

WINTERVILLE GREENWAY MASTER PLAN

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INTRODUCTION

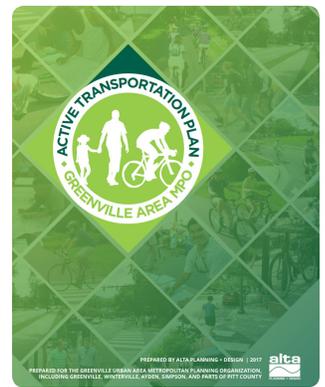
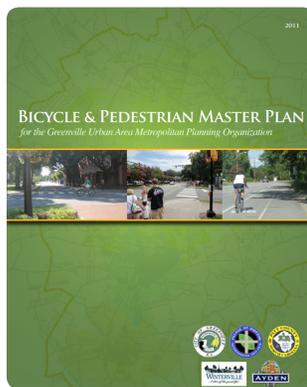
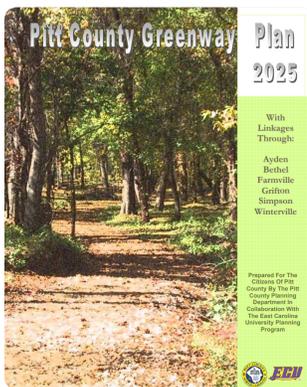
Planning for active transportation and greenways is not a new concept in the Town of Winterville. The Town has been part of several regional bicycle and pedestrian planning efforts, as well as local pedestrian planning efforts. Most recently, the Greenville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and its partners sought to develop an Active Transportation Plan (ATP) to guide how to invest in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in the future. During the 2017 ATP planning effort, the Town of Winterville identified the need to further study the *development of a high-quality network of trails to give Town residents an alternative way to travel across the Town and a place to exercise and socialize with family, friends, and neighbors.* To respond to this need, the Town of Winterville initiated the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan**.

The following document presents how the planning team - consisting of Town of Winterville staff and consultants - worked to develop the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan**. The document lays out the process for cataloging possible greenway recommendations, the public process, key recommendations, and steps for moving forward with implementation.

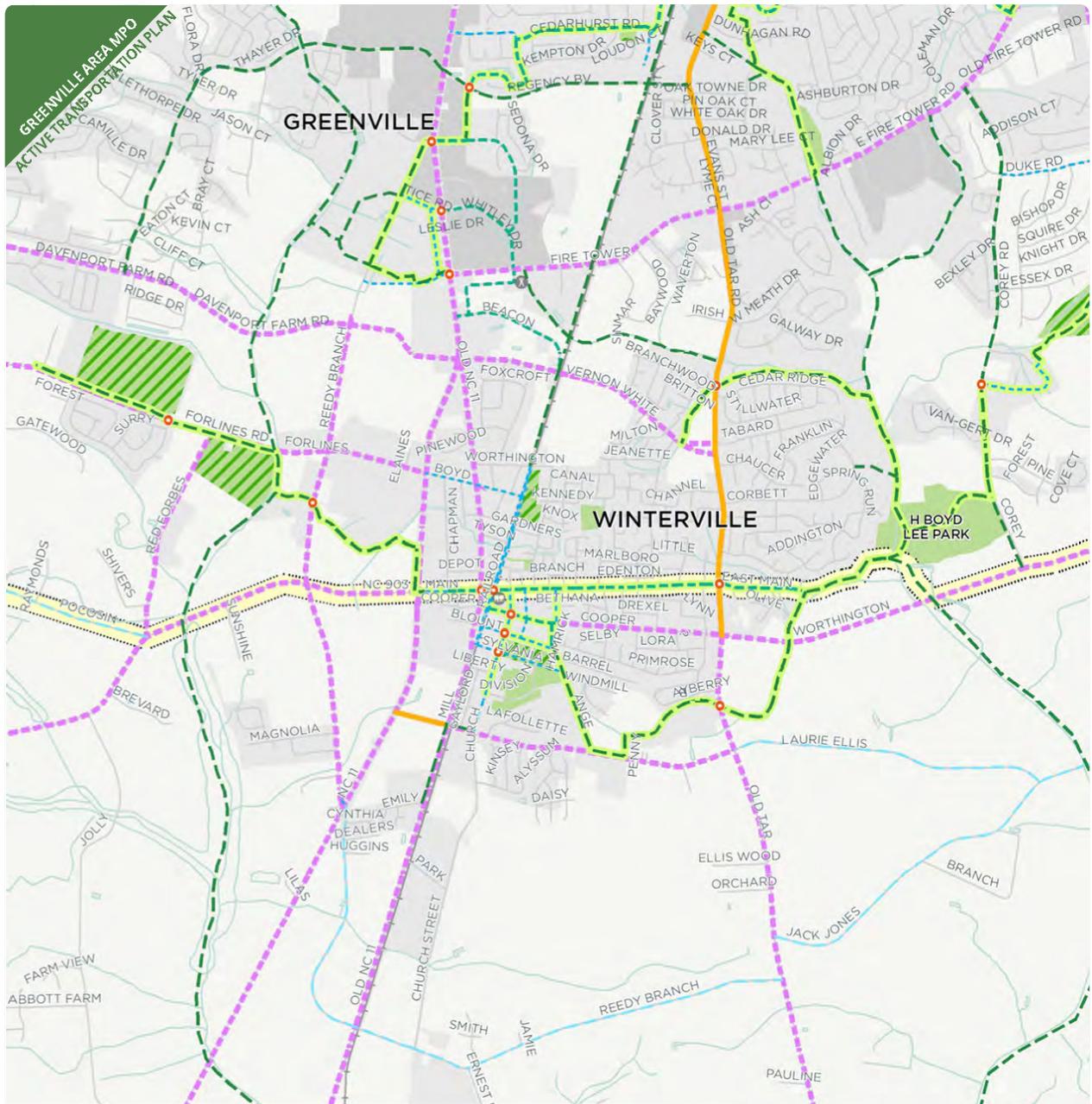
THE PLANNING PROCESS

The **Winterville Greenway Master Plan** team undertook a multi-step process designed to identify priorities and create a plan that presents a greenway network that the community vision reflects. The planning team examined previous planning efforts—including the *Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan*, the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2014-2040)*, and many other local plans—as well as input from the planning team to identify an initial catalog of possible trail projects. After the Plans review, the planning team proceeded with the most recent *Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan* as the base network for the catalog of possible trails as it was the most up-to-date and consolidated many of the previous plans. In addition to an all-day charrette with Town staff, the planning team met with local stakeholders, council members, and held a public workshop to solicit feedback and additional ideas for building a greenway network.

The maps on the following pages share the bicycle and pedestrian networks presented in the *Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan* for the Town of Winterville.



The images above are the covers of previous plans reviewed as part of the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan** planning process.



