SPORTS: Tough opening week for Chatham's football teams, PAGE B1

Chatham News + Record

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Now the top dog, always an educator

CCS superintendent Jordan brings teacher's mindset to 'complex' job

> BY ZACHARY HORNER News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Even the superintendent of schools has to deal with school bus traffic on the first day of classes.

Derrick Jordan kicked off the first day of Chatham County's 2019-2020 school year on a trip around Siler City with Keith Medlin, the district's director of technology and communications, but that jaunt got off to a bit of a slow start. While driving on U.S. Highway 64 Business out of Pittsboro, Jordan superintendent of Chatham County Schools and Medlin got behind a school bus driven by a cautious and conscientious driver.

But by 7:40 a.m., they had arrived at Siler City Elementary School to greet students and staff at the start of what Jordan described as a "fun race" to try to visit every classroom in every school across Chatham County.

For 18 schools spread across 710 square miles, that's not simple. But it's not like Jordan has a simple job anyway.

Fulfilling his duties

As a former teacher and school-level administrator, Jordan enjoys being in the classroom the most, but his full duties require a little bit more work.

The role of the superintendent primarily is to actualize the board's vision for the school district," he says. "To wrap around the goals and to establish some sub-goals to ensure that you continue to make progress. And to be a unifier. It's complex work. You have so many different perspectives that



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Derrick Jordan helps a student Monday morning in a first-grade classroom at Siler City Elementary with a book reading assignment.

are at play. The superintendent has to keep a finger on all those different perspectives.

When he took the job of superintendent in 2013, he added a lot of responsibilites he didn't have previously, namely dealing with facilities. Chatham is a growing district — according to the Operations Research and Education Laboratory at N.C. State, the county is projected to grow its student population by more than 22 percent over the next 10 years. Thus the need for new schools like Chatham Grove Elementary School (opening next

August) and Seaforth High School (opening August 2021) arises, as well as schools built in Chatham Park as it fills up.

Jordan said that he tries to keep the same general mindset — "all students deserve the very best that we have to offer"—through all the growth, but as all educators have to do nowadays, changes and adjustments are part

"Folks have to know and understand

See JORDAN, page A6

After the monument vote, where are we now?

BY ZACHARY HORNER News + Record Staff

Thirty-one years ago, on the advice of County Manager Marvin Hoffman and Siler City contractor Tim Nance, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners called for the statue on top of the "Our Confederate Heroes" monument in downtown Pittsboro to be removed for repairs.

According to a June 23, 1988 story in The Chatham Record, Nance told the board he was 'concerned that the soldier may be about to leave his post as he can be seen gently swaying in high winds." A few weeks later, the soldier was removed; a Record story reported that he looked "corroded and unstable" as he came down.

More than 11,000 days after that soldier came down, it's the subject of another plan to come down — this time likely for good.

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners' decision Aug. 19 to terminate the deal between the county and the Winnie Davis Chapter of the United Daughters of the

See MONUMENT, page A3

CHATHAM'S ROAD FROM FARM TO FORK

The journey to your plate: sometimes it's complicated



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Greg Lewis, the owner of Pittsboro Roadhouse, uses as much local produce as he can - including this lettuce from Lil Rooster Farm.

BY CORBIE HILL News + Record Correspondent

Editor's note: Chatham County's farmers and restaurants have a unique partnership, one that's designed to appeal to the palates of locals with discriminating and healthy — tastes. In the first of a two-part series, the News + Record looks at what transpires along the winding road from farm to fork. This week: produce. Next week: meat.

It was a hot and oppressively humid Thursday afternoon and one of Pittsboro's two weekly farmer's markets was slowly taking shape just east of downtown. Ben Shields of In Good Heart Farm, unloaded pints of multicolored cherry tomatoes, while Meredith Leight of Granite Springs Farm displayed a few varieties of heirloom okra some of which bore a deep purple tint. There were peaches and essential oils, peppers and goat cheese, onions and garlic bulbs for sale, and there was a crackle in the atmosphere; an edge to the heat, to the breeze, to the very feel of the air, presag-

ing an evening of storms. Beads of sweat stand out on Shields' face as he sets up his stall. For him, the farming life is very direct. There's no middleman, no markup — even when he sells to restaurants such as Angelina's Cafe or Postal Fish Company in Pittsboro, he sells directly. From his farm in Hickory Mountain Township, it's a

quick drive to these restaurants or to the Chatham Marketplace. "It's about as short as you can

get," he says. Next stall over, Leight tells a similar story. For small farmers, relationships are key. So she sells directly to restaurants, and for her, developing relationships with chefs is no different from getting to know customers at farmer's markets. She brings up an ethical component — namely that if you don't know where your food originally comes from, as is the case at larger grocery stores, you don't know if human rights abuses happened along

ter-of-fact reasons. "We're not big enough to go through distributors," Leight

the line. But there are also mat-

This is the story for many small farmers — build relationships and sell directly — but not all. Indeed, there are steps in the process between farm and fork that are essential when farms scale up, either in size or in geographical reach. Exploring the often invisible supply chain that local food travels when it isn't or can't be sold directly is a fascinating journey.

With produce, the supply chain can include services that would put a burden on farmers' time and resources — processing such as dicing, milling or juicing. And sometimes it's simply a question of the number of miles between farm and fork.

Delivering to a restaurant, if it's down the street, is a little

different," says Krista Morgan. "There is a little more distance and the distributor may require your produce to be refrigerated the entire time. Regulations are a little different. The needs are

As market access coordinator with Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, a Pittsboro-based nonprofit that serves sustainability-minded farmers in both Carolinas, Morgan's job is to connect farmers to buyers. She guides growers in everything from packaging and labeling to figuring out what to grow and how to grow it. Infrastructure, packing sheds, food safety practices — these are all in her wheelhouse, as are the many destinations aside from grocery stores and restaurants that local produce can have.

'You've got distributors who go to grocery stores. You've also got distributors who go to foodservice or public school systems, military bases, prisons," Morgan says. "You've also got private universities who tend to buy more than public because their funds are unrestricted.'

She breaks these down into three categories: small-, medium- and large-scale buyers, which opens up another consideration. Larger kitchens simply need more food.

'If I want fresh tomatoes, I go down to Marshall's Produce Stand and get fresh local tomatoes," says Greg Lewis.

See **PRODUCE**, page A12

Silk Hope Ruritans prep for popular Labor Day weekend event

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE News + Record Staff

SILK HOPE — At this moment

and throughout the rest of this week — a steady fire is being nurtured at a tobacco-curing barn nestled among the 38 acres that comprise Silk Hope Farm Heritage

Approximately 150 sticks of tobacco are hanging inside the vintage wooden barn (built in 1850),

where the time-tested heat source maintains the slowly-increasing temperature required to properly cure the leaf.

Overseeing the fire — it's an around-the-clock task - are members of the Silk Hope Ruritan Club, who are busy this week gearing up for the return on Saturday and Sunday of Old Fashioned Farmers' Days, of which old-time tobacco-curing methods are only one attraction.

The annual two-day Labor Day weekend event, which draws hundreds of visitors each year, is returning for its 44th installment.

Just as the tobacco-curing is being undertaken by traditional methods, Old Fashioned Farmers' Days showcases an enormous variety of vintage farming equipment and old-time techniques.

On display throughout the week-

See SILK HOPE, page A12



Staff photo by David Bradley

Johnny Johnson checks the flue-curing on the tobacco hanging in the tobacco barn Monday morning. The sticks of tobacco are showing life as it was in the past, as part of the 'Old Fashioned Days' in Silk Hope. Tobacco was one of the top agricultural crops in North Carolina for decades.



Northwood's new \$3 million 'Charger Boulevard' dedicated. PAGE A3

Arts Council expands programs in Chatham County Schools. PAGE A7

CH@T: Schwerin looks to spice things up for annual Pepperfest. PAGE A11

\$7.8 million parks plans approved for Bynum, Bear Creek. PAGE B9



COMMUNITY **CALENDAR**

ON THE AGENDA

· Join us at the Silk Hope Community Building for the Ruritan Club's Benefit Bingo! on August 29. It's held every 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday evening of each month. 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 Farmer's **Market** is open with available items year-round on Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m. They are 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, 950 Bynum Road, every Friday 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 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, and 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

 Summer Kiln Opening at Mark Hewitt Pottery in Pittsboro, featuring saltglazed dinnerware, vases, and Mark's signature big pots from the 101st firing will be held Saturday, August 31 from 9 a.m to 5 p.m. and Sunday, September 1 from noon to 5 p.m.

· Bird Walk, NHAS will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 1, in front of the Wild Bird Center in **Eastgate Shopping Center** in Chapel Hill for about a 3 hour walk. Contact Tom Driscoll at: spttdrdshnk@ yahoo.com. Another Bird Walk will meet at 7:30 a.m., September 8, across the entry road behind Bojangles at Oak Creek Village Shopping Center in Durham for about a 3 hour walk. Contact

Jim Capel at jim.capel@ mindspring.com. (Applies to all walks: 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.)

SUNDAY

• Sunday, September 1, the Pittsboro Business **Association is sponsoring** our monthly First Sunday Street Fair, featuring arts and crafts vendors, other businesses, music, food, and children's activities. Many downtown businesses will also be open, along with the Historical Museum. Come enjoy this family-friendly event from 12 to 5 p.m.! More information is available on our Pittsboro Business Association Facebook page, at www.shoppittsboro.com, and via email at pittsborofirstsunday@ gmail.com.

• The Chatham Historical Museum will be open on Sunday, September 1, from noon until 4:30 p.m. Free, adult and kid friendly. Come enjoy some Chatham history!

• Yoga Garden PBO will hold an open house event from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 1, with refreshments, giveaways, and free class passes for all who attend. Visitors can tour the garden cottage studio, meet the teachers, and learn about the studio's expanded fall schedule. There will be deals on yoga mats, props, clothing and more. Everything in the studio' lifestyle boutique will be on sale during the Labor Day weekend, Friday, August 30 through Monday, September 2.

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, located downstairs in downtown Pittsboro. Cost is \$5 per person each week. For more information or to

verify the time/place, email: gunnhsd@embarq-

• 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.

UPCOMING

 The Chatham Historical Museum is open every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11 until Admission is free and there's something for kids and adults. See our webpage for more info: chathamhistory.org.

 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-

ALSO HAPPENING

· 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 WaltWolfram@ ncsu.edu or call 919-218-

 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 volun-

teers 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 serving a 2-3 hour weekly shift for a minimum of six months. All prospective volunteers must complete an online application, a criminal background check, an orientation and have documentation of required immunizations. To learn more go to: www. chathamhospital.org/ch/ about-us/volunteer.

 The Carolina Mountain **Dulcimer Players** meet the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Seymour Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill. Beginners, experts, and all stringed instruments are welcome. For more information and/or directions, contact Shirley Ray at Shirley-Ray@aol.com or 919-929-

 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 vou 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

Cub Scouts.

• 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.bstroop93.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

• 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

Wren Memorial Library opening delayed

SILER CITY — It will take longer than anticipated to complete necessary repairs of the Wren Memorial Library Branch in Siler City. The construction process has experienced challenges due to weather.

The library closed on July 29 to undergo extensive maintenance work in the ceiling and roof areas. The targeted reopening date was August 26.

The public can visit either the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro or Goldston branch for library services. An update on the anticipated reopening will be provided in the coming days.

NCDMV online services and football trains

RALEIGH — The following are highlights from this week at the N.C. Department of Transportation. The stories below are also featured in NCDOT Now, the department's weekly newscast.

Save time at the NCDMV The last two weeks of August can be the busiest at the NCDMV, so here are some things to know before you go.

Check to see if your service can be completed online at MyNCDMV.gov. You don't need an office visit to renew a driver license or vehicle registration, order a duplicate license or ID, or change your address. If you need to visit a DMV office, make sure you have all the proper documentation to complete your business before making the trip.

Finally, since REAL ID applications must be completed in-person, the Division of Motor Vehicles recommends you wait until after the summer peak season to get one. However, before you make an appointment, go online to determine if getting a REAL ID makes sense for you.

— CN+R Staff Reports

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A new way



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Officials from Chatham Park and Chatham County Schools, among others, participated in a ribbon-cutting Thursday morning on Charger Boulevard, a new road in and out of Northwood High School's campus from U.S. Highway 15-501. The road was a \$3 million project given to the school by Chatham Park, which is developing land across the street from the school. Tim Smith, co-owner of Preston Development and one of the developers of Chatham Park, said the road will help "facilitate our \$1 billion in investment we're adding to this area." Derrick Jordan, superintendent of Chatham County Schools, called the road a "labor of love" and added that the district has "been so fortunate to have partners in Chatham Park."



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

The Northwood High School Marching Chargers celebrated the ribboncutting of Charger Boulevard by marching down the street to greet attendees at last Thursday's event.

MONUMENT: 'Residents want to come in and destroy our culture'

Continued from page 1A

Confederacy to house the statue and its pedestal in front of the Chatham County Historic Courthouse ended a many-months debate across the county about the monument's place in Chatham in the 21st century. That debate could be seen in public comments and other statements made on various forums and in conversations in the aftermath of the decision.

A national phenomenon

It was a decision made with a backdrop of similar incidents. The vote came the night before the one-year anniversary of the forceful removal of the Silent Sam statue on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill. While the commissioners were listening to public comments, the Winston-Salem City Council voted 4-2, with one abstention, to change the name of the city-run Dixie Classic Fair. Earlier that day, the City of Norfolk, Virginia, filed a federal lawsuit arguing a Virginia law that prevents the removal of Confederate monuments was unconstitutional, according to The Virginian-Pilot.

Several of the public comments since April,

County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro, have revolved around some residents stating those supporting the monument's removal are outsiders who aren't really part of Chatham.

"Residents want to come in and destroy our culture,' Jane Pate said at the April 15 commissioners meeting. They are attacking us, they are doxxing us."

"Doxxing" is a term describing the internet practice of researching and sharing private or identifying information about an individual or organization. Pate was not alone in her perception.

"I also am convinced there are paid political activists, traveling this country, looking for a cause to support, Charles Lutterloh said that same night, without providing any evidence that it was happening in Chatham. "They prey on young minds, many like our college-aged students. They get 'em fired up and let them go do the dirty work, and these people fade back.

Last week, John Shirley called those moving into the county and supporting removing the statue 'guests" in Chatham.

'When you're a guest at another person's house and you're eating at their table, you don't say their

Schedule Subject to Change Due to Unforeseen Circumstances

said. "You just enjoy the meal and leave. For our guests down here, we love our guests in the south, but I think it's time they try to assimilate a little and try to embrace the south and not fight against it.'

Statements like these reflect a sentiment echoed by many public speakers: removing the monument is changing history and goes against Chatham's history and character.

A new county?

But as shown by the board of commissioners' shift from 31 years ago to today, those leading the county's government say there's a change in the county's values.

"The monument represents a very different time in Chatham County, but its message does not represent our values today," Mike Dasher, the board's chairman, said in a statement released two days after the decision. "We hope that by moving the monument to a more appropriate historical site, the lives of Confederate soldiers can still be memorialized, while also respecting everyone in our diverse community today.

Commissioner Karen Howard, who was born in New York and spent most of her childhood in the Bahamas, said in April

"doesn't reflect us all."

"You can't have two completely opposed positions and say the symbol we're discussing represents the entire community," she said.

But that didn't assuage some who wanted to keep the monument. After the vote, a man shouted angrily, "You're four traitors against Chatham County. One, two, three, four." He pointed at Hales, Crawford, Dasher and Howard. Another man came up to the microphone and said the commissioners didn't know what they were doing.

"Island girl, she's just here," he said, pointing to Howard. "I hope y'all rot in hell."

During the deliberations, Howard expressed a desire to see some kind of community reconciliation, through jeers from the crowd.

"Certainly the voices of black people have not been heard in the telling of these stories, and if we are going to have a conversation, if we are going to have a disposition of difficult issues that truly reflects our community, it has to involve multiple voices," she said. "I would like to perhaps propose that the community look at having some sort of reconciliation, some sort of panel where we can have

4221 Silk Hope Road, Siler City, NC 27344

www.SilkHopeNC.org

ciding that the monument issues. I understand that it is a difficult issue and there is a lot of passion behind it, but talking over me is not going to resolve this.'

Moving forward

Dasher said he believes that if the same agreement on the monument was brought to the board today that was brought to the county in 1907, it would go nowhere.

"All the people that would support it could fit inside this courtroom," he said. "If we were asked to approve that agreement that was approved in 1907, there's no way in hell. That's what it boils down to, for me. That was fine for Chatham County in 1907, that's not the Chatham County we are. If that's disappointing to some people, I can't fix that."

Arementha Davis, a member of the Chatham Community NAACP, said at an organization board meeting at the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro on Monday that she would have been OK with the monument's place at one point in history, but no more.

'It seems like we're going in the opposite direction," Davis said. "So I would be just as pleased to see it come down. The way the country is now — the accomplishments that we have made in the past seem to be null and void now.

At that same meeting, branch president Mary Nettles said Chatham County was changing. 'And it is important for

everyone to work together," she said.

What happens next, at this point, is up to

the UDC. Winnie Davis Chapter President Barbara Pugh said in a letter to Dasher earlier this month that the UDC would "seek legal opinion from a judge" if they did not leave the monument in place. Pugh has not yet responded to an email seeking comment after the decision.

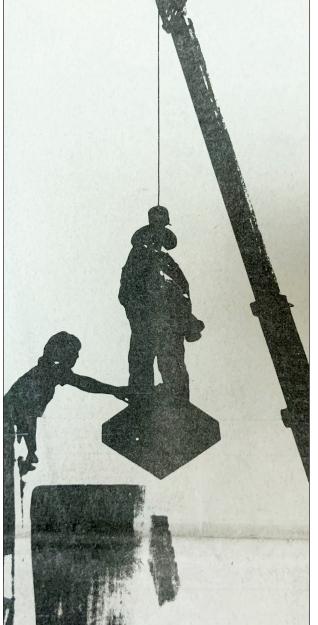
The North Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans pledged their support to the local UDC in their "fight against the Chatham County Board of Commissioners" and said the board offering an option to reimagine the monument was a "death warrant for the memorial."

"Based on its actions on Monday night, the Board clearly had no intention of 'compromising' and would have only accepted as a solution to this manufactured 'problem,' an agreement by the UDC to remove the memorial from its place of prominence,' the statement, which was not attributed to an individual but the group as a whole, said. "The Board is now using the UDC as a scapegoat in media for their ill-conceived strategy to pursue the memorial's removal under a laughable theory of 'trespass.

Dasher said the UDC and the board "have different interpreations of where the law is," but added the board would be willing to work with the UDC on "a plan" if the group wanted to "revisit working together on something."

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





Chatham Record file photo

The soldier atop the "Our Confederate Heroes" monument is removed from its pedestal in this photo from the Aug. 4, 1988, edition of The Chatham Record.

VIEWPOINTS

Ignoring Twain, there's plenty of weather here

Of the long list of books Mark Twain wrote, his later



RANDALL RIGSBEE Randall Reflects

novel "The American Claimant" (1892) doesn't occupy the same lofty perch as his better-known

works. Although author Bobbie Ann Mason, in her introduction to the Oxford University

Press edition of "The American Claimant" celebrates "the mad energy of this strange novel," calling the volume "enormous fun," the book is largely overlooked today.

It isn't — like "Tom Sawyer" or "Huck Finn" — read in junior high schools. When I toured Twain's

months ago, of the many titles

home in Connecticut a few

mentioned during the tour no breath was wasted on "The American Claimant. The reviews on Amazon are

mixed. "Not Twain at his best," one reader offers. "Humorous, but tedious reading," declares another.

Whatever it's literary merits, the now-127-year-old book remains notable in literary history for a couple of rea-

First, it is the first novel, at least according to Twain himself, written with the aid of phonographic dictation. Second, and more important-

ly, it was undertaken, in part, as a literary exercise, being (also according to Twain) the first book written without any mention of weather, which Twain said only served to interrupt the flow of a good

"Many a reader who wanted to read a tale through was not able to do it because of delays

on account of the weather," wrote Twain.

So he set out to avoid the literary pitfalls of rain, wind, snow and the hackneyed "dark, stormy night," and of this aim, Twain was adamant, advising readers with certitude at the start that "no weather will be found in this book.

Besides, Twain maintained, only the best writer could properly tackle the tricky topic.

"Weather," Twain continued, "is a literary specialty, and no untrained hand can turn out a good article to it. The present author can do only a few trifling ordinary kinds of weather, and he cannot do those very

Even though his tongue was planted firmly in his cheek while dictating his new novel into a recording device, Twain may have been on to something. Writers — and most especially newspaper columnists, I would think — probably ought to

avoid the weather as a topic because weather is commonplace (it's happening all around us right now, in fact) and, barring unusual events such as a hurricane or tornado, maybe doesn't deserve special notice at all.

Then again, weather is important. And interesting. How else would we know how to dress in the morning if it weren't for weather?

And, like the literature weather may or may not deserve a mention in, it's often dramatic, even when it isn't trying to be.

Take that series of afternoon and evening thunderstorms we enjoyed last week.

From the comfort of my front porch one early evening last week, I watched as a band of rain-laden clouds approached, looking ominous and dark, from the west. To the east was sunny, the sky still a tranquil Tar Heel blue. Within a couple of minutes, the conflicting

forces merged, heavy rain pounding the earth with fat, heavy drops — slowly at first before building momentum and settling in.

After the storm, the temperature dropped dramatically. I'd stepped out on my porch, just a few minutes earlier, in full Summer and when I stood to go back inside, the rain having finished doing its thing, Fall or something close to it, by the feel — had arrived.

I found it fascinating, though the weather-weary, like Twain, might've merely yawned.

No doubt by the time this column about weather sees print, we will have moved on to another kind of weather, so moody is the phenomenon. We are in hurricane season, after all, and that's proven to be exciting in past years.

