



TEAM BLADEN

March 2017
Bladen County
Government Newsletter

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Co. Manager: Greg Martin

Animal Control: Kory Hair

Building Inspections:

Matt Chadwick

Clerk of Courts:

Nikki Dennis

Computer Operations:

Robin Hewett

Consolidated

Human Services

Health:

DSS: Vickie Smith

Economic Development:

Chuck Heustess

Elections: Cynthia Shaw

Emergency Services:

Bradley Kinlaw

EMS: David Howell, Jr.

Extension: Sandra Cain

Finance: Lisa Coleman

Human Resources: Shontea Keaton

Library: Kelsey Edwards

Operations: Robert Mazur

Planning: Greg Elkins

Recreation: Grant Pait

Register of Deeds:

Beverly Parks

Revenue: Renee Davis

Senior Services: Joan Allen

Soil & Water: Dean Morris

Sheriff: James McVicker

Water: Randy Garner

Kids St. Patrick's Day Celebration



Thursday, March 16, 2017

Bladen County Public Library

Main Branch - Elizabethtown

5:30 PM

Please call to register your child in advance at
910-862-6990.

All children must be accompanied by a
responsible adult during the event.

IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



Irish-American Heritage Month is celebrated by proclamation of the President and Congress in the United States to honor the achievements and contributions of Irish immigrants and their descendants living in the United States. It was first celebrated in 1991 and is not an annual event. The heritage month is in March to coincide with Saint Patrick's Day, the Irish national holiday on March 17. Heritage Months are usually proclaimed by nations to celebrate centuries of contributions by a group to a country.

Saint Patrick's Day is a Roman Catholic religious holiday that honors the saint, who introduced Christianity to Ireland in the early fifth century. It has developed in the United States as a celebration of all things Irish. With large ethnic Irish populations, Boston and New York City both claim the world's first Saint Patrick's Day parade, while Philadelphia claims to be the second oldest behind New York City. In New York City, it occurred on 17 March 1762, featuring Irish soldiers serving in the British military protecting the Colonies during the French and Indian War. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman, of Scots-Irish descent, attended the New York Saint Patrick's Day parade and gave a speech to attendees. This was a proud moment for the many Irish whose ancestors had to fight stereotypes and prejudice to find acceptance in the United States. In 1960 John F. Kennedy was elected as the first Irish American Catholic President; in 1961 he was in New York to review the Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

In tribute to all Irish Americans, the US Congress, by Public Law 101-418, designated March 1991 as "Irish-American Heritage Month". Congress again proclaimed March as Irish-American Heritage Month for 1995 and 1996.

Within the authority of the Executive Branch, the President of the United States has also issued a proclamation each year since 1991.

Each year in March, the Irish Taoiseach visits the United States for Saint Patrick's Day. A Shamrock Ceremony takes place in the morning at the White House where a crystal bowl containing shamrock, a traditional symbol of Ireland, is presented to the President in the Oval Office. This is followed by a Friends of Ireland luncheon hosted by the House Speaker in the U.S. Capitol or the Rayburn House Office Building. The luncheon is attended by the President, Vice President, the Taoiseach, the Speaker, and other officials. In the evening, a Saint Patrick's Day Reception takes place at the White House.

Why March is National Women's History Month?



As recently as the 1970's, women's history was virtually an unknown topic in the K-12 curriculum or in general public consciousness. To address this situation, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week" celebration for 1978.

The week March 8th, International Women's Day, was chosen as the focal point of the observance. The local Women's History Week activities met with enthusiastic response, and dozens of schools planned special programs for Women's History Week. Over one-hundred community women participated by doing special presentations in classrooms throughout the country and an annual "Real Woman" Essay Contest drew hundreds of entries. The finale for the week was a celebratory parade and program held in the center of downtown Santa Rosa, California.

