

# A new way to do some catfishing

I think catfish are great. They're interesting to look at, and better yet, fun to catch. I enjoy sitting out by a lake in the dead of night in a comfy plastic lawn chair, while my chicken liver-baited hook rests peacefully on the lake's bottom. And oh how exciting it is when one of the chubby little "whiskered" creatures latches on.

It had been a while since I'd gone fishing for catfish when I was invited along to experience a different technique Sunday morning. My father and I headed out at around 4 a.m. to meet my uncle Mike and his friend at the lake. We rode out onto the water in my uncle's boat, to a single fishing rod onboard. Rather, we had small sections of Styrofoam pool "noodles" with PVC pipe in the middle. The line and bait dangled from the pipe. After the noodle contraptions were tossed into the water in a line, we watched and waited. When one of the brightly colored noodles would pop up on end we knew there was probably a fish on the line. If the noodle went completely under, it was probably a big one. We pulled up a channel cat and several beautiful blue cats that morning, the sun glinting off their glossy gray-blue backs and white bellies.

Fishing with the noodles was fun. My job on the boat was to hook the noodles and pull them to the boat each time we contacted a fish on the line, and when we collected the noodles to move to another spot.



**Grey Pentecost**

I have yet to try the most dangerous (and I'm sure the most thrilling) method of "hand grabbing" catfish. While reaching into a hole underwater, hoping a catfish will swallow my arm, would be quite the adrenaline rush, I might have to leave that to other daring fisher people.

Still, whether you're using your bare hands or a fishing rod, with catfish you never know when you might catch a real giant. We had heard talk the morning we went out that a record-breaking catfish had been caught the night before. And the rumors proved true. A fisherman in Virginia caught the world record blue catfish Saturday night. It weighed 143 pounds, and was 57 inches long.

The previous record was a 130-pound fish caught from the Missouri River last year.

There are more catfish to be caught, and I don't think I'll wait as long this time to take my next trip.

# Roxboro man arrested on pair of statutory rape charges

Deputies with the Person County Sheriff's Office arrested Emmanuel Duvall Thomas, 24, of 758 N. Main St. Friday on two felony counts of statutory rape. Thomas is alleged to have raped two 13-year-old females last Thursday.

Thomas was jailed under a \$20,000 secured bond. He is scheduled to appear in Person County District Court on July 5.

Department of Social Services after the Person County Grand Jury had handed up an indictment against him.

McFarland was held under a \$15,000 secured bond.

He is slated to appear in Person County Superior Court on July 11.

\$20,000 secured bond. He is scheduled to appear in district court on July 19.

court dates scheduled in Person County on July 12 and in Orange County on July 18.

**Felony child abuse alleged**  
Michael Damian McFarland, 22, of Raleigh was arrested by Roxboro police Friday on a felony charge of child abuse. McFarland was taken into custody at the Person County

**Burglary charges lodged**  
Kenneth Arre Blalock, 27, of Durham was arrested by Roxboro police Friday on felony charges of breaking and entering and larceny. Blalock was also charged with a misdemeanor count of vandalism. Blalock was held under a

**Hillsborough man arrested**  
Sheriff's deputies arrested Larry Wayne Peach Jr., 24, of Hillsborough Friday on two felony charges of assault by strangulation and two misdemeanor charges of assault on a female. Warrants for the felony charges against Peach were issued in Orange County last Wednesday, while the misdemeanor arrest warrants against Peach were issued last week in Person County. Peach was initially jailed without privilege of bond. He has

**Indecent liberties alleged**  
Larry Wayne Searls, 62, of 989 Old Durham Rd. was arrested by sheriff's deputies Friday on a felony charge of taking indecent liberties with a minor. The warrant for Searls' arrest was issued in Bladen County. The incident that led to his arrest reportedly took place in October of 2010. Searls was held under a \$2,500 secured bond. He is scheduled to appear in Bladen County District Court on June 27.

# Make it 6 straight weeks with a decrease in gas prices

After soaring steadily for the better part of five months, gas prices statewide have been on the decline of late.

For the sixth consecutive week, the average retail price for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline fell statewide, according to information released Monday by *NorthCarolinaGasPrices.com*.

In the past week, the average retail price for a gallon of gas in North Carolina reportedly fell 4.0 cents per gallon, averaging \$3.56 Monday.

That decline came on the heels of decreases of 3.7 cents, 3.3 cents, 5.1 cents, 8.6 cents and 0.7 cents

in the past five weeks.

This past week's decrease compares with the national average that has fallen 4.8 cents per gallon in the past week to \$3.66 per gallon.

Including the change in gas prices in North Carolina in the past week, prices Monday were 95.7 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 20.8 cents per gallon lower than one month ago.

The national average has decreased 19.0 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 92.7 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

# Wild Goose Festival slated June 23-26

The Wild Goose Festival will be held June 23-26 at Shakori Hills Farm, eight miles north of Pittsboro.

The festival is billed as "a festival at the intersection of justice, spirituality and the arts." The festival will offer a lineup of musicians, artists, speakers and events.

The music lineup includes Michelle Shocked, The Lee

Boys, T-Bone Burnett, David Wilcox, Derek Webb, Over the Rhine, Ashley Cleveland, Billy Jonas, Tom Prosada-Rao, Beth Nielson Chapman, Agents of Future, Andy Gullahorn, David LaMotte and others.

