

Chatham News + Record

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Chatham commissioners mull uses for local option sales tax

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Board of Commissioners has narrowed down potential uses of a yet-to-be finalized local option sales tax referendum.

At least, they've picked five possible uses they'd like county staff to study before making a decision.

At Monday night's meeting, the board discussed affordable housing, education expenses, land banking, broadband and agriculture as possible categories for any funds coming from a potential 1/4-cent sales tax, if approved by county voters.

Commissioners had previously heard

a presentation on the subject in February, a meeting during which they also instructed staff to begin the formal process for putting the referendum on March 2020 primary ballots. County Budget Analyst Darrell Butts repeated the presentation with additional information on bills proposed in the N.C. General Assembly that might alter the process.

Commissioner Karen Howard immediately put forward affordable housing, saying the board has "heard from a lot of constituents about that possibility," while Board Vice Chair Diana Hales said she supported funds for education as well as affordable housing.

"We are in a good position in that

Chatham does have the impact fee still that helps with our school construction, our capital expenses," Hales said. "Education is, I think, a worthy area to also have extra funding going to. I agree with affordable housing definitely, but if we have an option to fund more than one thing or two things, education should be on that short list."

Commissioner Jim Crawford agreed that education and affordable housing should be considered, particularly with two new schools coming online in the next 18 months. Chairman Mike Dasher added broadband initiatives to the conversation, and Commissioner Andy Wilkie said the Agriculture Advisory Board, of which he is a member, wanted

the funds for agriculture purposes.

Board members also discussed the possibility of land banking, in which the county would use the funds to buy up land for future projects like schools and government buildings and expansions.

Staff will take a look at all of the options and bring information back for the September board meeting, County Manager Dan LaMontagne said, but board members seemed to be interested in having multiple uses spelled out.

Currently, state law does not require a stated use on the referendum, but all the counties around Chatham which have passed the tax — Orange,

See **COMMISSIONERS**, page A3

Legalized pot in NC — good or bad idea?

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

MEBANE — Jane Smith — not her real name, for obvious reasons — started smoking marijuana at age 12.

She did so again this week.

That wouldn't make the 56-year-old Mebane resident alone — according to various reports, up to 11 percent of Americans aged 50 to 64 use marijuana, and some studies say seniors are the fastest-growing group of marijuana users in the U.S.

As for Smith, she used it from age 12 until about 30, when she had children. But "several years ago," she said, she resumed marijuana use.

"I'm in several women's groups. Half of them use it for the same reason," Smith said. "Everybody that grew up in the last couple of years of the baby boomers are now turning to it for pain relief. Especially since no one will prescribe anything to you any more."

While North Carolina has not legalized marijuana for recreational or medical use, the state is increasingly becoming an outlier among its peers.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 14 U.S. states and territories have approved recreational adult use of cannabis, and 34 states have approved medical marijuana programs. Whether or not North Carolina is on the verge of approving legal use, that hasn't stopped North Carolinians, and Chatham County residents, from smoking pot.

Chatham County is no different from many counties in marijuana use, both by adults and youth. In the first six months of 2019, 17 individuals were arrested in Chatham with primary charges stemming from marijuana possession or



Shutterstock photo

Marijuana use is being legalized in more and more states. It's still a controlled substance in North Carolina, but that doesn't keep it from being the drug of choice for many in Chatham County.

distribution. According to the 2018 Chatham County Community Assessment, one-quarter of Chatham adults said a friend or family member had used an illicit drug in the last year, and marijuana accounted for 83 percent of those responses.

The statistics on youth use are a little more straightforward. According to the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 37.3 percent of Chatham high schoolers said they had tried marijuana, 7.7 percent said they had tried it before age 13 and 20.8 percent reported they had used it in the last 30 days.

This comes in a county where 27.2 percent of high schoolers reported they had been offered,

sold or given an illegal drug on school property in the past year — a significant difference from the 19.8 percent of U.S. teens. In the same survey, 5.8 percent of Chatham middle school students said they had used marijuana in the last 30 days.

So while possession is not legal yet, that hasn't stopped locals from use and distribution.

Illinois is the most recent state to make it legal. On June 24, Gov. J.B. Pritzker's signature legalized possession of up to 30 grams for in-state residents and 15 grams for out-of-state residents and set up a program to expunge various convictions related to marijuana possession and distribution.

"Legalizing adult-use cannabis brings an important and overdue change to our state, and it's the right thing to do," Pritzker said in a statement. "I'm so proud that our state is leading with equity and justice in its approach to cannabis legalization and its regulatory framework. Because of the work of the people here today and so many more all across our state, Illinois is moving forward with empathy and hope."

George Gregor-Holt, the community outreach director of the nonprofit Chatham Drug Free, said he's concerned about the spread of legalization and

See **MARIJUANA**, page A3

A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

High times in Chatham

Why marijuana shouldn't be a big deal

Editor's note: The possession and use of marijuana is illegal in North Carolina. Denatured derivatives such as CBD oil have entered the market, yet these are likely precursors of medicinal and — eventually — recreational legalization, all part of a movement that has seen marijuana decriminalized in some form throughout most of the United States. Accordingly, activism and conversations related to its legalization increasingly take place out in the open. In the following first-person essay, one Chatham County medicinal and recreational user reflects on their own marijuana use. As a protection from potential legal action, we have allowed the writer to remain anonymous.

When I got my cancer diagnosis, I also got a prescription for antidepressants.

I didn't ask for it. I didn't want it, and I said no several times, but my doctor wrote the prescription anyway. Don't ask me the name of

See **PERSPECTIVE**, page A3

Pittsboro author brings unique perspective with book on U.S. war against ISIS

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — In their soon-to-be-published book, "Hunting the Caliphate," co-authors Dana J.H. Pittard and Wes J. Bryant tell the story of front line action in America's war against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, told from the unique perspectives of the authors — a general and his senior enlisted man — who were there from the beginning, and central to the fight.

Available Aug. 27, "Hunting the Caliphate" blends military history with the authors' first-person accounts of their roles in the war on terror; Pittard, the commanding general who initiated and led the campaign against ISIS in Iraq, and Bryant — a Pittsboro resident — the senior special operations Joint Terminal Attack Controller who coordinated and controlled the first airstrikes against ISIS in Baghdad, and later continued the hunt against the Islamic extremist group across Afghanistan and Syria.

In advance of publication of "Hunting the Caliphate," co-author Bryant discussed the upcoming book; his role in the U.S.'s war on

terror waged in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria; future writing projects the now-retired U.S. Air Force master sergeant is planning; and other aspects of his life, including teaching martial arts through Pittsboro's YMCA and how Bryant, a California native, came to move to Pittsboro eight years ago.

"I came here," Bryant said of his home in Chatham County, "being stationed at Fort Bragg, in 2011. I finished out my career at Fort Bragg."

Pittsboro was a half-way point between his work at Fort Bragg and his wife Katie's employment in Durham, so they chose here to live.

Bryant retired from the U.S. Air Force in 2018 at the rank of master sergeant after 20 years of active duty service.

Embedded with Special Forces teams under a Navy SEAL task force, Bryant was the tactical lead for a contingent of special operations JTACs who were the first to set foot in Iraq to halt ISIS. Bryant coordinated and controlled the first airstrikes against ISIS in the Baghdad region. He later deployed as the

See **BRYANT**, page A6



Staff photo by Randall Riggsbee

At The Root Cellar in Pittsboro last Friday, retired U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Wes J. Bryant discussed his role in the war on terrorism in the Middle East and the upcoming book he's co-written on the subject, 'Hunting the Caliphate' out Aug. 27.

Town board agrees to consider referendum on beer sales

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Siler City voters will decide this November whether malt beverages, such as beer and table (unfortified) wine can be sold in establishments such as tasting rooms or breweries, rather than only in restaurants and hotels.

On Monday, the Siler City Board of Commissioners voted 5-0 to add two alcohol related referendums to the 2019 municipal ballot. Commissioners Bill Haiges (District 4) and Cindy Bray (at-large) were absent from the meeting.

The initiative was brought to the board last month by the Siler City Downtown Advisory Committee to "open opportunity, provide encouragement and draw investment from the fast-growing segment of the beer, wine, and spirits market; especially craft beer breweries and taprooms." The board reached a consensus at that time and directed town staff to explore the process and determine how the board needs to proceed.

See **ALCOHOL**, page A12

IN THE KNOW

Latinx youths play county commissioner through OLP. **PAGE A8**

Ch@t: Parks & Rec's Burnett on plans, need for more space. **PAGE A9**

Helping your pets beat the heat and humidity of summertime. **PAGE B11**

Bear sightings abound in PBO; tips for responsible encounters. **PAGE B12**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ON THE AGENDA

• The **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular board meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 22 at Town Hall located at 635 East St. in Pittsboro.

• The **Chatham County Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 25, in the Board Room of Chatham County Schools Central Services Building, 369 West Street, Pittsboro.

THURSDAY

• The **Carolina Mountain Dulcimer Players** will meet July 18 at the Seymour Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill at 7 p.m. Beginners, experts, and all stringed instruments are welcome. Contact Shirley Ray at ShirleyRay@aol.com or 919-929-559 for more information or directions.

• Join us at the Silk Hope Community Building for the **Ruritan Club's Benefit Bingo!** It's held every 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday evenings of each month. All proceeds are used to help the Silk Hope/Siler City community through student scholarships and projects for Silk Hope School. Cost is \$5 early Bingo, \$20 regular Bingo, \$25/\$30 for all games per night. Cash or Credit!

• The **Pittsboro Farmers Market** is open with select items year-round on Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m., located at 287 East Street, Pittsboro.

FRIDAY

• Enjoy the **Bynum Front Porch Friday Night Music** from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Bynum General Store at 950 Bynum Road, every Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. through the end of August. Each week the bands take the outdoor stage or move inside if the rain clouds roll our way. The event is open to the public, featuring a variety of bands spanning multiple musical genres, including gospel, folk, blues, rockabilly, and bluegrass. No tickets are needed to come but a hat is passed for contributions. Food vendors on site.

• **Free Friday Music Jam** at the Oasis Open Air Market in Siler City from 4:30 to 6:30-7 p.m. every Friday. Get together with the acoustic community of Siler City to play, sing while enjoying a great time of Open Blue Grass, Old-time and County music. If you want to join, show up or email John Eichorn, johneichorn72@gmail.com. Come play corn hole, sit on the patio or stay inside. If weather

permits, music is out on the patio.

SATURDAY

• **Bird Walk, New Hope Audubon Society will meet at 7 a.m. July 20 across the entryway road, behind Bojangles at Oak Creek Village Shopping Center in Durham for about a 3 hour walk.** New birders and those of all skill-levels are welcome. Long pants and closed toe shoes with socks are requested. Bring snacks and water if you like. Heavy rain will result in cancellation. Contact Jim Capel at jim.capel@mindspring.com. A second walk with same details will follow Saturday, July 27.

MONDAY

• UNC Hospice welcomes you to our weekly writing workshop, "**Writing Toward Resilience.**" Facilitated by Carol Henderson, author and workshop leader, the group is provided at no charge for those who are grieving a loss or are a current caregiver. This is held every Monday from 12 to 1 p.m. at the SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC, 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro. For further information, contact Annie Ritter, UNC Hospice, ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu or at 984-215-2650.

• **Circle City Squares** is a square dance group in Pittsboro that usually dances on Monday afternoons, currently, from 2 to 5 p.m., but verify the exact time and place. The usual meeting space is the Old Agriculture Building Auditorium, 65 East Chatham Street, Pittsboro, located downstairs in downtown Pittsboro. Cost is \$5 per person each week. For more information or to verify the time/place, email gunnhsd@embarqmail.com.

• **Big Band swing and jazz sounds** every Monday at the Pittsboro Roadhouse and General Store, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. The dance floor is open and bands rotate. 1st Monday: NC Revelers Orchestra, \$10; 2nd Monday: David Quick Jazz Combo, \$5; 3rd Monday: Triangle Jazz Orchestra, \$10; 4th Monday: Gregg Gelb Orchestra, \$10; and 5th Monday: TBA. For more information, see our website: www.pittsbororoadhouse.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• The **Circle of Support** for those who have lost a loved one to death meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m., the second Monday of each month at the SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home, 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro. Come to one or come every month to give and gain support

from others who have lost a loved one to death. Hospice staff and volunteers will facilitate the circle of support. Participants can bring pictures and stories of their loved one as well as questions and concerns. No need to register! Just come! If you'd like further information, contact Ann Ritter, 984-215-2650 or ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu. If you need directions, call the Hospice Home at 984-215-2675.

• **Saturdays in Seagrove,** July 20 and 27. Join the fun! Spend time with us in the heart of North Carolina, with different activities each week. Observe demonstrations or participate in Hands-On activities throughout the Seagrove Pottery Community! Visit www.DiscoverSeagrove.com for a list of participating shops and activity details.

• **Bird Walk, New Hope Audubon Society will meet at 7 a.m. on Wednesday, July 31 in front of the Wild Bird Center in Eastgate Shopping Center in Chapel Hill for about a 3 hour walk.** New birders and those of all skill-levels are welcome. Long pants and closed toe shoes with socks are requested. Bring snacks and water if you like. Heavy rain will result in cancellation. Contact Nan Dewire at ndewire@hotmail.com.

• Triad-based acclaimed author and screenwriter, Timothy Reinhardt, will be visiting **McIntyre's Books** on Sunday, August 18 at 2 p.m. Reinhardt will be reading from and discussing his new satire, *Jesus's Brother James*. In this comedic novel, fate seems to pull four people together through their hilarious struggles to find meaning in a chaotic world. The Chatham County community is invited to join Reinhardt for an entertaining afternoon that includes a reading, book discussion, and conversation about how to adapt a novel into a feature film. The event is free.

ALSO HAPPENING

• **Adult volunteers needed at Chatham Hospital in Siler City,** a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital located in Siler City and part of the UNC Health Care System. Adult community volunteers are needed to assist staff with miscellaneous tasks in the nursing unit and emergency department. Volunteers may assist with administrative tasks, patient diversion (group activities, arts & crafts, games, reading mail, writing letters, conversation), distributing fresh water and ice to patients, and answering patient call lights/bells. Volunteers commit to

• This summer, Chatham County natives will be the focus of a new study by the **Language and Life Program** at NCSU. The research team is looking for Chatham County natives (born and raised in Chatham) who have lived in Chatham for most of their lives to interview. These will be recorded and the team will conduct analyses to look at the question of how language is changing in Chatham as it becomes less rural and more urban. The study will preserve the rich language heritage of Chatham County and our language changes. If you are a native of Chatham who has spent most of your life in the county and might be willing to participate in the project, contact Walt Wolfram@ncsu.edu or call 919-218-5374.

• **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, and 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.

• **Meals on Wheels drivers are needed in Chatham County.** Regular and substitute drivers are needed. We are looking for individuals or teams to deliver meals as a regular driver for our routes. Meals are delivered between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon. Routes take about an hour. Substitutes will likely deliver 1 to 2 times per month. Contact Allison Andrews with Chatham Council on Aging, phone: 919-542-4512, ext. 226. Allison.andrews@chathamcouncilonaging.org.

• **Foster and/or adoptive information** - Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent. Call 642-6956 to learn more.

• **Alcoholics Anonymous** - North Carolina District 33, call the Help Line at 866-640-0180 for the meeting schedule for this area.

• **Motorcycle Association** - The Motorcycle Association for Chatham, Western Wake, Lee, Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and

is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com.

• **Narcotics Anonymous** - For drug problems in the family, Narcotics Anonymous helps! Call 1-800-721-8225 for listing of local meetings!

• **Al-Anon Meeting** - Pittsboro Serenity Seekers Al-Anon Family Group meets at 7 p.m. Mondays, at Chatham Community Church, in the lower level of Chatham Mill, Pittsboro.

• **Caregiver Support Group** meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Pittsboro Senior Center. For more information, contact Susan Hardy at 919-542-4512.

• **Scout News**
• Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstrop93.org for more information.

• Pack 924 of Siler City First U.M.C. meets on Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for boys, grades 1 through 5. Come join the Cub Scouts.

• Pack 900 in Bear Creek meets Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at Meroney's U.M.C. following the school calendar. See http://pack900.com for more information.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Salvation Army of Chatham County to conduct school supplies drive

With back-to-school time approaching, the Salvation Army of Chatham County is gearing up for its annual "Stuff the Bus" event. The nonprofit says the weeks leading up to school's resumption sees the second-highest rate of need, behind Christmas. Salvation Army and the Siler City Walmart will host the event from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 3. The store is located at 14215 U.S. Hwy. 64. Chatham residents can also bring items to

the Chapel Hill Walmart, located at 12500 U.S. Hwy. 15/501 North during the same time period as part of "Stuff the Bus."

Chatham Community Library hosting children's music performer

PITTSBORO — Alina Celeste, an early childhood educator and children's music performer, will play for attendees from 2-3 p.m. on Saturday at the Chatham Community Library. Celeste has toured internationally and performed in both Spanish and English. The Parents'

Choice Foundation gave her its Gold Award in Spring 2018.

"Skilled musician, experienced early childhood music educator, and master of facial expressions, Celeste is quirky, offbeat and totally in tune," the nonprofit said. "Her clever interpretations, keen understanding of a child's sense of music and humor, add delicious layer after layer to nursery rhymes and songs."

The live event is appropriate for people of all ages and abilities. The library is located at 197 N.C. Hwy. 87 North in Pittsboro. For more information, contact Youth Services at 919-545-8085.

— CN + R staff reports

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MARIJUANA: 'One in 11 users of marijuana become addicted'

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how it might affect young people.

"What the cannabis industry is doing now is they're trying to portray cannabis as a relatively safe drug," he said. "So they are trying to decrease perceived harmfulness, which they hope will increase usage. That's what we have to worry about here in North Carolina. Youngsters aren't stupid, they're pretty savvy. They see all these states that are going recreational, and they're thinking to themselves, 'Well, it can't be such a big deal,' so their perceived harmfulness is going down, which we predict will show in increased usage when we do surveys."

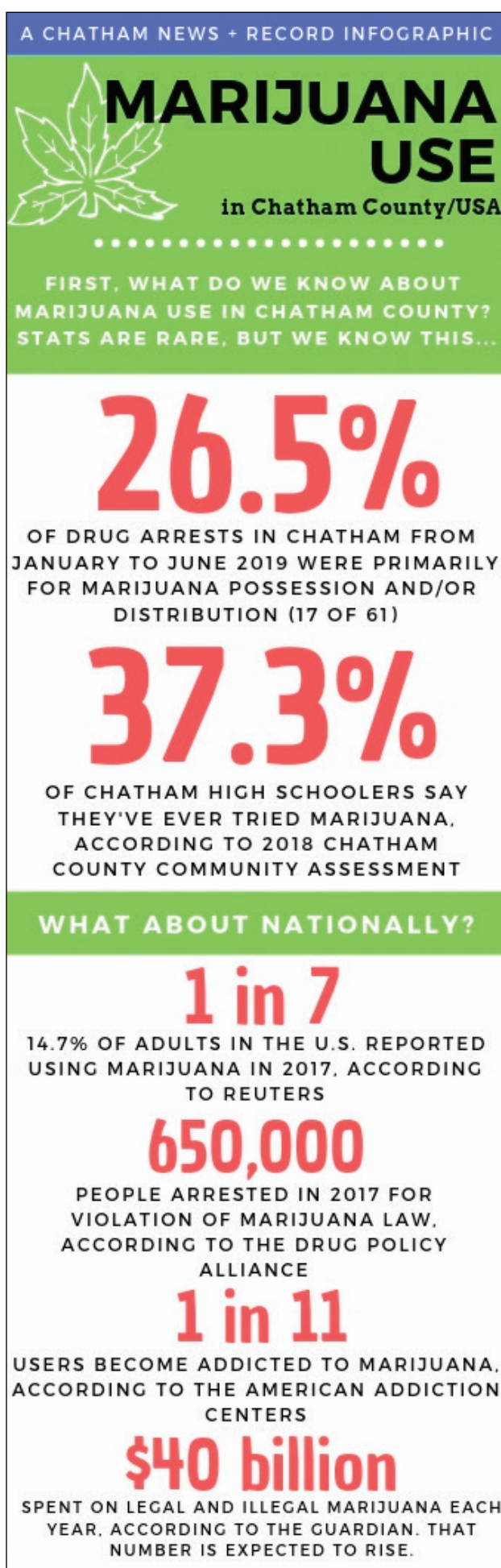
A similar bill has been proposed this session in the N.C. General Assembly — the Senate version is co-sponsored by Chatham's Sen. Valerie Foushee, a Democrat — that would legalize possession of marijuana up to four ounces and expunge any prior convictions related to possession of up to four ounces. A group of N.C. House members have filed a bill that would legalize medical cannabis.

Gregor-Holt said he is in support of legalizing cannabis possession for both medicinal and recreational use, but he is quick to share his reservations.

"With both medicinal and recreational legalization, there is the risk of young people believing that because the substance is legal, it must be safe," he said. "There is clear scientific evidence that those attitudes lead to increased substance use. We already have that problem with prescription medication, alcohol and tobacco. Adding another will make it even harder to convince young people that substance use has serious negative consequences for their developing brain and their future."

According to the American Addiction Centers, one in 11 users of marijuana become addicted to the substance, and the National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that between 9 and 30 percent of users may develop some degree of marijuana use disorder, which takes the form of addiction in most cases. The NIDA adds that people who begin using marijuana before the age of 18 are four to seven times more likely to develop a marijuana use disorder than adults.

In 2015, about 4 million people in the U.S. met the diagnostic criteria for marijuana use disorder, but just 138,000 voluntarily sought treatment for it.



Staff graphic by Zachary Horner

Gregor-Holt also pointed to a 2018 study by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Office of Research and Statistics called "Impacts on Marijuana Legalization in Colorado." The state made marijuana legal in January 2014.

According to the report, felony marijuana court case filings increased from the beginning of legalization. One-hundred and thirty-nine traffic fatalities in 2017 involved a driver testing positive for any cannabinoid, up from 55 four years before, and rates of hospitalization

with possible marijuana exposure increased from 2000 through 2015.

"Data from Colorado, the first state to legalize recreational use, indicates that it is creating more problems than it solves," Gregor-Holt said. "It's not all roses. People need to understand that there are consequences — physical, emotional, mental — that are associated with cannabis use and that it's probably not such a good idea." CBD — or cannabidiol — products have sprung up in convenience stores and grocery stores around the state in recent years. They often have

PERSPECTIVE: Chemical assistance

Continued from page A1

the drug. I knew I wanted no part of it, so I didn't even commit that much to memory. What I gleaned from my doctor's description was that dependency was part of the package. Once you're on it, he said, you have to quit it slowly if you want to quit.

No. Simply no. Between the antidepressants and the anxiety pills that had been separately prescribed, I had access to two addictive substances my insurance would cover — fully legal and potentially lethal opioids. I never filled the former prescription. The latter I used once and then disposed of.

Why? I knew what would knock my anxiety down to tolerable levels without adding additional risk. I knew it was illegal. And I wasn't willing to wait for North Carolina to legalize it, which will likely take years.