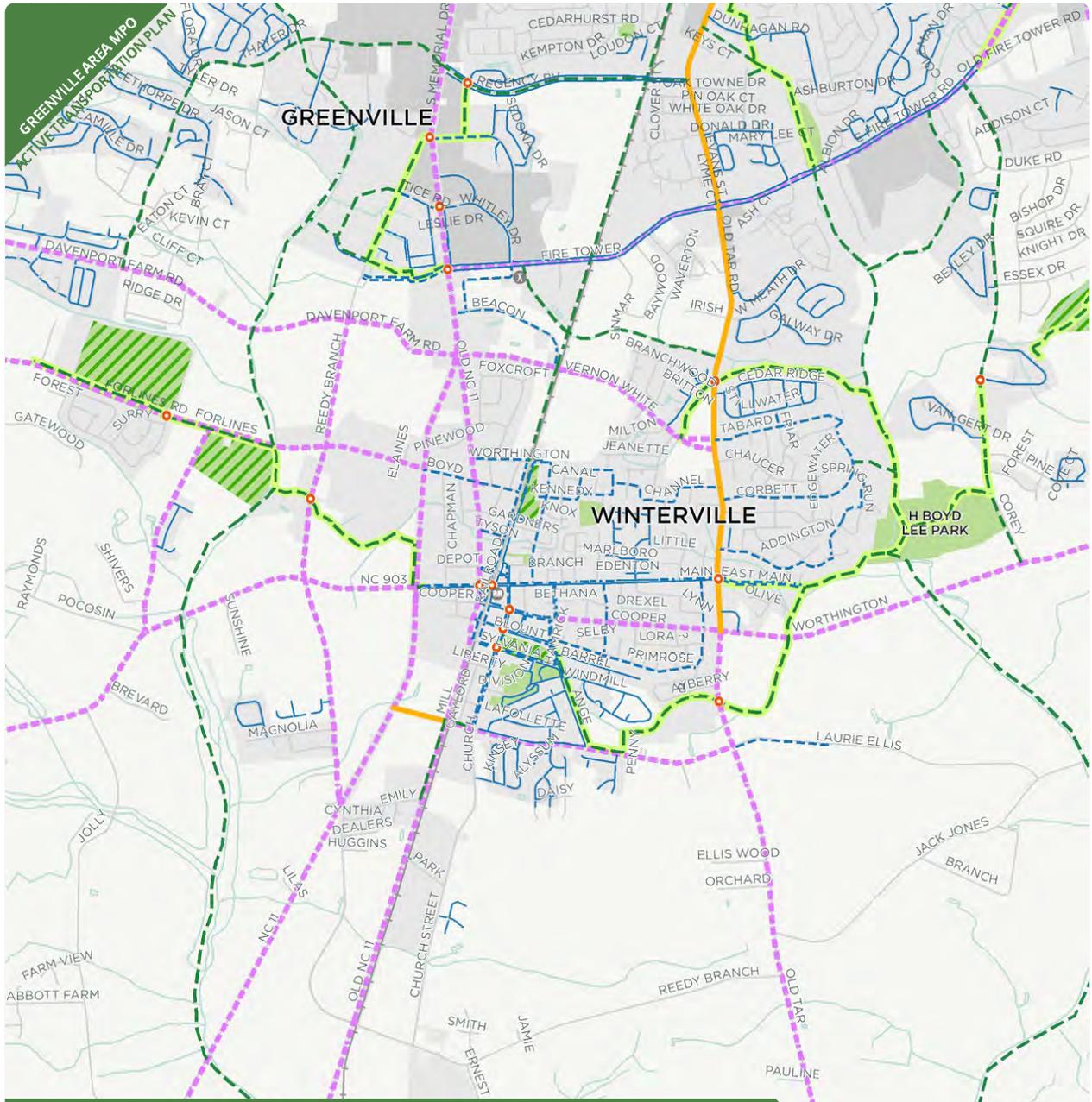
MAP 3.7 FULL BICYCLE & GREENWAY TRAIL NETWORK: WINTERVILLE

EXISTING	PROPOSED	DESTINATIONS & BOUNDARIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated State Bike Route (Unsigned) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossing Improvement Shared Use Path Buffered Bike Lane Neighborhood Bikeway Paved Shoulder In Development Separated Bikeway (and Pedestrian Facilities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library Rec Center Park School Greenville MPO Municipal Boundaries Commercial Areas

3. BIKWAY NETWORK

78

Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan Bicycle and Greenway Trail Network Map for Winterville, NC.



MAP 4.7 FULL SIDEWALK & GREENWAY TRAIL NETWORK: WINTERVILLE

EXISTING	PROPOSED	DESTINATIONS & BOUNDARIES
— Sidewalk	● Crossing Improvement	📖 Library
	— Sidewalk	🏠 Rec Center
	— Shared Use Path	🌳 Park
	STRATEGIC PEDESTRIAN NETWORK	🎓 School
	MAJOR CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS	🌿 Greenville MPO
	— In Development	🏘 Municipal Boundaries
	— Separated Bikeway (and Pedestrian Facilities)	🏢 Commercial Areas

0 0.5 1 Miles

4. SIDEWALK NETWORK
96

Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan Sidewalk and Greenway Trail Network Map for Winterville, NC.

PUBLIC INPUT

During the planning process, the planning team held an all-day charrette to meet with local stakeholders, elected officials, Town staff, and members of the public. These meetings resulted in a better understanding of the desired uses and facility types community members would like in a Town-wide greenway network. Members of the community also provided local knowledge that helped the planning team understand where there should be tweaks to the network provided in the *Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan* to better serve local destinations and attractions. Over 50 members of the community joined the planning team at the public meeting on October 4th, 2018. Prior to the on-set of the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan**, community members also had the opportunity to engage at the regional level at various input stations and outreach sessions held as part of the *Greenville Area MPO Active Transportation Plan*, and locally as part of the *Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan*. Town staff advertised for the October 4th, public meeting via a press release, in the Daily Reflector, the Times Leader, signs placed around Town, a meeting flyer distributed online via the Town website and social media, and a formal letter to property owners adjacent to the Fork Swamp Canal Greenway location. These advertisements can be found in the appendix.



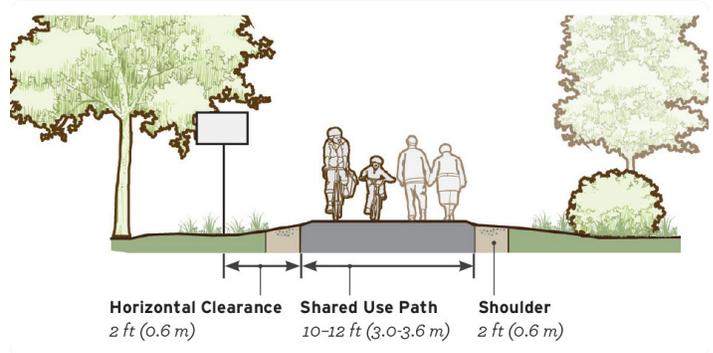
FACILITY TYPES

While this plan is predominately looking at creating a network of greenways in Winterville, to obtain a fully connected network four primary facility types are recommended — off-road greenways, side paths, on-street bike facilities, and sidewalks. While specific characteristics have been identified for the four different facility types, each corridor will ultimately be designed with consideration given to its unique topology, right-of-way, and context. The ideal width for greenways and side paths is 10 feet, but in areas of anticipated higher use, they may be designed to 14 feet wide. In locations of constrained right-of-way, greenways and side paths may be constructed as narrow as 8 feet in width.

Off-Road Greenway

Off-road trails are greenways and pathways that are not located along a roadway, but instead follow their own alignment or possibly a stream or utility easement. The trails are ideally 10 feet or wider and typically will be constructed with concrete or asphalt as well as timber bridges and boardwalks around wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas. Restrooms and parking locations may be located at trailheads and other key points along the path.

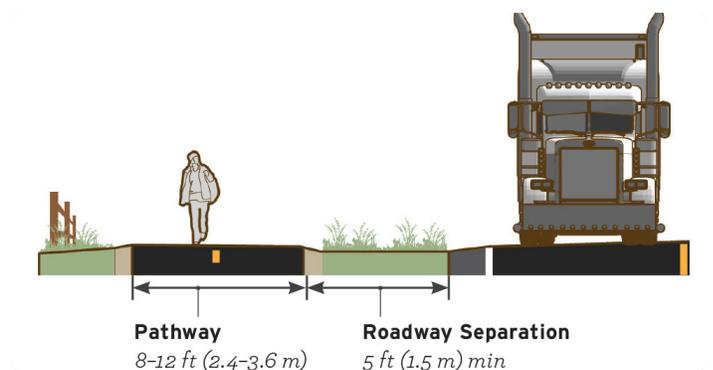
- ◆ Typically concrete or asphalt paving
- ◆ Timber bridge and boardwalks
- ◆ Minimal locations with lighting
- ◆ Trailhead signage, wayfinding signage, mile markers
- ◆ Restrooms and/or parking in key locations
- ◆ Construction cost per mile: \$0.5-3.5M



Side Path

Side paths are multiuse trails that run adjacent to the roadway with a buffer separation in between. The trails are ideally 10 feet in width and typically will be constructed with asphalt or concrete.