My advice: enjoy today's weather; but don't get too attached. It's apt to change

Are government decisions of, by and for the people?

My record in high school and college math classrooms is the stuff of legends – and not very good ones.



BOB WACHS Movin' Around

It was a subject in which I never did very well. As a matter of fact, I'd almost bet the ranch that the lady who was my high school senior

trig and calculus teacher gave me the Dso I wouldn't be back. It just never registered with me why I needed to know a + b = c. College wasn't any better. Likewise for sciences, subjects like

biology and chemistry. To this day, I remember a chemistry exam in the 11th grade where we had to balance 25 equations. Each was worth four points. Since I got two of them correct, my test score was eight, which the teacher proceeded to announce to the entire class since everyone else

was moaning about the 70 or so they scored. "Don't feel so bad about your grade," he said. "Bob made an eight." On the other hand, however, I did pretty well in civics and U.S. history, passing them with flying colors and earning an undergraduate degree in journalism and history. Included

in what I learned is that real history, complete history is a complex animal, just like we human beings who produce it. I also learned, among other things, to distinguish between a republic and a democracy, which are not the same thing, although many people believe them to be so. Basically, the difference is this — and look it up

vourself if you don't believe me: A republic is a form of government ruled according to a charter, constitution, declaration or other document(s). A democracy is a government ruled according to the will of the majority. In a republic, the enabling document(s) are intended to put some limits on the government's power and authority, often to protect the rights of the individual against the desires of the majority. In a democracy, the majority makes all decisions regardless of the effect on individuals or on those in the minority.

That difference is one reason why when Benjamin Franklin was asked by a citizen outside Philadelphia's Independence Hall shortly after the Constitution was hammered out in 1787, "Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" responded immediately, "A republic, if you can keep it."

Some of that rationale, to me, applies to recent discussions, both formal and informal, about the Confederate soldier monument on the courthouse lawn. The public gatherings have produced significant amounts of conversations, some cordial and civil, others not so. And my point is not to replough some of the same ground but to note not the issue of the statue itself but of the process in making a decision and some sentiments by commissioners surrounding the decision. In theory, that process and sentiment can apply to any issue or topic of interest and not just the debate about the monument.

As I read the account in last week's issue of this newspaper of the county commission meeting of August 19, with all due respect to the individuals involved, comments made by two board members spoke volumes, at least to me, about the form and focus of the decision by our local government.

Commissioner Andy Wilkie, who was the lone vote against removing the monument, said he was attempting to represent his constituents. He was quoted as saying, "My...neighbors were against it...that's what I'm here for, to represent them." Commissioner Karen Howard, one of the four board members voting to remove the monument, was quoted as saying, "What's clear is...this statue does not reflect the views of this governing board."

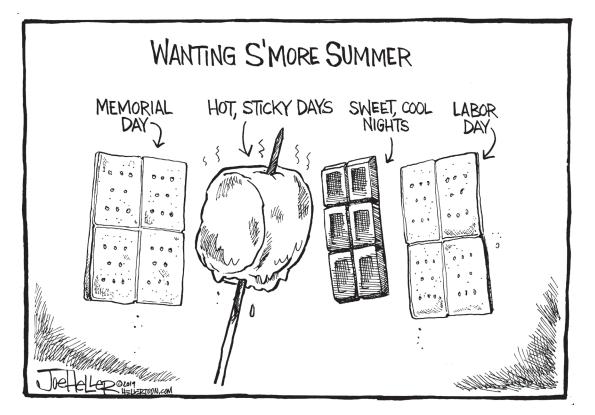
So, what was the rationale behind decision making? Was it an attempt to be a voice of citizens or was it a personal preference of a handful of individuals? Will we ever know the math, the numbers of folks who felt one way or the other? Not likely.

The only accurate way would be to have put it to a vote. Maybe that's not practical, cost and time and such but, at least on the face of it, that would seem to be the best way to gauge the feelings of the populace. An online survey of approximately 5,000 persons conducted while the discussion was going on revealed 75 per cent of the folks responding to it favored leaving the statue in place while 25 per cent wanted it moved. Was that a scientific survey? Where were the respondents from? Did some people vote more than once? We'll never know but it did provide some information.

As an amateur historian, I couldn't help but note the difference in points of view and comments reflecting them by the two board members. The statue is a nod to a hard yet historical fact of our nation's history. And, again to me, I don't feel any cynicism in using the words of one of the major figures of that period, President Abraham Lincoln, to think and speak about government "of, by and for the people." His stated wish in his Gettysburg Address was that such government "not perish from the earth" but "that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom.

So, was the decision truly that of the citizenry or of four board members? Do we, as a people and a nation, face the prospect that "of, by and for" could be vanishing from the face of the earth, regardless of the issue or the level of government? Is it realistic, a fact even, to infer four individuals should make any decision affecting 80,000 of their neighbors, the unofficial population of today's Chatham County?

Government decisions made by a handful of officials is known as an oligarchy and that's getting close to decisions made by only one individual. Neither of those seem to be "of, by and for the people."



GUEST COLUMN | ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN

A theology of Abundance

"Eating is an agricultural act, claims the poet-farmer Wendell

He asks us to remember that our food does not magically appear on our tables simply because of our ability to purchase it. Even with modern agricultural technology, like tractors and irrigation systems, food gets to grocery stores upon the backs of laborers, men and women whose backs ache and faces sweat.

Many of these workers are brown-skinned and pray the Padre Nuestro... Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Our Father... Give us this day our daily bread. And yet, tragically, there are calls in the American Church to persecute the very same people who help to provide our daily bread, people who are our hermanos y hermanas en Christo.

Jesus asks us to pray for our daily bread.

Not mine.

Ours.

The same Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and life in its abundance" (John 10:10). So much of the fear and worry that fuel bigotry and hatred toward immigrants begins with a theology of scarcity. Though facts are alternative, the truth is that we have more than enough food to feed everyone in our country, even the world. The reality of hunger is a failure of our moral imaginations to give out of the grace we have received. Lacking faith, we fail to imagine a theology of

A theology of abundance would channel "thoughts and prayers" into action and reform, thereby changing the current narratives concerning both hunger assistance programs and immigration. Instead of worrving about who will take

from us, we would be grateful for what we can give. Instead of fearing that certain people are a threat to our immediate families, we would be enthusiastic about expanding our family of faith. And instead of seeking to build a wall to keep people out, we would concentrate on constructing a table big enough to gather more people together. As a nation of immigrants, generous hospitality should be a common commitment for all of us.

Sound fanciful and unrealistic? You may say I'm a dreamer, but Jesus imagined the kingdom of heaven as a banquet table on earth. May we go and do likewise.

Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Chatham County and the author of Gently Between the Words: Essavs and Poems.

LETTERS

Fight against presentday slavery

TO THE EDITOR:

Multiple Confederate soldier monuments were recently vandalized in various locations. As a 22-year Army veteran from the Midwest, to me, this vandalism equals that of Vietnam War veterans getting spit upon! Remember, post-war Congress declared all the Civil War soldiers as "Americans." And, President Lincoln gave a speech wherein he said " with malice towards none, and charity towards all..."

Look, I believe it was correct

to remove the Confederate Battle

Flag from atop southern capital buildings. But these soldier monuments only recognize the soldiers' sacrifice, their lives.... just like Union Soldier monuments do. Did you know that General

Robert E. Lee hated slavery, owned no slaves, but choose to stand with his State of Virginia? Why? Well, back then, practically everyone identified with their State, not the Country. It's been estimated that over 95 percent of Confederate soldiers never owned slaves (undoubtedly, many were even against slavery), but believed it was their patriotic duty to stand against what they saw as a foreign invasion, for their States' seceding from the Union, the direct reason for the War. Slavery, an indirect reason, would have ended eventually, because practically all of Europe had already outlawed slavery! After the Civil War, Robert E. Lee worked tirelessly to reconcile the South and the North. You cannot change history by vandalizing. Polls show that a majority of Americans don't want monuments, even Confederate ones, vandalized or destroyed. Rather than vandalizing — put your efforts against present-day real-life slavery that exists in the world! Human trafficking is usually sexual slavery!

Dan Barton *Fayettevile*

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VIEWPOINTS

North Carolina, politically, is a 'middle state'

RALEIGH — In the context of American politics, North



JOHN HOOD John Locke **Foundation**

Carolina is a middle state — which is not the same thing as saying North Carolinians are especially moderate. It simply means that our Democratic and

Republican coalitions are roughly the same size, making our elections highly competitive and difficult to predict.

Consider stated party preference (a better predictor than party registration). According to Gallup polling, about 41 percent of North Carolinians identify as Democrats or say they lean Democratic. About 42 percent identity with or lean towards the GOP. The remaining indicate no prefer-

Only six other states have partisan spreads of zero to

one point in either direction. Massachusetts is the most Democratic state, with a net blue advantage of 29 points. Wyoming is the most Republican one, at +34 points.

Governing magazine approached the question from a different direction. Its analysts first estimated the partisan leanings of demographic groups in the electorate based on race or ethnicity, education and location. Then it ranked the states according to their proportions of such electoral groups.

The states most primed to support Democrats by this estimate included New Jersey, California and Hawaii. The most Republican were West Virginia, Kentucky and Maine. North Carolina was smack dab in the middle at

As for ideology, there are many different ways to classify people based not on their votes but on their viewpoints. Some analysts ask a battery of questions on a wide range of issues and then look for clusters of

respondents whose responses are similar. I'm a big fan of these kinds of voter typologies, but alas they are not available for every state.

Alternatively, we can look at how people classify themselves. In Gallup polling, 39 percent of North Carolinians say they are conservative, 33 percent label themselves moderate, 21 percent say liberal, and the rest don't have a preference.

Because we all hear and interpret these terms a bit differently, these self-classifications aren't always useful for explaining and predicting political behavior. Still, they allow for cross-state comparisons. North Carolina ranks 21st in the share saying they are conservatives and 28th in the share saying they are liberal.

Across most of these measures, our state occupies the middle position alongside a few other closely matched states such as Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin, Georgia and Arizona. These are the places that tend to produce the most competitive races for U.S. Senate and

governor. They are in play during presidential campaigns. They often feature spirited contests for down-ballot races and split control of localities among Democratic-leaning major cities and Republican-leaning suburbs, small cities and rural communities.

As I observed at the beginning of this piece, however, don't assume that these "middle" states have the least-partisan electorates. That's not necessarily true. The share of true swing voters, those without strong ideological leanings or party preferences, is sometimes rather small in these places and has dropped dramatically from the glory days of the "ticket splitters" who decades

ago would vote in large numbers for, say, a Republican for president and a Democrat for

Here in North Carolina, we are certainly a middle state along the spectrum of American politics. But we rank 46th in the number of residents who describe themselves as moderate. And we aren't appreciably

different from the nation in the share of poll respondents who identify with neither major party.

After Republicans won control of the General Assembly in 2010 and a host of statewide offices in 2012, some GOP leaders and activists thought they had witnessed a lasting realignment. It proved ephemeral. After the Democratic Party won the governor's race and key supreme court races in 2016 and 2018, some of its leaders and activists jumped to the conclusion than the GOP had flamed out and the state was reverting to its Democratic

There are no inexorable trends here. The two coalitions remained closely matched in North Carolina. Either can win big races in 2020. And both will play hard to win them.

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.

What's behind the three top issues?

we used to call the middle



MIKE WALDEN You Decide

months of the year the "lazy days of summer." School was out, families were on vacation and the hot weather just seemed to slow things

down. But with today's fastpaced world,

year-round schools and air-conditioning, I don't know that we can call summertime "lazy" anymore. And we certainly can't call the economy lazy. In fact, in recent weeks we've had a flurry of important economic announcements and decisions.

As a result, I'll give you a "three-fer" in today's column. I'll example three top economic stories of recent weeks, try to explain what's behind each story, and then — as always let you decide if my analysis makes sense.

First up is the Federal Reserve's (the "Fed") recent decision to lower its key interest rate by one-quarter of a percent. This move broke the string of successive rate hikes by the Fed over the past five years. And although the Fed telegraphed its move well in advance, a year ago most economists — including yours truly — didn't see the rate cut coming. In fact, at that time most economists thought the Fed would continue to raise

One reason we thought this was because that was the job of the Fed. To use the Goldilocks. analogy, the Fed wants the economy to be "not too hot, but not too cold." If the economy is growing too fast (too "hot"), the Fed worries inflation will get out of control. Conversely, if the Fed sees the economy growing too slowly (too "cold"), then the concern is it won't take much to snuff out the growth and plunge the economy into a recession.

Therefore, to meet its goal of a "just right" economic growth rate, the Fed usually raises interest rates when economic growth is accelerating, and the Fed lowers rates when economic growth is sputtering. The economy has now been expanding for 10 straight years — a record and last year the growth rate jumped higher. This is why economists like me thought the rate-raising would continue.

So what happened? Fed Chairman Powell said two negative factors prompted the Fed to rethink its interest rate policy. One is stagnant economic growth in many parts of the world, including Europe and Japan. Second is the adverse impacts of the ongoing trade war with China. Add to this the fact that our economy has slowed considerably in the last three months, and you have a situation where the Fed is now worried more about the economy being "too cold" rather than 'too hot.

The big question now is, will the Fed make further future cuts? Powell didn't say. I think the Fed will follow a "wait and see" approach.

One of the situations the Fed will be watching is our trade tensions with China, and this

When I was a kid in the 1950s, e used to call the middle is my second story. The trade battle between the U.S. and China reached a heightened level when President Trump recently announced new 10 percent tariffs on Chinese consumer products sold to the U.S. would take effect on September 1st.

The administration's announcement means almost all products China sells to us will be subject to tariffs. China has retaliated with tariffs on our sales to them, and in North Carolina this has particularly hurt our farmers and manufacturers. China has also said its investments in the U.S. will be curtailed and purchases of our farm products could be suspended. Such moves would hurt the North Carolina economy.

Why are we engaged in a trade war with China if it hurts the economies of both countries? The U.S. has long had complaints about unfair trade practices used by China. Rightly or wrongly, the Trump Administration has decided to "get tough" with China as a motivation for them to change these practices, even if it means some short-run pain for the US economy.

Clearly economists — including those at the Federal Reserve — are worried about how great this pain will be. It's a big reason why the Fed cut its key interest rate. If the trade dispute persists, more rate cuts may be coming.

Let's end with some good news — my third story of continuing strength in the job market. The July numbers were just released, and they appeared to be good. Substantial (more than 160,000) net new jobs were added, average wage rates inched up, and more individuals entered the labor market to find work.

Yet the unemployment rate didn't drop. Why not? It's due to the way the main jobless rate (the government actually releases six different unemployment rates) is calculated. To be counted as unemployed, a person has to be without a job and actively looking for a job. But some people who have been jobless for a long time may temporarily stop looking for work. When that happens, they are not counted as unemployed. Indeed, they are not even considered to be in the labor force.

Yet when the economy improves, the process works in reverse. More jobless folks resume looking for work, and while they are doing this, they are now classified as unemployed. So the increase in jobs and employment can be countered by the increase in job seekers, thereby leaving the unemployment rate unchanged. This is exactly what happened in July.

These are my views on three important stories — interest rates, trade, and jobs. You decide if my analysis seems reasonable. Even if it isn't, I do have one thing right. The future stories of interest rates, trade and jobs will largely determine how our economy changes.

Walden is a William Neal Reynolds distinguished professor and extension economist in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at North Carolina State University who teaches and writes on personal finance, economic outlook and public policy.

GUEST COLUMN | WES. J. BRYANT

Our Confederate heroes? Here's a new idea for the statue

My wife and I have lived in Pittsboro for about eight years. We're transplants, after my military career brought me to Fort Bragg. We started our family here — both our young daughters were born right up the road. We've fallen in love with the area and have no intention to leave. But like many other places around the country, there are scars here from the past that have yet to be healed. For many, one has stood in the center of town since 1907.

This past Friday, my family and I drove through downtown on our way to pick up some groceries and grab a bite to eat. We saw the famous monument that stands in front of the historic courthouse in the town circle – a copper Confederate soldier resting wearily on his rifle atop a tall granite pedestal — which was encased at the base by metal security gates.

In August of 1907, the Winnie Davis Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy donated the monument to the county, which then placed it front-and-center of Pittsboro at the courthouse. As the inscription reads, it was "the gift of those who revere the memory of the Confederate soldier.

But last week, Chatham County commissioners voted 4-1 for removal and re-location of the famed Confederate monument. Commissioner Jim Crawford, who led the push for the statue's removal, was quoted as reasoning that "its message is [today] inconsistent with the ruling values of the county."

As my wife and I drove around the circle looking at the fencedoff monument, we noticed across the road, where the beautiful glass-piece mural graces the red-brick edge of the eastern row of shops, a small group of protesters stood holding the flags of America's bloody past.

One older gentleman, with a snow-white beard, was at the edge of the sidewalk silently waving a Confederate battle flag as he gazed at the monument across the road. Another man next to him waved an all-black flag with a white "Q" at the top. A few others, men and women, gathered further behind the two men and waved various historic versions of the North Carolina flag.

For the protesters, the Confederate monument is hallowed ground — its removal is an erasing of history. They wave the

Confederate battle flag because it represents, to them, a part of the history of the state and nation that they believe is being buried. And, while we cannot slap the blind label of "racist" onto anyone who reveres these monuments and symbols from our nation's past, we must acknowledge their ignorance.

The American Civil War, fought from 1861–1865, was unequivocally initiated over the issue of slavery. Only a few days after Abraham Lincoln was elected president in November of 1860, seven southern states declared secession. It was Lincoln, and his party, that had been moving toward ending slavery for the two years prior to that election. The south saw no further hope for its interests in upholding the inhuman institution via political means. So, by April of 1861, Confederate troops fired the first shots of the Civil War and attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina.

What is now known as the "Confederate battle flag" was first flown by the Confederate Army of the Potomac of Virginia as their battle flag. After the north won the war, the flag gained popularity during the decades post-Civil War as a symbol of southern resistance and to honor Confederate fallen. By the time of America's Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 60s, the Confederate battle flag had been adopted as a symbol for the segregationist movement and was being used regularly by the KKK. It soon, as well, came into rampant use by the many neo-Nazi groups that were by then proliferating across the U.S.

By the same token, the black 'Q" flag — often proclaimed by those who wield it to represent the resolve to never yield or surrender — is actually a reference to famed Missourian Confederate guerilla leader William Quantrill. Quantrill led a brutal guerilla group called the "Qauntrill Raiders" that was known to be merciless. He took no prisoners, and looted, plundered and razed. It is hardly unintentional that such flags of the Confederacy were later adopted by the KKK and other white supremacist groups.

Any monument honoring the Confederacy thusly honors the ideals that it stood for. In light of true understanding the cause of the Confederate soldier, and the history that Confederate symbols have come to carry since the Civil War, there should be

no place in our society dedicated to revering them. For anyone to continue to honor those who fought to keep their fellow human beings enslaved is nothing short of tragic. And for anyone to proudly raise their battlefield symbols — symbols that have been indelibly linked to the white supremacy movement is either based from racism or pure ignorance.

But the question remains: what should we do about our statue?

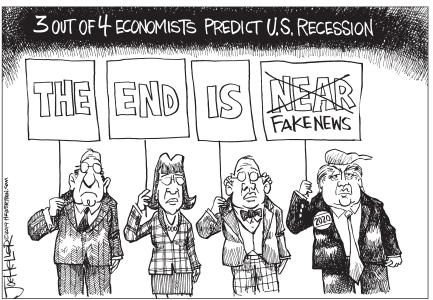
Let us not erase history, but let us not as well give honor and reverence to the enemies of our nation and its ideals. Moving the monument to a museum or an outside space for historical preservation, as is the current plan, is one idea. But I propose something even bolder. Pittsboro can lead this nation-wide debate in a new direction.

We should leave the monument there.

What if, instead of removing the Confederate monument, we emplace a plaque at the base, or build another granite pedestal next to it with a large plague or inscription to designate the monument as a preserved historical piece, detail the history and reason for its emplacement, and make a declaration denouncing the ideals of the Confederacy and the history of racism and oppression that rose from its ashes? Perhaps inscribing a part of the famed Gettysburg address that was delivered by Lincoln at the end of the Civil War.

We should use these monuments to teach our children. and their children, the true story of our nation. What better way to do that than to have the hard lessons of our nation's past right in front of us every single day. And, what better resolution than to use these monuments to take the power of these symbols away from the racists and white supremacists who do still walk among us.

Wes J. Bryant is a Pittsboro resident and veteran. He is co-author of the upcoming book, "Hunting the Caliphate: America's War on ISIS and the Dawn of the Strike Cell." As a special operations tactical air control party-joint terminal attack c ontroller in the elite Special Warfare branch of the U.S. Air Force, he retired as a master sergeant in 2018. He is now an author and contributor, and strives to be an advocate and intelligent voice for the combat veteran.



JORDAN: 'Classroom is the place where they have the most comfort'

Continued from page A1

that coming into education today is very different than what it was once upon a time," he said. "The one-size-fits-all concept is no longer."

Districts make adjustments of their own in curriculum and focus. State departments of public instruction hand down new mandates and alter the funds allowed for programs. A new class of students — graduating seniors leave and new pre-kindergarteners and kindergarteners become new Chatham County Schools students — presents new challenges for teachers and principals.

And superintendents, while keeping with the wishes of the school boards and working with their team of administrators, have to help implement new policies and procedures, curricula and standards, at a diverse group of schools. Chatham is no different.

"Every school has its own uniqueness, just like every student has his or her own uniqueness," Jordan said. "Having to have some false starts — and I think people struggle to come to grips with that, and by people I mean external people — they wonder why things change with rapidity sometimes in school settings. It's because you have to give the opportunity to try something. If it doesn't work, you've gotta try something else. Unquestionably, that is a task that will be ever-present for good school districts.'

