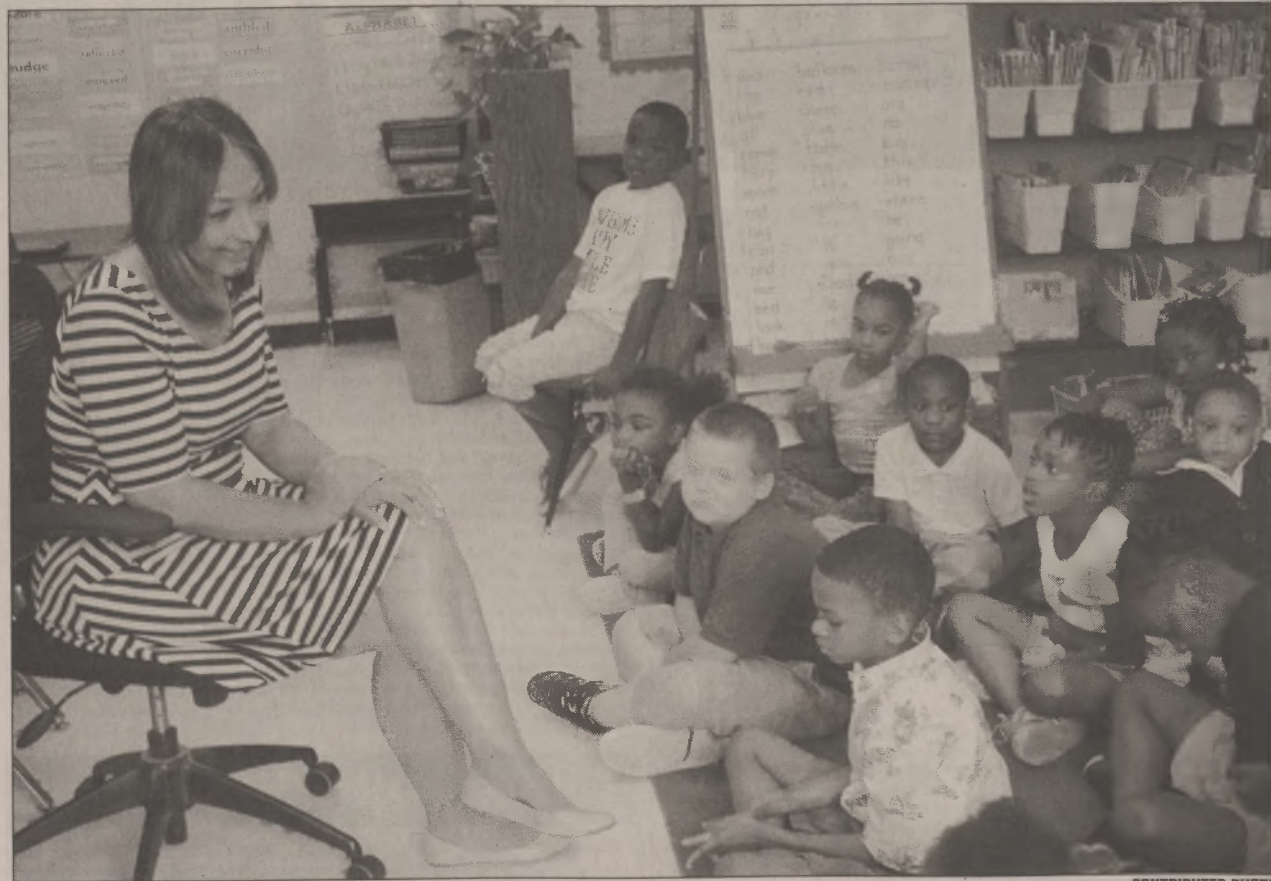


GUEST READER



Renna Ebron, a native of Hertford County, recently read her book "Together, We are Winners! The World According to Winston Parker" at Aulander Elementary STEM School. Ebron is a mental health professional and her book encour-

ages friendship amongst children. She read to students in Elizabeth Foreman's first grade class and Ashley Dixon's second grade class.

High schools change calendar

WINDSOR — Bertie County Schools is doing something new with its high school calendar for the 2017-2018 school year.

First, all three high schools — Bertie High, Bertie STEM and Bertie Early College — will be on the same schedule. In addition, the calendar will run concurrently with the local community colleges in order to better serve the students.

Aulander STEM Elementary School will continue to operate on a year-round calendar, and the elementary and middle schools will have a traditional calendar.

At its May 2 regular meeting, the Bertie County Board of Ed-

ucation approved the calendar change, presented by Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Sandra Hardy.

She stated that the change would allow students in grades nine through twelve to test before going home for the holidays, which would be a great advantage to student achievement.

With the high school calendar also aligning with that of the community colleges, students would have more opportunities to earn college credit and to take advantage of programs offered through the community colleges, such as the Bertie Public Safety Cadet Program

and the EMS Cadet Program.

Under the new calendar, high school teachers would report on Aug. 1, and the first day for students is Aug. 3.