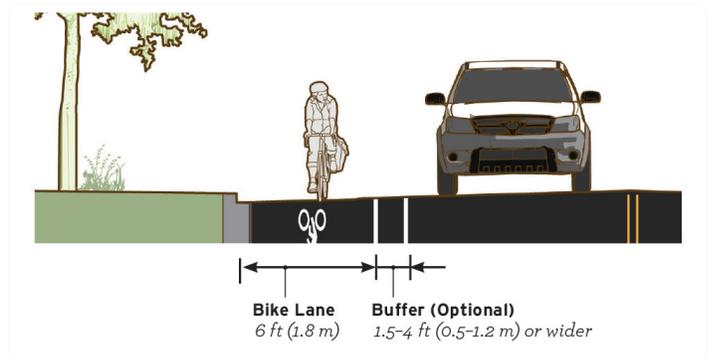
- ◆ Typically asphalt or concrete paving
- ◆ Pedestrian or roadway scale lighting more likely
- ◆ Trailhead signage, wayfinding signage, mile markers
- ◆ Restrooms and/or parking possible in key locations
- ◆ Construction cost per mile: \$65k-2.5M



On-Street Bicycle

On-street bicycle facilities take many forms, however, in this plan on-street bicycle includes the provision of bike lanes or a two-way cycle track. Both facilities designate an exclusive space for bicyclists through the use of pavement markings. A bike lane is ideally 6 feet, but in constrained locations can be as narrow as 4 feet. These facilities are located directly adjacent to motor vehicle traffic and can be separated by pavement markings or physical barriers.

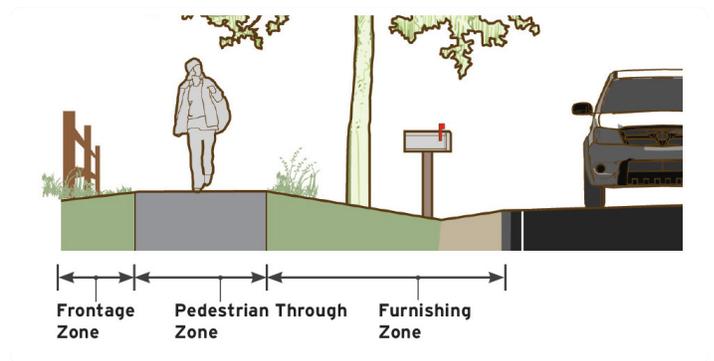
- ◆ Typically asphalt paving
- ◆ Roadway scale lighting
- ◆ Wayfinding signage, mile markers
- ◆ Construction cost per mile: \$10-535K



Sidewalk

Sidewalks are walkways that provide people with space to travel within the public right-of-way that is separated from motor vehicle traffic. Sidewalks are typically 5 feet or wider depending on the amount of pedestrian traffic present, level of separation from the adjacent roadway, and motor vehicle travel speeds. Sidewalks are typically made of concrete.

- ◆ Typically concrete paving
- ◆ Pedestrian or roadway scale lighting
- ◆ Construction cost per mile: \$105-355K



GREENWAY SYSTEM

The map on the next page illustrates the full greenway system of the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan**. The development of this system was an iterative process that included cataloging and reviewing previous planning efforts, meetings and charrettes with key stakeholders, and gathering public input, as detailed in the previous sections.

The full greenway system is classified into four categories:

- ◆ Signature Greenways
- ◆ Core Greenways
- ◆ Greenways with Partners
- ◆ Non-Greenway Support Facilities

The next section goes into greater detail on how each of these trail networks is defined as well as the trail segments included in each network.

Signature Greenways

While the Winterville Greenway Master Plan generally aims to expand the Town's bicycle and pedestrian network, a handful of signature trails will help create an identity for the greenway system, serving as examples of how to design and build bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Winterville. These signature trails, termed as such to signify that these facilities will be the hallmarks of the network, were identified because of the importance that they have in the overall system, regarding the scale of the facility, amenities, connectivity, location, and other defining features.

Winterville's signature greenways are:

- ◆ Fork Swamp Canal Greenway
- ◆ Main Street Two-Way Cycle Track
- ◆ Old Tar Road Side Path

Core Greenways

The core greenway network is symbolized with dark-hued green lines on the overall greenway system map. The core greenway network is composed of greenway segments that have been identified as the major backbone of Winterville's future greenway system.

The core greenway network includes:

- ◆ Fork Swamp Canal Greenway
- ◆ Main Street Two-Way Cycle Track
- ◆ Old Tar Road Side Path
- ◆ Forlines Road Side Path
- ◆ Reedy Branch Road Side Path
- ◆ Reedy Branch to NC 11 Greenway
- ◆ NC 11 Side Path

Greenways with Partners

Greenways with partners are symbolized with light-hued green lines on the overall greenway system map. Greenways with partners are those that will require regional partnerships with the City of Greenville, Pitt County, or private developers. These greenways also may be built through development or redevelopment requirements, and will often require partnership to identify collaborative funding.

Greenways with partners included in the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan** are:

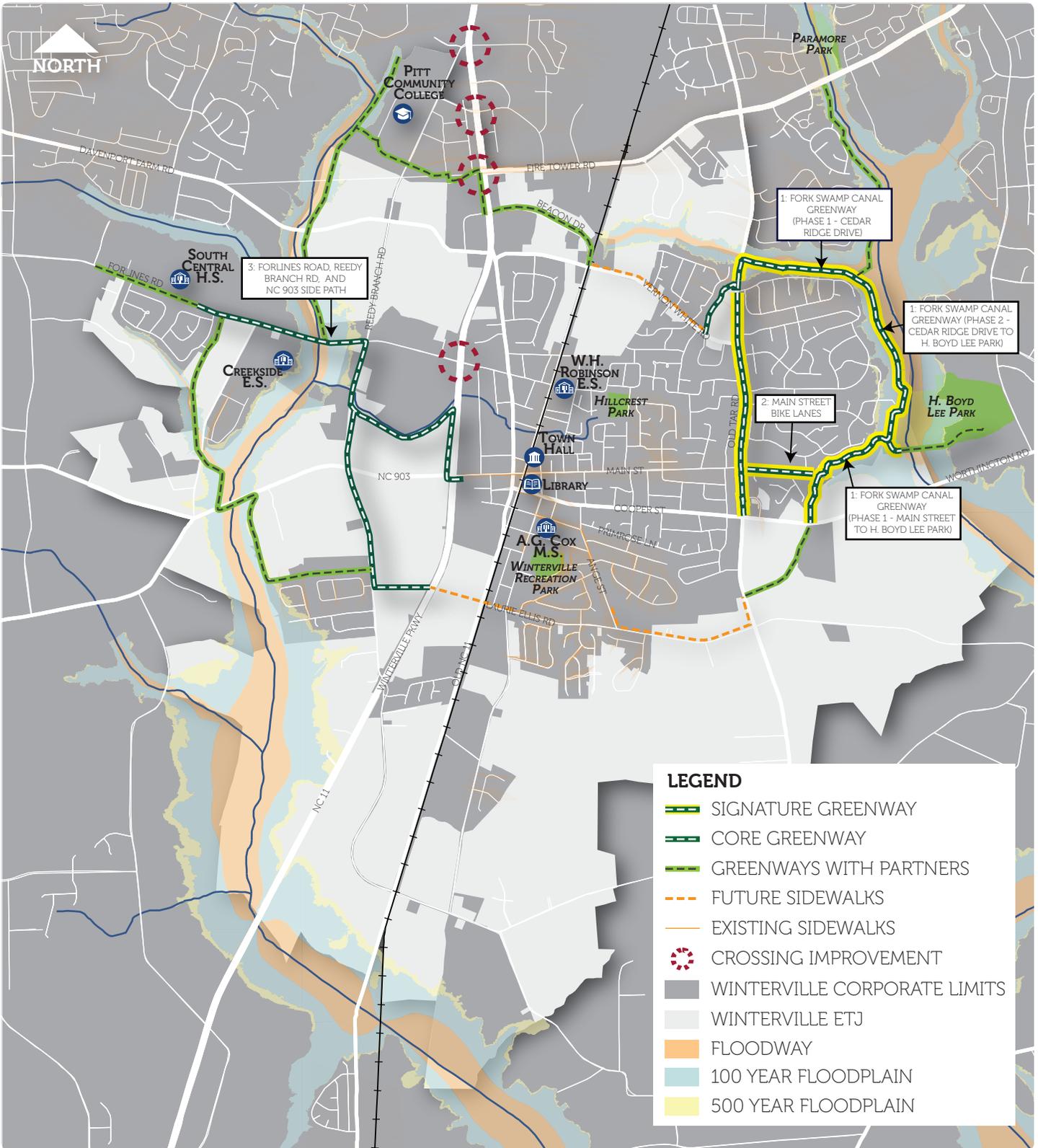
- ◆ Fork Swamp Canal Greenway to Paramore Park
- ◆ Beacon Drive Side Path
- ◆ Forlines Road Side Path (between Winterville and Greenville corporate limits)
- ◆ Swift Creek Greenway
- ◆ Pitt Community College Greenway

Non-Greenway Support Facilities

The success of a fully connected greenway system in Winterville requires strategic connections via sidewalks and on-street bicycle facilities. These support facilities fill gaps in the existing system, while providing critical connections through more space constrained residential streets.

Non-greenway support facilities include:

- ◆ Vernon White Road Sidewalks
- ◆ Laurie Ellis Road Sidewalks
- ◆ Main Street Two-Way Cycle Track



Overall Greenway System Map

In addition to greenway segments, four locations for crossing improvements were identified in collaboration with stakeholders and the public — three near Pitt Community College, and one at the intersection of NC 11 and Forlines Road. These crossing improvements are noted on the map on page 9 with a red dashed circle.

Future Considerations

Activity Centers and Recreational Open Space

Developing a community-wide plan for improving greenway connectivity requires the consideration of accessibility to key destinations, including schools, parks, and other retail centers such as the Town center and grocery stores. Schools and parks are shown on the map on page 9. The Town center is located near the intersections of Main Street and Railroad Street and includes many small shops, the Winterville Library, and the Winterville Town Hall.

While the Town owns and operates three parks (shown on page 9), Winterville is also conveniently located in close proximity to H. Boyd Lee Park and Paramore Park in the City of Greenville. Additionally, the Town owns several properties that are being reserved for parks and recreation use, several of which have been incorporated into the greenway system.

Floodway, Railroad, and Major Roadway Crossings

The Town of Winterville ETJ is bordered on the east and west sides by large floodways. The presence of a floodway does not preclude the implementation of a greenway. In fact, many cities and planning agencies use greenways to effectively manage floodways, preserve land adjacent to major waterways and tributaries, and protect aquatic habitats. Greenways are used across the nation by cities and public agencies, such as FEMA, for flood management, environmental protection, and recreational opportunities.

In addition to floodways, Winterville is bisected by an active CSX rail line with more than 10 at-grade crossings. At-grade crossings can be dangerous for both bicyclists and pedestrians because of the uneven surfaces created by the intersection of the roadway and tracks. Perhaps the biggest barrier to bicycle and pedestrian connectivity in Winterville is NC 11. NC 11 is a wide 4-lane divided roadway with no pedestrian accommodations south of Fire Tower Road and very limited safe crossing opportunities.

Demonstration Projects

The **Winterville Greenway Master Plan** is an overall vision for greenway facilities in Town that may take decades to fully implement with current funding levels. The success of this plan will be realized incrementally, facility-by-facility, but a few significant quick win projects will be critical for the plan to gain momentum and to perhaps accelerate the community's desire and commitment to advance greenways and other bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the Town.

Fork Swamp Canal Greenway (1)

The Fork Swamp Canal Greenway has been a popular concept in previous planning efforts and has many elements that may allow it to be a quick win project. Large parcels of land on either side of the proposed alignment are owned by the Town of Winterville. Additionally, it would provide cross-jurisdictional connections to the City of Greenville's H. Boyd Lee Park. The Fork Swamp Canal Greenway was noted as a regional priority project in the *Greenville Urban Area MPO Active Transportation Plan*.

- ◆ Project Length: 1.8 miles
- ◆ Key Connections: Old Tar Road Sidepath, H. Boyd Lee Park
- ◆ Estimated Cost: Phase 1 (Cedar Ridge Drive Property) - 786K; Phase 1 (Main Street Property) - 1.9M; Phase 2 (along Fork Swamp Canal) - \$845K
- ◆ Needed Partnerships: Town of Winterville, City of Greenville

Main Street Two-Way Cycle Track or Bike Lanes (2)

Main Street between Bentley Drive and Old Tar Road provides a critical connection in creating a complete loop of high quality bicycle and pedestrian facilities between the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway and the funded Old Tar Road Side Path. Main Street currently has faded bicycle lanes painted; however cars often park in the lanes. The primary recommendation is to provide a two-way cycle track along Main Street. This will allow greenway users to seamlessly transition onto the road and be separated from motor vehicular traffic. If necessary, the existing bicycle lanes can be restriped to include a buffer and vertical bollards to ensure protection for users; however it should be noted that this may limit the seamless integration into the greenway network.

- ◆ Length: 0.3 miles
- ◆ Key Connections: proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway, Old Tar Road Side Path
- ◆ Estimated Cost: \$25-50K
- ◆ Needed Partnerships: Town of Winterville



Forlines Road, Reedy Branch Road, and NC 903 Side Paths (3)

The provision of a side path along Forlines Road to Reedy Branch Road and finally along NC 903 west of NC 11 fills a large gap in connectivity by providing a connection between the east and west side of Winterville. In addition to east-west connectivity, this side path provides direct access to South Central High School and Creekside Elementary School.

- ◆ Project Length: 1.9 miles
- ◆ Key Connections: South Central High School, Creekside Elementary School
- ◆ Estimated Cost: \$1.8M
- ◆ Needed Partnerships: Town of Winterville, City of Greenville



Photos from Pitt County Schools website.

NEXT STEPS

To support the implementation of the **Winterville Greenway Master Plan**, Town staff should undertake the following tasks in collaboration with Town council, agency partners, and members of the public:

- ◆ Foster a dialogue with local partners—Greenville, Greenville Urban Area MPO, Pitt County, and the private sector—to construct portions of the greenway system and seek out other funding opportunities such as grants
- ◆ Define further greenway design standards to support consistent implementation, including trail width, materials, striping, intersection designs, and access points
- ◆ Develop a financial plan of action for maintenance and inspection of the greenway system
- ◆ Explore options for branding and wayfinding to create a unique identify for all greenways in Winterville.

The **Winterville Greenway Master Plan** represents a vision for the bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Winterville that may take many decades to fully implement. The success of the plan will be realized incrementally, but a few significant quick-win projects will be critical for the plan to gain momentum and to perhaps accelerate the community's desire and commitment to advance bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Town.



APPENDIX

- ◆ Public Workshop Flyer
- ◆ Press Release
- ◆ Property Owner Letter
- ◆ Daily Reflector Advertisements
- ◆ Times Leader Advertisements
- ◆ Sign In Sheets

Public Workshop Flyer



Join Us!

A public meeting will be held at the Town Hall Assembly Room, October 4th from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM to give citizens the opportunity for input on the Town's Greenway Master Plan and an update on the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway.

Drop in any time to share your ideas and talk with the project team to improve greenway connectivity in the Town of Winterville!



PUBLIC WORKSHOP



5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM (DROP IN)
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018



TOWN HALL ASSEMBLY ROOM
2571 RAILROAD STREET
WINTERVILLE, NC 28590

Press Release

PRESS RELEASE – The Town of Winterville is constantly working to provide better and safer transportation facilities for public use. A public meeting will be held at the Winterville Town Hall Assembly Room, 2571 Railroad Street, Winterville, on October 4th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM to present the Fork Swamp Canal Greenway’s conceptual design, explore other greenway connections within the Town, answer your questions, and gather public comments on both the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway and other greenway connections.

Drop in at any time to share your ideas and talk with the project team to improve greenway connectivity in the Town of Winterville. Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, or if we can assist you, please call 252-756-1487.

Property Owner Letter

Date: September 25, 2018
To: Property Owner
From: Town of Winterville
Subject: Town of Winterville Greenway Master Plan – Notice of Public Meeting

The Town of Winterville is constantly working to provide better and safer transportation facilities for public use. The Town will be holding a public meeting on Thursday, October 4th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM to discuss the proposed greenway along Fork Swamp Canal, as well as to understand where there may be additional desire for greenway connectivity within the Town.

The Fork Swamp Canal Greenway is proposed to follow an alignment including the Town properties parallel to Cedar Ridge Drive and properties parallel to Fork Swamp Canal, ultimately connecting to Boyd Lee Park. The greenway is proposed as a 10-foot wide asphalt path. The greenway will provide a pathway for pedestrian and bicycle movement as an alternative to vehicular use, and as a form of exercise and recreation. This corridor will assist in the preservation of open space and unique natural features, buffer non-compatible uses and areas, control runoff and flooding, provide protection of water quality, and provide a natural habitat for wildlife. The Fork Swamp Canal Greenway is a part of adopted bicycle and pedestrian plans at the regional level and has been identified as a high priority connection for bicyclists and pedestrians within the Town.

The Town will be holding a public meeting on October 4th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM in the Winterville Town Hall Assembly Room to present the Fork Swamp Canal Greenway’s conceptual design, explore other greenway connections within Town, answer your questions, and gather public comments on both the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway and other greenway connections. The address for Winterville Town Hall is 2571 Railroad Street, Winterville, NC 28590. We encourage you to attend the meeting and invite your friends and neighbors to attend as well. Your participation will help guide the direction of the Town’s future greenway infrastructure. This is a drop-in meeting so please feel free to attend at any point during scheduled time.

Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, or if we can assist you, please feel free to call Winterville Parks & Recreation at 252-756-1487. Additional information may also be obtained by visiting <https://www.wintervillenc.com/winterville-greenways>.

PCC NOTES

PCC continuing ed students receive SECU Scholarships



PCC NEWS SERVICE
Standing in front of household items damaged by floodwaters produced by Hurricane Florence, PCC's George Cherry Jr., Joy Moses-Hall, left to right, and Shelley Freeman, right, pose for a photo with Craven Community College alumna Michelle Clark.

PCC News Service

WINTERVILLE — Three Pitt Community College students have been awarded State Employees' Credit Union Continuing Education Scholarships that will help them pursue additional health care training.

On Monday, Kerri Brooks, Xiomary Casias and Monique Rascoe received \$750 scholarships from the SECU Foundation that will help cover a variety of educational expenses, including tuition, books and fees, as they further their training.

Sidette Brown, PCC director of Continuing Education Health Care Programs, said the college is thankful the SECU Foundation sees the value in supporting Pitt students through scholarships. Their assistance, she said, will have a direct effect on development of a skilled workforce in Pitt County.

"A scholarship of this magnitude has the potential to make such a difference in the education of our students," Brown said. "Our previous SECU scholarship recipients benefited greatly from their awards, because it lessened the burden of their educational costs and allowed them to focus on academics and making the most of their college experience."

Brooks, who said she originally sought nurse aide training to care for her mother, finished the NAI program at PCC last fall. A Griffon resident, she works in an assisted living facility in town and also provides in-home care to an individual with dementia. Though unsure at the moment, she said she is considering enrollment in the college's NAI program.

Casias is a Greenville resident and graduate of South Central High School.

She came to PCC as a participant in the college's VISIONS Career Development and Scholarship program and graduated from the University Transfer program in 2009 before moving on to East Carolina University and completing a bachelor's degree in Family and Community Services.

Casias said she is now pursuing a career as a registered nurse and is working to complete the prerequisites needed for admission to Pitt's associate degree nursing program.

A Williamston resident, Rascoe completed the NAI program at PCC and is planning to enroll in NAI training at the college in the spring. She works in a Greenville senior living facility and has made it her goal to earn an associate's degree and become a registered nurse.

Started in 2013, SECU's Continuing Education Scholarship program is designed to help meet the needs of North Carolina's unemployed and underemployed citizens.

The program assists individuals seeking short-term training for new careers or retraining to advance their current job skills through continuing education courses offered by the state's 68 community colleges.

PCC students assist with hurricane cleanup

When a student hour society at a nearby community college issued a call for help in the wake of Hurricane Florence, a pair of PCC honor students and their Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society adviser were quick to respond.

Craven Community College's PTK chapter requested assistance for one of its former members affected by the hurricane. After finishing their classes the following day, PCC students Shelley Freeman and George Cherry headed to New Bern with science instructor Joy Moses-Hall to help clean up the flood-damaged home of Michelle Clark, a Craven alumna and former Marine.

"The PTK chapter (at Craven) contacted us on Tuesday (Sept. 18) at 10 p.m., and our students, Shelley Freeman and George Cherry, were on the ground assisting 20 hours later," Hall said.

"Water from the Neuse River had risen two feet into the house we worked, and everything inside smelled of raw sewage. We removed soaked items and furniture and piled them by the curb, then pulled up waterlogged carpets and padding," she said.

Hall said the PCC group assisted with the cleanup for approximately two hours before heading back to Pitt County before sunset. "I wanted to be back north of Vanceboro by dark, since the Neuse was still rising toward its second peak," she said. "But we actually got quite a bit done. There was some urgency to it all because insurance won't pay if houses are allowed to sit wet and grow molds."

Hurricane Florence, according to Hall, caused catastrophic damage in New Bern and surrounding areas. "Starting at Vanceboro and heading south, there was water on both sides of Route 43 nearly to the roadway, until water gave way to piles of trees and branches," she said. "And that gave way to piles of furniture and carpets and soaked household items, rising like the walls of a tunnel as we got closer (to New Bern)."

To further assist their neighbors to the southeast, PCC PTK members are collecting various supplies to help Craven Community College get back on its feet. Hall said collection bins are located in the Walter & Marie Williams Building, outside rooms 120 and 128, Robert Lee Humber Building, Room 111, and Craig F. Goess Student Center.

A list of the items being collected includes water, blankets, books, first aid supplies, diapers, cleaning products, clothing, non-perishable food, puzzles, toddler toys, respiratory masks, work gloves, feminine hygiene products, gas cards and grocery bags, storage containers, tarps and various car seats also are welcomed.



PCC NEWS SERVICE
Jeffrey Nelson, State Employees' Credit Union vice president/manager of branch operations, center, and Sidette Brown, PCC director of Continuing Education Health Care Programs, right, present SECU Continuing Education Scholarships to PCC students Monique Rascoe, Xiomary Casias and Kerri Brooks, left to right.

BRIARCLIFF MANOR APARTMENTS
Elderly, age 55 or older, 1-Bedroom units conveniently located in Ayden with Handicapped Accessible units available
— Section 8 assistance available —
CALL 252-746-3405
Office Hours: Mon & Wed 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
TDD: 1-800-735-2962
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

The Town of Winterville is constantly working to provide better and safer transportation facilities for public use. A public meeting will be held at the Winterville Town Hall Assembly Room, 2571 Railroad Street, Winterville, on October 4th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM to present the Fork Swamp Canal Greenway's conceptual design, explore other greenway connections within the Town, answer your questions, and gather public comments on both the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway and other greenway connections. Drop in at any time to share your ideas and talk with the project team to improve greenway connectivity in the Town of Winterville. Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, or if we can assist you, please call 252-756-1487.

ACCELERATE YOUR FUTURE @ PCC

These 5-week late start online classes at Pitt Community College can keep you on track. Take advantage of a great opportunity this semester. Contact Lori Preat at 252-493-7700 to get enrolled today!

Course Section	Title	Instructional Method	Location	Start/End Date	Credits
ACA-122-800N	College Transfer Success Delayed start 5 week class	LAB	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	1.00
BUS-110-800N	Introduction to Business Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
BUS-115-800N	Business Law I Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
CS-110-800N	Introduction to Computers Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
COM-231-800N	Public Speaking Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
ENG-111-800N	Writing and Inquiry Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
ENG-112-800N	Writing Research in the Disc Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
HEA-110-800N	Personal Health/Wellness Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
HSC-110-800N	Orientation to Health Careers Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	1.00
MAT-143-800N	Quantitative Literacy Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
MUS-110-800N	Music Appreciation Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
PSY-150-800N	General Psychology Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00
SOC-210-800N	Introduction to Sociology Delayed start 5 week class	CLASS	WEB SITE	11/7/18 12/14/18	3.00

CHRISTMAS OPENING
October 4-6
THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY
Register to win up to \$10,000 in furniture & gifts!
Farmville Furniture Co.
3757 S. Main St.
Farmville, NC
252-753-3101
Hours: Mon - Fri, 9am-5pm | Sat, 10am-5pm

FROM PAGE ONE

COOPER

Continued from A1

"We are losing residents and businesses because of it," interim town manager Mark Warren said. "People are frustrated."

Cooper asked Jackson to provide him with charts or other data that tracked extended power outages due to flooding and whether flooding ever occurred during storms that were not hurricanes. Warren said he would send the information to the governor.

Cooper said he plans to visit the 28 counties that are under a federal disaster declaration.

"Clearly you don't need communities going long periods of time without power," he said. "It is bad for the economy and the long-term viability of the community. We've got to figure out ways to address this."

"There are a lot of issues regarding our infrastructure and power grid across North Carolina," Cooper said. "We know that there needs to be modernizations made to the power grid to allow for more reliable energy. This is the part of that effort we're going to try to make."

Cooper's trip started with a visit to Pitt County's Emergency Management office. He thanked emergency communications staff for their work before talking with a small group of county commissioners and staff.

Emergency Management Director Allen

Everette outlined the steps the county took to prepare for the hurricane. He also talked about how various county agencies aided neighboring communities by sending law enforcement, medical aid and equipment.

"I hope Pitt County will work hard to help the people here who have been hurt, both in Matthew and Florence, to fully recover," Cooper said. "And we appreciate your help helping some of these other counties that have been hit so hard."

More than 100,000 North Carolinians have applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency aid, Cooper said, and a little more than \$50 million has been spent for short-term rent, hotel rooms and other temporary housing.

"We know in some counties that in order to get housing near where they live, these FEMA trailers are going to be necessary," he said.

FEMA Director Brock Long told Cooper last week that an order for the housing has been put in, and trailers will be issued on a case-by-case basis.

Cooper also spoke with East Carolina University Chancellor Cecil Staton and Jay Golden, vice chancellor of the Division of Research, Economic Development and Engagement, after briefly meeting with the staff of the Small Business Administration's Disaster Recovery Center.

Staton said about 1,200 ECU students have reported significant damage to their homes. Faculty and

staff also suffered both damage and losses to their homes, he said.

"When you talk to survivors, their stories are so poignant," Cooper said.

There have been 39 deaths linked to the hurricane and subsequent flooding, he said. However, it would have been worse if counties had not ordered mandatory evacuations before the storm. As it was, 5,000 evacuations occurred during and immediately after the storm.

Cooper said institutions in the University of North Carolina system will play an important role in developing ways of preventing or diverting flooding from communities.

"We are going to look at not only buyouts and elevations of structures, but ways to try and prevent floodwaters from flooding certain areas and communities," Cooper said.

"Different communities have different solutions," he said. "Catch basins can be a very positive solution. Sometimes they are parks, sometimes they are wetlands that can help catch floodwater."

He is asking Congress and the General Assembly to provide funding to work on solutions to prevent future flooding.

"This is really unprecedented in the country," Cooper said. "In talking with a lot of federal people, they've never seen two major disasters in the same area in 23 months."

"When you have two 500-year storms within 23 months of each other, I think we're pretty much

Smithwick said he wants to raise its height, which will cost an estimated \$2 million.

"Every storm has its own personality and the flooding varies from one event to another along the Contentnea Creek," said Chuck Smithwick, disaster manager of Contentnea Metropolitan Sewerage District. The district provides wastewater treatment services to 17,000 customers in Winterville, Ayden and Grifton.

The treatment plant did not flood because of its surrounding dike, Smithwick said. However, the road leading to the plant flooded, which meant staff had to use a boat to reach it for seven days, he said.

Because the Duke Energy Progress substation flooded, the site was without electricity for about a week, forcing it to use diesel-powered generators to operate.

The facility consumed 4,000 gallons of diesel fuel during the outage, Smithwick said. One thousand gallons of fuel had to be brought in on a North Carolina National Guard high rise vehicle.

The treatment plant underwent a \$30 million improvement project in 2013, increasing its capacity to 3.5 million gallons daily.

Smithwick said. Immediately after the hurricane the plant had several days where more than 8 million gallons flowed through daily. However, the facility maintained its compliance with all federal and state permits he said.

While the dike held,

Smithwick said he wants to raise its height, which will cost an estimated \$2 million.

Contact Ginger Livingston at glivinston@reflector.com or 252-329-9570.



The Town of Winterville is constantly working to provide better and safer transportation facilities for public use. A public meeting will be held at the Winterville Town Hall Assembly Room, 2571 Railroad Street, Winterville, on October 4th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM to present the Fork Swamp Canal Greenway's conceptual design, explore other greenway connections within the Town, answer your questions, and gather public comments on both the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway and other greenway connections. Drop in at any time to share your ideas and talk with the project team to improve greenway connectivity in the Town of Winterville. Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, or if we can assist you, please call 252-756-1487.

PUBLIC HEARING

Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendment

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Monday, October 15, 2018, at 6:00pm regarding an amendment to the 2010 Pitt County Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This hearing will be held in the Eugene James Auditorium in the County Administration Building located at 1717 W. 5th Street, Greenville, N.C.

The Pitt County Planning Department is proposing to amend the public hearing notice requirements in Section Four of the 2010 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The full text of the amendment can be obtained from the Pitt County Planning Department and substantial changes in the proposed amendment may be made following the public hearing.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather public comment and input on the proposed amendment prior to consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. Citizens interested in obtaining additional information on the proposed amendments should contact the Pitt County Planning Department (252-942-2320). Those persons unable to attend the hearing may submit written questions or comments to the Clerk to the Board before the meeting. The mailing address is: Clerk to the Board, Pitt County • 1717 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834.

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LEGISLATURE

Continued from A1

"There is an incredible amount of uncertainty in our lives," said Sen. Michael Lee, a Republican from Wilmington, where school will resume later this week. He said the school legislation, which also makes clear employees will get paid without using personal leave when

classes are cancelled, will "provide some semblance of certainty for families, children, teachers and those who are working in the school system."

Tuesday's one-day session — lawmakers will return Oct. 15 to consider more specific funding and policy requests from Cooper and his agencies — was not without some division. The House defeated on a largely party-line vote a Democratic

amendment that would have allowed county elections boards to move early-voting sites with support from just a majority of board members. The final bill requires unanimous board approval.

Otherwise, the General Assembly's debate was marked by empathy for the storm's victims. Lawmakers shared storm stories and praised first responders who watched the session from the galleries.

SCHOOLS

Continued from A1

patched by facilities services. J.H. Rose High School also saw damage as the field house lost enough shingles that the roof partially fell in.

"Overall, we were very lucky," Matt Johnson said. "We came out of this as if it were a rainstorm."

Several school groups are in the process of running drives to collect food, clothing and hygiene items.

"D.H. Conley's honor society did a food drive. Hope Middle School did a Restock the Refrigerator drive," Matt Johnson said. "Ayden Middle School and Wintergreen (intermediate and primary schools) did uniform drives. Farmville Middle School did a hygiene drive. ... This is not an exhaustive list."

Several Pitt County schools have partnered with schools in surrounding counties to provide relief after the storm.

"Welcome Middle School is doing a drive for Lenoir County Schools," Matt Johnson said. "The Innovation Early College High School (at East Carolina University) is partnering with Craven

Early College to help out in the New Bem and surrounding areas."

Chicoed and Falkland schools are helping schools in Craven County and Ridge-wood Elementary School is partnering with a school in Jones County.

The school board thanked the district's staff for their hard work during the storm and its recovery efforts.

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Times Leader Advertisement September 26, 2018

2 THE TIMES LEADER, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

Oldest church in Ayden celebrates 125th anniversary

AMBER REVELS-STOCKS
Staff Writer

AYDEN—The oldest church in Ayden celebrated its anniversary Sunday. Ayden Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 462 Second St., Ayden, turned 125 Sept. 18. It celebrated that milestone Sunday with people from around the community and lunch provided by Bum's Restaurant and Catering.

"We are the oldest church in Ayden. That says something. We were not the first church in Ayden," said the Rev. Chad Penhorwood. "There are 36 churches in Ayden. Most churches have five to 15 people, but when we get together, man, those numbers are good."

Ayden Christian Church was born in 1893 when Carolina Christian College was opened in Ayden. "The president of the school was the minister of the church," Penhorwood explained. "Peter Stephen Swain, a ministerial student, led the first service Sept. 18, 1893."

Carolina Christian College was a unique school. It served high school students, similar to a private Christian school today, as well as serving as a seminary for Disciples of Christ. The church began with 32 members, many of them coming from Rountree Christian Church. All students and staff at the college also attended services.

In 1896, the college changed its name to Atlantic Christian College and moved to Wilson. It is now known as Barton College.

"Barton College's president (Dr. Douglas N. Searcy) is doing a lot more to acknowledge that it started here (in Ayden) and that it began as a Disciples school," Penhorwood said.

In the early days, Ayden Christian Church floated around before the first building was constructed in 1904 and dedicated in 1907. The building was located on 115 West St., according to Denelle Robertson, the board president.

In 1915, six classrooms and a balcony were added to the church; 10 years later, 16 more classrooms and an auditorium were added.

"A decision was made in 1974 to build on the corner of Pitt and Second streets," Robertson said. "Plans and construction moved quickly, and the new building was completed and dedicated in mid-1975."

When Ayden Christian Church moved to its current location, it brought over a lot of the old sanctuary, according to Penhorwood.

"The stained glass windows are original to the 1907 church," he said. "The lanterns are original. That's why they're amber (instead of white light)."

It is a way of connecting the church to its history for

many people, Penhorwood added.

In mid-1984, the church added five new classrooms, nurseries, three bathrooms, a kitchen and the fellowship hall.

"Significant is the fact that all indebtedness was paid off before the Homecoming (in 1985)," Robertson said.

In 2001, Ayden Christian Church added a 10,000-square-foot facility. The family life center serves as host to four Town of Ayden meals, including the Collard Festival's mayor's breakfast and the annual Kings of Q people's choice cook-off, which serves as a fundraiser for the church.

"The Christian Church serves as an epicenter for the barbecue village," said Donna Robinson, the Kings of Q chairwoman.

The award ceremony was held in the family life center this year due to rain.

In 125 years, only 23 ministers have served at Ayden Christian Church.

"Louis T. Rightswell was our first minister," Penhorwood said. "He was the president of the college, and he served from 1894 to 1897."

Following Rightswell, most ministers only served a few years. This was common in most churches in the area.

"William H. Brunson was the longest serving minister. He was here 1922 to 1951," Penhorwood said.

"He was really big into education. We have a scholarship here for our members who are going off to college. We've also given to some adults who have gone back to college. Brunson did a lot for this church, and it's a way to honor him."

Unfortunately, the anniversary service had to be rescheduled due to Hurricane Florence. This also resulted in the service being pared down.

"We were going to have Bishop Valerie Melvin. She has been newly elected as our regional minister," Penhorwood said. "She's unable to preach for us now because she had scheduled an ordination in Greensboro."

Penhorwood used the scripture Melvin selected to preach a sermon called "Keep on Tending," celebrating Ayden Christian Church's dedication to treating all of its members and guests as family.

In addition, three members of the contemporary worship band Turning Point performed along with the Ayden Christian Church choir. The Rev. Teresa Owens, the general minister and president, provided a video message. She could not attend due to having an assembly scheduled for Sunday.

"You have definitely shown God's love throughout the community you serve," Owens said. "I hope this service is full of joy and hope for the future. Ayden Christian Church was her home."



AMBER REVELS-STOCKS
The Rev. Chad Penhorwood delivers the message "Keep on Tending" at Ayden Christian Church's anniversary service on Sunday.

Ayden Christian Church was her home. "This place means the world to me," she said, holding back tears. "This is my family, and this is my home."

Jean Daily added, "My husband was a pastor here (James Daily). I used to say this church's members are my children.... Now, you're my grandchildren. Chad (Penhorwood), I feel like you're my grandchild."

Daily was not the only person related to a previous minister. Leanne Faye Goff Jackson is the daughter of John Lewis Goff, who served from July 1956 to October 1962. She came to the church when her father became the minister, but she remained in Ayden

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Darlene Smith-Worthington spoke about how

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The loss of power also affected the Contentnea Metropolitan Sewerage District or CMSD.

"We finally got power restored (Sept. 19) at the wastewater treatment plant. It was Thursday before it was restored at the Griffon pump station," said director Chuck Smithwick.

"It's always a relief to get back on power company

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RECOVERY

Continued from 1

Piggly Wiggly flooded, so the chain left Griffon, leaving it without a supermarket until Bautista and Gutierrez opened Tropicana.

The men also own the Tropicana in Greenville. Across the street, Hwy. 55 also suffered from the power outage. Fortunately, the restaurant was able to prepare for the storm thanks to Griffon's mandatory evacuation order. Last week, owner Kelly Buck and her team began trying to return everything to normal. Buck was unavailable for comment, but according to an employee at a Greenville Hwy. 55, water did not enter the restaurant.

The restaurant planned on reopening as soon as possible and hoped to be open by Sept. 26, according to the employee.

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Pitt Community College is offering assistance to students affected by Hurricane Florence. The Student Assistance Program has provided food, gas cards, hygiene products and other necessities to students, faculty and staff adversely affected by the storm, according to lead counselor Olivia Sutton.

"We realize that the storm is far from over, as some faculty, staff and students have been affected in devastating ways and are working to rebuild their homes and their lives," Sutton said. "We want them to know that counselors from the college are here and ready to support the entire campus community. We want to help."

Enrolled Pitt Community College students can receive confidential assistance from a professional SAP counselor by visiting their department in the

Craig F. Goess Student Center (Room 120) or by calling 252-493-7245.

Most of Pitt County's 36 schools were back in session Sept. 18 with the exception of Griffon School and G.R. Whitfield School. Both schools experienced power outages, resulting in more time off. Whitfield students returned Sept. 19 and Griffon students returned Thursday.

Oct. 11 and Nov. 7 will be full days for students. Previously, these were early release days. In addition, Oct. 12 will be a school day. The district has not decided when Griffon School will make up its extra missed days.

During the power outage, Griffon School fed nearly 60 students. Students were transported to the school using buses and fed a bagged lunch.

Duke Energy returned power to the Griffon substation on Harvey

Rouse Road Sept. 19. The substation failed due to water infiltrating it despite an emergency flood berm erected before the storm.

Duke Energy has looked at relocating the substation for several months but is having difficulties due to "problems with property owners," according to a Duke Energy spokeswoman. She would not elaborate on the nature of the problems.

Duke Energy is still looking to move the substation, which also took on water during Hurricane Matthew. However, the spokeswoman did not have a timeline for when it would be moved from its current location in Eagle Swamp.

"The town cannot move the substation, according to Griffon Interim Manager Mark Warren.

"Unlike Winterville and Ayden, Griffon doesn't

own our substation," he said. "We took Duke before the storm that the town would be willing to facilitate any discussion with property owners. We offered to get the mayor (Billy Ray Jackson) or (N.C. Senator Don) Davis to issue a letter to Duke Energy asking for the substation to be moved from Eagle Swamp at its Oct. 9 meeting."

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HOME

Continued from 1

O'Neal is a single parent who suffered a heart attack in 2015, according to her amendment request. She considered moving, but O'Neal has lived on the property since 1999 and cannot afford to move.

"When (O'Neal's mother) died, she left Tammy some money, and her dream was for Tammy to get a better home with the money," Thomas said.

O'Neal went to K-N-M Mobile Home in Washington, N.C. They offered her a singlewide in her price range and told O'Neal she would need to have Pitt County Environmental Services come out to check down the area. The inspector gave approval for a 60-foot

by 14-foot manufactured home.