Back in the classroom

Jordan's first day — and whole first week, for that matter — was spent in and out of classrooms, for the most part. He started Monday at Virginia Cross Elementary in Siler City. Walking on campus, he ended up walking sideby-side with a youngster

gripping a parent's hand. "Are you excited?" Jordan asked. The child nodded. "I love it," the



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Derrick Jordan, far left, encourages the students Monday in Jessica Haithcox's classroom at Virginia Cross Elementary School to work on their "brain muscles" this year.

superintendent said. Jordan taught middle and high school classes and admits he "didn't have a full notion" of what goes into elementary education until he became an assistant principal at one.

"I now know better than most that the work is massive, PK-12," he said.

Going back to the classroom is his favorite thing to do as superintendent. Apart from this first week, he said, he will sometimes visit classrooms when he gets frustrated — "unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, he says, "(those days) come a lot more frequently than I would like.

Jordan stopped several times throughout the morning to not just observe classrooms but interact with the students in them. In Jessie Burke's 1st grade class at Siler City Elementary later in the morning, he stooped to a low table to help a student get started on a book about manatees. He engaged in conversation with several teachers and got in the breakfast line at Virginia Cross to ask students how their summers were.

Those other elements – teacher recruitment and retention, facility construction and upgrade and community appearances — are part



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Just a few minutes before the bell rang to kick off the 2019-2020 school year, Chatham County Schools Superintendent Derrick Jordan, middle, chatted with Virginia Cross Elementary Principal Sarah Chicchi, right, and district Director of Techonology and Communications Keith Medlin.

of the job, but Jordan will always be a teacher.

"Superintendents who are in it for the right reasons would say that the classroom is the place where they have the most comfort," he said. "As much as I've been out of the classroom for a while now, I still get that rush when I go in and see students and teachers interacting with each other. It gives me that tingling feeling."

Some students in the varying classrooms he visited didn't know who he was. Teachers would

often say something to the effect that he was their "boss' boss' boss." But Jordan put it a different way to Virginia Cross 4th-grade teacher Melton Hardy-Powell's class Monday morning.

"I am working to ensure that you have the best education possible," Jordan said. "So I work alongside of your teachers, your principal, your guidance counselor, all of the adults in this building to make sure that you have what you need so you can exercise those brain muscles. How many of you have strong brain muscles?"

Perhaps a bit nervous at this man in a suit coming into their class on the first day, or 4th-grader nerves, or shyness, or for whatever reason, not many hands went up.

"I need more hands," he said with a faux-stern look. "We're going to have to work on that."

Jordan smiled and said he'd be back in a few weeks to check on the size of their brain muscles.

Shifting and growing challenges

Throughout the morning on Monday, Jordan referenced the list of challenges facing Chatham County Schools and educators in general in 2019, revolving most around safety and mental health.

Jordan began as Chatham's superintendent a few months after the Sandy Hook Elementary shootings in December 2012. That is cited as a turning point for focus on school safety in North Carolina — the state legislature granted funds to each district for security measures that next year — but Jordan said safety is always top-of-mind

for educators. You're always wanting to identify how you can be as safe as possible with the understanding that there is not any one answer that's going to solve (it)," he said. "I wake up with it every day on my mind and I know that folks external to the schools — community members, parents, etc. — they're all thinking about it. I think they're catching up to where we are because we've always

had it on our mind." The district installed new card key access points at front doors of its schools and has implemented other security measures, but at county expense. Jordan said he'd like to see more state funds for safety, but even

more so for mental health. Chatham County Schools has a heightened focus on students' mental health this year, the superintendent said, and while it does fall in line with a statewide focus on the "whole child," in Jordan's mind, it falls right in line with the schools' calling.

"This Whole Child focus is real talk," he said. "It's not just something that



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Derrick Jordan, right, gives Sarah Threatt, a third grade teacher at Siler City Elementary, a bouquet of flowers as part of congratulating her for receiving the county's Beginning Teacher of the Year award Monday morning.



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Derrick Jordan's first stop Monday morning was the cafeteria at Virginia Cross Elementary, where he spoke to a few students about how much reading they did this summer.

is in vogue today. It is a necessary part of how we do school now. If your kids aren't in a good place mentally, they aren't going to be able to do what we need

them to do academically." The mental health challenges students face range from poor economic conditions at home to parents with mental illnesses to traumatic life experiences that they carry into the classroom. Jordan said he sees schools putting a lot of effort into addressing those challenges, but emphasized that additional work needs to be put in outside of the classroom.

'After a safety incident, it has a shelf life, seemingly," he said of the mental health conversation. "This does need to be a conversation that happens ongoing. I think that sometimes folks are responsive to these big incidents, but they confine it to a short period of time. What we have said for Chatham County Schools is that we are going to be concerned about all of those pieces of the puzzle ongoing. We have to be concerned about mental health, we have to be concerned about the trauma that the kids coming into our schools experience, and we alsoand this is one of the few professions in my opinion that has to be concerned about — not just the folks that you deal with directly, day in and day out, but folks who are in the home

who you may never see.' Couple that with awareness of the need to compete with charter schools — they "require us to make sure that we are working toward higher, higher, higher," he said and helping students who are economically-disadvantaged when it comes to food, health or living situation — "if folks don't have the means to take care of those issues, then we have to figure out a way to fill that gap," he said and it makes for a full day, week, month and year for a district superintendent.

Making time for celebration

The first day of school offered Jordan an opportunity not just to see teachers and students, but to reward one.

The state instituted a new Beginning Teacher of the Year program this year, and Sarah Threatt, a 3rdgrade teacher at Siler City Elementary, was Chatham County's first winner. SCE administrators got Threatt's students from the gym and surprised her in the classroom with the award announcement and a bouquet of flowers

The 2019 PDK Poll of the Public's Attitude Toward the Public Schools, released this week, revealed that 60 percent of teachers polled nationally say they're "unfairly

paid" and half say they've seriously considered leaving the profession in recent years." Seventy-five percent say schools in their community are "underfunded," and 55 percent say they don't want their child to follow

them into the profession. Chatham County's public school teachers don't really reflect those national statistics. The 2018 N.C. Teacher Working Conditions Survey revealed that 91.4 percent of Chatham public school teachers feel their school "is a good place to work and learn" and 93.1 percent say 'the community we serve is supportive of this school." But the county, Jordan said, is "continuing to combat the issue of trying to hire (and) identify quality teachers.'

'The number of people entering the education profession is continuing to decrease," he said. "We're hoping that we will turn

that tide around.' This first day, for Jordan at least, was about helping pump those teachers up, to get them ready for the new year. "Happy Day One," he would tell many, one of 180 scheduled school days. While he visited music classrooms, art classrooms, Exceptional Children's classrooms, middle school and high school classrooms, the message and the motivation for him was the same.

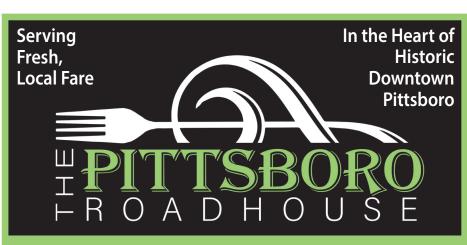
'The young people really are the reason why I'm able to get through it," Jordan said. "It's amazing to me that, at the time when you feel the lowest, when you engage with young people, they tend to uplift. You hear things from kids that you just wouldn't expect. They say something funny, they say something deep, they remind you that all is not bad, and, quite frankly, they also give you some sad stories that remind you of the need to stay the course and make sure that you're there hoping to remove obstacles for them.

He acknowledged that, of course, educators should be saying something like that, but the ones who believe it are the "real educators," and that's why he deals with the parents who complain about school cancellation due to weather, changes from the state level, the things he doesn't like.

He believes his students are worth it.

"We do have some phenomenal students, even with the challenges they bring to the table," Jordan said. "I tell our folks that, for some of our kids, we represent their greatest hope for success once they leave so. We need to treat them all like that."

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



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Chatham Arts Council expanding program, thanks to additional county funding

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham Arts Council is planning an expansion of its Artists in Schools program with the aim of helping Chatham County Schools students learn more about arts.

The Chatham County **Board of Commissioners** approved an additional \$20,000 in its yearly contribution to the nonprofit last week as a helping hand.

The Artists in Schools program brings a professional artist or group to schools for a two-to-tenday period during the

school year. Past artists have ranged from playwrights to dance groups to African percussionists, and according to CAC **Executive Director Cheryl** Chamblee, work on "tying curriculum to his or her

The program was at 10 schools last year and the CAC wants to add three more to cover all of the county's elementary and K-8 institutions. Most of the schools got full residencies while a few were just able to see performances by the artists. Chamblee said the program reached 3,148 kids and teachers last year and is aiming for 3,909 this coming year.

Chamblee said the program serves not only as an arts education piece but an opportunity for students to get out of their comfort zone and try something new. "The teachers get

to see these kids who don't like to read and write performing in this beautiful way and carry this out throughout the entire year," she said. "This is where we can make an early difference that tracks throughout children's lives. We have the expertise and the experience and the relationships to do it well.

The CAC does not go to the schools for funding, Chamblee said, because

they "do not want to take away from teachers or principals' time doing what they do best." But she and Taylor Hobbs, president of the nonprofit's board, said the funds are worth it.

"It has been widely successful across the county," Hobbs said, "and we want to continue that success into the future.'

The board unanimously signed on to the expanded funding. Commissioner Karen Howard said her autistic son didn't speak at school until he had lines in a school play.

"I understood the impact of the arts, but I didn't understand the profundity of the impact of the arts," she said. "I think what you're doing is something that not happens without expertise and knowledge and those critical relationships that you are building within the school and the community.

Chamblee added that the nonprofit uses the county's funds — the county had been giving \$35,000 a year until this vote — to get other grants and "leveraged" the county's donation last year into \$138,000 more.

"I think this is money well spent, especially since you are able to more than match money from outside sources," said Commissioner Jim Crawford. "It almost seems like an economic no-brainer to me.

Board Chairman Mike Dasher said the county is "probably woefully underfunding the arts," at least compared to surrounding counties, and suggested the board think about more funding "in the coming years as we grow.

Chamblee said the CAC's goal is to get to every public school for a residency or performance by 2025.

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

County changes zoning rules for assemblies in residential neighborhoods

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

A zoning saga that started last November as a request for a change on places of worship has finally ended.

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously last week to require conditional use permits be issued for assemblies churches, schools, shooting ranges of a certain size, nonprofit or club facilities, daycare centers serving more than 15 children and public parks and recreation areas of a certain size residential areas.

According to the county website, "a land use designated as a 'conditional use' in a particular zoning district is one that, because of its inherent nature, extent and external effects, generally is not appropriate in the district unless subject to special standards and review that will ensure it is located, designed and operated in a manner

that is in harmony with neighboring development and does not adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare." Conditional use permits must be approved by the board of commissioners and county Planning Board, and both boards can either approve the permit as is or require adjustments.

The conversation arose out of a discussion over the Radha Krishna Temple of N.C., located in a residential area of Hollands Chapel Road in the northeastern part of Chatham County. An Apex resident had asked for the board to change its ordinance for places of worship to require a CUP, but County Attorney Richard Rose wrote that the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA), passed in 2000, prohibited local governments from "imposing or implementing land use regulations in 'a manner that treats a religious assembly or institution on less than equal

terms with a nonreligious assembly or institution.'

Essentially, separating places of worship from schools or parks constituted singling out religious groups and was

against federal law. Board Vice Chair Diana Hales said there was "probably not a downside" to

changing the ordinance to a CUP. 'Whenever you're talking about assembly, you're talking about traffic," she said. "I think that was certainly the major issue involved with the church that was permitted

by right.' The board unanimously adopted the change, which will not apply to buildings and plans submitted before the alteration. That would not include the Radha Krishna Temple or the Carolina Murugan Temple in Moncure, which caught some attention earlier this year for planning a 190-foot statue and pedestal on the banks of the Deep River.

There was some disagreement among commissioners on the planning board's recommendation to waive the traditional CUP application fee for the changed uses. The board voted 4-1, with Chairman Mike Dasher against, to waive the \$500 plus \$25

"We aren't asking existing folks to comply with some crazy government regulation," he said. "My concern is that, in effect, by waiving the fee you're creating some incentive for people to locate in a residential Hales said the planning department

could lose out on thousands of dollars by not having the fee, but the cost 'would be offset remarkably by the fact that it's conditional use and has neighborhood input."

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

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NEWS BRIEFS

Chatham author to discuss 'Tweakings and Tappings' book

PITTSBORO — Chatham County author Suzanne Wachs Jones will sign and discuss her book "Tweak-ing and Tappings: When God Gets My Attention" at several events in the coming weeks.

For Wachs Jones, a native of Chatham County and a UNC-Chapel Hill alumnus, her writing is a family affair. She, her three children and her husband live in a country farm house near Pittsboro that was her husband's childhood home. Her 6-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, provided the art for the cover of her book and the whole family rallies around "mom" to give her time to write.

It's a wonderful place and we love our family time," Wachs Jones says.

In her book, she shares times in which God has spoken to her, often in the chaos of day-to-day living. From bad summer haircuts to the faith in a child's prayers or to missing a flu shot, she shares stories of when God has gotten her attention through the good and the bad of everyday

She writes: "I began writing these pieces a little over three years ago. They are written in a very informal style, as if I am speaking. There are sentence fragments, but that is on purpose. The first one was 'My Little Girl.' I tried to write when I felt God was showing me something new or something I had missed, teaching me a lesson, or when a particular Scripture passage really stood out to me. Writing helped me to understand what He was trying to teach me. Most of these pieces involve my children in some way. I think God helps me see things through my children as much as through anyone or anything else. Sometimes God speaks in the little things of life. I hope that these little stories will make you smile, and perhaps stop and think.

Signings include: · Wednesday, September 4th from 11 a.m. to noon noon at Persnickety Books, 347 S. Main Street, downtown Burlington

• Saturday, September 14th from 3 - 4:30 pm, at the Burlington Artists League Gallery in the Holly Hill

Mall, Huffman Mill Rd., Burlington. Saturday, November 2nd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Christmas Magic Show, Silk Hope Community Building, 4221 Silk Hope Rd., Siler

City. Her books are available at The Carpenter's Shop in Sanford, the Burlington Artists League Gallery and Persnickety Books in downtown Burlington, and www. amazon.com

For more information, contact her at 919-548-2158 or swjones74@gmail.com.

2019-20 N.C. transportation map is available

RALEIGH - The 2019-20 North Carolina State Transportation Map is now available free of charge.

The map is funded and produced by the N.C. Dept. of Transportation. It is distributed by VisitNC, a unit of the Economic Development Partnership of North

Carolina. The cover of the new map features North Carolina's seasonal scenery, including the canopy of trees at the top of Cataloochee Ranch Mountain in the fall and waves crashing on the beach near

Surf City. The new map can be ordered online at visitnc. com/statemap or by calling 1-800-847-4862 (VISIT NC). Maps are also available at welcome centers, rest areas and NCDOT offices across

the state. First published in 1916 and updated biennially, the state map is NCDOT's most popular publication, with 1.25 million copies in this year's

initial printing. North Carolina has one of the largest highway systems in the nation and the new map details the more than 106,975 miles of public roads that span the state. That includes nearly 80,000 miles of state-maintained roads.

--CN + R staff reports

OBITUARIES

JOANY EARLE CONDORET



Joany Earle Condoret, beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, and friend, has left this world. By universal consensus of those who knew her, the world is a much poorer place, as there never lived a nicer, sweeter, kinder person. It was hard to find any evidence that she was human, and not an angel her addiction to junk food (Cheetos and M & M's) being the only evidence that she might have been human after

A delightful creature, she used to joke that she thought she "might" really be a leprechaun. Her merry spirit and natural optimism carried her entire family through many dark times, from being refugees from North Africa, through multiple hardships they faced in the U.S. She was quick to laugh or erupt into a fit of giggles, making any obstacle seem manageable.

Born in Worcester, MA, on May 21, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Vice Admiral Ralph Earle, Jr., of Annapolis, MD, and the late Audrey Saxby of Santa Barbara, CA. She attended Duke University where her facility with languages had her reading Russian novels in the original "just for fun". Her free

spirit disguised a deeply intellectual mind that delved into opera, classical music, history, ethics, art, and many other subjects. She studied Art at La Sorbonne in Paris, where she met her husband Jon Condoret, who was studying architecture. Joany and Jon had a very happy marriage for almost 50 years until Jon's passing in 2010.

Joany enjoyed the works of William Faulkner, old school country music by Willie Nelson and George Jones, black and white movies, and Duke Basketball. Her love of head-banging rock and roll made her the coolest Mom on the block, with 'Rock of Ages" by Def Leppard a favorite.

When living in downtown Chapel Hill, Joany was saddened about the fate of native wildlife being displaced by development. She bought day old bagels to feed racoons that lived in a nearby ditch. In Disney-movie-like moments, the racoons brought their newborn kits to show her, and would put their tiny paws around her ankles when she brought them their daily bagels.

Joany volunteered for years as soup kitchen cook and night monitor at the IFC Women's Shelter in Chapel Hill. She made many friends among the residents and brought a constant parade of colorful and felonious characters home with her, to the sometimes consternation of her family.

A brilliant artist, Joany's powerful religious stained glass works are known for their depth of feeling. Some can be seen at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Raleigh, near the sanctuary, designed by her late husband. It gave her some peace to know her work stood alongside her husband's. There are also some of her beautiful works at Pullen Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC.

Joany's greatest wish was that people would stop over populating the planet, and that wildlife could have their own habitat set aside for them. Often, when she drove past a new development that denuded the Earth, she would cry.

Joany leaves bereaved her daughter Arielle Schechter, and son-in-law, Arnie Schechter, of Chapel Hill, NC; daughter Brigitte Robindore, of France; grandchildren, Annabelle and Finnegan Robindore; sister and brother-in-law, Audrey and Robert Nevitt of Washington, DC; machateynes Pearl Schechter, of Chapel Hill, NC; niece, Nathalie Condoret, (who was like a daughter to her) of Pittsboro, NC; nephew, Christopher Nevitt and his wife, Lisa Reynolds, of Denver, CO; niece, Dorothy Nevitt, of Tucson, AZ; brother-in-law, Pierre Condoret and his wife, Catherine of St. Marcel, France: niece, Brigitte Condoret and her wife, Stephanie Watkins, of Pittsboro, NC; nephew, Philippe Condoret, and his wife Laurie of Siler City, NC; sister-in-law, Nicole Condoret of Pittsboro, NC; niece, Cecille Condoret of France; nephew and godson, Pierre Condoret, Jr.; nephew, Emanuel Condoret of France; and many more dear relatives, friends, and neighbors.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for any donations to be made to one of Jaony's favorite charities: The American Anti-Vivisection Society, https://aavs.org; or The Triangle Land Conservancy, https://www.triangleland.org; or Population Connection, https://www.populationconnection.org.

If There are Any Heavens My Mother Will Bv E. E. Cummings

if there are any heavens my mother will (all by herself) have one

It will not be a pansy heaven nor a fragile heaven of liliesof-the-valley but it will be a heaven of blackred roses my father will be (deep like a rose tall like a rose) standing

swaying over her (silent) with eyes which are really petals and see nothing with the face of a poet really which is a flower and not a face with hands which whisper This is my beloved my (suddenly in sunlight he will bow, & the whole garden will bow)

The Condoret family is under the care of Walker's Funeral Home of Chapel Hill.

www.walkersfuneralservice.com.

MARYLIN CAULK WILSON

Marylin Caulk Wilson, 87, passed away Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at her home.

The funeral service was held on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Fall Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Christopher St. Jean and Rev. George Townsend presiding. Burial followed in the church ceme-

Marylin was born in Robeson County to Ernest and Edna Brown Caulk. She attended Campbell University and Sanford Business College. She retired from Chatham County Schools, after working at Chatham Central High

School for 30+ years. She was an active member of her church. In addition to her parents, Marylin was preceded in death by her husband, Daniel Wilson and one brother, Grenfell Caulk.

She is survived by daughters, Hollis Freeman of Stedman, Karen Scott of Goldston; sons, Phil Wilson of Bennett, Danny Wilson of Seagrove, and Sandy Wilson of Rocky Point; sisters: Ellen C. Deal of Shallotte, and Marie Stevens of Castle Hayne; nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be offered online at: www.joycebradychapel.com.

LONNIE JAMES FIELDS JR.



Mr. Lonnie James Fields, Jr. 84, of 1842 Broadway Drive, Graham, died Friday, August 23, 2019 at Westwood Hills Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Wilkesboro NC.

A native of Siler City, Mr. Fields was the husband of Frances K. Fields and the son of the late Lonnie James Fields and the late Ruby Fields. Mr. Fields was a 1953 graduate of Siler City High School. He began his career in highway construction in 1954, specializing in bridges. He built bridges all over North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. He retired from his NCDOT career in 1993, and began his

second career as a consultant with various firms. He worked for an additional 17 years.

He was always busy working on cars and growing vegetables. He loved to travel with his family and loved his grandchildren dearly. Gospel music was his favorite!!! Mr. Fields was a charter member of New Covenant Fellowship Church, where he loved to sing in his church choir.

In addition to his wife of 61 years, Frances Fields, survivors include his daughter, Kimberly Fields Parker and her husband, Brian of North Wilkesboro; three grandchildren, Courtney Parker Tevepaugh, Lance Parker, Hayley Parker; and a sister. Betty Phillips.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Fields was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Cordelia Fields, and a son, Jim Fields.

The family received friends Sunday, August 25, 2019 from 2 until 3 p.m. at Rich and Thompson Funeral Service in Graham. A funeral service followed at 3 p.m. in the Rich and Thompson Funeral Chapel, with the Rev. David Neff officiat-

ing. Burial was in Graham Memorial Park.
In lieu of flowers, the family request that memorials be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Alamance-Caswell, 914 Chapel Hill Road, Burlington, NC 27215 or to New Covenant Fellowship Church, 1913 Rogers Road, Graham, NC

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

ROBERT SUTTON

Robert Sutton was born to the late Elma Mae Sutton Headen and the late B. J. Headen on August 1, 1950 in Siler City. He was a long-time resident of the Siler City area.

