Oak Area Historic Preservation Society will host the Red Oak Classic Tractor and Car Show Sept. 16-18. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. The event features antique tractors, hit-and-miss engines, classic cars, chainsaw carver, antique farm equipment, live music, food and children’s activities. Cost is $5 per day or $8 for a three-day pass. For more information, contact Tracy Shearin, 252-443-1239.

As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay safe at work, the N.C. Department of Labor offers safety videos for free to watch online. The series includes safety videos and related material at the NCDOL and the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau, go to www.ncdol.com or call 1-800-NC-LABOR (800-625-2267).

Bucolic briefs — A user-friendly catalog is available at local NCFS offices or online at www.buynctrees.com. Seedling orders are also available by phone at 1-888-NCTREES (1-888-628-7377). Tree seedlings can be ordered by phone at 1-888-NCTREES (1-888-628-7377). Tree seedlings can be ordered using the order form found in our current catalog. Complete the form and mail to Seedling Coordinator, 762 Claridge Nursery Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530.

A user-friendly catalog is available at the “Tree Seedlings & Nursery Program” link located at www.ncforestserve.gov. Catalogs are also available at local NCFS offices located in all 100 North Carolina counties.

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N.C. Forest Service’s tree seedling sale under way now

The North Carolina Forest Service is accepting tree seedling orders as part of its annual sale. Each year, the NCFS Nursery and Tree Improvement Program fulfills a demand for seedlings from state and private entities and individuals who plant trees on their property and in areas that benefit wildlife, restore habitats or as part of reforestation and climate resiliency concerns. We are fortunate to have a Nursery and Tree Improvement Program in North Carolina, ensuring landowners as well as public and private entities have access to native tree seedlings. This program is popular, so I would encourage anyone interested to buy their seedlings early.”

Comifers and hardwoods are sold in units as low as 10 and as high as 100. For those wishing to submit larger orders, the nursery sells tree seedlings by the hundreds and thousands. New species available this year include Nordmann and Trojan firs, Caranu fir, Colorado blue spruce and red spruce. Genetically improved stock is available in loblolly, longleaf, shortleaf, and white pines as well as other species. These seedlings offer a better volume growth form, disease resistance, straightness, and other characteristics needed to produce quality forest products. See our catalog for a complete species listing.

How can you order tree seedlings from the NCFS Nursery and Tree Improvement Program?

– Tree seedlings can be ordered from the online seedling store at www.buytrees.com.

– Tree seedlings can also be ordered by phone at 1-888-NCTREES (1-888-628-7377).

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Inside the catalog, landowners can find information about the types of tree species, quantities and cost to order. Each description includes information about ideal planting locations and whether a species is typically used to benefit wildlife, restore habitats or as marketable timber.

Accepted methods of payment are check, money order, Mastercard and Visa.

Distribution of tree seedlings will occur December through mid-April, depending on weather conditions. Seedling orders can be shipped to one of 12 distribution centers statewide for a small fee or via UPS for a charge. Seedling orders are also available for pickup from the NCFS Claridge Nursery in Goldsboro or the Linville River Nursery near Crossnore. For information on planting trees, people are encouraged to contact an NCFS county ranger. Contact information for local NCFS county office and nursery locations is available at www.ncforestserve.gov/contacts.

At right, high quality tree seedlings grown by the N.C. Forest Service through its Nursery and Tree Improvement program are available for purchase.
Troxler honors two for work with state’s ag industry

Online pesticides training will remain as option

Research station’s field days mark in-person return to the farms

The COVID-19 pandemic changed many things for people in all walks of life, and one of those things has been the licensing testing related to pesticides in North Carolina. During the pandemic, a significant effort was made to move the testing online, and it seems the change is here to stay—at least for those who want it.

“This is without doubt, the most important innovation to our licensing services since we began licensing under both Structural Pest Control and Pesticide Laws back mid-century,” said James Burnette, the director of the NCDACCS Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division.

Proper pesticide applicator certifications and/or licenses are required for many North Carolinians, including farmers and landowners, pesticide dealers and even certain groundkeepers in parks or other public spaces. So the effort to keep them legal and get testing moved online during the pandemic took on a sense of urgency last spring and summer because pesticide classes and tests could no longer be done in-person in indoor venues.

John Feagans, who manages licensing, certification and outreach for the division, said the online option certainly has remained a popular option, but it’s not yet close to replacing the in-person testing option. So far this year, 2,037 people have taken in-person exams, 1,202 people have registered for online exams, indicating their intention to do online testing. Since the online testing option started in mid-March, 472 online exams have been taken.

