

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 Bridge Birthday Bash Celebrates 100 years!

Clockwise from top left: Happy Birthday Bynum Bridge – Kim Hawks Photographer, Chatham News & Record; Cake Judges Martha Slattery, Ron Hatley, Jeff Wheeler – Photo by Susan Johnson; Poppy Protzman Cake – Photo Debbie Tunnell; Photo by Patricia Martin



On Saturday June 4, Bynumites young and old (with Bynum-adjacent folks too!) celebrated the Bynum Bridge's 100th birthday. Earlier in the year, on April 23, 2020, the bridge was added to the National Register of Historic Places, the National Park Service's official list of historic places worthy of preservation.

Preservation AND Celebration! T-shirt tie dying, live music, parasol painting, water balloons, and the event of the day: The Big Bynum Bake-Off. Twelve wonderful baked goodies were entered with the judges deliberating long and hard over the winners. Susie Crate took 1st place, Dolly Lindley 2nd and Kellyn Haight 3rd – along with a special cake design prize to Poppy Protzman (the bridge never looked more delicious).

Also, folks got to write their fond memories of the bridge on a 'wall of ribbons': Halloween on the bridge with all the pumpkins got mentioned several times; Seeing the graffiti, birds, otters and out-of-towners too!; Watching all the high water floods; Tubing and fireworks; Sunsets, sunrises and stars; Snowfalls and falling in love. Even one memory of when the largest school bus in Chatham County and a tractor trailer met on the bridge, pulled their mirrors in and squeezed by each other!

It's very clear that this old bridge has worked itself in the minds and hearts of Bynum and beyond. See you for the 125th birthday party?





Friends of

LOWER HAW RIVER

State Natural Area

News from Friends of Lower Haw River State Natural Area



Birding with Ranger Steve McMurray



Upland Explore Hike at US 64

We're pleased to see some progress beginning to occur that will benefit "conservation through recreation" in the Haw River corridor. Chatham County's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget will include a new trail coordinator position. Funding for the trail coordinator begins in January 2023, with recruitment occurring this November-December. Friends of Lower Haw has been advocating for a county trail coordinator position, similar to the one for Alamance Parks, and we are thrilled that our voices have been heard! Thank you to our advocacy team for their efforts and to our county commissioners, especially Commissioner Diana Hales, for their foresight in investing in trails.

Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) is assisting with two projects involving the Haw River corridor. For one of the projects, TJCOG is hiring an Economic Development Specialist position for Alamance and Chatham counties. The person hired for this position

will utilize a highly regarded, nationally recognized framework known as Trail Towns to aid in the sustainable revitalization of trail towns positioned along the Haw River corridor. This position is funded by a grant award from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA). Under a 20-month contract, the Economic Development Specialist will provide technical assistance throughout the Haw River region to augment opportunities in the retail, accommodation, food and beverage, tourism, outdoor recreation, and entertainment sectors to help them recover from the COVID pandemic. The position will have an office in Graham (Alamance County), Pittsboro (Chatham County), and Durham, (Triangle J Council of Governments). For the other project, TJCOG will be issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for consulting services to work on Chatham County's Haw River trail corridor feasibility study/economic impact analysis project. This project is also funded by the same EDA grant award that is funding the



Volunteers and State Parks staff at invasive plant removal workday



Volunteers at invasive plant removal workday

Economic Development Specialist position. This project is part of the Haw River Trail Steering Committee started by Friends of Lower Haw and Chatham County government. We look forward to participating in both projects.

In other updates: Survey work for the Connect NC Bond project at Bynum Mill has been completed. State Parks says the designers are working on schematic drawings for improvements to the parking lot, a new toilet facility, and improved canoe access. It is unknown at this time when construction will begin. Chatham County is receiving \$14 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Friends of Lower Haw advocated during the public input period this past spring for spending some ARPA funds on Haw River corridor projects. We are waiting for updates from the county about plans for ARPA spending. In our neighboring county, the Randolph County commissioners are using \$1 million of their ARPA funds on trails along their section of the Deep River State Trail.

We began to offer in-person group events this spring. We held three Whack Attack workdays with State Parks staff to continue removal of invasive plants in the Bynum Mill area. We also held three outings around the state natural area. Visit our website www.lowerhaw.org for information and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Spring Explore Hike upstream of the Bynum Dam

ELVIS Coming to Chatham

Join us for a fun evening with Elvis, aka Stephen Freeman with The Echoes of A Legend Band!!! Tickets include dinner.