Robert leaves to cherish his memory: Terrie Dark (fiance' of the home); three grandchildren, Kadejah Miles, Kenya Craven, Trent Brewer Jr. (Bistit'); one great-grandson, Kyrie Wallace; Aunt Mary Alice Peoples; one daughter-in-law, Ti-awnna Craven; two nieces, Sylvia Walker and Connie (Johnnie) Alford; three nephews, Dexter Sutton, Adrian Sutton, and Otis Sutton, and a very special friend, Darrell Rodgers (Angie).

JEANETTE LAYTON **BRANTLEY**

Jeanette Layton Brantley, 91, of Sanford, passed away at her home on Monday, August 19, 2019.

The funeral service was held on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 10 a.m. at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church with Rev. David Dudley officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She was born in Richmond County on May 20,1928 to the late Luther Lee and Ora Morris Layton. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband William Newton Brantley; grandchild Amy Brafford and brothers Frank, Erie, Jack, Morris and Bill Layton. Jeanette was a member of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. Prior to retiring, she had worked at Benhaven School and Kmart.

Survivors include sons, Bill Brantley and Robert Layton Brantley, and daughter, Gail Brafford, all of Sanford; two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

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

ROBERT SUTTON

Mr. Robert Sutton, 69, of Siler City passed away Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Arrangements by: Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

MRS. YVONNE JOHNSON

Mrs. Yvonne Johnson, 78. passed away Thursday, August 22 at Hospice Home in High

Arrangements by: Knotts & Son Funeral Home in Siler City.

MARIE CROCKER PARKER Marie Crocker Parker, 77, of Cameron, passed away on Thursday, August 22, 2019 at

her home. A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Monday, August 26, 2019 at Countryside Presbyterian Church with Rev. Dave Kinney and Rev. Curtis Norris officiating.

She was born in Edgecombe County on March 24, 1942 to the late Arvey Owen Crocker and Cassie Pearl Winstead Crocker. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son Ricky; sister Shelby and brother Arvey. Marie retired from the Public Works Commission where she worked as an accountant. She was a foster mother for over 25 years, providing care to many children, and a member of Calvary Missionary Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband James Parker; and sister, Beatrice.

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

BRENDA LOU LEGG SHAW WESLEY

Brenda Lou Legg Shaw Wesley, 76, of Sanford, NC, died Sunday, August 25, 2019 at her

A graveside service was held Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Lemon Springs United Methodist Church cemetery with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

She was born in Mason County, WV on February 21, 1943 to the late Walter Franklin Legg and Ola Aleine Smith Legg. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband, Walter Leroy Shaw. Mrs. Wesley was a homemaker.

She is survived by sons Timothy Shaw of Sanford, David Shaw of Bear Creek, Mark Shaw of Clinton, John Shaw of Broadway; daughter Tammy Shaw Conner of Sanford; eleven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to assist the family with funeral expenses at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home, 600 W. Main Street, Sanford, NC 27332 or online at:

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

PASTOR RONNIE BROOKS

Pastor Ronnie Brooks, 61, passed away Friday, August 23, 2019 at his home.

Arrangements by: Knotts & Son Funeral Home in Siler City.





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How does poverty affect education? 'One Chatham' seeks discussion

CN+R Staff Report

SILER CITY — The second "One Chatham" event a community conversation sponsored by the News + Record and the Our Chatham program of the UNC School of Media and Journalism's Reese News Lab — will tackle the subject of poverty's impact on public education outcomes.

The 90-minute public forum, sponsored by Mountaire Farms and scheduled for Sept. 11 at Jordan-Matthews High School in Siler City, will feature a conversation with five local panelists and an audience question-and-answer session.

The public is invited to attend $\bar{\mbox{the}}$ event, which will take place in the auditorium at Jordan-Matthews. Panelists are:

· Dr. Larry Savage, the principal of Siler City Elementary School. Savage was named Principal of the Year for Chatham

County Schools earlier this year.

Chris Poston, the executive director of elementary and middle grades for Chatham County Schools.

· Jazmin Mendosa Sosa of Chatham Communities In Schools, who serves as the Student Support Specialist at Virginia Cross Elementary School.

· Tych Cowdin of Chatham Communities In Schools, the program director for CIS' School-Based Programs.

 Jaime Ďetzi, the executive director of the Chatham Education Foundation. The foundation works to strengthen communities in Chatham County by partnering with community residents, businesses and other foundations and nonprofits to improve education opportunities for public school students. The inaugural One

Chatham event, held in Pittsboro last May 15,

addressed the subject of economic inequality in Chatham. News + Record Publisher Bill Horner III said that in gathering feedback from panelists and audience members from that event, the need for a community conversation on the subject of education was frequently mentioned.

'Education is so critical to Chatham County's future and its economic and social development," he said. "There's plenty of evidence to suggest that by grade 3, a child's academic pathway is already set, and children raised in poverty are statistically more likely to get lost by then. But we also know that with the right influences and the right approach, disadvantaged students can have opportunities to overcome earlier barriers and shine intellectually. We want to have a discussion about making that happen more

Eric Ferkenhoff, the

director of UNC's Our Chatham program and an organizer of the first session, called education "the foundation to all other good things in life.'

"Poverty can steal that," he said. "I have seen that everywhere I have lived, and I see it here in Chatham. I think the One Chatham discussion can not only let that sink in, but it can look for ways out of the cycle poverty equals unequal education and that can lead to unfulfilled lives, stealing from the kids we care so much about and those we will look up to tomorrow. I think the panel can be a good starting point to address the impact of poverty on educational outcomes and look for solutions to the very real problem now.'

The goal of the Sept. 11 event is two-fold: the first part is awareness, to discuss the realities of poverty's impact on education, and to discuss the struggles students who grow up in poverty have in the public education system — as well as the ways Chatham County works to help students overcome obstacles created by poverty. And second, to brainstorm as a community, through the panel discussion and an audience Q&A, what else

might be done to create

collaborative solutions. Chatham's Communities In Schools, which is based in Siler City, has been serving local students and families for the past 30 years. CIS' Cowdin said he and his colleagues have seen first-hand the "predictable consequences and outcomes poverty and adverse childhood experiences (ACES) have on our youth.

Through the work of CIS and other organizations, as well as caring community members, Cowdin said, the community can overcome barriers to create a more

History knocked to the ground

equitable education opportunity for Chatham County students, giving more students a chance to succeed.

"I am hopeful this conversation will highlight successful components currently being utilized throughout Chatham County Schools, facilitate a space for new ideas and input from community stakeholders and parents working together toward creative solutions," he said, "and to identify collaborative action steps to support our great teachers and administrators to make Chatham County the best place for all children and families to learn and grow.'

The One Chatham event will begin at 7 p.m. and include an hour-long panel discussion, followed by a 30-minute audience Q&A beginning at 8 p.m. For more information, contact Horner at bhorner3@chathamnr.com, or call (919) 663-3250.

Siler City hires town manager

CN+R STAFF REPORT

 ${\bf SILER~CITY-The}$ Town of Siler City has a new town manager, with former Finance Director Roy Lynch selected for the post.

This decision was made after a "rigorous hiring process which included several exceptional candidates for this position," according to a press release from the

Lynch takes over the post after former town manager Bryan Thompson left the position earlier this summer, accepting the position of assistant county manager with Chatham County.

Lynch served as Siler City's Finance Director since June 2017 and the Interim Town Manager since July 15, 2019. He will start his new duties

on September 4. Lynch began his career in aviation, serving as both a Fixed Base Operator General Manager and Controller prior to transitioning to local government in 2012. Lynch served as the Town of Liberty Town Manager for five years before starting employment with the Town of Siler

He has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Associate Degree in Accounting from Guilford Technical Community College. Lynch also obtained a certificate from the Univer-



Staff photo by David Bradley

Newly appointed Town Manager Roy Lynch will officially begin his duties on Sept. 4. Before assuming this role, Lynch was town finance director since 2017, and interim town manager since July 15.

sity of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Municipal Administration.

In making the announcement, Mayor John Grimes said, "We are extremely pleased to have someone of Roy's professionalism, capabilities and experience as our

next Town Manager." Commented Lynch, "I am deeply humbled and honored to be afforded the opportunity to serve the Town of Siler City in this capacity. I appreciate the confidence that Mayor Grimes and the Board of Commissioners have in me and it's my steadfast commitment to remain an effective team leader and continue to build on the success of those dedicated professionals who have come before me in service to their community.'



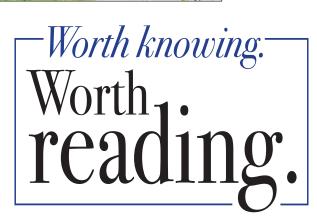
In the Aug. 19 severe thunderstorm, lightning struck a tree on West Fifth Street in Siler City. Crews were out Tuesday to repair cable and telephone

Lightning left damage on this old the wake of the Aug. 19 severe thunderstorm in Siler City. Cables for power. telephone and cable were knocked down by the falling limbs.

Staff photo by David Bradley







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Appalachian senior Catherine McDiarmid, an interior design major from Pittsboro, with the winning research poster in the undergraduate category of the Student Summit poster competition. McDiarmid completed the research with other building sciences students as part of a group project for local nonprofit LIFE Village Inc. Photo by Leila Jackson

McDiarmid honored by Appalachian State University

CN+R Staff Report

Catherine McDiarmid, of Pittsboro, a senior interior design major at Appalachian State University, was among six Appalachian students and alumni who were awarded top prize in the undergraduate category of the Student Summit poster competition held

on Appalachian's campus

The Summit was held in conjunction with the university's eighth annual Energy Summit, when 80 undergraduate and graduate students had the opportunity to network with industry professionals and learn more about energy and sustainability in both the region and

McDiarmid and her group won for their poster titled "A New Approach to Adaptable, **Energy Efficient Design** for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum." Their research was completed as part of a

group project for local

nonprofit LIFE Village

CHURCH NEWS

MARTHA'S CHAPEL CHRISTIAN **CHURCH**

The community is invited to attend the old fashioned gospel singing at 7 p.m. on Saturday, August 31 at Martha's Chapel Christian Church. Ministering in music will be Felton Yeargen and Friends, a community favorite. The program will be followed by light refreshments. Come out and enjoy the music and fellowship.

The church is located at 2811 Martha's Chapel Church Road, at the intersection with Hwy 751.

MT. SINAI AME CHURCH

Mt Sinai AME Church will hold its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 1, at 3 p.m. with the Prayer and Praise service beginning at 2:30. The speaker will be Rev. John Cradle, Sr. , Pastor, St. Joseph CME Church in Chapel Hill.

Revival will follow on Tuesday through Thursday, September 3 - 5. Prayer and Praise service will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m. The speaker will be Rev. Wanda Howell, Pastor of Clapps Chapel AME Church in Whitsett.

The church is located on the corner of Chatham and Masonic Streets (behind Hardee's). All are welcome.

PITTSBORO CHURCH OF GOD

Join us as we celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, September 1, during our 9 a.m. worship service. Sunday School will follow at 10:45 a.m.

Revival will be observed every Wednesday evening in September

beginning at 7:30 p.m. We are honored to have a dynamic speaker for each of those nights: September 4, Rev. Cornelius Atkinson, Pastor of the Heights Church of God in Charlotte; September 11, Dr. Telika McKoy, Youth Minister of Mt. Peace Baptist Church in Raleigh; September 18, Dr. Donna McNair, Pastor of Fairview Church of God in Polkton; and September 25, Rev. Samuel Washington, Pastor of Solid Rock Church of God in Salisbury. Come let us be revived together and increase our spiritual strength, faith and love!

GEES GROVE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

We invite you to worship with us for our annual Homecoming and Revival services beginning Sunday, September 1 at 11 a.m., with Rev. Edward Hill, III. Pastor, delivering the morning message. The afternoon service will begin at 2:30 p.m., with Rev. Charles Tyner and congregation of White Oak Baptist Church, Apex. Rev. Dr. Darin H. Mitchell, Pastor of Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church, Greensboro, will be our guest evangelist, Tuesday thru Thursday when services begin at 7 p.m.

ST. LUKE HOLINESS CHURCH

Revival services will begin at St. Luke Holiness Church on Sunday, September 1 at 11:30 a.m. with Pastor McMillian bringing the message. No evening services on Sunday. Revival will continue on Wednesday through Friday at 7:30 p.m. with Elder Rachon McKoy of Gar-

ner, ministering.
All are invited. The church is located on Andrews Road, Siler City.

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

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Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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CARD OF THANKS

Thanks to everyone for their visits, calls, flowers, cards, and prayers, at the loss of our loved one, Robert Sutton. Thanks again, Terrie Dark / Sutton Family

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

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

Monday, September 2 NO SCHOOL

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, September 3

BREAKFAST: Cinnamon Bun, Pineapples (**Same) LUNCH: Breakfast for Lunch: Scram-

bled Eggs w/Bacon & Biscuit, French Toast Sticks w/Yogurt, Gold Rush 100% Juice Box, Hash Brown Rounds, Chilled Peaches (**Breakfast for Lunch: Scrambled Eggs w/Bacon & Biscuit, Pancakes Bacon & Eggs, Gold Rush 100% Juice Box, Hash Brown Rounds, Fruit Choice, Chilled Peaches)

Wednesday, September 4

BREAKFAST: Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (**Bacon Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Fruit Choice)

LUNCH: General Tso's Chicken w/ Chow Mein Noodles, Cheese Dippers w/ Marinara, Build a Pizza Combo, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Glazed Carrots, Chilled Pineapples (**General Tso's

Chicken w/Chow Mein Noodles, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Mozzarello Sticks Combo, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Glazed Carrots, Chilled Pineapples, Fresh Fruit)

Thursday, September 5

BREAKFAST: French Toast Stick w/ Sausage, Fresh Fruit (**Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Choice)

LUNCH: TexMex Beef w/Chips & Cheese, Oven Baked Chicken w/Corn Muffin, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Broccoli, Fresh Fruit (** Walking Taco w/Beef & Cheese, Oven Baked Chicken w/Corn Muffin, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Broccoli, Fresh Fruit, Fruit Cocktail)

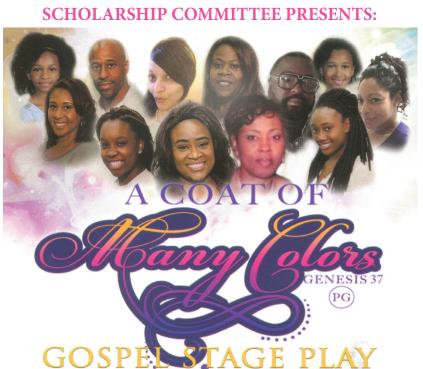
Friday, September 6

BREAKFAST: Sausage Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (**Same)

LUNCH: Hot Dog in Bun, Fish Filet in Bun, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combo, Oven Baked Fries, Cole Slaw, Fruit Explosion (**Bacon Cheeseburger on Bun. Fish Filet in Bun, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combo, Oven Baked Fries, Cole Slaw, Fruit Explosion, Fresh Fruit, Lettuce & Tomato)



DEEP RIVER MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



Saturday, September 21, 2019 - 6:00PM

Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center 1801 Nash Street, Sanford, NC 27330 Advanced Tickets - \$15.00 • Day of Event - \$20.00 Children 3 and Under - FREE

Contact: Ms. Clara Ephriam......(919) 356-0270

CHATHAM CH@T | ABUNDANCE NC'S SCHWERIN LOOKS TO SPICE UP 12TH ANNUAL PEPPERFEST

Pepperfest has grown in the last decade or so into one of Chatham County's largest annual events. This year's 12th annual Pepperfest is Sept. 22 in Pittsboro, and this week, we spoke to Schwerin about what makes it special. Schwerin founded Abundance NC as an organization dedicated to celebrating community resilience. She also manages The Plant, the eco-industrial park and Beverage District on the edge of Pittsboro. She has been creating things in Chatham County for almost 30 years. Her fellow workers at Abundance NC describe her as a person with an "utterly contagious" vibrancy, as well as "a fearless visionary, community builder, and cartographer of the impossible," and someone who sees "in pure potential."

The 12th annual Pepperfest is set for Sept. 22. What's new and different about this year's event, and what can the attendees you're expecting 3,000 — look forward to?

This year's Pepperfest is entirely new as we are closing down the streets of Pittsboro to put on one of the largest local food festivals in the state! We have never done this. The good folks of Briar Chapel have been the hosts for seven years and before that it was held at The Plant on Lorax Lane, where it originated. We have a record amount of chefs and beverage makers...we'll have more than 50 this year plus the local non-profits and businesses that make this county so so special! There are great activities for kids, there is a star-studded cast of judges who will be sampling and presenting awards to the top chefs and beverage makers. Our music this year is soulful Up and Up and to top it off, we are having the most amazing 70s dance band: 8 Track Minds!

This event has evolved over the years, but...we gotta ask: why peppers?

Thank you for asking that! The message has gotten buried amongst all the fun and flavor!



Photo by Jonathan Bradford Young

Lyle Estill and Shannon McSwiney, crowned at last year's Pepperfest.

Twelve years ago, Farmer Doug Jones (a research and variety trials farmer) was growing more than 100 varieties of peppers down at The Plant as we were working on the local food movement at Abundance NC. He needed to have some data for his research, so we cut up a bunch of his red, yellow, purple, orange, and brown peppers. About 40 folks blindly tasted and filled out surveys about the taste, texture, smell, sturdiness of the pepper. Parents were amazed that their small children were eating the peppers like candy. Farmer Doug was interested in the pepper because it has more Vitamin C than a grapefruit, and is a superfood. We don't need to import citrus from other countries if we have the local pepper.

Pepperfest is all about sustainable agriculture and celebrating local people who grow, and create, amazing food (and beverages). What do people in Chatham



Photo by Jonathan Bradford Young

Pepperfest handmade awards will be given to best food and beverage at this year's event.

County need to know about these farmers, chefs, brewers and other artisans?

After the first year of tasting peppers, we asked a few chefs to take the local peppers and

make dishes for people to taste. We had a band and it was a weird, almost snowy October day and we had about 200 people show up. The next year we added pepper beer, it was

sunny, we had more chefs and 600 people crowded in to The Plant! Briar Chapel stepped in and asked if we wanted to move it to their new development. We did and had the benefit of their logistics and we continued to grow there until we outgrew them last year with almost 3,000 people in attendance. We expect more than 3,000 this year in downtown Pittsboro! The chefs, beverage makers, and food artisans are invited to show off their wares. Abundance NC works with the local farmers and we buy the peppers and distribute to the chefs and beverage makers. That way we know exactly where the peppers come from. Peppers have become a key crop here in the piedmont of North Carolina since we began. The more we support the sustainable farmer, the healthier our soils are, our people and our local economy.... part of community resilience.

Proceeds from Pepperfest help fund Abundance NC's local community resilience programs. Can you tell us more about that?

Pepperfest is our biggest event of the year and it costs a whole lot to put on. The proceeds go to Abundance NC for our other programming which includes Death Faire (an event to celebrate our life and our loves as well as educate about green burial, culture, grief support, logistics and legalities). We also hold a summer camp for kids to teach sustainability and bike skills and safety. We incubate a number of other projects, support the Chatham Social Justice Exchange, Pecha Kucha, and a spring Think Again event.

How can people get involved, and learn more?

People can join our newsletter at abundancenc.org and find something that interests them, volunteer, donate money, spread the word, live their life fully, jump into this vibrant community that we are so privileged to be a part of! And of course get your pepperfest tix at pepperfestnc.org.

Three CCCC students chosen for Duke program



Submitted photo

Central Carolina Community College students Erin F. Britton (from left), Anna Spivey and Elise Staub have been chosen for the Duke University **Accelerated Nursing Program.**

From Central Carolina Community College

SANFORD — Three Central Carolina Community College students have been chosen for the Duke University Accelerated Nursing Program.

The students are Elise Staub of Pittsboro, Erin F. Britton of Spring Lake and Anna Spivey of

Sanford. 'As a faculty member, there is no greater satisfaction or joy than seeing your students achieve the goals that they have made for themselves," said Dr. Terry Miller, CCCC Lead Instructor, Mathematics and Sciences. 'Having three Central Carolina Community College students enter the Duke University Accelerated Nursing Program at once is amazing. I was certain that all three students would be accepted, and I know that they will be successful in their educational endeavors.

"All three came to Central Carolina Community College to pick up courses that they needed to be eligible for the program," Miller said. "They were fo-cused, worked hard, and earned their acceptance into Duke University. It demonstrates the American dream, in that if any person wishes to attain excellence the pathway is still there. I am so proud of them, not because they were accepted into Duke, but because their efforts were rewarded. All three are not only fine students, but fine people. Being able to assist students along their journey toward their career goals is one reason why I love being a community college instructor. On behalf of the biology faculty at Central Carolina Community College, we congratulate them.

Elise Staub Elise Staub is a grad-

uate of Central Carolina

Community College and Appalachian State Uni-

versity. She was influenced by her mother and fatherin-law, who she says are "amazing nurses." 'They inspire me every day to learn all that I can to attain my goal to becoming a nurse," said

Staub said she enjoyed CCCC's small class ratio and amazing teachers. Each teacher that I have had at CCCC cared for their students and wanted their students to succeed," she said.
What are her future

goals? "Once a nurse, would like to work in Oncology Pediatrics and NICU," she said. "Once I gain experience, I would like to further my education to become a Nurse

Practitioner.' Erin F. Britton

Erin F. Britton came to Spring Lake last year from Marietta, Ohio. She attended the U.S. Coast Guard Academy

and is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degree. While at Ohio State, she was a member of the women's varsity rowing

team. Britton said she has been interested in medicine since a young age, as her grandfather was a physician and her grandmother was a nurse. She would eventually like to pursue a Master's degree in Nursing and becoming a

Nurse Practitioner. She chose CCCC to complete her prerequisites for the Duke University School of Nursing, "specifically because I knew I would receive a quality education right here at home; CCCC holds their curriculum, students, and staff to the same high standards as well-known colleges and universities. The economic value, quality of education, and ease of transferability due to state education standards all allowed me to complete my prerequisites at a fraction of the cost without sacrificing the education I

received.' **Anna Spivey**

Anna Spivey, a graduate of Southern Lee High School, said she always knew she wanted a career in the medical field but did not figure out her specific path until she took a Certified Nursing Assistant course through

"I have been working at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst for just over two years now and I can confidently say I know nursing is the career I belong in. The patients I have met and had the privilege to take care of during my time as a CNA have challenged me and proven to me over and over how important good nurses and nursing assistants are," said Spivey.

