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CLOSER LOOK: Focusing on the news that shapes our community

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Health insurance seekers have limited time to sign up for ACA plans

By VAIL STEWART RUMLEY
Washington Daily News

Open enrollment in Affordable Care Act health insurance plans opened this week, and those without health insurance have only a month-and-a-half-long window to sign up. From Nov. 1 to Dec. 15, those seeking insurance can sign up through their local Navigators or at one of several enrollment events held by Green-

ville-based non-profit Access East throughout the enrollment period. In Beaufort County, Access East navigator Arden Root will be at Brown Library in Washington every Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., according to Frank Rabey, Access East's communications coordinator. Health care Navigators are trained to help people determine which ACA plan best fits

See ACA, Page 10A

SIGNING UP FOR ACA
Things to bring:
► Social Security numbers, or document numbers for legal immigrants;
► Employer name and phone number;
► Income information for every member of a household who is working, or who has income and needs coverage;
► Policy numbers for current health-insurance plans covering all household members.



DIGGING UP RESOURCES



MATT DEBNAM | DAILY NEWS

NEW POSSIBILITIES: Aurora Fossil Museum Director Cynthia Crane accepts a check from retiring North Carolina Senator Bill Cook in the amount of \$50,000, courtesy of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The funds will be used for updates to the facility that will enhance visitor experiences and create new opportunities for professional research.

Aurora Fossil Museum nets additional \$50,000 in state funds

By MATT DEBNAM
Washington Daily News

AURORA — An additional \$50,000 from the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources will help the Aurora Fossil Museum advance its mission

of education and paleontological research in the coming year. During the state budget process, legislators can submit proposals for funds to be allocated for certain projects and causes within their districts. As sitting N.C. Senator Bill Cook prepares for retirement next

month after four terms in the General Assembly, the museum is among the projects he went to bat for this budget year. “This is one of the best places for tourism and education combined in North

See DIG, Page 9A

Illuminating alleyways

Commission to review plan for string lighting at four downtown sites

By MIKE VOSS
For the Daily News

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission, during its meeting Tuesday, is scheduled to consider a request to install string lighting in four downtown alleys. The Washington Harbor District Alliance is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to place the string lighting in two alleys off North Market Street and two alleys off West Main Street. “The Washington Harbor District Alliance and the City of Washington would like to collaborate with downtown property owners to install string lighting ... within the Harbor District,” reads the application submitted by WHDA. The Market Street alleys include the one on the south side of Shep's Grill and Ward Lane. Harris Lane and Union Drive off West Main Street are the other alleys

See LIGHT, Page 5A

GARDEN PARTY
Rose Haven open for visitors on Sunday

By VAIL STEWART RUMLEY
Washington Daily News

A year and a day since its official ribbon-cutting, those behind the Rose Haven Center for Healing have issued an invitation to drop by and see the place. Sunday, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., the public is invited to a garden party, complete with live music,

See ROSE HAVEN, Page 3A



HALLOWEEN NIGHT | 6B



MATT DEBNAM | DAILY NEWS

PEACE AND LOVE: Elliot Smith, dressed as Minnie Mouse, clings tightly to Matthew Smith, who unleashed his inner hippie for the holiday.

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ISSUE No. 251
50 CENTS TUESDAY-FRIDAY
\$1.00 WEEKEND

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DAILY almanac

TODAY'S WEATHER:
For full weather report, see page 2A

HIGH 64 LOW 42

GOOD MORNING

Good morning from Penney Doughtie who says that home makes her heart smile.

OBITUARIES:
Full obituaries can be found inside this edition on page 3A.

- Felicia Yvonne House
- Victoria Anne Johnson
- Jacqueline Leggett Rogerson
- David Franklin Whitley
- Lois Dean Andrews Williamson

ABOUT TOWN:
EARLY VOTING ENDS:
Last day of early voting, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Beaufort County Board of Elections, Aurora Community Building, John A. Wilkinson Center and Chocowinity Fire Department.