Feagans explained that the division leadership chose a North Carolina-based company Everblue to handle the online system and provide the exams. Anyone choosing to take an online exam must pay a $23 convenience fee in addition to any low tolerance because it is new, and we don’t want anyone figuring out a way to cheat the system.”

Earlier this year, there were still capacity restrictions for in-person testing, which prompted many people to turn to the online option. Feagans says, “We have a pretty low tolerance because it is new, and we don’t want anyone figuring out a way to cheat the system.”

“Upper Mountain conducts a significant amount of research on Fraser fir Christmas trees, and Ashe County is the largest Christmas tree producing county in the nation,” explained station superintendent Tracy Taylor. “The group will be stopping here to get a look into our research programs and the work we are currently conducting at the station.”

N.C. State University has a breeding program dedicated to Fraser fir, and the work from the breeding program will be highlighted during the visit. A tour of the station will also include a nursery at the station where researchers conduct research on seedlings and transplants.

Anyone who registers with the N.C. Christmas Tree Association can attend. Online registration is available at https://ncchristmastrees.com/become-a-member/meeting-information/

“This is important because it gives tree growers from all over the nation a chance to collaborate and share ideas and methods. I expect there will be folks looking to secure tree purchases for the upcoming years as well. North Carolina is a big swinger in Christmas tree production, and it gives folks a chance to see how things are done here in the mountains of North Carolina,” Taylor said.

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Feagans explained that the division leadership chose a North Carolina-based company Everblue to handle the online system and provide the exams. Anyone choosing to take an online exam must pay a $23 convenience fee in addition to the standard cost of each test that’s also in place for in-person exams. The convenience fee goes to Everblue to cover the cost of maintaining the system and monitoring the testing.

The testing is monitoring. Each test taker must use a desktop or laptop (no tablets or mobile phones) for the testing with a video camera and microphone to record the testing session. The test taker must pan the camera around for the surroundings to be evaluated, and the video from each testing session is reviewed by a human test proctor.

The visual review helps ensure test takers aren’t using anything they shouldn’t during the test, such as information/training manuals or the internet.

“If there’s ever an issue with the testing, we get an email from Everblue. They send video clips of what they’re referring to with an explanation from the proctor. We can then decide what to do, such as exclude exam scores. We can even suspend someone from online testing,” Feagans said. “We have a pretty low tolerance because it is new, and we don’t want anyone figuring out a way to cheat the system.”

Earlier this year, there were still capacity restrictions for in-person testing, which prompted many people to turn to the online option. Feagans believes. Even with things getting back to normal, there are still a limited number of testing sites and dates. Test takers have to drive to those sites, take the test and drive back. For many, that takes at least half of a workday.

(See Online testing, pg. 4)
Feral swine pilot project starts in Sampson County

A few years ago, the N.C. Feral Swine Task Force was formed to help address the growing issue of feral swine in the state. This effort was bolstered by $2.6 million in grant money from the most recent USDA Farm Bill. Grants include $620,000 for Sampson County North, $750,000 for Sampson County South and $1.25 million for the Five County Feral Swine Trap Grant. These grant programs will run through August 2023.

“Are we excited about the development of real solutions to help our state’s feral swine problem?” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “Although these initial grants focus on six counties, the ultimate goal is the development of strategies that can be implemented statewide.”

Each year, feral swine cause about $1.5 billion in damages to agricultural crops, landscaping and historic sites nationwide. They also carry diseases that pose significant risk to livestock, humans and pets, and compete with our native wildlife for resources.

Because of the state’s commercial hog industry, North Carolina is considered a level four state for feral swine. Feral swine and domestic swine are both the same species, which means they can be infected by the same diseases. Pasture-raised pigs, non-confined domestic swine and other outdoor swine can increase the risk of feral swine transmitting diseases. Also, since feral swine roam freely, they can contaminate accessible feed and water meant for domestic swine.

Sampson County was selected as a pilot county because of frequent feral swine sightings and crop damage. The county also includes numerous agricultural and livestock operations, including many of our large commercial swine operations.

In July, the task force launched efforts to work with landowners to eradicate the growing feral swine problem during a meeting at the Sampson County Livestock Arena in Clinton. More than 80 landowners and others interested in the feral swine issue attended to hear an overview of the Sampson County Feral Swine Eradication and Control Program.

