

# Chatham News + Record

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## The first face they see

School bus drivers serve many purposes in Chatham County

BY ZACHARY HORNER  
News + Record Staff

SILK HOPE — It's quarter til 3 p.m., which is when Beverly Fox's day starts.

Kind of. She's been up since 5 a.m., preparing for and doing one job, serving as an instructional assistant in kindergarten and first grade classes at Silk Hope School. In the afternoon, however, she has a different responsibility.

She checks lights, opens front and back doors, makes sure stop signs activate properly, assuring there's no leaks in tires. She then pulls the school bus around to the front of the school to wait for the kids.

The buzzer sounds around 3 p.m. and students begin pouring out of the front door of Silk Hope School. Kids from kindergarten to eighth grade hop onto Fox's bus, No. 72. She greets them and checks off their names from her list.

Fox is one of Chatham County Schools' bus drivers, district staff which serve as more than a shuttle service. To them, and to the students who ride with them, they're much more.

### An integral part

Bus drivers — like teachers, janitors, administrators and



Beverly Fox, left, and Joanne Tyson share the route for bus No. 72 at Silk Hope School. They both have years of experience driving buses and have their routes down pretty good. 'I know the roads,' says Fox. 'I love it.'

Staff photo by Zachary Horner

office workers — are a key part of the educational ecosystem, according to Joel Caviness, CCS' transportation director.

"If it wasn't for the yellow buses, almost half the students wouldn't be able to get to school each day," he said. "It's very important for our drives to be able to run those routes."

According to the American School Bus Council, more than 26 million students ride buses

every year, more than half of all the children who attend school. According to the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, more than 14,000 buses operate daily on routes across the state, driving an average of 794,950 children a day and a total of 181,285,181 miles a year.

In Chatham County, 3,783 students (nearly 44 percent of the district's student population) ride one of the district's

95 buses daily. Using a formula from the ASBC, the district estimates that students riding the bus saves Chatham residents about \$682,115 a year.

Last week, the state celebrated School Bus Driver Appreciation Week, with events around the state, as part of the "Love the Bus" initiative, started by the ASBC in 2007. In a press

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"We've simply outgrown the space."

BYRAN GRUESBECK,  
Pittsboro town manager

## Demolition paves way for new town hall

BY CASEY MANN  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Demolition of the empty building located on 50 W. Salisbury St. in Pittsboro is scheduled to begin this week.

The building, which formerly housed a Piggly Wiggly and a PTA Thrift Store, was purchased by the Town of Pittsboro last year to redevelop the property for construction of a new 42,000 sq. ft. town hall.

The project, which is expected to have construction costs of approximately \$15 million, is necessary to support town services as the town grows, according to Pittsboro Town Manager Bryan Gruesbeck.

"The current Town Hall on East Street has served the town well over the past 20 plus years but is not equipped to handle all of our challenges in the next 20 plus years," Gruesbeck said. "We've simply outgrown the space. This is especially relevant given Pittsboro's current and future levels of growth. At the same time, the town has an opportunity

See TOWN HALL, page A3

## CCS considers HS exams before Christmas

BY ZACHARY HORNER  
News + Record Staff

School districts across the state have long complained about the lack of flexibility in their calendars, particularly when it comes to the first semester for high schoolers.

Chatham County's public schools may not have to wait for the N.C. General Assembly to act to get that kind of flexibility.

The Chatham County Board of Education will be voting on a proposal next month to establish a new calendar that would place first-semester exams for high school students before Christmas break starting next year.

The plan was presented to the school board Feb. 11 during the board's monthly meeting in downtown Pittsboro.

Janice Frazier, Chatham County Schools' assistant superintendent for human resources, presented two drafts of the 2019-2020 school year calendar. One version would be similar to this year's edition — first semester ending in mid-January and second semester ending in early June — with similar numbers of instructional days in each semester.

But a second version would have the first semester for high school students end on Dec. 20, 2019, with other schools ending their semester on Jan. 17, 2020. That would allow for high schoolers to take their major end-of-class exams prior to Christmas.

District Superintendent Derrick Jordan said a calendar committee sought input from teachers and stakeholders across the district before bringing the proposals to the board. A survey of high school teachers said 64 percent preferred having first-semester exams prior to Christmas.

"From an instructional standpoint, I think that we all agree that giving students the opportunity to complete exams

See CALENDAR, page 3A



## Reclaiming spaces in Pittsboro

Ralph 'Screech' Swager (left) of Moncure and Snuffy Smith of Pittsboro show off the new sign for Davenport's Cafe Diem. The old restaurant is one of several spaces that are finding new purpose in Pittsboro. The town's quirky and creative atmosphere attracts people and businesses that can innovate and see beyond a building's past lives and breath new life into it. The News + Record visited downtown Pittsboro to highlight just some of the reclaimed spaces in Pittsboro.

SEE PHOTO ESSAY ON PAGES B4-B5

Staff photo by Kim Hawks

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Late county leader Margaret Pollard lives on in legacy, school name

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE  
News + Record Staff

Like any school principal, Tristen Perlberg has many responsibilities, great and small, but one that's unique to the principal of Margaret B. Pollard Middle School is addressing a recurring question.

"I do get asked who Margaret Pollard was," said Perlberg, now halfway through his first year as head of the middle school in north Chatham and the school's former assistant principal.

"I respond with how she was a politician and a huge advocate for Chatham County," he said. "She became the first African-American woman to chair the Chatham County Board of Commissioners."

Pollard's memory lives on in

many ways, not merely in the middle school's name.

A large portrait of the school's namesake hangs outside the front office and every year, Perlberg said, students and staff honor Pollard on her birthday.

"We do this by sharing with the students who she was and all of the great things she did for our county," he said.

Last year, on her birthday, students wrote essays about the late county leader.

Born on May 3, 1932, Margarete Bryant Pollard died on Sept. 16, 2009, and filled most of the 77 years in between — certainly all of her adult life — with service in the public sector.

Ten of those years, from 1994

See POLLARD, page A10



Submitted photo

From left, Margaret Pollard, the Mary Hayes Holmes, a former county commissioner, Betty Wilson and Jane Allen celebrate Betty Wilson's 70th birthday on July 16, 2001. 'They were so inspiring,' Jane Allen said of the ladies in the photo. 'And still are.'

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### ON THE AGENDA

• The **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25 at the Pittsboro Town Hall located at 635 East St. in Pittsboro.

• The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular meetings at 7 p.m. on March 4 at the Siler City Town Hall Courtroom located at 311 N. Second Ave in Siler City.

### THURSDAY

• Take control of your health by attending a free healthy heart event on Feb. 21 at **Chatham Hospital**. Free screenings for heart disease, a heart to heart discussion with UNC Cardiologist Dr. Prabhat Kumar, and cooking tips for a healthy heart will be offered. For more information or to register call 919-799-4012 or online at [chathamhospital.org/heartmonth](http://chathamhospital.org/heartmonth).

• The **Southwest Chatham Community Watch** will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21 at Edward Hill Friends Church. All are encouraged to attend.

• The **Carolina Mountain Dulcimer Players** will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21 at the Seymour Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill. Beginners, experts, and all stringed instruments welcome.

### FRIDAY

• The **Siler City Community Meal** will take place from 6-8 p.m. on Feb. 22 at The Peppercorn located at 138 N. Chatham Ave. in Siler City. The Siler City Community Meal is an effort by a handful of Siler City people who are inviting others to share meals with them. This shared dinner will be held once a month. The meal is free. All are welcome. Sharing food, friendship and community is the centerpiece for these dinners.

• Friday and Saturday, Feb. 22 and 23, **Second Bloom of Chatham Thrift Shop** is having a 50% off sale on everything in order to make room for spring clothes sales in March. All children's clothing and shoes are only \$1.00. Come get bargains and support survivors of rape and domestic violence. The shop is located at 10 Sanford Road in Pittsboro, on the Courthouse circle, next to the Roadhouse restaurant. Hours are Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• The Youth Department of the **West Chatham Branch of the NAACP** will sponsor a program at 10 a.m. on Feb. 23 at Corinth AME Zion Church on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. in Siler City. The theme for the program is Youth Making a Difference: Walking to the Beat of Your own Drum. Presentations will be made by various guests including Representative Robert Reives. Come out and support our youth.

• **Chatham Community Library and the Career and Employment Training** program at Central Carolina Community College (CCC) are partnering to offer free employment assistance. Timir Cox, a Career and Employment Training instructor at CCC, will be available to assist with employment skills and related questions from 12:30 to 3:30

p.m. each Friday through March 29. Job seekers can meet one-on-one with Cox to learn how to search for jobs, research employers, accurately complete applications, create resumes and cover letters, and practice interview strategies. Assistance is free to those who are unemployed, underemployed, working and eligible for the federal earned income tax credit, or those who have received notice of a layoff. No appointment is necessary. Participants will be asked to complete brief registration paperwork on their first visit. Sessions take place in the computer lab at Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro, on the campus of Central Carolina Community College.

### SATURDAY

• The annual **Fearrington Folk Art Show** will occur from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Feb. 23-24. The show features the work of self-taught artists who are deeply influenced by the spirit of folk art, raw vision, naive art, primitivism and outsider art. You'll see whimsical paintings, sculptures, pottery and all sorts of work to get your imagination flowing. We hope you'll experience it for yourself! All sales proceeds benefit the artists directly. Fearrington takes no commission from the artists, nor does Fearrington charge a booth fee to the artists selected for the show. Entry is \$5 at the door.

• Twice a month join the gathering for the **Bluegrass Jam Circle** and make music. You can join the fun every second and fourth Saturday throughout the year, at 950 Bynum Rd. The circle forms around 10 a.m. until noon. Singers, new pickers (spoons, washboards) and audience members are all welcome. This is an open circle type jam for all skill levels and ages. If you pick, bring your instrument. If you sing, bring your voice. Come to enjoy great music at the historic Bynum General Store. Pickers are asked to bring acoustic instruments only. The Circle Jam is free and open to the public.

### SUNDAY

• **Local Tables** is back in Briar Chapel for 2019 on a new night, with a new time, and in a new location. All are invited on Sunday nights at 5 p.m. for this gathering led by Pastor Brent Levy. Dinner and childcare provided.

• **Local Tables** are small gatherings of friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, and people who are about to become your friends. At your Local Table, you'll share a meal, talk, listen, be encouraged, and make friends who become like family. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, Local Tables give you the opportunity to lean in, listen, and know you're not alone. Learn more about what to expect and why we think these matter at <http://thelocalchurchpb.org/tables>.

### MONDAY

• **Writing Toward Resilience**, a weekly opportunity for all those grieving or current caregivers, meets at noon every Monday at the SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC. No writing experience necessary. Facilitated by Carol Henderson, a professional writer and workshop leader who has facilitated workshops all over the U.S. and in Europe. No registration needed. The UNC Hospice Home is at 100 Roundtree Circle, behind Bojangles in Pittsboro. For further information, contact Ann Ritter, 919-984-2650 or email at [ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu](mailto:ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

• The **Chatham Community Library's Black History Month film series** concludes with Belle at 6 p.m. on Feb. 26 in the Holmes Meeting Room. Belle is inspired by the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle, the illegitimate mixed race daughter of a Royal Navy Captain. Raised by her aristocratic great-uncle Lord Mansfield and his wife, Belle's lineage affords her certain privileges, yet the color of her skin prevents her from fully participating in the traditions of her social standing. Left to won-

der if she will ever find love, Belle falls for an idealistic young vicar's son bent on change who, with her help, shapes Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery in England. This event is free and open to the public.

• **Wake Up Wednesday** is a networking event that occurs from 8 - 9:30 a.m. each Wednesday at the Carolina Brewery, located at 120 Lowes Dr in Pittsboro. In today's media packed world where we're bombarded with as many as 3000 advertising images, and slogans a day, a person may require anywhere from 8-12 exposures to a concept or idea before a connection is made with a potential customer. And as most of us know, in order to influence someone to buy your product, join your cause, they need to know, like and trust you. So please come to Wake-Up Wednesday often, as it is one tool that you can utilize to build relationships in the community.

• The **Guardian ad Litem** program is looking for volunteers to be the voice of an abused or neglected child in our community. Training begins March 9. Chatham County is in need of volunteers to be an advocate for children who are currently in foster care. For more information, contact Nickie Siler, GAL Program Supervisor, District 15B North Carolina Judicial Branch, at: [nickie.siler@nccourts.org](mailto:nickie.siler@nccourts.org) or 919-545-3650 or visit at: [www.VolunteerforGAL.org](http://www.VolunteerforGAL.org).

• The **Spring for Literacy Luncheon** to benefit Chatham Literacy will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 10 at Governors Club. Best-selling author Frances Mayes will be keynote speaker. She will share about her adventures in Italy and new book. Registration started February 1. Tickets are \$100; available at [chathamliteracy.org](http://chathamliteracy.org) or 919-542-6424.

• The **Chatham County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)**,

which meets to discuss county-wide emergency preparedness, has scheduled its 2019 quarterly meetings for May 2, August 1, and Nov. 7. The meeting sites for the year will be the Chatham County Detention Center, the new Mountaire Farms facility in Siler City, and the county's Emergency Operations Center in Pittsboro. Specific details for each meeting will be made known via media notification, county E-Notify, Facebook, and Twitter at least two weeks prior to the respective meeting dates. For information concerning hazardous material facilities in Chatham County or the LEPC in general, contact Emergency Management at 919-545-8163.

### ALSO HAPPENING

• **Chatham Community Library** is offering a series of free computer classes. Find a full description of each class, including topics covered and prerequisites for attending, by visiting [www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses](http://www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses). Classes take place in the computer lab at the Library, on the campus of CCC: Genealogy 101: Feb. 20, 3 - 4:30 pm.

• **Volunteers Needed** - Nonprofit agencies in Chatham seek teen volunteers to help with many projects. Teens can help at food pantries, in gardens, fundraising projects, office work, care for animals. **Chatham Connecting** website lists many volunteer opportunities for youth. See where you are needed to help in the community. [www.chathamconnecting.org](http://www.chathamconnecting.org)

• **Chatham County Council on Aging** presents their VITA PROGRAM (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program). Appointments are being taken for persons/families of low to middle income, planning to file a 1040 Form. To schedule an appointment, call the Council on Aging at 919-542-4512. VITA is a service of the IRS, where their volunteers assist with income tax preparation with no charge to you. Locations at: Eastern Chatham Senior Cen-

ter in Pittsboro and the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City.

• **Highfalls 84th annual Fiddler's Convention** is scheduled for Saturday, March 9 at North Moore High School Auditorium. Registration from 4:30 to 6:30 with show time starting at 6. Admission will be \$7 per person. There will be great entertainment and food. Cash prizes will be given in ten categories.

• **Randolph Health**, free colon cancer screening is scheduled for Thursday, March 14 at Randolph Health private dining room from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Get checked by registering at the Community Events Desk at 336-633-7788 or by visiting [www.randolphhealth.org](http://www.randolphhealth.org).

• **Chatham Community Library** will host an author event with Iris Yang on Saturday, March 16 at 2 pm in the Holmes Meeting Room. Born and raised in China, she has loved writing since a child. She studied science and holds a Ph.D. in molecular biology. Her debut novel, *Wings of a Flying Tiger* was published in 2018 and its sequel, *Will of a Tiger* was published in January, 2019. She is now working on a story based on her grandmother, the first Chinese woman to receive a master's degree in Edinburgh in the UK. She is a part time resident of Sedona, AZ and Chapel Hill. The event is free and open to the public.



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**Fun Fact**

Did you know the man who invented cruise control was blind? His name was Ralph Teetor.

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Submitted photo

## Employee of the year

Karen Robinson was recently recognized as Pittsboro Christian Village's 2018 Employee of the year. She is a supervisor in the Care Home. Executive Director Gerald Baker presents the award to Robinson, who has worked at Pittsboro Christian Village since 2008.



Staff photo by David Bradley

## New business

Chatham Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Cindy Poindexter (left), Eric's mother Phyllis Williams, Eric Williams, Eric's father Don Williams and Sheriff Mike Roberson, are shown in front of William's Edward Jones investments office at 114 Russet Run in Pittsboro during its opening Feb. 6. Williams used the occasion to take donations for the Chatham Literacy Council.

## CALENDAR: Districts seeks flexibility

Continued from page 1A

prior to winter break is preferred," Jordan said. State law requires that public schools start no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and end no later than the Friday closest to June 11 and include a minimum of 1,025 hours of instruction. Both calendars, Frazier said, meet those requirements.

In recent years, citing desires for first-semester exams to be before Christmas and alignment with community college schedules, several state legislators have filed bills asking for local calendar flexibility to make that happen. This year, representatives have sought changes for Alamance, Catawba and Davie counties, among others. State Sen. Valerie Foushee (D-Chatham) has said she is in the process of filing a similar bill for Chatham, and the school board approved a resolution last month seeking that flexibility. Frazier acknowledged that there would be a significant

POTENTIAL 2019-2020 CALENDARS FOR CHATHAM COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS		
	PROPOSAL A	PROPOSAL B
1st Sem. Final Day	Jan. 17, 2020	Dec. 20, 2019
1st Sem. School Days	89	79
2nd Sem. School Days	91	101

K-8 Schools would all be on the Proposal A schedule.

Graphic by Zachary Horner

disparity between the length of the semesters for high school students under the proposed change — 79 days for the first semester and 101 days for the second semester.

Jordan said other districts across the state have implemented this type of change, but many have been affected by severe weather events this

school year, so data on the changes might not be reflective of the calendar alteration.

The superintendent added that the district's teacher advisory council will meet this month and discuss the proposed change. The school board is planning to vote on the options at its March meeting.

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## CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOL BUS STATS

**3,783** Chatham County Schools students ride the bus every day  
**95** Chatham County Schools buses operational daily  
**8 times** Safer to ride a bus to school than a car  
**\$682,115** Saved yearly by Chatham County residents by students using the bus

CN+R graphic by Zachary Horner | Sources: Chatham County Schools Department of Transportation, National Highway Safety Administration, American School Bus Council

Graphic by Zachary Horner

## DRIVERS: Discipline, control needed

Continued from page 1A

release commemorating the week, Kevin Harrison, transportation services section chief with N.C. DPI, said drivers are "entrusted with a great responsibility: to safely transport our children to and from school each day."

"To do this, they must drive their students, watch out for them, listen to them and teach them," Harrison said. "We ask so much of bus drivers every day. I hope that all students, parents and staff will take a moment to express their appreciation for the many things their bus drivers do."

### 'Not the easiest job'

Seven hours before Fox took off on her route, she and Joanne Tyson sat in Silk Hope School's media center. Above the noise of students checking out books, they talked about their route.

Tyson and Fox share Bus No. 72. Tyson drives in the morning, Fox in the afternoon. Fresh off her morning route, Tyson said it was "perfect."

"Can't complain, no complaints," she added.

Tyson and Fox said they work to make sure their bus doesn't fall into the stereotype of a school bus. They don't want kids handing out warm gummy bears and throwing paper airplanes and hanging their heads out the window.

Keeping discipline on the bus is the hardest part to Tyson.

"I think safety, trying to keep them safe," she said. "Driving a bus is not the easiest job, especially if you have a bus where the kids don't behave. Luckily, we have good kids."

Fox said there's a bit of inanity in driving a bus. As an instructional assistant, she has one of two pairs of hands and two pairs of eyes during the school day that help keep track of kids. As a bus driver, there's one pair of hands and one pair of eyes, and those hands need to be on the wheel and those eyes on the road.

"Who in their right mind



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Silk Hope School bus driver Beverly Fox prepares for her route on a Friday afternoon.

would turn their back on 40 children?" she said. "Really, you need discipline on the bus, control, in order for you to keep control and keep your eyes on the mirror and on the road. It's easy if someone's distracting you to get your mind off the road."

How do they keep things under control? There are assigned seats that can be changed if any issues come up. At the beginning of each year, there are guidelines set up for bus riders. If one child acts out too much, there's always the option of separating them from their friends and bringing them to the front.

Caviness, who has led the transportation department since 2008 and supervises drivers, said setting guidelines is critical to a consistently good route.

"I see a lot of drivers struggle when they start out," he said. "They let the kids run over them. Once you set those guidelines in the beginning, they don't have any trouble."

### Riding the route

Fox's route in the afternoons — almost identical to Tyson's in the morning — runs about an hour and 15 minutes, covering a lot of rural ground. Some of the roads are narrow and difficult to navigate.

But it's natural to Fox. Not only has she driven buses since 1996, with an eight-year break at one point, she went to Silk Hope, as did her children. One of her grandchildren rides her route. She drives

by her grandparents' old house, the watering hole where she swam growing up.

"I know the people, I know the routes, I know the roads," Fox said. "I love it." Caviness said the district has "a great bunch of drivers," but admitted that it's difficult to recruit them.

"That's one of the reasons we have to require EC [exceptional children] assistants, child nutrition workers (and more) to secure a CDL license to be able to drive a bus," he said. "We've got bus drivers that get up at 5 o'clock in the morning, then go to school and work as a TA [teacher's assistant] or in the cafeteria, then go on the route. They've got a very hard job."

Both Tyson and Fox began their careers in the district driving buses, then became teachers' assistants later. Tyson said she didn't have to drive, but she likes to.