Mobilizing a Movement

In 1979, Molly Murphy MacGregor, a member of our group, was invited to participate in The Women's History Institute at Sarah Lawrence College, which was chaired by noted historian, Gerda Lerner and attended by the national leaders of organizations for women and girls. When the participants learned about the success of the Sonoma County's Women's History Week celebration, they decided to initiate similar celebrations within their own organizations, communities, and school districts. They also agreed to support an effort to secure a "National Women's History Week."

Presidential and Congressional Support

The first steps toward success came in February 1980 when President Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th 1980 as National Women's History Week. In the same year, Representative Barbara Mikulski, who at the time was in the House of Representatives, and Senator Orrin Hatch co-sponsored

a Congressional Resolution for National Women's History Week 1981. This co-sponsorship demonstrated the wide-ranging political support for recognizing, honoring, and celebrating the achievements of American women.

A National Lobbying Effort

As word spread rapidly across the nation, state departments of education encouraged celebrations of National Women's History Week as an effective means to achieving equity goals within classrooms. Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Oregon, Alaska, and other states developed and distributed curriculum materials for all of their public schools. Organizations sponsored essay contests and other special programs in their local areas. Within a few years, thousands of schools and communities were celebrating National Women's History Week, supported and encouraged by resolutions from governors, city councils, school boards, and the U.S. Congress. Each year, the dates of National Women's History Week, (the week of March 8th) changed and every year a new lobbying effort was needed. Yearly, a national effort that included thousands of individuals and hundreds of educational and women's organizations was spearheaded by the National Women's History Project.

National Women's History Month

By 1986, 14 states had already declared March as Women's History Month. This momentum and state-by-state action was used as the rationale to lobby Congress to declare the entire month of March 1987 as National Women's History Month. In 1987, Congress declared March as National Women's History Month in perpetuity. A special Presidential Proclamation is issued every year which honors the extraordinary achievements of American women.

Presidential Message 1980

President Jimmy Carter's Message to the nation designating March 2-8, 1980 as National Women's History Week.

"From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.

As Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted, "Women's History is Women's Right." – It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision."

I ask my fellow Americans to recognize this heritage with appropriate activities during National Women's History Week, March 2-8, 1980.

I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who struggled for equality – – Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul.

Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people.

This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that "Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

By Molly Murphy MacGregor, Executive Director and Co-founder of the National Women's History Project



WE ARE ALL WONDERWOMEN!



*MJM
C. 8/20*

<http://www.nwhp.org/womens-history-month/womens-history-month-history/>



Exciting changes are coming to the Bladen County Public Library! As of March 16, 2017, our library system will be part of statewide consortium (group of libraries) that share the same software system to check out books (Evergreen) as well as share resources (books, movies, audio books, etc).

A few important things to know during our transition:

Due to our transition, we will be unable to register new library patrons, renew library materials, or place holds from 4pm on Friday, March 10-Wednesday, March 15 at closing. No materials will be due during the week of March 12-March 19.

We will also have a delayed opening of 11:00am for our Main Library located in Elizabethtown on Thursday, March 16 to aid us in the transition process as that is the day our new software will go live.

We will begin resource sharing on Monday, May 1.

NC Cardinal is a program of the State Library of North Carolina, supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Federal Library Services and Technology Act.

Commissioners to meet with Board of Education on
Monday, March 6



The Bladen County Board of Commissioners and the Bladen County Board of Education will have a special joint meeting on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 5 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss budget and capital needs related to the Bladen County Schools. The meeting will be held in the Bladen County Health Department Conference Room, 300 Mercer Mill Road, Elizabethtown.

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman Bladen County Board of Commissioners

Statewide tornado drill planned for March 8, 2017



On Wednesday, March 8, 2017, the National Weather Service will be conducting a statewide tornado drill, according to Steven Pfaff, with the National Weather Service office in Wilmington. The North Carolina and South Carolina Statewide Tornado Drills will be broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio and will create an opportunity for schools, agencies, businesses, and the public to test their tornado safety plans.

