

A PUTTER'S DELIGHT

THE CHANGE TO BERMUDA GREENS A FEW YEARS BACK HAS TAKEN THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP TO ANOTHER LEVEL. » SPORTS. C1

NEWS & RECORD

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Greensboro, North Carolina

75 CENTS

Va. ruling resonates in N.C.

Cooper won't defend state's gay marriage ban after federal court rejects Virginia's

BY ROBERT C. LOPEZ
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N.C. Attorney General Roy Cooper said Monday that a constitutional amendment state voters approved in 2012 is not defensible and that he will not oppose legal challenges to it.

Cooper made the announcement during a press

conference in Raleigh shortly after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit in Richmond, Va., issued a ruling striking down Virginia's gay marriage ban.

The 4th Circuit's territory covers five states, including North Carolina.

What that means, Cooper told reporters, is that North Carolina's constitutional

amendment banning same-sex marriage will "almost surely be overturned."

"Simply put, it's time to stop making arguments we will lose and instead move forward, knowing that the ultimate resolution will likely come from the U.S. Supreme



Cooper

Court," he said during the press conference.

The Court of Appeals' ruling won't take effect for 21 days, during which time a stay could be issued, allowing for further review.

Locally, Ellen "Lennie" Gerber of High Point said Monday that she is just

hoping that her marriage to Pearl Berlin will be recognized in North Carolina "while she's still here with us."

Berlin is 89 and in "frail" condition, Gerber said.

Gerber and Berlin, who were married in Maine, where same-sex marriages are legal, are among three couples who filed a lawsuit earlier this year challeng-

ing North Carolina's same-sex marriage ban.

"This ruling, it's just one more step forward for the country," Gerber said.

Cooper said that while same-sex marriages are not yet legally recognized in this state, his office will now acknowledge "marriage is a fundamental right and that

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QUICKREAD

LOCAL & STATE

Team from GTCC wins national championship in culinary quiz bowl

The GTCC culinary quiz bowl team has won its first national title. The competition, held during a culinary convention in Kansas City, tests knowledge of cooking, baking, nutrition, sanitation and math. **Story, A2**



Scholarship honors retiring EMF official

The Eastern Music Festival is honoring its retiring executive director with a scholarship to the festival in her name. Stephanie Cordick, who runs the administrative side of the festival, will retire on Aug. 31. **Story, A2**

NATION & WORLD

Medicare trust fund looking more healthy

Medicare may survive a few more years. Recent projections show that, because of a slowdown in health care spending, the program's trust fund won't be exhausted until 2030, four years later than last year's estimate. **Story, A7**

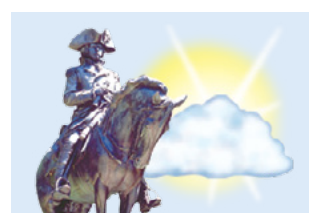
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ON WEDNESDAY

Even in the summer heat, you can enjoy a delicious bowl of soup — especially if it's the cold variety. **Savor**



TODAY'S FORECAST

81 HIGH
61 LOW

Partly sunny skies and pleasant with low humidity. Full report, A2

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THE GREENSBORO FARMERS' CURB MARKET



PHOTOS BY H. SCOTT HOFFMANN/News & Record

The Greensboro Farmers' Curb Market has been stepping up its marketing efforts, attracting customers like downtown employees Ron Sydell and David Craft during their break from work. Below left, Jack Meadows, 3, plays on a booth.

'It is a beloved community institution'



With more special events and a social atmosphere, the Greensboro Farmers' Curb Market is attracting more customers. And for everyone involved, that's a good thing.

BY SUSAN LADD
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GREENSBORO

It may be the liveliest 140-year-old in town. The Greensboro Farmers' Curb Market, established in 1874, is thriving, with more programs, more events, more access and, most important, more customers.

The Curb Market is always packed on Saturdays in the summer, but it has also doubled its attendance at Mid-Week Market on Wednesdays. A free Curb-2-Curb market shuttle runs between Renaissance Plaza on North Elm Street downtown and the market on Yanceyville Street. Since it began May 28, 120 downtown workers have caught the shuttle to

COMING WEDNESDAY

A look at how the city's various curb markets have spawned businesses. **Front page**

shop during their lunch hour.

"There's a new energy," said Pat Koegl, who has been a vendor at the market for 20 years.

"We have new young members, new people to town, and young farmers who are growing produce in a different way. It is evolving as people's tastes evolve."

But going to the Curb Market has never been just about the produce.

See **Market**, Page A4

Teachers to get 7 percent raise, leaders say

■ **Legislators continue to work on the state budget, and details are expected this week.**

BY MARQUITA BROWN
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GREENSBORO — State lawmakers have agreed to increase teacher pay by about 7 percent, accord-

ing to tweets from Senate leader Phil Berger and House Speaker Thom Tillis, and a report by the News & Observer of Raleigh.

Berger spokeswoman Amy Auth confirmed in an email Monday that the Senate and House budget conferees agreed to a budget framework.

But it's too soon to celebrate reports that lawmak-

ers will boost teacher pay, some teachers say, even though it would be their largest salary increase in six years — at least not without more specifics about the agreement.

Auth said officials should release some details later this week.

Statewide, a teacher with 10 years of experience and only a bachelor's degree is earning the same

salary as a teacher new to the classroom.

But the focus on salaries, while important, overshadows last year's cuts to other areas of education, such as money for textbooks and classroom supplies, said Liz Foster, the president of the Guilford County Association of Educators.

Schools also need money to restore teacher assis-

stants, reduce class sizes, supply instructional materials and make sure that buildings are in good repair, Foster said.

"It just boils down to having enough resources to do the job," she said.

Auth said the agreement does not involve cutting money for teacher assistants, which was part of

See **Schools**, Page A5