

# The Daily Southerner

Weather for Tarboro  
 Cloudy  
 Time: 10:00 am  
 Temp: 80 F  
 Real Feel Temp:  
 Humidity: 82 %  
 Winds: SW at 3

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Tuesday July 12, 2005

Tarboro, N.C.

Serving Edgecombe County

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## Editorial

### 'It came together nicely'

When you tune in to Channel 5's "WRAListens to Edgecombe County" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, thank Laurie Belangia.

Belangia works for Rusty Holderness of Rural Development, The Links at Cotton Valley and the Tarboro Area Development Corp.

Holderness tries to take advantage of every opportunity to promote Tarboro, Princeville and Edgecombe County. Thus, the [historictarboro.com](http://historictarboro.com) Web site.

Belangia designed the Web site and keeps it updated. She had just entered the Pops on the Common event last spring when she decided she would try to get it listed on calendars at WRAL-FM and WRAL-TV.

"It was about the time we did the Oprah video," she recalled.

Holderness put together a 13-minute video inviting Oprah Winfrey to come visit Tarboro as part of her "The Best Small Town in America" promotion.

## Online Poll

What do you think of the web site?

- Love it!
- It's good
- It's ok
- No Comment

Vote

Belangia suggested the teevee folks do a feature on Tarboro's effort.

The result was getting on the "WRAListens" list. The Raleigh television station's crew was in town last month to film and that's the show that will be telecast at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Crew members told me it was the first time they had been back since covering the 1999 flood and then-President Clinton's visit on Sept. 20, 1999.

The on-camera host is a familiar face, retired anchor Charles Gaddy, 73, who is just as personable off camera. Gaddy even took the time to write a personal letter to us afterwards. Classy.

Producer Clarence Williams asked permission to use Staff Writer Matthew Whittle's report in the Capitol Broadcasting newsletter.

The boss behind the scenes is Leesa Moore-Craigie, WRAL's director of news special projects. She is the niece of the late Dr. Wilton Moore, a Tarboro dentist who lived in a house across from the Blount-Bridgers House.

Moore was married to Eleanor (Rosenbaum) Moore, whose family had a clothing store in Tarboro. Their daughter Mary Eleanor is married to Dorsey Daniel, and they still live here on Chauncey Street.

"I remember visiting my Aunt Eleanor and Uncle Doc and swimming in the community pool across from their house," Moore said. "Tarboro has retained so many of the charming qualities that I fondly remember from my childhood."

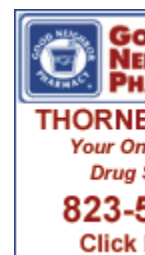
Edgecombe is the eighth county "WRAListens" has visited with plans to visit all 22 in the station's viewing area.

"The communities we serve are important to us in so many ways," Moore said. "We want to not only report news stories, but meet the people, hear what they have to say, and let our other viewers know more about that community. That's why we produce the 'WRAListens' series.'"

I haven't seen the final product, but Gaddy and Moore seemed genuinely satisfied.

"It came together very nicely," Moore said after an editing session. "I think you-all will be pleased. I know we are."

Hardware store owner and Tarboro Area Development Corp. President Joe Pitt, Edgecombe Community College's Dr. Deborah



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'It came together very nicely'

Lamm, Community Enrichment's Doris Stith, farmer Tom Porter, educator Bill Negron and yours truly made up the panel.

In addition, there will be a very visual report from reporter Mike Charbonneau, who interviewed several folks and "will give viewers insight" into Edgecombe County.

I hope you enjoy the program. They told me I had a face for newspapers so you're stuck with me.

W. Terry Smith is editor of The Daily Southerner.

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