Spivey, a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said she came back to CCCC to complete the rest of her required classes for the ABSN program "because I thoroughly enjoyed the instruction and class structure of this first class.'



SILK HOPE: 'Offering a variety of food throughout both days'

Continued from page A1

end will be antique farm equipment, livestock displays, old-time craft-making demonstrations, a grist mill, a blacksmith shop and premiering this year, a fully-operational sawmill.

Clogging, a kiddie tractor pull and musical performances are also on the program for both Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday morning, Joy Baptist Church will present a church service at the Farm Heritage Park's Show Barn.

Both days will feature and afternoon Parade of Power," a parade of old-time farm equipment.

Also on hand will be vendors offering a variety of food throughout both days, including fried chicken tenders, pork barbecue, hot dogs. Mexican cuisine and ice cream.

But before the festivities get underway when gates open at 9 a.m. Saturday, Ruritans are busy this week preparing, including keeping the tobacco-curing fire burning.

The tobacco, on loan from a Randolph County farmer, will be returned to its grower in finished form after the Labor Day weekend event concludes.

Earlier this week, the commodity was showing the expected progress.

"It's starting to turn a little bit," said Harold Rogers, a longtime Ruritan, opening the tobacco barn door Monday morning to reveal the leaves — still a bit green at this stage of the process — hanging inside.

"It's getting there," he said Throughout the week, Rogers explained, the temperature inside the curing barn will be increased — about five degrees per day — until the process is completed next weekend.

"One of the real joys in doing this is to see the older people come through, talking about how this is the way it used to be done," Rogers said. "It brings back a lot of memories for a lot of people and it's exciting to see that response

For younger folks, perhaps seeing tobacco hanging in a barn for the first time, Old Fashioned Farmers' Days is a window into a world they likely wouldn't get a look through otherwise.

"It's a very educational experience," said Bud Hansen, who joined the Silk Hope Ruritan Club after moving to the community from Apex in 2014.

'When you see all this old-fashioned equipment in action — the steam engines running — it's something else," said Hansen, who oversees the Ruritans' website and Facebook page and was

busy Monday morning helping man the tobacco-curing fire.

Rogers acknowledged that the two-day event requires "a lot of hard work" from the 70 or so members of the Silk Hope Ruritan Club, as well as the many volunteers who also lend their time and talents to the event.

"But it's worth it," Rogers said, "and we look forward to this every year.

Johnny Johnson, a longtime Ruritan and currently the club's assistant treasurer, said the two-day event is "weather-dependent."

Previous installments have been affected by heavy rainfall.

But the forecast for this weekend looks promising, with no rain, though temperatures may return to summertime highs.

'It's going to be a little warm, but that's OK," Johnson said. "We'll have lots of good things going on here. Something for everybody.

While Old Fashioned Farmers' Days is perhaps the Ruritan's most high-profile event, the organization — chartered in 1954 and active since — it's not all its members do.

Proceeds from the event help fund the organization's many community service activities, which include blood drives, roadside clean-ups, assisting those in need in the community, Bingo nights at

the nearby Silk Hope Community Center, and awarding an average of approximately \$12,000 in annual scholarships

for rising high school seniors. This is a very community-oriented group," said Hansen.

Rogers himself was an early recipient of a Silk Hope Ruritan scholarship, receiving \$50 towards continuing his education after he graduated from high school in 1960.

Rogers said the Ruritans, still an organization that's going strong, have been lucky in recent years attracting younger members to keep the club sustainable. 'We've been blessed," he said. "We're

fortunate to have a lot of interest among younger people, students. That's what keeps us going. We've had interest from a second and third generation.'

Old Fashioned Farmers' Days runs from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 31 (a show by Dewey & Leslie Brown: The Carolina Gentlemen follows in the Barn from 6 to 8 p.m.) and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1.

More information on the event can be found online at www.silkhopenc.org.

Randall Rigsbee can be reached at rigsbsee@chathamnr.com.

PRODUCE: 'It's an element of communication with the farmer'

Continued from page A1

"I'm ordering 150 pounds of tomato for tomorrow. I'm ordering that from US Foods.

It's the lull between lunch and dinner, and Lewis, the Pittsboro Roadhouse owner, sits in his dining room, relaxed and open and speaking with casual honesty about his restaurant's supply demands. Lewis uses some local food, but not exclusively, and sometimes it's simply because he needs food in greater quantities than local farmers can reliably supply.

Indeed, Lewis navigates a pragmatic middle ground — buy local when he can; buy off a major restaurant supplier when price, consistency or quantity is a factor. As if to illustrate the former point, when Lewis' cell phone rings, it's his seafood supplier. Additionally, Lil Rooster Farms and East Branch Ginger, both in Pittsboro, are farms

he relies upon for local produce.

"I have [local] lettuce. I have micro-greens, I have shoots, I have pecans that's what came in today, so that's what's on my brain," he says.

Produce, as Lewis points out, is less regulated than meat, so is easier to sell on a local level. If one were to grow tomatoes in their yard, he volunteers, they could theoretically sell them to his restaurant.

Produce, too, has a shorter shelf life. Meat can be frozen, but produce must move quickly or perish. Chatham Marketplace buys directly from farmers such as Shields, sure, but also from Eastern Carolina Organics, a Durham-based restaurant wholesaler.

"I'd say maybe slightly less than the majority of our produce is direct from farmers currently," says Evan Diamond, general manager at Pittsboro coop Chatham Marketplace.

Thanks to perishability, Eastern Carolina Organics boasts a streamlined process that moves farm to market rapidly, Diamond explains. "It's an element of communication with the farmer, quickly translating that into an availability list for customers like us, getting it out there, answering questions, negotiating if things don't show up that were supposed to that kind of stuff. All of that happens within

On the other hand, sometimes the steps between farmer and buyer simply don't exist — that, or essential resources are too far away to be useful. There are only a few dicing places in North Carolina, Morgan explains, and there is also a shortage of grain mills, freezers or juicers. If one of these processing places is in the mountains, she posits, it's of little practical use to a coastal farmer. Indeed,

the course of a few days, which is pretty crazy.

the lack of processors statewide is a big deal (the ones that do exist, Morgan notes, are small and can only handle so much in a day). Strategically placed processors could mean less waste, for one, as well as more business for North Carolina farmers, she explains.

"Think about it — if you can't sell this tomato to a store because it doesn't fit their specs, where are you doing to take it?" Morgan asks. "[Processing] opens up an avenue for all the produce that's harvested that can't be sold.'

Beyond that, Morgan cites the expense of a refrigerated truck as one of farmers' biggest hurdles. They're incredibly pricey, she explains, and many farmers find themselves stuck in a chicken-andthe-egg scenario: you need a delivery truck to fill big orders, but you need the money from big orders to buy a delivery



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Elizabeth Bolen, cheesemaker at Celebrity Dairy, sets up her stand with Meadow Withington and her brother Rye Withington.

But of course Morgan's thought up a solution – it's her job. "I always thought it would be cool if counties had a delivery truck that farmers could rent out," she muses. "They don't need it every - they just need it for

the day for the delivery." Is it feasible? Maybe not, but it's a start — and a potential step in the supply chain some foods take on the sometimes direct, sometimes circuitous route from farm to fork.



Proceeds will benefit the Mann Center of North Carolina, a 501(c)(3).

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Chatham News + Record **SPORTS**

AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2019 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

Fatal mistakes costly for young Jets in beat down by Bartlett-Yancey



Jordan Matthew's Calvin Schwartz takes down a Bartlett Yancey player in last Saturday's game, after he attempted a quarterback sneak in a run for the goalline.

BY DUCK DUCKSON News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Bartlett Yancey converted three first-period Jordan-Matthews turnovers into touchdowns while opening up a 32-0 lead after one quarter en route to demolishing the Jets 57-12 in the non-conference season-opener for both teams Saturday night at Phil E. Senter Stadium.

Defeating J-M for only the second time in nine meetings, the Buccaneers tallied the most points ever recorded by either team in a series that began in 2009.

Bartlett Yancey quarterback Chase Johnson completed nine-of-17 passes for 133 yards and three touchdowns besides rushing for a pair of scores, while Michael Slade rambled for 124 yards on 11 carries, including scoring jaunts of 42 and 47 yards, as the Buccaneers outgained Jordan-Matthews 370-141 in total yardage.

Jets' quarterback Xavier Woods rushed for a team-high 58 yards on 17 totes and registered both J-M touchdowns on

runs of 22 and 36 yards. "I thought ball security and conditioning were our strong points tonight, as we only carry 30 players on the varsity squad," said Bartlett Yancey coach Joshua Brumfield following the outcome.

We avoided a lot of penalties while getting a good effort on both sides of the ball, and Chase Johnson is a three-year starter who showed great leadership on the field this evening.

First-year Jordan-Matthews coach Sam Spencer stated fumbling the ball away on his team's initial play from scrimmage set the tone for the night.

"Early turnovers doomed us," noted Spencer. "Bartlett Yancey is big, strong and physical up front, and we gave them too many opportunities to score in the first quarter while we didn't do a good job wrapping up their ball carriers.

We struggled with shotgun snaps early in the game before freshman center Ethan Clark came in and performed extremely well at his position, while we changed some of our blocking schemes at halftime which allowed us to do a better job getting to the edge after intermission.'

The Jets elected to receive the opening kickoff, but on their first play from scrimmage Buccaneers' linebacker Triston Winn recovered a Jaquez Thompson bobble at the J-M 35.

Johnson proceeded to direct a three-play scoring drive



Staff photo by David Bradley

Early in the first half, Jordan Matthews running back Jaquez Thompson takes a handoff for a few extra yards as Barlett Yancey's Miles Jefferson goes in for the tackle. The first quarter was a rough blow to the Jets, with several fumbles and missed opportunities.

capped by his 10-yard touchdown toss to wide receiver Miles Jefferson to put Bartlett Yancey ahead 6-0 only one minute and nine seconds into the contest.

Three plays into Jordan-Matthews' next possession, Buccaneers' linebacker Dylan Wall pounced on a Woods fumble at the Jets' 37 to set in motion a four-play scoring march culminating in Johnson's one-yard sneak behind center to increase Bartlett Yancey's advantage to 12-0 with 9:03 left in the opening period.

Holding J-M to a three-andout series on Jordan-Matthews' next possession, the Buccaneers went 60 yards in two plays to boost their lead to 18-0 when Slade broke several tackles on a 42-vard touchdown scamper up the middle with 6:51 remaining in the initial stanza.

Three plays into the Jets' ensuing series Bartlett Yancey defensive lineman Justin Mitil gathered in a Woods bobble at the J-M 30, and six snaps later Johnson ran a five-yard bootleg to the left side of the end zone before Jacob Scales pounded up the middle for a two-point conversion that gave the Buccaneers a 26-0 advantage with 2:57 to go in the first quarter.

Regaining possession of the pigskin at the Jordan-Matthews' 45 following a failed fourthdown gamble by the Jets a minute-and-a-half later, Bartlett Yancey launched a four-play scoring drive aided by a pair of J-M penalties to go up 32-0 when Quinton Noble scooted wide left

the final four yards with 43.1 seconds left in the period. Starting from their own 48 following a Jordan-Matthews' punt with 8:30 remaining in the second quarter, the Buccaneers traveled 52 yards in 10

plays to elevate their lead to

38-0 when Johnson climaxed the march with a nine-yard scoring pass to Scales with

4:41 to go until intermission. After regaining possession of the ball at its own 40 following a Jets' punt with 2:02 to go until halftime, Bartlett Yancey struck again on the next play from scrimmage when Johnson found Devon Lipscomb a step ahead of his defender at the J-M 30 and connected on a 60-yard scoring bomb with 1:43 showing on the clock to send the Buccaneers into the break with a 44-0 advantage.

Noble's 44-yard punt return to the Jordan-Matthews' 16 with just over eight minutes left in the third stanza set up a four-play scoring drive ending with Johnson's three-yard TD strike to wide receiver Isiah Torvik that stretched Bartlett Yancey's lead to 51-0 at the 5:30 mark of the third period.

Following Thompson's 17-vard return of the ensuing kickoff that gave the Jets possession at their own 36, J-M mounted its first sustained march of the night, capping off a six-play, 64-yard drive with Woods sprinting wide right the last 22 yards to pay dirt on the initial play of the fourth quar-

ter, closing the gap to 51-6. But one play after the Buccaneers recovered a Jordan-Matthews onside kick at the Jets' 47. Slade burst up the middle the distance to the goal line, raising Bartlett Yancey's advantage to 57-6 with eight-and-a-half minutes left in the contest.

The Jets then answered by marching 69 yards in five plays to finish out the scoring, with Woods angling wide left the last 36 yards to the end zone with two-and-a-half minutes remaining to account for the final margin.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central's Abad Dela Sancha makes a move to the outside to avoid Eastern Randolph's defensive secondary in Monday's game.

Wildcats maul Bears 70-13 in season opener

BY DON BEANE

News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK —On paper the 2019 season opener between Chatham Central and annual gridiron power Eastern Randolph was a mismatch. It played out that way on the

Eastern Randolph dominated for start to finish Monday night in Bear Creek in taking a lopsided 70-13 victory over Chatham Central in the season opener which had been put off for three days after storms came through the area last Friday.

The Wildcats went up 22-0 in the first before adding 35 in the second quarter with the game finishing with a running clock

after halftime. Chatham Central coach Sherman Howze felt his club did some good things despite the lopsided tally on the score-

'We competed hard from start to finish which shows the how tough our kids are," said Howze. "Our guys didn't drop

their heads and competed." Howze was impressed with quarterback Michael Moore and running backs Riley Lagenor and Abad de la Sancha, as well as the defensive efforts of J'aaron Wise and

Caleb Lytton. "Riley ran very hard and Michael made some nice throws," added Howze. "Our receivers like Brady Cannup, Tyler Oldham, Hunter Strickland and Michael Gurley had good

games. And J'aaron and Caleb were all over the field defensively.

Moore, was, Michael Moore. The junior is one of the top quarterbacks in the state and despite being harassed the entire contest by the likes of Erik Cheek, Elijah Patterson and James Locklear, Moore completed 13-of-30 passes for 156 yards.

Two of those went for scores with Moore connecting with Gurley on a 22-yard touchdown in the left corner of the end zone at the 8:59 mark of the opening period to cut the score to 22-6, and then on the final play of the game on another 22-yard scoring strike, this time to Cunnup in the right corner of the end zone. De la Sancha booted through the PAT to make the final 70-13.

Cunnup, a junior, closed a great game with three catches for 56 yards and a score and Hunter Strickland four catches for 60 yards.

Lagenor closed with 10 carries for 43 yards as the Bears closed with 220 yards of offense.

From there it was all Wildcats, however, who used 440 yards off total offense, including Cade Snotherly connecting on five-of-seven passes for 270 yards and four touchdowns to cruise to the win.

Eastern Randolph head coach Burton Cates was pleased with his teams efforts especially on a Monday night after the opening day of school.

See **OPENER**, page B2

Chatham on the Gridiron - Week #2

BY DON BEANE

News + Record Staff

County gridiron squads seeking first wins of 2019.

FROM THE BEAR'S DEN

This week: hosting Atkins (1-0; 1-10 last year; 2A Western Piedmont Conference). Kickoff: 7:30 p.m. at Chatham Central High School, Bear Stadium

Head coach: David Hamlin Leading returnees: WR Charlie Walker (Jr.), WR Jaeden Ingram (Sr.), NG Bryson Holmes (Sr.), LB Joseph Reid (Sr.), CB Jawaun Archie (Sr.), DE Jalen

Matthews (Sr.) First meeting ever between Chatham Central and Atkins High School.

Notable: Chatham Central is coming off a 70-13 pounding by powerful Eastern Randolph while Atkins was hammered 42-0 by West Iredell on Monday

Game keys: Chatham Central will have to get some stops defensively after failing to force a punt by Eastern Randolph in the opener. The Camels will be much more of a viable match up for the Bears, however, as the 2A team was just 1-10 a year ago. Michael Moore and Chatham Central had some success against Eastern Randolph in the opener, with Riley Lagenor showing some real toughness on the ground and Brady Cannup, Tyler Oldham, Hunter Strickland and Micah

Gurley some reliable targets at wideout.

From the coach: CC's coach Sherman Howze says his team will have to : "We have to play better defensively and eliminate the big plays. Offensively I think we need to block more consistently up front. If we can do that I think we can score some points. If it comes down to the kicking game I'm very confident in Abad de la Sancha. He's a real weapon in all three areas of the kicking game."

ON CHARGER **BOULEVARD**

This week: hosting Lee County (1-0; 11-1 last year; 2A Tri County Conference). Kickoff: 7:30 p.m. at Northwood High School, Chargers Stadium

Head coach: Steve Burdeau Leading returnees: QB Colin Johnson (Sr.), RB AJ Boulware (Sr.), WR Tyric Mckendall (Soph.), DE Desmond Evans (Sr.), LB Larry Baldwin (Sr.) Lee County won last year's

match up 35-20 Yellow Jacket DE Desmond Evans is the top-ranked player in the state of North Carolina with offers from everyone including Clemson and Alabama. The 6'6, 245-pound senior recorded 82 tackles a year ago, including 25 for loss and 12

Notable: Northwood much find

See GRIDIRON, page B2

Patriots march through rain to corral mistake prone Chargers 50-14

BY DON BEANE

News + Record Staff

APEX — For a half here on Saturday evening Northwood gave 4A Apex Friendship all they wanted and then some.

But eventually committed seven turnovers by the Chargers led to 41 unanswered points by the Patriots and a 50-14 lopsided win in a contest more competitive than the final score indicated

Northwood, in its initial contest under new head coach Cullen Homolka, falls to 0-1 on the season and will take on Lee County this Friday, August 30 at Charger Stadium in Pitts-

Apex Friendship, meanwhile, will take a 1-0 record over to Cary on Friday night in week

two action.

The 41 points by Apex Friendship in the final three quarters blew open what was a tight game early with Northwood holding a 14-9 advantage.

Mistakes by Northwood began early as the locals muffed a punt on its opening series which led to Zach Johnson and Justin Reed combining for a sack of NW punter Ryan Fortunes in the end zone which resulted in a safety and a 2-0 lead by the Patriots.

'We were very opportunistic on defense," said Apex Friendship head coach Adam Sanders remarked after the game. "Defense found a way to create some turnovers. We're going to be very dynamic defensively

Two series later, Burk record-

ed the first of two interceptions in the game for Apex Friendship, diving to . Burk picked off a Jack Thompson pass and returned it deep into Northwood territory an two plays later, Dontay Hamer pounded in from eight yards out to send the hosts up 9-0.

Northwood responded, however, when Jack Thompson fired a stand up to Jalen Mcafee-Marion, who juked a defender and darted to the outside before picking up a nice block from Braden Meachem, and sprinting down the left sidelines for an 80 yard touchdown. Maxwell Mekemson added the PAT kick and the Chargers closed to within 9-7 with left in the opening period.

Apex Friendship countered with a long drive including a

24-yard diving catch by Drew Miller down the right sidelines from Sam Lersch. The Patriots advanced to the Northwood eight yard line before Kentrell Edwards and Mcafee-Marion had a meeting at the quarterback, jarring the ball lose from Lersch. Deuce Powell picked up the soggy pigskin and returned it to the Patriots 47.

Two plays later, Thompson found Justin Brower find open over the middle and Brower shook off the tackle going to the left, stopped and split a pair of defenders, and waltzed into the end zone standing up for a 35-yard touchdown to put the visitor's on top 14-9.

That lead was short lived, however, as Apex Friendship erupted for 17 second quarter points to take a 26-14 lead at

Alan Josephson posted a 26yard field goal and Sam Lersch found Payton Bloom from 10 yards out in the front right corner of the end zone before capping the onslaught with a 17 yard scoring pass to Bloom in the back left corner of the end

After the break, Miller returned a punt 62 yards to the house that blew the game open at 33-14 with 4:03 left in the third quarter and Hamer found the end zone again, this time on a 12-yard score around the left end with 2:10 remaining in the period to up the lead to 50-14.

Josephson booted a 30 - yard field goal and Hamer tacked on a late rushing touchdown to wrap up their 50-14 victory over the Chargers.

Sports fan delight this time of year



DON BEANE Sports Editor

What a time of year it is for sports fans with baseball winding down and football gearing up.

Sunday capped an almost twoweek-long Little League World Series which produced big time with the Bayou State defeating Curação to win the title.

It's hard to believe with the baseball played in the state of Louisiana that it was the first World Series championship, but it was just that. In what was an

exhibition of great fundamental baseball at the plate, in the field and on the mound, Louisiana battled back all the way through the loser's bracket to down Curacao 8-0 in the finals.

And lets not forget Curacao, the little Caribbean Island produced as those kids put on quite a display of baseball before finally faltering in the later

innings to the eventual champs.

High School sports is in full swing and the gridiron, volleyball, girl's tennis, boy's soccer and cross country teams are getting things cranked up at all five area high schools. While its just at the beginning stages of the fall season, some area teams to look out for early are the Chatham Central girl's tennis team and the Jordan-Matthews boy's soccer team among others when conference time rolls

This weekend the collegiate gridiron season gets underway with all the Big Four teams in action in what will be some entertaining games.