“The grant money funds traps and dog training to help farmers and landowners find and remove feral swine from their property,” said Mike Mayes, program coordinator for NCDA&CS Veterinary Division. “A few years ago Commissioner Troxler told us he was getting calls from farmers about their problems with feral swine on their property. We were directed to find solutions and this is part of that solution. What we have will help augment what USDA is already doing in assisting farmers with feral swine on their property. This program is offered at no cost to the landowner and for it to be successful, we need landowner cooperation.”

Landowners can expect to work with feral swine management specialist to assess damages, place and maintain traps and remove feral swine from their property. Landowners can register for the Sampson County Feral Swine Project online at www.ncferalswine.org.

The website also allows anyone to report feral swine sightings or damage. These reports can be from any county and will help the task force better map sightings and damage that occur across the state.

The Feral Swine Task Force includes representatives from the NCDA&CS Veterinary and Soil and Water Conservation divisions, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, N.C. State Cooperative Extension, N.C. Division of Public Health and the USDA.

High schools learn about ag at UMO

Thirteen high school students from across the state recently gathered at the University of Mount Olive (UMO) for the 2021 NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Institute. Students from Duplin, Greene, Johnston, Lenoir, Lincoln, Sampson, Wake, and Wayne participated in the three-day event aimed at introducing them to the agriculture industry and showcasing the diversity of NC agriculture.

In addition to learning about SAE projects, participants gained valuable insight into ag careers and internships, international ag opportunities including Chad Herrings’ Wayne County pig nursery, Michael Renfrow’s Cyn-Mar Greenhouses, and Hinnant Family Vineyards in Selma. Students also participated in a service-learning project by greeting at Williams Farm in Ayustville.

The SAE institute is funded by the North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Commission through a sponsored grant. “This institute is significant for students because they get hands on agriculture-related learning experiences that they might not otherwise receive,” said Dr. Sandy Maddox, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Biological Sciences. “The activities are designed to give students a leadership and a work ethic that will carry them through their careers.”

We are hosting more than just an institute at UMO, we are hosting a life-changing experience.”

August AgTips

**Turnaround time is optimal for soil samples submitted in August.** The Agronomic Division’s soil testing lab is processing samples quickly now but will be increasingly busy toward the end of the year. Homeowners, landscapers, golf course superintendents and others with flexible schedules are urged to submit samples before the lab’s fall busy season. If cool-season lawn grasses and pastures need to be seeded, sampling now will make it possible to apply lime well in advance of September or October planting.

Get rapid identification of plant-parasitic nematode species with new test. The Agronomic Division’s Nematode Assay Section offers a new test that identifies plant-parasitic nematodes based on analysis of molecular DNA. The test costs $10 per sample (instead of $3), but results are available within a couple of days (instead of weeks), and reports can identify nematodes accurately to species. This is particularly useful information for growers who depend on resistant cultivars and/or crop rotation to suppress nematode populations.

**Focus on strawberry fertility.** Take soil samples and apply any recommended lime as soon as possible. Generally, strawberries need 100-120 lb of nitrogen per acre per season. Prior to building the beds and laying plastic, apply 30-60 lb of nitrogen along with any phosphorus or potassium recommended on the soil report. Even when soils are high in phosphorus, an additional application of 30 lb can be beneficial for root growth in the fall. Other nutrients that may have a beneficial effect at this time are sulfur and boron (1 lb/acre).

**April 23-25...NCWA D-5 Endless Summer Horse Show. Contact Susan Delia, 919-894-0660 or www.NCWA.com.**

**July 14 & 15....Just Horsin’ Rounds Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Few, justhorsearound.com.**

**Aug. 27-29....Fallin’ into Autumn Horse Show. Contact Travis Alford, 252-450-5438, Richard Isley, 336-908-3302 or www.EquineEventPlanning.com.**