If there is actual severe weather occurring on the morning of March 8, 2017 the statewide tornado drills will be postponed. The alternate date for the drill is Friday March 10, 2017. The drill for SC and NC will be handled differently and here are the details for each drill:

SC Statewide Tornado Drill

Date: Wednesday March 8, 2017

Time: 9 AM EST

Product Issued: Test Tornado Warning

Notes: All NOAA Weather Radio models should automatically activate if they are setup and working properly.

-There will be no follow-up statements issued by the NWS to mark the end of the statewide drill. The drill will conclude when your group, school, business, or organization feels that you have adequately practiced your tornado shelter procedures.

-Also note, this drill will take the place of the usual weekly NOAA Weather Radio test that typically occurs around 11 AM EST.

NC Statewide Tornado Drill

Date: Wednesday March 8, 2017

Time: 9:30 AM EST

Product Issued: Required Monthly Test

Notes: Not all NOAA Weather Radio models will automatically activate with the RMT product. Since your NOAA Weather Radio may not sound an alarm at the time the RMT is issued you will want to do one of the following: a) manually turn on your NOAA Weather Radio and simply listen to the audio at 9:30 AM EST, or b) simply plan to start your tornado drill on your own at 9:30 AM EST.

-There will be no follow-up statements issued by the NWS to mark the end of the statewide drill. The drill will conclude when your group, school, business, or organization feels that you have adequately practiced your tornado shelter procedures.

-Also note, this drill will take the place of the usual weekly NOAA Weather Radio test that typically occurs around 11 AM EST.

Share:

No-cost small business seminars offered at BCC

Dublin — The Small Business Center of Bladen Community College is offering no-cost seminars beginning in March.

They include:

— How to Brand and Build Your Non-Profit is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 9 a.m. until 12 noon in building 2, room 202, on the Dublin campus. This workshop is helpful for non-profits and churches.

— QuickBooks for Business 2 is Monday, March 27, 6 until 8 p.m., in building 2, room 207. Participants will experience hands-on software training.

— Art of Marketing and Advertising in Small Town North Carolina is scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 6:30 until 9 p.m., in building 2, room 207.

— Improve Your Credit Score for a Business Loan is scheduled as a part of the Entrepreneur's Academy at the East Arcadia Center. The workshop will meet on Wednesday, March 14, 6 until 8 p.m.

— Improve Your Credit Score for a Business Loan is also scheduled for Wednesday, March 22, 6 until 8 p.m., at the Baltimore Center in Council.

— What You Need to Start a Business at Home will meet at the Bladen County Public Library on Tuesday, March 14, 2:30 until 4:30 p.m.

— How to Start a Group Home is also scheduled for the Bladen County Public Library on Tuesday, March 28, from 6 until 8 p.m.

All seminars are open to the public and provided at no charge due to special funding arrangements for the Small Business Center and Bladen Community College.

To register for any of the seminars or for more information, contact Todd Lyden, Small Business Center Director, at 910-879-5572 or register online at <https://www.ncsbc.net/center.aspx?center=75040>.



NC KIDS

Digital Library

A first of its kind statewide eBook consortium specifically for children has launched in the Tar Heel State. The North Carolina Public Library Directors Association (NCPLDA) together with OverDrive and the state of North Carolina has created a new digital resource sharing service for kids' pre-K through 4th grade, NC Kids Digital Library. Over 3,700 eBooks, audiobooks, videos and Read-Alongs are now available to younger readers via 85 regional, county and municipal libraries in North Carolina through OverDrive's digital reading platform. These materials are instantly available for every child, at home and everywhere. The NC Kids Digital Library was launched in January, 2017.

Here's how it works:

A collection of 3029 eBooks, 689 audiobooks and 37 streaming videos on a custom website, <https://nckids.overdrive.com/> or through the OverDrive app•

300 titles are available with simultaneous access, available anytime with no wait lists•

All titles can be accessed via the app on all major computers and devices, including iOS®, Android™, Chromebook™ and Kindle® (U.S. only).•

Easy, secure access. All that's needed to get started is a library card.