When: Saturday, October 1, 2022 - Dinner, served by Best Foods of Siler City 6pm, Show 7pm

Where: Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center
1192 US64 W Business, Pittsboro, N. C. 27312

Purchase Tickets: <https://www.bynumfrontporch.org/bfp-store>
'Add to cart' through PayPal and just print your ticket.



Bynum United Methodist Church

Hello Bynum –

I hope that everyone is having a pleasant summer and is looking forward to another school year! Your neighborhood church is very excited about the wonderful ministries and spiritual formation groups

that we will be resuming in September, as well as the various events we have scheduled in the next few months:

Sunday School & Worship (Sundays 10 and 11am, respectively)

Discipleship Club (Sundays 6:30pm)

Crochet Ministry (Tuesdays 6:30pm)

Bible Study (Wednesdays 6:30pm)

Choir/Bynum UMC Band Practice (Thursdays 6:30pm)

Homecoming Sunday (25 September)

Trunk or Treat (31 October Halloween)

Candlelight Christmas Eve (24 December)

As we get closer to the Christmas season, stay tuned for additional events and service opportunities!

If your area of interest is more aligned with local outreach, Bynum UMC continually collects food for CORA, which can be dropped off at the church on Sunday mornings or at the parsonage anytime. We will also be conducting a backpack and a supplemental nutrition drive for students at Perry W. Harrison Elementary School. We would love to have your involvement or support as we seek to love our neighbor!

In everything that we do, all are welcome. If you have any questions or seek additional information about anything mentioned, please feel free to reach out to me: (423)-741-8021, or at easmith@nccumc.org.

Blessings!

Evan

"Watch over one another in love." (John Wesley)

2022 Bynum Front Porch Board of Directors

Martha Collins (Secretary) • Ron Hatley • Kurt Hein • Chuck Leippe • Rich Levinson • Cindy Raxter * Nina Seigler (Treasurer) • Ken Tunnell (Chair) • Ted Williams • Kelly Woods

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



We are happy to announce that we will be opening our Bynum Outpost again in 2023. We are even happier to announce that we have found an outstanding person to be our Outpost Coordinator. Ben comes with a lot of whitewater kayaking experience on the Lower Haw River and has been an important part of the success we have had at our main location in Saxapahaw, NC. Once his “feet are on the ground”, we hope to find him an assistant to help with the day-to-day chores of getting guests onto the river.

Our initial focus in 2023 will be to put guests on the river above the Hwy. 15-501 dam to paddle upriver on flat-water and return to the originating spot. Once we have found an assistant, our plans include guests being able to paddle downriver from Chicken Bridge to Bynum in the morning with another option to paddle downriver from Bynum

to Hwy. 64 in the afternoon. Of course, water levels will determine when those options are available and whether or not the trip will be rental or guided.

As in Saxapahaw, we want to offer both classes and guided natural-history river trips. Perhaps the best teaching section on the Haw River for beginner-level whitewater paddling is the stretch of river from Bynum to Hwy. 64. Additionally, the stretch of river above the dam is a perfect place for people who just want to learn the basics. At this time, we have not decided what kind of guided trips will be offered, but we know we want them to emphasize relaxation and natural history interpretation.

If you want to apply to be the Outpost Coordinator’s assistant or have experience teaching and/or guiding and are interested in working with us, please do not hesitate to contact us by calling 336/260-6465 or sending an e-mail message to Joe at admin@hawrivercanoe.com.



CHRISTMAS Is Around the Corner



It’s not too early to start thinking about and planning for your Christmas Holidays. Bynum Front Porch will be offering Frasier Fir Christmas Trees again this year (cut fresh in the N.C. Mountains days before pick up)! We will also be offering Frasier Fir Wreaths, Mixed Green Wreaths & garland to adorn your homes and doors.

Check BYNUMFRONTPORCH.ORG for pricing & ordering. Pick up day will be Saturday, November 26, 10am-2pm. There will also

be the annual Bazaar (10am-1pm) featuring local crafters and artisans with one of a kind Christmas Gifts for everyone.

Start the Christmas Season in Bynum. Ditch Black Friday and shop local with neighbors and friends and help support Bynum Front Porch non-profits efforts to continue giving \$1,000 grants to local Chatham County AVID high school students.

Scenes from the Village



Photo by Susie Crate

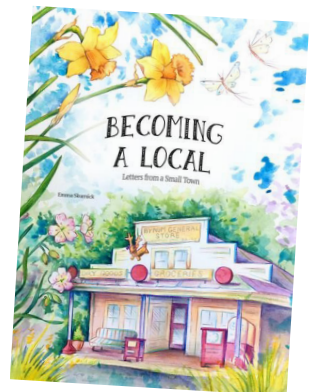


You can listen to Britt’s song about Independence Day on the Bynum Bridge by typing this address in your computer browser!

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/0I4XChXouYUf3Pj01j3V7L>

Neighbor News:

Emma Skurinck will be reading from her book about Bynum, *Becoming A Local* at MacIntyre’s Books in Fearington on Saturday, September 24 at 11am. Anyone who loves Bynum will love this collection of stories about our amazing little town. Britt Wilson will be accompanying the reading with original songs about Clyde’s critters, the Haw River, and the Bynum General Store.



Trail to the ballfield with LIGHTS



A four legged neighbor

SIX Educational Grants in 2022!



Angel Lopez, Auburn Campbell, Kaylee Lopez, Wilson Ramos Meza, Francisco Antonio Morales Hernandez, Francisco Gonzalez

On May 6, the BFP Educational Grant awards were presented during the opening Friday Night Music series at the Bynum General Store. Through donations from the community and fundraising such as through the sales of Christmas trees, each year Bynum Front Porch gives grants to support students' college aspirations. This year, we were able to give grants to six very deserving recipients. Each student received \$1000.00.

The students chosen were a part of the AVID program at their respective high school and graduated in June. AVID, which stands for Achievement Via Individual Determination, is a program that helps students who have a desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard to get there, but may not have the means or opportunity to attend college.

Those selected for 2022 are Angel Lopez, Auburn Campbell, Kaylee Lopez, Wilson Ramos Meza, Francisco Antonio Morales Hernandez, and Francisco Gonzalez.

Angel Lopez attended Northwood High School. Angel enjoys playing video games, helping out in his church, working out and occasionally going out with friends. He loves spending time with family, as they mean a lot to him. He plans to major in computer science at UNC at Greensboro. He told me that while he knows college isn't going to be easy and something new and completely different from what he's used to, he plans to make use of what he learns there and surround himself with good people, without forgetting those who brought him to this point in his life.

Auburn Campbell attended Jordan Matthews High School, will be at Stetson University in the fall and majoring in psychology. She played varsity volleyball and softball, was president of Future Farmers of America, and was a member of Beta Club. Some of the things she does in her free time are working at S&T's Soda Shoppe (where she's been for the past 2 years!) and playing travel softball.

Kaylee Lopez attended Chatham Central High School and was very active throughout high school playing sports, joining numerous clubs,

and participating in quite a few community service organizations. Kaylee plans to attend UNC at Greensboro in the fall and major in Biology.

Wilson Ramos Meza attended Jordan Matthews High School and was very active in the arts community at JM, having performed in Oklahoma, The Lottery and Into the Woods. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, camping, singing and learning new languages like Japanese and Korean. Wilson plans on majoring in computer science at UNC at Greensboro in the Fall.

Francisco Antonio Morales Hernandez attended Chatham Central High School and plans to attend UNC at Greensboro to major in Languages, Literature, and Culture. He plans on using this degree to teach high school French and Spanish. Francisco enjoys expanding his knowledge of languages and writing books. In fact, he's currently working on the third book of an eight-book unreleased series. He also enjoys playing the piano, saxophone, composing music, chorus, and art. He has been a member of Beta Club, chorus, Link Crew, Avid, and Art Club. It's no surprise that Francisco likes to read and listen to music on rainy lazy days.

Francisco Gonzalez attended Northwood High School. Francisco was active in several organizations and was fortunate to hold officer positions for two clubs in which he was able to organize donation drives and help plan various events. In his free time, he loves to play soccer, hang out with friends, cook and explore new places. This fall he will be attending NC State University to pursue his goal of becoming a biomedical engineer because he's always been interested in designing/building stuff and wanting to help people with their health.

Many thanks go out to those who make the hard selections on the committee for these education grants: Beth Kalb, Matt Porter, Emma Skurnick, John Winecker. And a special thanks to John Winecker for coordinating the award presentation and committee.



Bynum Community Garden

As we reach the middle of summer, things in the Bynum Community Garden are taking off. Garden members spent time in the spring cleaning out the tool shed, planting a pollinator garden under the old water tower, preparing beds, weeding, and building a new fence to deter the local community of groundhogs from eating crops. Members are currently growing watermelons, cantaloupes, canary melons, beans, hot peppers, eggplant, squash, tomatoes, okra, artichokes, sweet potatoes, blackberries, and a variety of herbs, as well as zinnias, dahlias, and coneflowers. Many of our gardeners are already looking forward to the Fall and the opportunity to grow cool weather crops, such as broccoli, brussel sprouts, arugula, carrots, and beets. The Garden is also thinking about new projects and continued opportunities for engagement with the Bynum community in 2023.



Come dig in the Bynum earth and grow with us!

Thank You, **Anton Simopoulos & AutoPro** for being a Sponsor

Auto Pro has been a BFP sponsor for more than a decade! Anton and before him previous owners Barry & Jennifer, have not only been taking care of our vehicles honestly and with great skill, Bynum Front Porch has been in their care as a business sponsor. Anton has closed the business doors and will be moving overseas but will remain in our hearts!

Thank you, Anton for all the many years of sponsorship and sharing your heart with Bynum. We wish you all the best and will be imagining you next to a sea of blue and with hands free of oil and grease, sand between your toes, and that wonderful smile on your face.

You will be carried in our hearts! Cheers.

The **Haw River Assembly** News



We hope to be back in person this fall for the Haw River Learning Celebration, our river exploration and education program for 4th graders, that was started back in 1990. We welcome volunteers to join us as guides for the students, who come on this field trip full of adventure. We'll be setting up our camp and activity centers starting September 17 in Bynum, at the Lower Haw River State Natural Area. We'll move September 23 up to Saxapahaw for a week with students from Orange and Alamance counties, followed by a third week in Guilford county. Come join us - we provide training, and great fellowship!

stop pollution and find solutions for clean water for all of us. We use advocacy, stream monitoring, environmental education, river clean-ups and much more to make the river a healthier place. Go to www.hawriver.org and find out more! We're your neighbors, so come by and see us 143 Bynum Church Rd, (919-542-5790). We have Clyde Jones designed T-shirts and a lending library of nature books and are happy to talk about river issues, history and more!

Learn more and sign up to volunteer at <https://hawriver.org/projects/learning-celebration/> or scan this QR code:



It's Haw River Assembly's 40th Anniversary this year, and we welcome you to join us in the work we do to protect and restore this beautiful river we love. Since 1982, we have worked to



Haw River Learning Celebration

2022 Bynum Front Porch Newsletter Committee

Reporting for the community that rocks Bynum Front Porch

- Martha Collins • Cyndi Harris • Sharon LaPalme • Debbie Tunnell

Our Sponsors:

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

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Chatham Ridge Trailer Park

Ellis Disposal

Trash & Recyclables

919-542-2208

Roof Crafters

ncroofcrafters.com

Mark Stith

919-542-5530

Many thanks to all those who have supported BFP through various Facebook Fundraising Drives.



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:

- Amelia Hyland, daughters Ivy & Athena, Dog Baker, Cat Voodoo
- Mackie Hunter, Dog Penny, and cat
- Cynthia Kellenberger and cat companion
- Sarah Perry and dogs Gracie and Buddy
- Jim Romeo & Dog George
- J.R., Ana, daughter Rue Whitley, Dog Toulie

Births:

- Wilson Hoover Wood – Parents Kandyce & Jimmy Wood

Deaths:

- Delbert Allen Andrews, Jr.
- Randy Elbert Ellis

Moved away:

- Mitchell Branton & Marilee Eiman
- Jack & Lilly Ratcliffe
- Ruth Roldan

Bynum Zip Code is Tied to Kiosk PO Boxes – Keep Your Kiosk Box in Use

There's still time to help maintain the Bynum Zip Code – all we need to do is maintain the kiosk Bynum PO Boxes. If you want a Bynum mailing address, the Pittsboro postmaster has opened some PO boxes at the kiosk near the ballfield on Bynum Hill Rd. Just go to the Pittsboro Post Office, ask to see Peter or Solita and request a PO Box in Bynum. There will be a one-time charge of \$25 (for the new lock). When the boxes are all gone, the postmaster will consider opening more if there is interest. Let's get those boxes owned and 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.

BFP Wish List

- Solar Powered Lights
- Roofer – There are some small leak areas that need attention.
- White/Clear Rope Lights
- Installation of seamless gutters
- Flat-screen SMART TV & Wall Mount – 36" or larger

Support Bynum Front Porch **amazon**smile
with Amazon Smile You shop. Amazon gives.

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

2022-23 community calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 2 - Friday Night Music 7-9pm - Bluegrass Experience
- 3 - Winter Music 7-9pm Jonathan Byrd (jonathanbyrd.com) & Eric Bannan (ericbannan.com) - The Kings Of Carolina
- 9 - Friday Night Music 7-9pm - John Howie Jr & Rosewood Bluff (johnhowiejr.com)
- 10 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 10 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 17 - BFP Workday to 9am-12pm
- 17 - Haw River Assembly's Learning Celebration begins in Bynum
- 24 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm

OCTOBER

- 1 - Elvis Returns to Chatham - Purchase tickets at bynumfrontporch.org/bfp-store
- 8 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 8 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 9 - Christmas Tree Sales Begin!!
- 22 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 22 - Winter Music 7-9pm Jennifer Curtis (jennifercurtisviolin.com) & Diali Cissokho (kairabamusic.com) - World Music Masters
- 31 - Pumpkin Carving Noon to Dusk

NOVEMBER

- 5 - BFP Workday 9am-12pm
- 12 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 12 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 19 - Winter Music 7-9pm Andrew Finn Magill (andrewfinnmagill.com) & John Doyle (johndoylemusic.com) - Celtic Masters

- 26 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 26 - Christmas Tree, Wreath & Garland Pick Up 10am-2pm
Holiday Bazaar 10am-1pm

DECEMBER

- 3 - Winter Music 7-9pm Piano Jam - Junkman Jack (https://m.soundcloud.com/greensborogrooves/jackgorham), William Nesmith (williamnesmith.com), Tim Smith - Holiday Show
- 10 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 10 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 24 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm

JANUARY

- 14 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 14 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 28 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm

FEBRUARY

- 4 - Winter Music 7-9pm Abigail Dowd (abigaildowd.com), Lyn Koonce (lynkooncemusic.com), Eric Bannan (ericbannan.com) - Songwriters In The Round
- 11 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 11 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 25 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm

MARCH

- 4 - Winter Music 7-9pm The Moon and You (themoonandyou.com) - Our Favorite Asheville Duo
- 11 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 11 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 25 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm

APRIL

- 8 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 8 - Storytelling 7-9pm
- 22 - Acoustic Bluegrass Roundcircle Pickin Jam 10am-12pm
- 22 - Winter Music 7-9pm Wyatt Easterling (wyatteasterling.com), Jess Klein (jessklein.com), Abigail Dowd (abigaildowd.com) - Song Travelers

WiFi Available!

Bynum Front Porch is pleased to remind everyone that there is community WiFi available at the store, 24/7. Sit on the porch or use it from your car. This speedy fast wireless network brings critical connectivity to residents and visitors giving everyone access to everything from education materials for kids, information about Bynum's rich history and attractions, to everyday needs like paying bills, checking library hours, or even just keeping tabs on your favorite sports team. The password is posted in the store windows.



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

Volunteer Corner

HighLight/LowLight/No Light

"No power? No problem!" When the summer storms bring a power outage, Bynum Front Porch volunteers know what to do: simply set up inside the store so that our emergency lights shine on the band (Gray Matter), and host an all-acoustic event. The food truck just outside has its generator aboard, so meals are hot and ready. The audience is seated opposite the band in an intimate semi-circle, and the show goes on, perhaps even better than planned. Doesn't this sound like fun? Imagine how much fun it is when the power is on and the weather permits us to be outdoors! Come rock with us. Come volunteer with us.

To volunteer go to www.bynumfrontporch.org/contact and let us know of your interest and contact information.

- Summer Friday Night Music
- Fall/winter Second Saturday Storytelling
- Quarterly Workdays
- Public Relations
- Fundraising
- Marquee Updating
- Board member
- Committee member and more