CLASSIFIED DEAL of the DAY

FOR SALE
2007 Sea Pro Boat With trailer, model SP206W. 20 feet, 6 inches with 2008 Mercury motor. \$6,000 Call 252-964-3149
To view today's classifieds, turn to page 3B.

CLASSIFIEDS

ACA:
Continued from 1A

their needs and to help them understand their eligibility for federal subsidies to offset the cost of insurance premiums. Navigators do not receive commissions, regardless of the insurance plan chosen, according to an Access East press release.

Health care has been a topic of intense debate over the past several years, as Congress made a push and failed attempt to repeal the Obama-era Affordable Care Act and replace it with another version. Because of the controversy, many have confusion about the current options offered by ACA.

“ACA insurance still includes all its most popular features, which may be unclear to the public in light of all the recent heated political discussion on health care,” Rabey said.

The plan, in its sixth year, provides the following: no denial of coverage for pre-existing conditions; guaranteed coverage — plans cannot be cancelled if a person on the plan should get sick; substance-abuse and mental health treatment are covered; maternity benefits are included; and financial help with premiums is available to most consumers — in North Carolina, nine out of 10 people receive assistance paying for their ACA plans, according to the press release.

People who do not currently have insurance aren’t the only ones who should be seeking out a health care navigator, according to Rabey. Those who already have ACA plans should be checking in with a Navigator to make sure they still have a plan that best fits their needs.

“With all the changes to plans that have taken place, people who are currently enrolled are strongly encouraged to touch base with a certified Navigator or assister to make sure there aren’t better/more affordable plans for them this year versus just letting coverage roll over,” Rabey said.

In addition to Root on location at Brown Library, health insurance seekers or ACA-plan holders can find assistance by visiting the healthcare.gov website, and follow the “Find Local Help” link to see a comprehensive list of local Navigators.

Root can be reached at 252-717-1136 or arden.root@accesseast.org.

“At this busy time of year, it’s best for consumers to contact her to make sure she isn’t booked in advance,” Rabey said.

CRIME BRIEFS: Reports from local law enforcement

Belhaven man faces multiple drug charges

From the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office

On Oct. 25, the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office Drug Unit arrested Candelario Monreal Zepeda, 40 years of age, of 40 Shady Acres Mobile Home Park in Belhaven. Zepeda was charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver heroin, possession with intent to sell and deliver Hydrocodone, a schedule II controlled substance, possession of Suboxone, a schedule III controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Zepeda’s arrest stemmed from investigators making controlled purchases of black tar heroin and Hydrocodone prescription pills from Zepeda. Investigators conducted a traffic stop on Zepeda and found black tar heroin and Suboxone.

Zepeda was detained in the Beaufort County Detention Center under a \$11,500 secured bond.



CANDELARIO MONREAL ZEPEDA

Two arrested on drug-related charges

From the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office

On Oct. 31, investigators with the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office Drug Unit and Probation Officers with Department of Public Safety working together arrested Shannon Waller, 36 years of age, of 105 Bells Avenue in Chocowinity and Randy Furlough, 42 years of age, of 2778 Speights Bridge Road in Walstonburg. They were charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver methamphetamine, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Their arrests stemmed from probation officers identifying Randy Furlough at the Beaufort County Courthouse. Furlough had transported Shannon Waller to court

for probation violations. Probation officers knew that Furlough was a person of interest to the Drug Unit for using and distributing methamphetamine. Probation officers notified investigators with the Drug Unit that Furlough would be picking up Waller after his court appearance.

Investigators conducted surveillance and witnessed Furlough pick up Waller at the courthouse. Investigators knew that Furlough’s driver’s license was suspended. Investigators conducted a traffic stop on Furlough and received consent to search the

vehicle. Investigators found methamphetamine, marijuana, digital scales and a syringe.

Waller and Furlough were placed under \$100,000 bonds.