You can use the free OverDrive app to borrow and enjoy digital titles from our library. The OverDrive app is available for Android™, Chromebook™, iOS® (iPhone/iPad/iPod touch), Kindle Fire® tablets, Kobo® tablets, NOOK® tablets, Windows® 8 and up, and Windows Phone®. OverDrive is also available for Windows and Mac® users. Visit help.overdrive.com for instructions for laptop and desktop users.

Step 1 On your phone or tablet, install the OverDrive app from your device's app store or from app.overdrive.com

Step 2 If prompted, sign into the OverDrive app with a free OverDrive account. If you're under 13 or don't want to create an OverDrive account, visit help.overdrive.com to learn about other sign-in options.

Step 3 Find and save our library's OverDrive collection in the OverDrive app.

Step 4 Open our library's OverDrive collection, sign in, and borrow or place a hold on a title. You'll need a valid library card to complete this step.

Step 5 Borrowed titles will appear on your Loans page on the library's OverDrive website.

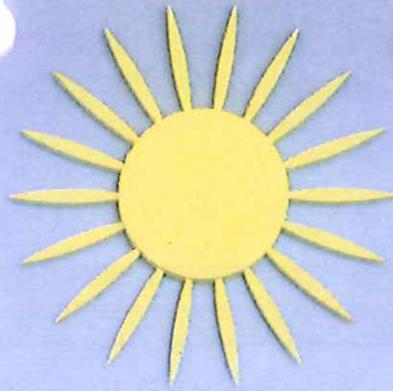
From here, you can:

- Download titles to the Bookshelf in the OverDrive app
- Read, Watch, or Listen to titles right in your browser (without adding them to the app)
- Send Kindle Books (U.S. only) to your Kindle device or Kindle reading app Borrowed titles will automatically return at the end of the lending period. You can also return titles early to free up space in your library account.

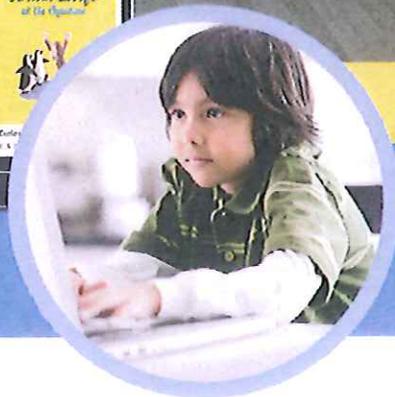
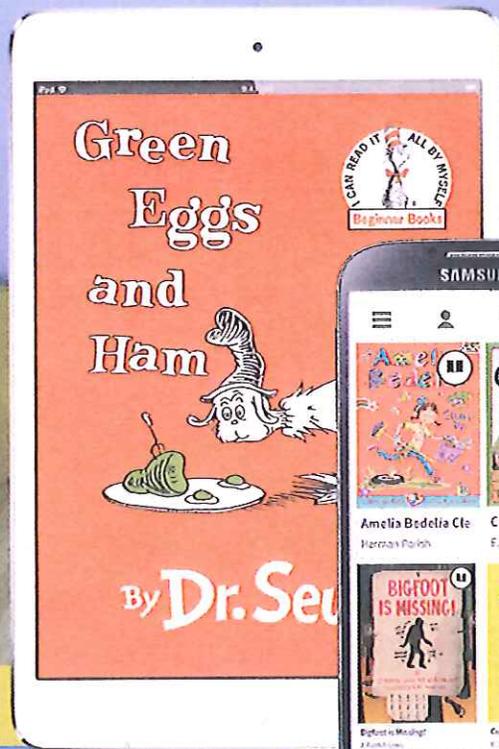
Questions? Visit help.overdrive.com to learn more about getting started and for help troubleshooting.

Note: Digital formats and titles vary by library and some options may not be available for every title or in every version of the app.