"You never know what that child is facing at home," she said. "To see the bus driver first, I think it makes them feel good, comfortable. I think they trust us."

About halfway through Friday's route, Fox slows down the bus, activates the stop signs on the sides and waits for a trio of kids to walk to the front. One stops and gives Fox a hug.

For her, it's part of what makes driving a bus great.

"I've had a really good route," she said. "I've had good kids. We have the best bus out of four (at Silk Hope)."

Tyson quickly adds, "Probably out of the county."

## TOWN HALL: Demolition will cost \$178K

Continued from page 1A

to strengthen the historic downtown by redeveloping a vacant property and filling a big need for additional parking to support neighboring businesses."

Pittsboro contracted with DH Griffin to demolish the existing building. As was typical of commercial spaces built at the time 50 W. Salisbury St. was developed, asbestos was used during the construction process. DH Griffin is licensed to handle and dispose of the asbestos. The demolition project is expected to cost \$178,650, well below the original estimate of \$312,000. Demolition should be completed within a month.

Aside from the demolition, the project has completed the Phase I Pre Design which outlined what functions will take place in the new building as well as preliminary internal and external designs and cost estimates. Pittsboro architect Taylor Hobbs performed the work on the first phase and presented the construction budget to the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners earlier this month.

Current tentative designs for new building show four floors and a parking garage with town commissioners approving all suggested alternates, including a card reader security system, roof terrace and LEED certification to the project. The town hall is anticipated to also house some Chatham



Staff Photo by David Bradley

The historic Pittsboro courthouse is reflected in the old Piggly Wiggly building on West Salisbury Street Friday afternoon before demolition Monday. The plans for the new Town Hall building on this site call for at least 130 parking spaces, a terraced roof and LEED certification.

County offices. "Chatham County is growing and also needs space to meet current and future demands," Gruesbeck said. "They anticipate leasing a portion of the new town hall. This is an opportunity to lower both of our costs while improving the level of service to our citizens. We also anticipate that the existing town hall will be re-purposed as an expanded location for our police department."

According to Hobbs, the first and third floors of the new town hall will be used by town staff, while the second floor will house the offices of the Chatham County Board of Elections and the fourth floor will be home to the county's health department. Each floor will span 10,000 square feet, and the parking deck will have 134 spaces with 11 on-street parking

spots. An entrance plaza will be constructed along Salisbury Street with access to a separate parking area.

"The new town hall should be right-sized for a growing community with space to grow as the town grows," Gruesbeck said. "Additional parking will maintain the viability of our successful historic downtown. We expect to enhance our formal and informal meeting space (board and conference rooms, for example). The building will be designed with environmentally sustainable features like state of the art stormwater controls — a lesson we've been learning the hard way given the intensity of recent rain storms."

Town commissioners will be reviewing a proposal from Hobbs Architects for Phase 2 Design at one of the board's two upcoming meetings.

# VIEWPOINTS

THE CN+R EDITORIAL

## There's a way for progress and preservation to both be valued

Try to wade through the rhetoric or engage in a rational discussion about the Town of Pittsboro, Chatham Park and development plans, and you'll discover one thing quickly: sometimes it's hard to see the forest for the trees.

It's more accurate, of course, to say it's the noise about said trees that's hampering legitimate dialogue and hamstringing progress toward resolution over issues surrounding the 7,000-acre Chatham Park planned community that, over time, could add more than 20,000 households to Pittsboro.

Regardless of how Pittsboro commissioners and other officials and area residents — like those well-intentioned folks who gathered around the Chatham County courthouse for an hour-long Procession of the Trees

event last Friday afternoon to promote tree preservation — feel about Chatham Park, the development is well on its way to happening. The question is whether the dialogue that takes place between now and then can be honest, truthful and constructive, and allow for a mutually-beneficial outcome.

Listen to what's been said so far and it's understandable that concerns and confusion are rampant. Pittsboro officials have openly questioned Chatham Park's plans and claims and even accused CP staff of being outright dishonest; some speakers in public forums (and online) have lobbed half-truths and patent falsehoods and described the planned development with words like "slum" and terms like "bird holocaust."

What environmentalists and some town officials and

residents seem to want is for Chatham Park to just go away. Amid all the rhetoric, though, there are simple truths.

First, the Town of Pittsboro and Chatham Park developers each want to create the best, most environmentally sustainable project in the state, and one whose economic viability will certainly provide a significant boost to Pittsboro's municipal revenues and economic ecosystem. Second, if Chatham Park does what it says it will do, it'll meet environmental standards higher than most any community in North Carolina — particularly when it comes to contentious elements like tree coverage, tree canopy, stormwater and landscape requirements. And finally, even though Chatham Park is a private development, its published plans — contrary to the claims of

naysayers — exceed almost all of the stringent standards of similar developments around the state or the southeast.

Chatham Park has plainly demonstrated in writing and in practice its willingness to follow protocols, rules and regulations and abide by higher requirements than any other small developer or property owner in Pittsboro or Chatham County would be expected to abide by currently — all the while hearing opponents say, "Yeah, but Chatham Park should be doing more."

The takeaway is that even though development (Chatham Park and otherwise) has and will continue to change Pittsboro, Chatham Park has the potential to be exemplary. It'll never be as exemplary as no development, which is the understandable, but unrealistic, desire of a segment

of Chatham's population. So the reasonable, and logical, expectation is that Pittsboro officials and stakeholders will hold Chatham Park accountable, in an objective way, for the 2 percent of the county's land mass that it will occupy.

There's always an implicit and explicit need to provide balance between economic viability and sustainability. When that occurs, progress and preservation are both valued. Chatham Park has pledged that; the Town of Pittsboro should trust but verify as it works alongside Chatham Park in a cooperative partnership.

*Editor's note: the News + Record has invited one representative from the Haw River Assembly and one from Chatham Park Investors to submit a 750-word opinion piece about this subject for publication in the newspaper's Feb. 28 edition.*

## Time to shed mountain of books that don't 'spark joy'

In Wes Anderson's 2007 movie "The Darjeeling Limited," three brothers (portrayed by Owen Wilson, Adrien Brody and Jason Schwartzman) travel across India, hauling with them on their journey an uncomfortable amount of baggage, both literal and figurative.

**RANDALL REFLECTS**  
Randall Rigsbee

In a moment of liberating catharsis at the end of the film, the trio of siblings toss the literal baggage — a mountain of cumbersome suitcases — aside as they sprint to catch a moving train.

It doesn't take an English major or a cineaste to understand the moment is symbolic, and in the act of casting aside the suitcases, they're freeing themselves of the figurative baggage as well.

Surveying my bookshelves recently, confronted with the tall and deep stacks of books I've accumulated over the years, I thought about that film's final scene. Not that my collection is weighing me down emotionally. I've just got a lot of books.

As I've accumulated them over the years, they've seemed more or less manageable.

But what if I had to move?

The last time I changed addresses was in 2000 and my book collection at that time was a shadow of what it's become since.

Instead of culling the collection over the years, I've adopted the slippery slope countermeasure of building more bookshelves to accommodate the growing mass.

A glance at my stacks reveals the reading interests I've had over the years. And therein lies the problem: what I was interested in 10 or 20 years ago isn't necessarily what I'm interested in now. And what are the odds I'll be interested in them again 10 or 20 years from now?

And yet, there they sit, taking up valuable sheltered real estate, collecting dust.

In the digital age, electronic reading devices are helping a less baggage-encumbered generation avoid this problem. I think, by keeping collections tamed in a portable, hand-held device instead of occupying shelf after shelf.

I'm determined to begin culling my collection, to slough off the baggage I've been under, kind of like those brothers in "The Darjeeling Limited."

There are ways to do it, like eBay and Craigslist, or simply donating them to folks like the Friends of the Pittsboro Library for its twice-yearly book sales.

In spite of Kindles and Nooks, there are still people like me who prefer to hold a book in their hands, so I know there are people who could use them.

My friend April Morris, who a number of years ago was a reporter for this newspaper, once told me that she routinely thins out her book collection to make room for new ones. While I've done a little of that over the years, I've tended to go the opposite direction.

But I'm determined to shed the excess weight of all that book baggage, to heed the advice of Marie Kondo, whose popular book "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up" has sparked a movement and a Netflix show illuminating a path towards keeping only those things that "spark joy."

Will I ever need to re-read Stephen King's "The Stand," a paperback copy of which I've been hauling about, without much joy, to my various living spaces since 1981? It's doubtful. It'd be the perfect book — along with many other titles I haven't even glanced at in years — to donate to another bibliophile to enjoy.

I don't doubt I'll have to make a few painful decisions. I may even have a few regrets later. But I'm determined to begin clearing space on all those bookshelves I've built, and — this is the most important thing — not replenishing as I go.



## Finding time to turn bucket list into reality

The 2007 movie "The Bucket List," starring Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman, touched the nerves of a number of folks.

Mainly those nerves belonged to people who'd had a few birthdays as they realized they had more behind them than in front. The movie told the tale of two aging friends who took off on a number of adventures — skydiving, seeing the pyramids of Egypt, climbing the Himalayas, eating mounds of caviar, spending late nights in casinos, to name a few — that they want to enjoy before they die, or, in the language of slang, "kick the bucket."

As I began to reflect on my number of birthdays, as well as those of some folks near and dear to me, I realized I've got a bucket list, too...well, sort of one anyway.

Among them are not skydiving. I'm now afraid of heights, although years ago I rode in the front car of any roller coaster I could find. You will not catch me climbing Mt. Everest; it's too cold. And while I like wood heat, I don't care for cold weather.

And definitely you will not catch me sitting down to a big ol' meal of fish eggs or sushi. I would, however, like sometime (which makes this qualify as a bucket list wish) to sit down to a big ol' meal of thick cut bacon and see just how much I could eat. I think it would be a lot; unfortunately, that may never happen because the folks who got me through my cardiac rehab program said there's too much salt in bacon. Actually, they said a great deal about my diet, namely that if something tastes good, I should spit it out.

There are other items on my list. Some are major; others not so. One of the major ones is that I'd like to clean out and clean up my study, to go through the piles of newspapers and magazines and books and stuff on the shelves that I've saved for some time, all with the intention of reading them "later." Some of them are stories I've started reading while others are copies of stories I've written. And books? The only local place with more books than I have is the Chatham County Library or maybe Barnes & Noble. And all that, of course, doesn't cover the boxes of souvenirs or memorabilia like notes from my children when they lived with me before they were teenagers.

In addition to that room in the house, there's also the same wish for our attic and a storage/utility building out back. The former contains some really nice clothes I had when I wore a 15½ shirt and a

34-inch waist; to be sure those same days are just around the corner once again. And the latter? Well, in that outbuilding there are some really nice boxes of materials from jobs I had 40 years ago and a number of items that belonged to my parents that they used almost daily 20 years ago.

Sometimes bucket list items can border or come near not only the not major but also the silly. One of those for me is I want to sit in my car when it goes up on the garage lift to have it serviced. I just want to see what it looks like as I gaze out the window. I think that wish comes from a story my father used to tell me about a preacher he knew who did that and sat in his car reading before opening the door to get out...before the car was back on the floor.

There's one more wish that lurks in the back of my mind. It has to do with a young man my mama named me after — her brother, Robert (Bob) Cooper. He was a corporal in the U.S. Army Air Corps, the forerunner to today's Air Force, when his B-29 bomber crashed and burned near Copelan, Kansas, in 1944 on its last training flight before going overseas in World War II. Not only did all the crew perish but so, too, did a grandfather and infant grandchild when the plane hit their farmhouse.

Some years ago, a cousin did some exhaustive research on now-declassified documents and produced a play-by-play account of the accident and its investigation. Turns out the co-pilot was flying the big bird and he buzzed the town at tree-top level to impress his girlfriend. When he banked the plane to turn, a wing hit the ground and that was that. The data my cousin produced revealed there are still a few townspeople alive who were there that night; I'd surely like to talk with them.

No doubt you, too, may have such a list. In the movie, the two men wrote theirs down and crossed them off when each was met. It helped that, for them, money was no object in flying a private jet all over the world. For me, money is also no object; most of what I want to do requires only some time. And it's my fault, to a degree, if I don't rearrange my time to fit some of those wants.

So, perhaps that's true for all of us. We can and should control what we can while realizing there are some things we have no control over. I remember a painting of a large sailing ship plowing through turbulent ocean waters as a storm raged all around. Underneath the picture were the words "It's not which way the wind blows but how you set your sails."

Today may be the day you pick up your bucket and get started.

## Chatham News + Record

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

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### What's on your mind?

The Chatham News + Record welcomes letters from its readers on topics of local and public interest, as well as thoughtful and informative guest columns.

At our discretion, we may edit letters for clarity. We reserve the right to refuse letters and other submissions that promote a commercial product, contain either libelous material, personal attacks on individuals or vulgar language. Consumer complaints and letters containing unverifiable factual claims are ineligible for publication.

Each letter must contain the writer's full name, address and daytime telephone number for verification. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length. Letters selected for publication may be edited and all letters become property of the Chatham News + Record.

To submit a letter: Mail it to the News + Record at P.O. Box 290, Siler City, N.C. 27344; or email to bhorner3@chathamnr.com; or drop by our office at 303 West Raleigh Street in Siler City.

# VIEWPOINTS

## Motoring on with the DMV

The proposed DMV move brings to mind one of the old Three Stooges comedies, the one where one of the zany trio says, "I've cut this board three times and it's still too short." Our state continues to take cuts at property decisions and keeps coming up short.

State political leaders have known for decades that the Department of Motor Vehicles needed to move out of its headquarters on New Bern Avenue in Raleigh. The state has tried adding to, patching up, and working around asbestos and wiring problems that were genuine safe-

ty issues, even getting a waiver of safety laws to continue using the building until the legislature and executive branch would get their collective act together and take action. Dare we say this has been a classic case of government inefficiency?

It is fair to ask why this hasn't been done. Let us suggest a few reasons, starting with the longstanding problems between Wake County's legislative delegation and legislative leadership. You won't get anybody to admit it on the record, but the resentments towards lawmakers from Wake go back many years.

We've seen it before. Dorothea Dix Hospital, our first and perhaps most important mental health facility, was also in desperate need of replacement. Common sense dictated that a new hospital be located in Wake County because of available

psychiatrists and mental health professionals, an easily accessible location to both the public and health professionals and, most importantly, the state already owned the land. But the legislature decided to build a new hospital in Butner, a location not nearly so accessible or commonsense. Lawmakers have told me privately that decision was made out of spite to the Wake delegation.

It is possible that spitefulness is still at play with DMV's relocation? There have been two ongoing discussions about state government property. The first is whether to continue centralizing government in Raleigh or spreading facilities out into other communities. We can argue both sides enthusiastically. While we understand the angst from some 500 DMV employees about potential two-hour commutes, this decision, like all property

decisions, should be made by answering two questions: what is most convenient and efficient for taxpayers, as well as what makes the agency's operation more efficient and effective? We haven't heard satisfactory answers.

The other important discussion focuses on whether the state should own the buildings or lease them. Again, we can argue both sides. Our state has traditionally opted for ownership, but that thinking is changing, primarily because we have such a poor track record of properly maintaining the buildings we own. On the leasing side, we have made too many decisions based on low bids, only to find that owners had built just as cheaply as they and also scrimped on maintenance. In a few years state employees were working in conditions as bad or worse than what they left. If we

are to lease, we must have better criteria and specifications than just the low bid.

DOT Secretary Jim Trogden told me he really doesn't have a dog in these fights. He says DMV has to move and must do so before the end of 2020. Trogden just wants the executive and legislative branches to stop sawing and make an acceptable decision, because if they don't do so this year a 2020 move is off the table.

*Tom Campbell is former assistant North Carolina State Treasurer and is creator/host of NC SPIN, a weekly statewide television discussion of NC issues that airs on UNC-TV main channel Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays 12:30 p.m. and UNC North Carolina Channel Fridays at 10 p.m., Saturdays at 4 p.m. and Sundays at 10 a.m. Contact him at www.ncspin.com.*

**NC SPIN**  
Tom Campbell

State political leaders have known for decades that the Department of Motor Vehicles needed to move out of its headquarters on New Bern Avenue in Raleigh. The state has tried adding to, patching up, and working around asbestos and wiring problems that were genuine safe-

## Live a life worth living

I lost a friend this weekend. He wasn't my oldest friend or best friend or my closest friend, but a friend I feel grateful that our paths happen to cross. Even that sounds weak compared to the impact he had.

James Olin Oden. The man was an ogre — maybe even seven feet tall — and before the cancer hit, he had long locks of saxon hair and a beard that fit the caricature of something out of a fantasy novel.

**THIS IS A MANN'S WORLD**  
Casey Mann

He was a musician and could play any instrument. If you've been to any Shakori Hills festival in the past 10 years, you probably run across James. While as a performer, he often donned his guitar, but I will always know him best as a flute player.

I first ran across James at the Bynum Bridge. A group of us were going to watch the full moon on the summer solstice. I mean, do you really need much more of a reason to spend time with good people outdoors on a summer evening?

We met for the first time on the Bynum side of the bridge. His size could have been disconcerting, but his demeanor was not. Pleasantries were exchanged and about five of us began making our way toward the middle of the bridge.



Photo courtesy Virginia Ralston

**The gentle giant, James Olin Oden, played the pied piper on Bynum Bridge on the summer solstice in 2016.**

As I picked up a mimosa blossom and put it behind my ear, James began to play his flute. It was like magic. We all practically floated down the bridge. As about a dozen of us chatted, joked, and enjoyed the summer air, James serenaded us with an impromptu jam — as he was known to do.

That night, we all grew closer as friends and family. It is still one of my favorite memories of all time. Pure joy.

The next time I saw him was at the fall Shakori when Hurricane Matthew struck the annual music festival. I found James where one



Photo by Casey Mann

**When Hurricane Matthew struck Shakori in 2016, James Olin Oden and a bevy of musicians performed an impromptu jam on the Coffee Barn porch.**

could often find him, playing an impromptu jam under the coffee barn lean-to.

As the storm swirled and pounded around us, James and a merry band of minstrels played song after song. James, mostly on the flute, with a bottle of whiskey in his pocket that I may or may not have split with him.

Shakori was practically James' second home. He started coming as a ticket holder then later as a performer. He would roam

from campsite to campsite, playing music and creating songs about the festival.

Shakori's gentle giant never met a stranger and was always game to meet new people. He even traveled up to the mountains to a disc golf tournament, even though he doesn't play, because he was told a lot of cool would be there. He played music for the players all day and night.

When James became sick, the outpouring of support was an amazing thing to see. Shakori provided him an opportunity to use one of the stages last fall to host an open jam for any musician that wanted to play with him, perhaps for the last time. His signature locks were gone, a victim of the cancer treatment, and he had difficulty raising himself up out of his chair, requiring the aid of a cane.

I found myself weeping that day, full of the knowledge that his time was growing short. And I was inspired by the huge group of friends and strangers who came to listen to and play with him. He was magic.

James could spread love to any crowd. And when he passed on Saturday to a rare form of cancer, a collective wail could be heard across the state. The posts of remembrances and love came from musicians, artists, and people who I didn't even realize knew him. He made an impact.

He lived a life worth living.

Shakori will be hosting a memorial to James at their upcoming spring festival in May.

## Can government really make us happy?

RALEIGH — Is it the job of government to make you happy? While it may seem like a straightforward question, there are some important subtleties packed into those few words.

On the face of it, "no" feels like the obvious answer. Our country's Declaration of Independence states that governments are instituted to secure our rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." The first section of our own state constitution uses the same language, while adding that North Carolinians are also entitled to protection of their right "to enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor."

**JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION**  
John Hood

Under our form of government, you are not entitled to be happy. Nor are you entitled to enjoy the rights of someone else's labor. You are free to yearn, to strive, to pursue. You may reach your goals, and feel happy about that. Or you may not fully reach your goals, yet derive satisfaction from the attempt and from what you gain along the way.

Governments are obligated, then, only to protect your right to pursue happiness. Simply being unhappy is not a justification for governments using coercion to transfer the fruits of other people's labors to you.

On the other hand, the tasks governments are constitutionally authorized to do for us — ensure public safety, administer courts, and finance public goods that cannot otherwise be delivered by voluntary means — are obviously related to our happiness. We pay taxes, comply with the law, and otherwise give up some of our personal liberty in order to receive valuable public services. If we don't get them, or their value is far less than the cost, that understandably makes us unhappy. As government failures increase, that unhappiness turns to anger.

Whether in Washington or in Raleigh, policymakers typically judge public policies according to objective criteria such as the pace of economic growth, changes in personal incomes, levels of educational attainment, or health outcomes. Increasingly, however, some analysts are using measures of public happiness or satisfaction to evaluate what government does (or fails to do).

The technical name for what they

are measuring is "subjective wellbeing." People differ in their preferences, circumstances, and definitions of a life well lived. The best way to gauge how happy or satisfied they feel is to ask them, not to make guesses based on facts external to their personal experience.

When it comes to the optimal size and scope of government, progressives and conservatives clearly disagree. In the North Carolina context, for example, progressives think our state expenditures and taxes are too low to finance necessary public services. Conservatives think North Carolina is closer to getting it right, and that making state government bigger than it is now would cost more than the additional services would be worth.