RANDY FURLOUGH



SHANNON WALLER



YOUR TAKE: Submit your news to news@thewashingtondailynews.com



MATT DEBNAM | DAILY NEWS

REBUILDING: The team at Zion Shelter and Kitchen were happy to accept a generous donation of \$3,000 from Covenant Church on Thursday to help with expenses incurred from flood damage during Hurricane Florence. A portion of the funds is being used to purchase a new stove for the kitchen. Pictured, from left to right, are Bill Lennartz, Covenant Church Pastor Carl Perry, Forrest Johnson, Keith Harris, Jonathan Gaskins and Zion Shelter and Kitchen Founder Robert Harris. Anyone wishing to contribute to the shelter can send checks by mail to P.O. Box 2324, Washington, NC 27889. Checks can be made out to Zion Shelter and Kitchen.



Who says you have to do it alone?

Mr. and Mrs. Terry have reclaimed their health and had amazing results while doing the 20/30 Fast Track program, as have many others. Having a buddy, whether a family member or friend, makes the process even better!

Attend our Next Seminar Monday November 5th with a buddy and you BOTH qualify for an additional \$50 OFF this program



Text 2030 to 252-947-0343



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Washington City Council
Mayor Mac Hodges Mayor Pro Tem Virginia Finnerty
Richard Brooks Doug Mercer
William Pitt Roland Wyman

City Council Agenda - November 5, 2018 Regular Meeting - 5:30pm

Consent Agenda:

- [Declare Surplus/Authorize](#) - Electronic Auction of Contents within the property located at 411 West 2nd Street through GovDeals

Comments from the Public:

6:00pm Public Hearing - Zoning: None

6:00pm Public Hearing - Other: None

Scheduled Public Appearances: None

Correspondence and Special Reports:

- [Memo](#) - Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction Reduction
- [Memo](#) - Budget Transfers

Reports from Boards, Commissions and Committees: Human Relations Council

Appointments: Enlarged Planning Board

Old Business:

- [Request](#) - Resolution of support for NCDOT Pedestrian Grant (Betsy Kane)
- [Approve](#) - Purchase Order to Cella Ford
- [Accept](#) - Bids and Award Contract - Havens Gardens Bulkhead
- [Approve](#) - Purchase Order to Pamlico Fence
- [Approve](#) - Purchase Order to Tarheel Electric Membership Association
- [Approve](#) - Purchase Order to Piedmont Truck & Quality Truck Body
- [Adopt](#) - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Section 141 - Parking in City-owned parking lots (1st Reading)
- [Adopt](#) - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Section 76 - One-Way Streets (2nd Reading)
- [Approve](#) - Purchase Order for Rear Load Garbage Truck
- [Adopt](#) - Budget & Grant Project Amendment Ordinances and Execute Work Authorization No. 18-01 to Talbert & Bright for design work for Runway, Taxi-way and Apron rehab
- [Accept](#) - Brownfields Grant Agreement, Approve the corresponding Purchase Order and Adopt the Grant Project Ordinance
- [Approve](#) - Option to Purchase property located at 415 West 2nd Street (Carter House)
- [Approve](#) - Leased Parking in Central Business District

New Business:

- [Adopt](#) - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Sec. 18-76 - One Way Streets (1st Reading)
- [Authorize](#) - Installation of Decorative Lights in the Downtown Alleyways
- [Adopt](#) - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Section 53 - Intersections controlled by traffic signals (1st Reading)
- [Adopt](#) - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Section 77 - Stop Intersections referencing Main Street, Stewart Parkway & Gladden Street
- [Adopt](#) - Resolution Designation of Applicant's Agent for Hurricane Florence and Authorize Applicant Disaster Assistance Agreement

Any other items from City Manager

Any other business from the Mayor or other Members of Council:

Closed Session: Under NCGS §143-318.11(A)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege, (A)(5) Acquisition of Property, (A)(6) Personnel, (A)(1)

Disclosure of Confidential Information; NCGS §143-318.10(E) Public Records Act

Adjourn: Until Monday, December 10, 2018 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers.