



Issue 26
April 2020

newsletter

They say "once you get that Bynum mud between your toes, you'll always come back" and that is exactly what has kept the town going since the 1800s.

Bynum Front Porch Fundraising Efforts – **YOU Did It!**



Stephen Freeman, Elvis Tribute Artist performing at the Chatham County Agriculture Center
Inset photos: Martha Collins and Nina Siegler in Elvis-era costume, and Cindy Raxter with Mr. Freeman

Stephen Freeman, an Elvis tribute artist, entertained a sold-out crowd at the Chatham County Agriculture and Convention center for a January 25th dinner and a show.

Dressed in a signature jumpsuit reminiscent of the King himself, Stephen sang Elvis' timeless classics and a few of his gospel songs. John Winecker started the night off with a few words about Bynum Front Porch, David Quick crooned the crowd as emcee and storyteller Cynthia Raxter made the night extra special by taking the stage and sharing a tale at intermission.

Stephen's tribute to Elvis Presley started professionally in 1998 and he has since performed in theaters all over the country, including multiple cruise ship performances. In recent years, he was selected to perform on the official Country Music Cruise with the Oak Ridge Boys, Kenny Rogers, Randy Owen, Martina McBride, Gatlin Brothers, Charlie Pride and many others.

Please let Bynum Front Porch know if you'd like to see more shows like this and if so, what would you like to see? Send us an email or message or better yet, come by the store and rock with us.

The Haw River Assembly

Mark Ruffalo in Bynum!



Actor Mark Ruffalo stopped by the Haw River Assembly office on February 19 to discuss PFAS in the Haw River and in Pittsboro's drinking water with Haw Riverkeeper Emily Sutton, Pittsboro Commissioner John Bonitz, and Pittsboro resident Katie Byrant. Ruffalo is the star of the new movie "Dark Waters" about the West Virginia community that was poisoned by PFAS, an industrial chemical, in their drinking water. He was on a tour of NC, talking about the health impacts of PFAS, and how we need to keep it out of our waters, with impacted residents and elected officials in the Cape Fear Basin, including Wilmington.

We took a walk with him to the Bynum Bridge, looking upriver to Pittsboro's water intake above the Bynum dam, which pulls water contaminated with industrial chemicals from upstream industries, especially in Burlington. We discussed our current Notice of Intent to sue Burlington due to the high level of PFAS in their wastewater effluent and sludge from factories there.

Ruffalo continued on to Raleigh that afternoon to talk to state leaders and legislators about this issue.



John Bonitz, Emily Sutton, Mark Ruffalo on Bynum Bridge



2019 Bynum Clean Up Team

Haw River Assembly's 30th River Clean-up Changed UP

From 1990 to 2019, almost 6000 volunteers have hauled 10,257 bags, 1841 tires and tons of other junk out of the waters! Due to the changing requirements for group sizes, many duo's or trio's fanned the banks of creeks along the Haw to collect trash. New this year, we have a "Plastics Free" campaign that involves monitoring the Haw River for microplastics, and asking local businesses to sign a pledge to phase out single use plastics. Find out more and see photos about the river clean-up that became individual lead instead of team lead at www.hawriver.org.

Bynum Girl Scouts

Bynum Girl Scout pleased to announce current 9th graders prestigious Girl January, Flora Ulrich, Sparrow, Mia Collins, Savannah Matthews Silver awards are Cadette Girl Scout



Girl Scouts
Where Girls Grow Strong

Troop 1006 is that all of our were awarded the Scout Silver award in Lily Fowler, Maddie Revy Godehn, and earned the award. the highest honor a can achieve with an

estimate of only 10% of all Girl Scouts achieving this honor. The Scouts are required to complete leadership requirements, called a journey, and then work in teams or on her own to create a sustainable, community-based project focusing on an issue they feel passionate about. Projects must be reviewed and approved by the NC Council of the Pines. The girls worked in teams to focus on lowering straw usage in our county and preparing local elementary children for the transition to middle school and anti-bullying. The current eighth graders are working diligently now on completing theirs. Girl Scout Troop 1006 formed in 2010 when the girls were in kindergarten and first grade. We are so proud of these girls and congratulate them on continued success!



Bynum made the Chatham Magazine cover!

Next time the whole village will be in the picture.

Time to play 'Where in Bynum' is this?



Hint: Do you recognize the house? Do you recognize the youngster?

Send your old photo to BynumNews@gmail.com and let's play the game together.

Find the answers tucked away in this newsletter!



Summer **HEAT** Is Coming

The current window unit does an OK job in the early summer and early fall, but the heat is too hot during those summer thunder storms when the music or other events need to come inside.

Are you considering upgrading your AC and would be interested in donating your functioning unit? BFP is seeking an HVAC consult on what type of unit and tonnage size would be needed to cool down the inside of the building. If you work for an HVAC company and would be willing to help with an install, BFP would like to hear from you. If your company has a functioning unit that you might have after someone upgraded, BFP could use it! *The heat is on, help us turn it off!*

Bynum Quotes

Mary Council stated in 1978, "Have a lot of friends. Well you know we're all just kind of one big family... In the department I do we all take a break at one time. We all go in the break room and sit around the table laugh and talk [and] eat."

Vernon Durham echoed this sentiment, "Everybody was raised here, you know, and lived here all their life, and knowed everybody, and was just like big family. When one of them get in a hole or something, all the rest of them... they'd bunch in together and help them get out, catch up."

To read or hear more go to the Southern Oral History Program Collection, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (link provided): <https://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/search/collection/sohp/searchterm/H.3.%20Piedmont%20Industrialization,%201974-1980:%20Bynum,%20N.C./field/projec/mode/exact/conn/and/order/title>

You Can Be A "Friend of Bynum Front Porch"

Make a donation of \$50 and become a proud supporter of Bynum Front Porch.

Your tax-deductible donation will help provide 3 - \$1000 Grants to our Chatham County High School Seniors who plan to continue their education in college. The number of Grants increased from 2 to 3 in 2018 and your help is needed.

You can make your tax-deductible donation to any board member or on our Facebook page. Recognition of your support will be on our Facebook page and on signage inside the Bynum General Store.

If you prefer you can also mail your donation to: Bynum Front Porch, P. O. Box 381, Bynum, N.C. 27228.

*Thank you very much for your continued support,
The Bynum Front Porch Team*



Storytellers from a previous show: (left to right) Ron I. Jones, Lona Bartlette, Tyndall Harris, Shannon Crane, Willa Brigham

Second Saturdays Storytelling Concludes the Season

The final Storytelling show will be May 9. After May 9, the program will return in the fall.

Rip-roaring good fun!! Please join us May 9, 6:30pm for Bynum Front Porch Storytelling! Refreshments! Tall tales! Friends! Fun! We'll pass the hat. NC Storytelling Guild's Ron I. Jones, Sam Pearsall and more! Cynthia Raxter hosts!

News from Friends of Lower Haw River State Natural Area

Friends of Lower Haw River State Natural Area is a local chapter of North Carolina Friends of State Parks, Inc. (NCFSP), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt statewide charitable organization. NCFSP's



Bryan and Betsy Kempter replacing the broken plexiglass cover at the Bynum Mill kiosk.

purpose is “to serve the mission and the needs of the North Carolina State Park system as an independent, nonprofit advocate, provide support at a local level through NCFSP chapters, and act as a source of park information and environmental education to the general public.” But what does it mean to be a local chapter of NCFSP? As one of NCFSP’s local chapters, Friends of Lower Haw shares its core values of non-partisan and non-confrontational networking, collaboration and partnership, and a commitment to inclusion and diversity. We share NCFSP’s core

values that include a culture of enjoyment, fun and celebration along with conservation and stewardship of our parks and the natural environment.