I'm talking about weed, of course. I don't malign my doctor, and I don't malign modern medicine — without either, I wouldn't be alive. What I do malign is marijuana prohibition, which has hobbled researchers, doctors and pharmacists in holdout states where it remains completely illegal. As North Carolina law sees it, pot is lumped in with actual hard drugs, with addictive substances; with things you can overdose on. Yet unlike legal substances like nicotine, caffeine and alcohol, weed's not addictive. And unlike alcohol, you can't overdose on it. From any objective standpoint, it's hard to view it as the nefarious hard drug as presented by programs like D.A.R.E.

I'm a proponent of full-blown legalization — medicinal and recreational — as well as amnesty and reparations

for inmates charged with nonviolent offenses like simple possession.

The law is fallible. But let's play it safe. Let's just discuss it as medicine for a second. For that, my arguments are straightforward and concise. When you have a major, potentially terminal disease, the anxiety can be intense and unyielding. It can be hard to sleep. So at night and in the privacy of my own home, I eat a brownie. I spend about two hours without fear, blissfully stoned and listening to good music or watching funny television, and then I drift off at a decent hour. If at some point my treatment impacts my appetite, marijuana can help with that. It can help with pain.

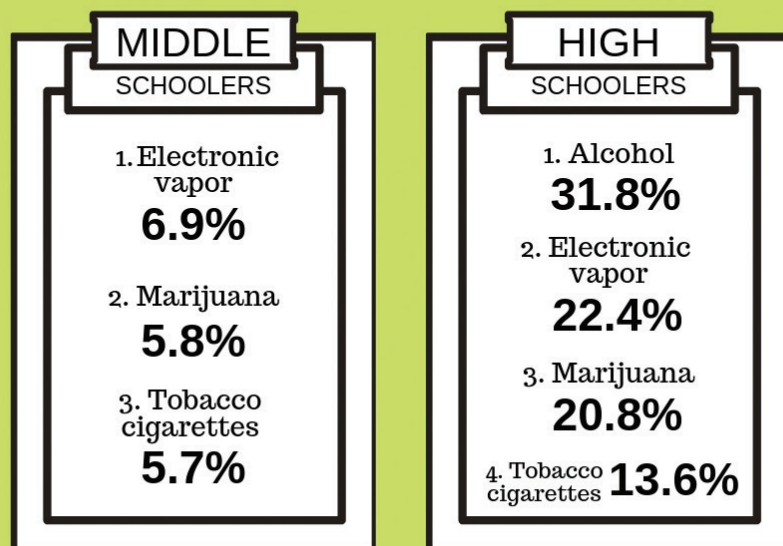
Beyond that — and let's be honest — some nights I don't have a reason, and neither do I need one. I don't need to rationalize getting high, because rationalization is what we humans do when we have a guilty conscience. My conscience is clean. Some nights, I do this because it's fun. Listen: just as a rule, life is hard. Life can be frustrating, stressful and sad. That's not the whole story — I'm a very optimistic person — but it's enough of the story for me to value having a way to take the pressure off for a few hours.

Indeed, I commend those who can make it through adult life without a little chemical assistance (which can be as innocuous as caffeine or as mind-altering as mood stabilizers), but that's not me — and it's not a lot of people. When I get high, I'm not wrecking my brain, my liver or my lungs. I'm in my own home, hurting nobody. And when I do sleep, I sleep soundly and wake up with a clear head.

And it shouldn't have taken a cancer diagnosis to bring me back.

Substance of Choice

FOR CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH
% of students that used in the last 30 days



SOURCE: Chatham County Community Assessment, 2018

Staff graphic by Zachary Horner

very low amounts of THC, the addictive chemical in marijuana, and are often used for pain and anxiety. But some users are not convinced of its medical power compared to the real thing.

"They sell CBD stuff around here now, but that just doesn't cut it," Smith said. "It really doesn't have a lot of pain relief. It

will help you sleep, but it doesn't have any pain-relieving stuff."

And according to Smith, the potency of marijuana has grown since she began using.

"In high school, every couple of days we'd buy \$20 worth, which was enough to sell a couple joints to pay for it," she said. "It does now in a

couple of hits what it used to take 5-6 joints to do. It's pretty potent."

So while North Carolina waits to legalize — if they ever do — Smith will continue to puff.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @ZachHornerCNR.

COMMISSIONERS: 'Would allow flexibility for county boards'

Continued from page A1

Durham, Moore, Randolph, Harnett and Lee — approved a resolution of intended use prior to the vote. Each referendum included education expenses.

However, there are multiple bills

before the state legislature that would allow counties to spell out exact uses on the ballot referendum and specify certain uses. "Any public purpose" is one of the listed uses, which would allow flexibility for county boards.

According to the N.C. Dept. of Rev-

enue, Chatham could have brought in \$1.6 million with the tax in place in 2017, equivalent to about 1.5 cents on the property tax rate. Butts said the predicted rise in commercial development coming to the county could increase that figure in coming years.

Visitor spending increased in the county by an average of 3.5 percent per year from 2013-2017.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @ZachHornerCNR.

Teachers, get your applications in for a Bright Ideas education grant!

Central Electric is awarding up to \$15,000 in Bright Ideas education grants to local educators in K-12 classrooms for the 2019-2020 school year.

The final deadline for all grant applications is Sept. 23, but don't wait to apply. Applications submitted prior to the early-bird deadline on Aug. 15 will be entered to win one of five \$100 Visa gift cards. For more information or to submit an application, visit NCBrightIdeas.com.

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VIEWPOINTS

When it comes to battling email, the struggle is real

"The best way to reach me," I've been telling people for years, "is by email."



BILL HORNER III
From The Publisher's Desk

Lately, I'm not so sure. In reality, I love most of what email has to offer. As an introvert and someone who considers himself somewhat of a techie, it's naturally my preferred form of communication. Email gives you the ability to ask and answer questions quickly while at the same time avoiding the oft-awkward chat that peppers most in-person communication. You can easily start and save important conversations and exchange information with literally the push of a button.

But in the last few months, I've found myself overwhelmed by the sheer volume of email in my various inboxes. I have four email addresses — my personal Outlook account, my News + Record work account, a second work account tied to a digital

content business I started a couple of years ago, and the Gmail account I've had forever (because, well, Google is taking over the planet, and I want "in") — and I've reached the point where I simply can't keep up. I'm drowning in email.

Once, I prided myself on being able to keep my inbox "clean," by ending each day with just a small handful of messages (and occasionally, none) which needed to be read or replied to or dealt with. But lately, I've been slaughtered in that battle.

Then came Friday: after spending all day at a newspaper publishers' meeting in Southern Pines — where we were admonished not to look at our phones or check email — dozens and dozens more messages piled up in my already-crowded inboxes. I got up early Saturday morning to sort through the important ones and realized, to my horror, that the number of messages in my Outlook inbox had ballooned to 1,700 and — this was really a shocker — there were more than 2,000 messages in my main News + Record account.

How many of those messages

— dating back to December — are no longer relevant, just need to be deleted, or archived? Probably 95 percent of them. But that still leaves a couple of hundred or so messages that I'd previously flagged as "important," but not yet managed.

I can't tell you how many times in the last few of months I've dug into those messages, starting at the top of the stack, determined to make a serious dent — only to give up in frustration an hour or so into the job, having barely made a ripple. (And having received, in that same time frame, another 40 or 50 or 80 messages.)

It's not spam that fills my inboxes. I subscribe to lots of digital content and, being in the news business, am on plenty of subscriber lists. As a result, much of what's remained in my inbox is, or was, relevant — but at the same time, stress-inducing.

Desperate for relief, I spent part of my Saturday watching online tutorials about ways to streamline (and even automate) the handling of email. Understand that I already have a fairly sophisticated email filing system on my computers. The problem was the volume of

legitimate unfiled, unresolved messages that needed to be addressed, and the old, irrelevant messages that needed deleted.

Turns out, one of the best solutions I found was deceptively simple.

First, a rule: if it takes two minutes or less to reply to a message, do so immediately.

For everything else, create a folder system consisting of three files: ACTION, WAIT/UNRESOLVED and ARCHIVE. Any message you don't respond to immediately, move into the appropriate folder. Then, a few times a day, set aside time to work on — and clear out — the "ACTION" file. Refer to the "WAIT" file a few times a week, and ARCHIVE everything else.

I created a new system for my work account based on that philosophy. Sure, it's nine folders, not three, but I felt that was out of necessity: four of them deal solely with story ideas for the newspaper (based on timing and priority), and three are "action" folders — one for urgent items to be done today, one for not-so-urgent items to be completed by week's end,

and another for non-urgent items that still require eventual action and consideration.

As I worked on that, my mind hearkened back to the idea of "a place for everything, and everything in its place" — good advice I've always had trouble following. I'm still trying to learn that it's the undone stuff in our lives that causes stress, so if you manage your "undones," stress should decrease, right?

I hope so. How's it working? At this writing, I have a grand total of just seven messages from the last five days in my inbox. I consider that a small win. I still have more than old 1,000 messages to deal with in my main work account, but I found that by sorting them by sender, I can "delete" or "archive" large groups of messages easily. That list will be down to the hundreds in a few days, and then, I hope, to nothing.

It's too early to claim total victory over my email crisis, but feel free to check back with me in a few weeks to ask me how it's going.

You can even email me. (And if I don't respond, well, you'll know why.)

Nothing compares to NC; our motto is awesome, too

North Carolina boasts beautiful mountains and a warm, inviting coast; in between are some pretty incredible places, too, including the region right here which most of you reading this (and me writing it) call home.



RANDALL RIGSBEE
Randall Reflects

"I like calling North Carolina home," the refrain of a tourism jingle for the Tar Heel State a few decades back when I was a junior high schooler, still pops randomly into my head from time to time, the tune and sentiment still agreeable to me after all those years. But it's more than just geography that I like about North

Carolina.

Though I was born and raised here, I'd like to think that no matter where I happened to come from, I'd recognize the considerable merits of North Carolina for, if no other reason, our state's motto: *Esse quam videri*.

Those three words, along with "e pluribus unum," constitute nearly all the Latin I know, not counting the various (and hilarious) Latin twists on the names of the Road Runner ("Acceleratti Incredibulus") and Wile E. Coyote ("Carnivorous Vulgaris") from the classic cartoons.

Not only was our motto the first Latin I learned, they were also among the earliest words I learned, period, thanks to the Durham County Public Library, which had available at the circulation desk free bookmarks with facts about our state listed on them. Thanks to those bookmarks (the colors varied — I had blue, green and yellow versions — but the content was always the same, the state seal appearing at the top) I knew the state tree (Longleaf Pine) and flower (Dogwood) and a few other bits of trivia. At that time, I don't think we yet had a state fossil (the tooth of a Megalodon) or beverage (milk) or dance (clogging), or if we did they weren't on the bookmarks.

Though I reveled in all of my newly-discovered facts about my home state (to this day, I rarely spot a cardinal that I don't recognize it as "state bird"), for whatever reason the state motto (translated on the bookmark, "To be, rather than to seem," for non-Latin speakers like me) captivated my young mind. Good to know those other facts, yes, but I was especially pleased to learn those exotic Latin words and to contemplate their important meaning.

The bookmark provided the translation. But we could all create our own paraphrase: Be true. Don't be a poser. Don't fake it. Even Nike's trademarked "Just do it" is in the same philosophical ballpark.

All of those paraphrases capture the gist of North Carolina's Latin motto, but aren't nearly as inspired (or as inspirational) as the original. But the sentiment remains solid and, for my money, those three Latin words are indeed words to live by, which is, after all, what a motto should be.

Pair our state motto with the Golden Rule ("Do unto others as you would have them do unto you") and you've got a solid two-part foundation (in words) of a good way to proceed (in life), if you ask me.

It's a perfect state motto, in other words.

No other state's motto, I think, even comes close, though I admit I may be biased.

But consider ...

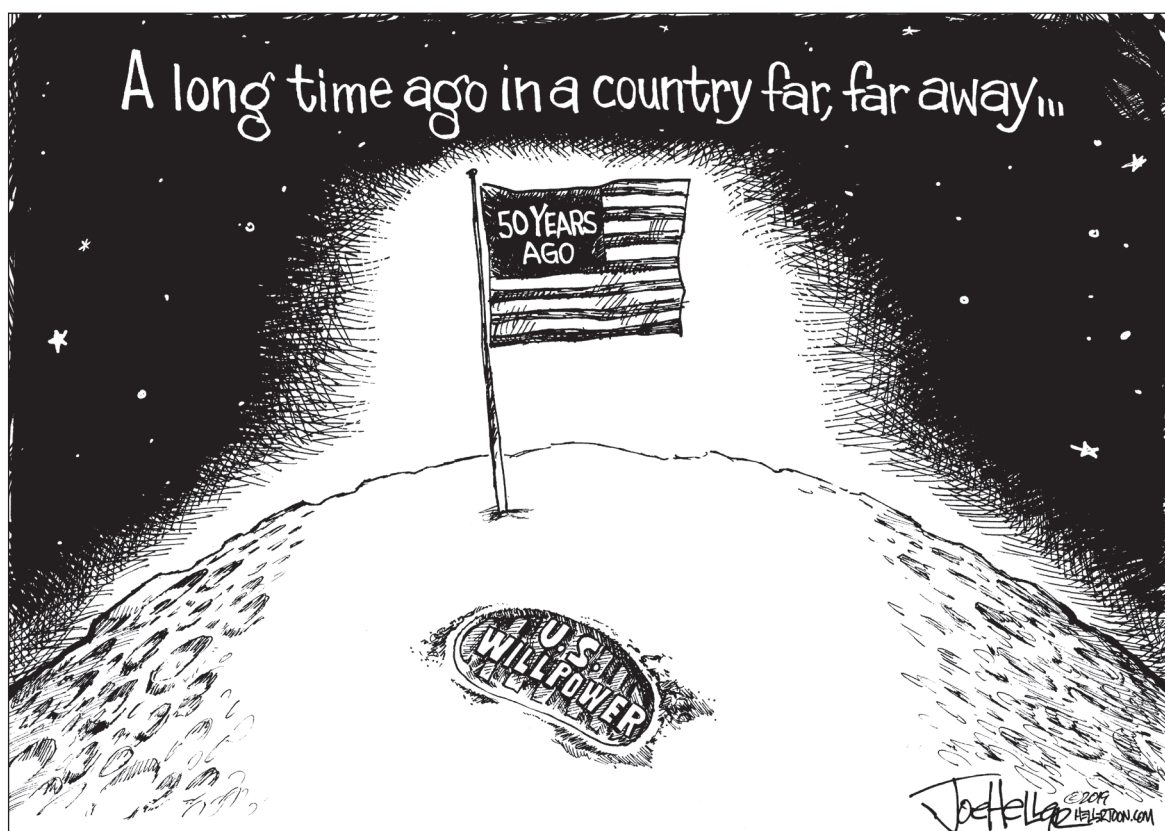
I'm not moved or inspired by, say, the state motto of Alabama. In its original Latin, the Alabama motto, unwieldy and clunky, is "Audeamus jura nostra defendere." Even my spellcheck doesn't like the phrase, and I like it even less in its English translation: "We dare to defend our rights." That's not much for a young kid with a bookmark to chew on, if you ask me.

How about Connecticut's? It's a beautiful state. Nothing wrong with it. But the state's motto ("Qui transtulit sustinet," or, "He who transplanted sustains") just gives me the urge to scratch my head.

Idaho chose for its motto "Esto perpetua," or "Let it be perpetual," which may or may not have something to do with potatoes.

The maverick state of Maryland skipped Latin entirely, opting for the Italian "Fatti maschi, parole femmine," which in English is "Manly deeds, womanly words." I offer no further comment on that, other than a bit more head-scratching.

To be fair, I like the simplicity of New York's and California's mottos, "Excelsior!" ("Ever upward!") and "Eureka" ("I have found it"), respectively, though neither, sounding more like exclamations you'd find in a superhero comic book than a motto, compares to North Carolina's poetic, perfect and profound "Esse quam videri."



Bringing up baby can have meaning for later



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

Throughout my life, I've had lots of experience with babies. Heck, I even used to be one, although I can't remember much about that except for what I see in a few old pictures.

The first few events with little folks in my life were with younger cousins, since there weren't any additional ones in my family after I came to be. Later on, as an older teenager, I learned that there had been plans for another but Mama had a miscarriage and I wound up being her baby, a fact she often told folks (especially after I topped 200 pounds). She would make that announcement to whomever and then say something like, "Pretty big baby, isn't he?" Today, I miss that. I'd like to hear her say it one more time.

In time, after we got married, Shirley and I came up with the two 40-somethings who use to be teenagers who lived at our house. I learned that despite what Dr. Spock said, practically all of baby care — like 137 per cent of it — is on-the-job training. I also learned that what you did yesterday that worked to soothe the little bundle of joy's tantrum might not work today.

And I also learned important things like you do not lie flat on your back, hold baby up at arms' length and begin a rousing game of "let's play airplane" right after baby has downed eight ounces of formula. More often than not, baby will return the formula to you without the benefit of his bottle. (That one did not take me long to figure out.)

Eventually, our two produced three of their own, whom they share with us from time to time. Among the things I have learned about babies from my grandchildren are (1) no two are alike; (2)

there is a reason God intended for you to have your own while you're young; (3) they make me happy twice, as in when they come and when they go and (4) while every individual thinks he or she has the most wonderful grandchildren in the world, the reality of life is that honor belong to me.

Through the years, I have just kind of assumed that what babies do are unique to that phase of life, that there are no practical applicable lessons for later in life. I must confess I look at one thing about babies differently now.

Folks who have babies are asked many questions by others. Questions range from general observation ("Who does she look like?") to some pretty personal ones ("Does she poop enough?") to a host of others in between.

Personally, I have trouble often with the "Who does she look like?" question. Sometimes it's obvious but most often, to quote a contemporary of my two children, the answer is "Looks like a baby to me."

And as to the question of the performance of baby's digestive system, I really don't need — or want — to know.

But among those in-between questions is one that goes something like: "Is she sleeping all night?" The answers are as varied as the little ones in question but generally speaking what it means is: "Does she have her days and nights mixed up?" — meaning that baby sleeps during the day and is up at night when the rest of the family would like to be asleep.

Sleeping has always been one of my strengths. I could do it anywhere anytime. Obviously, sometimes that was for long periods at night. Sometimes, those periods translated into morning, as when, in college, I'd sleep until 10 a.m., meaning my 8 o'clock class was history...and not just the subject of history.

I've been known to go to sleep while driving — not a good idea — and while visiting someone in the

hospital. I used to sleep sometimes during Sunday morning worship service at church; today that's hard to do. I have slept in a carpool and found out later that my buddies stopped for lunch and let me continue sleeping. There's no sleeping like the sleeping during a heavy rain storm. You get the idea.

Today, I have come to a greater appreciation of getting days and nights mixed up because I have. Some few days ago I paid a visit to my orthopedic surgeon for us to have some quality time together in the operating room. To show how mellow I have become in my golden years, he is part of the team at — gasp! — Duke; I have finally realized no athlete there or in Chapel Hill really cares about my body and its welfare the way a skilled doctor does. Today, I tell folks this guy has performed surgery on the Big Three — Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski, UNC football coach Mack Brown, and yours truly.

Upon being discharged from the hospital, I have gotten into the recovery process and things are moving along sort of normally except that I sleep a fair amount during the day, trying to gain strength after exercising or a trip to the doctor's office. I have learned that if you sleep from 1:30 p.m. until 4:45, chances are good that you'll be awake at 2:15 a.m. Do you know there is nothing on TV at 2:15, not that there is often much on it at all anyway?

So, to combat that, I just get up, read my devotionals in the quiet of the moment, make a cup of coffee, read something else, write that long-needed note or just sit silently and think and mediate and pray.

Beats a diet of The Beverly Hillbills, although I am a big fan of Jed and Granny. And, like baby needs to get things worked out, I know eventually what my Mama used to tell her baby were the five greatest words in the Bible — "and it came to pass" — will, in fact, come to pass.

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

LETTERS

More attention needed on climate crisis debate

TO THE EDITOR:

Bill Horner III recently called attention to soaring temperatures in “When the ‘precocity’ of heat exceeds your imagination” (Chatham News + Record, July 4-10). That got me thinking about how little time we spend talking about the climate crisis and how little attention the media pays to the biggest problem facing humanity.

One way to change this would be a debate devoted solely to the climate crisis among Democratic candidates

for President. Given what we’re seeing — high temperatures setting records, floods occurring across the country, and worsening refugee crises as desperate people try to survive — much more attention to this problem is called for.

The climate crisis is not a single issue. It affects every aspect of our lives. We have little time to change our transportation, housing and agriculture systems to prevent catastrophic impacts. Surely a problem this immense deserves thoughtful, in depth questions and responses. More Americans need to understand what Horner experienced when he visited Alaska and saw “how

shockingly far glaciers have retreated since our last visit there in 2008.”

A debate on national television, focused solely on climate change, could open a lot of eyes to what Horner saw and help us find a way forward in confronting this emergency.

Vickie Atkinson
Chapel Hill

Dublin reader seeks friends of McInerneys

TO THE EDITOR:

I’m looking to contact any friends or family of Liam McInerney (1908-2011)

or his wife Mary McInerney (née Ryan) (1911-2005) who were residents of 609 East Finch Street, Siler City, for many years. I’m researching a history article about Liam’s brother, Michael, who was involved in Ireland’s struggle for independence and died in London in 1921. Teenage Liam and his sister Eileen-Bridget sailed to the United States in 1924 to make new lives for themselves. I’d love to know what happened to Liam in the succeeding decades. I can be reached via email at sam.mcgrath.dublin@gmail.com.

Best wishes from Dublin, Ireland.

Sam McGrath
Dublin, Ireland

Some context needed on the question of school spending

RALEIGH — The average salary of a public schoolteacher in North Carolina was about \$54,000 last year, up 20 percent since 2014.



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

According to the latest data from the country’s largest teacher union, the National Education Association, our state’s average pay ranked 29th. Adjusted for cost of living, North Carolina ranked 20th.

These statements aren’t inconsistent with the propositions that North Carolina ought to spend more money on teachers, that North Carolina ought to spend more on education in general, or that the GOP-led General Assembly should have raised teacher pay even faster over the past five years than they did.

In other words, these facts don’t “speak for themselves.” Facts never do.

Because education is the largest category of state expenditure, the largest state enterprise in North Carolina, and integral to the values and aspirations of most North Carolinians, it has long dominated the political conversation. That won’t change. But perhaps, if we try hard enough, we can improve the quality of the conversation.

Consider the question of “average teacher pay.” Frustrated by how Republican lawmakers touted the latest NEA ranking, Democrats and progressives have argued that the statistic was misleading. Some of their points were silly and risible (of course lots of teachers make less than the average, except perhaps in the Lake Wobegone School District).

But another question critics asked was more reasonable: Do teachers really comparison-shop across the country to decide where to teach? Some may do so, especially right out of college,

or if they reside near a state border. But most teachers don’t. They compare the compensation they’ll make teaching in their state’s public schools to the compensation they’ll make doing something else (including the difference in working days per year). Or they move to a state for a different reason, such as accompanying a spouse, and then get teaching jobs.

Speaking of that term “compensation,” workers aren’t just paid with cash. They often place a high value on non-wage benefits. States differ in what they offer teachers as well as how credible those offers are in the long run — that is, how solvent their pension and health plans are. Without adjusting for benefits, we can’t really say how states rank in average teacher compensation.

Another consideration is average age. While North Carolina has moved away from rigidly basing pay scales on years of experience, thank goodness, there will always be somewhat

of a relationship, just as there is in many other careers.