I'm a conservative, and I often cite studies about economic growth to support my case. But is that really the goal? One might argue that instead of measuring North Carolina's gross domestic product, we ought to be measuring North Carolina's gross domestic happiness!

A few researchers have done that kind of analysis. For example, a study by Baylor University political scientist Patrick Flavin, just published in the journal Social Science Research, compared levels of state spending to levels of subjective wellbeing. He found no relationship between overall state spending and residents' self-reported happiness. He found the same thing for major categories of state spending such as education and public assistance.

However, Flavin did find the states that spent more on true "public goods" — including highways, public safety, libraries, and parks — tended to have higher levels of subjective wellbeing. With true public goods, it is either impossible or prohibitively costly to exclude nonpayers from benefitting from them, and consumption by one person doesn't significantly reduce the ability of another to consume it.

Taken together with other studies showing a link between economic freedom and subjective wellbeing, I read this evidence as generally consistent with a fiscally conservative approach to public policy. Perhaps you disagree. I'm happy to talk more about it.

*John Hood (@JohnHoodNC) is chairman of the John Locke Foundation and appears on "NC SPIN," broadcast statewide Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. on UNC-TV.*

## Why we let the Russians off the hook

Would you like to know why U.S. sanctions against companies owned by Russian billionaire and businessman Oleg Deripaska are being lifted?

You are the reason. Me too.

And so is everybody else who lives and votes in North Carolina.

Last April, the Treasury Department imposed sanctions against Deripaska and three of his companies for interfering in U.S. elections and for "money laundering, extortion and ordering the murder of a businessman."

**ONE ON ONE**  
D.G. Martin

Deripaska is a friend and ally of Vladimir Putin and connected to former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort. Shortly after Trump's nomination, Manafort offered to give him private election briefings.

Last month the Treasury decided to remove sanctions on the three Deripaska companies, explaining that corporate arrangements would restrict Deripaska's control. Congress can reverse the removal of sanctions.

The House, with 136 Republican members joining the Democrats, voted to reverse the Treasury's action. But in the Senate the reversal got only 57 votes of 60 needed.

According to Benjamin Parker, writing in The Bulwark, several Republican senators voted to reverse because they did not believe these corporate arrangements would prevent Deripaska from influenc-

ing his companies' actions. Senator Susan Collins: "He still would maintain significant control given his ties to Putin."

Senator Josh Hawley: "I think he's a bad guy and he's still in working control."

Senator Marco Rubio "I still think he retains operational control."

The New York Times journalist Kenneth P. Vogel writes that the corporate arrangements to limit Deripaska's control of the companies "may have been less punitive than advertised. The deal contains provisions that free him from hundreds of millions of dollars in debt while leaving him and his allies with majority ownership of his most important company."

Coincidentally, while Deripaska was in the news, I was reading another version of how business works in Russia as set forth in Bill Browder's 2015 book, "Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice."

Browder tells how he made billions of dollars buying undervalued Russian stocks and properties after Communism ended in that country. Then he tells how Putin and his oligarch allies plotted to take it all away from him and his investors.

Browder fought back. In doing so he gained the ire of Putin and became, according to Browder's book, Putin's number one enemy. Russia declared Browder and his lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky, to be criminals. Browder fled Russia. Magnitsky stayed and was jailed, tortured, and ultimately beaten to death by Russian prison officers. Browder documents the horrors of Russian business and government practices including corruption, tor-

ture, and murder. Those facts played a role in Congress's 2012 decision to impose sanctions on Russian individuals in a law designated as the Magnitsky Act.

Putin retaliated by terminating the program that allowed Americans to adopt Russian orphaned children.

Relief from the Magnitsky sanctions was one of the objectives of the Russians in their now famous Trump Tower meeting with Paul Manafort and Donald Trump Jr. in July 2016.

Perhaps the conduct of Deripaska was not as bad as those who tortured and killed Magnitsky. But backing away from the sanctioning of his companies sends a wrong signal about the determination of Americans to take strong action when corrupt Russian businesses cheat, steal and murder.

So, why are you, I, and other North Carolinians responsible for the lifting of Deripaska sanctions?

The proponents of the sanctions needed only three more votes to win. Senator Bernie Sanders did not vote, but would have voted for the sanctions. The two other necessary votes were those of our Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis. If you and I had let them know how strong we were for maintaining the Deripaska sanctions, I think it would have made a difference.

But we just did not get around to making a call to them.

*D.G. Martin hosts "North Carolina Bookwatch," shown at 11 a.m. Sunday and 5 p.m. Tuesday on UNC-TV. The program also airs on the North Carolina Channel at 8 p.m. Tuesday at 8 p.m. and other times.*

# OBITUARIES

## MARIE GEE HERRON

Marie Gee Herron, 94, of Siler City went to her heavenly home on Sunday, February 17, 2019 at the Siler City Center.



Mrs. Herron was born September 16, 1924, in Chatham County, the daughter of Dewey and Grace (Dixon) Gee. Marie was a member of Moon's Chapel Baptist Church. She was homemaker and caregiver for her son. Marie loved to sew, raise Dachshunds, cooking and working in her flower garden. Mrs. Herron was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Henry E. Herron, her son, Eddie and her brother, Bobby Gee.

She is survived by one daughter, Jan H. Lowe and husband Mike of Siler City; two sisters, Frances G. Petty and Judy G. Poin-dexter, both of Siler City; granddaughter, Melody L. Toy and husband David of Siler City; great-grandsons, Jacob and Chase Toy.

The family received friends Tuesday, February 19, 2019 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City; and other times, at the home of her daughter.

The funeral was held Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Moon's Chapel Baptist Church with Dr. Patrick Fuller officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Moon's Chapel Baptist Church, Building Fund, 175 Moon's Chapel Road, Siler City, NC 27344. Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Herron Family.

Online condolences may be made to: [www.pughfuneralhome.com](http://www.pughfuneralhome.com).

## CLEO WICKER HUDSON

Cleo Wicker Hudson, 84, of Bear Creek died Friday, February 15, 2019 at Siler City Center.



Mrs. Hudson was born in Chatham County on January 22, 1935, the daughter of Thomas Earl and May (Foust) Wicker. Cleo was a member of West End United Methodist Church and retired from Boling Chair Company where she painted decals on chair backs and weaved the cane seats.

She was preceded in death by her husband, R. Gayle Hudson; her parents; sons, Billy Joe, Bobby G, Benny T. and Buddy M. Hudson.

She is survived by son, Barry L. Hudson of Bear Creek; grandchildren, Crystal, Danielle and Jonathan Hudson.

A graveside service was held Monday, February 18, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Mt. Vernon United Methodist Cemetery, 3631 Mt. Vernon-Hickory Mountain Church Road, Siler City with Rev. Jim Whittaker officiating.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneralhome.com](http://www.pughfuneralhome.com).

Medical Center in Burlington.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 12 p.m. at Terrell's Creek Missionary Baptist Church, Chapel Hill. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

## HERBERT "HERB" HUSSEY

Herbert "Herb" Hussey, 73, of Valdese passed away on Monday, February 18, 2019.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 21 at Sossoman Funeral Home The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, February 22 in the Colonial Chapel of the funeral home with the Rev. Jerry Gamble officiating. Burial will follow at Burke Memorial Park with military honors provided by Table Rock Marine Corp. League.

Born in Siler City on August 3, 1945, he was the son of the late Odis E. and Virginia M. Hussey of Moore County.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Jeannie. He was a member of Mount Home Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Kathy C. Hussey of the home; daughter, Amanda D. Grady; son, Bradley E. Hussey; three grandchildren; sister, Lynda H. Brewer of Bennett; and brother, Bobby Hussey of Clinton; stepsons, step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mount Home Baptist Church Building Fund.

Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.sossomanfh.com](http://www.sossomanfh.com).

## KAREN ELIZABETH ROSSER

Karen Elizabeth Rosser, 47, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at First Health Moore Regional Hospital.

The funeral service was held on Saturday, February 16, 2019 at p.m. at New Life Fellowship Church with Rev. Gail Dickens officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She was born on April 5, 1971, in Lee County to Flynn Robert Rosser, Jr. "Bob" and Patricia B. Rosser. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Frank and Anne Lee Benoit and Flynn Rosser, Sr. and Catherine B. Rosser.

Karen is survived by her parents, Bob and Patsy Rosser of Sanford; and brother, Steven Rosser of Sanford.

Condolences may be made at Bridges Cameron Funeral Home.

## JANET LOUISE (DOUGLAS) HILL

Mrs. Janet D. Hill, 67 of San-

ford, passed away on Sunday, February 10, 2019.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 16, 2019 at 3 p.m. at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Moncure. Interment followed at Seymour Cemetery.

## VIRGIE SMITH HAMER

Virgie Smith Hamer, 89, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, February 15, 2019 at her home.

The funeral service was held on Monday, February 18, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Ephesus Baptist Church with Dr. David Burroughs and Rev. Sandra Jones officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Hamer was born in Richmond County on September 3, 1929 to the late Claudius Young Smith and Mae Sharpe Smith Haywood. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Branson Hamer; brothers, Curtis Smith, Charlie Smith and Alfred Smith, half-brothers, James Smith, Willie Smith, Joe Smith, George Smith, Louis Smith, Marvin Smith and half-sister,

Flora Smith. Virgie worked for many years at Tyson Foods and was a member of Ephesus Baptist Church.

She is survived by her children, Mark Hamer of Clayton, Lynn H. Perry McFarland of Sanford, Shelli York of High Point; sisters, Beulah Chapel of Center Hill, FL and Evelyn Lehrschall of Raleigh; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to Ephesus Baptist Church, 2724 White Hill Road, Sanford, NC 27332.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com)

## CYNTHIA KAY (NARAGON) JONES

Ms. Cynthia Kay (Naragon) Jones, 73, of Chapel Hill, passed on Sunday, February 10, 2019 at UNC Hospice in Pittsboro.

A Celebration of Transcendence service was held Saturday, February 16, 2019.

She was preceded in death by her son, Brannon Shane Jones; her father, Edward Naragon; sisters, Nira Hobesetter, Linda Perrine; brothers, Charles Naragon, Curtiss Naragon; her mother, Camilla Koons Naragon; and her husband Ben Jones.

Survivors include her daughter Cynthia (Cindy) Dawn Jones; one grandson; and her sister, Myrtle McCoy.

## LEVERN TOLSON

Mr. Lavern Tolson, 63, of Sanford, passed on Friday, February 15, 2019 at Duke Raleigh Hospital.

Arrangements by: Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

## IRENE SMITH CARNES

Irene Smith Carnes, 85, passed away February 14, 2019 at her home.

A private service will be held at the Currie-Cameron Cemetery in Scotland County.

She is preceded in death by her late husband, William C. Carnes.

She is survived by her children, Donna C. Harris of Moneta, VA, Pam C Hayes of Siler City and Wayne Carnes of Snow Camp; seven grandchildren and five grandchildren.

## MICAH VINCENT MCLAUGHLIN

Micah Vincent McLaughlin, 29 of Lillington, passed on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at Concordia Care/Rose Manor in Durham.

Funeral service was held Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 3 p.m. at Chapel Hill A&E Zion Church in Broadway.

## ROBERT M. SNIPES

Mr. Robert M. Snipes, 64, of Graham, passed on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at Cone Health Alamance Regional

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Chatham News - Record

# Bipartisan group of legislators seeks nonpartisan redistricting

*Chatham's Reives among sponsors of new proposal in state legislature*

## BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

After numerous discussions and lawsuits that have reached the highest court in America, the N.C. General Assembly has a bipartisan group of legislators seeking a new way to redraw the state's Congressional and legislative districts.

Chatham Democratic Rep. Robert Reives II is among the four main sponsors of House Bill 69, a piece of legislation that would establish an 11-member "Nonpartisan Redistricting Commission" and make political and racial gerrymandering illegal under state law.

The bill was presented during a press conference Feb. 13, as Reives was joined by Republican Reps. Chuck McGrady of Henderson and Jon Hardister of Guilford and Democratic Rep. Brian Turner of Buncombe. In a press release from Common Cause NC, a group that has long

supported redistricting reform, McGrady said his fellow Republicans had lobbied for this kind of change when they were in the minority prior to 2011.

"Supporting redistricting reform was right when we were in the minority, and it's still right now," McGrady said. "We are here to serve the people of North Carolina and we must make sure they can have full confidence in the integrity and fairness of our elections."

Reives added, "This bill will ensure that all North Carolina voters have a voice in choosing their representatives. It will increase public confidence in our government and strengthen our democracy."

The Commission, as established under the legislation, would gather U.S. Census data and convene "21 public hearings throughout the state before submitting a proposed plan" and "provide an opportunity for racial and language minorities to participate

in the public hearings." Also included in the bill are a list of demographics that can't be used in making maps: registered voters' political affiliation, previous election results, demographic information other than population and the location of incumbents' residences, except when required by federal law.

The board would be made up of four members each from the top two political parties by voter registration and three members not from those parties, either affiliated with another or unaffiliated.

Speaking to the News + Record on Feb. 14, Reives said he and other supporters of the bill feel like there are enough Republicans in the House that, if joined with Democrats, will get the legislation passed. As of Friday, six Republicans had signed on as co-sponsors.

"It really comes down to whether House leadership wants a vote on this," he said.

Legislative leaders have shown willingness in the past to consider similar legislation. Senate Leader Phil Berger (R-Rockingham) co-sponsored Senate Bill 25, which had chunks of the same language, in 2009. The House version of that bill, HB252, was co-sponsored by current House Speaker Tim Moore (R-Cleveland). Neither bill got a vote in a committee or on the floor of the General Assembly.

Reives said he would still support this kind of legislation even if the Democrats were in the majority, citing the technology the party in power has at its fingertips to draw favorable districts.

"Somebody's going to have to make a sacrifice to get this done," he said. "Both parties have shown themselves to be irresponsible with this authority, especially with

the tools that we have today. With those kind of tools, you can't leave these things in legislators' hands."

So far, at the very least, some Republicans have shown willingness to get on board with the proposal.

"This is something that should be done regardless of which party is in power," Hardister said in a press release. "We always need to find ways to make government better. This would help to make that happen."

## County Mulch Sale

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(6 miles west of Pittsboro)

### Sales Begin Saturday, March 2

7:30 am to 12:00 noon

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We load. You haul. Don't forget a tarp!

Sales continue every Saturday, except for April 20, while supplies last.

(Estimated to continue through the middle of May.)



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A BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO ELIMINATE POLITICAL GERRYMANDERING

HOUSE BILL 69 AT A GLANCE

SPONSORED BY CHATHAM REP. ROBERT REIVES II

- Creates 11-member 'Nonpartisan Redistricting Commission'
- 4 members from the top 2 political parties, plus 3 others
- Districts should be 'reasonably compact in form' and coincide with 'whole county' requirements of state Constitution
- No use of political affiliation of voters, previous election results or incumbents' residences
- If passed, bill would take effect after 2020 U.S. Census

Graphic by Zachary Horner

CHATHAM CHAT | POLLARD MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Pollard's 'Global Extravaganza' showcases culture, diversity

This week, we chat with three of the principles involved in Pollard Middle School's upcoming Global Extravaganza, an annual event showcasing the school's social studies department and promoting culture and diversity. This year's event will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. on Feb. 28 at the school at 185 Granite Mill Blvd., off U.S. Hwy. 501 west of Ferrington Village, and will feature a multi-ethnic array of desserts from various contributing restaurants across the Triangle. Admission is free and no tickets are required. **Michael Charles** (7th grade) and **Dawn Streets** (8th grade) are Social Studies instructors at Pollard Middle School and are helping plan the event. **Diali KISSOKHO**, a renowned Korist and percussionist from Senegal, will provide the entertainment. Kissokho will spend the day of the event working with some of Pollard's students and their music teacher, Kami Keesor. The students will then participate in the evening performance. Projects from Margaret B. Pollard students thematically centered on the cultural diversity of the Pollard and Chatham County community.

**Can each of you speak about the schools' upcoming Global Extravaganza — about its purpose and objectives, and what the experience will be like?**

**DAWN STREETS:** The Global Extravaganza got its start as a curriculum event for our Social Studies department. It provides an opportunity for students and teachers to share and showcase what Social Studies is all about. The diversity of our school and community, and the clear curriculum connections to globalism, made the idea of a World's Fair, World Culture Night, and now "Global Extravaganza" an obvious focus.

Visitors will browse student work and cultural exhibits on display in the main gallery of the school. Student work will reflect curriculum connections to all content areas — English/Language Arts, Social Studies, Art, Music, etc.

There will be an ethnic dessert sampling for all to enjoy. Desserts are donated by or purchased from area restaurants and stores. Desserts will include baklava from the Mediterranean Deli, banana pudding from Allen & Son BBQ and Mochi balls from Akai Hana.

**MICHAEL CHARLES:** The goals of

the Global Extravaganza are to spotlight, examine, and celebrate our community's profusion of cultural diversity. We want this year's event, in particular, to demonstrate each person in our community has a different "story" regarding their personal heritage, family lineage, and culture. In the end, I personally hope, that those who experience the event will find happiness in the fact that the seemingly diverse "disunity" of any community can and should actually serve as a source of unity.

**DIALA KISSOKHO:** For my part, I will be sharing traditional West African music and celebrating cross cultural communication and diversity through music!

**Why is it important for projects to focus on cultural diversity, specifically at Margaret Pollard Middle School? And what role will students play during this event?**

**CHARLES:** As a social studies teacher, I find value in studying global cultures in and of themselves. I don't need an end to the means; I just enjoy it. Obviously, that response isn't good enough for justifying why students should study and learn about various global cultures: what is the pragmatic value of it? From a civics standpoint, studying other cultures helps students understand their fellow citizens better which will hopefully breed more cooperation amongst different cultural contingents of our society. More cooperation, I think, is a keystone to constructing more compromise and therefore more meaningful legislation. From an economic perspective, I certainly think anyone who wants to open a small business should be cognizant of their communities cultural makeup and further knowing physical and cultural geography of the planet surely helps small (and large) business owners better understand the products and services they wish to sell (if I want to open a coffee shop, what countries have the climate for it, the prior infrastructure, "know-how" and capital for it?). I think these are just a few of the justifications for student projects to focus on cultural diversity, and the Global Extravaganza offers a great forum for the students to display such projects.

**STREETS:** Pollard's student population represents a wide-variety of cultures. As a school that prides itself on rigor, we often get caught up in the

rush to cover standards and push students through the curriculum. Asking students to engage in creative activities that require them to think beyond their own cultural experiences is relevant and valuable. Multi-cultural understanding and awareness is important to good citizenship—and, developing good citizens really is what Social Studies is about.

**Diali, what can those attending the Global Extravaganza expect to hear? How can you describe — if description is possible in words — what they'll hear from you?**

**KISSOKHO:** I play a 21-stringed traditional West African harp called a Kora made from a large calabash gourd. The kora is a beautiful instrument with a wide range of expression — it can be peaceful and sweet but it can also groove and make you move your body! I will be playing a mix of traditional songs that are passed down through generations of kora players and songs that I have written myself about more contemporary topics. My mother, who was one of my greatest musical influences, always said that we as musicians have a great social responsibility because we have an audience, people listen to our words. I respect that position and influence and try to promote peace, unity, and positivity with the music I play. I believe that music is medicine that has the power to soothe the soul.

**Diali, you were born into a rich ancestry of Manding griots. Explain what that is and what role griot musicians play in the West African culture...**

**KISSOKHO:** My father, grandfather, great grandfather...and my mother, grandmother, great grandmother...back generations and generations on both sides of my family all of my ancestors have been musicians. To be a griot one must be born a griot, it is an inherited tradition passed down through families. A "griot" is a musician, a storyteller, a journalist of sorts. The griots in West African culture hold a great social responsibility — we gather people together, spread news, bless ceremonies, and preserve the stories of our people. Griots are called to births, marriages, ceremonies, baptisms, and community gatherings and are tasked with sharing both the news of the day and the relevant historical messages with the wider



Submitted photo

**Renowned korist and percussionist Diali Cissokho, a native of Senegal, will perform at Pollard Middle School's Global Extravaganza on Feb. 28. Born into a rich ancestry of Manding griots (the musician caste), Cissokho has been playing traditional West African music for as long as he can remember.**

community.

**So music will certainly be a part of the event — but food and more. What are you hoping those attending will walk away from the event with?**

**KISSOKHO:** I hope that those who attend will walk away with a greater appreciation for the richness of cultural diversity, here in our local community and in the world at large.

**STREETS:** Our goal is bring together students, families, and community members for an evening of fun and learning. We want those attending to walk away with an excitement about what our students are doing and with a renewed appreciation for the various cultures that define us. School should be synonymous with community — in every sense of the word. And through community support and involvement, schools can better achieve the ultimate goal of inspiring students to learn, grow, and contribute.

## Ebenezer Christian Children's Home

### Foster Care and Adoptions

Can you give a child a safe home to laugh, play and dream?