**Sept. 4 & 5...NCHJA “C” Horse Show. Contact Emily Bates, 252-378-4474 or williamston-huntercircus.com.**

**SouthEastern Ar Can Center, Lumberton. 910-618-5699**

**Aug. 2 .........Horse & Tack Auction. Contact Brad Stephens, 828-390-0678.**

**Aug. 7 & 8 .......Carolina Paint Horse Association Show. Contact Lori Smith, 336-309-9470.**

**Aug. 14 & 15....Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Contact Pamela Lohrey, 540-570-8785.**

**August 7 & 8 .......Finally Farm Horse Show Series. Contact Lesley Jenks, 919-280-8087 or**

**Aug. 14 & 15 ...Just Horsin’ Rounds Open Horse Show. Contact Beth Few, www.justhorsearound.com.**

**July 11-12.........State 4-H Horse Show. Contact Lori Stroud, 919-515-5788 or listrou@ncsu.edu.**

**July 23-25......NCHJA “C” Indoros. Contact Jean Petey, 919-669-9877 or Horseshows@trianglefarms.com.**

**July 24 & 25 .....TWHA Show. Contact Kim Moser, 919-219-0256 or scooter4m@yahoo.com.**

**July 31 & Aug. 1....Raleigh Summer Dressages I & II. Contact Janine Malone, 919-269-7307 or**

**Aug. 7 & 8 .......Finally Farm Horse Show Series. Contact Lesley Jenks, 919-280-8087 or finallyfarmhorses@gmail.com.**

**Aug. 7 & 8 .......Trianglewqod Horseman’s Association TWHA Show. Contact Kim Moser, 919-201-3066 or scooter4m@yahoo.com.**

**Aug. 13-15......Triangle Farms Happy to Show. Contact Joan Petey, 919-669-9877 or Horseshows@trianglefarms.com.**

**Aug. 27-29.......NCHJA “C” Indoor. Contact Joan Petey, 919-669-9877 or Horseshows@trianglefarms.com.**

**Sept. 4 & 5....Labor of Love Dressage Show. Contact Wendy Warner, 207-701-7779 or**

**ncferalswine.org.**

*Show dates are subject to change. Call ahead to confirm.*

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More than 80 farmers, landowners and interested residents attended a recent feral swine meeting at the Sampson County Livestock Arena in Clinton where a feral swine trap was set up to show equipment used to capture the destructive animals.

Pastor.setChecked();
New ‘accessABILITY Day’ at State Fair offers less sound, lights

The North Carolina State Fair, a division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, recently announced a major partnership with Triangle tech leader Bandwidth Inc. as part of the partnership, Bandwidth will become a major sponsor of the 2021 N.C. State Fair: — accessABILITY Day, a new special event day for people with different abilities.

“Bandwidth is a prime example of a company that helps create solutions that matter, and we appreciate their support to help make this year’s N.C. State Fair bigger and better than ever,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “We are also excited to announce accessABILITY Day presented by Bandwidth. For years, our team has been brainstorming ways to make the fair more inclusive. We’ve spoken to advocates in the community about what steps we can take to be more welcoming to all North Carolinians, regardless of ability. To really put a focus on inclusion, specifically with a program like accessABILITY Day, we needed a partner who also strives every day to see both its employees and its community succeed. Bandwidth is the perfect corporate partner for this project.”

Running from 8 a.m. – noon on Sunday, Oct. 17, visitors can expect the following on accessABILITY Day:

• Rides and games will open at 9 a.m. and will operate with no lights or music playing.
• Vendors will operate with no lights or music at their booths.
• Music stages will only play acoustic sets with light amplification.
• The public address system will only be used for lost visitor announcements.

All daily activities on accessABILITY Day include:
• “Bandwidth Chill Out Zone” will be available to guests in the Graham Building with tables/chairs, low lighting and soft music playing.
• “Noise canceling headphones will be available to check out in the “Bandwidth Chill Out Zone” for those who need them.
• Guidebooks will be available to download online or pick up from guest services highlighting all the activities and amenities the Fair offers.
• “The N.C. State Fair is a tradition in my family, and many others at Bandwidth. It’s the one event that connects our entire state each year, celebrating the richness of the people, communities and industries across North Carolina,” said David Morken, Bandwidth’s Chief Executive Officer.

“That’s why this partnership is the perfect complement to our mission at Bandwidth of connecting people by developing and delivering the power to communicate. It’s also the perfect way for us to put down deeper roots in our community as we continue to grow.”

Bandwidth continues to deepen its roots here in North Carolina with a growing campus at the corner of Edwards Mill Road and Reedy Creek Roads, the former location of the N.C. State Fair Park and Ride lot.

With a desire to support the community where its employees live, work and play, Bandwidth committed to the construction of two replacement parking areas for use by the N.C. State Fair. The first will be located adjacent to Bandwidth headquarters on Edwards Mill Road, and the second will face Highway 54 near Mt. Vernon Road on N.C. State Fair property.