Elementary and middle school teachers report Aug. 16, and students report on Aug. 28.

Aulander Elementary students would report for the 2017-2018 school year on July 17.

For a detailed, color copy of the 2017-2018 approved school calendars, go to www.bertie.k12.nc.us and look under the "News" tab under "Calendar Resources," and then "Printable Calendars."

Bertie, Chowan students chosen

The State Climate Office of North Carolina at N.C. State University will sponsor a special STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program for rising seventh grade students and their families in Chowan and Bertie Counties.

This opportunity is funded by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund as a Student Science Enrichment Program grant and will connect students who seek future careers in the sciences with STEM experts.

The program, entitled RAIN (Raising Achievement through Inquiry and Networking) Across the River, will introduce students to weather and climate concepts through precipitation (rain, hail, and snow) data collection. This program consists of a year-round after school curriculum, Saturday field trips, and a special week-long summer camp experience.

The RAIN Across the River

program is an outreach science initiative designed to encourage and support student STEM interest and engagement.

The program will be directed by local science consultant, Colleen Karl, and Heather Dinon Aldridge, Assistant Director for the State Climate Office of NC. As citizen scientists, students and their families will become contributors to the national CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow; <http://cocorahs.org>) network by providing their own observations of precipitation in their backyard. This effort will increase understanding of local differences in rainfall amounts within their community.

Students will meet several times a month after school with program education specialists to explore meteorology concepts that are aligned with the current 7th grade science and math state science objectives. Students will be encour-

aged to explore participation in STEM science fair competitions and will showcase their learning at a yearly community event.

Fifteen students from each county will be selected to participate in the RAIN Across the River program for one year through an application process.

Rising 7th grade students and homeschool students of the same age group are eligible to apply for this opportunity.

The 2017 program will begin this summer and continue throughout the 2017-18 school year.

A new cohort of rising seventh grader middle school students will be accepted to the program each successive year of the grant.

For more information about the RAIN Across the River program, please contact Colleen Karl at: Colleen_Karl@ncsu.edu.

MCC names Honor Roll list

WILLIAMSTON - Martin Community College (MCC) has released the names of its students on the President's and Dean's lists for the Spring of 2017 Semester.

To make the President's List a student must have achieved a 4.0 gpa (grade point average) for the semester and have taken a minimum of 12 credit hours. Dean's List students must have achieved at least a 3.5 gpa for the semester and have taken a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Those on the President's List are: Dinijazane Bazemore, Jackie Beasley, Miranda Boyd, Taylor Caudill, Patrice Clarke, Pamela Cline, Aisnick Corey, Lois Cullipher, Tammy Gedrimas, Freda Harden, Elisabeth Heath, Megan Hixson, George Holliday, Jeana Hollis, Angela Jernigan, Iesha Leigh, Conner Maxwell, Akeem Mills, Stephanie Moore, Marcy Raynor, Hollyanne Rogers, Mar-

garet, Rosario, Lanie Smith, Abigail Spencer, Matthew Swain, Nathan Weidner, Brandi Whitely and Kayla Wilder.

Those on the Dean's List are: Mary Angeles, Melvette Armond, Mark Baur, Tiniqua Beaufort, Reco Bey Pugh, Alexia Binns, Jasmine Bond, Brooke Buffaloe, Cody Burton, Jose Camargo, Mikeyla Cherry, Collin Close, Yudith Cota-Lopez, Kathy Cruz, Kianna Forbes, Gilbert Glover, Kazuo Goodwin, Thomas Hagen, Simon Harris, Debra Hill, Miranda Holloway, Towanda Jenkins, Tamika Lee, Steve O'Neal, Kaitlyn McNair, Tyler Mizell, Matthew Modlin, Nathaniel Pearson, Lauren Privott, Shaylia Rascoe, Mary Sawyer, Kayla Simpson, Kindsey Small, Armani Speller, Brittany Taylor, Erika Trejo, Toshika Watson, Ashley Williams, Kyshima Williams, Nichole Williams, Jessica Winstead, Aylonnah Woods, Anastasia Wrenn, Joshua Wynn and Samantha Yates.

Man Up students travel to Norfolk

NORFOLK, VA. - Martin Community College's students in the Man Up program embarked on one last educational excursion on April 9 and 10, just before the end of the Academic year.

The group left Williamston on Sunday afternoon and arrived at Chrysler Hall in Norfolk, Va. in time to see a traveling Broadway production of Motown.

The musical is based on Berry Gordy's autobiography, the history of his founding and running of the Motown record label, and his personal and professional relationships with Motown artists Diana Ross, Smokey Robinson, Marvin Gaye and Michael Jackson.

On Monday, the group toured two HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities).

The morning tour was conducted on the campus of Hampton University (HU), in Hampton, Va. and in the afternoon, Norfolk State University (NSU).

Hampton University is steeped in a long history that predates the Civil War and claims Booker T. Washington as its most famous alumnus.

Norfolk State University, founded in 1935, in the midst of the Great Depression, has transformed into one of the largest predominantly black institutions in the nation.

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