Foster Parent Classes will be starting in the Asheville area on March 7, 2019. Please call Beulah Baptist Church at 336-581-3121

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 Email us at [info@egcch.org](mailto:info@egcch.org)

Don't Forget to Shop at Ebenezer's Attic of Siler City 218 East 11th Street

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## Stillpoint Acupuncture Welcomes Jason Trakas, L.Ac.

### Now Accepting New Patients

Jason is a graduate of Jung Tao School of Classical Chinese Medicine. He is happy to have the opportunity to share acupuncture with the Chatham County community. He is available on Tuesdays and is offering a **reduced introductory rate for acupuncture** between now and June 2019

Acupuncture can be very helpful for all types of pain as well as digestive problems, allergies, fatigue and stress management.

**919.663.1137**  
 229 E. Raleigh St. Siler City

**CHURCH NEWS**

**FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**

An African Dance Concert featuring: Reflections of the Harlem Renaissance will be presented at 7 p.m. on Feb. 22, hosted by the First Pentecostal Church at the OLD East Side Day Care, 624 Brewer Street, Asheboro, and at 7 p.m. on Feb. 23 the First Pentecostal Church at 4380 US Highway 64 East, Asheboro. There is no charge for these presentations and the public is invited.

**MT. CALVARY HOLY CHURCH**

A Black History program will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 24 at Mt. Calvary Holy Church, located at 578 Stockyard Road, Siler City. There will be various speakers with topics concerning things that took place during that era. We welcome you to attend.

**HOLY TRINITY UNITED HOLY CHURCH**

Please join us at 11 a.m. on Feb. 24 as the Arts Department shares "Our Dance to Freedom" as we celebrate our history and heritage during

morning worship. The church is located at 309 Trinity Street, Siler City.

**EDWARDS GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

We will be celebrating the 101st church anniversary of Edwards Grove Missionary Baptist Church on Feb. 24. Pastor Calvin Stokes will bring the morning message followed by lunch. An afternoon service will begin at 3 p.m. with Pastor E. Lamar Boykin of New Ephesus Missionary Baptist Church of Tiffin speaking. The church is located on 214 S. Foster Street in Liberty.

**FIRECHOSEN MINISTRIES**

Firechosen Ministries invites you to fellowship at our "Friday Night Fire" worship service at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 22. The guest preacher will be Pastor David Bing of Destiny Church of God of Prophecy of Goldston. All are welcome to come worship with us!! The event location is: Firechosen Ministries, 190 Sanford Road, Pittsboro.

**CHATHAM COUNTY ELEMENTARY AND K-8 SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOL MENUS**

*Served at Elementary and K-8 Schools  
\*\* Middle and High School Menus*

**Monday, February 25**  
**BREAKFAST:** Mini Pancakes, Pears (\*\*Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)  
**LUNCH:** Big Daddy's Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Dippers w/Marinara, PB&J w/Smoothie Combo, Seasoned Corn, Seasoned Green Beans, Chilled Applesauce (Big Daddy's Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Dippers w/Marina, PB&J w/Smoothie Combo, Seasoned Corn, Seasoned Green Beans, Chilled Applesauce, Fresh Fruit)

Ham & Cheese Combo, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Sweet Potato Fries, Chilled Pineapples (\*\*Chicken Nuggets w/Roll, Beef & Broccoli Rice Bowl, Chicken Tender Wrap Combo, Glazed Carrots, Seasoned Peas, Chilled Applesauce, Fresh Fruit)  
**Thursday, February 28**  
**BREAKFAST:** Cinnamon Bun, Pineapples, Hashbrowns (\*\*Breakfast Pizza, Fresh Fruit)  
**LUNCH:** TexMex Beef w/Chips & Cheese, Chicken Alfredo w/Bread Stick, Chicken Tender Chef Salad, Fiesta Black Beans, Steamed Broccoli, Fresh Fruit (\*\*Oven Fried Chicken Drumsticks w/Roll, Corn Dog Nuggets, Deli Club Wrap Combo, Chicken Tender Chef Salad, Baked Beans, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Fruit Cocktail, Fresh Fruit)

**Tuesday, February 26**  
**BREAKFAST:** French Toast Stick w/Sausage, Applesauce, Hashbrowns (\*\*Cinnamon Bun, Fresh Fruit)  
**LUNCH:** Chicken & Waffles, Salisbury Steak w/Gravy, Rice & Roll, Chicken Caesar Salad, Seasoned Peas, Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, Fresh Fruit (\*\*Chicken & Waffles, Salisbury Steak w/Gravy, Rice & Roll, Ham & Cheese Combo, Chicken Caesar Salad, Seasoned Peas, Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, Chilled Peaches, Fresh Fruit)

**Friday, March 1**  
**BREAKFAST:** Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (\*\*Sausage Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)  
**LUNCH:** Hot Dog in Bun, Fish Filet in Bun, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combop, Baked Beans, Marinated Tomatoes, Fruit Explosion (\*\*Bacon Cheeseburger on Bun, Fish Filet in Bun, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combo, Baked Beans, Marinated Tomatoes, Fruit Explosion, Fresh Fruit, Lettuce & Tomato)

**Wednesday, February 27**  
**BREAKFAST:** Sausage Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (\*\*Bacon, Egg, & Cheese Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)  
**LUNCH:** Orange Chicken w/Rice, Sloppy Joe on Bun,

**MOORE NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST**

Lance Moore of Siler City was named to the Fall 2018 Dean's List at Georgia State University, Atlanta.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, degree-seeking students must have earned a GPA of at least 3.5 for a minimum of nine semester hours of academic credit taken at Georgia State during the fall or spring term with no incompletes for the semester. Eligible students must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all classes taken at Georgia State. Georgia State University,

**STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST**

an enterprising urban public research university, is a national leader in graduating students from widely diverse backgrounds.

**CROFT NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST**

Emily Croft, a resident of Pittsboro, has been named to the Fall 2018 Dean's List at Berea College, Berea, Kentucky. A student is named to the Dean's List who achieves a GPA of 3.4 or higher while passing at least 4 total credits, a course load equivalent to 16 semester hours.

Berea College is distinctive in higher education. Offering bachelor's degrees in 34 majors, including arts and sciences and select professional programs, as well as independent majors designed by students to mirror approved majors at other colleges, Berea College awards four-year tuition scholarships to all its students, who because of financial circumstances cannot otherwise afford a high-quality, residential, liberal arts education.

Berea, the first interracial and coeducational college in the South, focuses on learning, labor,

and service. Supported by Berea's No-Tuition Promise, Berea College admits only academically promising students with limited economic resources, primarily from Appalachia. All students must work 10 hours or more weekly, earning money for books, room and board. The College's motto "God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth," speaks to its inclusive character, and the quality of its programs ensures that graduates from Berea go on to distinguish themselves and the College in many fields.

**CHATHAM CHARTER SCHOOL HONOR ROLL**

**QUARTER 2 HONOR ROLLS**

**A HONOR ROLLS**

- Grade 3:** Nora Baxter, Hadley Brewer, John Cheek, Kylie Glover, Kaitlin Hussey, Maddax Judson, Ryder Murphy, Annie Scheidt, Leah Smith
- Grade 4:** Jackson Bare, Ella Baxter, Andrew Bednar, Madilyn Bozzo, Jenna Burwell, Cole Cooper, Max Cooper, Isaac Hayhurst, Kevin Kincaid, Margaret Moody, Davis Rhodes, Alison Rios, Caroline Trageser, Aaliyah Walden
- Grade 5:** Alleigh Brower, Eli Christenbury, Michael Clark, Kaitlyn Evans, Isaac Harris, Kynzie Jordan, Kaylee Root, Tannin Scheidt, Madeline Teague, Victoria Vaughn
- Grade 6:** Lilyanna Byrd, Addyson Foushee, Beau Harvey, Alyssa Hussey, Ryan Jones, Zane Morgan, Hunter Murphy
- Grade 7:** Jasmine Chan, Avery Ensell, Mason Powell, Meredith Reese, Brianna Siler, Elizabeth Spillman
- Grade 8:** Rebecca Brookshire, Silas Christenbury, Kyllian Coble, Addison Elmore, Tabitha Felch, Adam Harvey, Hannah Hubbard, Emma Kois, Kinley Lamb, Christopher Majors, Lillian Milholen, Cameron Turner
- Grade 9:** Samantha Andrews, Alyson Bare, Taylor Brewer, Lorelei Byrd, Jayden Carnegie-Snipes, Olivia Cheek, Emery Eldridge, Emily Flores, Brooke Garner, Sarah Gullion, Ashlyn Hart, Teigan Hayhurst, Landon Hussey, Caleb Kolb, Noah Lambert, Brandon McKoy, Thomas O'Hara, Adelia Rickman, Collin Semrad, Parker Snow, Emily Stecher, Casey Wanless, Molly Wilson

- Grade 10:** Amayeh Bowden-Headen, Sydney Bowman, Jacob Brannon, Lane Crowder, Ainsley Felch, Abbey Gaines, Clay Griffin, Hannah Jourdan, Merle Kreiss, Rebecca McGaughnea, Grace O'Hara, Carter Phillips, Lina Sibum, N'jaya Swaringen, Te'a Turner
- Grade 11:** Rachel Brookshire, Emma Brown, Josie Chan, Harrison Fogleman, Rebecca Jordan, Cole Milholen, Connor Murphy, Alexis Tyson
- Grade 12:** Amber Vaughn

**A/B HONOR ROLLS**

- Grade 3:** Bryson Adelman, Mary-Maxton Andrews, Summer Blanton, Wyatt Branson, Chloe Callihan, Colby Carmac, Ethan Cheek, Kara Culberson, Isaiiah McSwain, Jalen McSwain, Bryson Minnich, Abigail Semrad, Zackary Shepard, Liam Thompson, Peyton York
- Grade 4:** Aubrey Blankenship, Avery Blankenship, Haley Bryarley, Elijah Coleman, Hannah Headen, Kyle Jourdan, Brooke LaVelle, Allie McLeod, Jase Nicks, JoAnna Rone, Taylor Thompson, Olivia Wilkie
- Grade 5:** Peyton Burke, Emily Cheek, Samantha Devinney, Savannah Jones, Katherine Parks, Jerry Phillips, Andrew Poock, Judy Shreef, Remas Shreef, John Spillman, Dylan Stout
- Grade 6:** Sasha Blackmon, Sawyer Bowman, William Burris, Reece Callihan, Zachary Cartrette, Abigail Clark, Noah Coleman, Paul Fuller, Jordyn Garner, Eliza Hayes, Noah Hayhurst, Sarah Hicks, Austin Hill, Abigail Irby, Ava Kois, Brennan LaVelle, Eli Lindley, Ashlyn McGowan, Braysen McLeod, Aliyah McSwain, Harley Norton,

- Halle Rodriguez Montes, Peyton Welker, Lindsey York
- Grade 7:** Keeley Allen, Aidan Allred, Mackenzie Crossman, Haley Culberson, Alexandra Hamilton, Dasiah Lowery, Aniya Martin, Edward McGaughnea, Samantha Scott, Lucas Smith, Madelynn Stover, Paul Trageser, Gracie Trogdon
- Grade 8:** Jackson Brown, Kinzey Callihan, Emerson Clark, Kaden Coble, Owen Crutchfield, Austin Greene, Julia Moore, Hasten Paige, Hannah Randall, Noah Snyder, Calley Suits, Riley Suits, Tamaya Walden
- Grade 9:** Robert Michael Andrews, Alexis Baldwin, Mackenzie Brooks, Tristin Elkins, Alexis Hayes, Leah Jones, Serenity Jones, Taylor Jones, Andres Martinez, Matthew Mullins, Hayley Rakes, Sarah Smith, Grace Trogdon, Savannah York
- Grade 10:** Christina Agnew, Holly Askins, Lacie Clark, Preston Coble, Jagger Cole, Ashley Daniels, Kyle Farrell, Trevor Golden, Grayson Haiges, Rylie Jones, Tanner Kidd, Morgan Lineberry, Landon Oakley, Jasia Palmer, Natalie Robinson, Mary Scott, Lauren Scotten, Breanna Spinks, Jacob Toy, Ayman Youness, Eleanor Zinn
- Grade 11:** Dylan Brown, Jessica Brown, Noah Carter, Hannah Ginn, Meagan Handley, Chance Jones, Carson Lamb, David Stecher, Ryan White
- Grade 12:** A J Alston, Olivia Bennett, Ashton Bristow, Janice Chriscoe, Jaron Hendrickson, Emma Jones, Allison Jordan, Gabrielle Radka, Rachel Smith, Cordell Wanless\*\*

*\*\*The majority of 11th & 12th graders have college courses that post final grades only.*

**Schools to upgrade security on two fronts**

**BY ZACHARY HORNER**  
News + Record Staff

Chatham County Schools will be instituting two new updates to its safety features over the coming months. Both a significant update to front door security systems and final procedures for firearm detection canines were approved recently by the Chatham County Board of Education. The district will contract with Brady Integrated Security of Greensboro for \$100,122 to provide, among other things, an active database of users with key-card access to the district's 17 schools that can be updated in real-time. The new front-door system will link into each school's

security camera systems, providing "real-time monitoring (of) the folks that are entering into the building," said Keith Medlin, Chief Technology & Information Officer with Chatham County Schools. "This will modernize the door security tools we have in place right now," Medlin said. "This project is something that can be accomplished this spring and we can continue to expand and roll out the security features of this system. The district last upgraded its security systems in 2012 after the Sandy Hook elementary school shooting in Connecticut, Medlin said. They got money from the N.C. General Assembly then, but will use funds from sold technology for this update.

After discussing the bullet points of using dogs at school functions and at different points through the school year during last month's workshop, the board finally gave the OK on the procedures, setting the system in place. Chris Blice, the district's chief operations officer, said a pilot test was conducted Feb. 8 at a basketball game at Chatham Central High School. The dog, a Labrador retriever, was on duty for 30 minutes. "Folks loved the dog," Blice said. "Everybody wanted to come over and pet it because it was so beautiful." As a test, a plainclothes officer carrying a gun was sent into the crowd. The dog caught the officer, using the technique it would use when on duty — com-

ing up to the person with the gun and sitting next to it. At January's retreat, the board had asked how the dog would be used around children who might be afraid of dogs. Blice said Monday that the Chatham County Sheriff's Office would perform educational demonstrations throughout the district, particularly at K-8 schools. Any students that demonstrated real fear would not be required to walk past the dog. Blice added that trainers have dealt with those kind of situations before. The district will be able to use these dogs at sporting events and at random times throughout the school year in coordination with the sheriff's office for no cost.

**AGENT SPOTLIGHT**

**ASHLEY BEAL**  
Insurance Agent



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[woods@woodsoster.com](mailto:woods@woodsoster.com)



Woods is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law. He specializes in wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and the process of management and transfer of wealth from one generation to the next. He also practices in the areas of business planning and real estate.

**J. Grant Brown**  
[grant@woodsoster.com](mailto:grant@woodsoster.com)



Grant's main areas of practice focus largely on transactional work. These areas include Estate Planning, Real Estate Transactions, Business Formations, Contract Disputes, and Delinquent Collections.

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# OSCARs: Predicting this year's winners



**FILM CRITIC**  
Neil Morris

Before the Academy Awards are handed out this Sunday evening, here's my

**My best film of last year is "First Man," director Damien Chazelle's affecting, visually stunning study of Neil Armstrong and the race to the moon. It brilliantly conveys the grimy, harrowing mechanics of the early space program, while also offering a meditative portrait of a taciturn yet resolute hero.**

annual primer of what/who will and should win each of the six main categories, plus what actor or film was robbed of their rightful Oscar nomination.

**Best Picture**  
Nominees: "Black Panther"; "BlacKkKlansman"; "Bohemian Rhapsody"; "The Favourite"; "Roma"; "Green Book"; "A Star Is Born"; "Vice"

**What Will Win:** It's a two-film race between "Green Book," winner of the Producers Guild Award, and "Roma," whose director won the Directors Guild Award. Both awards are perennial Best Picture Oscar predictors, but something's gotta give. The fact that "Roma" also garnered two unexpected acting nominations (see below) suggests strong support for the film among Academy voters, so I give it the narrow edge.

**What Should Win:** My second favorite film of 2018 is "Roma," and director Alfonso Cuarón's semi-autobiographical remembrance of his childhood in early 1970s Mexico is one of this year's most visually vibrant films, easily outranking the other nominees.

**What Got Snubbed:** My best film of last year is "First Man," director Damien Chazelle's affecting, visually stunning study of Neil Armstrong and the race to the moon. It brilliantly conveys the grimy, harrowing

mechanics of the early space program, while also offering a meditative portrait of a taciturn yet resolute hero.

**Best Director**  
Nominees: Alfonso Cuarón ("Roma"); Yorgos Lanthimos ("The Favourite"); Spike Lee ("BlacKkKlansman"); Adam McKay ("Vice"); Pawel Pawlikowski ("Cold War")

**Who Will Win:** Alfonso Cuarón won the Directors Guild Award, making him a shoo-in for the Oscar.

**Who Should Win:** Alfonso Cuarón is the deserved winner. His black-and-white recreation of the bustle and brio of Mexico City, with its street vendors and neon nightlife and opulent movie houses, is one of this year's most visually vibrant films.

**Who Got Snubbed:** Damien Chazelle offers some of the most arresting action sequences last year in "First Man," as almost every rocket launch is shot from the claustrophobic perspective of being inside the spacecraft, where every roar, shutter, and creak of the capsule carries palpable dread.

**Best Actor**  
Nominees: Christian Bale ("Vice"); Bradley Cooper ("A Star Is Born"); Willem Dafoe ("At Eternity's Gate"); Rami Malek ("Bohemian Rhapsody"); Viggo Mortensen ("Green Book")

**Who Will Win:** In an uncommonly weak field, Rami Malek swept the Golden Globes, British Academy, and Screen Actors Guild awards for

his portrayals of Freddie Mercury in "Bohemian Rhapsody." He's a virtual lock to take home an Oscar, too.

**Who Should Win:** Christian Bale's uncanny mimicry of Dick Cheney would be enough to win in most years. But Bradley Cooper is tremendous in "A Star Is Born," effectively acting and singing while also directing the film. He deserves to win among these nominees.

**Who Got Snubbed:** Ethan Hawke's snub for "First Reformed" is one of the year's most egregious oversights (along with the film not garnering a Best Picture nom). Hawke not only merits a nomination, but also the trophy.

**Best Actress**  
Nominees: Yalitza Aparicio ("Roma"); Glenn Close ("The Wife"); Olivia Colman ("The Favourite"); Lady Gaga ("A Star Is Born"); Melissa McCarthy ("Can You Ever Forgive Me?")

**Who Will Win:** Glenn Close holds the record of the actress with the most Oscar nominations without winning, and she's the living actor with the most Oscar nominations without a win. Close won the Golden Globes and SAG awards for her terrific performance in "The Wife," making her the favorite to eek out a win over Olivia Colman.

**Who Should Win:** Colman was terrific as Queen Anne in "The Favourite," but she also



This year's Academy Awards — also known as the Oscars — will be presented beginning at 8 p.m. Sunday on ABC.

benefited from a stupendous supporting cast, two of whom are also Oscar-nominated. Close is the singular star of "The Wife," and she's the best among this talent-filled category.

**Who Got Snubbed:** In a perfect world, Rachel McAdams would earn a nomination for her underrated comedic turn in "Game Night." But Toni Collette's startling, emotionally draining performance in "Hereditary" deserves to crack, and win, this stacked field.

**Best Supporting Actor**  
Nominees: Mahershala Ali ("Green Book"); Adam Driver ("BlacKkKlansman"); Sam Elliott ("A Star Is Born"); Richard E. Grant ("Can You Ever Forgive Me?"); Sam Rockwell ("Vice")

**Who Will Win:** Mahershala Ali won this category two years ago for "Moonlight." Like Malek, Ali has already swept the Golden Globes, British Academy, and Screen Actors Guild awards for his turn in "Green Book,"

making him the odds-on favorite to win his second Academy Award.

**Who Should Win:** Ali's is the third-best performance in this category. In any other year, Sam Elliott would win the Oscar. But Richard E. Grant's tormented, searingly witty role in "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" is head-and-shoulders above the competition.

**Who Got Snubbed:** Like his co-star McAdams, Jesse Plemons would earn a nomination for his underrated comedic turn in "Game Night." But while "Black Panther" hauled in six Oscar nominations, one of its most-deserving didn't rate a nom. Michael B. Jordan's performance as the complex "villain" Erik Killmonger is what elevated "Black Panther" from an otherwise very good Marvel superhero movie to an excellent film.

**Best Supporting Actress**  
Nominees: Amy Adams ("Vice"); Marina de Távira ("Roma"); Regina King ("If Beale Street Could

Talk"); Emma Stone ("The Favourite"); Rachel Weisz ("The Favourite")

**Who Will Win:** In another stacked category, Regina King's tremendous turn in "If Beale Street Could Talk," which has already earned her a Golden Globe, will likely benefit from Emma Stone and Rachel Weisz splitting votes for "The Favourite." Weisz, a Brit, won the BAFTA, but King wasn't nominated. And while Emily Blunt won the SAG, she's not nominated for an Oscar. King takes the ring.

**Who Should Win:** Choosing between Stone and Weisz is like splitting hairs. But Emma Stone has the meatier, more wide-ranging performance and deserves her second Oscar.