Convenient to I-40, the lots will serve as staging areas for emergency response purposes during disaster operations, support services staging for urban projects and expanded parking options during the annual N.C. State Fair and at other major events, as needed. During the fair, the parking lots will reduce traffic congestion around the perimeter of the fairgrounds, and will feature temporary amenities including ticket booths, lighting and restroom trailers.

“accessABILITY Day presented by Bandwidth, the company’s major sponsor of the N.C. State Fair, is designed to ease entry into the fairground, as well as our new parking lots all highlight our long-term plans for progress here at the N.C. State Fair,” said Fair Manager Kent Yelverton. “We can’t always be everything to everyone, but we can try our best to offer something every person in this state can enjoy. I’m excited about the roll-out and believe our fairgoers will be as well.”

Bandwidth (NASDAQ: BAND) is a global communications software company headquartered in the Triangle that helps enterprises connect people around the world. Companies like Google, Microsoft, Cisco, Zoom and RingCentral use Bandwidth’s APIs to easily embed voice, messaging and 911 access into software and applications. Backed by the largest directly connected network in the world, Bandwidth’s award-winning solution for voice, SMS, data and video solves complex communication challenges every day. More information is available at www.bandwidth.com.

N.C. State Fair unveils new competitions for 2021

The 2021 N.C. State Fair will feature several new competitions this year. New competitions were created in an effort to encourage competition entries as these simpler projects can be completed within weeks rather than some projects that can take up to a whole year.

“Our hope is that these sorts of categories will serve as a gateway to getting people interested in entering items on fair entries. We always need new competitors, and the fair can always use new competitions,” said competitive exhibits director, John Buettner.

In the Home Furnishings Department, the Decorated Tables contest has been replaced by a Decorated Christmas Tree contest. After registering, exhibitors will be chosen by a raffle and will be notified by phone and email on Sept. 16 if they were selected to participate in the contest. The N.C. State Fair will furnish tree stands and four-to-six-foot live trees for exhibitors to decorate. Trees will be judged based on creativity, overall design, and theme conformance.

“Since North Carolina is one of the primary Christmas tree growing states, we thought it would be nice to include decorated trees as a category,” Buettner said.

For Sale

For Sale

N.C. law requires a permit to sell honey bees in the state, with the following exceptions: the sale of less than 10 hives in a calendar year, a one-time going-out-of-business sale held by a David, the renting of bees for pollination purposes or to gather honey. Contact Don Hopkins, state apiculturist, N.C. Division of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001.

Notice/General

Notice/General

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Classified Advertising

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Deadlines for each issue is noon on the first working day of the month prior to publication. Limit is 30 words, editor reserves right to edit or reject ads. Limit 2 ads/person in different categories.

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FARM EQUIPMENT


980-521-1216.

Harrow, $200. O.P. Campbell, J. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.

10, 10 hrs., $50; Hardee DB-4060 ditch bank trimmer, hys drive, 5 ft. cut, 2 hrs., $55. Gary Lee Aysecur, Louisburg 252-767-0203.

JD B144 tractor, early '60s model, 40hp, new motor, clutch, paint, field ready or finish restoration, $7,500. Tim Coates, Linwood 336-240-0002.

Lincoln AG plastic planter plates for JD, AC & Iml planters; corn, sorghum, sunflower, 16 & 24 cell, $4 ea. Carroll Oakes, Giffton 252-714-1332.

A6505 w/front end loader $6,500; Ford 30, $4,500. Gergy Cloninger, Dallas 704-666-0565.

Cone elevators/baggers, $1,800 & up; gravity box/ implement tires, $2,800. Bobby Brananny, Sanford 919-770-1353.

JD 6420, w/JD 620 loader, cab/heac/ac, 30hp, 3800 hrs., $37,000. Rick King, Clemmons 336-765-6535.


AC10 or DI2 tractor, w/3 pt & disc harrow for AC snap coupler; GC, David Lloyd, Wake Forest 397-893-8452.

JD tractor, model 402, 420 or 430; 2-row cut or not; must have wide front end; Terry Green, Forest City 828-305-5883. Root rake to fit CAT 955L. Robert Stamat, Winston Salem 336-769-2095.

309 corn planter plates; corn, beans, sorghum & filler plates; Ford 309 corn planters for parts. Charles Chamel, Kernersville 336-331-2818.


Set of rear tire, IH 210 or 212; for Ford 1100 tractor, $140 obo. Randy Hooch, Statesville 704-798-8160.