OverDrive



Discover
eBooks & more
just for **KIDS**



It's an easy, safe & fun way to browse with your child for the digital titles they want to read.

NCKIDS
Digital Library

<https://nckids.overdrive.com>

March 2 is
NEA's Read Across
America Day

www.nea.org/readacross



You're never too old, too wacky, too wild,
To pick up a book and read with a child.
You're never too busy, too cool, or too hot,
To pick up a book and share what you've got.

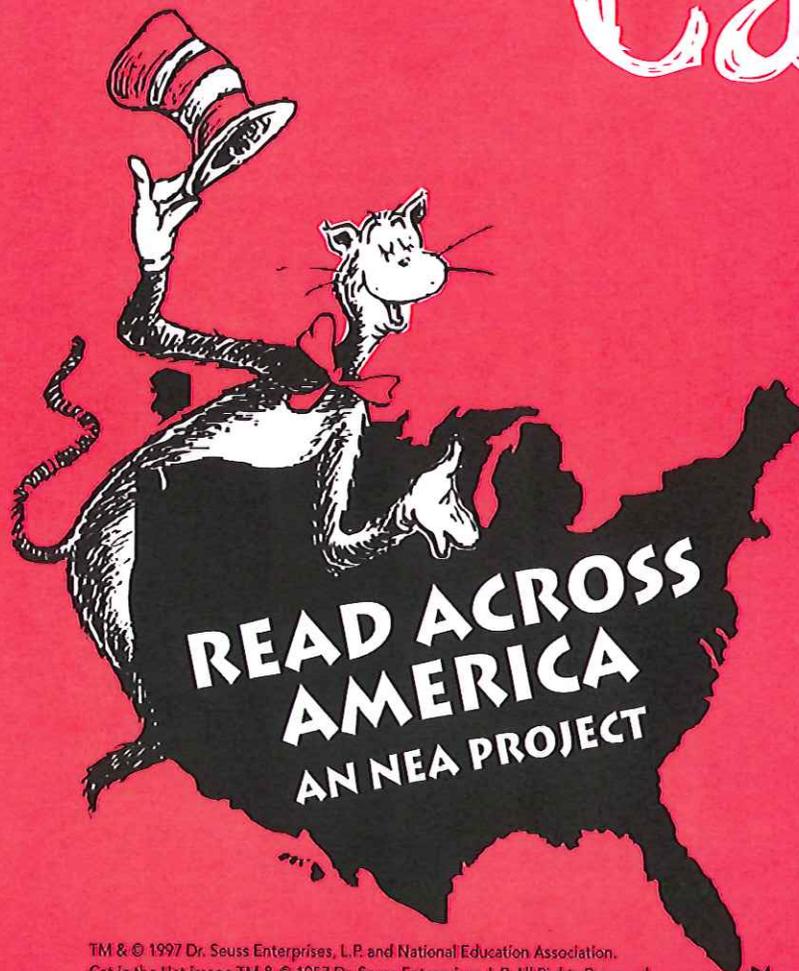
In schools and communities,
Let's gather around,
Let's pick up a book,
Let's pass it around.

There are kids all around you,
Kids who will need
Someone to hug,
Someone to read.

Come join us March 2nd
Your own special way
And make this America's
Read to Kids Day.

©Anita Merina

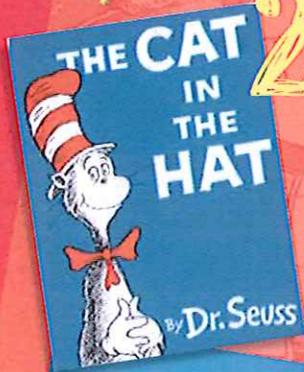
Grab Your Hat and Read with the Cat



TM & © 1997 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. and National Education Association.
Cat in the Hat Image TM & © 1957 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. All Rights Reserved
Dr. Seuss Properties TM & © 2017 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. All Rights Reserved

www.nea.org/readacross





20 Years Read Across America

The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss has introduced generations of families to the joys of reading. Simple and silly, the repetition and rhyme of *The Cat in the Hat* both beg to be read aloud and encourage kids to read on their own, making it the ideal signature title for NEA's Read Across America.