**Who Got Snubbed:** It may seem like an oddball choice, but Awkwafina is the comic heartbeat of "Crazy Rich Asians," and her breakout acting performance is what gives the film its crazy cool quotient.



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# Chatham's legislators seeing a shift in optimism

**BY ZACHARY HORNER**  
News + Record Staff

Over the last two years, Democratic legislators in the N.C. General Assembly have generally taken a less-than-hopeful tone about their policy goals.

But according to Chatham's Democratic representatives — Sen. Valerie Foushee and Rep. Robert Reives II — there has been a change.

"It's been a different feel for me," Foushee said at a recent legislative breakfast with county leaders. "I do feel that we have more balance in governance for the state of North Carolina right now."

Last November, the Democrats took back nine seats in the N.C. House and six in the N.C. Senate, breaking the GOP's supermajority in both chambers. The practical result is that it would take more than a party-line vote to override a veto by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper.

Back in December, Reives told the News + Record that the change, however slight, in power structure "forces everybody to talk to each other" and "provides an extra check and balance."

Foushee reckons that there's already been fruit from that. At the legislative breakfast, she spoke specifically about Senate Bill 28. Introduced by a pair of Republicans, the bill would "reinstate education-based salary supplements for certain teachers." Advanced pay would be given to a broader group of person-

nel who have master's or doctoral degrees and meet other requirements.



Reives

The bill, filed on Feb. 7, has already been co-sponsored by three Senate Republicans and several Senate Democrats, including Foushee, who said SB 28 "moves forward part of our agenda."

"We've been trying to get this done for four to five years," she said. "To have a situation whereby now we see a possibility of bringing something we believe should happen in North Carolina, we jumped on it. That's the way government is supposed to work."

It's still early days, and the bill is in the Senate Rules Committee. The last change to master's pay happened in the 2014 budget bill, so it's possible this won't be decided until the budget process.

Reives said that while there's still some uncertainties about how the session will proceed, but acknowledges a change is happening, and may affect issues like Medicaid expansion and redistricting reform.

"We just don't know what the tenor is going to be," Reives said. "I think we've got opportunities. I hold out hope. I hope that doesn't get squashed, but I do think we're headed in a much better direction so far."

Foushee, who is beginning her fourth term in the state Senate, said there's been a shift in optimism on the Democratic side, which encourages her.

"I'm at a place now where I believe some things will happen," she said. "I believe the state

# POLLARD: 'Freedom not to be traditional girl in a box'

Continued from page 1A

to 2004, Pollard — a lifelong Democrat — served as a county commissioner.

"Margaret only worked in the public sector," said her daughter, Miriam Pollard, who now lives and works in Maryland. "She was a true public servant."

Many who knew Pollard, including former colleagues on the Board of Commissioners Betty Wilson, of Pittsboro, and Siler City Mayor John Grimes, have described the intensive research she conducted on issues that required her input. This work ethic was rooted, her daughter said, in her professional life, particularly the years Pollard spent working in public health.

"Data driven methods are a requirement in public health and this demand shaped Margaret's thinking," said Miriam. "Also, we learn as blacks that to be recognized we must be 'twice as good to get half as much.' This motto rings throughout the leadership class of the black community."

Pollard was the granddaughter of a slave and this, her daughter said, "impacted her significantly. As she grew in life, Margaret became more aware of the powerlessness of women and more significantly, to her, the powerlessness of women of color. This was a fight she was determined to conquer."

Pollard grew up, alongside several brothers and sisters, on the family's farm in Moncure, where her parents harvested cotton.

"Margaret and her mother were close in ways unimaginable," said Miriam. "Mrs. Bryant was a strong, compassionate mother who did not want her daughters to be slaves to their bodies and was a midwife who let her girls know they had to graduate from college before becoming mothers."

As a young girl, Pollard excelled as a student. She graduated from Pittsboro's Horton High School (at the time, the county's segregated high school, now Horton Middle School, named after slave poet George Moses Horton) as the class valedictorian. She graduated from North Carolina College at Durham (now North Carolina Central University) with a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in public health. Her career included stints teaching in public schools, working as a health educator in Greensboro, and later working with the Dental Division of the North Carolina State Health Department. Prior to her service as a county commissioner, Pollard was



Submitted photo

**The late Margaret Pollard shares a laugh with Betty Wilson, her friend and colleague on the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, in 1994.**

an adjunct professor of public health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Pollard's career path wasn't an easy one. Because of the color of her skin, not all doors were open to her, according to her daughter.

"Even though Margaret was valedictorian of her high school and college classes, the Chatham Jim Crow only had doors for her to be a teacher," Miriam said. "Margaret knew she had more to give on a much different platform. Margaret was a health educator and a community architect. Her dream lived in Maryland, where she wrote the first proposal for elderly housing. Margaret was compassionate for the needs of the powerless and the poor."

Chatham County Board of Education member Del Turner, who was on the school board when it honored her with the naming of the county's then-newest middle school, knew Pollard and remembered the late leader in a recent interview.

"She was a good person," recalled Turner. "She was a wise person. She was calm, never got too excited. She always studied issues very carefully and always gave her best advice. She was thoughtful and caring and she was a great public servant."

John Grimes, who was the first Republican elected to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners since Reconstruction following the Civil War, worked with Pollard on the county board in the 90s.

"She always seemed to want to do what was best for all of Chatham County," Grimes recalled. "She was not a person who had just one or two issues that were dear to her. She was always working on some-

thing, and she was dear lady."

Wilson, Pollard's colleague on the county Board of Commissioners and a friend for years, said Pollard is never far from her thoughts today.

"I miss Margaret every day," she said. "When we were commissioners, we traveled all over the county, meeting people. She loved to be around people and always wanted to be inclusive. At the state legislature, it seemed like she knew everybody."

One of Wilson's daughters, school board member Jane Allen Wilson, also knew Pollard, recalling her "strong commitment to public service." She also fondly remembered Pollard's personal style, namely the large, floppy hats Pollard favored.

"Margaret was known for her outlandish hats," said Wilson, who today owns one, a gift presented to her after she expressed a liking for it.

Pollard's dedication to public service wasn't without cost in her personal life, her daughter said.

"Doing all Margaret did for the community left her no time to parent," said Miriam, whose parents (her father is the late Burhett Pollard) divorced. "June Cleaver she was not, or Clare Huxtable."

While their relationship wasn't without complications, Miriam said she was grateful for the many ways her mother helped shape her, including teaching her to read before starting school at the age of four.

"My mom gave me freedom not to be a traditional girl in a box," said Miriam. "That was the best thing she could have done for me in the Southern Bible Belt. I have been able as a former teacher to promote girls in science and medicine. That alone is huge."

She also inherited her mother's confidence, she said.

As for students attending the school named for her mother, Miriam said there are a number of things they should know. Her mother was a hard worker and studied hard to achieve her goals.

Pollard also was a smoker, who maintained the habit for more than 40 years and died, Miriam said, from lung cancer, a "direct relationship with her smoking."

"I believe my mom would want the students to know that cigarette smoking kills," Miriam said.

Pollard's legacy, Miriam said, is evident not only in the school named for her mother but in broader ways.

"Women on the county commissioner board and town boards would make my mother so proud," Miriam said. "And in Congress, more women being elected."

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# Chatham News + Record SPORTS

FEBRUARY 21-27, 2019 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B



Staff Photo by David Bradley

**Chatham Central's Cole Armstrong goes for the takedown point against Tarboro's Brice Browning during the NCHSSA Wrestling consolation semifinals at the Greensboro Coliseum Saturday. Armstrong won the match and won a Bronze Medal with a third-place finish in the 126-pound weight class.**

## Armstrong medals at NCHSAA Championships

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

GREENSBORO — Cole Armstrong fought his way back through the Consolation Rounds here on Saturday afternoon at the Greensboro Coliseum to take third place at the NCHSAA 1A Individual State Championships in boys wrestling.

The Bronze Medal effort by Armstrong in the 126-pound class included a victory in the Consolation Finals over Evan Wagoner of Allegheny. Armstrong (35-2) and Wagoner (48-13) locked up in a tight one before the Bear grappler eked out a 5-4 decision.

Armstrong had beaten Brice Browning of Tarboro 36-10 in the Consolation Semifinals with by virtue of a 7-4 decision.

In opening round action in the Championship Quarterfinals on Friday, Armstrong took an impressive victory over Preston Burnett of Polk, winning a grueling match with a late fall at the 5:23 mark.

River Griffith of Avery County, the eventual state champion at 126, captured a 19-3 Technical Fall win over Armstrong at the 5:51 mark of the Championship Semifinals to deal the Bear grappler his only loss of the tournament.

At 113, Chandler Steele of Chatham Charter posted a 2-2 mark at the state championships.

Steele (31-12) opened with an impressive 17-1 Technical Fall victory over Keith Cook of Hayesville in the Championship Quarterfinals.

In the Championship Semifinals, Steele wasn't as fortunate as the local grappler was pinned by Ethan Shell of Avery County at the 3:35 mark.

Steele rebounded with a dominating fall triumph over Averil Lafferty of Allegheny at the 4:40 mark in the Consolation Semifinals.

See **MEDALS**, page B2

## Title defense complete, Lady Bears CTH champions

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

DURHAM — It was little more than a formality here on Friday night. The Chatham Central girls basketball team defended its 1A Central Tar Heel Conference title from a year ago by making short work of a completely overmatched Research Triangle club 70-41 in the regular season finale for both squads.

Chatham Central completed a perfect CTH season with a 12-0 mark while improving to 17-3 overall.

Research Triangle dropped to 1-11 in league play and to 5-17 overall with the loss.

It was a rout from the opening tip as Chatham Central raced out to a 10-0 lead under three minutes into the contest, led by a pair of treys from Mary Grace Murchison, and two

See **TITLE**, page B2



Staff photo by Lee Moody

**It was celebration time for the Chatham Central girls basketball team on Friday night in Durham as the Lady Bears captured their second consecutive 1A Central Tar Heel Conference regular season title with a convincing 70-41 victory over Research Triangle.**

## Pollard boys dominate Horton on way to county crown



Staff Photo by David Bradley

**The Chatham County middle school boys tournament championship was decided Friday night in Goldston with Margaret Pollard topping Horton decisively 67-32. The victorious Mustangs are pictured showing off their first-place hardware.**

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

GOLDSTON — Margaret Pollard put on a dominating performance here on Friday night in Goldston at

J.S. Waters en route to a convincing 67-32 victory over Horton.

The Mustangs added to its regular season crown by rolling to a 17-7 advantage after one period of play and never looking back in garnering

the win.

Pollard took the early lead behind six points from Jarin Stevenson, five from Noah Hyman, and three more

See **CROWN**, page B2

## Lady Chargers stampede past Wildcats to take title



Staff Photo by David Bradley

**After winning the 2019 Chatham County middle school touney title 42-29 over Horton, the Margaret Pollard players and coaches pose with the first place trophy.**

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

GOLDSTON — Gianna McManama pumped in 14 points and Theryn Elmore added 11 more as Margaret Pollard cruised past Horton 42-29 to capture the 2019 Chatham

County Middle School Tournament crown. at J.S. Waters School in Goldston.

Pollard, which also won the regular season title, outscored Horton in every quarter after trailing 8-5 after one.

Te'Keyah Bland scored all eight points for the Wildcats

in the opening stanza to offset three from McManama and a basket from Sydney Ballard.

In the second, Bland continued to produce for Horton as the talented eighth grader collected seven points to go along with a basket each from Keaghan Wilcox and Asia

Allen.

Pollard would use seven points, including a trey, from Allen, six more from Khasidy Boston, and a bucket from Sklar Adams to take a 15-11 advantage in the second, and

See **TAKE**, page B3

## Bland tops 1,000 points in school career

BY DAVID BRADLEY  
News + Record Staff

GOLDSTON — Going into the Chatham County Middle School tournament finals,

See **1,000**, page B3



Staff Photo by David Bradley

**Te'keyah Bland of Horton Middle School gets ready Friday night for the final game of her middle school basketball career. A top scorer on the team, Bland came into the game with 1,030 points before adding 21 more in the tournament title game.**

# Patriots storm back to knock off Jets

BY DUCK DUCKSON  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Daylin Locklear, Jonathan Foust and Jordan Hodges combined for 67 points, including seven three-pointers, to account for all but 10 of Providence Grove's points as the Patriots rallied from six down to outscore Jordan-Matthews 17-3 over the last four minutes and ruin the Jets' Senior Night while claiming a 77-69 PAC 7 2A Conference triumph on John Phillips Court Friday evening in the regular-season finale for both teams.

Sweeping the season series while defeating J-M for the sixth time in their last seven meetings, Providence Grove closed out the regular campaign at 11-12 overall and 6-6 against league rivals to finish fourth in the conference standings, whereas Jordan-Matthews (6-18, 2-10) lost its fourth straight outing and ended up mired in the league cellar tied with Eastern Randolph.

Locklear totaled 26 points, Foust collected 22 and Hodges finished with 19, along with a

game-high eight rebounds, as Providence Grove held a 25-21 advantage on the glass.

The Jets' Caleel Waden led all scorers with 27 points while Camden Fuquay added 22 in a losing effort.

"We got a lot of good post opportunities tonight but missed some easy shots while J-M went from 10 points down to eight points up in the third quarter after making some defensive adjustments, yet we were able to weather the storm and come out on top in the end," said Patriots' coach Ben Brickhouse. "Waden and Fuquay powered their way inside all night for a lot of layups, but we managed to counter their effort by hitting a bunch of clutch three-pointers down the stretch."

"Locklear, Foust and Hodges all stepped up big for us this evening and made it impossible for Jordan-Matthews to key on any one player."

Jets' coach Rodney Wiley remarked when his team abandoned its man-to-man coverage and went to a zone in the third quarter the momentum shifted in J-M's favor.

"We gave them some different defensive looks after halftime (switching back and forth from a 2-3 to a 3-2 zone) that caused them problems while we did a better job spreading their defense out and driving to the basket to get to the line," said Wiley.

"But then our offense stalled in the fourth quarter when they forced us away from the basket with their pressure, and in the meantime their ability to hit some deep three-pointers got them back into the game."

The opening stanza featured five ties and five lead changes before Providence Grove used a 7-0 quarter-ending run, climaxed by three Locklear free throws with no time on the clock, to forge a 20-13 advantage after one period.

A Foust layup with 6:30 left in the second frame allowed the winners to stretch their lead to 25-14 prior to Jordan-Matthews battling back to narrow the difference to 34-28 on Fuquay's layup with 1:24 to go until intermission.

But the Patriots then took advantage of back-to-back base-



Staff Photo by David Bradley

Jordan-Matthews' Caleel Waden (22) grabs a rebound in area high school basketball action last week in Siler City.

line drives by Foust and Hodges over the last 1:13 of the quarter to close out the first half with a 10-point lead.

With Fuquay and Waden teaming up for 18 points in the third stanza, the Jets outscored the visitors from Randolph County 20-2 over the first six minutes to seize a 48-40 advantage before Providence Grove put together a 7-2 spurt to pull within three by the end of the period.

J-M managed to rebuild its lead to 61-54 following Fuquay's turnaround jumper in the paint with 5:17 remaining in the contest and still led 66-60 with 4:08 showing on the clock prior to being limited to Huston Causey's trey from the right wing with 8.8 seconds to play while the Patriots were busy reeling off 17 points to open up as much as an 11-point spread before settling for the final margin.

# Raptors erupt late to steal CTH title from Bears

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

DURHAM — For three quarters, Chatham Central appeared poised and ready to claim the 1A Central Tar Heel Conference regular season crown here on Friday night in Durham.

Then the unthinkable happened. In shocking fashion, Research Triangle (20-3) erupted for 34 points in the fourth quarter to storm back to a 10-point second half deficit on the way to a 77-73 victory over Central.

With the win, the Raptors take the CTH regular season crown with a 12-2 mark while Chatham Central closes with at 11-3 in the league.

For the Bears, it was a gut wrenching loss after the locals led the contest from the 5:43 mark of the opening period until the 5:16 mark of the fourth quarter. Trailing 4-3 early, Chatham Central used a 16-9 run to end the opening period behind a trey each from Jamieon Degraffenreaidt and Hayden Nall, and five points from Michael Moore, and four from Jarious Cheek.

Beau Bryant had six points, including a trey, and Jalin Burris a three-pointer for Research Triangle in the opening period.

The contest went back and forth in the second, with the Raptors pulling close only to see the Bears fend off the hosts time and time again.

Cheek scored on an easy lay in to start the period to send CC in front 21-13 before the Research Triangle came back with a three-point play from Elliot Klappenbach, and a two handed slam from 6'7 Keegan Itejere.

Despite a three-point play from Moore for Central, the Raptors used a 13-5 run highlighted by baskets from

Itejere, Josh McLaurin and Bryant to even the score at 26-all with 3:15 remaining in the half.

But Riley Lagenor would collect six points in the final minutes of the half to send the Bears into the intermission with a 34-31 advantage.

After an Itejere basket just :18 seconds into the third quarter drew the Raptors within 34-33, the Bears went on a 9-0 run started by two foul shots by Lucas Sketrick, a trey from Lofton Dodson, and culminated by a pair of Moore charity tosses at the 5:45 mark to give the locals a tie for the biggest lead of the game at 43-33.

Cheek would score four of his six points in the period in the closing 5:45, but the Raptors ended the quarter on a 10-7 spurt behind four points from Bryant to pull to within 50-43 heading into the fourth.

Then the fireworks started. Burris and Harrison Kleb canned a trey each right off the bat for the Raptors to cut the deficit to 50-49 at the 6:25 mark.

Four points from Moore and a bucket from Cheek kept the contest tied at 56-all with 4:35 remaining, before Burris and Moore traded treys to even the count at 59-59 at the 4:11 mark.

With a raucous Research Triangle crowd doing its best to urge their club on, the Raptors rattled off a 7-2 run behind five points from Klappenbach to make the score 66-61 with 2:48 showing on the clock.

Chatham Central wasn't done as Moore sank two foul shots to narrow the gap to 66-63 at the 2:34 mark, but Research Triangle would seal the contest at the line, going 9-of-14 in the waning moments, including a three-point play with :37.5 seconds remaining by Bryant which upped the lead to 75-65.



Staff Photo by Lee Moody

Michael Moore (4) of Chatham Central looks to pass around Research Triangle's Keeyan Itjere on Friday night in Durham. Moore and the Bears led most of the way until a torrid 34-point fourth quarter outburst propelled the Raptors to a 77-73 win and conference title.

Moore had three free throws and a trey in the closing :25.2 to close the gap to 77-73, but it wasn't enough as the Raptors took the conference title.

Moore led all scorers with 28 points, 17 of which came in the fourth quarter. Cheek chipped in 20 more for the Bears in the loss.

Bryant had 24 points for the Raptors in the win while Klappenbach chipped in 16, Burris 14, and Itejere, who missed most of the second half after suffering a leg injury in the third period, 11.

Chatham Central (12-8) was slated to begin 1A Central Tar Heel Conference Tournament action on Monday night down in Bear Creek versus Clover Garden.

# Knights end regular season on high note

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Jordan Hamilton scored 17 points and Connor Murphy added 16 more as Chatham Charter closed out the regular season with a 63-52 victory over Cornerstone Charter Academy on Friday night in 1A Central Tar Heel Conference boys basketball action in Siler City.

The Knights concluded the regular season at 11-3 in league play, good for third place, and at 24-3 overall.

After falling behind 20-14 after one period of play, Chatham Charter used a 22-12 run in the second to take control of the game and never trailed again.

The locals expanded on a 36-32 halftime lead with a methodical 12-7 advantage in the third to go up 48-39, before using a 15-13 spurt in the fourth to cap off the 63-52 win.

Hamilton added 12 rebounds and an assist in the Knights triumph while Murphy pulled down a board while chipping in four assists and three steals.

Chatham Charter also received eight points and four assists from Cole Milholen while A.J. Alston added eight points, two rebounds, four assists and three steals, Baggio Rodriguez four points, eight rebounds and an assist.

The Knights shot 42 percent (24-57) from the field, 25 percent (3-12) from behind the arc, and just 48 percent (12-25) from the foul line.

Chatham Charter was scheduled to host Cornerstone in a rematch on Monday night back in Siler City in opening round action of the 1A Central Tar Hee Conference basketball tournament.

# CROWN

Continued from page B1

from Noah Lewis.

Gus Fisher swished a trey for the Wildcats in the opening quarter.

In the second, Pollard put on an offensive show, exploding for 22 points behind a balanced

attack which saw four players score. Evan Dean led the way with 10 points in the period while Zach Barnes and Stevenson chipped in five apiece, and Cameron Stevenson a basket.

Ashton Elliot had five for the Wildcats in the second, but it wasn't enough to keep Horton from falling to a 39-15 deficit.

The offensive show continued

for the Mustangs in the third as six players scratched en route to a 20-8 run and ultimately a 59-23 lead. Lewis had five, including a trey, while Jarin Stevenson added five, Dean four, Hudson Bennett three, Gus Ritchey a basket, and Luiz Ziemke a free throw.

Jake Leighton had four points for the Wildcats in the

third while Elliot and Nathan McWilliams added a basket apiece.