The speakers include prominent progressive theologians and activists. Among the speakers are Jim Wallis, Richard Rohr, Phyliss Tickle, Vincent

Harding, Brian McLaren, John Dear, Shane Claiborne, James Forbes, Lynne Hybels, Alexie Torres-Fleming, Bart Campalo, Nancy Sehested, Richard Twiss, Margot Starbuck, Ched Myers, Nadia Bolz-Weber and Tim Tyson.

More information on the Wild Goose Festival can be found on the Internet at [www.wildgoosefestival.org](http://www.wildgoosefestival.org).

# Looking Back

FROM THE FILES OF THE COURIER-TIMES

**May 18, 1961**  
Jack Blalock Jr. was elected president of the Roxboro Civitan Club for the coming year as the club met recently for the installation of new officers.

Serving with the new president will be Sherman Wilson, vice-president; Claude Warren, secretary; Don Elliott, treasurer; and J.L. Smith, chaplain. New members of the Board of Directors are Toufielk Ameen, Elmer Blalock and Merritt Young.

both of Roxboro, has completed a metal worker course at the U.S. Army Ordinance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Va. to the Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre on June 6. The featured play for the trip will be *The Enchanted Cottage*, a remake of a 1945 movie starring Dorothy McGuire, Robert Young and Spring Byington. The story involves a young soldier returning from the war with both physical and mental scars.

**May 15, 1986**  
Army Private Marvin C. Anderson, son of Alma Anderson of Semora, has completed an Army food service specialist course at Fort Jackson, S.C.

The course trained personnel to prepare and serve food in large and small quantities. Students received training in baking, field kitchen operations and the operation of an Army dining facility.

**May 16, 2001**  
The Person County Extension and Community Association is sponsoring a bus trip to Ferrum,

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# The Latest Agenda

- MEETINGS**
- THE CHAMPION GROUP OF AA** holds open meetings at noon on Tuesdays; Wednesday at 8 p.m.; Friday at noon and Saturday at 1 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 422 N. Main Street in the "Gray House."
  - AA BACK ROOM GROUP** meets Sundays at 6 p.m. at the Hurdle Mills Fire Department.
  - NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** meets every Monday, Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.
  - SAFE HAVEN OF PERSON COUNTY SUPPORT GROUP** meets on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at 119 S. Main St. Discussion is led by trained counselors and Safe Haven staff.
  - The regular monthly meeting of the **LEASBURG RURITAN CLUB** will be held June 28 at 7 p.m. at 3735 NC Highway 119 North, Leasburg. People interested in joining as members are invited to attend.

**FUND-RAISERS**

The Leasburg Ruritan Club will host a **FISH FRY** Saturday, June 25 from 5 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$7 per plate and includes three pieces of fish, cole slaw, French fries, hush puppies, coffee and iced tea. The location is the Ruritan Club at 3735 N.C. Highway 119 North, Leasburg. Call Phillip Wade at 336-562-5408 for more information or tickets.

**ETC.**

An American Red Cross Cory Lea Bloodstock **BLOOD DRIVE** will be held Friday, June 24 from 4 to 8:30 p.m. at 480 Burlington Rd., Roxboro. Call Cory Lea at 336-598-8570 for an appointment.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Items for The Latest Agenda must be submitted in writing by noon Monday for Wednesday's edition and by noon Thursday for Saturday's edition. Announcements are not taken by phone. Please include your name and daytime telephone number. Bring items to The Courier-Times office at 109 Clayton Ave. or mail them to: Agenda, The Courier-Times, P. O. Box 311, Roxboro, NC 27573. Because of Latest Agenda space limitations, church-related activities should be submitted for the Saturday Churches/Religion page. Agenda items may also be submitted to The Courier-Times' Person County Community Calendar online at [www.personcountylife.com](http://www.personcountylife.com). Internet event information can be submitted in the Your Community section located on the homepage by clicking on submit information.

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**HOMES**

- 86 Glen View Rd.** - New construction. Rustic look with livable design with large waterside deck, porch, fireplace, 3BR, 2 BA. \$361,000
- 375 Pointe Mayo Dr.** - 3BRs, 2.5BAs. Newly painted, new carpet to be installed. Workshop & outbuilding w/ shelter for boat. \$173,000
- 237 Wesleyan Heights Rd.** - 4BR, 2BA Cape Cod with new BD & BA addition. Hdwd flrs. New paint, gutters and downspouts.. Over 1,700 sqft. \$123,900
- 237 North Main St.** - 5BR's, 3BAs with a grand entry. Some furniture comes w/ house. Call for a list of furniture and upgrades. \$293,000
- 5691 Hesters Store Rd.** - 3BDs, 2BAs sitting on 2.5 acres with wired workshop. Large unfinished basement with laundry room. One car garage! Home Warranty Included! \$149,900
- 6119 Virgilina Rd.** - 2BRs, 2BAs, Great view of Mayo Lake with a screened in porch and carport to store your boat. \$155,000

**LAND**

- Lot A Skylark Hwy., 1+ ac., \$60,000
- Lot B Semora Hwy., 1+ ac., \$87,500
- 0 Cobbs Creek Rd., 1.57 ac., \$200,000
- 0 Mill Creek Church Rd., 79 ac., \$237,000
- Lot 13 Summer Oak Dr., 2.71 ac., \$32,000
- Chub Lake Rd., 1.35 ac., \$30,000