Our local chapter is dedicated to supporting the Lower Haw River State Natural Area, part of the NC State Parks system located right here in our own Chatham County. Ways in which Friends of Lower Haw supports this special place includes our trash can project and river clean-up workdays to reduce litter, invasive species removal workdays, infrastructure improvements at public access points, educational outings and programs, exhibit booths at community festivals, social media featuring videos and nature photos, wildlife cameras, and bird and bee boxes – all accomplished with the help of volunteers, donations, and grants. Our volunteers work hard but still have fun, and can feel good about the good they are doing to support this special place. We appreciate our volunteers and supporters – thank you!



Patricia Thomas-Laemont fascinates the crowd at Bynum General Store with her Skins & Skulls presentation.



Artist Julie Uhler teaching a plein air drawing session on the Bynum Bridge.



Ryan Cadwalader and Matt Spangler working on removing invasive plants.

Friends of Lower Haw is a local chapter of the statewide nonprofit Friends of State Parks, Inc. Visit our website www.lowerhaw.org for more information about us and the state natural area, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities. To learn more about North Carolina Friends of State Parks, visit <http://ncfsp.org/>.

Bynum Ruritan Club

As Kenny Rogers sang so simply many years ago, “you gotta know when to hold em, know when to fold em.” The time came for the Bynum Ruritan Club to close its building and Club operation in Bynum.

For over 60 years the Bynum Ruritan Club provided a great deal of giving, generosity and good fellowship to the people it served in the local community. From the construction and operation of the ballfield, to Turkey Shoots and Chicken dinners, the local Ruritan Club was heavily involved and invested in its community. From building handicap ramps, to paying utility bills for needy residents, to offering grants to deserving seniors from Chatham County, to collecting supplies and donations for flood and disaster relief the Ruritans could be counted on in so many ways.

The Bynum Ruritans also have had a close relationship with the Bynum United Methodist Church and over the years partnered together for many local events including Easter Morning Sunrise Breakfast and much more.

As the years went by and family and community life adjusted to current times, small service clubs were getting smaller on an annual basis. The Ruritan Club in South Chatham County also closed its club in 2019.

The need for service clubs to operate locally and in close distance to the people it helps is greater than ever, but without the amount of energy needed to provide the services needed, the Bynum Ruritan Club decided “it was time to fold em.” – Jerry Felinczak

Bynum Community Garden

Come join the diggin' in the heart of Bynum!

The Bynum Community Garden is digging in. Several beds have been rebuilt, peas and other yummy green things have been planted and bunnies have been feasting. This is somewhere near our tenth season. Like in years past, the Bynum Community Garden will continue to share the harvest this season with CORA.

Please put this date on your calendar: 5/17.

Depending on the updated NC Governor's guidance suggestions the Potluck may be postponed, however; ...On Sunday, 5/17, at

5 pm please join us for our annual community Potluck. The garden provides hot dogs and drinks. We always enjoy your contributions of side dishes and desserts. It's an opportunity to meet new Bynumites and visit with old friends.

Please join us.

As always, the garden is always open for meditation, having lunch, or just enjoying the peace and quiet. Our only ask is to close the gate when you leave to keep the four-legged creatures out. Thank you.



Ready to get out onto the Haw River to experience it in a unique way? There is nothing like floating the river and being a part of the pace of Nature. It is very easy to do a self-guided trip upriver from the dam. Just give us a call at 336/260-6465 or go online at www.hawrivercanoe.com to reserve a single kayak, double kayak or canoe for a 3-4 hour or 4-5 hour leisurely paddle. If you have never been in a canoe or kayak, we will give you instruction in safety and technique so that your experience is enjoyable. By the way, we only offer flat-water trips upriver from Hwy. 15-501 on weekends from

May through September. For groups of 4 or more, we may be able to accommodate your paddling needs in April and October.

If you are looking for a more adventurous paddling experience or need to purchase paddling gear and/or new or used canoes and kayaks, you may want to come visit us in Saxapahaw. While you are here you can visit our River Shop, eat food that is not only good but good for you and enjoy wonderful, live music like you experience at Bynum Front Porch.