Elliot and Fisher canned a trey each in the fourth for Horton while Isaiah Blair and Seth Davis added a bucket each to send the Wildcats to a 9-8 advantage in the period.

Lewis had four for Pollard, however, and Ziemke and

Nathan Avodo a basket each as the victors cruised to the easy 67-32 win.

Jarin Stevenson led the Pollard scoring with 16 points while Dean added 14, Lewis 13, Barnes seven, and Hyman five.

Horton was paced by 12 points from Elliot while Leighton and Fisher chipped in six each.

# TITLE

Continued from page B1

baskets down in the paint from Maddy Elkins.

The host Raptors finally got on the board on a short jumper from Reagan Chella at the 4:43 mark to close the gap to 10-2, but the Bears would use another trey and driving hoop by Murchison to spark a 6-3 run in the final four minutes to send the locals up 16-5 after one period of play.

Things only got worse from there as Chatham Central used a 14-8 advantage in the second to roar in front 30-13 at the intermission. Elkins and Taylor Hughes each had six points for the Bears in the period while Anna Helms countered with four for the Raptors.

In the third, Chatham Central clicked offensively as the Bears looked sharp, moving the ball around for easy looks time and time again. The result was a 22 point erup-

tion highlighted by nine more points from Elkins, seven from Murchison, including another trey, and four points from Abby Elkins.

Research Triangle's Helms tried to keep her club in the game in the third, nailing a pair of three-pointers on the way to eight points, but the Raptors still trailed 52-24.

Chatham Central would outscore Research Triangle 18-17 in the fourth to close out the easy 70-41 win and clinch the title. Abby Elkins, Cami Hughes, and Taylor Hughes each had four points in the stanza while Olivia Hudson and Tanner Little each added a basket.

Helms canned three treys in the final quarter on the way to 11 points while Braxton Hamlin chipped in five points, including a three-pointer.

Maddy Elkins paced the Chatham Central offensive attack with 20 points while Murchison added 18, Taylor Hughes 12, and Abby Elkins eight.

Research Triangle was led by a game-high 25 points from Helms while Hamlin added 10.

Chatham Central will

begin the 1A Central Tar Heel Conference Tournament this week after receiving a first round bye on Monday night.



Chatham Central's Mary Grace Murchison lets fly a trey on Friday night in Durham against Research Triangle. It was the first of three treys for the Lady Bear guard in the opening quarter on the way to an 18 point night in a 70-41 Central victory.

Staff photo by Lee Moody



Staff Photo by David Bradley

In the NCHSSA wrestling consolation semi-finals at the Greensboro Coliseum Saturday morning, Chandler Steele of Chatham Charter takes down Averil Lafferty of Allegheny. Steele won the match on the way to taking fourth place in the 113 pound division.

# MEDALS: 20th overall

Continued from page B1

The quest to medal fell just short for Steele, however, as Josh Poteat of Uwharrie Charter decided the young Knight 7-2 in the Consolation finals of 113.

Chatham Central closed in 20th overall with 12 points while Chatham Charter ended in 21st with 10.5 points.

Uwharrie Charter added to its recent 1A Dual Team state title with a 1A Individual Team Championship as the Eagles collected 99.5 points to hold off Robbinsville which closed in second with 97.5, and Goldsboro Rosewood in third with 96.5.

# Wheatmore rains down on Jordan-Matthews boys

BY DUCK DUCKSON  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — When Jordan-Matthews' coach Rodney Wiley was asked to describe the difference in his team's Tuesday night matchup with PAC 7 2A Conference league-leader Wheatmore, he summed up his response in one word — "Gavin."

Gavin Rains, the Warriors' 6'6" senior center who has signed to play at Queens College next year, dominated both ends of the floor while pouring in 32 points and pulling down 18 rebounds as Wheatmore overcame a slow start to edge in front 28-25 at intermission and never trailed in the second half in posting a 56-48 triumph on John Phillips Court.

Avenging a 51-44 setback to the Jets back on January 18 when Rains was forced to miss that game with a concussion, the Warriors improved to 16-7 overall and 9-2 in the league standings to wrap up the regular-season title, while J-M fell to 6-17 for the year and 2-9 in the conference.

Zach Berrier contributed 10 points for the winners, who connected on 49% (23-of-47) of their field goal attempts while commanding a 28-18 advantage on the boards.

Camden Fuquay led Jordan-Matthews with 14 points and Jayden Davis came off the bench to add 13 as the Jets shot 36 percent (16-of-45) from the floor.

"It took us a while to get going tonight as J-M hit some shots early before we made a couple of defensive adjustments to get ourselves back in the game," said Wheatmore coach David Spell.



Staff Photo by David Bradley

**Wheatmore's Matt Owens watches teammate AJ Lockett block Jordan Matthews' Jayden Davis as he goes for a layup basket at the JM gym Tuesday night. Wheatmore's Gavin Rains, left, stands by for the rebound.**

"Gavin is a special player who always remains positive and is as good a passer as he is a scorer. He's extremely quick for his size and has unbelievable hands and body control that allow him to dominate play in the paint."

Wiley was quick to concur. "Rains is a complete player," noted Wiley. "He has the ability to put the ball on the floor and dribble, find teammates for open looks at the basket and play strong defense,

not to mention the shifty moves he displays to get to the hoop."

"It didn't matter who we had guarding him or what defense we tried, we just didn't have an answer for him."

A pair of Fuquay free throws with 5:40 left in the opening period gave Jordan-Matthews an early 8-2 lead before the Warriors fought back to trim their deficit to 14-11 after one quarter.

Garrett Moser hit one-of-two foul shots with 3:21 remaining in the second stanza to break a 20-all stalemate and put the visitors ahead to stay prior to Rains' layup and three-pointer from the right wing that increased Wheatmore's advantage to 26-20 with 1:40 to go in the first half.

But a Jayden Davis trey from the right side and two Xavier Woods free throws sandwiched around another Rains layup brought the Jets within three at the break.

However, the Warriors managed to stretch their lead to 33-25 following Rains' put-back off the left baseline and three- pointer from the left wing a minute into the third period, and after a Davis trey from the left side closed the gap to 39-34 with 3:06 remaining in the stanza, Rains' turnaround basket in the lane plus Berrier's drive off the right baseline put Wheatmore up by nine heading into the final frame.

The Warriors then maintained anywhere from a seven to 12-point advantage throughout the last eight minutes, with A.J. Lockett's jumper off the right baseline with 1:13 to go allowing Wheatmore to equal its biggest lead of the evening at 55-43 and remove any doubt regarding the outcome.

# Knights suffer critical defeat to Phoenix

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

RALEIGH — With first place implications in the 1A Central Tar Heel Conference on the line, Chatham Charter suffered a critical 49-42 defeat to Raleigh Charter on Tuesday evening in Wake County.

Chatham Charter dropped to 10-3 in the league with the loss, ending hopes for a regular season conference crown.

Chatham Central and Research Triangle both stand at 11-2 and were scheduled to decide the title on Friday night in Durham.

The Knights, now 23-3 overall, shot just 36% from the field, going 16-44 in the contest. That mark was only compounded by the locals miseries from behind the arc where the locals shot

8% (1-12), and at the free throw line which resulted in just a 41% (9-22) clip.

Raleigh Charter took an 11-4 lead period of play and never trailed again.

Chatham Charter pulled to within 17-14 at the break, but were outscored 19-14 in the third to fall behind 36-28 entering the fourth.

The locals closed to within four on several occasions in the final stanza, but ultimately dropped the 49-42 loss.

Jordan Hamilton paced the Knights with 14 points, going 5-of-9 from the field, and 5-of-9 from the charity stripe, while also adding seven rebounds and two steals.

Connor Murphy also added 14 points on 7-of-12 shooting while chipping in six rebounds and three steals.

# Hornets sting Lady Chargers in regular season finale

BY DON BEANE  
News + Record Staff

DURHAM — For the second time in eight days the Durham Hillside girls basketball showed Northwood just why the Hornets are unbeaten in 3A Big Eight Conference play.

Hillside erupted on a 23-12 run in the fourth quarter to squash an upset bid by a determined Northwood squad, and to take a 51-39 victory in the regular season finale for both teams.

Northwood heads into league tournament action with a 7-7 Big Eight mark, and 13-11 record overall.

Hillside, meanwhile, finished off the regular season crown with a 14-0 conference record, and a 17-5 mark overall.

The contest was a defensive battle in the opening quarter as the Chargers managed to hold Hillside to three points en route to a 7-3 lead.

Northwood used a 15-12 run in the second to take a 22-15 advantage into the half, and appeared to have all the momentum.

That all changed in the third, however, as the Hornets came out tenaciously on the defensive end, which resulted in a 13-5 surge to send the hosts into the fourth with a precarious 28-27 cushion.

In the final eight minutes of play, Hillside showed how dangerous a squad it could be, posting the 23 points to pull away for the double-digit win.

Chandler Adams collected 16 points for the Chargers which shot just 29% (11-38) from the field, which also included a 29% (4-14) clip from behind the arc. The junior Adams was also 3-for-3 from the three-point line while adding four rebounds, a block and two steals in the loss.

Freshman Myla Marve was the only other double-digit scorer for Northwood in the loss with 12 points while adding five boards and a steal.

Rae McClarty added five points, Jyrea Smith five rebounds and five assists, Caitlin Bailey four points, Jaela Harris two points, five boards and a steal, and McKenna Snively four rebounds.

Dajjah Mcfee tallied 14 points for Hillside in the win while Faith Blackstone added 13, Maliya Sparrow 10, and Cierra Sims eight.

Sims and Blackstone added 12 and 11 rebounds respectively, while Alysiah Taylor chipped in nine, and Sparrow six for the Hornets which owned the boards by a 44-24 count. Blackstone also added five assists and six steals in what was an impressive floor game for the junior while the freshman Sims chipped in and assist and five steals, and Taylor three assists and three steals.

Northwood was scheduled to travel to Chapel Hill on Monday night in opening round action of the 3A Big Eight Conference tournament.

# Lady Warriors cruise past Jets

BY DUCK DUCKSON  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — In a battle for fourth place in the PAC 7 2A Conference standings, Kennedy Powell fired in 26 points while Wheatmore seized the lead for good two-and-a-half minutes into the contest and cruised to a 64-50 victory over Jordan-Matthews Tuesday evening in Frank N. Justice Gymnasium.

Gaining a split in the season series, the Lady Warriors improved to 11-12 overall and 6-5 against league rivals to solidify their hold on the fourth spot in the conference, while the defeat relegated the Lady Jets (9-14, 5-6) to fifth place with both teams having one regular-season game remaining.

Sisters Taylor and Kara Comer chipped in 10 points each for Wheatmore, which connected on 49% (25-of-51) of its field goal attempts.

Jocelyn Mitchell topped J-M with 19 points while Ellia Wright added 11 as Jordan-Matthews shot 30% (16-of-53) from the floor.

"We did a great job defensively tonight but we should have rebounded better," stated Lady Warriors' coach Pete Kilcullen, referring to the fact the Lady Jets held a 35-32 advantage on the boards.

"Sophomore center Kennedy Powell has come a long way since the first half of the season learning how to consistently finish around the basket, while freshman guard Kara Comer continues to give us great play off the bench with her floor leadership."

J-M coach Mel Dark remarked inconsistency on defense played a big part in her team's loss.

"We need to do a better job communicating on the court, improving our help-



Staff Photo by David Bradley

**Jordan Matthews' Jocelyn Mitchell drives the baseline last week against Wheatmore. The Lady Jets lost the contest 53-38.**

side defense and picking up in transition," said Dark.

"I thought we started out well but then lost focus on the things we wanted to do. We need to understand what the competitive edge is when the game is on the line."

Following several lead changes at the outset, Wheatmore went ahead to stay 6-5 on Powell's put-back off the right baseline with 5:32 to go in the first period that sparked a 10-0 Lady Warriors' run.

After a Mitchell trey and Avery Headen's conventional three-point play brought Jordan-Matthews within 14-11 with 1:01 left in the opening quarter, the winners closed out the frame with a pair of Kara Comer free throws and Kylie Biggs' jumper from the left wing to fashion a seven-point advantage.

Back-to-back Wright lane jumpers plus a Jasmine Scotton foul shot to begin the second stanza pulled the Lady Jets within two before Powell tallied eight points during a 15-6 quarter-ending run that boosted Wheatmore's lead to 33-22 at intermission.

Following Ashlyn Ray's layup with 4:45 left in the third period that sliced J-M's deficit to 34-27, Kara Comer and Powell combined for 10 points as the Lady Warriors used a 12-4 burst to finish out the period and extend its advantage to 15 entering the final eight minutes.

Taylor Comer's fast break layup with 6:14 to go in the contest gave Wheatmore its biggest lead of the night at 54-37 and Jordan-Matthews could never reduce the margin to less than 10 the rest of the way.

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**Chatham County Public Health Department**  
Holly Coleman, MS, RS, Health Director  
www.chathamnc.org/publichealth

# 1,000: 21 points in final game

Continued from page B1

Te'Keyah Bland had already surpassed the 1,000 point goal than most players only dream of.

The rest was gravy. In the minutes leading up to Friday night's game at J.S. Waters School, the high scorer reflected on that achievement, and how the teamwork made the difference.

"My team helps out a lot," Bland said. "They're what keep me going, sportsmanship, their encouragement on and off the court. They really help a lot."

Coming into Friday's game, Bland had scored 1,030 points in her middle school career. In this final contest of the season, and her middle school career, she scored 21 points, making a final total of 1,051.

Bland is coached by her mother, Wanda, and, as tough as it may be to experience the sometimes difficult instruction by her mother, the young athlete knows that it's for the best.

"She pushes me a lot during practice, during games, but it's not really hard, cause I know I have somebody who won't steer me wrong," Bland said. "She always wants me to do good, so she definitely pushes me, but in a good way."

In her final game for Horton, Bland played the role of center during the game, helping other girls get shots, and scoring the 21 points of her own as well.

"I play all positions, so, if we run a play, and I run point guard, I'll look for my teammates or even a shot," Bland said. "Sometimes I'll play post, you know, wherever I'm needed."

With her middle school basketball career at an end, Bland plans to play for Coach Cameron Vernon at Northwood High School next year.

"I plan to play the role Coach Vernon wants me to play," Bland said. "I plan to help out with the team, no matter where I'm needed, and just do great."

Even though college is years away, Bland has ideas for that as well. She hasn't picked a school, but she does have a few favorites.

"I'm a really big Duke fan, but I'm kind of pulling toward like wanting to go to State, you know, I like that better options like as far as education wise for me," she said. "I definitely want to get a scholarship to play in any school, you know, no matter where I go, whatever letters I get. I do plan on attending college."

# TAKE

Continued from page B1

a narrow 20-19 lead at the intermission.

The Mustangs came out blazing in the third, sparked by a trey and seven points from McManama, thee foul shots by Adams, and a field goal from Boston to post a 12-6 run in the period.

Wilcox had four points for Horton in the quarter and Bland a bucket, but the Wildcats fell further behind at 32-25 entering the fourth.

In the final stanza, Polard wrapped up the title with a 10-4 surge behind four points each from McManama and Elmore, and a bucket from Boston.

Bland had all four points for the Wildcats in the final period.

Boston chipped in eight points and Adams seven more for the victors.

Horton was led by a game-high 21 points from Bland.

# Pittsboro's Reclaimed Spaces

STORY BY CASEY MANN AND PHOTOS BY KIM HAWKS  
News + Record Staff

**Baristas**  
Terrance Ross is a staple at the Chatham Marketplace's Deli.



## Chatham Marketplace

The Chatham Marketplace is located in the old Chatham Mill just off Hillsboro Street in Pittsboro. The building was built in the mid 1920s, manufacturing silk labels for textiles until 1996. At one point it was the largest silk label mill in the world and was the main industry in Pittsboro.

The mill now houses a mix of event spaces, offices, and businesses including the Chatham Marketplace, a food cooperative that has been in operation since 2006. Chatham Marketplace sells organic and locally sourced produce, grocery, deli, bakery, bulk and dairy items. It has a cafe for made to order items and a hot and cold lunch bar. Evan Diamond is the Chatham Marketplace manager.

"It's a little quirky being located in the space," Diamond said. "Refrigerators and displays have to be built around pillars. You have to be creative and repurpose the spaces. That's part of the charm."

The benefit is hard wood floors, an incredible front porch, and a business that fits its rural, quirky atmosphere. "Pittsboro has a good variety of small, independent, businesses," Diamond said. "There's a lot of good options and a co-op which is unusual for a town of this size. It's a beautiful community."

**Customer**  
Alicia Castrogiovanni travels from Raleigh to visit the Chatham Marketplace.



**General Manager**  
Evan Diamond moved from Pittsburgh to manage Chatham Marketplace.



Pittsboro is a small town with a lot of history that seems to draw in an eclectic mix of people. The town's unique and quirky personality lend itself to creative endeavors that don't necessarily fit the mold of a small town. Someone once said "you can't throw a rock in Pittsboro without hitting a musician or an artist." Perhaps that's why Pittsboro attracts innovative entrepreneurs that are finding ways to reclaim old spaces, build new businesses, and add to the town's collective charm.



Wendy Dufour co-owns French Connections with her husband, Jacques.

## French Connections

The building at 178 Hillsboro St. that houses French Connections was once home to the Thompson family, who worked as cotton farmers. Built around 1900, the house used to be located on Thompson Street just around the corner from where it currently sits. The building was moved in the 1920s when the family donated land.

Wendy and Jacques Dufour acquired the property in 2000 soon after moving from West Africa. Wendy was a Morehead Scholar at UNC-Chapel Hill and the couple wanted to return to the area. The couple rehabilitated the house which required a new roof, porch, and lifts to raise the old floors which were sagging. In October of that year, they opened French Connections, which sells French antiques, African art, and a large selection of imported fabrics. They also sell a wide variety of yard art which is displayed in the front yard.

"It's about quality of life," Jacques Dufour said. "Having a store like this in a town like Pittsboro isn't easy. We could have opened in a larger city. But we had had enough of living in a big town. Here we are five minutes from town, our four kids were minutes away from the store when they were at school. And it's not everywhere that you can leave all this stuff outside. That type of quality of life is what you find in a small town like Pittsboro."



Employee Skylar Walsh sorts through the large collection of fabrics for sale at French Connections.



French Connections is in the former home of the Thompson family which was built around 1900.



French Connections sells a variety of African art such as these baskets.

## Postal Fish

The Postal Seafood Company is a venture conceived by Executive Chef James Clark and Sous Chef Bill Hartley. The duo chose the to open the restaurant in the old post office building on Salisbury Street in downtown Pittsboro. The project involved revamping the former post office into a full service restaurant. A prep kitchen, new bathrooms, and an open-view kitchen were all installed. "The biggest draw [for the building] was that we wanted a space that was unique, that had history, and stories to be told. Before mail delivery, that's where everyone met. We want to create a place where people feel comfortable to meet and dine with their neighbors," Hartley said.

The restaurant uses locally sourced foods for the menu and they visit the North and South Carolina coasts twice a week to procure fish, oysters, clams, and shrimp. This year, the restaurant was named by the News and Observer as one of the 10 best new restaurants in the Triangle.

"Pittsboro is unique and unique business fill this community," Hartley said. "We want to support local businesses because that's how you support the community. One of our striving goals is to support the local community as best we can."



Postal Fish lead bartender Dani Vandermark also provides lunch service.

Postal Fish offers a range of fresh, local seafood dishes such as this order of oysters and homemade chips.



## Elizabeth's Pizza

Before opening in Pittsboro in 2004, owner Ahmed Hassan and his former partner operated a restaurant in Siler City. They found customers would come to Siler City from Pittsboro to purchase their pizza and they realized there was a need in Pittsboro. They located a former gas station on the corner of Hillsboro and Thompson Street and went to work reclaiming the space for Elizabeth's Pizza in Pittsboro.

"It was very challenging because it wasn't equipped to be a restaurant," Hassan said. "We had to put in the right plan and make the changes. We had to maneuver around things. It was very challenging and we try to do our best to make that spot a good place for our customers. And we are always trying to improve ourselves."

The restaurant celebrated its 15th anniversary last week, an achievement Hassan credits to his strong customer base and the efforts of his amazing staff.

"Even though new fancy restaurants are opening in Pittsboro, we are still strong," Hassan said. "That is because of the support of the customers and the hard work of our employees. I want to thank every employee and customer that walks through the door."



Elizabeth's Pizza owner Ahmed Hassan credits his great staff for his success.

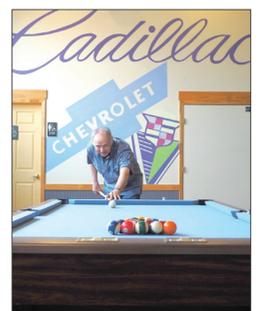
## Pittsboro Roadhouse

Standing near Pittsboro's traffic circle, next door to the former hospital called the Mathiesen Clinic, Pittsboro Roadhouse occupies the building that used to be Justice Motors. The building was a car dealership for decades under at least two different owners. When Wheeling Chevrolet closed, the space was then used by two different businesses. In the front half of the building was the Pittsboro General Store and the back portion housed a repair shop for emergency vehicles like ambulances and fire trucks. The General Store took over the rear portion, investing a lot of funding to refurbish the back into a dining room. But then the recession hit.