Land for lease for deer hunting, w/2 hr. drive of Lexington. David Watterson, Lexington 336-899-8029.

Land for lease for deer hunting, Franklin, NC; farm w/house, barn, pasture & garden spot. David Ballard, Kernersville 336-314-1048.

Land for lease for dove hunting, gun dog training, Forest & surrounding co, will plant/maintain property. Randall Patterson, Winston Salem 336-528-1074 or Bill Cowan, 336-406-607.


Farm Labor For Sale

Farm fencing, woven wire w/wooden posts, board & com, types, $6.15/ft. labor or less. David Davenport, Creswell 252-394-6814.

Horse orchard grass, forage, $2.50; hay, $4.50, net wrapped. 245-681-7022.

Fescue, 4x4 rd, twine & net wrapped, no rain, stored in shed on pallets, $35/404. Jim Bumann, Statesville 704-798-9084.


Set of electric fence repair box. afw, tsc, sq, parmak, $15/hr. Bobby Nichols, N. Wilkesboro 336-927-2850.

Fence - 3 rail, horse, bison, safety, cow & goat; may be had. Dr. Larry Ayscue, Louisburg 252-765-0861.

Flat rate, $5; fence - 3 rail, horse, bison, safety, cow & goat; may be had. Dr. Larry Ayscue, Louisburg 252-765-0861.

Billings, Diamond Creek, NC 704-309-4442.

Equipment Wanted

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HAY & GRAIN


Lg horse barn for rent, 180 ft, 8 stalls, riding rink, fingers, 55x100 covered area, water, $1,500 month. Water, electric, $1,450. B. Smedley, Greensville 252-883-4748.

Horse quality hay, deliv avail, $35/r/t. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-763-2306.

LIVESTOCK
Charolais bulls & heiffers, 7 mos & up, ph, polled, gentle, reg sires, $850 & up. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-633-2192.

Spring Katahdin ewe & ram lambs, $200/200; Katahdin/Barbados ewe & ram lambs, $200; Barbados blackbelly ram lambs, can be reg. $275. Amanda Berry, Mocksville 336-306-0942, tx only.

Nigerian dwarf goats, born in May, multicolored, 2 doelings, $175 ea; 4 bucklings, $125 ea, 1st call cow, caled well, all open, pure. K. Cousins, Ringwood 336-317-9400.

American milking devors, 2 heifers (1) 7 m/o, (1) 10 m/o, $500 ea. Charles Moore, Garland 336-340-5628.

Kiko goats, bucklings, a few, $125-400; Mary Shaffer, Cove Lake 336-317-9400.

Reg Blk Angus bulls, (2) 29-30 m/o, (1) 5 m/o, (1) 10 m/o, (1) 12 m/o, $750-1,250; Reg Angus heifers, do at fall. Christy Fulbright, Casar 704-538-7321.


Birmingham roller pigeons, pair for breed, great spinners, $20 & up. D.R. Dennis, Randleman 336-318-9285, after 6 p.m.

California, silver California bleeds & meat, 8 bleeds bovibite; partridge, phylax, chukar, Hungarian, $3 & up. Jimmy Furr, Stanfield 704-888-0213.

Chickens, Dominique, Copper black marans, Rhode Island red; 10 chick min, $5 & up pending breed/age, sold Sat only. Joe Snow, Thummond 336-648-5997.

German Fleckvieh & tractors, Yearling & 2 y/o, TRD auto, $500. Donald Nifong, Lincoln 336-733-6748.


Newborn milkers, 110 lbs, $1,000. Bill Barkley, Mocksville 336-306-6067.

Agriculture and Consumer Services Industry Division at 800-206-9333 to obtain either a nursery or nursery for parts. California, silver California, California blackmer, $50 ea. Nancy Hobson, Pittsboro 336-684-2240.

Bourbon Red turkey poults, males & females, $10; run, $12; Bourbon Red tom & hen, 6 w/o, $45/pair. Elizabeth Osborne, Graham 336-214-5262.

Barnstormer trailer, 5 y/o, 18 ft., fenders, auto, tow pkg, GC, $7,500. Robert McMillian, Mocksville 336-300-3512.


Small Animals For Sale
8 NZ bunnies, 8 w/o, $25 ea. Drew Bradshaw, Madison 336-420-7446, call or text.