Wake Forest will get the area started at 8 p.m. Friday, August 31 with an intriguing match-up versus Utah State. The Aggies are always tough so it will be interesting to see how the Demon Deacons fare against an out west squad, especially with Graham's Jamie Newman at the helm as the starting quarterback.

And how about the North Carolina and South Carolina showdown in Charlotte at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday? Talk about all sorts of story lines including the return of Mack Brown as the coach of the Tar Heels, UNC freshman QB Sam Howell from the Charlotte area gaining the starting nod, Angela and Sam Burgess', both Siler City natives and Jordan-Matthews graduates, son Carson Burgess as a sophomore WR for the Tar Heels, and South Carolina providing another stiff SEC challenge to an ACC club. What an event that one should be.

Then there's East Carolina and N.C. State in Raleigh. Everyone knows about this heated rivalry which was once halted for years due to the fan bases 'interactions' at the games. Not friendly ones I might add.

And the blood is even a little more bitter as the Pirates feel the Wolfpack ran the score up at 58-3 last season when the Pirates were without a head coach. Certainly things will be tougher this go around with Mike Houston at the helm of ECU, though conventional wisdom still sees the Pack winning by three touchdowns at least.

Duke, well, good luck to the Blue Devils. Coach David Cutcliffe and the Blue Devils will tangle with his alma mater down in Atlanta on Saturday at 3:30. To say Duke will be an underdog to the No. 2 ranked Crimson Tide would be an understatement especially with Tua Tagovailoa. For two-thirds of the season a year ago, Tagovailoa was probably the best quarterback at the collegiate level that I had

After a nagging injury, Tagovailoa leveled off some, so it will be interesting to see just how he starts off the 2019 season.

So enjoy some area high school and collegiate sports this week. There's not a whole lot better to do with your time as the fall season has officially

Northwood hosting annual Military, First Responders Appreciation Night

BY DON BEANE News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — It will be a special night in Pittsboro on Friday, August 30 when Northwood hosts Lee County in football.

And while the football game will be the centerpiece of the evening, the most special festivity likely will be the annual appreciation shown to our military and first responders. 'Northwood is having our

annual Military and First Responders Appreciation Night August 30

during our football game against Lee County and we are excited to host this event again," said Northwood Co-Athletic Director Cameron Vernon. "All current military, veterans and first responders are asked to arrive by 6:30 pm for the

Vernon says that before the game that Northwood will have all military and first responders gather at midfield for recognition followed by the playing of the national anthem.

"It's the least we can do for all these men and women who put

their lives on the line every day to allow us the freedoms that this country enjoys," continued Vernon. "Without them, none of this would be possible. So we need to always let them know that they are appreciated and how much that they are respected for the jobs they do and the sacrifices that they have and continue to make."

Admission is free to all military and first responders.

"We hope that you can make it and we appreciate all that you do," Vernon said.

OPENER

Continued from page B1

"On a Monday night after the first day of school, anything can happen," pointed out Cates. "I thought we handled it well as a team and staff, especially after not seeing them for two days. Sometimes vou don't know what to expect when that happens. But overall I thought we played pretty well.'

"Cade Snotherly played exceptionally well running the offense and Tavis McAdoo ran extremely hard. We didn't have many penalties and our offensive line opened up some nice lanes for our backs. I think we only had 15 plays the entire first half."

Seven of those plays resulted in touchdowns with Snotherly carrying for gains of 22 and 12 yards on the opening series of the contest before Tavis McAdoo pounded in from five yards out to send Eastern Randolph up 7-0 just with 10:31 left in the opening period.

After holding the Bears on the ensuing possession, Snotherly hooked up with slot J.B. Farrish on a 59-yard scoring strike before the Wildcats pounded in the two-point conversion to up the lead to 15-0 at the 5:30 mark.

On its next possession, Snotherly found McAdoo in the right flats on a screen pass. McAdoo hauled in what was a tipped ball by the Bears, and proceeded to weave his way 78 yards to paydirt for another one play drive for a score to up the lead to 22-0 near the end of the opening period.

Chatham Central closed the deficit to 22-6

early in the second but the Wildcats would erupt for 35 points to blow the game open at 57-6 at the intermission.

Snotherly sparked a 12-yard scoring run by McAdoo to push the lead to 29-6 with an 18 yard pass to McAdoo and a 29 yard strike to William

Snotherly would blast in from six yards out on a keeper to the left side on the next possession to extend the advantage to 36-6 before hooking up with Kaemen Marley on a 65-yard scoring connection moments later. Marley, who was held out for the opening period, took the stand up on the left sidelines, spun away from a CC defender, and easily outraced the defense to the end zone.

Things went from bad to worse for Chatham Central moments later when Farrish picked off a deflected Moore aerial and returned it 18 yards to pay dirt to give the Wildcats at 50-6 advantage with 2:52 left in the half.

Eastern Randolph would score one more time in the period when Snotherly found Marley in stride down the right sidelines for a 43 yard touchdown to make the score 57-6 at the break.

Marley, a junior who's regarded as one of the top players in the state of North Carolina and has over 15 offers already from the likes of Florida, South Carolina, Virginia Tech, returned the second half kickoff 90 yards for a score.

Tavis McAdoo and Kaemen Marley provided three touchdowns each as visiting Eastern Randolph annihilated Chatham Central 70-13 in the non-league high school

'Cade Snotherly played exceptionally well running the offense and Tavis McAdoo ran extremely hard. We didn't have many penalties and our offensive line opened up some nice lanes for our backs.'

BURTON CATES, Eastern Randolph head coach

football opener for both teams Monday night.

McAdoo scored on runs of 5 and 12 yards for the Wildcats, while hauling in a 78-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Cade Snotherly in the game that was postponed from Friday night because of

Marley caught 38- and 65-yard touchdown receptions from Snotherly and tacked on a 90-yard kickoff return for a score to extend the lead to 64-7.

would play the jayvees the entire second half on a 13 yard plunge for Thomas combined with six plays. Thomas had a big 37 yard jaunt off the right side to key the

Cunnup would make a nice leaping stab of the rocket pass from Moore to end the contest with a touchdown for the Bears.

Chatham Central (0-1) will look to rebound this Friday night at 7:30 pm in Bear Creek when the

weather.

Eastern Randolph

and would score its final Demetrius Thomas after Stratton Barwick to move the Wildcats 63 yards on

Bears host the Atkins

Camels out of Winston

Salem in a non-conference game. Eastern Randolph will

on Friday night.

host Rockingham County







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GRIDIRON

Continued from page B1

a way to block Evans off the end, first and foremost, and then Baldwin to have any shot at a victory over the Jackets who rolled EE Smith 47-18 on Monday night. Boulware, who rushed for 2,163 yards and 34 touchdowns last season, is one of the top runners in the state while Johnson us a viable passing threat after connecting on 114-of-199 passes for 1,707 yards and 20 touchdowns last fall. Eliminating big plays from those two will go a long ways on determining the outcome of the game.

Game keys: The Northwood defense must find away to contain Boulware and to get off the field. The Chargers simply can't surrender too man points because those will come at a premium against an Evans led defense. Offensively, Northwood must extend drives, take care of the football, and get the ball to the likes of Deuce Powell, Justin Brower, Aaron Ross, and Jalen Mcafee-Marion.

IN THE JET HANGAR

This week: hosting Oak Grove (1-0; 5-6 last year; 2A Central Carolina Conference). Kickoff: 7:30 p.m. at Jordan-Matthews High School, Phil Senter Stadium

Head coach: Mark Holcumb Leading returnees: QB Ian Mc-Glannery (Sr.), RB Aieden Shewcow (Jr.), RB Anthony Bowen (Sr.), WR Hunter Tilley (Sr.), LB Levi Gates (Jr.), LB Mason Grubbs (Sr.) First meeting ever between

program Oak Grove Holcumb guided North Davidson to a decade of prominence in 4A before the school split in half and Oak

Jordan-Matthews and second year

Grove was opened two years ago. Notable: Jordan-Matthews Head Coach Sam Spencer will be seeking his first win for the second week in a row against a senior-laden opponent in Oak Grove. The challenge will be steep as Oak Grove is coming off a 54-0 demolition of Trinity in its season opener. The columbia blue, black and silver clad Grizzlies blocked three punts and Bowen

returned another 47 yards in the rout of Trinity. Shewcow rushed for 131 yards and three scores on just 11 carries while McGlannery was 6-for-7 for 46 yards and a touchdown through the air. Oak Grove used a constant short field to blow the game open at 47-0 at the half.

Game keys: To win, the Jets will have to first and foremost, eliminate mistakes. Three turnovers early last Friday night against Bartlett-Yancey sent J-M to an early deficit that the Jets never could overcome. Taking care of the ball will be of the highest priority while forcing some Oak Grove turnovers will also be a necessity if the young Jets have any shot at the upset.

From the coach: J-M's Sam Spencer says his team will have to: "We've got to play an almost perfect game to have a shot to win," said Spencer. We made too many mistakes against B-Y which snowballed on us. We have a lot of kids playing varsity football for the first time and we are a work in progress. They have had a great attitude and we want to get better each week.

Football Time in Chatham County!!!!



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central Bears get the spirit going by breaking the banner as they run onto the field for Monday's season opener.

Jordan Matthews **Head Football Coach Sam Spencer** watches his team on a rainy Saturday afternoon. The Jets struggled throughout the game against **Bartlett** Yancey, ultimately losing.

Staff photo by David Bradley





Staff photo by David Bradley

Even in the drizzly rain for last Saturday's opening game with Barlett Yancey, Jordan-Matthews cheerleaders kept the spirit in action for spectators.

Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central players review strategy in the first half with one of their coaches after the Eastern Randolph team scored several touchdowns.



Logan Joiner. Theresa Joiner and Cora Womble, left to right, sit in the rainy bleachers last Saturday at Jordan **Matthews High School** for the season operner against Barlett-Yancey. Theresa's son Jimmy plays on the team, and she said that she was excited, and a little nervous, for this first game.

Staff photo by David



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N.C. State economist says recession farther off than reported

BY ZACHARY HORNER News + Record

PITTSBORO — Speaking Tuesday morning to the Chatham Chamber of Commerce's annual Chatham Development Meeting, N.C. State economist Michael Walden told an audience of more than 300 that a projected recession is likely coming, but will be farther off and look different than the Great Recession of 2007.

Walden's comments came during a presentation on the national economy to an assembled crowd of business leaders from across Chatham County at Pittsboro's Agricultural & Conference Center. Walden is a William Neal

Reynolds Distinguished Professor and Extension Economist at N.C. State and serves on the Graduate Economics faculty at The Poole College of Management. Most of his presentation Tuesday revolved around the economy of the United States.

News outlets and financial experts have began discussing, at the national level, the possibility of another recession after a prolonged period of consistent economic growth. But Walden said he didn't "see any flashing red lights," and that a recession would most likely happen in 2021.

"I don't see a recession staring us in the face," he said. "In economics terms, 2021 is a long way off. My current view is no

recession next year." He next discussed the "big challenge," a trade deal with China. President Donald Trump has made tariffs on China a central part of his actions and messaging in recent weeks, leading to retaliatory tariffs from China.

Walden said the breaking point with China was three requests from the U.S. — open markets to U.S. companies, China "backing off" on supporting internal companies competing against American corporations and China removing requirements imposed on American companies going to China to compete agianst Chinese companies. Walden said China was most opposed to the last two,

and that the trade dispute between China and the U.S. has "hurt us.

"The estimate that I think that makes most sense is that it's shaved 0.6 percentage points off of GDP growth, which is a big deal," he said.

"This is a big deal. You throw on top of this the problems that other countries — Europe, China, Japan, all growing more slowly. This is a drag on our country as well.

The trade dispute has hurt North Carolina's economy as well, Walden said. While the state has added jobs at a faster pace than the nation as a whole since last July, manufacturing output has slowed, and agricul-

ture has suffered as well. "Our farmers have been walloped by the trade dispute," he said. "Our farmers' output is down by a full 10

percent.' Chatham County, he said in brief comments, has continued to grow. The county's job base has grown by 2.1 percent from the first quarter of 2018 to the first quarter of 2019,

keeping in pace with national

numbers.

The Chamber's meeting featured updates and presentations from a number of officials and business leaders and was sponsored by H&B Furniture Legacy.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr. com or on Twitter at @Zach-HornerCNR.

Pittsboro's next mayor

BY CASEY MANN News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — This November, Pittsboro will have a new mayor.

Jim Nass, after years of service to the community on numerous boards, is the town's presumptive mayor, having drawn no competition in this year's municipal election. Current Pittsboro Mayor Cindy Perry chose not to run for re-election after two

Nass has been the long-time chairman for the Pittsboro ABC Board, helping turn around a struggling organization.

"The space was completely outdated," Nass said. "There had been enough issues that the money the town received wasn't close to what it could have been. The employees were not treated well — they had no leave, no health insurance, no benefit that would be considered part of the modern world.

With Nass at the helm, the board renovated the ABC Store, created a personnel manual, provided paid leave and benefits and "lo and behold, we started making money," he said, to the tune of about \$111,000 each year for the town of Pittsboro.

He also served the chairman for the Chatham Park Additional Elements Committee, is a member of Main Street Pittsboro, former chairman of the town's Affordable Housing Task Force and interim chairman of the fledging permanent Pittsboro Affordable Housing Committee.

In between committee meetings, Nass wrote a book of poetry, and has two other projects: he's writing a novel based on Volga German history in honor of his late wife, and he's writing a piece on the reconciliation of Christianity with the science of evolution and quantum physics. He has four

'High on my list is

having a solid working

relationship with the

county. The county is

receiving money from

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kind of relationship so

we can work together.'

JIM NASS, presumptive mayor

essentially doing nothing

for that money. Pittsboro

vacant land and are

children and five grandchildren who are an inspiration for his service. He wants Pittsboro to be a place for "everyone's children and

grandchildren."
"That's why I'm running for mayor of Pittsboro," he

said. Nass believes that his experiences and successes on these boards will translate into progress for the Pittsboro Town

Board. "I think I will be able to get the board

to better focus on key elements as we move along," Nass said. "Every issue needs to be done correctly and it needs to be done in a timely fashion. We do have to be right, but we do have to get them done. Timeliness is a virtue.

Nass wants to focus on critical issues and prioritize, seeing infrastructure as a key concern. Nass' first concern is the drinking water in Pittsboro and believes that it's "a safety issue." Though the town's water has been well within state and federal guidelines for years, the level of unregulated chemicals in the water are

disconcerting for Nass. Second, he thinks the Sanford force main issue "needs to be resolved." The town's wastewater treatment plant is nearly capacity. For more than four years, the board has been discussing and deliberating the construction of a force main, a massive sewer line, that would connect Pittsboro to Sanford's Big Buffalo Wastewater Treatment plant.

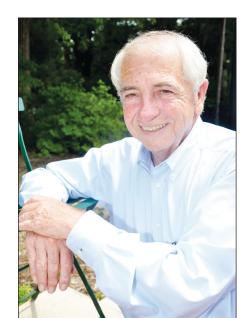
"We need to make that happen," Nass said.

He also wants more information from Chatham Park on how quickly the wastewater reclamation plant under construction can be online.

We are very quickly running out of capacity," Nass said.

Nass also wants the board to focus and complete the Chatham Park Additional Elements. These elements are additional regulations on the Chatham Park development that govern areas including Open Space, Tree Protection, Landscaping, Stormwater, Public Art, and Affordable Housing. Nass was also the chairman for the town's additional elements committee. That committee completed it's work with final recommendations to the board in May 2016.

They have been setting there on the table for a very long time," Nass said. "There is some hope that the current board will be able to work



Staff photo by David Bradley

Jim Nass, presumptive mayor of Pittsboro, has plans to work with the various interests of business and residents in the town.

them up, but if not, those need to be

"We also need to take a careful look at staffing," Nass said. "We have an enormous amount of activity and I don't think we have the planning staff we need. We are overburdening what we have resulting in delays that are not their fault.'

Nass also wants to bring some balance to the discussions about Chatham Park.

"On the one hand we have to recognize that Chatham Park is here because Pittsboro is great, as opposed to making a lot of money somewhere else," Nass said. "I do not believe Chatham Park making money is a

bad thing. That's the way our world works. What I do think is we need to do the best to balance that with the environment and the protection of old Pittsboro.

That does not mean no tree gets cut down ever, but it does mean a balance between the environment and Chatham Park is, 1 think, directly tied to the additional elements," he said. "The key factor for

the town is to have

the capacity to enforce these agreements. Pittsboro has to be able to enforce what Chatham Park signed up for and what Pittsboro agreed to.

'Staffing is the critical element here also," Nass said. "Unless the town is able to be on top of it, things can go sideways in a hurry.

Nass believes that work also needs to be done to blend old Pittsboro with the new noting the "process" has made many "defensive." He wants to be a "leader" in figuring out blending

"I want new residents to get a feel for Pittsboro and adopt downtown as their home town," Nass said. "Our hometown is Main Street Pittsboro. I want them to see it as their downtown too so we don't end up as two commu-

"High on my list is having a solid working relationship with the county," he said. "The county is receiving money from vacant land and are essentially doing nothing for that money. Pittsboro is carrying that load. I would like to have the kind of relationship so we can work together."

Nass notes affordable housing as one topic where the town and the county could integrate efforts. He believes if they work together to meld ordinances so they "match," it will ensure that places for people to live will be available.

"Let's put these things together and maximize the situation," Nass said.

Prior to taking the helm of the Pitts-

boro Board of Commissioners, Nass is working to complete the town's affordable housing ordinance. As the current interim chairman for the town's affordable housing committee, Nass is hopeful that the committee's recommended ordinance will be presented to the board for its consideration prior to him being sworn in as mayor.

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

Siler City considering prohibiting smoking on publicly owned property

BY CASEY MANN

SILER CITY — The Siler City Board of Commissioners will consider a policy at their next regular meeting prohibiting tobacco products on publicly-owned property.

The subject was initially discussed at a recent meeting when Joseph Keel, the town's Parks and Recreation Director, requested a similar policy for all parks facilities. Keel noted that the department had received numerous complaints, particularly at Bray Park, about park visitors smoking in bleachers and in parking lots during tournaments.

'Smoking is not typical for the tournament environment," Keel said. "Currently our parks have no policy.

Keel presented a proposed parks facilities tobacco ban which was based on the Chatham County tobacco policy passed in 2016. With the request on the agenda, the town's interim manager, Roy Lynch, noted that he had included a discussion point about a policy for all town property to ascertain if the board wanted to move in that direction rather than simply ban tobacco products in parks alone. Town also noted that if the board were considering a more comprehensive ban. it would make sense to do only one policy rather than a separate one for parks to prevent confu-

The board was provided with several documents to use as they considered what to do moving forward including the state's Health and Human Services model ordinance, Chatham County's policy, and the policy for Canton and Haywood County for comparison.

Commissioner Lewis Fadely (District 5) stated that he believed the town should consider a policy similar to Chatham County's for consistency. When asked, Morgan noted that he believed, based on the language, that the Chatham County policy was modeled on the HHS model ordinance. He also noted that the Chatham County policy would also apply to park facilities.

The board was in general consensus that it would prefer to have a policy that covered all town property, directing the staff to return with an ordinance that modeled Chatham County's and determine where in the town's code the ordinance should be. Keel stated

attorney William Morgan that Parks and Recreation were hoping to have a policy in place "more immediately" so that it could begin ordering signage and education on the policy, but after assurances that the measure would be ready for a vote at the next regular meeting on August 19 he lamented.

The Chatham County smoking policy covers all tobacco products including cigarettes, snuff, and vapes. Use of tobacco products are prohibited in any county building, in any county vehicle, and on any county grounds, including the park system.

If the town passes an ordinance similar to Chatham County's, it would need to remove all ash trays, create signage in English and Spanish and post at all entrances. Employees would need to be informed of the change as well. Visitors who are seen using tobacco products will be asked to stop and if they don't can be escorted from the premises. Employees who violate the policy would be dealt with in accordance with personnel policies which may include a verbal or written warning.

Casey Mann can be reached at casey@chathamnr.com.

NEWS BRIEFS



Submitted photo

Former Chatham resident Molly Carlson was inducted last month into the N.C. 4-H **Honor Club. The honor** is given to 4-H'ers 'who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and citizenship throughout their 4-H career,' according to the organization.

Chatham County 4-Her inducted into the NC 4-H **Honor Club**

PITTSBORO — Molly Carlson, a former Chatham County resident, has been inducted into the NC 4-H Honor Club.

Each year at NC 4-H Congress, 4-Hers from across the state are inducted into the NC 4-H Honor Club, awarded to 4-H'ers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and citizenship throughout their 4-H career.

According to the NC 4-H Honor Člub webpage, "the total number of applicants inducted into the NC 4-H Honor Club shall be limited to 0.5 percent of the current enrollment of NC 4-H members.'

Carlson was inducted on July 20. She has an extensive background

Chatham Farms invited to apply for Conservation Cost Share Grants

PITTSBORO — The Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District is taking applications from agricultural operations for both the Agricultural Cost Share Program and the Agriculture Water Resources Assistance

The Agricultural Cost Share Program helps agricultural operations install best management practices (BMPs) that address sediment or nutrient losses, animal waste management, agrichemical pollution prevention or stream protection. Examples of BMPs include livestock exclusion systems to fence livestock from surface waters; manure dry stacks and composters for nutrient management; as well as long-term no till, cover crops, waterways and terraces for sediment and erosion management on cropland.

The Soil and Water Conservation District is also accepting applications for the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, which assists farm operations with insufficient water sources for irrigation for cropland, nurseries or livestock. Eligible projects include new pond construction, pond dam repair or retrofit, pond sediment removal, streamside pick-up, conservation irrigation conversion, micro-irrigation and water supply wells.