In 2012, Greg and Maria Lewis bought the property and began remodeling it, knocking down walls, redoing floors, installing a sound system, and generally bringing the building up to code. The result was the Pittsboro Roadhouse, a restaurant in downtown Pittsboro. "We had space challenges," Lewis said. "We had to try and figure out what to do with an area that wasn't meant to be what we wanted it to be. The county and the town were really helpful and made the transition much easier by working with us."



Pittsboro Roadhouse owner Greg Lewis (left) and chef Erik Monroe are preparing to serve lunch.



Pool shark Jimmie Vaughn prepares to break at the Pittsboro Roadhouse. The building used to house Justice Motors.



Snuffy Smith of Pittsboro (left) and Ralph "Screech" Swager have been working to get the parking lot ready for the Grand Opening of Davenport's Cafe Diem.

## Davenport's Cafe Diem

This quirky, steampunk-inspired coffee shop is returning to Pittsboro at its new location on Hillsboro Street across from the old Chatham Mill. General Manager Emma Lee Cabrera's business had previously been located in downtown and with the help of Pittsboro resident "Snuffy" Smith, is reclaiming what used to be a restaurant attached to a motel for her shop, which is scheduled to open in March. The restaurant and hotel were known by several names over the years. When the mill was open and 15-501 through Pittsboro was the main route north, visitors from all over the country to drop into the restaurant. Orders for food would be delivered daily to the Chatham Mill across the street. To the best of Smith's knowledge, the motel was the first in Chatham County.

Smith acquired the property "the day before the depression started," referencing the economic downturn from a decade ago. Smith, with his wife Pam, owns several properties in Pittsboro's historic district, most notably the Beggars and Choosers building which now houses the Screaming Vintage shop.

"I've been restoring old buildings for years," Smith said. "I like saving them... recycling...if there's anything to salvage, I'll save it. We love old Pittsboro."

# POLICE REPORTS

## Pittsboro man charged with felony larceny by employee

Jeffrey Mitchell, 28, of Pittsboro, faces multiple counts of larceny after he allegedly stole property and posted it on Facebook for sale.

Mitchell

Mitchell was arrested Feb. 10 and charged with felony larceny by employee and two counts of larceny. He allegedly stole chainsaws and jewelry from two Pittsboro locations, according to the Chatham County Sheriff's Office, after being hired to do work for the victims. One of the chainsaws was recovered by authorities after it was posted for sale on Facebook.

Mitchell was jailed under a \$3,000 bond. His first court appearance was Wednesday.

## Durham teen arrested for starting fire near church

A Durham teenager was arrested two days before Valentine's Day for intentionally lighting a fire near a Chapel Hill church.

Heard

Clayton Heard, 18, has been charged with felony fire-setting to grass/brushlands/woodlands after fire officials determined a fire set on Oct. 19, 2018, beside Mt. Carmel Church appeared to be intentional. Heard was taken into custody on Feb. 12 and released on a written promise to appear

after evidence at the scene linked him to the blaze.

Heard is scheduled to appear on March 4 at the Chatham County District

## Siler City PD seeking suspects related to attempted shoplifting

The Siler City Police Department is looking for information on two suspects who might be part of an attempted shoplifting.

A Feb. 13 press release from the department stated that "a local retail establishment" in the town found "several razor blades...under the right hand side of several 'buggy' handles." While investigating the incident, the Siler City PD

identified two "persons of interest."

One suspect was described as a white male appearing to be in his 30s with thin build and brown hair. This suspect was seen driving a tan, late model Chevrolet Suburban or late model GMC SUV. The other suspect, seen riding in the car with the first suspect, also appeared to be in his 30s with medium build, brown hair, a thick beard and a light mustache. The second suspect was last seen wearing a bright yellow hat, blue t-shirt with a MoPar logo on the front, a dark jacket, pants and work boots.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Sgt. Jon Murray at the Siler City PD at (919) 742-5626.



Staff Photo by David Bradley

## New officer sworn in Siler City

Cheryl Coe, left, watches Monday night as her son Noah takes the oath of office as a new police officer in Siler City. His father, Steven, holds the Bible and a copy of the oath. Coe, a graduate of the Basic Law Enforcement Training course at Randolph Community College, graduated in December 2017. Jeanne Miller, the interim police chief in Siler City, was excited about introducing the new officer to the community. She also gave an update on the search for a new police chief. "We're in the process of looking, and moving forward," she said. "We're past the resumes and looking at candidates."

## Surveillance footage from a Siler City retail store shows two suspects alleged to have put razor blades on shopping carts. The Siler City Police Department is looking for information on the suspects.

Submitted photo



## CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

John Moore, 44, of Gulf, was charged Feb. 12 with breaking and entering, aiding and abetting larceny and conspiracy to break and enter a building for felony larceny. He was held under a \$3,000 bond with a March 4 court date in Pittsboro.

Maliq Carter, 25, of Florence, was charged Feb. 12 on a fugitive warrant from another state for larceny/simple larceny. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a March 4 court date in Pittsboro.

Robin Erexson, 34, of Chapel Hill, was charged Feb. 12 with simple assault and resisting a public officer. She was held under no bond with a March 6 court date in Pittsboro.

Larry Smith Jr., 33, of Bear Creek, was charged Feb. 13 with violation of a domestic violence protective order. He was held under no bond with a March 13 court date in Pittsboro.

Mike Santiago, 36, of Chapel Hill, was charged Feb. 13 with intoxicated and disruptive behavior

and resisting a public officer. He was held under a \$500 bond with a March 13 court date in Pittsboro.

Shawnace Yarborough, 23, of Pittsboro, was charged Feb. 14 with failure to appear on a release order. He was held under a \$20,000 bond with a March 14 court date in Pittsboro.

## PITTSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

The department reported an incident of discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle, possession of a controlled

substance with intent to sell or deliver and attempt armed robbery on Feb. 10 in Pittsboro.

## STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

On Feb. 13, Mario Bonilla Villatoro of Goldston was traveling north in a private driveway. Ted Lane of Goldston was driving west on Colonial Avenue in Goldston. Bonilla Villatoro made a wide right turn onto Colonial Avenue and crossed the centerline, causing Lane to swerve and strike the other vehicle. Bonilla Villatoro

was cited for driving left of center.

On Feb. 11, Raymond Deneve of Chapel Hill was driving east on Old Lystra Road in Pittsboro and crossed left of center and ran off the left side of the road. Gordon was cited by failure to maintain lane control.

On Feb. 11, Shana Johnson of Siler City was driving east in the parking lot of Siler City Elementary School in Siler City. Grover White of Siler City was parked facing north in the parking lot. Johnson failed to reduce speed and collided with White's vehicle.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## OFFICE SPACE RENT

**OFFICE HOME/BUILDING** for rent - 319 East Third Street, Siler City: common area, 4 treatment/office spaces, kitchenette and bathroom, ample parking, 919-663-3427. F14,21,2tp

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT.** Approximately 2000 sq ft reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650, Jn15,tfnc

## MOBILE HOME RENTALS

**3 BDRM S/W homes** in Siler City.12 mth lease. No pets. 919-742-1250, F7,tfnc

**FOR SALE OR LEASE/PURCHASE,** 3 Bed 2 Bath single wide in Siler City. 1200 sq ft. Good condition! Comes with kitchen appliances, 919-742-1250. F7,tfnc

**2BR 2BA MOBILE HOME** in Chatham Central School District. No smoking or pets! Taking applications, Background checks required. Leave name and telephone number, Call 919-837-5689. F7,14,21,3tp

## RENTAL APARTMENTS

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS** Now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. \$460/mo, no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. J3,tfnc

**POWELL SPRINGS APTS** - Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD # 1-800-735-2962. Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, O4,tfnc

## HOUSE RENTALS

**HOUSE FOR RENT,** 2 Bedroom, 2 baths, kitchen, den, washroom, sunporch. Central heat and air, 109 Jack Alston Road, Pittsboro, 919-542-4014, F21,28,2tp

## AUCTIONS

**AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS** at JHA. One Call... We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.Jerry-HarrisAuction.com, 919-498-4077, J24,tfnc

**RICKY ELLINGTON Auctioneers** - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, J3,tfnc

## SERVICES

**HENDRICK SERVICE, LAWN** Care, mowing, small back hoe. Will dig up bushes, do storm drain pipes, Drive way pipe, Cut trees, clean up leaves. 919-548-4609, J10,tfnc

**JUNK CARS PICKED UP** Free of Charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no charge. 919-542-2803. J3,tfnc

**I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars** and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! M8,tfnc

**CARPENTRY WORK** - all types, repairs, renovation, installation, windows and doors. Call Robert Clark, 919-742-3194. My25,tfnc

**LETT'S TREE SERVICE** - tree removal, stump grinding, lot clearing. Visa & Master Card accepted. timber. Free estimates. 919-258-3594 N9,tfnc

## HELP WANTED

**MAINTENANCE MECHANIC** - The Orange Water and Sewer Au-

thority (OWASA), a progressive water utility providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services to the Towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, seeks a highly responsible, detail-oriented individual to join our team as a Maintenance Mechanic. - Ideal candidates should be self motivated team players with a positive attitude and a proven solid work ethic. Candidates must have good communication skills with the ability to assist the team to fulfill the mission and goals of OWASA while ensuring safe work practices are followed at all times. - The purpose of this position is to ensure safe, reliable and efficient operations within the facilities of OWASA and to assist in maintaining all company assets. This is accomplished by performing preventative and corrective maintenance within the facilities including, administrative buildings, water and wastewater treatment plants, lift stations, pump stations, raw water supply stations and the water supply reservoirs. Work is accomplished by receiving and completing work orders through a Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS). - This position requires a High School diploma with one year of experience. Knowledge of electrical, hydraulic and pneumatic equipment is required. Previous experience using a Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) is preferred. Position requires a valid North Carolina Class C Driver's License. Must meet and maintain requirements for safety sensitive position. Position frequently exerts 10-25 pounds and occasionally 50 -100 pounds. - OWASA is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to continuous improvement, sustainability, creativity, diversity and inclusion. - Salary range: \$39,702 - \$61,141 - Closing date: March 8, 2019 - To complete an application visit www.owasa.org. - Certified Orange County Living Wage Employer. F21,1tc

**TAKING APPLICATIONS** for Siler City Country Club Maintenance - one full-time position and one part-time for summer season. Applications at clubhouse. 919-742-3721, F21,28,2tp

**LOCAL CDL "A" DRIVERS** needed, part-time and full-time, home every day, Work M-F 12 hours; No more than 3 points on record, must be able to pass DOT physical and drug screening; must have 2 years experience. Paid vacations, Periodic bonus, Paid holidays. 50/50 Medical Insurance paid for full-time employees. Phone: 919-770-7385, 8 am to 11 pm. F21,28,2tp

**AUTOMOTIVE Technician/mechanic** needed, must be dependable. General statement of duties: oil changes, brake repair, vehicle maintenance, etc. Apply/contact WES Automotive, 131 Loves Creek Church Rd, Siler City, 919-742-3161, F21,28,2tc

**CHATHAM COUNTY** - Accounting Technician - Finance Office - Duties include performing a broad range of professional accounting duties related to preparing and assisting with the maintenance of financial records; entering, verifying and checking data; processing accounts payable and other financial transactions, along with other duties as assigned. Minimum Qualifications: Two-year degree in business or accounting, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience in general accounting required. Grade 58: \$35,483. Position closes March 1, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. For more information and full job requirements, visit www.chathamnc.org. EOE. F21,1tc

**CHATHAM COUNTY** - Social

**Worker III (CPS, APS, and Financial Assistance Intake)** Responsible for performing Intake functions for both child and adult protective services. Administers the emergency financial assistance programs for clients in crisis, after hours on call on a rotating basis with all agency social work positions required. Responsible for other CPS duties as needed and assigned. Must be able to communicate effectively with different cultures and socioeconomic classes via phone and through personal contact. MSW from an accredited school of social work and completion of the Child Welfare Collaborative; MSW from an accredited school of social work plus one year directly related experience; BSW from an accredited school of social work plus two years directly related experience; four year degree in a human service field plus three years directly related experience. Must have a valid NC driver's license. For more information, including the website for state application and full job requirements, visit www.chathamnc.org. Salary: \$45,285. Position Closes, March 1, 2019. EOE. F21,1tc

**SERVICE TECHNICIAN:** This position works on all things involving swimming pool repair, renovation, equipment installation, and other tasks associated in servicing our clients needs This position requires an applicant who is physically capable to performing tasks associated with construction repair and renovation oriented activities. We are willing to teach applicants the skill set that will provide them with a solid foundation for a rewarding profession. Paid training is an integral part of this position. This position requires a clean driving record and background check. If you feel you have a potential candidate who may take advantage of this opportunity, please contact us at our office number 919-933-4250 or call Brian Taylor, General Manager, directly at 919-880-1912 or email at brian@asncinc.com. F21,1tc

**FIRST CHOICE HOME CARE,** in need of phenomenal NC certified CNAs to cover Moncure, Pittsboro, Apex, Goldston, Bennett and Siler City areas. Majority of cases, part time, morning shifts -- great opportunity to supplement your income. Call Siler City office located at 1754 East 11th Street, Phone: 919-663-1188, F14,tfnc

**HOMECARE SEEKING,** now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive Weekly Pay, CNA's start at \$10/hr and up for extra care cases. - Total LifeCare, Call 919-704-8962 for more info or to apply. F7,14,21,28,4tc

**CHOIR DIRECTOR/PIANIST,** Buckhorn U.M.C., Moncure, Salary Range, 8 to \$10,000 annually! Contact Linda at 919-454-6297. F7,14,21,28,4tp

**B&B FARM ANIMAL SERVICE** - Driver needed, NO CDL required. Call 919-742-5564 for more information. F7,14,21,28,4tp

**CNAs - PITTSBORO Christian Village** is accepting applications for CNAs, all shifts. Apply in person 8:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday, at 1825 East Street in Pittsboro. M22,tfnc

**NEEDED IMMEDIATELY** - CNAs needed for CAP cases in Siler City and also Pittsboro. If you need work please contact us at 919-545-2027, F22,tfnc

## MISC

**HORSE QUALITY FESCUE** hay for sale, \$4/bale. Krutchfield X-Roads area. (H) 919-663-5780 (C) 984-265-0734, J31,F7,14,21,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against HALLIE McLEAN PARKER aka HALLIE STEWART PARKER of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 28th day of November, 2018, are notified to present them to David M. Parker, Executor of the Estate of Hallie McLean Parker aka Hallie Stewart Parker in c/o David R. Frankstone, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A., 1414, Raleigh Road, Suite 320, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before May 9th, 2019. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Hallie McLean Parker aka Hallie Stewart Parker. Those indebted to Hallie McLean Parker aka Hallie Stewart Parker are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. David R. Frankstone Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 320 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC27517-8834 J31,F7,F14,F21,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** 19 E 23 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of CLYDE H. MARTIN of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all creditors that they should present their claims to the Co-Executors c/o Kratt Dedmond & Associates, PLLC, 5623-111 Duraleigh Road, Raleigh, NC 27612 on or before May 1, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 24th day of January, 2019. Katherine D. Duncan, Co-Executrix 437 Lena Circle Chapel Hill, NC 27516 Walter P. Newcomb, Executor 8208 Marcy Ave Springfield, VA 22152 C/O Kratt Dedmond & Associates, PLLC 5623-111 Duraleigh Road Raleigh, NC 27612 J31,F7,F14,F21,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** 19 E 19 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Co-Executor of the Estate of EVELYN SCOTT ROBINSON aka EVELYN S. ROBINSON of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 1, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 24th day of January, 2019 Sandra R Ridge, Co-Executor 906 Mt. Shepherd Rd Asheboro, NC 27205 Thomas Alexander Robinson, Co-Executor 2090 Loganberry Drive Fayetteville, NC 28307 J31,F7,F14,F21,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** 19 E 45 NORTH CAROLINA

**CHATHAM COUNTY** Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of BARBARA ANN ANDREW AKA BARBARA BURKE ANDREW of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 1, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 31st day of January, 2019. STEVEN M. ANDREW, EXECUTOR 409 Northwood Drive Raleigh, NC 27609 J31,F7,F14,F21,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Estate of Diane Miles Kudla Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Diane Miles Kudla, late of 356 Carolina Meadows Villa Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 100 Europa Drive,

## CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

**Line ad deadline** Tuesday — Noon

**Display ad deadline** Monday — 5 p.m.

**Rates and payment** Minimum charge of \$5 for each classified advertisement of 25 words or less per week. For each additional word, no matter how many insertions, add 20¢ per word. Payable in advance.

**Blind ads** No information will be given out by this office to the identity of person placing "keyed" or "blind" ads.

**Errors** In advertisements that run more than one week, we are responsible for errors appearing in the first week only. If you find an error in your ad, report it immediately.

## PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS

newly renovated 2 bedroom 1 1/2 baths available. Range, refrigerator, dishwasher and ceiling fans are included in the rent. Water and sewer are also included. Rents start at \$600.00. Reba Dixon, Site Manager. 400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312 919-542-5410

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# Auction

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Personal Property Auction of Shuby Maness (deceased).

Auction Closes on February 21 @ 7pm

Antiques, Farm Equipment, Tools Pottery Preview is February 17 at 209 Chatham Square, Siler City 1 to 5



Please visit website for photos and details @ [countrysideauctioneers.com](http://countrysideauctioneers.com)

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- Drive A New Truck-2019 Year Model
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Please Inquire At: Wilson Brothers Main Office 20412 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207

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# NOW HIRING

**APPLY - IN - PERSON**

**BROOKWOOD FARMS**

**1015 Alston Bridge Road • Siler City, NC**

**PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS**

Now accepting applications for 1 and 2 BR apartments. Handicapped accessible/adaptable units available. Rent based on income however; limited rental Assistance available. For more information, call 919-542-5410 or TDD 1-800-735-2962.

Equal Housing Opportunity

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Suite 271, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517, on or before the 8th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 7th day of February, 2019. Ronald Mamert Kudla, Administrator of the Estate of Diane Miles Kudla Dori J. Dixon Schell Bray PLLC Attorney for the Estate 100 Europa Drive, Suite 271 Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27517 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of PRENTIS HOYET JERNIGAN, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 8th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 7th day of February, 2019. Kelly Hunter, Administrator Estate of Prentis Hoyet Jernigan Tillman, Whichard & Cagle 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 1302 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against JOHN M. BOYD, deceased, of Chatham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before May 8th, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 7th day of February, 2019. John M. Boyd, Jr., Executor Estate of John M. Boyd c/o Roberson Law Firm 1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 16**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of ROBERT REYMERS, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 8, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of February, 2019. Nancy Suriani, Executor 204 Elverson Place Cary, NC 27519 John P. Paschal, Atty at Law, PLLC 1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 103 Raleigh, NC 27609 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The undersigned, having qualified at Executor of the Estate of E. RALPH HEINZ, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 8th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 7th day of February, 2019. Christopher Heinz, Executor Estate of E. Ralph Heinz Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 51**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of VIRGINIA PEACE RIVES of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 8, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of February, 2019. Jackie Monroe Rives, Co-Executor 5284 Pittsboro-Goldston Rd. Bear Creek, NC 27207 Charles Larry Rives, Co-Executor 786 Bailey Thomas Rd Sanford, NC 27332 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 27**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of CHRISTOPHER BRANDON MASSEY of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 8, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the

said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of February, 2019. Pamela McCurry, Administrator 40 Ray Hollar Rd Weaverville, NC 28787 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 49**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of LINDA KAY SENTELLE of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 8, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of February, 2019. Walter Elliott Gettier, Jr., Administrator 19 Tamarack Circle Chapel Hill, NC 27517 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 3**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of MICHAEL RAY VAUGHAN of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 8, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of February, 2019. Lillian Wolfe Vaughan, Executor 404 Burce Burns Road Moncure NC 27559 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
All persons having claims against Carol J. Tomason deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 8th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 7th day of February, 2019. Bruce A. Tomason, Executor Estate of Carol J. Tomason 90005 Hoey Chapel Hill, NC 27517 Young Moore and Henderson, PA PO Box 31627 Raleigh, NC 27622 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of HUBERT MAX PRESTON, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 8th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 7th day of February, 2019. PATRICIA S. MERRIMAN, EXECUTRIX ESTATE OF HUBERT MAX PRESTON Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F7,F14,F21,F28,4tc

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA LEE COUNTY In the District Court Amy and Marty Cole v. Lindsy Godfrey and Michael Burnette Juvenile(s): G.B. (DOB: 07/05/2014) Lee County, NC File No.: 18 CVD 1047 **TO: Michael Wayne Burnette** Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above referenced action. The nature of the relief being sought is Child Custody. You are required to make a defense to such pleading not later than 40 days after the 1st date of publication and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. This the 14th day of February, 2019. Amber D. Ellis, Attorney for Plaintiff Ellis Law Office, P.A. 1405 Woodland Ave. Sanford, NC 27330 (919) 842-3937 F14,F21,F28,3tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of WILLIAM KENDRICK SCHWAB, JR., Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 14th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 14th day of February, 2019. JANE S. BYSTRZYCKI, EXECUTRIX ESTATE OF WILLIAM KENDRICK