Random House Children's Books, 1957. Artwork used with permission. seussville.com

For 20 years, the National Education Association has promoted reading across the nation in a Dr. Seuss birthday celebration! NEA's first Read Across America celebration on March 2, 1998, was the largest celebration of reading this country has ever seen.

A small reading task force at NEA came up with the big idea. "Let's create a day to celebrate reading," the group decided. "We hold pep rallies to get kids excited about football. We assemble to remember that Character Counts. Why don't we do something to get kids excited about reading? We'll call it 'NEA's Read Across America' and we'll celebrate it on Dr. Seuss's birthday."

Why celebrate Dr. Seuss? People of all ages love his books. His skill with rhyme and whimsical use of nonsense makes his books an effective tool for teaching young children the basic skills they need to be successful readers. When we celebrate Dr. Seuss and reading, we send a clear message to America's children that reading is fun and important.

But this national celebration is not just about one day of reading fun. NEA's Read Across America is about discovering the joys of reading and cultivating good reading habits that will last kids a lifetime. We're building a nation of readers "never too old, too wacky, too wild to pick up a book and read with a child."

nea.org/readacross

March 2017

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
						
			1	2 Dr. Seuss's Birthday NEA's Read Across America Day	3	4
5 Teen Tech Week begins	6	7	8	9	10	11 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Spring begins	21 World Poetry Day	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 César Chávez Day 	

20 Years of NEA's Read Across America
Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Readers
nea.org/readacross

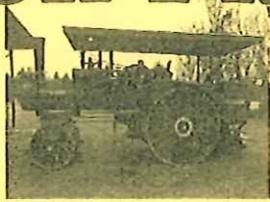


Museum
Open

Our 25th Annual

Museum
Open

Old Fashion Planter's Day



Friday & Saturday - March 24th & 25th

9252 Old Fayetteville Rd. • Garland, N.C. @ Ammon

GATES OPEN 9:00

**Friday Night
Chicken and Rice
Dinner.
Donations**

Last Year's Sponsors

Graham Family Farm	Duke Energy
Office Value Inc. Dunn	Big Blue
Lacy West Insurance Agency	Bobby Taylor Oil Co,
Family Farm Store	Piggly Wiggly
Agri Supply of Lumberton	Star Telephone
Tires Inc. of Clinton	D D Cox Agency
Lafayette Business Machines	First Bank

CONTACTS:

Show Grounds: John Graham

910 588 4074 jbgraham@intrstar.net

Vendors: Gloria Smith

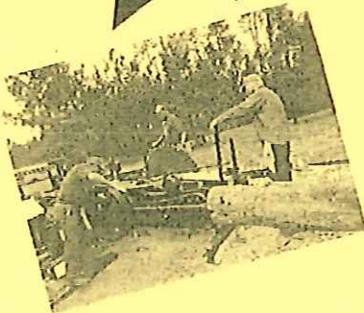
910 874 2935 gloria.smith1414@icloud.com

Entertainment: Neil Smith

ncsmith@nccumc.org

Advertising: John Graham

910 588 4074 jbgraham@intrstar.net



Country, Bluegrass, and Gospel Singing - FRI. & SAT.