When school systems hire more teachers, either to keep up with enrollment growth or intentionally to reduce class sizes, the new hires are usually on the lower end of the scale. All other things being equal, that will tend to reduce average salaries even if no teacher makes less than before.

Mike Petrilli reported an interesting finding in a recent edition of the journal Education Next, where he is executive editor. Petrilli looked at changes in K-12 enrollment and per-pupil spending from 2000 to 2015. While there certainly were some outliers, in general the states with the fastest growth in student populations had the lowest growth in per-pupil expenditure.

Part of the explanation is that in places where enrollments are stagnant or declining, policymakers don’t precipitously lay off teachers or close schools. They maintain funding levels.

Per-pupil expenditure rises. At the same time, when enrollments surge, states scramble to keep up — and typically prioritize hiring teachers over enhancing compensation. They spend lots more money but the increase per pupil isn’t as large.

I am persuaded by the evidence that policymakers should instead let the pupil-teacher ratio rise and boost salaries, particularly for the highest-performing teachers. The effects on student performance would likely be greater. Although it may be popular, class-size reduction is usually not the most cost-effective approach.

If we are ever to make the best use of resources devoted to education, we need to find a better, less accusatory way to talk about school spending.

John Hood (@JohnHoodNC) is chairman of the John Locke Foundation and appears on “N.C. Spin,” broadcast statewide at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and at 12:30 p.m. Sundays on UNC-TV.

Four challenging books that make for good summer reading

Four new North Carolina books challenge our values and make for good summer reading.



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Rocky Mount writer Etaf Rum, author of “A Woman Is No Man,” grew up in a Palestinian immigrant family in Brooklyn, N.Y., in the 1990s and 2000s. Her book is based on experiences in that community. We first meet Isra, a 17-year-old girl living in Palestine. Her family arranges marriage to an older man, Adam, who owns a deli and lives with his parents and siblings in Brooklyn. Living in Adam’s family’s basement, Isra becomes a virtual servant to Adam’s mother, Fareeda, who pushes the couple to have children, males who can build the family’s reputation and influence. Isra produces four children, but because they are all girls Fareeda shows her displeasure.

Years later after Adam and Isra die, Fareeda raises the girls. The oldest, Deya, is a high school senior. Fareeda looks for a Palestinian man for her to marry. Deya wants to go to college, but she is afraid to bolt her family and the community’s customs. She knows of women who have stood up against male domination and then faced beatings and even death.

As Rum explains, the book “meant challenging many long-held beliefs in my community and violating our code of silence.” (To be featured on North Carolina Bookwatch, July 21 and 23.)

Elaine Neil Orr’s novel, “Swimming Between Worlds,” is set in 1950s Winston-Salem and Nigeria. The coming-of-age and love story is enriched by the overlay of the Nigerian struggle and the civil rights protests in Winston-Salem.

Tacker Hart, with an architectural degree at N.C. State, got a Nigma assignment to work in Nigeria, where he became so captivated by Nigerian culture, religion, and ambience that his white supervisors sent him home. Back in Winston-Salem, he falls for Kate Monroe, from one of Winston’s leading families. They become connected to Gaines, a young African-American college student who drags Tacker and Kate into his work organizing

protest movements at lunch counters.

Orr blends civil rights and romance for a poignant and unexpected ending.

Raleigh News & Observer political reporter and columnist Rob Christensen’s “The Rise and Fall of the Branchhead Boys” follows the Alamance County farm family of North Carolina governors Kerr Scott and his son Robert.

He describes how Kerr Scott defeated the favored gubernatorial candidate of the conservative wing of the party in 1948 and adopted a liberal program of road building, public school improvement, and expanded government services. He ran for U.S. Senate in 1954 as a liberal in a campaign managed by future Governor Terry Sanford. Once elected, Christensen writes, Scott nevertheless joined with fellow southerners to oppose civil rights legislation and became “just another segregationist little different from most of the southern caucus.”

Christensen then follows the political career of Kerr’s son, Bob Scott, who when elected governor in 1968 faced mountains of bitter controversies in the areas of race, labor, student unrest, and higher education administration.

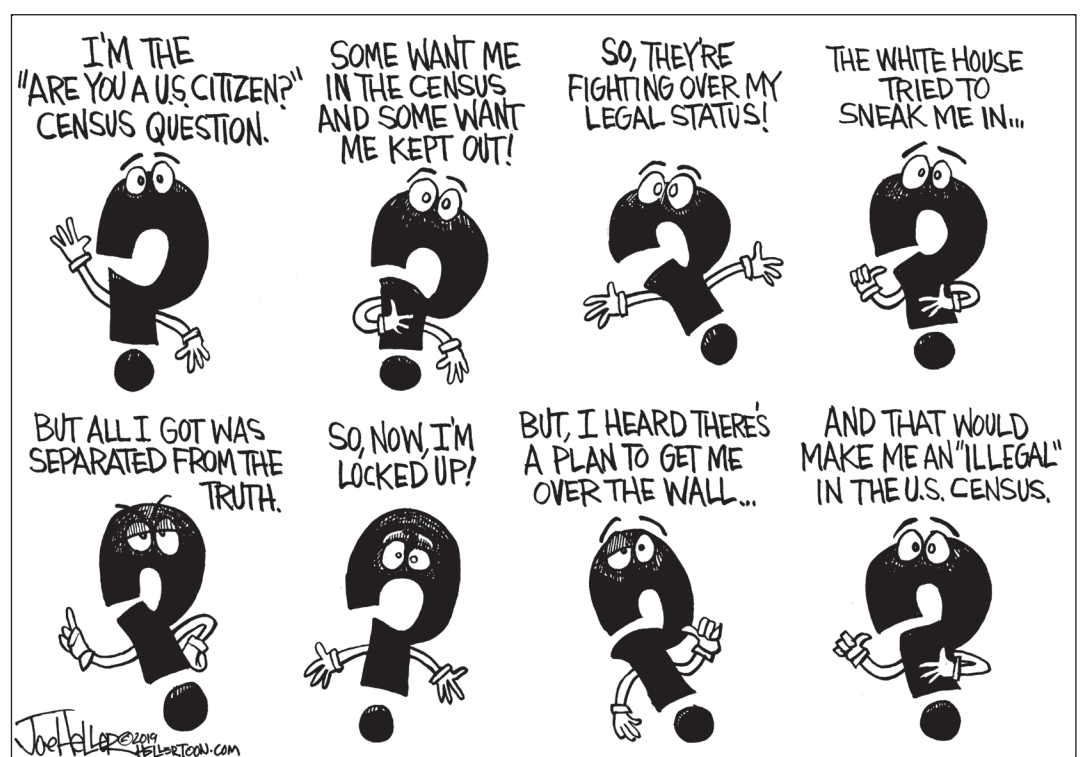
In “Freedom Fighters and Hell Raisers: A Gallery of Memorable Southerners,” famed essayist Hal Crowther has collected a sampling of his best work: columns about memorable Southerners including Will Campbell, James Dickey, Marshall Frady, John Hope Franklin, Jesse Helms, Molly Ivins, Frank M. Johnson, George Wallace and Doc Watson.

All are dead, and Crowther, without funeralizing, sizes up their character and contributions.

Crowther’s essay about blind musician Doc Watson is my favorite. Neither blindness nor the loss of his beloved son, Merle, could keep him from using his music to bring people of all backgrounds and political persuasions to be moved by his songs and guitar playing.

We need Crowther’s freedom fighters and hell raisers, but the real heroes will be folks like Watson who bring us together. (August 11, 13)

D.G. Martin hosts “North Carolina Bookwatch,” at 11 a.m. Sundays and 5 p.m. Tuesdays on UNC-TV. The program also airs on the North Carolina Channel at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and other times.



Why target DHHS?

In a year when our state is stashing more than \$700 million into surplus funds, the recent state budget appears to target the Department of Health and Human Services for punishment. The budget fails



TOM CAMPBELL
N.C. Spin

to expand Medicaid, underfunds existing services and makes harmful cuts.

Let’s begin with Medicaid. After years of budget deficits, the legislature pushed our state into Medicaid managed care. Instead of fee-for-service payments, the new model will pay care providers or insurance companies a certain amount of money per month per recipient to provide the services. DHHS has worked diligently to transition to this new model, hopeful it will save money and result in better care for our Medicaid recipients. There will be obvious startup costs with its implementation next year, but the recent budget underfunded Medicaid by some \$190 million — \$63 million from the state and another \$126 million from the federal Medicaid match.

Despite Medicaid expansion alternatives co-sponsored by 22 House Republicans and Speaker Moore, Senate leaders don’t seem interested. The federal government will pay 90 percent

of the costs; it will save money and create 40,000 new jobs, and 37 other states have already done it. It has the Obama stigma and leadership won’t do something that smells of benefiting the other side.

In the biggest cut in the past 20 years, the legislature lopped \$42 million per year in recurring administrative funds from DHHS. An agency spokesperson explained that the size of this cut equals the total amount spent for the Division of Aging and Adult Services, the Division of Child Development and Early Education, the Division of Social Services, the Division for the Blind and Deaf and Hearing Impaired, along with a good measure taken from the Division of Public Health.

If these are the cuts made, they won’t just impact DHHS and its employees, they hurt North Carolinians. Who will inspect nursing homes to ensure patient safety? Who will inspect restaurants to ensure food is properly prepared and served or that our water is safe? Who will provide criminal background checks on child care and child welfare providers? Who will be there when the next health epidemic breaks out? And who will train EMS first responders for the next hurricane or disaster?

But the biggest tell that DHHS is being targeted is the unprompted decision to move the entire department administration to Granville County. Currently, 11 percent of its staff has a roundtrip

commute of greater than 90 minutes a day, according to an employee survey. If moved to Granville County that percentage jumps to 85 percent. Does anyone seriously think 85 percent of employees will make this move? And do they further believe we can replace the many professionals and advanced degree specialists, many working below market rates, without a serious loss of service? Services don’t happen without people.

The notorious bank robber, Willie Sutton, once asked why he robbed banks, deadpanned, “Because that’s where the money is.” That seems the most obvious explanation why N.C.’s Department of Health and Human Services, our largest agency, is being spotlighted. Don’t get me wrong. Any agency spending \$20 billion per year can do so more efficiently or effectively and we must get a full measure from every dollar spent. But this just feels vindictive.

We should all hope Governor Cooper and legislative leaders can find common ground and do what is best for the people of our state.

Tom Campbell is former assistant N.C. State Treasurer and is creator/host of N.C. Spin, a weekly statewide television discussion of N.C. issues that airs on UNC-TV’s main channel at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 12:30 p.m. Sundays, and on the UNC North Carolina Channel at 10 p.m. Fridays, 4 p.m. Saturdays and at 10 a.m. Sundays. Contact

BRYANT: 'Ways that I can contribute positivity to our society'

Continued from page A1

senior Special Tactics JTAC for special operations task forces, continuing the hunt for ISIS in Syria and Afghanistan.

In the summer of 2014, Gen. Pittard and Bryant infilled into Baghdad as a part of the small task force sent by President Obama to protect the U.S. Embassy and other facilities from the threat of ISIS and, if needed, evacuate thousands of American citizens from Iraq.

Though they didn't know it at the time, the mission would soon evolve into an intense military campaign against ISIS, the militant organization that formed as an offshoot of al Qaeda in 2014, comprised largely of Sunni militants from Iraq and Syria.

Four years ago, Bryant and Pittard began working on their book, which Bryant said is "about the initiation of the war against ISIS, from the ground perspective, and the first few years that followed in that war right up to 2018 when we, for all intents and purposes, could finally declare the caliphate, ISIS as a state entity, was defeated."

Although only now able to add "published author" to his resume, Bryant, 42, has been writing since his early teens.

"As a kid, I wrote," he said. "And throughout my military career, I was writing. It was a lot of legal and technical documents for the military."

He launched a blog of his more personal writing — Bryant said he's also an "amateur philosopher" — as a "pet project, just an outlet for me to get



Photo courtesy of JKS Communications

Wes J. Bryant of Pittsboro is co-author of 'Hunting the Caliphate,' to be published next month.

some writing out there."

His writing took a more concentrated turn about four years ago after now-retired Major General Pittard, who had been selected in 2014 to lead the initial U.S. response to halt the spread of ISIS in Iraq, contacted Bryant about collaborating on a book about their military experiences in the Middle East.

The result is "Hunting the Caliphate," published by Post Hill Press, and Bryant said he is "ecstatic" about the volume.

The 352-page book has already been met with much praise. Four months ago, the U.S. Army Center for Military History "reached out to us and requested an advance copy," Bryant said.

Senior Army Historian Mark J. Reardon "loved the material," Bryant said, adding that "aspects of [the book] have been incorporated since into the official U.S. history of the war against ISIS."

Praising the upcoming volume, Reardon called it "simply excellent," and declared it "the first account to give sustained

insights into the events and personalities shaping the war on ISIS that academics and journalists have been unable to capture except in snapshots."

Contributing the book's forward is retired U.S. Army General David Petraeus, a 37-year veteran of the U.S. Army and, from Sept. 2011 to November 2012, director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

"He gave it a great forward," Bryant said. "And to his credit, some of my portion of the book, on Afghanistan, I actually was critical of some of what we were doing there, and he was part of that and he didn't hold it against me. He was very objective."

Bryant notes the book is aimed at a wide readership, not just military historians.

"As I neared the end of my career, I realized the public often is very unaware of the totality of what's going on with our combat operations, as well as how and why we're conducting combat operations," he said.

"We just get snippets.

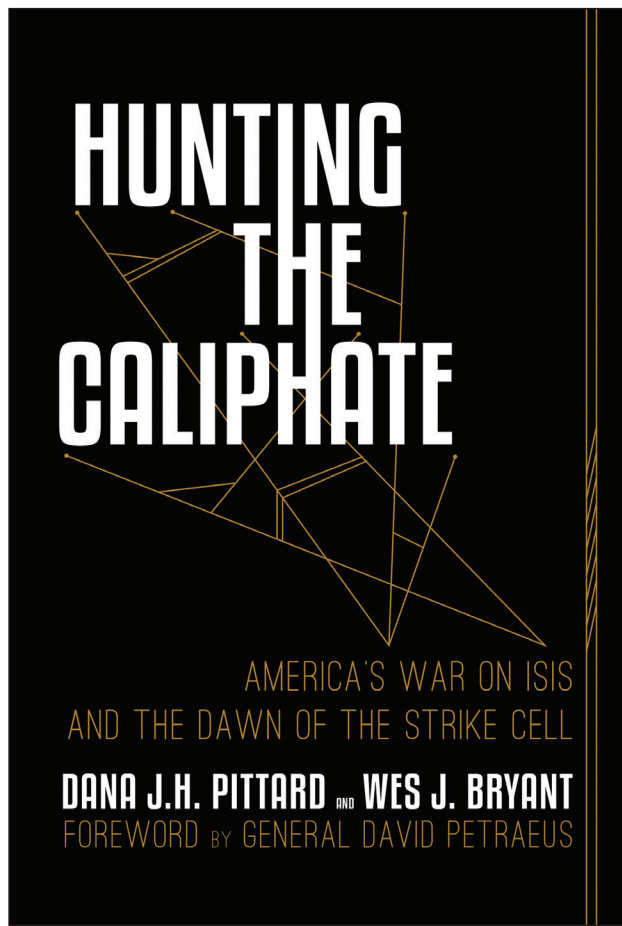


Photo courtesy JKS Communications

'Hunting the Caliphate' tells the dual stories of its co-authors, a retired general and a retired enlisted soldier, while presenting an overall history of the U.S. war against ISIS.

We get things from politicians who often are jaded or a little bit off because they're disconnected themselves. So Dana and I thought we should write something, not just some stories, but a history and a real in-depth look at what was happening, and we shaped it for a general audience."

Bryant has lined up a couple of promotional appearances for the new book, including a Sept. 7 (from 11 a.m. to noon) appearance at McIntyre's

Books, 2000 Fearrington Village Center, Pittsboro, to discuss and sign copies of the book.

He's also writing another memoir about his experiences in the military.

"I view all of this writing and speaking that I'm doing with the book and my media contribution as ways that I can contribute positively to our society," said Bryant, "as well as influence our international policy. Locally, I have other ways that I

strive to contribute. Part

of that is in teaching martial arts. I'm especially impassioned about reaching youth, because the martial arts turned me around as a kid. I began as a volunteer for the YMCA a few years ago, and that evolved into being a part-time employee with them as a professional instructor."

Bryant currently teaches adult Tai Chi once a week at the Pittsboro YMCA, "and I've created and taught both after-school and summer camp workshops in Kung Fu, self-defense, and anti-bullying for kids aged Pre-K through 5th grade for all Chatham County schools for the past two years," he said.

"Most recently," said Bryant, "I am in process of becoming certified through the YMCA's Livestrong program. This is a program that is run through the YMCA in partnership with Bluecross/Blueshield to help adult cancer survivors with physical and emotional rehabilitation. I am proud to be helping the Pittsboro Y's Wellness Director — Sarah Wright — run this location's very first Livestrong program starting this fall. And it will only be Sarah and I running this first program. I will be giving classes in Tai Chi/Kung Fu, martial stretching, and body-weight strength training for the cancer survivors enrolled in the program. I'm really looking forward to it."

"Hunting the Caliphate" will be available at bookstores, and on-line outlets including Amazon and Barnes and Noble, on August 27 and may be pre-ordered online.

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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM ANTHONY SOMMERS

January 20, 1927 – July 3, 2019



William Anthony Sommers, a retired Foreign Service Officer and noted poet, died peacefully in his sleep on July 3rd at his home in Pittsboro, NC. He was 92 years old.

The son of Greek and German immigrants, he was born on January 20, 1927 in Duluth, Minnesota. He attended Denfeld High School and served in the Navy during the final years of World War II. With the help of the GI Bill, he went on to graduate from Middlebury College and received a master's degree in public administration from Harvard's Littauer Center (now the John F. Kennedy School of Government.) In 1950, he married the late artist Joan Pokorney Sommers, also from Duluth.

In the early 1960s, Mr. Sommers left his position as a town manager in New Jersey, and, taking a leap of faith, moved his growing family to Bangkok, Thailand, his first posting as a Foreign Service Officer with the State Department's newly created USAID. Among the initial wave of USAID officers in Thailand, he went on to build a career as an international local development specialist that spanned forty years, sending him on assignments around the world – Thailand, Vietnam, The Philippines, Indonesia, Poland, Bosnia, Hungary, Egypt and Brhko. In the latter part of his career he returned to the States and was appointed Commissioner of Inspectional Service for the City Boston, followed by Commissioner of Public Works for the City of Cambridge. In 2001, he retired from public service and, with his wife, moved to Pittsboro, NC.

Mr. Sommers was known among friends and family as a passionate aficionado of jazz, Louis Armstrong, Mozart's duets for harpsichord and violin and the music of John Philip Souza as well as his lifelong enjoyment of New Yorker cartoons. He excelled at squash and played, for many years, at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club and later at The Manila Sports Club. After living in Cairo, he became an amateur Egyptologist and a constant visitor to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art's Egyptian Collection. His published works include five books of poetry, along with many short stories and essays, all chronicling his life and travels: *The Ballad of Norasingh*, *The Dances of Shiva*, *The Five Names of Pharoah*, *Vietnam: The Five Seasons and The Teachable Heart*. In 2017, he published his memoir *Foreign Vistas: Stories from a Life in the Foreign Service*.

Mr. Sommers leaves behind his children and three grandchildren. His beloved wife of 63 years passed away in 2013. Among his many awards, his most prized include the Thai Government's highest civilian honor for service and being named Poet Laureate of Ferrington, NC.

DEBORAH ANN (STAS) MCCREADY

JULY 9, 1959 - JULY 8, 2019



Deborah Ann McCready, age 59 of 64 Williams Park Road, Pittsboro, passed on Monday, July 8, 2019 at her residence. "She is Walking with the Lord Now."

"Debbie" as she was affectionately called by her family and friends was a loving wife, mother, sister and friend. She has always had a loving and caring soul for all. Debbie's kind and loving heart will truly be missed by all that loved and knew her. God Bless You, Debbie.

Debbie leaves to cherish her memories forever her husband, Kevin McCready; her daughter, Brenda Tusinac and family; son, Billy Enyeart and family; stepson, Shawn McCready and family; two sisters, Margaret Sweda and Donna Viars and families; along with a host of other relatives and friends.

Arrangements By Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro.

JACQUELINE LEE GILLEN PHILLIPS

Jacqueline Lee Gillen Phillips, age 85, of Pittsboro, died Friday, July 12, 2019.

Jacqueline was born in Newport News, Virginia on February 19, 1934 to the late James Robert Gillen and Nannie Hazelwood Gillen. She was also preceded in death by her husband Billie Hunt Phillips.

She is survived by three daughters, Tamsey Hill and husband Robert of Pittsboro, Theresa Pollard and husband Robert of Hampton, Virginia, Channing Persinger and husband Herbert of South Charleston, West Virginia; one sister, Nancy Autry and husband Gene of Gloucester, Virginia; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The funeral service will be held Monday, July 15, 2019 at 10 a.m. at Donaldson Funeral Home & Cremation Griffin Chapel with Rev. Jeff Nash presiding. Burial will follow at Phillips Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made in her memory to the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Condolences may be made at: www.donaldsonfunerals.com
Donaldson Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the Phillips family.

WILLIAM H. 'BILL' BRADY

William H. "Bill" Brady, 79, of McLeansville, NC passed away on July 11, 2019.

He was born in Siler City, NC to the late William Hurbert Brady and Margaret Murray Stone. He proudly served his country in the US Navy.

He started his working career as a Chatham County Deputy Sheriff and later as the County Jailer. His job history also included The Greensboro Daily News and Associates Financial as the Branch Manager. Until retirement, Bill worked 39 years for Piedmont Ford and Piedmont Peterbilt as the Finance and Credit Manager.

Bill had a lifetime love of fishing at the coast; especially at his home on Oak Island. He shared this passion with his family and friends for many years.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 38 years, Vicky Brady of the home; children, Ronnie Brady (Barbara) of Knightdale, NC, Lisa Cockman (Rickey) of Bear Creek, NC, and Todd Berkeley of Burlington, NC; siblings, Becky Siler of Hot Springs Village, AR, James Brady of Greensboro, NC, Michael Brady of Staley, NC, and Karen Purcell of Garner, NC; grandchildren, Jennifer Farris, Gina Brady, Candace Berkeley, Leslie Purvis, Jessica Marsh, Jeremy Berkeley, Elizabeth Berkeley; and eight great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, July 14, 2019, at 3 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 5120 Burlington Road, Greensboro, NC 27405. The family received friends from 2 to 3 p.m. prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church.

Family and friends may sign and view the guest book at: www.LambethTroxlerFuneralHome.com.

CHRISTOPHER RAFAEL JOHNSON

Mr. Christopher Rafael Johnson, 18, of Lehigh Acres, Florida died Sunday, July 7, 2019.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 4 p.m.

at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home Chapel.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his father, Gerardo Acosta of Sanford, and his mother, Rebecca Johnson of Florida; brothers, Nicholas Gantes, Victor

Johnson, and Jordy Johnson, all of Florida. A sister, Angel of Florida; and a maternal grandmother, Cheryl Bird of Sanford.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that memorials be made to Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home toward the Christopher Rafael Johnson Memorial Fund.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

ALBERT FLETCHER JOURDAN

Albert Fletcher Jourdan, 87, of Bear Creek died Friday, July 12, 2019.