The district has limited funding available. All applications will be ranked within the county and possibly within the region. Funding will be provided to the highest priority needs.

Cost share awards may amount to 75 percent of the total installation costs, with the applicant required to cover the difference. Funds are provided by N.C. Division of Soil and Water Conservation through the N.C. Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services.

Eligible applicants for these programs must operate a bona fide farm, as described by NC GS153A-340(b)(2), and have been in production for three or more years.

Please call Kyle Watkins at 919-545-8353 regarding eligibility and to set up a farm visit to discuss best management practices and conservation planning.

in 4-H, participating in a number of 4-H programs at the county, district, state and national level. She has participated in 4-H Citizenship Focus, 4-H YouthVoice in both Chatham and Orange Counties, and won first place and Best in Show at NC State Fair for her

Junior Honey entries. In addition, Carlson has served as a Wallace Carver Fellowship Delegate with the USDA, a Chatham County 4-H Electric Congress Delegate, and a NC Beekeepers Association Committee member.

— CN+R Staff Reports

POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Cody Swaim, 27, of Staley, was charged August 19 with trafficking methamphetamine by possession, trafficking methamphetamine by transportation, possession of methamphetamine, possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine, maintaining a vehicle for a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was held under a \$186,000 bond with a September 9 court date in Pittsboro. Swaim was also charged August 19 with larceny of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, larceny from a person and assault on a female, with an August 21 court date in Ashe-

Andrew Heins, 31, of Bear Creek, was charged August 19 with possession of methampetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was released on a written promise with a September 9 court date in Pittsboro.

Justin Hodgin, 39, of Liberty, was charged August 19 with purchasing/ selling a part with an altered ID. He was held under an \$80,000 bond with a September 9 court date in Pitts-

Emily Kidd, 33, of Siler City, was charged August 19 with possession of drug paraphernalia. She was released under a written promise with a September 11 court date in Chatham

Brittany Hoover, 34, of Pittsboro, was charged August 21 with assault and battery and misdemeanor child abuse. She was held under a \$1,500 bond with an August 28 court date in Pittsboro.

Terrance Hackney, 28, of Chapel Hill, was charged August 21 with possession of five or more counterfeit instruments and possession of marijuana greater than one-half ounce to one and one-half ounce. He was released under a written promise with an August 23 court date in Wake County.

Steven Sheppard, 51, of Pittsboro, was arrested August 21 on a true bill of indictment. He was held under a \$5,000 bond with a September 23 court date in Chatham County.

Gregory Jaworski Jr., 36, of Siler City, was charged August 22 with possession of drug paraphernalia, felony

possession of cocaine, intoxicated and disruptive behavior and communicating threats. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a September 9 court date in Pittsboro.

Reggie Jessup Jr., 28, of Staley, was charged August 22 with felony fleeing to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. resisting a public officer, reckless driving to endangerment, driving while license revoked for impaired driving, felony assault with a deadly weapon on a government official, exceeding the posted speed, fictious/ altered title/registration card/tag, failure to stop at a stop sign/flashing red light, failure to maintain lane control, felony assault with a deadly weapon, misdemeanor assault with a deadly weapon and injury to personal property. He was held under a \$30,000 bond with a September 9 court date in Pittsboro.

Phyllis Lassiter, 41, of Pittsboro, was charged August 22 with shoplifting and concealment of goods. She was released on a written promise with a September 26 court date in Raleigh.

Dennis Boytim, 76, of Cary, was charged August 22 with violation of a domestic violence protective order. He was placed under a 48-hour hold with a September 11 court date in Pittsboro.

Ramsay Macmillan, 48, of Chapel Hill, was taken into custody August 23 on an order for arrest. He was held under a \$500 bond with a September 17 court date in Siler City.

Eric Bullins, 40, of Madison, was taken into custody August 23 on a fugitive warrant for larceny of cattle. He was held under a \$2,500 bond with a September 9 court date in Pittsboro.

Hunter Edwards, 20, of Siler City, was charged August 23 with assault on a female and assault and battery. He was held under a mandatory 48-hour hold with a September 11 court date in Pittsboro.

Christian Cameron, 22, of Siler City, was taken into custody August 23 on a true bill of indictment for failure to appear on a felony charge. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a September 23 court date in Pittsboro.

Justin Alford, 24, of Siler City, was taken into custody August 23 on a true bill

of indictment on possession of a firearm misdemeanor assault. She was held by a felon. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a September 23 court date in

John Watson Jr., 33, of Pittsboro, was taken into custody August 23 on a true bill of indictment for assault on an individual with disability and a true bill of indictment for misdemeanor assault. He was held under a \$5,000 bond with a September 23 court date

Michael Johnson, of Seagrove, was charged August 24 with failure to appear. He was held under a \$20,000 bond with an August 27 court date in Ash

Joseph Beal, 38, of Goldston, was charged August 25 with violation of a domestic violence protective order and communicating threats. He was placed under a mandatory 48-hour hold with a September 11 court date in Pittsboro.

SILER CITY POLICE **DEPARTMENT**

A.K. Uddin of Harrisburg was cited August 9 for failure to maintain lane control on West Eleventh Street in Siler

Timothy Lee, 52, of Siler City, was charged August 12 with two misdemeanor counts of cruelty to animals. He was held under a \$500 bond with a September 4 court date in

Geoffrey Evans, 41, of Pittsboro, was taken into custody August 13 with three counts of assault on a female and four counts of communicating threats. He was placed under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a September 3 court date in Siler City.

Nelson Gaimez, 33, of Siler City, was charged August 16 with two counts of assault on a female and assault by strangulation. He was placed under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a September 10 court date in Siler

Derrick Cheek, 40, of Sanford, was charged August 20 with intoxicated and disruptive behavior. He was released under a written promise with an August 27 court date in Siler City.

Sandy Alston, 45, of Siler City, was charged August 21 with two counts of

under a \$500 bond with a September 24 court date in Siler City.

Nora McMasters of Siler City was cited August 21 for failure to stop-steady at a red light on South Second Avenue in

Fernando Hernandez, 28, of Siler City, was charged August 22 with two counts of misdemeanor larceny and driving while license revoked. He was held under a \$1,000 bond with an August 27 court date in Siler

Dakota Cordaro, 26, of Siler City, was taken into custody August 22 on a charge of failure to appear. He was held under a \$300 bond with a September 10 court date in Siler City.

Sherry Newby, 50, of Siler City, was cited August 22 with criminal summons for larceny. She has a September 3 court date in Siler City.

Jose Zetino of Siler City was cited August 22 for failure to reduce speed, failure to carry a driver's license, hit/ run and leaving the scene of property damage and reckless driving with wanton disregard on Alston Bridge Road in Siler City.

Shartise Scaife of West End was cited August 23 for failure to reduce speed on West Fifth Street in Siler City.

Isaac Yarborough, 35, of Siler City, was taken into custody August 24 on a true bill of indictment and misdemeanor larceny. He was held under a \$100,000 bond with a September 23 court date in Pittsboro.

Shawn Kelly of Siler City was cited August 24 for failure to maintain lane control on Alston Bridge Road in Siler

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Deja Brown of Morrisville was cited August 19 for driving while license revoked and driving left of center on O'Kelly Chapel Road in Pittsboro.

Stepney Edwards of Chapel Hill was cited August 19 for an improper lane change on U.S. Highway 15 in Pittsboro.

Alleus Stone of Chapel Hill was cited August 19 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. Highway 64 in Pittsboro.



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Please join the

United Way of Chatham County for the

2019 Campaign Kick-Off Luncheon

Clubhouse Ballroom of Governors Club 11000 Club Drive, Chapel Hill Thursday, September 5, 2019 11:30 pm - 2:00 pm ~ \$30 per person ~

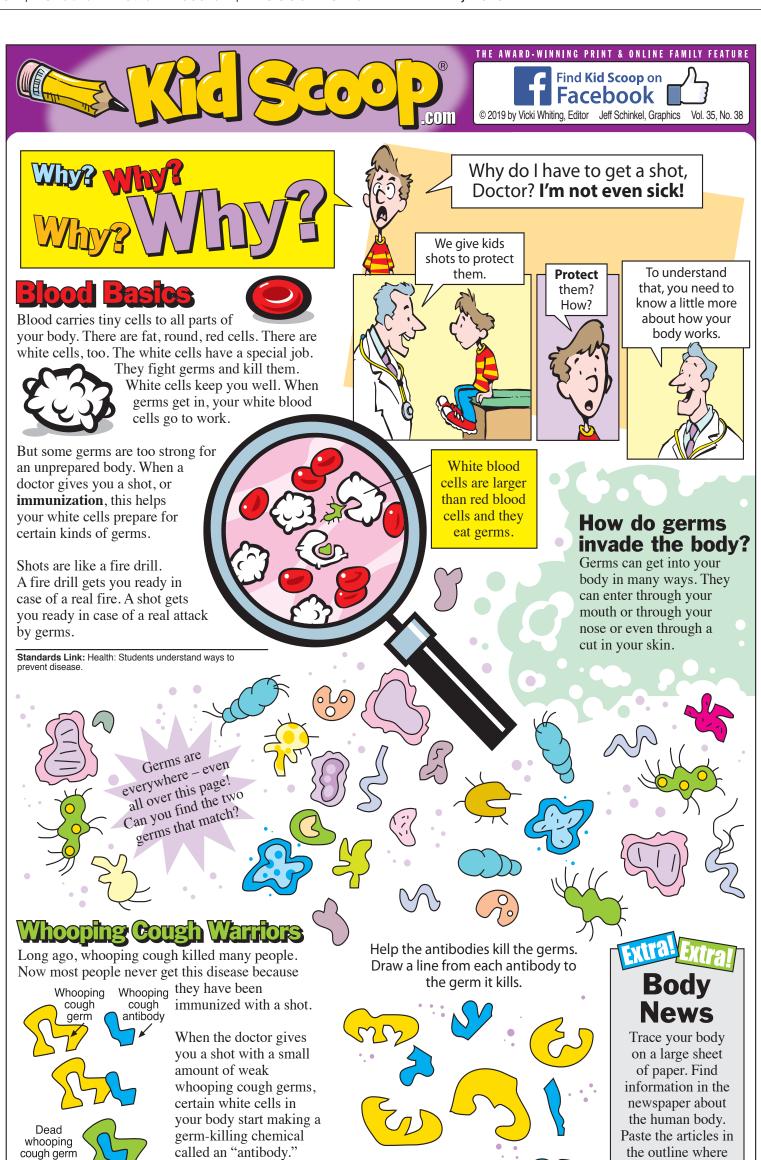
Featuring WRAL News Anchor Kathryn Brown and Introducing NCCARE360

Please join us for a delicious lunch at Governors Club and informative presentations regarding the needs and resources in Chatham County. Indulge in an array of acoustic music with Sue Wilson on the hammered dulcimer and Betsy Kraus on the concertina. Meet the 2019 United Way member agencies and join us for recognition of our outstanding campaign volunteers.

RSVP by calling the United Way of Chatham County at 542-1110 by Friday, August 30.

Special thanks to our event sponsors:

Briar Chapel by Newland Communities, Chatham News + Record, Duke Energy, Governors Club, Realty World/Carolina Properties and The Laurels of Chatham



Standards Link: Health: Students understand ways they can maintain their own health.

Each antibody kills only one kind of germ. When

an antibody and a germ match up, the antibody

kills the germ.



Polio Police
When you take polio vaccine drops, killer white cells in your body find the polio germs and kill them. After that, these cells act like polio police and keep on looking for more polio germs.

Help the "Polio Police" find the polio germs.

Standards Link: Health: Students understand ways they can maintain their own health.

PROTECT
GERMS
CELLS
NOSE
POLIO
VACCINE
DISEASE
HUMAN
COUGH
DRILL
MOUTH
ANTIBODIES
MANY

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

you found the body

part mentioned.

Standards Link: Health: Students identify body parts and describe their functions.

 M
 I
 T
 U
 C
 D
 P
 M
 M
 U

 O
 N
 E
 O
 I
 R
 R
 O
 Z
 S

 U
 N
 U
 N
 O
 S
 E
 I
 L
 A

 T
 G
 A
 T
 I
 T
 T
 L
 L
 I

 I
 F
 A
 R
 U
 C
 C
 P
 H
 Y

 I
 Y
 N
 A
 E
 S
 I
 D
 V
 B

 I
 F
 I
 D
 D
 B
 I
 T
 N
 A

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

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Stay Healthy

Cut out five advertisements in the newspaper that show products designed to help you stay healthy. Why did you choose each product?

Standards Link: Health: Students understand ways they can maintain their own health.



CUT

What would you call a small wound?

ANSWER: A short cut.

Write On!

Weekly Writing

Corner

Woman I Admire

Write about a woman you admire. Include three facts about this woman's life and explain why you admire her.

Deadline: September 22 **Published:** Week of Oct. 20 *Send your story to:*

Please include your school and grade.

the

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Chatham News + Record

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CHATHAM@WORK | LORETTA MORRIS-WHITE

A survivor — that's what Loretta Morris-White calls herself. As a veteran and victim of abuse, she has opened an arts studio at 227 N. Chatham Ave. in Siler City and is working to organize local Speak Out Siler City "open mic" events to allow people to share poetry, readings and conversation — to "just talk about overcoming what (people) have and are presently going through." The Edgecombe County native lives in Siler City and studied early childhood education, owning a childcare center in Florida, then later a production company, among other endeavors. Today, in addition to advocating for and assisting homeless veterans and victims of domestic violence, Morris-White is set to release a book entitled "From Bag Lady to Boss La-die." She has four grown children who work with her to perform stage and music productions.

What's unique about what you do for a living?

I feel that my experience warranted my "why." As an artist, author, mentor and an advocate. it touches all areas of life. I can help others heal as I heal. Through my writing and helping others write about the pain that was experienced or what continues to happen in our lives, it frees us in so many ways. I feel healthier and those that I've already helped published, encouraged, motivated and inspired through my work, can say that their lives have also been changed.

What was your first paying job and what did it teach you?

My very first paying job was at 17 working for the DMV in Raleigh. It was truly a great teaching experience because I was the only teenager among all experienced adults. I learned to watch and learn.

What's the most difficult

job you've ever had?

The worst and most difficult job ever was working through a temporary job. They had me in the very top of a ship in Norfolk, Virginia, cleaning bird poop out, fully clothed in protective gear. I thought this was the most degrading thing that I ever had to do to take care of my kids as a single mom.

What was your most embarrassing moment at work?

Someone coming into the studio while I had my mouth full.

What part of your job would most surprise people? It's mostly volunteering.

What advice would you give someone considering doing the same line of work as you?

Be patient, non-judgmental and enjoy what you do by setting a positive example.

What's your work superpower?

I think that my work superpower is empowering others.

What's the most important life lesson you've learned from work?

The most important life lesson I've learned from work never judge a person by their position. Always give people a chance to show what it is that their true gift is and embrace them in it.

What would your co-workers miss most about you if you left? How I give life to every

I'm sunshine in a bottle. Who is your personal

situation. I was told that

hero? My mom and dad with-

out a doubt!

Your standard order at a coffee shop?

Banana Mango Smoothie or hot green tea.

Your ultimate "happy

My happy place is inside my own space creating



Staff photo by David Bradley

Like many artists, Morris-White has suffered the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, and has endured. Her tears were flowing Thursday as she shared her life's journey. Her meeting Thursday in Siler City was the start of revealing her pain to the local community, through her art, in books, journals, and paintings.

times

for a day?

received?

snow day?

cocoa.

plished?

goal!

special?

al in her music

most like to break?

Eating too much.

What celebrity would you

India Airee, she's very

inspiring and motivation-

What is one toy you

A playhouse that I

could get inside of.

wanted as a child but never

What's the best use of a

Relaxing and reading

What is the most signifi-

cant of your life's goals that

I want to open my very

own tea shop with a small

art gallery and bookstore

What makes your home

Me and my kids as well;

Low self-esteem at times.

I've turned it into my own

The trait you most de-

Your strongest trait:

I refuse to give up and

see the good in everything

so I would say optimism.

What was the last thing

Took initiative to design

Your favorite movie of all

a special program for the

you did that really made

your boss proud of you?

Krush Groove

If money weren't an

object, but you still had to

work, what would your job

Entrepreneur. Help

What radio station do you listen to most frequently?

One day, when you have

time, what would you like to

What do you plan to do

Paint, drink tea and

What's been your wildest

Your ideal vacation would

What's your favorite one-

Rice cakes with peanut

Your strongest childhood

To be liked by all of my

Your ideal dinner guest

list (living or dead, up to six

4. Samuel L. Jackson

5. Denzel Washington 6. Angela Bassett

One food you'll never be

A fear you haven't yet

Driving long distance

Universal Orlando

day travel destination?

What's your favorite

Virginia Beach

people start their own

business

97.1 FM

learn how to do?

after retirement?

The military

Crochet

adventure?

Resorts

snack food?

ambition was:

friends and family.

invitees) includes:

2. India Airee

caught eating:

Okra

overcome is:

1. Mary J. Blige

3. Erykah Badu

butter.

personal art gallery.

plore in yourself:

included. My ultimate

you haven't yet accom-

while listening to jazz

music and drinking hot

most like to hang out with

some special type of art.

Where is your dream

location to retire? My dream place to retire would be in the country with plenty of land and space.

Favorite weekend get-

away: Las Vegas

Which do you like better: starting or finishing?

I like starting; it takes me a minute to finish because of this PTSD.

Favorite character from a Disney movie: Dory

Stay up late or get up early?

I tend to get up early when it's so quiet and peaceful.

Does the early bird really get the worm?

I really think so because it seems your mind is fresh, you have more energy and you are ready to go get it.

Dogs or cats?

Cats, not much mainte-

Ever danced in the rain? Yes, as a kid many



Staff photo by David Bradley

Loretta Morris-White prepares for a meeting at Studio 227 last Thursday. White had a variety of her books, journals and art for the public to see. She's recently ventured into painting.

Something not many people know you collect is? Pallets

What's the most thoughtful thing anyone has ever done for you?

Treated me to a resort.

What's the best way you know to spend \$20? Invest in my books.

If someone made a movie about your life, the actor to portray you is:

Loretta Devine

Favorite city in the whole world:

Orlando

What you like best (or least) about where you live

The best thing I love about where I live is the space, the quietness the great community here in Siler City that have welcomed me like family from day one.

Favorite place to eat: At home

The one material possession vou can't live without is:

Laptop

The credo or motto you like to try to live by:

Still I Rise!

The best advice you ever

got was: You better check yourself before you wreck yourself — from my dad.

If you had lots of money

to give away, you'd give most of it to:

My children without a

What's the wildest or most interesting single thing that's ever happened to

Getting an art studio in Siler City so quickly.

What is your favorite movie?

Out of Time, with Denzel Washington

What is your favorite

book? My book, A Love Hang-

Is there a hobby you can't

live without? Photography

Is there an item or collectible you hold dear? A picture that my

dad painted when I was young, The Lord's Supper.

Where would someone be most likely to find you on a Saturday night? At home binge-watch-

ing something.

What was your dream job when you were a child? I wanted to be a teacher

What would be your last meal?

Tuna sandwich, chips and a drink package in

If you were given \$5,000 to donate to a non-profit organization, which would you pick - and why?

Domestic Violence program in North Carolina because I feel that being an advocate and knowing how strong the need is; it would truly go to a good

What would you like to know about the future? Will there be any more

wars? Would you go bungee jumping or skydiving?

Nope, afraid of heights. Did you have a childhood

Retta Favorite kind of cookie?

Oatmeal raisin

Spring What's the hardest thing

you've ever had to tell someone? I'm moving.

Favorite season?

Would you consider plastic surgery if someone else paid for it?

Nope

nickname?

Biggest pet peeve? Heavy cursing around

What's your usual wakeup time in the morning? 7 a.m.

What talent do you wish you had?

Singing ability

What superpower would you most like to have?

Change negative people to positive people.

What was your favorite TV show when you were

growing up? Teenage Frolics

Favorite band or musical

artist? Mary J. Blige

Who's your best friend and why?

Jasmine Willingham; she actually showed me how to utilize the arts to heal. She was my one-on-one mentor now my best friend.

If you could go back in time and change one historic event, what would it be? No slavery!

What's your favorite condiment?

Honey If you could create one

rule that all society had to live by, what would it be? Love your neighbor better than you love vourself

How do you define success? Success is within. Everyone's success is totally different. Being in a place of contentment within

vourself. Describe your life philosophy in six words or less:

Comfort is what pleases

If you could instantly learn one language, which would it be?

German.

give your younger self? Go get a financial advisor and start spending and investing wisely.

What advice would you

portant thing your job has taught you? Remember my talents

What's the most im-

whenever I feel like giving

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A community conversation about poverty's impact on public education



Chatham News + Record

7-8:30 p.m. • Wednesday, Sept. 11 Jordan-Matthews High School Auditorium Siler City, NC

Invited Panelists:

- Dr. Larry Savage: Principal of Siler City **Elementary School**
- Chris Poston: Executive Director of elementary and middle grades for Chatham County Schools
- Jazmin Mendoza Sosa: Support Specialist at Virginia Cross Elementary School for Chatham **Communities In Schools**
- Tych Cowdin: Program Director for Chatham Communities In Schools' School-Based Programs

 Jaime Detzi: Executive Director of the Chatham **Education Foundation**

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'Peanut Butter' a simple, charming parable

such a modern-day Tom Sawyer



NEIL MORRIS

and Huckleberry Finn story that a character can't help but avowedly acknowledge its Mark Twain derivation at one point. Spawned from the

Film Critic marshlands of North Carolina and spanning the Outer Banks, this simple, yet charming parable is about two outcasts finding companionship with each other and purpose in their mutual quests for fulfillment. Both are inhibited by constraints — one's self-imposed, and the other's a product of parturition and prejudice. Their forced friendship doesn't extinguish their handicaps, but it finally affords both the means to transcend them.