Red NZ rabbits, 5 m/p, $25 each, 2nd & 3rd, $35. Sam Talley, Silly City 919-930-4836.

Sows For Sale
Wholesale, ready to plant, p/u only, $15 ea. Michael Roberson, Mocksville 336-979-2800.

Granola, mfg by On Point Organic, around 400 avail, buyer digs, up to $75. Nick Holt, Snow Camp 336-318-9285.

Troxler names Martin new state veterinarian

Dr. Michael P. Martin to serve as State Veterinarian. Martin previously served as Poultry Section Head for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Martin replaces Dr. Doug Meckes, who retired motivated by his need to spend more time with his family.

“Dr. Martin brings a wealth of expertise, both scientific and regulatory, to his new role. In fact, he is likely one of the most qualified candidates to manage the science of the State Veterinarian’s position,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “Livestock agriculture accounts for nearly 70 percent of farm cash receipts in North Carolina. We rank first in the nation in poultry and egg cash receipts, second in hogs and pigs as well as turkeys. I am confident in Dr. Martin’s ability to be a strong leader for our livestock industry.”

Martin is a 1997 graduate from the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California at Davis. He also completed a Masters of Preventive Veterinary Medicine in 1999 and a poultry medicine residency in 2001, both at UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. After several years as assistant professor of Animal Science at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and as a principal research scientist at Embrex Inc., in Research Triangle Park, Dr. Martin joined the faculty of the North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Population Health and Pathobiology. In 2012, Martin became an associate professor within Population Health and Pathobiology and served in that capacity until 2012 when he joined the department.

Troxler has also named Dr. Catherine Harris of Raeford as Director of Livestock Programs for the Veterinary Division. Harris has worked as a commercial production veterinarian with Stratfield Hog Production since 2011. Prior to her role with Smithfield she was an associate veterinarian with Integrated Dairy Services located in Texas and New Mexico. Harris graduated from N.C. State University College of Veterinary Medicine with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. She also received certification from the Executive Veterinary Program for Swine Health Management from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

“Dr. Harris is familiar with livestock production systems, experienced in working with livestock producers and veterinarians, and will bring an industry perspective to the Veterinary Division,” Troxler said. “She is well qualified for her role in leading our livestock health programs and the perfect complement to Dr. Martin’s position. We feel our livestock industry will be well served by having these resources within the department.”

MSF Returns

Birds n Beasts, which showcases stunning birds of prey and shares opportunities across the fairgrounds. And the Great Lakes Timber Show, featuring lumberjacks from around the world, will be well served by having these resources within the department.”

Elementary students’ artwork featured in calendar

Thirteen elementary school students’ art pieces have been chosen for the North Carolina Farm to School 2022 calendar. The winners of the calendar contest and the month their artwork will represent follows:

Cover: Third-grader Aiden Skinner from Sam D. Bundy School, Pitt County. Teacher is Anyssa Capening.

August: Kindergartner Gabriella Carr from the N.C. Virtual Academy, Durham County. Teacher is Kerrie Brown.

September: Second-grader Aryan Panpatwar from Benvenuto Elementary, Nash County. Teacher is Samantha Guy.

October: Fourth-grader Revant Pandey from Barringer Academic Center, Mecklenburg County. Teacher is Eva Nolan.


December: Fifth-grader Celine Tendo from Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary, Brunswick County. Teacher is Theresa Reiter.

January 2022: Fifth-grader Keira O’Neill from Dilworth Elementary, Mecklenburg County. Teacher is Jamie Sprouse.

February 2022: Third-grader Imelda Hernandez from Excelsior Classical Academy, Durham County. Teacher is An Vargas.

March 2022: Fourth-grader Sophia Elks from Chicoed Elementary, Pitt County. Teacher is Kathy Bello.

April 2022: First-grader Alice Lewis from Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary, Craven County. Teacher is Kelsey Marks.


June 2022: Kindergartner Anika Steepeec from Morrisville Elementary, Wake County. Teacher is Monica Moore.

July 2022: First-grader Camila Rosales from Oakhurst STEAM Academy, Mecklenburg County. Teacher is Kaitlyn Linscheid.

The contest was open to all elementary students across the state. Limited numbers of the calendars will be available through participating school systems before the start of the school year. Additional copies will be available at NCDACS on a first-come, first-served basis, and printer-friendly versions will be available online at www.ncfarmtoschool.com.

Elementary students’ artwork featured in calendar

Cover art for the calendar pictured above and January 2022 art below.