The funeral was held Sunday, July 14, 2019 at 3 p.m. at Antioch Christian Church with Rev. Jimmy Talton, Rev. Clark Davis and Rev. Neal Kight officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Mr. Jourdan was born in Chatham County on March 14, 1932, the son of George S. and Sankie (Oldham) Jourdan. He was a self-employed construction worker, a bulldozer operator for 26 years, a cattle farmer and a member of Antioch Christian Church. Albert was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, William "Buddy" and George Jourdan; and sisters, Ollie Sharpe, Mary Ruth Johnson and Nathel Clark.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Willie Mae (Stanley) Jourdan; daughters, Judy Phillips of Bear Creek, Susan Griffin of Sanford; son, Stanley Jourdan of Bear Creek; seven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Community Home Care & Hospice, 108 Village Lake Road, Siler City, NC 27344.

Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneralhome.com.

NANCY LOUISE STONE CAUSEY

Nancy Louise Stone Causey, 79, of Sanford, passed away at her home on Sunday, July 14, 2019.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 18, 2019 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Bridges Cameron Funeral Home. The funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. in the Chapel with Pastor Elton Bryan and Pastor Tony Ward officiating. Burial will follow in Lee Memory Gardens.

Nancy was born in Lee County on August 13, 1939 to the late Theodore Stone and Maggie Ray Stone. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Bobby Causey.

Nancy is survived by her son, Bobby Causey of Sanford; daughters, Gail Johnson and Hilda Causey, both of Sanford; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

JEANETTE MCLAURIN



Mrs. Jeanette McLaurin, 78, passed away at home while surrounded by her family, Wednesday, July 10, 2019.

Born April 19, 1941, Jeanette Garrett was a daughter to the late Ernest and Lillie Cotthran Garrett. She worked 25 years in banking and 15 more as a real estate agent, before retiring full time.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. McLaurin was preceded in death by five of her brothers, Ernest Marine Garrett, James Garrett, Tom Garrett, Thad Garrett, Eugene Garrett; and her sister, Mildred Page.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 60 years, Mr. Hugh David McLaurin, Sr.; her son, David McLaurin, Jr. (Beth) of Pittsboro; her daughter, Jenny McLaurin (Christopher Crean) of Pittsboro; her brother, Ted Garrett of Raleigh; her sisters, Thelma O'Daniel (Steve) of Chapel Hill, Glynda Roberts of Myrtle Beach, SC; and two grandsons, Hughson Crean and Crozes Crean.

The family received friends and guests from 6 to 8 p.m., Friday, July 12, 2019 at Donaldson Funeral Home, 396 West Street., Pittsboro, NC.

A graveside funeral was held at 3 p.m., Saturday, July 13, at Pleasant Hill UMC with the Rev. Ray Gooch officiating.

Memorials may be made to: Pleasant Hill UMC Cemetery Fund, 7019 Pleasant Hill Church Road., Siler City, NC 27344.

The McLaurin family would like to extend a special thank you to Ester Headen and Linda Ruth for all their loving care and support.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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NEWS BRIEF



The 238th anniversary of the American Revolution battle at the House in the Horseshoe will be observed with a re-enactment Aug. 3-4. Submitted photo

House in the Horseshoe to celebrate 238th anniversary with re-enactment

SANFORD — "We will surrender, Sir, on condition that no one shall be injured; otherwise we will make the best defense we can..."

Temperance Alston's words to David Fanning ended the fight between opposing militia forces of the Loyalists and the Patriots.

The patriot woman bravely stepped onto the porch of her home amid a hail of bullets, carrying a flag of truce. The scars of this personal and complicated war can still be seen on the Alston House. Come experience the American Revolution during the 238th anniversary of the House in the Horseshoe Battle Re-enactment Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 3-4.

The re-enactment commemorates the 1781 skirmish between patriot

Philip Alston and British loyalist David Fanning. Attendees can learn about the two leaders and experience musket and cannon-firing demonstrations, Revolutionary War militia camps and a wreath-laying ceremony by the Sons of the American Revolution. Many 18th century trades will be highlighted, including physicians, fiber processors, wig makers and more.

Saturday hours at 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The battle re-enactment will take place at 2 p.m. both days. Attendees can also take advantage of food trucks on-site and tours of the Alston House. The program is free, while parking costs \$5.

The House in the Horseshoe is located at 288 Alston House Road in Sanford. The location is part of the Division of State Historic Sites within the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

—CN+R Staff Reports

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Latinx youth take on county commissioners' role for educational experience

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Kevin Manzanarez took the gavel in his hand. After some instruction from the people beside him, he banged the table in front of him with the gavel and called the meeting to order.

Manzanarez isn't currently the chairman of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners — that's actually Mike Dasher — but on July 10, he served as the chairman of a mock commissioners meeting organized by the Orgullo Latinx Pride youth group in cooperation with Chatham County Government.

Group members played all five commissioners, the board clerk and three citizen roles as county staff and real-life Commissioners Jim Crawford and Diana Hales walked them through the ins-and-outs of a normal county commissioners meeting. Selina Lopez, program manager for the OLP, said the goal of the event was to help her group learn more about local government.

"A lot of them are super interested in getting en-



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

With an assist from actual Commissioners Jim Crawford (third from left) and Diana Hales (third from right), the "commissioners" were, from left to right, Noemi Mora, Oscar Manzanarez, Chair Kevin Manzanarez, Vice Chair Cesia Lopez and Berenice Diaz.

gaged, they just don't know how," Lopez said. "I think this is a great introduction. There's opportunities for you to be engaged, and that's something they don't know because no one tells them or that information isn't accessible to them. Now, with that in mind, I'm sure I'm going to get lots of questions in the car, back in the office."

The event was set up by Lindsay Ray, clerk to the Chatham Board of Commissioners. Ray said it was the second time her office has set up something like this — they previously put together a

similar mock meeting for a group of Girl Scouts.

"I think all the commissioners agree that citizen engagement is great at any age," Ray said. "It doesn't have to be just adults. We want to get children and youth started young in local government. I think a lot of kids learn about the importance of local government in school, but they don't really learn the importance of local government. We hope that this will get them more interested in it."

After approving the meeting's agenda and consent agenda, the "commissioners" — Chair

Manzanarez, Vice Chairman Cesia Lopez and Commissioners Berenice Diaz, Oscar Manzanarez and Noemia Mora — heard public comments from Carlos Santiago and Jocelyn Gonzalez. The comments — one about asking for help with a school fundraiser, the other encouraging the board to create a social media presence for the board itself — were developed by county staff.

Two "public hearings" followed, one on banning chewing gum and the other on implementing a required uniform in the school system. Santiago, Gonzalez and Ruby Jacinto each read off sample comments, followed by votes tallied by Clerk Angela Herrera. The chewing gum idea didn't even get a formal vote, as the "commissioners" seemed to roundly reject the notion.

The dress code requirement generated some discussion, with some members saying they appreciated the ability to express themselves in what they wore, while others said a uniform would cut down on bullying and help every student be on the same level dress-wise. The final vote was 3-2 against, with Kevin Manzanarez

and Mora voting no.

The meeting closed with the commissioners evaluating five different projects to fund. They voted for two by dropping Starburst into empty flower vases marked with the project's description and cost. The winners, by a unanimous vote: \$18,000 for an "Adopt-A-Pet Visiting Area" at the animal shelter (something that's actually going to happen in the shelter's upcoming renovation/expansion), and \$11,000 for a new costume for Sparky the Fire Dog, a mascot that goes to schools with the county Fire Marshal to teach fire safety, and an accompanying fire hydrant robot.

Throughout the meeting, Hales, Crawford and county staff answered questions and dove deeper on the ins-and-outs of local government and commissioners meetings and encouraged group members to participate in their government process.

"County government is where everything happens," Hales said. "You hear a lot about federal government and state government. But what affects you is state government. And if you're not running for office, vote. That's the

foundation of this country. Without participation, you're not fully engaged."

Lopez said some OLP members had been to a commissioners meeting before, but were a little "lost" on the process. The mock meeting, she said, helped them understand it more.

"This gave them firsthand experience, an opportunity to experience that," she said. "I think the first contact is super important. I'm super proud of them and super excited and happy that the county commissioners and Lindsay made this happen."

Ray said she hopes to do more events like this in the future and that awareness of what local government actually does and how important it is spreads.

"The thing that I got from it most the last time was that they could take something back and tell other people about it," she said. "People don't get involved in local government unless they're involved in a committee or if there's a specific issue they're interested in. Once they come to a meeting or two, I think they realize, 'Oh, there's a lot here I might be interested in, not just that one topic.'"

NEWS BRIEFS

State aims for 2 million post-secondary degrees by 2030

RALEIGH — A bill N.C. lawmakers passed in late June aims to help 2 million residents get a postsecondary degree or certificate by 2030.

The state's workforce will lag if North Carolina doesn't boost education opportunities for residents, show findings from myFutureNC, a statewide organization for educational attainment. By 2020, 67 percent of the state's jobs will require a postsecondary degree or credential. Today, 49 percent of North Carolinians 25 to 44 have such an education.

House Bill 664, myFutureNC/Postsecondary Attainment Goal, seeks to close the gap.

Rep. John Fraley, R-Iredell, who is also a member of the myFutureNC Commission, sponsored the bill.

"Once you get into the workforce and start raising a family, if you lose your job due to auto-

mation and you're not properly educated or trained or ready to go back to school, it could have a huge impact on your life and your ability to make a living," Fraley said.

The bill passed the House 114-1; the Senate, 46-0. The first edition of the bill included a joint legislative task force, which was later eliminated and replaced with a requirement that the myFutureNC Commission report annually to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee and the General Assembly about its progress toward the 2030 goal.

Fraley said representatives from the House, Senate, and governor's office will collaborate with members of the commission to examine which of the state's education programs are working.

"It's too early to tell exactly how that's going to work. My sense is that ultimately there's going to be a task force that is developed to work on those items, and they will be in charge of what they want to report to the myFutureNC Commission."

Fraley said he believes it is "quite urgent" that the state begin making progress on the initiative, and that it will ultimately benefit North Carolina's economic vitality.

Gov. Roy Cooper signed the bill into law.

United Way of Chatham County begins "Build A Backpack" campaign

The United Way of Chatham County is conducting its annual back-to-school supply drive now through August 2.

Community members are asked to donate school supplies for children in need. Items may be dropped off at the United Way office at 72 Hillsboro Street in Pittsboro.

United Way coordinates the drive and distributes materials collected to Chatham County Schools, Chatham County Department of Social Services and Communities in Schools. These organizations identify

students in need of basic school supplies and work with United Way to meet that need.

According to the Kids Count Data Center, 53 percent of Chatham County school children receive free or reduced cost lunches, and the percentages in some schools are much higher. In addition, almost 16 percent of Chatham's school children are living in poverty.

"The primary need is for backpacks, especially laptop backpacks for the high school children," said Rosemarie Rovito, Basic Needs Coordinator for Chatham County Schools. "There is also a great need for composition notebooks, pocket folders, large three-ring binders, subject dividers, notebook paper, crayons, colored pencils, pens, pencils, glue sticks, highlighters, hand sanitizer, rulers, scientific calculators, pencil pouches, pencil sharpeners and erasers."

Monetary donations can be mailed to the United Way of Chatham County at P.O. Box 1066, Pittsboro, N.C., 27312. Checks

should be made out to United Way, with "Build a Backpack" in the memo portion. One hundred percent of donations will be used to buy school supplies.

"Last year, the back-to-school supply drive provided school supplies for over 300 children in need," said United Way of Chatham County Director Dina Reynolds. "Education for our children is the greatest investment a community can make."

Those in need of school supplies should contact their child's school guidance counselor. They will contact the Basic Needs Coordinator for Chatham County Schools to make arrangements for your child to receive the supplies that are required by their teacher.

For more information about donating schools supplies, contact "Build A Backpack" Coordinator Alane Coore at the United Way of Chatham County office by phone at 542-1110 or by e-mail at uwayadm@emj.net.

— CN + R staff reports

Candidate filing continues for municipal races

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

Filing for municipal races in Chatham County slowed to a trickle this week following a robust start two weeks ago. Elections for mayoral and town board representatives for Goldston, Pittsboro, and Siler City will take place in the fall.

Pittsboro

During the second week of filing, no one filed for the open seats on the Pittsboro town board. Earlier during the

filing period, Pittsboro resident Jim Nass filed for Pittsboro Mayor to replace current Mayor Cindy Perry, who announced last month she would not be seeking re-election.

Pittsboro residents Kyle Shipp and Pam Cash-Roper filed previously for one of the three open seats on the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners.

J.A. "Jay" Farrell, Bett Wilson Foley and John Bonitz's terms expire this year, and none have yet filed. The terms for Mayor Pro-Tem Pamela Baldwin and Commissioner Mi-

chael Fiocco are up in 2021.

Siler City

Commissioner Bill Haiges (District 4), filed for re-election last week. Haiges, who works in the information technology industry, was appointed to fill John Grimes' unexpired term following his election as Mayor in November 2013.

"I joined the Board because I was tired of just complaining about what I felt was lacking in Siler City and decided I wanted to be part of the solution," Haiges said. "My goal is

to serve the residents of Siler City and to realize our vision of Siler City as a safe, prosperous and vibrant community where diversity, innovation, and education drive success in a globally competitive society. We have come a long way in the last 6 years and I look forward to what the next 4 years can bring."

Last week, Timothy Brown filed for the Siler City District 3 seat currently held by Michael Constantino. Brown, who works at Coty LLC in Sanford, has previously served as LT. Governor and Governor of the local Moose Lodge Chapter.

"I'm running for office to better the town and bring people closer together," Brown said. "I would like to see the revitalization of downtown complete and thriving so families of all walks of life can be safe and enjoy the community they live in. I would also like to achieve the goal of more community involvement in local and county governments."

Constantino, who filed earlier for re-election, is facing two opponents — Timothy Brown, as well as Curtis Brown who filed last Monday.

Siler City Mayor John Grimes filed earlier for re-election to his post. He is being challenged by



2019 Elections

Jackie Adams, who also filed for the position.

Siler City Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Cheek, (District 2) and Thomas (Chip) Price, (At-large) both filed for re-election early in the filing period.

Cheek, Constantino, Price, and Haiges are the four commissioner slots that are up for re-election. Commissioners Tony Siler, Lewis Fadely and Cindy Burke Bray have terms that end in 2021.

Goldston
Goldston residents will have the opportunity to vote for two different boards in November — Goldston's Town Board and the Goldston-Gulf Sanitary District Board.

Previously, Goldston Commissioner Steve Cunnup (Ward 2) filed for re-election. Mayor Tim Cunnup has not yet filed but told the News + Record he intends to seek re-election for his ninth term in the role.

Charles Fields III's Ward 4 seat will also be up for re-election. The terms for Commissioners Wayne Woody, Lynn

Gaines and Jonathan Hensley end in 2021.

Danny Scott, filed last week for re-election to the Goldston-Gulf Sanitary District Board. Scott has been on the water board for six years and prior to that served on the town board for nine years.

"I enjoy being on [the board]," Scott said. "We have been working on a lot of [water/sewer] improvements, like this new water tower we are building. I would like to be on the board and make sure that's completed."

The Goldston-Gulf Sanitary District Board will have three of its five members up for re-election — Ricky Beal, Henry Kitchings and Danny Scott. Board members Jane Owens and Adam Pickett have terms that end in 2021.

Candidates for all of these municipal elections can file for office through July 19. Any registered voter who resides within the municipal boundaries is eligible to file to run for office. Filing fees range from \$5-15 depending on the municipality and the office sought. The early voting period is Oct. 16-Nov. 1. For more information about filing for office, registering to vote, or voting in the upcoming election, visit the Chatham County Board of Elections website at www.chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/board-of-elections or call the office at 919-545-8500.

Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at CaseyMann@Chathamnc.com.

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CHATHAM CH@T | TRACY BURNETT

Parks & Rec's Burnett on county's parks plan, need for more space

Tracy Burnett has been working for the Chatham County Parks and Recreation department for more than a quarter century.

A native of Chatham County, she attended Chatham Central High School, where she played tennis, softball and basketball — helping lead the 1986 basketball team to a state championship. After playing basketball at High Point University and graduating, she decided to return to the community to “try to make a positive impact,” and 27 years ago joined the department which she now leads.

This week, we spoke to

Burnett about her role as the department's director, the county's master parks plan and the department's youth programs.

Can you talk about your role as director and your approach to the responsibilities you've been given to lead the county's parks and recreation efforts?

My role as the director is to plan, direct and evaluate comprehensive parks, blueways, greenways, natural resources, recreation programs and capital improvement projects, as well as to supervise staff, program implementation and oper-

ations, construct facilities and develop department policies, procedures and long-range plans for the Chatham County Board of Commissioners' consideration. In addition, I search for funding sources and identify opportunities for alternative funding.

My approach to being the head of the county's park and recreation efforts is a parallel to parenting. As with parenting, you want to see it grow and make sure everything done is in the best interest of your child or the county. You want it to expand and make sure it's always safe. You want to raise it

up and always do what's best for it, always trying to find ways to make it even better. You must figure how to provide for it with the finances you have available. You have to also be patient with it. You have to know that the decisions you make or recommend in some cases will affect more than one person. You create, you nurture and you hope it brings a sense of pride and enjoyment to the community. In the end, you want it to be able to sustain itself and you want the program to exceed your expectations when it's time to walk away.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department Director Tracy Burnett was born and raised in Chatham County. Burnett stands in the gym of the new elementary school being built in Chapel Hill across from Margaret Pollard Middle School.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Tracy Burnett, Chatham's Parks and Recreation department director, stands in front of the gym being built for the new Chatham Grove Elementary School. She talked about the difficulties of the projects that she works on, saying 'the rewards outweigh the challenges.' When the school and community space are completed, it will allow members of the community to use the rooms for recreation, arts and crafts, and other programs.

The department's mission is to "create a system of parks, facilities and programs that foster the health, wellness and quality of place for all Chatham county residents." Health and wellness in a county poised for growth, like Chatham, are paramount. Does the county's coming growth make accomplishing that mission easier or more difficult, and why?

It makes it more difficult because based on the national sports and fitness participatory trends some programs and facilities that we offer now are anticipated to increase in the number of participation by next year. And based on the National Recreation and Parks Association annual parks metrics report, at 566 acres of developed and undeveloped parkland owned by the Chatham County Recreation Department, we rank below the lower quartile of county's agencies in the U.S and we currently provide median trail mileage among county agencies. Based on the study for health outcomes and factors, Chatham County has outperformed the state in many of those factors but there are also ample opportunities for improving the health of our residents. With us being behind now in parkland, trail mileage, and some health factors the coming growth will make it difficult.

You've been working on redeveloping two parks — Earl Thompson Park in Bynum and Southwest Park in Bear Creek. Can you talk about the status and plans for those parks?

To redevelop the parks, by providing updated park master plans is a recommendation from the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The department's plan was to take on the two oldest parks we built first which were also located on each end of the county. The park master plan is a different plan than that of the Comprehensive Plan. A park master plan is a plan specific to that park.

The plan recommends new amenities to generate new interest and uses in the park, garner excitement about the park's future and much of the plan is dedicated to refreshing and refurbishing existing structures and amenities. In this way, the park master plan balances improving the experience of current park users who already use the park as part of their recreation routines, and attracting new users to be active and build community in a public space. Every element included in the park master plan results from the community engagement process by providing public input meetings and receiving comments and feedback.

The consultants have completed the two park master plans with park designs and cost estimates. It's schedule to go before the board of commissioners in August.

That's all a part of a Comprehensive Master Plan for the county's Parks & Recreation Department, which was approved by commissioners back in February 2018. The final plan is a very detailed look at a 10-year vision for parklands and an implementation plan. Why is this plan so important, and can you give residents an update about what's hap-

pened since it was adopted?

The plan is important to satisfy the desire for recreation needs and wants of the public, protect natural resources, preserve the rural character of the county and to plan for future growth. This plan guides improvements to parkland, programming, staffing and operations over a ten year planning horizon. Since the plan was approved and adopted in February 2018, we have been pretty aggressive implementing some of the recommendations in the plan:

- Hired an assistant Parks and Recreation Director
- Hired a full time park technician to better help with all the parks throughout the county and canoe access locations
- Completed two park master plans (Earl Thompson and Southwest Parks) and will begin work on the third one which is called the Southeast Park master plan for the Moncure area
- Provided funds for the improvements to 15-501 canoe access parking lot
- Continuing the obligations for the Park and Recreation Trust Fund at the Park at Briar Chapel by constructing a picnic shelter and playground and finalizing the route to construct a paved
- Continuing with the plans for the Pokeberry Creek Project
- Preparing the Standard Operation Plan for our first community center (scheduled to open in August 2020), built with the new school as a shared-use facility, and discussing the layout for indoor pickleball courts in the gym
- Discussing in detailed with the recreation consultants about the first trail corridor to find funds for to proceed with a trail corridor plan
- Creating a naming rights policy, updating the Parks Department Procedure manual
- Developing cost recovery goals for facilities and programs

- Expanding the Special Population Program by exploring more opportunities
- Applying and searching for grants and investigating other alternative funding opportunities
- Finally, we are pursuing establishing a Chatham County Parks Friends Group to help raise funds for the master plan recommendations. We are looking for interested people.

Youth sports are a big part of the service and programs your department offers and oversees and also assists other organizations in providing. How has that played out practically?

Youth programming is a huge part of what we offer. We are now offering nontraditional programming and more instructional clinics. We offered our first jump rope instructional clinic. The instructor, Zac Tomlinson, is from Chatham County and is a two-time World Record holder and 10-time World Champion. We have also provided youth volleyball clinics at various schools throughout the county. We also collaborate with community agencies and municipalities to develop and extend recreational programs by distributing funds to their agencies. Funds to municipalities are distributed based on per capita figure. We provided over \$40,000 to assist the Town of Siler City with the swimming pool renovations, over \$20,000 to assist the Town of Pittsboro with their park plan and a play structure at one of their parks and provided funds to the Town of Goldston to repair a ball field fence. Just to name a few of the organizations, funds were distributed to Bonlee Recreation Club to redo their grandstand and dugout roofs, Friends of the Lower Haw River State Natural Area for canoe access improvements and Sprott Moncure Youth center to provide a basketball open gym program.

AGENT SPOTLIGHT

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CHURCH NEWS

ALSTON CHAPEL CHURCH

There will be no services at Alston Chapel Church on Sunday, July 28 due to the annual convocation. Regular services will resume Sunday, August 4.

MOONS CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Join Us for Vacation Bible School at Moon's Chapel Baptist Church from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., July 21 through July 26, for ages 3 through 18 years. The theme for this years program is The Incredible Race.

Join us at 175 Moon's Chapel Road, Siler City. We can be reached by phone at 919-742-4569 or 919-548-4927.

HOLLAND CHAPEL AME ZION CHURCH

The Harmony Male Chorus of Holland Chapel AME Zion Church will sponsor the first late Bro. Leroy Farrar Day at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 21, 2019. Our guests will be the Lyons Sisters of Apex, the Gospel Tones of Raleigh, the Variety Jubilaires of Cary; the L&B Singers of Cary, and others.

