

# Basket

From A1

pine needle baskets took too long to make, cost too much, and students wanted bigger baskets for their money.

In 1989 Basket moved to South Carolina to be closer to the long leaf pines, where she could collect her own needles.

She also wanted to be closer to the Cherokee reservation to learn the stories of respect her grandmother never knew. She taught her own children about the culture.

In SC, Nancy was juried into the SC Arts Commission as an artist in education.

While traveling to different parts of the state she found that split kudzu vines translated into baskets quicker and easier for students, but not all areas had a ready supply of kudzu either.

So she adapted the materials to whatever plant species grew closest to the school. This insured the availability of economically viable resources for all income levels.

Teaching at a rural private school with no budget for 150 students grades K-12 also helped her create low cost, environmentally friend-



Abbey Sutton works on making a basket at a class held recently at the Bertie Arts Council.

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ly, recycled projects.

Students and teacher learned together how to make kudzu paperwork. Native stories of respect were told through that medium, and encouraged writing skills. Kudzu paper art became a business that helped feed her family thereby encouraging Nancy to experiment with more basket

forms and functions.

Several colleges have sponsored Nancy in workshops for their students and teachers, including, Lander, Converse, University of SC, Furman, and Columbia College. Clemson University offered a weeklong Native American Cultures course taught by Nancy and her friend Dr. Rebecca Moore. The classes in-

cluded basket making for all Oconee county teachers.

South Carolina and Alabama Educational TV have featured Nancy on several programs, and South Carolina is showing a video of her coiling a kudzu basket on their web site this spring along with a new TV segment.

Bertie Middle School

and the Bertie County Arts Council offered to the middle school students a basket weaving class for five days.

Each day students would meet, work on his or her basket and listen to stories from Basket.

The students made baskets from pine needles and raffia.

Raffia is a fiber made from raffia trees used in making hats, baskets and mats.

On Tuesday, March 6 the Bertie County Arts Council hosted a reception for Basket.

Guests could talk with Basket and view or buy her baskets and other works of art, while enjoying refreshments.

On Wednesday, March 7, approximately 15 adults met at the Gallery for a basket making class.

Participants learned how to pull apart kudzu and weave an authentic kudzu basket.

While making baskets, Basket would tell the participants stories of her life or other stories she had learned.

Leslie Beachboard can be reached via email at [lbeachboard@ncweeklies.com](mailto:lbeachboard@ncweeklies.com).

# Contracts

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be board would make individualized decisions based on each individual teacher. The contract offer would be personalized to each teacher; and

\* Option four would be a one-year contract and then rolling two-year contracts. Each teacher would begin with a one-year contract and then would be placed on continuous two-year contracts.

"I recommend option four. Anyone coming into the school district would have a one-year term, then would be eligible for two-year contracts," said Bertie County Schools Human Resources Specialist

Karen Dameron.

"I have a problem with this option because we are holding our children hostage if teachers are performing poorly," said board member Tarsha Dudley.

"Principals have the options to not renew due to poor performance in the middle of the contract," replied Dameron.

"These options are giving the school systems much more flexibility. You are only locked in with a teacher for two years. If you have a teacher the superintendent thought was not performing during contract it would be easier to get out of the contract," said Bertie

County Board of Education Attorney Rod Malone.

"We would make sure principals go through observation training and complete proper documentation," said Dameron.

"But there is still due process," asked Chairman Bobby Occena.

"Yes, there is still due process. It would still allow teachers a hearing. Teachers can still be terminated during the contract for breaking the rules required for termination," said Malone.

"Option four looks the best to me. It gives teachers more information for learning, especially for teachers in the first year. It sounds

like this option would help with teacher retention," said Vice Chairman Emma Johnson.

"Yes, but if a teacher does not do well in the first year, then we are stuck with them," replied Dudley.

"The new options under the new program

replace tenure. Tenure cannot be acquired in North Carolina anymore. If you already have tenure then you can keep it, but it is no longer portable," said Malone.

Johnson made the recommendation to select option four, giv-

ing teachers a one-year contract and then two year rolling contracts thereafter.

The board passed the measure unanimously.

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# Relay

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"She will be the guest speaker for the opening ceremony. We still are working on the entertainment for the evening," said Parker.

The evening's events will include the survivor/caregiver lap, the survivors' reception, the children's walk, which will begin at 8 p.m. and the luminary service to begin at 9 p.m.

"Any survivors interested in being part of the event should contact us. The survivors are our heroes. We have many survivors in

this county of all ages," said Jordan.

"We are looking into ideas for this year's theme for the event. Anyone with ideas about the theme should contact us and let us know about their idea," said Parker.

According to Parker, the organization has already started accepting corporate sponsors for the event.

Anyone interested in becoming a corporate sponsor should contact Bertie County Relay for Life Chairman JoAnne Jordan at 252-209-7637 or Parker at 252-209-

7149.

The next Relay for Life planning meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 10 at the Martin Community College Bertie Campus.