Contact us at 336/260-6465.

Bynum United Methodist Church



"When you hear the bell ring, that's your neighborhood church saying I love you."

Before the Corona-19 came Sunday Services were at 11am for all ages and Bynum's Youth were welcomed on Wednesday nights at 6pm to join in on the Youth Group activity. During this time we are staying together as a worshipping community through our BUMC

FB page, both on Sunday and through the week. We are delivering supplies to CORA a couple of days a week also, in case anyone would like to drop anything off at the church. They can just place it in the pavilion and send me a text. You can also contact the church (through me) if they need anything. We have a number of folks happy to try to deliver necessities.

Check out the BUMC calendar: www.bynum.church/calendar and if you have any questions just contact BJ - bj.nielsen@nccumc.org.

Bynum Artist Spotlight Ruth Winecker



Ruth has been singing and acting for more than forty years. When she moved to the triangle area late in 1996, she was thrilled to find a vibrant music and arts community that offered many opportunities to sing, dance and act. Performing with various choral societies and a small folk troupe called Women-in-a-Round, Ruth found her footing in the musical community of the Chapel Hill area. Since 2007, Ruth has been active with the Durham Savoyards (<http://durhamsavoyards.org>), an amazing homegrown theatre troupe born in 1963, out of love for that perfect combination of W. S. Gilbert's incisive satire and Arthur Sullivan's sparkling music. With the Savoyards, she has performed at the Carolina Theatre in Durham and Raleigh Little Theatre and with the latest production of *Patience* in August of 2020, Ruth completed the canon of Gilbert and Sullivan works.

Ruth's most recent live performances include: *Roles - Elsa, The Grand Duke* (2017); *Various Roles, Durham Savoyards 50th Anniversary Concert* (2013); *Edith, Lady Saphir, Queen of the Fairies, Sing Me a Story* (2011); *Giulia, (Tessa- understudy), The Gondoliers* (2009).

Soprano Stage Chorus - *Ruddigore* (2018); *HMS Pinafore* (2016); *Utopia, Limited* (2015); *The Sorcerer* (2014); *Pirates of Penzance* (2013); *Iolanthe* (2012); *The Mikado* (2010).
Alto Stage Chorus - *Saphir* understudy, *Patience* (2020) *Thespis* (2017); *Princess Ida* (2011); *Pheobe* understudy, *The Yeomen of the Guard* (2008). *Royal Chorus - HMS Pinafore* (2007).

Television performances include: 2009, *Forensic Files, Season 10 Episode 20: Hair Line*; 2008, *TruTV, Suburban Secrets*; and 2006, *20/20, Methadone: One Pill can Kill*.

You can contact Ruth to receive a comprehensive list of her work and here are a few YouTube links.

- *It's Elemental - Solo Recital* (2019) – www.facebook.com/ruth.winecker/videos/10214400698911655/
- *Durham Savoyards, Ltd, 2007-2020* – www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wah2km00rXs
- *48 Hour Film Project – Singer on bridge, Baptism, Team- F Artists* (2007) – www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEJtLLStXcA – Filmed in Bynum.



Bynum Post Office Boxes



Let's Keep Our **BYNUM** Zip Code

There are still boxes available at the Bynum Kiosk at the ballfield. If you are new to town, please consider getting your mail at the kiosk and help us keep the Bynum Zip Code Alive. The Pittsboro Post Office still has boxes available. What does this mean? If you want a post office box, just ask to see Peter or Solita at the Pittsboro Post Office and request a box in Bynum. There will be a one-time charge of \$25 (for the new lock). If they already have a key to a box that is not being used, then you win, No Charge!! When the boxes are all gone, the postmaster will consider opening more if there is interest. Let's get them all filled up so we can maintain the 27228 zip code and keep Bynum on the map!!!

For more information, you can contact Martha Collins at 919-357-5830 or martha.bynum1@gmail.com

Businesses who supported BFP through the 50/50 Game during Friday Night Music Series:

Breakaway Cafe
breakawaync.co
984-234-3010

Delgado Auto
delgatoauto.com
300 East Street Pittsboro
919-542-6800

New Horizons Trading Company
newhorizonstrading.com
52 Hillsboro Street
919-542-7366

Small B&B Cafe
<http://smallbandbcafe.com/>
219 East Street Pittsboro

S&T's Soda Shoppe
sandtsodashoppe.com
85 Hillsboro Street Pittsboro
919-545-0007

Virlie's
<http://virliesgrill.com/>
58 Hillsboro Street Pittsboro

Friends Of BFP
Martha Anderson
Ken Hoyle/Floyd Coleman
Vicki Newell
Ted Williams

2020 Bynum Front Porch Board of Directors

Amy Akins • Martha Collins (*Secretary*)
Steven Evans • Phyllis Fleming
Ron Hatley • Kurt Hein
Chuck Leippe • Jim Prewitt
Cindy Raxter • Nina Siegler (*Treasurer*)
Ken Tunnell (*Chair*)

If you are interested in serving the community on the BFP Board of Directors, just talk with one of the folks listed.

Our Sponsors:

Bynum Front Porch gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors for their support!

PLATINUM:

Mosquito Hunters of Chapel Hill/Northwest Raleigh

mosquitohunters.com/northwestraleigh-nc
919-372-3531

Performance Print Services

performanceprintservices.com
919-957-9995

Pittsboro Landscape Supply

pittsborolandscapesupply.com
162 Hatley Rd., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-869-7123

GOLD:

Weaver Street Realty

www.weaverstreetrealty.com
116 East Main Street
Carrboro, NC 27510
919-929-5658

SILVER:

Alys Design

www.Alysdesign.com

Auto Pro

5522 US Hwy 15-501 N.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-0964

Hope Crossing Animal Hospital

www.hopecrossing.com
58 East Cotton Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Lutterloh Farms & Trucking

323 L and W Lane, Pittsboro
Charlie Lutterloh
919-201-5758

Paradocs Farms

The Michael and Suzanne Stoskopf Foundation

http://artsciencesonline.com
"At the Intersection of Art and Science:
Philanthropy for a Better Planet"

BRONZE:

Chatham Portables

Portable Toilet Rentals
919-742-7300

Ellis Disposal

Trash & Recyclables
919-542-2208

Sanders Automotive

www.sanders-auto.com
5701 US Hwy 15-501
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-1386

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Support Bynum Front Porch with Amazon Smile

Remember to shop at Smile.Amazon.com and let Amazon and your shopping donate to Bynum Front Porch.



... at a glance

Our Mission: *Bynum Front Porch is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the history, identity and supportive atmosphere of the village of Bynum. Bynum Front Porch is a community-funded non-profit venture.*

Over the fence news:

newbies, farewells, births and deaths since the last newsletter.

New neighbors:

- Pam Anderson
- Rhonda & Chris David
- Desiree Goldman
- Janneke Ratcliffe
- Louis Ramos
- Jenia McBrian
- Ruth Roldan
- Matt Rudolf, Dana Villalaz & son Gaelito
- Jane Serago
- Mike & Jenny Smith, son Jackson

Deaths:

- Vickie Hearne Bednar
- Jean Faye (Williams) Gore
- Patricia "Pat" Ann Cooper Mitchell

Moved away:

- Kate Childs
- Larry Crum
- Aja Demeterra
- Cynthia Hermans
- Katie Larson and Ken Schwartz
- Patrick Truesdell

Ways you can help Bynum Front Porch

- Volunteer on one of the BFP Committees
- Donate Items from the BFP Wish List
- Join the BFP teams as a Corporate Sponsor
- Join the BFP Friends
- Become a BFP Board Member

BFP Wish List

- Licensed Electrician – The building and stages are in need of donated skills.
- Solar Powered Lights
- Roofer – There are some small leak areas that need attention.
- White/Clear Rope Lights
- HVAC system to cool down during summer months
- Flat-screen SMART TV – 36" or larger



A Big **Thank You**
to The **Nurses**
of Bynum

Pictured: Martha Slattery, Catherine Zimmer, Mimi Dreifuss, Barclay Spatz, Jennifer Sugg, Kellyn Haight, Carrie Overgaard

2020 summer community calendar

All the dates and events are subject to change due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Please refer to the Facebook or Website for BFP, HRA or the Community Garden.

JUNE

- 5 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Too Much Fun
- 12 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Durham Ukulele Orchestra
- 13 - BFP Acoustic Bluegrass Round Circle Pickin' Jam 10am-1pm
- 19 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Swift Creek Band
- 26 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Zambamboogie
- 27 - BFP Acoustic Bluegrass Round Circle Pickin' Jam 10am-1pm

JULY

- 3 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - **TBA Special Event!!**
- 10 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Mr. Wonderful
- 11 - BFP Acoustic Bluegrass Round Circle Pickin' Jam 10am-1pm
- 17 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Secret Monkey Weekend
- 24 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - The 8:59's
- 25 - BFP Acoustic Bluegrass Round Circle Pickin' Jam 10am-1pm
- 31 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - The Gravy Boys

AUGUST

- 7 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Django Haskins
- 8 - BFP Acoustic Bluegrass Round Circle Pickin' Jam 10am-1pm
- 14 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Abe Reid & the Spikedrivers
- 21 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - The Tremors
- 22 - BFP Acoustic Bluegrass Round Circle Pickin' Jam 10am-1pm
- 28 - BFP Music Series 7-9pm - Bluegrass Experience

SEPTEMBER

TBA - Keep watching Facebook and our Website



Friday Night Music Series

Friday night music returns to Bynum Front Porch on June 5! This summer we're bringing back quite a few folks who played here in the early days and helped us get to where we are today. But we've also invited a variety of new acts that will have us tapping our feet and dancing.

Wildfire Pizza will be back serving dinner and there will be ice cream and cold drinks sold in the store. And as always, you can pick up your official Bynum Front Porch merchandise while enjoying the music.

Thanks to John Winecker, Bonnie Barrow, and Liz Tedesco for booking this amazing lineup. This is truly one of the best Friday night music series you'll ever hear.

Come rock with us... the lightning bug show commences around dark-thirty! And the music begins at 7pm and concludes at 9pm. See the specific dates and band schedule in the calendar above. *All the dates and events are subject to change due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Please refer to the Facebook or Website for BFP for updates.*

Answer to **Where in Bynum Game:**

- House** - The Hatley house off Roy Hatley Road.
- Youngster** - Douglas Neal

bynumfrontporch@gmail.com **www.BynumFrontPorch.org**
Send newsletter content to **BynumNews@gmail.com**

BFP is a non-profit organization, your tax-deductible donations are always welcome:

Physical Address/GPS: 950 Bynum Road, 27312
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 381, Bynum, NC 27228

After the Epidemic Concludes the Bynum General Store Will Be Available for Use!

Need a place to do your thing?

Planning a private party or function? Looking for a place to hold that yoga class or crafting circle? The ole Bynum General Store & Post Office is available for community use for events such as meetings, birthdays, anniversaries, or other parties, etc. The store is free to use for Bynum residents. Nearby Chatham County neighbors or the wider community wishing to use the store will be asked to make a \$50 donation fee to cover related costs of operation and help support educational grants sponsored through Bynum Front Porch.

Please keep the following in mind as you request use of the store:

- Alcohol is not allowed in the store or on the property.
- Events should not begin before 9am and must be finished by 9pm.
- You are responsible for cleaning up after your event and for any damage that may occur.
- A Building Use Agreement Form will be supplied with the further details/instructions.

For more information, a copy of the Building Use Agreement, and to check dates for availability, contact bynumfrontporch@gmail.com and include your contact information, description of event, date, time, and potential number of guests. Someone from the Bynum Front Porch Programming Committee will reply.

Bynum is special in so many ways. Bynum Front Porch looks forward to sharing the space with you.