The church is located at 360 Burgess Road, Apex.

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

We will be hosting the monthly "Light

in the Darkness" meeting for those battling depression and anxiety at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 25 at Community Baptist Church. The class is open to anyone.

If interested in attending or for more information, contact Josh Smith at 919-770-4736. We ask that you contact us so we can have enough handouts for everyone. The church is located at 2575 Hamp Stone Road, Siler City.

GEES GROVE AME ZION CHURCH

Gees Grove will celebrate Women's Day at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 21 with guest speaker Rev. Shellena Atlas of Centennial AME Zion Church.

UNITY POWERHOUSE CHURCH

Beginning at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 21 at Unity Powerhouse Church, our annual revival will begin with our Pastor, Evangelist Cedric Lee bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served immediately after that service. At 3 p.m., Dr. Sherman O. Green of Sanford will be the afternoon messenger.

Our evangelist from July 22 through 26 will be Elder Derek Murray of Rescue Temple #2, Greensboro. Services will begin nightly at 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome to come and fellowship with us.

STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

BILLINGS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Jazanae Katrell Billings of Pittsboro has been named to the Spring 2019 Dean's List at Mars Hill University.

NONA NAMED TO HONOR'S AWARD LIST

Emily Michea Nona of Pittsboro has been named to the Spring 2019 Dean's List at Mars Hill University. She was also inducted

into the North Carolina Epsilon Chapter 120 of Alpha Chi National Honor Society at Mars Hill. Alpha Chi is comprised of juniors and seniors with GPA in the top 10% of their class.

POE REUNION SCHEDULED

The William "Billy" Poe and Adelaide Hackney Poe reunion will be held Saturday, July 20, in the Loves Creek Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, an event held annually since 1907. The church is located at 1745 East 11th Street, Siler City.

Gathering will begin at 11 a.m. with lunch served after a brief business meeting at 12:30. Bring your favorite dish and join

us, as family or friend of the family. You might be surprised who you are

related to! If you have questions, call Doris Beck at 919-200-2143.

MAXWELL GRADUATES

Evelyn Maxwell of Pittsboro, recently graduated with distinction from Bard College at Simon's Rock with an Associate of Art Degree. The college is located at Great Barrington, Massachusetts.

NEWS BRIEFS

Pittsboro dentist receives statewide recognition

PITTSBORO — The North Carolina Dental Society recognized local dentist Dr. L. Hutchens as the 2019 recipient of its Distinguished Service Scroll. Dr. Hutchens was presented the award at a ceremony held during the 163rd NCDS Annual Session in Myrtle Beach. This is the North Carolina Dental Society's most prestigious award, honoring a dentist, auxiliary or lay person who demonstrates outstanding service, leadership and dedication to the profession of dentistry and the improvement of health for the people of North Carolina.

Dr. Hutchens' path began when completed his undergraduate degree at Davidson College. After four years of dental school, he graduated from UNC School of Dentistry. With an affinity for periodontics, he enrolled at the University of Washington to complete his residency.

He later joined the faculty at UNC School of Dentistry, where he taught and practiced for more than 30 years, dedicating his career to the students and school. During his tenure, Dr. Hutchens remained committed to dentistry, from research to publications, and lectures, he made his mark as dentist professional and educator.

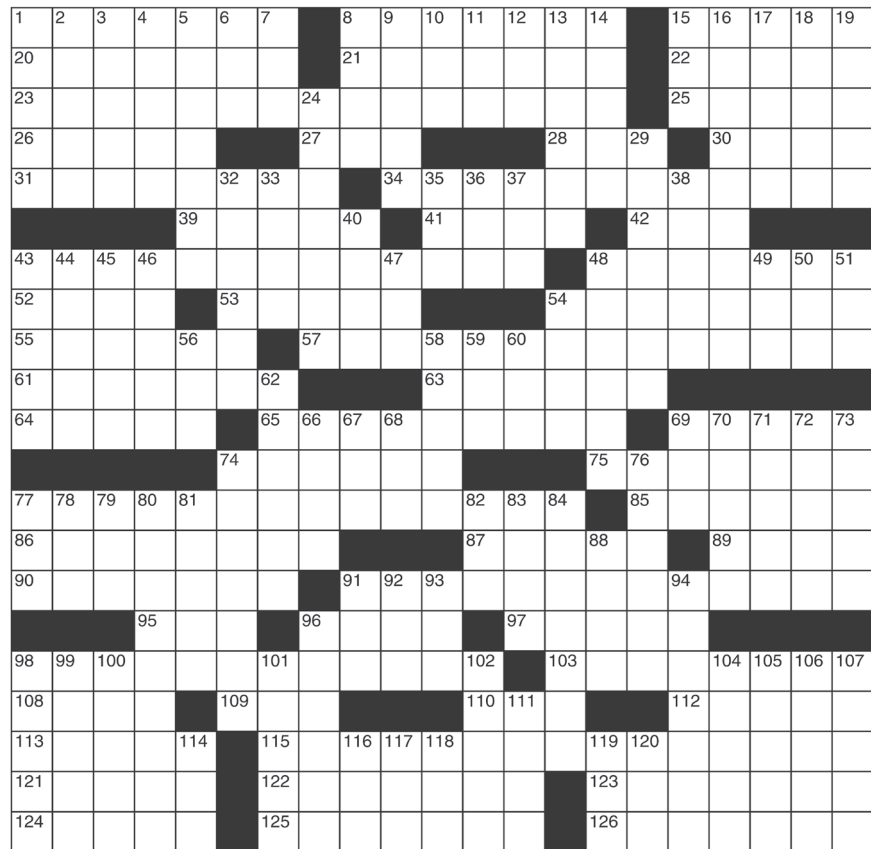
Even as a retired dental professional, Dr. Hutchens remains engaged to dentistry and service, chairing a successful Missions of Mercy clinic, and working with Craven County MERCY Clinic to ensure its success and longevity. He has continuously served as a tireless volunteer for his community.

— CN + R staff reports

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ALTERNATING NAMES

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 48 The Fate who cut the thread of destiny | 86 Pungent red roots | 126 Co-star of HBO's "Insecure" | 36 Spike in film | 78 Sweetie, in modern lingo |
| 1 Trapped | 52 Pitti Palace's river | 87 Din | 90 Many private planes | 37 "Is that so!" | 79 Eagles' stats |
| 8 Moderately slow tempo | 53 Gladys Knight & the Pips' "I've Got to — Imagination" | 89 Spanish body of water | 91 "Novelist of 'Humboldt's Gift' imitating a beach bird?" | 38 — surface missile | 80 Non-window flight request |
| 15 Hot coal | 54 Like an obsessed mind | 95 Chaney of "The Trap" | 96 Certain peer | 40 Short negleege, for short | 81 Ain't correct? |
| 20 Left over | 55 A whole lot | 97 "McSorley's Bar" painter | 98 "Co-star of 'Neighbors' with a Seussian Star-Belly?" | 43 Duty of art | 82 Gerund suffix |
| 21 Velvet Underground singer | 57 "Go take a nap, you Bolshevik leader?" | 103 Conjecturer's words | 108 Is unwell | 44 University city in Maine | 83 We, to Henri |
| 22 Myanmar, previously | 59 "— diem!" | 109 Anvil setting | 110 401(k) kin | 45 Fewer than 47 Soap stuff | 84 Anderson of "The X-Files" |
| 23 "Chicago" poet who worked for a rival of Revlon? | 69 "180 illegal" road sign | 112 Many a youth over the even letters in his first name] | 113 Flood control | 46 Actor Lloyd ears | 88 Through food |
| 25 Vital liquid | 74 Ate into | 115 "20-season Houston Astros player who was a hot rodder?" | 116 "Citizen X" co-star | 47 Skat stuff | 91 — Paulo |
| 26 Pitcher — Nomo | 75 "Gets hold of the singer of '(Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay)?" | 121 Big blue expanse | 122 Worked, as dough | 48 Basketballer Jamison | 92 Unit of work |
| 27 Big joint | 85 Got closer to | 122 Worked, as dough | 123 Garage door gadgets | 49 Faux — | 93 London beer |
| 28 Antique auto | | 124 Aeries, e.g. | 125 Veterans | 50 Doc — (foe of Spidey) | 94 Foes |
| 30 Furry Oz visitor | | | | 51 Big blue expanse | 96 Wayward |
| 31 More like baking bread's smell | | | | 54 Savvy about | 98 Beauty shop |
| 34 * 2003 "American Idol" runner-up from Alberta? | | | | 55 "Judge —" (1995 film) | 99 Family girl |
| 39 Like Hindi or Urdu | | | | 59 Crude fluid | 100 Santas' aides |
| 41 Many a youth | | | | 60 Retail store starter? | 101 Taxi drivers |
| 42 Soup sample | | | | 62 Stable group | 102 Not as nasty |
| 43 * Reply when the crooner of "Honey" asked how he should criticize people? | | | | 66 Diana of "West 11" | 104 — petition |
| | | | | 67 Ike's initials | 105 Felix played by Randall |
| | | | | 68 Grazed (on) | 106 Kelly of "One Tree Hill" |
| | | | | 69 Acting nudge | 107 Irregularly notched |
| | | | | 70 The tiniest bit | 111 Clears (of) |
| | | | | 71 Pastoral | 114 USN off. |
| | | | | 72 Rival of Ragú | 116 "Citizen X" co-star |
| | | | | 73 Bequeath | 117 Sleazy paper |
| | | | | 74 Embellish | 118 Lemon drink |
| | | | | 76 Barely there phone signal | 119 "... grace of God —" |
| | | | | 77 Frodo foe | 120 Med. stats. taken with arm cuffs |



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

L A G S D E L E M O N I C A S E R F
A B A T E R A S E C O C A R P L E A
C A T E G O R Y S O R T T Y P E Y E T I
E C O N O E A R L O N O C I T
D I S C O V E R Y G O D S E N D C A T C H
I N A N S T R E W T H R O E
F O W L L O S S N E E R E A R N S
S H H P O S T E R I O R R E A R B A C K
T A I L O R E X I T S I R L E A
O I L E D G A I N S A Y N A V I
P R E D I C A M E N T P I C K L E S P O T
S A H L R A I L E R S G N O M E
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I N T E L L E C T P S Y C H E B R A I N S
A G O T A X S K E E S T R I A
M O T E Z E S T P E E L C O V E R I N G
B U L L A R T I E R T H A I A S E A
S T E M S T U A R T S E R E Y E R S

Dr. Erik Christian Hoffman and Dr. Jessica Ratliff Hoffman of Greensboro announce the birth of their son, Christian Lee Hoffman, born July 9, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Christian weighed eight pounds and 2 ounces.



Maternal grandparents are: Mr. Ron Ratliff and Gladys Ratliff of Atlanta, GA.

Paternal grandparents are: Dr. Byron Hoffman and Erika Hoffman of Chatham County, NC

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225 Chatham Square Shopping Center - Siler City
Edificio con Toldos Azules en el Patio de Recreo
Situado Junto a Countryside Antiques

Chatham's Shaner places in national speech contest

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Riley Shaner used to be terrified of public speaking. Now, she's a national award winner.

Shaner recently finished second place in the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest competition of the Sons of American Revolution during the SAR's national convention in Costa Mesa, California.

This success came after Shaner won the local and state competitions this year, making Lowell Hoffman, who organized the local Rumbaugh Oratory contest through the General Frances Nash Chapter of the SAR, very proud.

"She has developed her oratory toolbox that will carry her through her college years and for her planned teaching career beyond," Hoffman said. "She has earned our respect and sincere congratulations."

Shaner, a recent graduate of Northwood High School, first participated in the contest last year. She was spurred on by Jill Jackl, who teaches the speech class at Northwood.

"In this class, I learned about how to write an engaging speech, how to control my body language, about vocal variance, and more," Shaner wrote in a well-composed email. "I gained a lot of confidence during this experience and when the semester came to an end, I was offered an opportunity to compete in the regional round of this competition."

She won both the local and state competitions in 2018, but felt that her national effort left a lot on the table. So she worked to improve. This year, her speech was about Patrick Henry, the Founding Father who is perhaps most notable for the quote, "Give me liberty, or give me death." Rumbaugh Oratory Contest speeches are required to be on some aspect of the American Revolution — a person, concept, place, event, etc. — and last 5-6 minutes. They are to be given without the aid of prompts and must be memorized.

Shaner said Henry was "able to redefine himself from being English to fit a new, American identity," a transition she felt could be related to today's society of "polarizing political and social tension."

"We live in a society where we focus more on the divisions that keep us apart instead of trying to find our common ground," she said. "In order to work towards progress in this country, we, like Patrick Henry, must be willing to move away from the categories and definitions that we box ourselves into and to reclaim a



Submitted photo

Recent Northwood High School graduate Riley Shaner finished second place in the national Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest competition of the Sons of the American Revolution during the organization's national convention in California last month. Shaner won the local and state contests on her way to competing in the national contest.

common identity as citizens of America."

Shaner's success is part of a collaboration between the local SAR chapter and Northwood over recent years, Hoffman said, citing Jackl's influence in particular.

"Above and beyond" describes her dedication to her students who step up and accept the challenge of improving their own public speaking skills," he said. "We are indeed blessed to have Mrs. Jackl and other teachers of similar dedication within our own Northwood school faculty."

Most importantly, Shaner said, her education in public speaking and oratory has helped her come out of her shell and improve in confidence.

"After not making it to finals the year previously, setting and achieving this goal made all of my practice and hard work feel worth it," she said. "Placing in second at Nationals feels like validation. To me, this accomplishment shows how far I've come as a public speaker."

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhornr@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@ZachHornerCNR](https://twitter.com/ZachHornerCNR).

NEWS BRIEFS

Chatham 4Hers win gold, silver at District Activity Day

PITTSBORO — Five Chatham County 4-H members competed at the North Central District 4-H Activity Day in Orange County on June 21, with each winning medals for their work.

Zva Rodriguez, Celene Mendoza-Villegas, Abigail Molina-Bacho, Avery Wright and Santos Vazquez-Quiquiux — all members of the Clover Creators 4-H Club from Siler City — earned distinctions in various categories. Rodriguez and Mendoza-Villegas won gold in Citizenship/Community Service for their age group, Molina-Bacho and Write earned gold in their age group's Environmental Science category and Vazquez-Quiquiux won silver in Entomology for his age group.

The five competitors will compete in the N.C. State 4-H Presentations contest on Saturday at N.C. State University in Raleigh. Four of the five were first-time presenters as they competed alongside youths from 19 surrounding counties.

For more on the 4-H program in Chatham County, please contact Victoria Brewer at victoria.brewer@chathamnc.org or Liz Mauney at liz.mauney@chathamnc.org.



Submitted photo

Chatham 4H winners included, from left, Santos Vazquez-Quiquiux, Celene Mendoza-Villegas, Zva Rodriguez, Avery Wright and Abigail Molina-Bacho.

Date change for homeowners' insurance rate increase hearing

RALEIGH — The hearing scheduled for the insurance industry's proposed statewide average 17.4 percent homeowners' insurance rate increase has been extended one month from Sept. 4, to Wednesday, Oct. 2. Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey says he needs the additional time to review the documents filed by

the North Carolina Rate Bureau or NCRB.

"There is a pervasive lack of documentation, explanation, and justification of both the data used, as well as the procedures and methodologies utilized in the filing," Commissioner Causey said. "The proposed rates appear to be excessive and unfairly discriminatory and I want more time to study the data to ensure our consumers are treated fairly."

The hearing will begin at 10 a.m. in the Second Floor Hearing Room in the Albemarle Building, 325 N.

Salisbury St., Raleigh.

The hearing will be held unless the N.C. Department of Insurance and NCRB are able to negotiate a settlement before that date. The Department of Insurance and NCRB can settle the proposed rate increase at any time during litigation.

Siler City annual audit comes back clean

SILER CITY — The Town of Siler City received a clean audit report Monday for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Chad Cook, a CPA with Dixon Huges Goodman who performed the audit, told the town board at its meeting that the town's audit of its overall finances was "clean," as was the audit of the PARTF funds, the grant money that helped build the Bray Park Aquatic Center.

Cook noted that the town's fund balance, a sort of reserve account towns use to demonstrate fiscal strength — which also serves as a safety net for town finances — has been increasing over the past five years. The overall increase during that time was 114 percent, from \$2,413,611 in fiscal year 2013-2014 to \$5,177,358 in the last fiscal year. This increase was significant, Cook said, because the town has been in "recovery" mode following the economic downturn that began in 2008 coupled with the loss of the Townsend chicken processing plant in 2011.

The audit notes that the town's revenues increased by 1.6 percent over the previous years while expenses decreased by the exact same percentage. Cook said that his firm identified several deficits on certain capital projects, most of which were related to timing because of the timetable related to distribution of grant revenues.

Every municipality in North Carolina is audited each year by law.

— CN + R staff reports

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Sat July 27 –
No Music

Mon July 29 / 7pm –
Ambassadors Big Band (\$10)

Thurs August 1 / 6pm –
Game Night

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Sat August 3 / 8pm –
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NEWS BRIEFS

Author and screenwriter to visit McIntyre's Books for reading, discussion

PITTSBORO — Triad-based author and screenwriter Timothy Reinhardt will be visiting McIntyre's Books in Fearington Village next month to discuss his new book. Reinhardt will be reading from and talking about "Jesus's Brother James," his newest outing from Mascot Books, starting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, August 18. The book follows four people whom fate seems to pull together through their hilarious struggles to

find meaning in a chaotic world. Reinhardt's previous novel, "Crackers," was made into a film starring Vincent D'Onofrio and Brenda Vaccaro. He is currently working on a movie adaptation of "Jesus' Brother James." The free event will include a reading, book discussion and a conversation about turning a novel into a screenplay. McIntyre's Books is located at 240 Market Street in Pittsboro.

million to communities in the company's service area. "Duke Energy values the importance of equal accessibility to academic resources," said Indira Everett, manager of government and community relations for Duke Energy. "By providing students with summer reading opportunities we aim to improve the literacy quality in young students, helping them maintain their skills outside of the classroom."

"Hiroshima: The Accidental Witness," at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, in the Holmes Meeting Room. Samuelson will be joined by Asheboro native Sgt. John McGlohan, who was present on August 6, 1945, when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, as part of the U.S.' effort to end World War II. Three aircraft were on the primary mission to drop the bomb, while McGlohan served as the photographer on a fourth plane with the mission of flying over Hiroshima's docks shortly after the explosion. The event on next month will feature Samuelson's story of proving McGlohan's aircraft was accidentally in harm's way and survived that day. "Hiroshima: The Accidental Witness" is free and open to the public.

Chatham Education Foundation earns \$200K grant from Duke Energy Foundation

PITTSBORO — The Chatham Education Foun-

ation recently received a \$200,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation to fund multiple literacy projects in Chatham County. "As a bedroom community, with very few large businesses to support local nonprofits, the Chatham Education Foundation is grateful for the continued support

of Duke Energy to boost our students' literacy success," said Jaime Detzi, Executive Director of the Chatham Education Foundation. The grant will support three projects: providing books for Chatham County Schools' kindergarten readiness camp; funding the Books on Break program,

which provides books for low-income students during the summer; and connected students with teachers that will serve as tutors during the summer. The funds came through the Duke Energy Foundation's Powerful Communities Program, which annually funds more than \$30

Hiroshima program scheduled for Chatham County Library August 6

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Library will host Chatham resident and military historian Kenneth Samuelson and a special guest as Samuelson presents

— CN + R staff reports

ALCOHOL: 'Variety of rules when it comes to the sale of alcohol'

Continued from page A1

The ballot will contain the following language:

- To permit the "on-premise" and "off-premise" sale of malt beverages
- [] FOR
- [] AGAINST
- To permit the "on-premise" and "off-premise" sale of unfortified wine.
- [] FOR
- [] AGAINST

Siler City town attorney William Morgan explained to the board that both referendums contain more language than required since the town already allows "off-premise" sales, which are essentially sales at gas stations and grocery stores. Morgan noted that the ABC Commission suggested adding comprehensive language to ensure that the town's referendum effectively achieves the goal — the ability to sell beer and wine in establishments that are not hotels or do not serve food including breweries, brewpubs, tap rooms, and wedding/special event venues.

Alcohol sales laws in Chatham County

North Carolina laws on alcohol sales are different than other state laws because rather than the state making a law for all its jurisdictions to follow,

North Carolina has created a set of guidelines that outline the extent to which a jurisdiction can allow alcohol sales. It is then up to each county or municipality to put those options up to a vote. This means each county and each town within those counties, can have a variety of rules when it comes to the sale of alcohol.

For example, the town of Pittsboro held an election in 1971 where voters decided that it would allow the sale of beer and wine for off premise sales and on premise sales, such as at a restaurant, brewery, or tasting room. The county had an election of its own in 1984 where the portion allowing on premise sales of malt beverages did not pass. As Siler City never held its own referendum, the town was in the "same boat" as the county, according to Morgan.

In 2009, Chatham County placed a referendum on the ballot asking voters to choose if mixed beverages, or liquor by the drink, could be sold in establishments that serve food or in a hotel per the state's guidelines. The opposition was not as strong as it had been decades before and 65 percent of the voters chose to allow mixed beverages sales. The county's referendum superseded the municipalities in this case as none of them had specifically held a referendum on the subject previously.

Opportunities around the corner?

Brandon Russell, co-owner of Pittsboro's 580 Craft Beer knows how complicated the ABC laws can be and how changes such as the one the referendums address can open economic opportunities. He opened 580 Craft Beer with his step-father Stephen four years ago in the strip mall on Pittsboro's East Street that used to house the Piggly Wiggly. "We were always big fans of the Raleigh/Durham scene — these kind of spots," Russell said. "We wanted to open something like that here in town."

Russell said that at the time, the law allowed a retail shop with beer taps like his to open in Pittsboro, but the local regulators had never encountered the situation before.

"We got to push the envelope of what the rules were and what they would be moving forward," Russell said.

Since opening, other establishments, such as House of Hops on Russet Run, have also sprung up. Russell has also opened a brewery, Thirsty Skull Brewing, with his step-father and a brewer in Bear Creek.

"If the Siler City referendum passes," Russell said. "It would give us or another shop like us the chance to open in Siler City."

Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at CaseyMann@Chathamnr.com.



Staff photo by David Bradley

580 Craft Beer in Pittsboro is a taproom with a variety of local brews, some made by the owner Brandon Russell's other venture, Thirsty Skulls Brewers in Bear Creek. If the referendum passes, Siler City could have similar taprooms in town.

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Chatham News + Record SPORTS

JULY 18-24, 2019 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

West Chatham 12's win pair at NC Dixie Youth Ozone State Tournament in Eden

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

EDEN — In the suffocating summer heat at Freedom Park in Eden, it's the West Chatham 12U All-Stars who are heating up at the 2019 NC Dixie Youth Ozone Baseball State Tournament.

After dropping an opening round 10-5 loss to Lumberton, West Chatham stormed back to take an 18-3 victory over West Lincoln before topping South Stanly American 8-4 in the third round. West Chatham was scheduled to face South Stanly National on Tuesday, July 16 in a 7:30 p.m. contest. South Stanly National is the lone unbeaten team in the tournament and has played one less game due to an opening round bye before destroying Boger City 19-2 and hammering Lumberton 13-0.