SCHWAB, JR. Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
North Carolina Chatham County Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of CHASTITY VANHOOK, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 14th day of February, 2019, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 15th day of May, 2019, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 14th day of February, 2019. Gail M Solomon, Limited Personal Representative c/o Larry H. Rocamora, Attorney for the Estate McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson, & Hinkle, PLLC 3211 Shannon Road, Suite 620 Durham, NC 27707. F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S NOTICE**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons, firms and corporations having claims against ERIC D. JOHNSON, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina are notified to present their claims to be below-named Personal Representative on or before May 15, 2019 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of decedent are requested to make immediate payment. This the 14th day of February, 2019. Margaret M. Johnson, Executor Estate of Eric D. Johnson 204 Serenity Hill Circle Chapel Hill, N.C. 27516 Worth Law, Randy Worth P.O. Box 20825 Raleigh, NC 27619-0825 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**18 E 638**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JOHN WILLIAM MOFFITT of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 15, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 14th day of February, 2019. Matthew Ripley-Moffitt, Executor 799 Old Mill Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 62**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of JUDITH CAGLE HILL of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 15, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 14th day of February, 2019. KIMBERY DAWN HILL, Executrix 20 Clarkland Village St Elizabethtown, NC 28337 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**CREDITOR'S NOTICE**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified on the 6th day of January, 2019, as Administrator CTA of the Estate of WILLIAM RONALD BROWN, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment. This the 6th day of February, 2019. W. Woods Doster, Administrator CTA of the Estate of William Ronald Brown 115 Chatham Street, Suite 302 Sanford, NC 27330 Attorneys: Law Offices of W. Woods Doster, P.A. 115 Chatham Street, Suite 302 Sanford, NC 27330 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY **IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION**

18 CVD 817 Charles Jason Elon Pace Plaintiff vs. Hillary Kaye Rahe Pace Defendant **NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: Hillary Kaye Rahe Pace 748 Martha's Chapel Road Apex, NC 27523 TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of relief being sought is as follows: **AN ABSOLUTE DIVORCE.** You are required to make a defense to such pleading no later than the 16th day of March, 2019, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. This the 14th day of February, 2019. Charles Jason Elon Pace, Plaintiff 150 J. Roy Dr Apex, NC 27523 F14,F21,F28,3tp

**CREDITOR'S NOTICE**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified on the 6th day of January, 2019, as Executor of the Estate of JOHNNIE DEAN HALL Dean, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of May, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment. This the 6th day of February, 2019. Bunni Hall, Executor of the Estate Johnnie Dean Hall 2450 Everette Dowdy Road Sanford, NC 27330 Attorneys: Law Offices of W. Woods Doster, P.A. 115 Chatham Street, Suite 302 Sanford, NC 27330 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**EXECUTOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against the estate of DALE VOLBERG REED, of Chatham County, NC, who died on October 19, 2018 are notified to present them on or before May 23, 2019 to John S. Reed, Jr., Executor, c/o Alexander, Miller & Schupp, L.L.P., P.O. Box 3200, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Camilla C. Schupp Alexander, Miller & Schupp, L.L.P. 1526 E. Franklin Street, Suite 202 Post Office Box 3200 Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200 Attorney for the Estate F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against PATRICIA JEFFREY KREISER, aka Patricia J. Keiser, aka Patricia Kreiser, aka Pat Kreiser of Hennepin County, Minnesota, who died on the 28th day of March, 2018, are notified to present them to Frank D. Kreiser, Executor of the Estate of Patricia Jeffrey Kreiser in c/o David R. Frankstone, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 320, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before May 16, 2019. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Patricia Jeffrey Kreiser. Those indebted to Patricia Jeffrey Kreiser are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. This the 14th day of February, 2019. David R. Frankstone Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 320 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 F14,F21,F28,M7,4tc

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 82**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of WANNA R. FIELDS aka WANNA R. MOORE of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 22, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar

of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 21st day of February, 2019. Donald Moore, Executor 890 Sandy Branch Ch Rd Bear Creek, NC 27207 F21,F28,M7,M14,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**19 E 35**  
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of WILLIAM GORDON LYNA of Chatham

County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 22, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 21st day of February, 2019. Pauline R. Lyna, Executor 712 Arbor Brook Drive Cary, NC 27519 F21,F28,M7,M14,4tp

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NEWS BRIEFS

# Chatham Parks & Recreation gives updates on plan, facilities, programs

PITTSBORO — The final version of Chatham County’s long-range Comprehensive Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Greenways and Blueways (waterways) was approved by the county’s Board of Commissioners on Feb. 18.

“We are so thankful for all the residents who took the time to provide input throughout the nearly year-long planning process,” said Tracy Burnett, who leads the county’s Parks & Recreation Department. “This is quite a busy time with facility enhancements under way, a master plan almost finished and several new programs introduced for various ages. The resulting plan will be our road-map for the next few years.”

As to facilities, Burnett said that the construction of new facilities at the Park at Briar Chapel is under way thanks to a state grant from Park and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF). “We expect the playground to be finished late spring and the shelter completed early summer. We then will begin construction of a walking trail throughout the park this summer.”

Burnett said that department is pursuing grant funding for Southwest Park, located near Chatham Central High School, which would provide space for

outdoor programs. “Stay tuned for more details on this.”

Several new instructional programs have been announced. For young people, they have added Intro to Art by Ginny classes for arts classes (grades 1 to 6), Jump Rope by JumPro (ages 6 to 14), and youth volleyball clinics (ages 9 to 14). The volleyball clinics will be offered at Horton Middle School and Chatham Central High School. A new adult series is Dance2Fit with Marcie. Most of the new classes are offered starting early March and most have limited slots.

Burnett said that several athletic programs are open for spring enrollment, including t-ball, youth softball, youth track and field, adult basketball and adult co-ed softball. More details on programs can be found at [www.chathamnc.org/parksandrecreation](http://www.chathamnc.org/parksandrecreation). Look for the link at the top of the page for the Spring 2019 Flyer.

People can register online at <https://recreation.chathamnc.org> or stop by the Parks & Recreation Office at 964 East St., Suite 100, Pittsboro. Note that this is a NEW location in the space previously occupied by the YMCA.

programs for various age groups. Most of these programs are very popular and slots fill up fast.

The Chatham camp options include:

- 4-H Adventure Day Camp at the county’s Northwest Park, ages 6-12
- Science Overnight Camp, 4-H Science Camp, Cloverbud Animal Science Edition, ages 5-8
- 4-H Science Camp, Digging Deeper with Junior Master Gardeners, ages 10-14
- Junior CHEF Program, ages 9-14
- Teen CHEF Program, ages 14-17
- Boys Cabin Overnight at Betsy Jeff Penn Camp, Reidsville, ages 8-14
- Girls Cabin Overnight at Betsy Jeff Penn Camp, Reidsville, ages 8-14

Registration information can be found at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-h-summer-camp-programs-tickets-56038587925>

Chatham County teens age 13-18 also can apply to participate in the MyPI NC Youth Preparedness Day Camp, an award-winning program that helps young better prepare for emergencies and disasters and learn about possible careers in emergency management. MyPI (My Preparedness Initiative). Find out more at: <https://mypinorthcarolina.org/>

## March Food and Nutrition Services benefits to be delivered early

RALEIGH — Because of the federal shutdown at the beginning of the year, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is continuing to adjust distribution schedules for Food and Nutrition Services benefits. March benefits for all recipients will be distributed by March 3.

The distribution, which will be early for most families, will help minimize the effects of their access to food due to the previous federal government shutdown Dec. 22, 2018-Jan. 25, 2019, which resulted in the early distribution of February benefits on Jan. 20. DHHS continues its process of getting families and individuals back on their routine schedules over the short-term.

“We encourage families to continue to budget accordingly and pace their use of FNS benefits to make sure they have sufficient food until they

return to their normal benefit cycles,” said DHHS Deputy Secretary for Human Services Tara Myers.

There is no change in the amount of benefits available to beneficiaries due to the schedule changes.

Other assistance programs that were affected by the shutdown also have continued funding for the short-term:

- Work First, North Carolina’s Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, is fully funded through June 2019. More than 24,300 individuals participate in the program, accessing supports including Work First Cash Assistance, foster care, child protective and welfare services, adoptions, pre-K, teen pregnancy initiatives and subsidized child care.
- The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) has funding through March. WIC provides basic nutritious foods to 212,000 eligible low-income pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, as well as infants and children up to 5 years of age.

Information about these programs may be found at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/federal-government-shutdown>.

## Too many low-income students missing out on nutrition

RALEIGH — Fewer low-income children in North Carolina are starting their day with a healthy school breakfast. According to the School Breakfast Scorecard, released by the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC, a national anti-hunger advocacy group), 397,039 low-income children in North Carolina participated in the national School Breakfast Program on an average school day in 2017-2018, a 1.6 percent decrease over the previous year. North Carolina ranks 7th in school breakfast participation among all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

“School breakfast means less hunger, better health, and improved educational outcomes for our children,” said Chanae Wilson, Engagement Coordinator with the Budget & Tax Center. “The many schools in our state that are offering breakfast at no charge to all students and serving breakfast

after the bell are ensuring that children start the school day ready to learn. We strongly encourage other schools to follow their lead so that more children may benefit.”

FRAC has set an ambitious but attainable goal of reaching 70 low-income children with school breakfast for every 100 receiving school lunch, and the report finds that 58.2 low-income children in North Carolina ate school breakfast for every 100 that received free or reduced-price school lunch during the 2017-2018 school year. This is slightly above the national average of 57 low-income children eating school breakfast for every 100 who received school lunch in the 2016-2017 school year.

North Carolina’s ranking can be attributed in large part to the widespread implementation of community eligibility, which allows high-poverty schools to offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students, and alternative breakfast models that move breakfast out of the cafeteria and after the first bell. Offering breakfast in the classroom and after the start of the school day helps schools and students overcome common barriers such as late bus arrivals, tight household budgets, and the stigma associated with school breakfast as being only for low-income children. Used together, these two approaches can dramatically move the needle on school breakfast participation.

A companion analysis by FRAC, School Breakfast: Making it Work in Large School Districts, examined school breakfast participation in 76 school districts across the country, including Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Durham Public Schools, and Wake County Public Schools.

Although North Carolina ranks high in school breakfast participation, our state’s large school districts fall behind similarly sized districts across the nation. Durham Public Schools ranked 48th, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools ranked 60th, and Wake County Public Schools ranked 63rd. There are several strategies that demonstrate an ability to contribute to higher breakfast participation rates in school districts. For example, the top 10 performing districts all offer breakfast at no charge to all students and offer breakfast after the bell in all or most of their schools. Twenty-one school districts surpassed FRAC’s goal of reaching 70 low-income children with school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch.

## About the School Breakfast Scorecard

This report measures the reach of the School Breakfast Program in the 2017-2018 school year — nationally and in each state — based on a variety of metrics, and examines the impact of select trends and policies on program participation. On an average school day, nearly 12.5 million low-income children participated in the School Breakfast Program in school year 2017-2018. Four million more low-income children received school breakfast on an average day in the 2017-2018 school year than a decade prior in the 2007-2008 school year. Read the School Breakfast Scorecard in full.

## CCCC’s Dr. Marchant will receive PTK honor

SANFORD — Dr. T. Eston Marchant, President of Central Carolina Community College, is one of seven retiring college presidents and chancellors who are being honored by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) with the Michael Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is named in honor of the late Dr. Michael Bennett, longtime president of St. Petersburg College in Florida.

Dr. Marchant, whose retirement is effective April 1, 2019, brought the idea for establishing a PTK chapter when he became CCCC president in 2008.

These awards are given to retiring college presidents who have shown strong support of student success on their campus by recognizing academic achievement, leadership, and service among high-achieving students over the course of their career.

Mr. Julian Philpott, Chairman of the CCCC Board of Trustees, has said of Dr. Marchant: “We are extremely grateful to Dr. Marchant for the decade of outstanding leadership and service he has provided to Central Carolina Community College as its President... Under Dr. Marchant’s presidency, Central Carolina Community College has flourished to become North Carolina’s largest non-urban community college with many nationally recognized programs.”

Dr. Marchant became President of Central Carolina Community College in August 2008, bringing a strong background in both academics and economic development.

Prior to coming to Central Carolina, he served as Vice President for Educational Affairs at Piedmont Technical College, South Carolina; Vice President of Educational Programs at South Piedmont Community College; Dean of Union Technical Education Center at Anson and Stanly community colleges, North Carolina; and Director of Continuing Education at the College of Charleston, S.C.

Dr. Rodney Powell, Executive Director of the CCCC Center for Academic Excellence and one of the faculty advisors for the CCCC PTK, noted, “Dr. Marchant has been a strong supporter of Phi Theta Kappa for his entire career. When he came to CCCC, he insisted that we establish a chapter in order for our students to connect on a regional and national level with other high achieving students. He attends all of our induction ceremonies as well as meets with officers to discuss projects that can benefit the college. This award could not go to a more deserving person and Phi Theta Kappa will miss his support.”

Phi Theta Kappa students have a 91 percent student success rate, and research has shown that strong presidential leadership and support increases the success of their chapter and the depth of the member’s college experience, according to a PTK news release.

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students



Submitted photo

**Dr. T. Eston ‘Bud’ Marchant, the retiring president of Central Carolina Community College.**

at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The Society is made up of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 10 nations. Learn more at [ptk.org](http://ptk.org).

To learn more about the CCCC Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, visit [www.cccc.edu/student-services/phithetakappa/](http://www.cccc.edu/student-services/phithetakappa/).

## Safe Plates class coming in April

PITTSBORO — Safe Plates for Food Handlers is a short training that covers basic information on safe food handling. This program covers temperature control, personal hygiene, and health, preventing cross-contamination, cleaning and sanitizing and allergens. This program would be ideal for anyone working in restaurants, hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and other food establishments. This course is also appropriate for volunteer and temporary food handlers, such as those working at soup kitchens or fundraising events.

Classes will be held at the Chatham County N.C. Cooperative Extension center in Pittsboro April 1 and 2, with an exam on April 3.

Deadline to register is March 15.

To register please visit <https://golinks.ncsu.edu/chathamsafeplates2019>

## Tractor Supply hosts FFA fundraiser

SILER CITY — Tractor Supply Company stores are collecting donations to support grants for community FFA chapters.

Coinciding with National FFA Week, Tractor Supply customers can donate \$1 or more at checkout through Feb. 24 while shopping in-store or

online at [www.tractorsupply.com](http://www.tractorsupply.com). Donations will fund the national Grants for Growing program, supporting hundreds of unique and sustainable agricultural projects nationwide.

Since the program’s start in 2016, Grants for Growing has raised more than \$2.2 million for the National FFA Organization and has funded 994 grants supporting agricultural projects.

Grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 will be funded in the spring based on the amount of funds raised. Donations will fund grants in the same state they were donated.

## CCCC offers Basic Law Enforcement

PITTSBORO — Interested in an exciting career in Law Enforcement? Central Carolina Community College, in conjunction with the Chatham County Sheriff’s Office, is offering Basic Law Enforcement Training beginning at 6 p.m. on March 4. The course will be offered at the CCCC Chatham Main Campus at 764 West St. in Pittsboro. Upon completion of the two-semester course, graduates will be eligible to work as law enforcement officers.

Please visit [www.cccc.edu/blet](http://www.cccc.edu/blet) for more information:

If interested, please begin the application process now. The paperwork deadline for this class is approaching.

## Chatham’s Cooperative Extension Center offers summer camp options

The Chatham County Center of N.C. Cooperative Extension has announced that it is time for young people to register for an array of summer camp

Services, presented a plaque to Dennis Streets, executive director of the COA.

“Our country is aging and our state is aging,” Smith said. “There will be more people in 2019 over the age of 60 than between birth and 17. It’s a huge thing to think about.”

In response to that trend, Smith said, Chatham County and the COA stepped up, creating a comprehensive aging plan, gathering nearly 300 volunteers and establishing a database for home modification

and repair. The county also saw the fourth-highest jump in the state in participation in the N.C. Senior Games over the last year.

“Chatham County is clearly a community that excels in meeting the needs of its elder citizens,” Smith said. “The leadership in the Council on Aging has really stood out to us over the last few years.”

Streets, in brief remarks, said the recognition was a “meaningful” award.

“It isn’t an award to an individual or a single or-

ganization,” he said, “but to a community.”

The award is named for former 10-term state legislator Ernest B. Messer, who served as Assistant Secretary of the Division of Aging from 1981-1985 and helped develop the Senior Games. According to a joint resolution from the N.C. General Assembly commemorating his life after his death in 1997, Messer “was instrumental in sponsoring legislation benefiting senior citizens” during his time in Raleigh.”



**Chatham County Council on Aging Executive Director Dennis Streets, left, stands with Joyce Massey Smith, director of the N.C. Division on Aging and Adult Services, after the COA received the state’s 2019 Ernest B. Messer Award for excellence in senior services.**

Staff photo by Zachary Horner

# Council on Aging wins state senior services award

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

The Chatham County Council on Aging has secured prestigious recognition for its services to the county’s senior population.

The county received the Ernest B. Messer Award, given to communities for excellence in addressing the needs of its elder citizens, at the board of commissioners meeting Monday night. Joyce Massey Smith, the director of the N.C. Division of Aging and Adult

# County denies zoning ordinance change relating to places of worship

**BY ZACHARY HORNER**  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Citing federal law, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners denied a request for a zoning ordinance change for churches and other religious gatherings on Monday night, but instructed staff to begin considering supplemental standards for places of public assembly.

The 3-0 vote — commissioners Jim Crawford and Walter Petty were absent — concluded a discussion begun in Novem-

ber of last year surrounding the Radha Krishna Temple of N.C., located in a residential area of Hollands Chapel Road in the northeastern part of Chatham County. The commissioners followed the direction of the county's planning board, who unanimously recommended that the change, proposed by James Cassese of Apex, who lives next to the temple, be refused.

In a document for the planning board, County Attorney Richard Rose wrote that the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons

Act (RLUIPA), passed in 2000, prohibited local governments from "imposing or implementing land use regulations in 'a manner that treats a religious assembly or institution on less than equal terms with a nonreligious assembly or institution.'" Rose continued that separating places of worship from other public assembly buildings like schools, nonprofits or clubs in zoning regulations would "place an undue burden on religious use and thus violate RLUIPA."

It's the same argument that

Paul Messick — attorney for the Town of Pittsboro and representative for the owners of the Hindu temple — made in November.

"I think this proposed amendment violates the law," Messick said at the time. "And I think it subjects the county to substantial liability."

Jason Sullivan, the county's planning director, said Monday that the planning board also recommended that the board instruct staff to consider supplemental zoning requirements for public assembly places in residential

areas. The commissioners agreed.

"I think the idea of creating specific supplemental standards for places of assembly is indeed a good path to go down," said board vice chairman Diana Hales. "We haven't, in Chatham, had many instances, but with the population increasing, with more activities that will be occurring in the county as the county grows, it's probably a good time to look at that and things that would be applicable to all."

The meeting was held at the Chatham County Courthouse.

## Pittsboro continues work on UDO

**BY CASEY MANN**  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Pittsboro Board of Commissioners made progress on refining the town's proposed unified development ordinance at a workshop on Monday night.

The last workshop held in December ended with further delays as two particular sections of the UDO, the natural overlay district and the tree protection ordinance, bogged down the discussion. In contrast, the board was able to work through and request edits to the first article of the UDO in its entirety as well as a significant portion of the second rather than focus on areas that would require deeper discussion.

The workshop was led by Pittsboro Town Planner Jeff Jones, who announced that the town had decided to not continue with Roger Walson and Claris, the consultant hired to guide the town through the UDO process. He opened the meeting by asking the commissioners to discuss their vision for the future of Pittsboro, noting that throughout the process, the members had learned more about every aspect of the town's future development which may also require a review of the town's future land use plan. Jones also was cognizant that some areas of the UDO, which also included sign and lighting ordinances, may also require additional time.

The board then proceeded to work section by section, making edits along the way. Some edits were as basic as typos, while others were requests to increase height minimums or density

**"I want to reduce the commuting and reduce business leakage. I want us to be affordable. I want to allow creativity and avoid uniformity."**

**MICHAEL FIOCCO,**  
*Pittsboro Commissioner*

allowances. In some cases, a word or phrase was added to ensure clarity. For example, in the section about alterations to the exterior of a building, there was concern that the language could be used to include an owner who wants to replace their windows or repaint their home. Therefore, the language "for which a building permit is required" was added to ensure that the commissioners' intent was clear. Several members, including Mayor Pro-Tem Pamela Baldwin and Pittsboro Commissioner Jay Farrell asked that more explicit and detailed mapping be included in the UDO.

Throughout the process, members voiced the types of things that were a priority in the overall vision for the town.

"I want to reduce the commuting and reduce business leakage," Pittsboro Commissioner Michael Fiocco said. "I want us to be affordable. I want to allow creativity and avoid uniformity."

"I want us to be different than other towns," Pittsboro Commissioner Bette Wilson Foley said.

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