Saw Mill - Hit & Miss Engines - Old Tractors - Antique Cars

• OTHER EVENTS •

Craft Vendors • Children's Games & Rides • Antique Farm Equipment

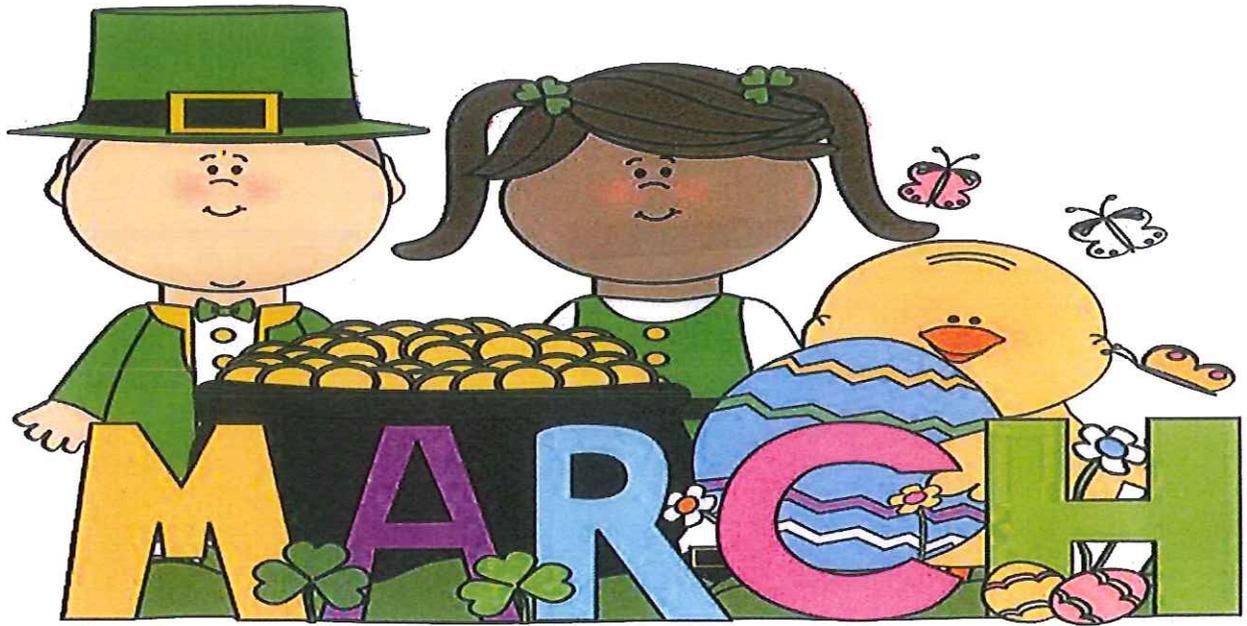
Primitive Tools • Horse Equipment • Swap Meet • Blacksmith

No four wheelers. Golf Carts permitted only for elderly & handicapped.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS • LIMITED ELECTRICITY • LIMITED WATER

•Admission Donations•

FREE PARKING EXHIBITORS ADMITTED FREE



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 <u>NACo Legislative Conference, Washington, DC</u>	27 <u>NACo Legislative Conference, Washington, DC</u>	28 <u>NACo Legislative Conference, Washington, DC</u>	1 <u>NACo Legislative Conference, Washington, DC</u> 12pm - <u>Bladen Co. Extension & Community Assn. Annual Achievement & Awards Luncheon, Powell-Melvin Ag. Center, 450 Smith Circle, Elizabethtown</u>	2 8:30am-4:30pm <u>Medicaid Convening Session, NCACC, Quorum Center, Raleigh, NC</u>	3 10am <u>Resilient Redevelopment Planning Regarding Hurricane Matthew Recovery, Commissioners Room, Bladen County Courthouse</u>	4
5	6 8am - <u>Prayer Service</u> 6:30pm <u>Board of County Commissioners Meeting</u>	7	8	9 7:00 pm - <u>Bladen County Fire Association, Dublin Fire Department</u>	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 12pm-1pm <u>BCC Scholarship Luncheon, Bladen Community College Auditorium</u> 5:30pm <u>Board of Commissioners Special Meeting, Location to be Determined</u>	17	18
19	20 6:30pm <u>Board of County Commissioners Meeting</u>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



MARCH 20TH IS



THE FIRST DAY OF



SPRING