Against Lumberton, West Chatham certainly didn't play its best in the 10-5 loss and never could get the timely hit to erupt for a big inning, leaving runners stranded in the contest. The locals didn't score

until the third on a walk by Cole Koenig and an RBI-single from Trevor Kirkman.

Singles from Stephen Moody and Preston Holder coupled with walks from Bryson Marley and Alex Nielson led to another WC run in the fourth before a single by Brady Phillips, a walk to Clay Hill, and an RBI-double from Holder sent across a run in the fifth.

Singles from Marley and Nielson set up Brady Phillips smacking a two-run single in the sixth but it was not enough as Lumberton took the 10-5 triumph.

Moody suffered the loss on the mound for WC while Holder was 2-for-3 with a double, Moody 2-for-4 with a run and a double, and Phillips 2-for-4 with a run and two RBI.

West Chatham rebounded in the second round with an 18-3 thrashing of West Lincoln.

The locals plated four runs in each of the opening two innings before erupting for 10 more in the third to run away with the win.

West Chatham pounded out 16 hits in the contest with six players collecting two or more, and the locals also added 10 bases. Moody led the way with a 3-for-3 day that included two runs, two RBI and a stolen base while Brady Phillips was 2-for-2 with three runs, a walk, an RBI, a triple and two stolen bases, Hill 2-for-3 with two runs, two RBI, two doubles and a stolen base, Holder 2-for-3 with two runs, two RBI, a double and a

See WIN, page B4

Pictured top right, West Chatham 12U All-Star Bryson Marley grabs a short drive to center field in Saturday's opening round of the 2019 NC Dixie Youth Baseball State Tournament at Freedom Park in Eden. Pictured bottom right, West Chatham 12U All-Star Braydon Brewer displays a good eye taking a pitch just below the knees. Their first game, against Lumberton, was a loss on the hot day, 10-5.

Staff photo by David Bradley



Trio of county softball standouts honored

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

Three Chatham County student-athletes were honored recently by the North Carolina Coaches Association for their efforts in the 2019 spring softball season.

Hannah Weigle of Northwood and Emery Moore and LeeAnn Lilly of Jordan-Matthews, all recent graduates, picked up awards.

Weigle was chosen to the 3A All-State team for her efforts in the spring, both on the mound and at the plate.

Offensively, Weigle batted .523 with 34 hits in 75 plate appearances while scoring 12 runs, slamming three doubles and a triple, and driving in 30 runs.

On the mound, Weigle went 12-7 with a sharp ERA of 2.36 in 98 innings pitched. She allowed 70 runs but only 33 were earned, while yielding just 12 walks and striking out 157.

Moore and Lilly, meanwhile, were tabbed to the All-District 5 2A squad, which is comprised of players from Chatham, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Caswell, Forsyth, Davidson, Alamance and Guilford counties.

Moore posted a .367 batting average in 2019 with 20 hits, 14 runs, a homer and seven doubles while driving in 18 runs. Lilly collected a .363 average at the plate for the Lady Jets and slammed five doubles and scored 10 runs in 2019. Lilly also drove in 11 runs during her senior campaign.

Taekwondo leaves Ara living the American Dream



Staff photo by David Bradley

Eli Ara, 12, performs a flying kick at the AFE TKD Martial Arts The Best of Siler City Academy on Monday. Ara has been taking lessons since she was 3 years old.

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Taekwondo has been a part of Antonio Ara's life since the age of 9.

It was then that the Cancun, Mexico, native began studying and practicing what is one of the oldest forms of martial arts in the world since its origination more than 2,000 years ago in Korea.

Thirty-six years later, at age 45, almost

every aspect of Ara's life is interwoven with Taekwondo, and has left the 1999 International Bantam Weight champion living the American Dream.

Ara began taking Taekwondo for family reasons — protecting his older brother, who tended to frequently get into fights on the soccer field.

"My brother always seemed to get into fights on the soccer field," laughed Ara. "So naturally, I would always try to protect and help him. One day I tried to

push a guy away from my brother, and he turned and ran after me. I ran away and decided I needed to find a way to protect my brother and myself, and Taekwondo provided that opportunity."

It didn't take long for Ara to fall in love with the martial art, and success followed soon thereafter and only continued as the years passed.

Ara was honored by being selected for

See DREAM, page B2

The West Chatham 12U All-Stars captured 2nd place overall in the 2019 NC Dixie Youth Ponytail Softball Tournament. Pictured (from left) are (back row): Coach Aaron Garner, Jeffery Fields, Manager Jonathan Russell; (middle row): Payton Pickett, Mattie Underwood, Sydney Russell, Katelyn Brown, Ella Fields; (front row): Evelin Sanchez, Kaitlyn Garner, Calissa Clendenin, Kelsey Morris, Gabriella Phillips, Chloe Scott. Not pictured Karaleigh Dodson.

Submitted photo



West Chatham 12U Ponytail All-Stars finish second at Dixie Youth States

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

WILMINGTON — The West Chatham 12U All-Stars were runners-up in the 2019 NC Dixie Youth Softball State Tournament Ponytails X-play Division in Wilmington last week.

The locals advanced to the championship game before falling to eventual state champion South Brunswick, who took 2-of-3

games from West Chatham in the tournament. The champs sealed it in a winner-take-all contest on Thursday evening after the locals had down the eventual state winners earlier in the day to force a final and decisive game.

On Tuesday evening, West Chatham doubled up Burgaw 10-5 to advance into the championship round.

See SECOND, page B4

High Point slams series door shut with sweep of Eastern Randolph

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

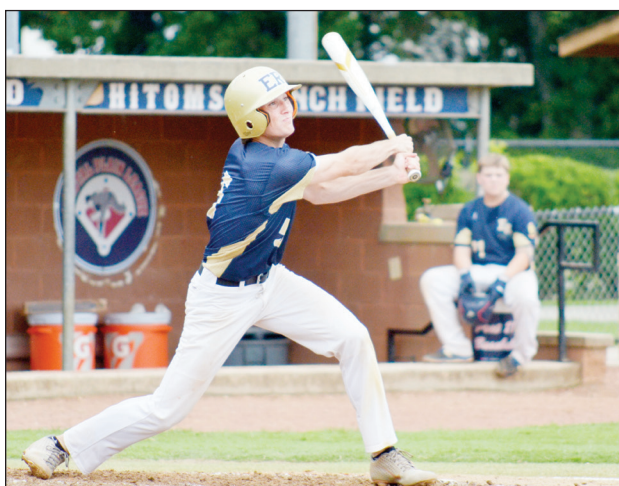
THOMASVILLE — Night and day. That aptly describes round one and round two of the American Legion Area III playoffs for Eastern Randolph.

All the momentum of the opening round series win over Mooresville quickly vanished for Post 81 against High Point and never reappeared.

Thursday night in game three of the series at Finch Field was the decisive exclamation point for Post 87 with a 5-3 triumph to cap the sweep. High Point had won game one by a 6-1 score before hammering Eastern Randolph 15-0 in game two.

Post 87 took a 2-0 lead early in the contest with a pair of runs in the bottom of the second behind a two-out double to left by Carson Shetley, an RBI-single by Avery Cain, a walk Logan Robson, and an RBI-single from Avery Adams.

Eastern Randolph answered with three runs in the top of the third on one-out singles from Jacob Underwood, Chris Morgan and Connor Murphy, and a two-run single from Zander Smith



Staff photo by David Bradley

Post 81's Connor Murphy hits one deep in the top of the third inning at Finch Field on Tuesday. The Eastern Randolph team, in a best three-out-of-five tournament with Post 87, lost the game 6-1, and later, the match.

to center. Murphy scored on an error by the Post 87 centerfielder to give Post 81 a 3-2 lead.

High Point tied the game at 3-all in the bottom of the third on a one-out homer to center by Isaiah Hairston.

Hairston would be right back in the middle of the action in the home half of the fifth with a lead-off double to center before scoring moments later on an Eastern Randolph error to put High Point

back in the lead for good at 4-3.

A double by Chet Sikes and an RBI-single by Luke Pritchett in the sixth added an insurance run for Post 87 and capped the 5-3 win, and subsequently the second round series sweep.

Underwood led Eastern Randolph at the plate with a 3-for-3 outing that included a run scored while Smith was 1-for-3 with two RBI, Morgan 1-for-3 with a run, Clay

Edmondson 1-for-3, and Murphy 1-for-4 with a run.

High Point saw Hairston go 2-for-3 offensively with two runs, an RBI and a walk while Pritchett was 2-for-4 with an RBI, and Robson 1-for-1 with two walks.

Mason Canoy suffered the loss on the mound despite a strong effort. Canoy went 4.2 innings and allowed seven hits, four runs (three earned), and three walks while striking out two.

Zander Smith worked the final 1.1 innings and yielded two hits, one run, one walk and fanned one.

Picking up the win on the hill for Post 87 was Gavin Sentell who went the distance and allowed seven hits, three runs (two earned) and no walks while striking out three.

Eastern Randolph, the No. 7 seed from the Area III North Division, closes the season at 5-22. High Point, meanwhile, will enter the Area III semi-finals as the No. 4 seed from the North and with a 19-11 mark overall. High Point will take on North top seed Randolph County (23-6) in a best of 5 series that was set to begin Monday.

Wells Fargo State Cup winners released by NCHSAA

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

Wells Fargo Cup points are determined by a system based on performance in state championship events. All schools that finish in the top eight positions (plus ties) earn points.

CHAPEL HILL — The North Carolina High School Athletic Association, in conjunction with Wells Fargo, released the final standings in the 40th annual Wells Fargo Cup competitions for the 2018-19 academic year. The award recognizes the high schools that achieve the best overall interscholastic athletic performance within each of the state's four competitive classifications.

This year, there were no back-to-back winners of the cup. Cardinal Gibbons dethroned Green Hope to win the 4A Classification. Marvin Ridge claimed victory over Weddington for the 3A Classification. In the 2A Classification, Croatan slipped past Lake Norman Charter to claim the State Cup. In the 1A Classification, the Community School of Davidson earned the school's second State Cup win all-time.

Wells Fargo Cup points are determined by a system based on performance in state championship events. All schools that finish in the top eight positions (plus ties) earn points. In the playoff

events involving teams from more than one classification, Wells Fargo Cup points are awarded based on the school's standing against other schools in its own classification. If fewer than eight schools from a classification compete in a sport, only those schools that are represented are eligible to receive the Cup points.

Points are awarded for all sports as follows: 50 for first, 45 for second, 40 for third, 35 for fourth, 30 for fifth, 25 for sixth, 20 for seventh and 15 for eighth. In the event of a tie, the schools receive an equal number of points based on the number of teams that tie and the number of teams that finish higher in the standings. Five points are awarded for each sanctioned sport in which a school competes.

FINAL STANDINGS

CLASS 4A

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 - Cardinal Gibbons - 605 | 6 - West Forsyth - 367.5 |
| 2 - Myers Park - 552 | 7 - Hough - 360 |
| 3 - Green Hope - 505 | 8 - Southeast Raleigh - 330 |
| 4 - Panther Creek - 400 | 9 - Cary - 320 |
| 5 - Ronald Reagan - 394.5 | 10 - Broughton - 307.5 |

4A State Cup: Cardinal Gibbons takes the top spot in the 4A ranks after the spring sports season. The Crusaders held off Myers Park by 53 points on the way to their Cup win. During the spring season, Cardinal Gibbons had championships in men's and women's lacrosse along with a third-place finish in men's golf and a regional finals appearance in men's tennis. The Crusaders won a State Championship in women's cross country in the fall. They also reached the regional final in volleyball, men's soccer and wrestling to highlight their year.

CLASS 3A

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Marvin Ridge - 702.5 | 6 - Northern Guilford - 381.5 |
| 2 - Weddington - 570 | 7 - Mount Tabor - 376.5 |
| 3 - Cuthbertson - 512.5 | 8 - East Chapel Hill - 372.5 |
| 4 - Chapel Hill - 492.5 | 9 - Conley - 305 |
| 5 - Charlotte Catholic - 467.5 | 10 - Hillside - 287.5 |

3A State Cup: Marvin Ridge dominated the spring season, almost doubling their fall and winter total in the final third of the year. The Mavericks finished with a whopping 132.5-point margin over Weddington. The Mavericks took home second-place finishes in baseball and men's tennis, along with a tied second-place finish in women's lacrosse, a third-place finish in men's golf, tied third-place finishes in men's lacrosse and softball and a fifth-place finish in women's track. Marvin Ridge earned points in all but one spring sport to vault the Mavericks past Weddington. The Mavericks grabbed State Championships in volleyball and men's swimming while earning a state runner-up finish in men's soccer during the fall and winter to lay the foundation for their victory.

CLASS 2A

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 - Croatan - 515 | 6 - First Flight - 375 |
| 2 - Lake Norman Charter - 510 | T7 - Salisbury - 297.5 |
| 3 - Carrboro - 460 | T7 - Durham School of the Arts - 297.5 |
| 4 - North Lincoln - 412.5 | 9 - East Lincoln - 287.5 |
| 5 - N.C. School of Science and Math - 387.5 | 10 - North Davidson - 255 |

2A State Cup: Croatan scraped past Lake Norman Charter for the 2A Classification State Cup, winning by just five points. The Cougars finished the spring sports season with a second-place finish in men's track, a third-place finish in men's lacrosse for 2A playoff entrants and a tied fifth-place finish in women's soccer. Croatan earned the State Cup on the strength of individual sports performances. The Cougars won a State Championship in men's indoor track, while finishing as state runner-up in men's swimming, wrestling, and men's outdoor track.

CLASS 1A

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 - Community School of Davidson - 447.5 | 5 - Murphy - 372.5 |
| 2 - Pine Lake Preparatory - 400 | 6 - Raleigh Charter - 370 |
| 3 - East Surry - 382.5 | 7 - Polk County - 365 |
| 4 - Franklin Academy - 377.5 | 8 - Bishop McGuinness - 350 |
| | 9 - Research Triangle - 340 |
| | 10 - Lincoln Charter - 307.5 |

1A State Cup: Community School of Davidson won the race for the State Cup in the 1A Classification, edging Pine Lake Prep by 47.5 points. The Spartans secured a State Championship in men's golf and were the top 1A finisher in the men's lacrosse playoffs. Community School of Davidson finished as the state runner-up in men's soccer, and the Spartans were solid across many sports, earning points in men's and women's cross country, volleyball, men's basketball, men's indoor track, men's and women's swimming.



The medal winners from the PowerAde State Championships are pictured with Master Antonio at his studio in Siler City. Back row, from left: Logan Sammons, Master Antonio and Santos Vazquez. Second row: Yoxander Cruz, Eli Ara and Uriael Sandoval. Third row: Aaron Roach, Timmy Roach, Fisher Pike and Gael Sandoval.

Staff photos by David Bradley

DREAM

Continued from page B1

the Olympic Trials of the Mexico Taekwondo team at the age of 18, making him an International Olympic Competitor.

That training led to Ara winning the 1999 International Bantam Weight title in Raleigh.

"My goal was always to compete to win, and I went through a lot of intense training," said Ara, who credited Mentor Grandmaster Sang Ho Lee for so much of his success. "For me it's just such a part of my life that its like a daily routine."

Ara moved to Charlotte later in 1999, and then to the Triangle area where he began teaching Taekwondo at the famed White Tiger School in Cary, the largest in the United States with more than 800 students at any given time.

That professional business opportunity inspired Ara to start his own school, which led to his current business, the AFE TKD Martial Arts The Best of Siler City Academy. Located in the former Elder Printing Building on U.S. Hwy. 64, the facility gives Ara plenty of room to host competitions as well as teach classes for what is now approaching 100 students.

With Taekwondo such a part of his life and family, the AFE stands for Antonio, his wife Fatima (a personal fitness trainer) and his rising 6th-grade daughter Eli, a 2nd Dan Blackbelt.

"It's a family business, and my daughter has been a part of it since she was small and now competes and helps me with classes," Ara said. "Taekwondo is not just about kicking and punching, but also about life skills and discipline and its valuable for her and all the other students to learn regardless of their age."

And the age groups are of a wide variety, beginning with the Little



Logan Sammons, 14, delivers a snap kick during practice at the AFE TKD Martial Arts The Best of Siler City Academy.



Master Antonio teaches his class the fundamentals and advanced blocks, strikes and punches in the Taekwondo system at his AFE studio in Siler City.

Ninja Class which features tots ages 3 to 5, followed by the 6 to 12 age group, and a 13 & older age group. The school is open Monday through Saturday with students signing up to come three times a week at the minimum, while many come more.

Ara has even started a Black Belt Leadership Program as well, for students who come every day. This group does extra one-on-one training as well as a lot of extra events such as a trip to the Greensboro Aquatics Center which Ara rented out just for his students in that group this week.

The AFE Academy has future International competitions planned for Cancun, as well as Seoul, South Korea.

Master Antonio Ara instructs Violeta Trujillo at AFE TKD Martial Arts The Best of Siler City Academy on 11th Street on Monday. Trujillo was attending one of the many classes available at the school.

Most recently Ara took students to compete in the 2019 State Games of North Carolina for the sixth year in a row and had 10 members medal.

"I'm very proud of them and the courage that they showed at the State Games," said Ara. "It was a great experience for them and they opened up a little bit and came back with more confidence and determination."

While Taekwondo is obviously the king of the hill when it comes to Ara and his family-owned-and-operated business, it's just part of what is offered at the facility.

"We also offer kickboxing, yoga, an afterschool program, bounce house rentals, birthday party space rentals, wedding space rentals, private self defense training," he said. "We try to utilize all the space of the facility and to offer something for everyone."

For more information about the school access www.afetkd.com on the web, AFE TKD Martial Arts The Best of Siler City on Facebook, or call 919-799-7500.



High Point hammers Eastern Randolph to go up 2-0 in series

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

RAMSEUR — A big inning put High Point Post 87 way ahead Wednesday night, and they never looked back. Post 87 paraded 25 batters to the plate in the first two innings, resulting in 20 base runners courtesy of eight walks, seven hits, three Eastern Randolph errors plus two hit batsmen, and put 13 runs on the scoreboard en route to whitewashing Post 81 15-0 in five innings on Grady Lawson Field.

Taking a 2-0 lead in their best three-of-five American Legion Area III second round playoff series, High Point raised its season record to 18-11. In the meantime, Eastern Randolph dropped to 5-21 overall.

Post 87's Carson Shetley hurled the distance on the mound to get the win, giving up only two hits — Chris Morgan's single leading off the home first and a leadoff single by Jacob Underwood in the bottom of the third — while issuing three walks and fanning five. Shetley threw a total of 82 pitches, including 53 (65%) for strikes. C.J. Johnson went 3-for-3 at



Staff photo by David Bradley

Post 81's Clay Edmondson keeps an eye on the ball as Post 87's Avery Adams slides into third in the bottom of the sixth inning at Finch Field Tuesday. The Hi-Toms went on to defeat Post 81 6-1 in the first game of the series.

the plate while Luke Pritchett and Avery Cain collected two hits apiece to lead High Point's nine-hit attack.

"We did exactly what we were supposed to do tonight, show patience with good approaches at the plate and get hits when we needed them while capitalizing on the other team's mistakes," said Post 87 coach Rob Shore. "Shetley threw strikes and made Eastern Randolph put the

ball in play while the defense only committed one error."

Post 81 starter Travis Boone lasted just one inning and absorbed the loss after surrendering three hits and five runs (two earned) while walking two.

Five relievers who followed Boone to the hill (Kevin Cano, Camden Fuquay, Tyler Campbell, Connor Murphy and Morgan) combined to pitch the last four innings and allowed a col-

lective 10 runs (seven earned) on six hits while issuing seven walks and whiffing five.

"We came out flat at the start and never competed the entire night," said Eastern Randolph coach Brian Heilig. "It was one of the worst games I've seen in a while. We struggled in every aspect, mentally and physically, and there's not much else to say. We just need to put this one behind us and regroup for tomorrow night."

High Point forged a 5-0 lead in the top of the first as leadoff batter Chet Sikes was nicked by a pitch, moved to second on a wild pitch and advanced to third when Gavin Sentell scratched an infield hit.

After Isaiah Hairston plated Sikes with a sacrifice fly to left, Sentell went to second on a passed ball before Pritchett drew a free pass.

Johnson rapped an opposite-field single to left to bring in Sentell and send Pritchett to second prior to the latter coming home on a throwing error.

Logan Robson, who reached on the throwing error after Johnson was out on a fielder's choice, then moved to second on Cain's base hit to left and

scored on a throwing error that allowed Cain to advance to third.

Following a walk to Gavyn Byrd that loaded the bases, Sikes was hit for the second time in the inning to force in Cain with the fifth run.

Post 87 exploded for eight runs in the visitors' second to expand its advantage to 13-0 as Pritchett doubled to left with one away and tallied on Johnson's two-bagger to center.

Following a full-count walk to Robson, both runners stole a base before Cain's single to left drove in Johnson and sent Robson to third.

Cain then stole second one out later prior to Byrd notching a two-run opposite-field hit to right. Before the inning was over there would be five more walks plus an infield error that accounted for four more runs.

High Point put the final exclamation on its lopsided triumph in the top of the fourth as Sentell began the frame with a full-count free pass and one out later Pritchett launched a full-count offering from Murphy over the fence in left for his second round-tripper of the season.

Muddogs chop down Lumberkings 8-5

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

RAMSEUR — Easton Jones belted a two-run homer in the top of the ninth to give Deep River the lead for good before Cade Culberson drove in an insurance run with his second triple of the evening as the Muddogs outlasted the Randolph Lumberkings 8-5 in an Old North State League extra-inning affair Friday night at I. Fletcher Craven

Stadium.

Capturing its fourth triumph in its last five outings, Deep River improved to 10-9-1 in the league standings, while Randolph slipped to 13-6-1.

Parker Clayton, the fifth Muddogs' pitcher of the night, recorded the win after tossing two scoreless innings, striking out one.

Ryan Hill started on the mound for Deep River and went three and two-third innings, allowing two hits plus one earned run while walking four and fanning four.

Reliever Jordan Moss threw two-thirds of an inning, giving up three hits and four earned runs besides issuing one free pass. Rafy Ortega, Culberson and Clayton hurled hitless ball over the final four and two-third innings, yielding a combined five walks with one strikeout.

"I'm proud how our guys never gave up and found a way to rally for a win against one of the league's top teams," said Muddogs' coach Michael Milian. "Our last three relievers did a great job against a team that can smash the ball, holding them hitless over the last four and two-third innings. After struggling at the plate early, Easton Jones delivered a big home run to put us in front to stay, while Cade Culberson continues to have a hot bat, going three-for-five at the plate with a pair of triples and two RBIs."

Kyle Ehlers, who relieved Lumberkings' starter Clayton Beaver with two away in the top of the fifth, sustained the loss after being tagged for four hits and three earned runs in addition to walking a pair and whiffing six over four and one-third innings.

Beaver hurled four and two-third innings, surrendering three hits and five earned runs besides issuing seven walks (one intentional) and striking out two.

"Playing our fifth game in three days we were forced to go with position players on the mound," said Randolph coach Brandon Nelson. "I thought we showed a lot of fight to come back from a 5-1 deficit and send the game into extra inning, and we had a chance to pull out a win in the bottom of the seventh before shooting ourselves in the foot."