"This was only for the size of the septic tank, but I can't put what I bought there."

Several members of the board expressed their sympathy for O'Neal.

"The person moving it should have checked on some stuff because Tammy doesn't know this stuff. She trusted that man," Thomas said.

Chairman Terry Payne agreed.

"This board cannot give you any advice, but I think you know who is to blame here. That's all I will say on this permit."

Planning board member Mike Harris asked the planner to inform K-N-M of the town's policy to keep this from happening in the future.

The planning staff recommended approving the amendment. They felt it made the ordinance more consistent to allow both singlewides and doublewides on a conditional use permit.

It would also lessen confusion from people who knew trailers were allowed but did not realize only doublewides were part of that.

Payne reminded the board they were discussing

allowing singlewides in all RA-20 zones in Ayden and Griffon, N.C.

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Drop in at any time to share your ideas and talk with the project team to improve greenway connectivity in the Town of Winterville. Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, or if we can assist you, please call 252-756-1487.

2 THE TIMES-LEADER, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2018

Botanical Essences provides new market

DONNA MARIE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

WINTERVILLE—The Winterville Chamber of Commerce celebrated the opening of a new business Friday with a ribbon cutting ceremony for Botanical Essence Hemp.

Botanical Essence is an alternative health and wellness store that sells cannabidiol or CBD and hemp products.

"We really want to provide an alternative for our clients," said owner Ronita Standford.

Standford along with, Dr. Gwendolyn Knuckles, Rokita Williams and Di Worthy own and operate the business.

"We are a group of like minded women brought together by Ronita Standford, with a purpose of utilizing this as an alternative health tool. We're known as the hemp sisters," said Knuckles, who is the medical consultant of the group.

CBD and hemp products are often associated with marijuana; however, no tetrahydrocannabinol or THC is found in any of the products Botanical Essence offers. The products are non-psychoactive, according to Standford.

"They come from related plants, but the primary difference is that hemp products (are) healing without the high," Knuckles said, explaining by law hemp products must contain less than 0.3 percent of THC. Botanical Essence offers sublingual (applied under the tongue), inhalable, ingestible, and topical CBD and hemp products, which means that products can be eaten, smoked or vaped and applied topically.

Hemp seeds are one of the many edible products Botanical Essence offers. Hemp seeds can be added into smoothies and are a good source of amino acids, according to Standford. CBD and hemp products may help to alleviate inflammation, nausea, hot flashes, headaches, joint, muscle and back pain, anxiety, digestive issues, spasticity, trouble sleeping, cramps, frequent urination and irritated skin among other conditions.

"There are no side effects and you can't overdose," Knuckles said, explaining that the group will suggest that you start at a certain dosage. The client can then choose to increase their dosage or lower it, depending on the

client's needs. When choosing products, clients are provided with an individualized experience that will best fit their needs.

"One of our goals is the education regarding hemp related products," Knuckles said.

Since the products are non-addiction forming, the owners hope that alternative method may be a way to lessen today's opioid crisis.

"We want to offer our clients a way to help manage their health goals, and it helps in the opioid crisis by bringing an alternative way to manage pain," said Williams, who is a registered nurse and holds a master of science in nursing and a RNPC. The Winterville community has embraced the new business.

"It seems to be an up-and-coming product where people are interested in learning about and I hope they do well with this."

"We're happy to have another new business in the Winterville community," said chamber director Debbie Avery.

Winterville Chamber of Commerce president Brad Guth added, "I'm especially



DONNA MARIE WILLIAMS

Owners of Botanical Essence Hemp E. NC. (L-R) Dr. Gwendolyn Knuckles, Ronita Standford, Rokita Williams and Di Worthy cut the ribbon celebrating the opening of their new business. They are excited to provide alternative wellness products to Winterville.

happy it's a locally owned business and not a franchise. Local businesses are especially important to

our community."

Botanical Essence, 4814 Old Tar Road, Winterville, located inside of Iru Image

Hair Salon, is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. For more information, call 252-364-2904.

RETIRES

Continued from 1

to teach, but when I was an assistant principal, I only did it for three years. I only did it for three years. I only did it for three years.

Olmsted loved being a principal, and it would have never happened without some advice from a professor.

"When I decided to get my master's degree, I took two classes: one in mathematics and one on admin-

istration. I was looking to see which way I wanted to go," Olmsted said. "I said, 'I really want a career where I can have the biggest impact with other teachers.' And he said to me, 'Then you should go into administration because that's where you'll have the greatest impact.'"

Her love of teachers led into her love of being a principal.

"My favorite job was being a principal," Olmsted said. "As a principal, you're not too far from the kids

and you can see the results of your work fairly quickly. Yet you still have a huge impact because you're the leader of the school."

As an assistant superintendent, she implements changes that might not come to fruition for years.

"I would say I would miss having an impact the most, but sometimes, my impact is so far in advance of the results. I'm not sure I'll miss that because (I'll see my impact) for a while," she said. "I will miss the people for sure. We have a great group of people I work with, for sure."

The speed of change has been the biggest change over the years.

"When I first came into teaching, you would create

a plan and would implement it for years," Olmsted said. "Now, with technology changing as fast as it does, movement of kids as much as they go, change in itself is just rapid. How do you implement change on a constant basis without killing your people and your kids?"

When Olmsted began teaching, she did not have to give state exams.

"I remember when the first state test was given at the high school level, and when we looked at the scores, we didn't really know what we were looking at," she said. "Now, we have huge amounts of resources connected to standardized tests. ... It'll change in a few more

years because we'll have a whole different set of technology."

What has not changed is that most people do the best they can.

"I have learned that most people do the best they can and that they know how to do. That's parents. That's students. That's teachers. That's administrators," Olmsted said. "If you want a different behavior or result, then you have to teach it differently. You have to teach them that, in all respects."

"Most people give you their best in most cases, especially when it comes to kids."

That is part of why Olmsted wants to see more technical and career-ready training in the district.

"We're already headed that way, but I would like to see faster movement toward job readiness," Olmsted said. "I would like to see us continue at a more focused pace if possible."

"We're starting to move that way where we think of what we do in education as preparing kids for careers and jobs, and I would like to see that continue," she said. "There's so many jobs out there that can't get filled because we haven't focused in on them. We still have this stigma where we think ev-

erybody needs to go to a four-year college, and we don't have people to do these things that make a lot of money."

Olmsted added, "You don't have to go for a four-year degree. It's okay not to go to a four-year college." She felt reducing the stigma of community colleges and trade schools would help students do their best. "We should at least let them know these jobs are there," she said.

Olmsted decided to retire because she wanted her 'to be about her family."

"I want to travel with my husband," she said. They bought a recreational vehicle and plan on spending time traveling the country.

"We plan on spending a month at a time, spread out, and tour a state," Olmsted said.

Olmsted's commitment to her job and her tireless work ethic would be missed, said Superintendent Dr. Ethan Lenker.

"Cheryl was someone that I quickly learned I could count on to get the job done," he said.

Steve Lassiter replaces Olmsted. He earned his master's in school administration and bachelor's in elementary education from East Carolina University. He is pursuing his doctorate in educational leadership from N.C. State University.

Lassiter has spent 13 years in education, 10 of which were with Pitt County Schools. He came to the district from Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools, where he was the assistant superintendent of human resources and auxiliary services.

Olmsted had one piece of advice for Lassiter: "Always make your decisions based on what's best for the kids."

"Don't do what's best for politics or what's best for test scores. Always do what's best for kids."

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The Town of Winterville is constantly working to provide better and safer transportation facilities for public use. A public meeting will be held at the Winterville Town Hall Assembly Room, 2571 Railroad Street, Winterville, on October 4th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM to present the Fork Swamp Canal Greenway's conceptual design, explore other greenway connections within the Town, answer your questions, and gather public comments on both the proposed Fork Swamp Canal Greenway and other greenway connections. Drop in at any time to share your ideas and talk with the project team to improve greenway connectivity in the Town of Winterville. Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, or if we can assist you, please call 252-756-1487.

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Town of Winterville

May Museum & Park Annual Membership Meeting & Oyster Roast
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