For more information about the 2018 Bertie County Relay for life, visit [www.relayforlife.com/BertieNC](http://www.relayforlife.com/BertieNC) or the organization's Facebook page at Relay For Life of Bertie County N.C.

"We hope this is the best year yet," closed Parker.

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## NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION BERTIE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

A Primary election will be held in Bertie County on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 to vote on Federal, State and County Offices and County Sales and Use Tax. The polls will be open for voting on that day from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at each of the 12 polling places. The polling places are located at:

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|--|--|---|
| <b>Colerain1 Precinct</b><br>Colerain Municipal Building<br>101 Winton St., Colerain<br>(Old Colerain Fire Department) | <b>Colerain2 Precinct</b><br>Powellville Town Hall<br>106 E. Main St., Powellville                 | <b>Indian Woods Precinct</b><br>Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church<br>2330 Indian Woods Road, Windsor |
| <b>Mitchells1 Precinct</b><br>Hexlena Community Building<br>1427 Early Station Road, Aulander                          | <b>Mitchells2 Precinct</b><br>Aulander Community Building<br>116 S. Commerce St., Aulander         | <b>Merry Hill Precinct</b><br>Merry Hill-Midway Fire Dept<br>109 NC Highway 45N, Merry Hill               |
| <b>Roxobel Precinct</b><br>Kelford Fire Department<br>106 N. Main St., Kelford   | <b>Snakebite Precinct</b><br>Mt. Ararat Baptist Church<br>305 Cowtrack Road, Windsor               | <b>Windsor1 Precinct</b><br>Windsor Community Building<br>201 S. Queen St., Windsor                       |
| <b>Windsor2 Precinct</b><br>Askeville Fire Department<br>105 Askeville South Railroad St                               | <b>Woodville Precinct</b><br>Lewiston Woodville Fire Dept<br>103 W. Church St., Lewiston Woodville | <b>Whites Precinct</b><br>Perrytown Fire Department<br>848 Perrytown Road, Colerain                       |

All residents of Bertie County who are registered to vote with the Bertie County Board of Elections may vote in this election. Any person who is already registered to vote need not re-register to vote for this election. Those voters who are registered unaffiliated may vote in the Primary Election. Unaffiliated voters will be given a choice of ballot at the polling places. Those residents of the county who are not registered to vote must register before Friday, April 13, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in order to be eligible to vote on Election Day. However, a North Carolina resident who is qualified to vote, but misses the 25-day deadline for voter registration may register and vote during one stop early voting only, and will be required to provide documentation of their identity and residence. Voters who wish to change their party affiliation or who have changed their name or address must notify the Board of Elections in writing by Friday - April 13, 2018 at 5:00 pm. Voters who fail to notify the Board of Elections of a change to their name or address must update their information when presenting to vote, and may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

One Stop Absentee (early) voting will begin on Thursday, April 19 and end on Saturday, May 5 at the following locations

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| BERTIE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE<br>210 W. WATSON ST<br>WINDSOR, NC 27983 | Thursday, April 19 - Friday, April 20<br>Monday, April 23 - Friday, April 27<br>Monday, April 30 - Friday, May 4<br>Saturday, May 5 | 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.<br>8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.<br>8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.<br>9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. |
| POWELLVILLE TOWN HALL<br>106 E. MAIN ST<br>POWELLVILLE, NC 27967                 | Thursday, April 30 - Friday, May 4<br>Saturday, May 5   | 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.<br>9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.   |

The Board of Elections will meet on April 17, April 24, May 1, and May 7 at 5:00 PM; on May 18 at 10:00 AM; and at other times as may be necessary for the purpose of approving absentee ballot applications.

Absentee ballots are allowed and requests for an absentee ballot must be made using the *State Absentee Ballot Request Form*, (available on the State Board of Elections website, at the County Board of Elections office and at all one-stop early voting sites), and received in the Bertie County Board of Elections office or any one-stop early voting site by 5:00 PM on Tuesday - May 1, 2018. Completed absentee ballots must be returned to the Bertie County Board of Elections by 5:00 PM on Election Day (ballots received by mail after this time will be timely if received within three business days and postmarked by Election Day).

Canvass Day will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 18 at the Bertie County Board of Elections. Voters who require assistance with casting their ballot are entitled to assistance by an appropriate person of their choice or an election official. Registration facilities and polling places are accessible to the elderly and handicapped. Curbside voting is available for voters who are not physically able to enter the polling place.

Persons with questions about registration, location of polling places, absentee ballots, early voting at One-Stop locations or other election matters may contact the Bertie County Board of Elections at (252)794-5306.

BERTIE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
Carol Woodard, Chairman

Visit us online at <http://www.ncsbe.gov> or [www.co.bertie.nc.us/departments/elections/elections.html](http://www.co.bertie.nc.us/departments/elections/elections.html)

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The member schools of the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin with regard to educational programs, admissions policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, athletic, and other school-administered programs.

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Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 12

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Member Schools of the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools

[www.ncais.org](http://www.ncais.org)

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