The Lumberkings plated a solo run in the home fourth to snap a scoreless tie as Tyler Shelton singled up the middle with two away and advanced all the way to third on a wild pitch prior to tallying on Lino Figueroa's bloop hit to left.

Deep River answered with a five-run outburst in the top of the fifth as Trevohn Jeffery coaxed a full-count leadoff walk and moved to second when Noah Handy grounded a single to left.

Walter Parham's op-

posite-field double into the right field corner scored Jeffery and sent Handy to third. Following an intentional walk to Clayton that loaded the bases, Handy raced home one out later on a wild pitch that advanced the other two runners up a base before Parham dashed home on a wild pitch that moved Clayton to third.

Clay Richardson then drew a walk and stole second prior to Clayton scoring on a throwing error that advanced Richardson to third before the latter tallied when Culberson lined a two-out single to right.

But Randolph rallied to pull even in the bottom half of the frame as Nate Vargo stroked a leadoff double up the gap in left-center and went to third on a wild pitch prior to Nick Roets receiving a free pass.

Ehlers then blooped a base hit down the right field line to score Vargo and move Roets to second before Beaver plated the latter with a single up the alley in left-center that advanced Ehlers to second.

After both runners moved up a base on a wild pitch, Justin St. Amour reached on a fielder's choice that brought in Ehlers, with St. Amour continuing to second as Beaver was thrown out at third.

St. Amour proceeded to steal third prior to coming home when Justin Wernowski lofted a sacrifice fly to right-center.

The two teams then put goose eggs on the board over the next three innings before Clayton smashed a one-out opposite-field double to left with one away in the top of the ninth and Jones followed by slamming a 2-1 offering from Ehlers over the left field fence for his fourth home run of the season.

Richardson then drew a full-count walk and came in to score one out later when Culberson blasted a triple up the gap in right-center to account for the final margin.

Lumberkings club Coyotes 9-0 in Old North State play

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

RAMSEUR — Austin Wells and Josh Harvey combined to toss Randolph's first shutout of the summer while the Lumberkings made the most of five hits and took advantage of Carolina mistakes to blank the Coyotes 9-0 in Old North State League action Saturday night at I. Fletcher Craven Stadium.

The triumph elevated Randolph to 14-6-1 in the league standings, while Carolina stumbled to 9-10.

Wells scattered six hits over five innings — all of them coming with two away in four different frames — while issuing no walks and fanning three to earn the win. Harvey worked the final two innings, yielding a pair of hits besides walking one and striking out two.

"You can't overlook the fantastic outing Austin Wells gave us tonight on short rest after pitching a complete game at the start of the week," said Lumberkings' coach Brandon Nelson. "I asked him to give us five innings and he exceeded expectations by not allowing a single run before Josh Harvey did a great job finishing up. We had good approaches at the plate this evening, and while we didn't get many hits, we made them count and took advantage of our opportunities. After playing six games in four days and breaking even while being understaffed, I feel we're in a good place to finish the season strong with all our starters back in the rotation next week."

Coyotes' starter Jordan Blalock hurled three innings and took the loss after giving up two runs (one earned) in addition to walking one and fanning four.

Darden Eure threw two-thirds of an inning in relief, surrendering two hits and a pair of earned runs with two walks before Gerard Chamra pitched one

and one-third innings, allowing one hit and five runs (one earned) while issuing three free passes.

Caleb Staley came on to hurl the last two frames for Carolina and gave up one hit while whiffing three.

Coyotes coach Riley Nelson was unavailable for comments following the game.

Randolph seized a 1-0 advantage in the top of the first as Nate Vargo drew a leadoff walk on four pitches, stole second and went to third when Zeke Leconte reached on a one-out infield error.

Leconte and Vargo then pulled off a successful double steal, with the latter coming in to score.

The Lumberkings picked up a solo run in the visitors' third as Vargo slapped a one-out base hit to left and advanced to third on a pair of wild pitches before coming home on Kyle Ehlers' sacrifice fly to center.

The winners increased their lead to 4-0 in the top of the fourth as Justin St. Amour received a free pass with one away, stole second and moved to third on Tyler Shelton's infield single.

Following a walk to Lino Figueroa that loaded the sacks, Ricky Kelly delivered a two-run single up the middle.

Randolph sent 10 batters to the plate in the visitors' fifth and tallied five runs to wrap up the night's scoring.

After Ehlers and Leconte drew back-to-back leadoff walks, Clayton Beaver doubled to left to drive in Ehlers and send Leconte to third.

Following consecutive infield errors that allowed both Leconte and Beaver to score, a one-out free pass issued to Nate Steen filled the bases prior to the Lumberkings adding their final two runs when Kelly was plunked with a pitch to bring in St. Amour while Vargo coaxed a base on balls to force in Shelton.

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

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Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as

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For a complete list of items visit www.chathamnc.org/hhw

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No trash or empty containers. No business waste. No decal required. Must show NC Drivers License.

Questions? Call (919) 542-5516

Never give up

West Chatham All-Star Clay Hill slides safely past Lumberton's Donovan Nance in their game at the 2019 NC Dixie Youth Baseball State Tournament at Freedom Park in Eden Saturday. The All-Stars worked hard to climb out of the point deficit, but ultimately lost 10-5.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Post 87's Pritchett handcuffs Post 81 to give High Point a 1-0 edge in series

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

THOMASVILLE — Luke Pritchett spread six hits over six innings and helped his own cause by driving in three runs as High Point Post 87 defeated Eastern Randolph 6-1 on Finch Field July 9 in Game One of the best three-of-five American Legion Area III second round playoff series.

High Point climbed to 17-11 for the season, while Post 81 fell to 5-20.

In gaining the win, Pritchett gave up one unearned run while walking one and fanning five. Trey Jackson came on to pitch the final frame, allowing one hit.

Pritchett and Isaiah Hairston collected two hits apiece to lead Post 87 at the plate.

"After struggling in the first inning, Pritchett settled down and got a lot of ground balls and pop flies while the defense did its job behind him," said High Point coach Rob Shore. "Pritchett has done a good job driving in runs all year, while we managed to capitalize on a few Eastern Randolph mistakes in the form of a balk, hit batter and dropped fly ball to get people in scoring position and

then bring them home."

Post 81 starter Jacob Underwood hurled five innings and suffered the loss after surrendering six hits along with five earned runs in addition to issuing three free passes and striking out one.

Eastern Randolph's Kevin Cano tossed one inning in relief and yielded one unearned run while walking one and whiffing one.

"We just couldn't get the big two-out hits we needed with guys on base," said Post 81 coach Brian Heilig. "The little mistakes we make came back to haunt us once again. If we could limit miscues and string hits together instead of spacing them out we put ourselves right in the game."

Eastern Randolph grabbed a 1-0 advantage in the top of the first as Mason Canoy reached on a two-out infield hit and continued to second on an over-throw at first before tallying on Zander Smith's double up the alley in right-center.

Post 87 came right back to tie the score in its half of the frame as Hairston drew a full-count base on balls with two away and was balked to second prior to coming home when Pritchett

notched a single to center.

High Point plated three runs in the bottom of the third to seize the lead for good as Chet Sikes was plunked with a pitch with one away before back-to-back base hits by Jackson and Hairston filled the sacks.

Pritchett followed with a two-run single to left to drive in Sikes and Jackson prior to Carson Shetley reaching on a fielder's choice as Hairston advanced to third.

Shetley then broke for second to draw a throw from Post 81 catcher Chris Morgan, and when he became trapped in a rundown Hairston alertly stole home before Shetley was eventually tagged out.

Post 87 extended its advantage to 5-1 with one away in the home fourth when Avery Cain walked a first-pitch offering from Underwood over the left field fence for his second home run of the year.

High Point proceeded to wrap up the scoring in the bottom of the sixth as Avery Adams dashed all the way to second when his one-out fly ball to left was dropped and stole third prior to coming home on Gavyn Byrd's sacrifice fly to center.



Staff photo by David Bradley

West Chatham All-Star Preston Holder guards first base as a Lumberton player beats the play. Lumberton played the All-Stars in the first game of the 2019 NC Dixie Youth Baseball State Tournament at Freedom Park in Eden Saturday. The All-Stars lost the first match of the tournament, 10-5.

WIN

Continued from page B1

stolen base, Westin Phillips 2-for-2 with three runs, a double, a walk and two stolen bases, and Brayden Brewer 2-for-2 with a run, and three RBI.

Kirkman added a 1-for-2 effort with two runs and two RBI while Marley was 1-for-1 with a run, an RBI, a stolen base and a walk, and Koenig 1-for-2 with an RBI.

In the four-run first, Brady Phillips started things off with a walk before Moody singled, Holder and Westin Phillips doubled, and Marley walked.

The four-run outburst in the second was highlighted by a single from Brewer, an RBI-triple from Brady Phillips, an RBI-double from Hill, and an RBI-single from Moody.

West Chatham finished off West Lincoln in the third with 10 runs ignited by a bunt single by West Phillips to lead off the inning. Kirkman was hit by a pitch moments later before Marley singled, Benjamin Wilson walked, Brady Phillips singled, Hill doubled, Moody and Holder singled, Westin Phillips walked, Kirkman and Brewer singled, Nielson and Jacob Asbill walked, and Koenig singled.

Brady Phillips picked up the win on the mound while Wilson picked up the save.

West Chatham advanced to tangle with South Stanly American in the third round and the locals cruised to an 8-4 triumph.

West Chatham plated a run

in the top of the first behind a walk to Brady Phillips, who swiped second and scored on an RBI-double from Hill.

Singles by Hill and Moody and a two-run double from Holder sent WC in front 3-0 in the third.

After South Stanly tied the game at 3-all with two runs in the bottom of the third and a run in the fourth, West Chatham struck for two runs in the top of the fifth to retake the lead at 5-3. A Brady Phillips single coupled with a walk to Moody and a two-run double from Holder highlighted the uprising.

West Chatham added three more runs for insurance in the top of the sixth sparked by singles from Kirkman, Wilson, Koenig and Brewer.

Holder paced the West Chatham offense with a 2-for-3 effort that included two doubles, four RBI and a pair of stolen bases.

Moody was 2-for-2 in the contest with two runs, a walk and a stolen base while Wilson was 2-for-3 with a run and two stolen bases, Asbill 2-for-3 with a run and a stolen base, Hill 2-for-4 with a run, an RBI and two stolen bases, Brady Phillips 1-for-2 with two runs, an RBI, two walks and four stolen bases, Kirkman 1-for-3, Keonig 1-for-3 with an RBI.

West Chatham, which stole 17 bases in the contest, saw Moody go 3.2 innings and scatter four hits while allowing three runs (two earned) and two walks while striking out eight. Hill notched the save after going the final 2.1 innings and allowing three hits, a run, a walk and fanning one.

SECOND

Continued from page B1

The local bunch plated four runs in the first, one more in the second and four in the third to take a commanding 9-1 advantage that it never relinquished. Sydney Russell, Ella Fields, Calissa Clendenin, and Evelin Sanchez all scored for West Chatham in the first inning uprising before Katelyn Brown scored in the second to give WC a 5-0 cushion.

After Burgaw trimmed the deficit to 5-1 with a run in the top of the third, West Chatham, sparked by a lead off double from Clendenin, tacked on four runs in the bottom of the inning to go up 9-1. Clendenin, Kaitlyn Garner, Chloe Scott and Kelsey Morris all scored for the locals in the uprising.

Russell would score in the fourth for West Chatham to extend the lead to 10-1.

Burgaw scratched for three runs in the fifth and one more in the sixth but it was too little too late as West Chatham advanced with the 10-5 victory.

Clendenin earned the win on the mound for West Chatham in the contest.

On Thursday, WC would tangle with South Brunswick which had defeated West Chatham 11-4 in the tournament opener to send the local squad immediately into loser's bracket action.

But after battling all the way back through, West Chatham would shock the unbeaten South Brunswick bunch with seven runs in the top of the first and never looked back in cruising to a stunning 18-6 victory.

Russell, Clendenin, Sanchez, Garner, Scott, Morris and Karaleigh Dodson all scored for West Chatham in the torrid start.

The locals added runs from Clendenin and Sanchez in the third to push the WC lead to a comfortable 9-0. Sanchez highlighted the surge with an RBI-double.

After South Brunswick made a small run to tally four in the top of the third to close the gap to 9-4, West Chatham answered with nine runs in the home half of the inning to put the game away. Russell, Fields, Clendenin, Sanchez, Scott, Morris, Brown,

Mattie Underwood and Payton Pickett all scored in the uprising.

South Brunswick added two runs in the fourth but it wasn't enough to extend the contest as the locals grabbed the 18-6 win in four innings.

Russell took the win on the mound for West Chatham.

The victory by West Chatham forced a deciding final game for all the marbles.

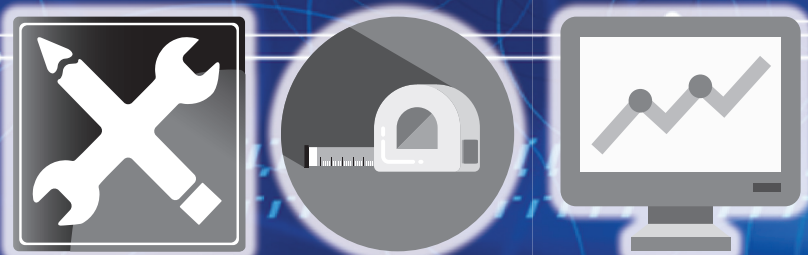
Unfortunately South Brunswick came roaring back with a vengeance and would not be denied the state championship and berth to the Dixie Youth Southeast Regionals.

South Brunswick plated five runs in the bottom of the first, five more in the second, and a final run in the third to cap an impressive 11-1 triumph in three and a half innings, turning the tables and run-ruling West Chatham.

Only in the top of the second was West Chatham able to push a run across when Clendenin walked and later scored.

Russell took the loss on the mound for West Chatham, which closed the state tournament with a 3-2 mark.

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POLICE REPORTS

Greensboro pair charged with shoplifting in broad daylight

The Pittsboro Police Department had perhaps one of its easier arrests late last week.

A trio of officers were eating lunch at Japan Express in Pittsboro when Tyson Caviness, 33, and Melanie Slattery, 29, both of Greensboro, reportedly ran across the parking lot in front of Lowes Hardware on U.S. 15-501 with merchandise. Simultaneously, Pittsboro officers were called to the store regarding a shoplifting in progress.

The pair were placed under arrest for shoplifting goods valued at over \$1,000. The police report states the items included a two tool kits.

Both were taken to the Chatham County Detention Center before being released on a written promise. No court date has been set.

—CN+R Staff Reports

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Tina Allsup, 38, of Pittsboro, was charged July 8 with simple assault and disorderly conduct. She was released under a written promise with an August 20 court date in Siler City.

Kevin Slocumb, 43, of Fayetteville, was charged July 8 with failure to appear. He was released under a written promise with a July 23 court date in Randolph County.

Joey Oliver, 39, of Siler City, was charged July 8 with assault on a female and communicating threats. He was held under no bond with a July 23 court date in Siler City.

Aaron Haynes, 36, of Mebane, was charged July 8 with uttering a forged instrument and attempting to obtain property by false pretense. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a July 30 court date in Alamance County.

Richard McLean, 48, of Sanford, was charged July 9 with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and damage to personal property. He was held under a \$1,000 bond with a July 31 court date in Pittsboro.

Auner Benitez, 34, of Ramseur, was charged July 9 with failure to appear for driving while license revoked impaired revocation. He was held under a \$1,000 bond with a July 29 court date in Asheboro.

Francis Murray Jr., 44, of Asheboro, was charged July 10 with failure to appear. He was held under a \$300 bond with an August 13 court date in Pittsboro.

Connor Jeffery, 21, of Siler City, was charged July 10 with larceny, possession of stolen goods/property and failure to appear. He was held under a \$200 bond with a July 23 court date in Siler City.

Tanya Straughn, 33, of Pittsboro, was charged July 11 with pre-trial release violations. She was held under a \$10,000 bond with a July 24 court date in Pittsboro.

Daniel Smith Jr., 38, of Siler City, was charged July 12 for larceny of a motor vehicle, injury to personal property and failure to appear. He was held under a \$300 bond with an August 13 court date in Siler City.

Austin Egnaczak, 18, of Pittsboro, was charged July 12 with malicious conduct by prisoner; resisting a public officer and second-degree trespassing. He was held under a \$5,000 bond with a July 22 court date in Chatham County.

Aaron Davis, 36, of Siler City, was charged July 13 with breaking and entering, terrorizing and injuring, simple assault and injury to personal property. He was held under a \$1,000 bond with a July 22 court date in Pittsboro.

Justin Maness, 31, of Siler City, was charged July 13 with misdemeanor larceny. He was held un-

der a \$1,000 bond with an August 13 court date in Siler City.

Franklin Birchett, 51, of Pittsboro, was charged July 14 with trespassing. He was released on a written promise with a July 24 court date in Chatham County.

Michael Mercado, 30, of Staley, was charged July 14 with resisting a public officer. He was held under a \$1,000 bond with a July 24 court date in Chatham County.

SILER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bobby Lassiter of Durham was cited July 3 with failure to reduce speed on Eleventh Street in Siler City.

Jennifer Langston, 42, of Siler City, was charged July 6 with two counts of simple assault, assault with a deadly weapon and injury to personal property. She was held under a \$1,500 bond with a July 30 court date in Siler City. She was also charged July 10 with simple assault. She was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a July 21 court date in Siler City.

Shannon Burke, 22, of Pittsboro, was charged July 7 with shoplifting and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was held under a \$500 bond with a July 16 court date in Siler City.

James Stanley, 27, of Siler City, was charged July 7 with felony

possession of methamphetamine, shoplifting, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to one-half ounce, possession of marijuana paraphernalia and child not sitting in the rear seat. He was held under a \$2,500 bond with a July 22 court date in Pittsboro.

Ira Brady Jr., 41, of Asheboro, was charged July 7 with probation violation and failure to appear. He was held under a \$6,000 bond with a July 19 court date in Asheboro.

Will Johnson, 29, of Siler City, was taken into custody July 10 on a failure to appear charge from Chatham County. He was held under a \$1,000 bond with a July 30 court date in Siler City.

Jamie Foxx, 49, of Siler City, was charged July 10 with felony assault on a female. He was held under no bond with a July 23 court date in Siler City.

Derek Headen, 52, of Siler City, was charged July 10 with failure to appear. He was held under a \$300 bond with an August 6 court date in Siler City.

Sandy Alston, 45, of Siler City, was charged July 10 with failure to appear. She was held under a \$300 bond with an August 6 court date in Siler City.

Jerry White, 69, of Siler City, was given a criminal summons July 11 for communicating threats and assault by pointing a gun. He has a July 24 court date in Siler City.

NEWS BRIEF

Town of Siler City seeking applicants to numerous boards

SILER CITY — The Town of Siler City and Siler City Board of Commissioners are seeking volunteers to represent the town on various boards and committees.

The Airport Authority has a vacancy for one member with no residential requirements. The Airport Authority serves as an

advisory board to the Board of Commissioners concerning operating, regulating, and promoting the Siler City Municipal Airport and to establish a framework to be utilized in coordinating local, state, and federal efforts toward this end.

The Downtown Advisory Committee has two vacancies with no residential requirements. The committee is for those who have a vested interest in the future of Downtown Siler City or who have particular

knowledge, skills, or abilities that serve the interest and intent of the purpose of developing a viable framework to enhance further revitalization and development of downtown, utilizing existing and emerging strengths of this vital central commercial hub of the Siler City community.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has two vacancies with no residential requirements. The committee makes recom-

mendations to the Board of Commissioners for the establishment of a system of supervised recreation for the town.

The Siler City Planning Board/ Board of Adjustments has one vacancy for a resident of the City Limits. The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Town Planner, makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on conditional use permit, rezoning, conditional use rezoning, and text amendment applica-

tions, among other duties. The Planning Board also serves as the Board of Adjustment to review variances, consider appeals from the zoning administrator or building inspector, and to issue special use and special exception permits.

With the exception of the ABC Board and the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment, all positions are advisory in nature and are unpaid.

Persons interested should submit a letter of

interest to the Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson Town of Siler City, Post Office Box 769, Siler City, N.C., or at 311 N. Second Avenue, or jjohnson@silercity.org no later than July 31.

The letter of interest should include: home address, phone number, email address, educational background, current employment, civic involvement, why you wish to serve, and any other information you feel pertinent.

—CN+R Staff Reports

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Kid Scoop Together

Book Scoop

Use the Kid Scoop Secret Decoder Ring to discover the name of this book by Fran Hodgkins and Mike Taylor, which is available at the library.



Night sky photography by Mike Taylor and NASA images of the births and deaths of stars and galaxies help tell the story of the Milky Way along with details about stars, planets, nebulae, super novae and more.

To discover the name of this book, find the letter on the outer ring, then replace it with the letter below it on the inner ring.

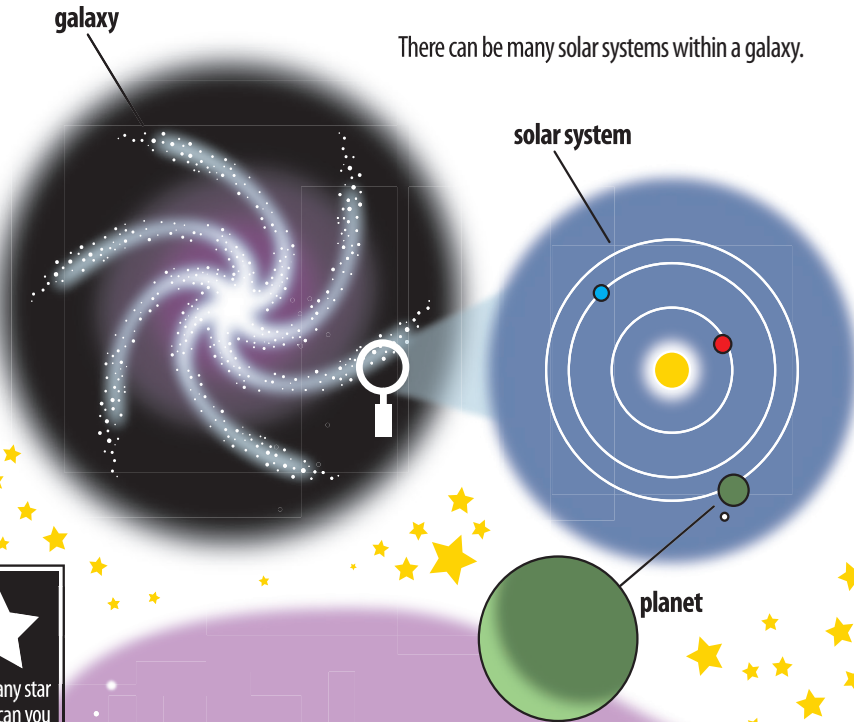
D C T

K T O G T D

A P V P I N

GOODNESS GRACIOUS: GALAXIES ABOUND!

There can be many solar systems within a galaxy.



What is a galaxy?

A **galaxy** is a group of stars held together by gravity.

Some stars in a galaxy have planets orbiting them. These are called **solar systems**.

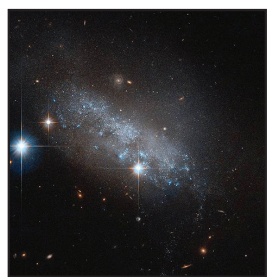
The earth is part of a solar system of planets that orbit our sun. Our solar system is in a galaxy called the **Milky Way**.



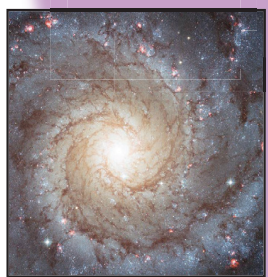
Types of Galaxies



An **Elliptical Galaxy** is smooth and oval shaped.



An **Irregular Galaxy** is a galaxy that isn't spiral or oval. It has an irregular shape and looks like a blob.



A **Spiral Galaxy** has curved arms that make it look like a pinwheel.

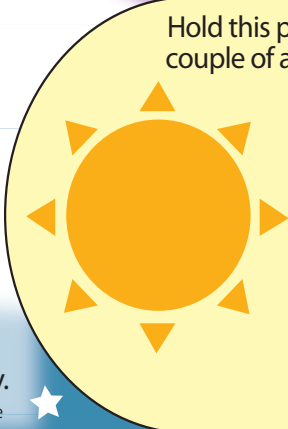
Milky Way

We live in the galaxy called the Milky Way. The Milky Way is a spiral-shaped galaxy and is estimated to be made up of around 300 billion stars.

The word galaxy comes from the Greek word for "milky."

The closest galaxy to the Milky Way is Andromeda, which is around 2.6 million light years away from us.

Hold this page up to a mirror to learn a couple of amazing facts about our sun.



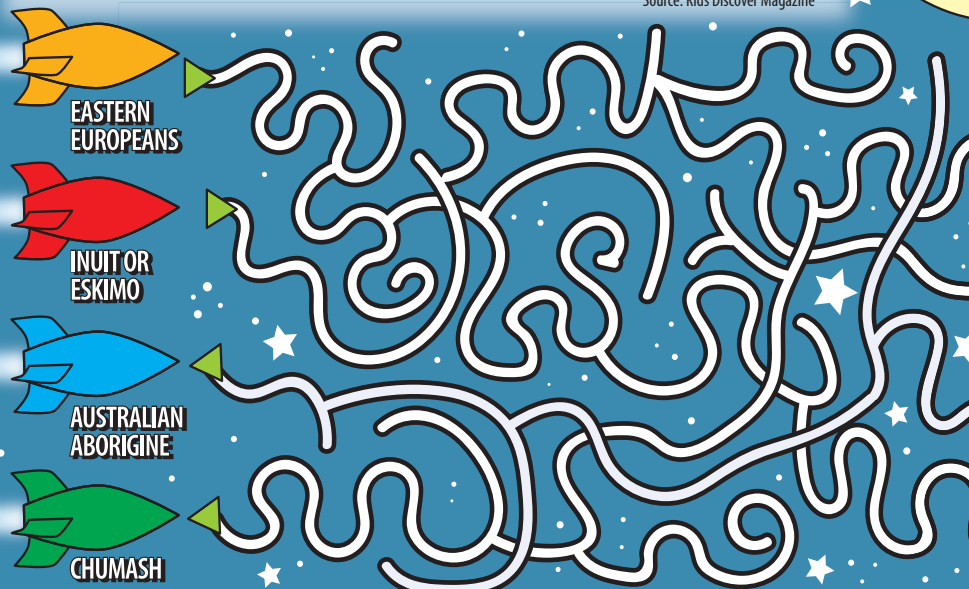
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Our galaxy is part of 30 nearby galaxies.

A-maze-ing Stories

Around the world, there are many legends about the Milky Way. Follow the maze to discover what some cultures saw in the Milky Way.

Source: Kids Discover Magazine



A circle of feathers

A raven's snowshoe tracks

Smoke from a heavenly campfire

A straw-covered road

Extra! Extra! Shapes in the Newspaper

Look through the newspaper for the following shapes:

- Circle
- Square
- Oval
- Rectangle
- Triangle

Standards Link: Math: Recognize geometric shapes.

A Great Summer Writing Idea

Keeping a daily journal of what you do all summer is a good way to keep your writing skills sharp.

Here's a great summer tip from Reading Rockets. List on a piece of paper some ideas for Summer Journal entries. The list could include ideas, memories, wishes or questions. Cut these out and place in a clean jar. Pull one out per day and use the heading to write a journal entry.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Cut out the sentence fragments below and paste them to another sheet of paper in the correct order to reveal an interesting fact about our galaxy.

- from Earth's southern hemisphere. They are
- century Portuguese explorer who saw them.
- Our galaxy has two smaller satellite galaxies
- named for Ferdinand Magellan, the 16th
- called the Magellanic Clouds which are visible

Double Double Word Search

- ANDROMEDA
- IRREGULAR
- PINWHEEL
- GRAVITY
- PLANETS
- GALAXY
- SPIRAL
- MILKY
- SOLAR
- STARS
- GROUP
- LIVE
- BLOB
- OVAL
- WAY

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **ORBIT**

The verb **orbit** means the act of one object revolving around another object.

The Earth **orbits** around the sun.

Try to use the word **orbit** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Rounding

Clip ten money amounts from the newspaper and glue to a sheet of paper. Round each number to the nearest dollar and write that number next to it.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Rounding.



What does a star win in a competition?

ANSWER: A constellation prize!

Write On! Summer Jokes

Write down your favorite summer jokes and riddles and tell them to your friends. Mail some jokes to a family member who lives far away.



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of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of October, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 12th day of July, 2019. Angela G. Spainhour, Executrix of The Estate of Michael Glenn Trogdon Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 Jy18,Jy25, Au1,Au8,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of

EMMA JEAN TEAGUE, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of October, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 12th day of July, 2019. Joe Anthony Bivens, Administrator of

The Estate of Emma Jean Teague Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 Jy18,Jy25, Au1,Au8,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 341 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the estate of FRANCES ANN CLARK, 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

October 18, 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. This the 18th day of July, 2019. Barbara Jo Berry, Administrator 146 Star Ranch Road Siler City, NC 27344 Jy18,Jy25,Au1,Au8,4tc

Helping your pets beat the heat

BY CASEY MANN News + Record Staff

With another week of searing temperatures and heat indices at or above around 100 degrees, pet owners are being reminded that keeping pets cool will ensure a long and healthy relationship with your animal friends. Kimberly Harman, animal services director at the Chatham County Animal Shelter, notes that the shelter takes great lengths to keep animals awaiting adoption cool. In the dog kennels, there are HVAC units that keep the air at a constant 80 degrees in the summer. But the Animal Shelter does more.

“One of the fun things our volunteers and staff do is they bathe them and have fun water play,” Harman said. “That’s enrichment and it cools them down.”

It’s important for pet owners to know the basics of keeping pets cool and to recognize dangers before they reach a point of damaging your pets’ health.

Don’t leave your pet in the car

According to The Humane Society, temperatures in a car on an 85 degree day can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes — even with the windows cracked — and up to 120 degrees after 30 minutes. Both the Humane Society and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) urge pet owners to never leave a pet in the car, even for a short period of time, even with the car running

and the air conditioner on. “Your pet may suffer irreversible organ damage or die,” the Humane Society website reads. If you see an animal left inside a car, the Chatham County Sheriff’s Office wants concerned residents to call 911 and an animal resource officer will respond. The animal will not only be rescued, but the department will then make efforts to locate the animal’s owner. “Our intent is for education and prevention for the best interests of animals and people,” Sheriff Mike Roberson said. It’s not just the heat, it’s the humidity. “It’s important to remember that it’s not just the ambient temperature but also the humidity that can affect your pet,” says Dr. Barry Kellogg of the

Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association. “Animals pant to evaporate moisture from their lungs, which takes heat away from their body. If the humidity is too high, they are unable to cool themselves, and their temperature will skyrocket to dangerous levels— very quickly.”

Keep your pets cool When it’s hot outside, pets can dehydrate quickly, so always make sure they have plenty of fresh, clean water. When it’s very hot, add ice cubes to their water to keep it cool. When outside, pets should have a shady place to get out of the sun where there is plenty of air flow. A dog house offers little respite from the heat. When it’s extremely hot, it’s best to keep your pets indoors. Some dogs love water,



Tatiana, a rat terrier mix, gets a cooling bath from Kimberly Harman at the animal shelter. Animals suffer from the heat because of their body makeup. By cooling their stomach in lukewarm water, the animals’ body heat can safely be reduced.

but not all dogs are good swimmers. Dogs bellies have the thinnest skin so letting them rest in shallow water will provide an opportunity to cool their body temperature. Don’t leave your pets unsupervised around a pool and make sure they wear flotation devices when on boats. It is also a good idea to rinse your

dog off after swimming to remove chlorine or salt from his fur and try to keep your dog from drinking pool water. You can also trim longer hair on your dog, but should never shave them as their fur can protect them from overheating and sunburn. Brushing cats more often than usual can prevent problems caused by ex-

cessive heat. Pets can suffer overheating or heat stroke. Care should be taken when exercising your pet when the temperature and humidity rise. On hot days, limit exercise to early morning and evening hours. If you place your hand on asphalt and it’s hot, your pet’s paws may burn, so walk them on the grass if possible. Animal advocates also ask owners to pay special attention to pets with white-colored ears, which are more susceptible to skin cancer, and short-nosed pets, like Pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to overheating and heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. And owners should always take water with them to help their pet from dehydrating. Signs of heatstroke Symptoms of overheating and heatstroke in pets include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, glazed eyes, drooling, excessive thirst, mild weakness, lack of coordination, or even seizures and unconsciousness. If you suspect your pet is suffering heatstroke, move them into the shade or an air-conditioned area and apply ice packs or cold towels to their head, neck and chest or run cool (not cold) water over them. Let them drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes and take them to a veterinarian. Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at Casey.Mann@Chathamnr.com.

Black comedy ‘Self-Defense’ somewhat engrossing, but lacks focus

The term “toxic masculinity” has become as virulent as toxic masculinity itself, an amorphous catch-all label attached to any expression mere masculinity itself. The term loses its potency when portrayed in films like “The Art of Self-Defense,” a pitch-black comedy in which the polar extremes of modern masculinity are rendered so risible that any metaphorical value is leached away in the process. That’s not to say the film isn’t otherwise droll and enjoyable. Jesse Eisenberg plays Casey Davies, a nebbish (natch) who lives alone with his pooch and works as a small-company accountant who isn’t welcome in the employee break room because he’s the one who audits their expense accounts. He wants to visit France some day, but the closest he’ll ever really come is learning French by tape. When Casey is mugged by a masked motorcycle gang and nearly left for dead during a nocturnal stroll home from the grocery store, he’s left with a bruised body and psyche. Casey drops even more out of sight, and during the waiting period to buy a handgun, he wanders into a storefront dojo, where he’s instantly intoxicated by the discipline, physicality, and self-affirmation of karate. He also admires the cocksure attitude of the dojo’s jut-jawed Sensei, played by Alessandro Nivola,



Jesse Eisenberg and Phillip Andre Botello star in ‘The Art of Self-Defense.’

who is always appears on the verge of full-on gonzo and runs the dojo off charisma, an iron fist, and a structural hierarchy built upon rank and a blind devotion to the one person who can bestow that rank, and thus your self-worth. Sensei inherited the dojo from his former master, a great warrior who was shot and killed during a bird-hunting accident. Sensei’s deliberate, repeated recitation of that story fits into the faux-Coen brothers parlance that fills writer-director Riley Stearns’ script. It also smacks of the sort of rote back story that often conceals something sinister — indeed, it may not be happenstance that Sensei clearly added rule 11 of the dojo, “Guns are for the weak,” after posting the first 10, perhaps to prevent Sensei from suffering a similar fate. Stearns never elaborates on this sidelight, but it’s one of the many mysteries hovering around the dojo’s nefarious, cult-like climate. Sensei says he sees himself in Casey and gifts the newcomer with a premature yellow belt and an invitation to the night class, a slightly scaled-down version of “Fight Club” that peels back the dojo’s rank violence and misogyny. Sensei cajoles Casey to listen to more metal, learn a strong language like German or Russian instead of French, and trade in his dachshund for a German

shepherd, all under the auspices of becoming more masculine. One of the dojo’s best students is Anna (Imogen Potts), an aggressive, no-nonsense fighter who nevertheless isn’t permitted to cool down with the men and will never attain the rank of black belt because, as Sensei sees it, “I realize now that her being a woman will prevent her from ever being a man.” The fault with the “Faults” director’s screenplay is that its themes are foisted in such farcical fashion but then aren’t explicated or elaborated upon. Aside from madness, Sensei’s motives remain murky, and the narrative goes down increasingly dark rabbit holes, culminating with a flurry of retribution and redemption. But ultimately, there aren’t any wider lessons beyond violence steeped in cockeyed manliness is bad and its repudiation is good. Perhaps the dojo is meant as a microcosm of our toxic masculine culture, but that runs counter to the film’s actual interactions, however fleeting, with the outside world. Stearns has painted an incomplete portrait, full of color and abstraction but never fully in focus. “The Art of Self-Defense” is unpredictable and sometimes engrossing, but like Sensei and his dojo, the truth below the surface isn’t as rewarding as it appears.

The Art of Self-Defense
GRADE: B -
DIRECTOR: Riley Stearns
STARRING: Jesse Eisenberg, Imogen Poots, and Alessandro Nivola
MPAA RATING: R
RUNNING TIME: 1 hr. 44 min.

NEWS BRIEFS

Wren Library to close for a month

SILER CITY — The Wren Memorial Library Branch in Siler City will be closed for extensive maintenance work in the ceiling and roof areas starting on July 29. The library is expected to reopen on August 26, but the target date may have to be revised depending on the progress of construction. While the library is closed, patrons can visit either the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro or Goldston branch for library services. “We know that this will be very inconvenient for our Siler City area patrons, but the contractors made it clear that the library must be closed to staff and the public while work is underway,” said Linda Clarke, director of Chatham County Libraries. “We are very thankful to the Town of Siler City for providing funds for renovation work. These improvements are greatly appreciated.” While the library is closed, the public should know the following: • The outside book drop will not be available and no books should be dropped off anywhere at this location. No staff will be around to handle materials left anywhere on the property. • The parking lot will not be accessible. • Any items checked out that are due when the library is closed will not incur any late fines during that period, but you also can return items to the other two branches. • An alternative is to use the library’s online resources to check out e-books that can be read on e-reader devices. • Patrons can place holds on materials online to pick up at the other two branches. • No children’s programming normally offered at Wren Library will be available during this time, but some limited programming off-site may be scheduled. Wren has been hosting the CORA Food Pantry SNACK distribution during

the summer, but distributions at this location will end on July 23 in preparation for the maintenance work. Those with questions should contact Wren Memorial Library before July 29 at 919-742-2016 or call the main library branch in Pittsboro at 919-545-8084 after July 29. FirstHealth of the Carolinas Nursing Leadership Academy grads honored PINEHURST — Ten graduates of the FirstHealth of the Carolinas 2019 Nursing Leadership Academy were honored during a graduation ceremony hosted by The Foundation of FirstHealth at the Clara McLean House in Pinehurst on June 28, 2019. Graduates of the 2019 Leadership Academy are Genny Baucom, R.N., Colleen Brown, R.N., Megan Lill, R.N., Shannon O’Neal, R.N., Judi Russell, R.N., Melissa Stewart, R.N., Kristine Thomas, R.N., Krystle Walsh, R.N., Cornelia Winters, R.N., and Courtney Wise, R.N. The academy, which is a year-long program, was created by FirstHealth nursing leadership to prepare charge/staff nurses for nursing leadership roles. “The ever-changing health care industry can be challenging for frontline nurse managers,” says Deana Kearns, MSN, R.N., administrative director for clinical practice and corporate education at FirstHealth. “The Nursing Leadership Academy was developed for staff who aspire to leadership positions to gain the knowledge, skill and abilities needed to lead in a complex health care environment.” The academy provides instruction on topics such as transformational leadership, managing fiscal and human resources, leading during change, and quality. These topics are presented over five classroom days throughout the program. — CN + R staff reports

Bear sightings abound in Pittsboro

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Footage of several bear sightings in Pittsboro in the past week have spread across social media, with one video being viewed more than 20,000 times.

Chatham County resident Lisa Langley, while on her way to church July 7, captured video of a bear crossing the U.S. Hwy. 64 bypass near the U.S. 15-501 interchange.

“Well, it was definitely shocking,” Langley said. “It was right in front of me. It was exciting. I’ve seen bears in Chatham County on hunting cameras, but I was surprised to see it where we were.”

Another bear sighting was reported last weekend in the front yard of a residence on Pete Robertson Road, just off of N.C. 902 four miles south of Pittsboro.

Although not an everyday occurrence, bear sightings are not uncommon in Chatham County, particularly this time of year.

According to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, bears are typically found in the mountains and coastal plain, though sightings in the Piedmont often occur between May and July. The commission says interactions between humans and bears have been on the rise in North Carolina.

“In 2017, observations and complaints about black bears increased 100 percent, from 592 in 2016 to 1,167 in 2017,” a Com-



Screenshot courtesy of Lisa Langley

A screenshot from a now-viral video of a bear crossing the U.S. 64 bypass this month.

mission report states.

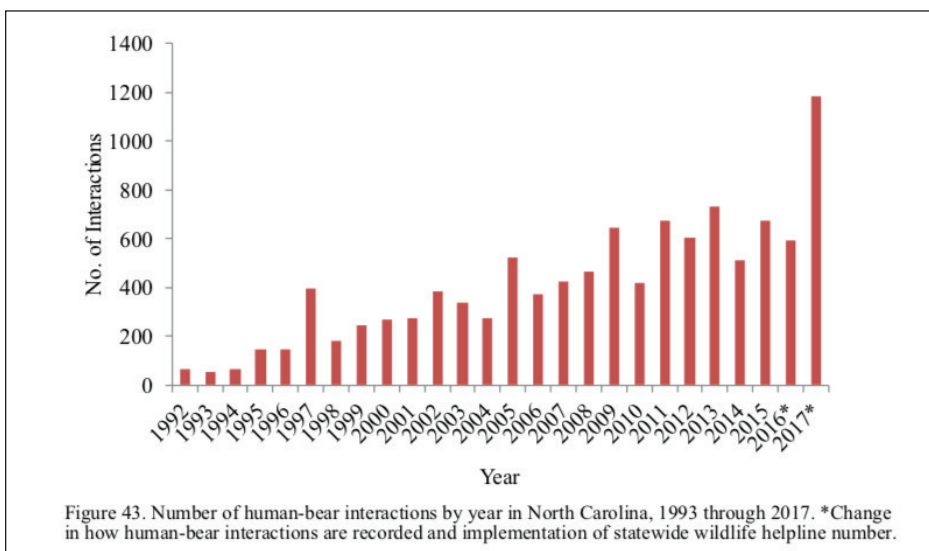
Of those interactions, a majority occur from May through July when “bears are more active due to increased traveling to locate scarce spring natural food resources.”

In a statement released in April, the commission noted that “while bears are not inherently dangerous and are rarely aggressive toward people, biologists urge people to be cautious and follow the BearWise Basics to reduce potential conflicts and live responsibly with black bears.”

BearWise Basics

- Never feed a bear. Feeding bears, either on purpose or by accident, will train the bear to approach homes and people for more food
- To prevent unintentional feeding, secure food, garbage, and recyclables. Use garbage cans that have secure latching systems
- Remove bird feeders during this active time

- Never leave pet food outside
- Clean and store grills after use to avoid attracting bears
- Keep neighbors aware of bear activity and ways to avoid attracting them
- Install electric fencing to protect bee hives (another favorite of black bears), gardens, and compost piles. Bears, once tasting honey, bee larva, and the bees themselves, will likely raid bee yards, according to the commission
- “And if one bear finds the bee hives, other bears will likely follow,” according to the commission’s website
- Tips for protecting your bee hives
 - Beehives should be located at least 50 yards from forest tree lines or other sources of cover for bears
 - Electric fencing is the most effective and efficient method for preventing bear damage to beehives



This graphic from an annual report from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commissioner shows the increase in human-bear interactions over the past two decades.

- Electric fencing can either be made permanent, for a bee yard that will not be moved, or temporary
- Electric fencing is the least expensive way of solving most bear depredation problems in bee yards
- Fencing is only effective if it is maintained
- “No matter where you are or where you live, if you encounter a bear, the most important thing to do is leave the bear alone,” said Colleen

Olfenbuttel, the commission’s black bear and fur-bearer biologist. “Don’t try to feed it or chase it off — we can’t stress this enough. Crowds of people can unnerve a bear, perhaps causing it to act defensively.”

The commission suggests using the its N.C. Wildlife Helpline toll-free at 866-318-2401. The call center is open Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“When commission

staff receive a report of a transient bear in an area, they assess the situation to determine if the bear poses a threat to public safety or property, or if the bear is significantly threatened,” the release reads. “In almost all cases, the Wildlife Commission advises that the best approach is a hands-off approach, allowing the bear to leave on its own.”

Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at CaseyMann@Chathamnr.com.

WNCA’s Hayes, wife survive hit-and-run

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Siler City’s radio personality Barry Hayes and his wife Dacia survived a hit-and-run on July 4, learning their own resilience and the determination of their cherished pet cat, Chloe.

The three had been traveling in Brunswick County the evening of the holiday. Hayes notes that traffic was light, likely because many revelers had reached their destinations. Suddenly, a vehicle rammed their vehicle from behind, striking it twice before speeding away.

“US-17 in southern Brunswick County was clear and wide-open — when our back-window was suddenly flooded with bright light, followed in a microsecond by two deafening and jolting ‘bangs’ as our vehicle was sent out of control and rolling or flipping and off the road,” Hayes said.

Hayes, who owns and operates WNCA, an AM station, said the investigation by the North Carolina Highway Patrol, which is still ongoing, estimated

the driver was traveling in excess of 75 miles per hour.

“It was a ‘hit and run’ — no skid-marks at point of impact — and the driver has not been identified or located,” Hayes said.

Hayes and his wife were transported and hospitalized at the Grand Strand Medical Center in Myrtle Beach for cracked ribs, cuts and bruises. After several days, they were released and returned home and are receiving “fabulous outpatient care, from our beloved UNC / Chatham Hospital.”

Unfortunately, their beloved cat, Chloe went missing during the accident, according to Hayes. Everyone assumed the cat had been ejected during the accident or may have succumbed to fatal injuries. But Chloe appeared a couple of days later, 20 miles away from the scene of the accident. She was found hiding under the seat of the “demolished vehicle” in the tow-yard where it had been taken after the accident. Chloe is now back at home with the Hayes and recovering herself. Hayes notes she is still a bit dazed by the

ordeal and “is slowly recovering from the trauma, as are we.”

“There are stories on-top of stories within this nightmare,” Hayes said. “But the bottom-line and most important ‘take-away’ is that the ‘Mighty Hand of God’ was all over this — from beginning to the present — and ‘we’ would have been ‘but a memory’ had ‘HE’ not intervened (in multiple ways).”

Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at CaseyMann@Chathamnr.com.



Submitted photo

Siler City’s radio personality Barry Hayes, his wife, Dacia, and their beloved cat, Chloe, were victims of a hit-and-run on July 4.



Submitted photo

Chloe, the beloved pet of WNCA’s Barry Hayes and his wife, Dacia, found her way back to the family car 20 miles from the crash that occurred on July 4. ‘She is dazed and a bit traumatized after the ordeal, now just wanting a drink of water,’ Hayes said.



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