Zak (Zack Gottsagen) has spent his entire life confined to institutions due to his Down Syndrome. Devoid of any apparent family, he's now a young adult consigned to living among the elderly patients in a Dare County assisted living facility. Zak constantly concocts schemes to flee south in order to realize his cockeyed dream of becoming a professional wrestler. Zak's lone source of entertainment is constantly watching a VHS tape starring a wrestler going by the moniker of The Salt Water Redneck (Thomas Haden Church), who runs a wrestling school in the Outer Banks hamlet of Avon. Zak promises his compassionate

"The Peanut Butter Falcon" is but exasperated counselor Eleanor (Dakota Johnson) that he'll behave, but with the help of his mischievous roommate (Bruce Dern), Zak slips through the bars covering his bedroom window and runs away at night wearing nothing but his underwear.

Zak literally runs into the troubled Tyler (Shia LaBeouf), a bedraggled and unlicensed crab boat fisherman who draws the ire of a couple of competitors (John Hawkes and Yelawolf) for poaching their traps. When Tyler retaliates by setting fire to their equipment — and with it the entire Manteo marina—he motors off to escape violent reprisals, with Zak an unwitting stowaway.

Tyler and Žak form an uneasy bond, both bound by a desire to escape their misfortunes. Flashbacks hint at a tragic episode in Tyler's past for which he suffered blame and a downward spiral. Today, Tyler hopes to skirt the law and resettle in Jupiter, Florida, while Zak's single-minded focus is reaching the wrestling school — they even come up with Zak's titular stage name. Throughout the episodic narrative, Tyler and Zak encounter sundry misadventures. They're nearly rammed by a fishing boat while crossing a river. While trying to pilfer a skiff, they're nearly shot by an old blind, black homeowner, who later regales them with scripture and gifts them a raft (the analog to Jim in Twain's "Huckleberry Finn"). When Eleanor finally catches up to

The Peanut Butter **Falcon**

GRADE: B+

DIRECTOR: Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz

STARRING: Shia LaBeouf, Zack Gottsagen, Dakota Johnson, John Hawkes, Bruce Dern and Thomas Haden Church

MPAA RATING: PG-13 RUNNING TIME: 1 hr. 38

Tyler and Zak (just ahead of the fishermen hunting Tyler), she becomes an accidental companion on their odyssey and begins to see Zak as more than a helpless patient.

Manteo native and co-director Tyler Nilson captures the bucolic beauty and backwater isolation of his coastal milieu (actual filming took place in the Savannah delta area of Georgia), a scenic backdrop that serves as one of the film's primary characters. But the earnest acting is what really propel "Peanut Butter Falcon." LaBeouf has earned a checkered reputation since his child actor origins; indeed, he was arrested for disorderly conduct in Savannah during the 2017 production of this film. But his interpretation of Tyler is genuine and sympathetic. Tyler isn't very congenial, but LaBeouf slowly allows his new friends and the audience — to see his



Photo courtesy of Roadside Attractions

Zack Gottsagen, left, and Shia LaBeouf star in 'The Peanut **Butter Falcon.**'

heart.

The paucity of Zak's dialogue only increases its impact, and Gottsagen hits all the right emotional notes in a terrific and touching performance. Even Johnson shines, playing Eleanor as a woman truly struggling between her sense of empathy and her faith in a system to which she's trained and dedicated.

The journey reaches its flashpoint in Avon and finding Salt Water with his backyard, makeshift troupe, played by actual pro wrestlers Mick Foley and Jake Roberts. It's a climax that blends farce, fantasy, sacrifice and triumph. The overly tidy ending feels like those re-engineered after a test audience reaction. The denouncement notwithstanding, "The Peanut Butter Falcon's" pitch-perfect casting and rustic setting lend its familiar tale an edginess that somehow both offsets and enhances its inherent sweet-

Relay for Life of Chatham continues cancer fight despite recent setbacks

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE

News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — "It did OK," said Jeanetta Shamberger, speaking about the success of this year's Relay for Life event.

Held in early May at Siler City's Bray Park, proceeds from the 2019 fundraiser for cancer research totaled \$27,000.

That figure, Shamberger acknowledged. is "down considerably from previous years

totals. "It's not what we were hoping for," the longtime Relay for Life volunteer said. "Participation has

gone down. It's one of several challenges the local Relay effort has faced in recent years, said Shamberger.

"I've been doing Relay a long time," said Shamberger, and she's seen a lot of changes in the annual event, from changes of venue to dwindling numbers of participants and funds raised.

The problems began several years ago when the national economy took a hit.

That had a big impact," she said.

And Relay hasn't fully recovered. Once comprising two independent units in Chatham County — an East Chatham Relay with an event at Northwood High School, and a West Chatham Relay, with an event at Jordan-Matthews High School — the two were combined a few years ago into a single event, held each spring in Siler City.

We started noticing a big difference when the economy in our community declined," said Sham- Festival and I feel people

A "good portion" of funds raised by Relay in past years came from local businesses; and "some of those businesses are nor even here anymore," said Shamberger. 'We once had three major poultry producers who

contributed.' And this had a double impact on the fundraising effort.

"Once the fundraising numbers weren't there, participation started to dwindle down," she said.

A change in Relay's longtime venue also had an impact, Shamberger

In 2012, after years of consistently being held at the Phil E. Senter stadium at Jordan-Matthews High School, the location changed to Siler City's Bray Park.

"We are so grateful and thankful to the Town of Siler City for opening their doors and being so gracious and helpful, Shamberger said. "We are super-thrilled they've been so willing to support

But the venue change, from a "real track" in 2011 and years prior to the public park henceforth, changed the feel of the event and wasn't a welcome change for some Relay participants

"Being on a real track is something a lot of people missed," said Shamberger. "That's one of the things I hear most often."

This year's Relay for Life event also coincided with the revived Siler City Chicken Festival, held the same weekend in early

May.
"We were sort of competing with the Chicken

made a choice," said Shamberger. "That had an impact, too."

The same struggling economy that impacted the local Relay also impacted the American Cancer Society, which had to "revamp and redo things because of the economy. They had to kind of scale back on what they could

The news isn't all been bad, however. The American Cancer Society, while evolving with changing economic times, has also increased flexibility regarding how Relay for Life events are conduct-

Once required to be more than 12 hours, for example, with the local Relay effort an overnight event concluding the following morning, such time restrictions have

been scaled back. 'They've changed the mindset, allowing each event to be its own thing," Shamberger said. "They want to be in as many communities as they

can." And Shamberger is still encouraged and inspired by the work Relay is doing for the cause for which it was created in 1985: fight-

ing cancer.
"I'm encouraged," said Shamberger. "For as long as cancer is here, we have to be here, too. Cancer discriminates against no one. All ages are affected. All cultures. We must come together and make a difference. We have to be optimistic.'

Shamberger said Relay for Life of Chatham County is open to possible new venues for future installments of the annual fundraising event, but

plans are in place for next year's Relay for Life, to be held again at Bray Park.

Shamberger also encourages more people in the community to join the Relay effort, inviting those interested to help other Relay volunteers "make a difference." Shamberger can be reached at 919-548-4357; or e-mail her at ncchathamrelay@gmail.com.

Randall Rigsbee can be reached at rigsbee@cha-



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Survivors carry the Relay for Life banner while walking to raise funds during an earlier Relay event.

Commissioners approve Southwest District, Earl Thompson Park master plans

Projects have an estimated combined cost of \$7.8 million, approved 4-1 by board

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO - TheChatham County Board of Commissioners approved two improvement plans for parks on opposite sides of the county with an estimated \$7.8 million price tag by a 4-1 vote last week.

Improvements to Earl Thompson Park in Bynum and Southwest District Park in Bear Creek were at the top of the county's Parks & Recreation Department's to-do list after a countywide parks master plan was approved in February.

Those were the two parks that we constructed first in the county, and it was one on each end of the county," said Tracy Burnett, director of Chatham's Parks and Recreation Department. "The overall approach was to leverage the results of the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan and facilitate additional public open houses specific to the parks."

Earl Thompson Park

Located in Bynum, Earl Thompson Park currently houses a single light softball field with restrooms as well as a small playground. At three public open houses in the area, Burnett said, commu-



Staff photo by Zachary Horner

Earl Thompson Park in Bynum is projected to get a big upfit, based on the master plan recently approved by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.

nity members said they wanted more nature trails and walking opportunities and asked officials to prioritize environmental preservation.

The proposed and approved master plan would dramatically alter the park's footprint and amenities offerings. The softball field would become a 70,686-squarefoot multi-purpose "event lawn" for picnics or kids kicking a soccer ball around or throwing a frisbee. Natural surface trails, a natural amphitheater, a "place of pause" that would include a labyrinth and an all-inclusive playground would all be

installed. But the big ticket item on the plan is a 4,300-square-foot arts, nature and history center, which Burnett said would "tell the story" of Bynum.

'With this center, this is a way to bring out the history of Bynum," she said. "This is a place where artwork can be displayed as well as the programming that will take place.

Burnett added that the department hoped to aid the annual ClydeFEST in Bynum by providing more space for activities.

The total projected cost, as of now, is \$2,802,638.95.

Southwest District

Located next door to

Chatham Central High School in Bear Creek, Southwest District Park has more amenities currently than Earl Thompson — softball/baseball and multi-purpose fields, a half-mile walking trail, a playground and sand vollyeball court among them. In three public input sessions, community members expressed a need for outdoor aquatics options more than any

other amenity.
According to the new master plan, the sand volleyball court would be replaced with a 5,000-square-foot splash pad, which Burnett described as an "alternative to a swimming pool." The gravel trail around the park would be expanded by three-quarters of a mile and a basketball court and two tennis/ pickleball courts would

be constructed. The plan also includes a 7,700-square-foot community building that could serve as a community gathering space and house parks offices. Burnett said the building would house various programming, often in conjunction with other organizations such as the Chatham Council on Aging or Chatham Arts Council.

Other than the new splash pad, most of the new construction would take place on land behind the current park that is currently undeveloped. The total projected cost of the expansion and improvement is \$5,088,393.73.

Paying for It

Most of the com-

missioners expressed approval of the plans, but questions were asked about how to pay for the projects. The county currently has several major capital projects — including two schools and an expansion to its animal shelter — on the books, with more schools coming down the road.

County Manager Dan LaMontagne said the county's goal was to start with individual pieces — the splash pad at Southwest District and the inclusive playground at Earl Thompson, for example.

"We really want to make impact as soon as possible on these parks and we need to also make sure that they're happening somewhat simultaneously," he said. "I don't want the community groups that offered this input that's very valuable to us to see this just languish.'

The splash pad and inclusive playground on a line-item basis, not including additional fees would cost \$300,000 and \$160,000, respectively.

The county currently collects recreation fees \$926 per lot in the Eastern District and \$548 per lot in the Western District – when a final plat is submitted for approval. Currently, counties are only allowed to use that fee for land purchases under state law, but cities and towns can use such fees for any parks-related business. If that could be changed, LaMontagne said, it would help the county.

"We have the land that we need for a lot of our

Siler City curbs to receive upgrade

district parks," he said. 'It's the improvements is where our real need is. We have a lot of potential on these properties.'

Burnett said the county could also explore private donations by community groups, available grants and selling naming rights for individual amenities like the basketball court or nature trails.

Commissioner Andy Wilkie cast the lone vote against the plans. He did not explain during Monday's meeting why he voted no, but told the News + Record by email that he was concerned it would affect his constituents' wallets.

"We have citizens in the Southwest district who voted for the water district 15 years ago and still don't have county water,' Wilkie wrote. "I think the people need water more than a upgrade to the parks. The parks are there — it is a upgrade that will cost us taxpayers \$8 million. There is a limit to what western Chatham can afford in property taxes and we are getting there fast."

Property tax revenue was not a suggested funding source for the improvements, and there was no set timetable for when the projects needed to be completed. Approving the plan was just signifying that this was the board's intention to do all of these projects in the future.

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

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SILER CITY — The N.C. Dept. of Transportation will upgrade curbs at 18 intersections in Siler City in the upcoming year. The upgrades will ensure that the curbs adhere to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards.

BY CASEY MANN

The project will construct ramps on the sidewalks at the intersections, allowing residents in wheelchairs and those with other physical impairments to cross streets without having to use a

The town will reimburse NCDOT for 20 per-

at dusk each evening in

919.742.2699

the park!

cent of the actual cost of the work, estimated to be about \$170,000, according to interim town manager Roy Lynch. The out-of-pocket costs for the town is estimated to be \$34,880. The work is anticipated to begin early next year.

Intersections that will receive the ADA upgrades:

• E. 4th Street and N.

3rd Avenue · E. Beaver Street and

Scott Alley
• E. 2nd Street and N.

3rd Avenue

Chestnut Street and S. 3rd Avenue · E. Dolphin Street and

S. 3rd Avenue

• E. 4th Street and N. 4th Avenue

· E. 2nd Street and N. 4th Avenue

· E. 6th Street and N.

3rd Avenue • Perry Avenue and

Harmony Drive • W. 2nd Street and the unnamed allev that is

near N. Chatham Street · W. 2nd Street and N.

Birch Avenue

· Harmony Drive and Solo Drive

Harmony Drive and

Duet Drive · Harmony Drive and

Singing Sound Way • Duet Drive and Quar-

· Quarter Run and Quintet Court

Bradley

The Department of Transportation revealed its plans to remake a 3-mile section of US 64 in November. The section to be built will include sidewalks and will add a median strip with occasional **left-turn lanes.** Staff photo by David



Staff photo by David Bradley

The Department of Transportation's new median will be extend for several miles down Eleventh Street, with turn lanes at intervals along the way to



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disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the roceedings This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Nancy Hannah at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or nhannah@ silercity.org for accommodations for this request. - Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma baio petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Nancy Hannah al nhannah@ silercity.org o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. Au29,1tc

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Au22,29,S5,S12,4tc **ARE YOU LOOKING** for more than a job? The Chatham YMCA is the perfect place for people with a passion for making the community a better place. Now accepting applications for after school counselors at programs across Chatham County. Apply online at YMCATriangle.org/Y-jobs or email alex.mayfield@ ymcatriangle.org for more information. Au22,29,2tc

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LEGALS

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE TO CRED-ITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against the estate of MARK BURNHAM of Chatham County, NC, who died on July 8, 2019, are notified to present them on or before November 6, 2019 to Camilla C. Schupp, Executrix, c/o Alexander, Miller, Schupp & Hamilton, P.L.L.C., P. O. Box 3200, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. This the 8th day of August,

Alexander, Miller, Schupp & Hamilton, PLLC 1526 E. Franklin Street, Suite

202 PO Box 3200 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 Au8,Au15,Au22,Au29,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HAZEL W. PUCKETT, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at his address, 346 West Salisbury Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312. on or before the 8th day of November, 2019, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 2nd day of August, 2019. Daniel C. Puckett, Executor 346 West Salisbury Street Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 GUNN & MESSICK, LLP

P. O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880

Au 8,Au15,Au22,Au29,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 387

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of GARY **ALBERT JAKEWAY**, 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 November 8, 2019 or this notice

will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 8th day of August,

Heather Jakeway Hensley, Administrator 4526 Bradbury Dr Charlotte, NC 28209 Au8,Au15,A22,A29,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

19 E 382 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **BETTY R. HOW-**ARD, 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 November 8, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment This the 8th day of August,

Barbara Howard Hueske, Executrix 351 Dark Forest Drive

Chapel Hill, NC 27516 Au8,Au15,A22,Au29,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Executor for the Estate of RUTH U. MITCHELL of Apex, Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 1506 E. Franklin Street, Suite 100, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514, on or before the 18th of November, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. Father Jason Ross, Executor 4220 Erdman Avenue Baltimore, MD 21213 Send claims to: Estate of Ruth U. Mitchell Father Jason Ross, Executor c/o Ann B. Petersen, Esq. Glover & Petersen, P.A. 1506 E. Franklin Street, Suite

Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 Au15, Au22, Au29, S5, 4tp **NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of CATH-ERINE MILDRED ROBERSON OLDHAM, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 344 West John Street, Matthews, NC 28105, on or before November 13, 2019, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement with the undersigned. This the 8th day of August, 2019. Wallace B. Oldham, Jr., Administrator of the Estate of Catherine Mildred

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Chatham File No. 19-E-378 c/o Garrity & Gossage, LLP 344 West John Street Matthews, NC 28105 Au15, Au22, Au29, S5, 4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY** John Thomas Gaines Jr. qualified on January 22, 2019, as Collector of the Estate of SHIRLEY C. MCNEILL, late of Chatham County, North Carolina. This is to notify all persons, firms and corporations, as required by NCGS 28A-14-1, having claims against the Estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned attorney on or before November 12, 2019. or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All per sons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned. Payments and claims should be presented to Sara Harrington, Attorney at Law, Averett Family Law, 50101 Governors Drive, Suite 150, Chapel Hill, NC 27517. Averett Family Law

Chapel Hill, NC 27517 Au15,Au22,Au29,S5,4tc

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE 19 SP 98

50101 Governors Drive, Suite

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust made by Larry Switzer and Jennifer Świtzer (PRESENT RECORD OWNER(S): Larry Switzer) to FNTIC., A CA Corp, Trustee(s), dated the 31st day of August, 2016, and recorded in Book 01889, Page

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Line ad deadline

Tuesday — Noon Display ad deadline

Monday - 5 p.m.

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1022, in Chatham County Registry, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Substitute Trustee Services, Inc. having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust by an instrument duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Chatham County, North Carolina and the holder of the

TAKING APPLICATIONS

for Siler City Country Club Maintenance - one full-time position and one part-time for summer season. Applications at clubhouse. 919-742-3721

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note evidencing said indebtedness having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door in the City of Pittsboro, Chatham County, North Carolina, or the customary location designated for foreclosure sales, at 1:30 PM on September 5, 2019 and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following real estate situated in the County of Chatham, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows: The land referred to herein below is situated in the County of Chatham, State of North Carolina, and is described as follows: Being all of Lot 433J, the Preserve at Jordan Lake Phase Two, Section J. recombination of Lots 432J & 433J as shown on map recorded in Plat Slide 2002, Page 431, Chatham County Registry. Together with improvements located thereon: said property being located at 53 Davis Love Drive, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Parcel ID: 0078876 Commonly known as 53 Davis

27517 However, by showing this address no additional coverage is provided. Being the same property con-

Love Drive, Chapel Hill, NC

veyed to Larry Switzer and Jennifer Switzer, husband and wife by Deed from Helton Homes, Inc., a Inc. Corporation recorded 05/28/2008 in Deed Book 1405 Page 368, in the Register of Deeds Office of Chatham Countv. North Carolina. Trustee may, in the Trustee's sole discretion, delay the sale for up to one hour as provided in NCGS §45-21.23. Should the property be purchased by a third party, that party must pay the excise tax,

as well as the court costs of

Forty-Five Cents (\$0.45) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) re-

quired by NCGS §7A-308(a)(1).

The property to be offered

pursuant to this notice of

sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS, WHERE IS." Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust/security agreement, or both, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safe-

at or relating to the property being offered for sale, and any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. Also, this property is being sold subject to all taxes, special assessments, and prior liens or prior encumbrances of record and any recorded releases. Said property is also being sold subject to applica-ble Federal and State laws. A deposit of five percent (5%)

ty conditions existing in, on,

of the purchase price, or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is reguired and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale. If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to

the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will

have no further remedy. Additional Notice for Residential Property with Less than 15 rental units, including Single-Family Residential Real Property An order for possession of

the property may be issued pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may after receiving the notice of foreclosure sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in this notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured

the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SER-VICES, INC. SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE c/o Hutchens Law Firm LLP P.O. Box 1028

4317 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, North Carolina Phone No: (910) 864-3068 https://sales.hutchenslawfirm.

Case No: 1261268 (FC.FAY) Au22,Au29,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 409 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **DORIS M.** VAUGHN aka DORIS MANN VAUGHN, 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 November 22, 2019 or this notice will be

pleaded in bar of their recov-

ery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 22nd day of August, 2019. Ronald Edward Vaughn, Executor 8847 NC Hwy 87N Pittsboro, NC 27312 Au22,Au29,S5,S12,4tc

NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR CARY RESIDENTS IN

CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

A **Municipal** election will be held on October 8, 2019 in Chatham County, North Carolina to elect a **Mayor**, and an **At Large Council member** for the Town of Cary in Chatham County. There will be two Referendums on the ballot. Town of Cary Parks and Recreation-al, Facilities Bonds & Town of Cary Transportation Bonds. Only those voters registered in the Cary municipal boundaries in Chatham County are eligible to vote in this election. The polling place will be open from 6:30 am until 7:30 pm on Election Day. The polling place for Cary voters in Chatham will be located at: East Williams Precinct - New Hope Church - 581 New Hope Church Rd in Apex. Voters who are registered in the New Hope Precinct will be temporarily transferred to the **East Williams Precinct for this**

election only. Those residents who are not registered to vote must register by **Friday, September** 13, 2019. You may register to vote at the Board of Elections office located at 984 Thompson Street, Suite D in Pittsboro or you may pick up a mail-in voter registration form at any public library or print a form on line at www.chathamnc. org/boe or www.ncsbe.gov

Any voter that has moved must notify the Board of Elec-tions office. Persons wishing to register and vote after the registration deadline may appear in person at the one-stop absentee voting site, complete the voter registration application form and provide proof of residence by presenting valid documents showing current name and address. Voters are encouraged to register by the September 13, 2019 deadline. Voters may apply for an absentee ballot by mail beginning Monday, September 8, 2019. The application must be submitted in person, by fax, e-mail at Elections@ chathamnc.org or by mail to Chatham County Board of Elections office, P O Box 111, Pittsboro, NC 27312. The request must be on the new State Absentee Ballot Request form. The form can be found at the Elections webpage at www.chathamnc.org/boe or call the BOE office to obtain a copy, 919-545-8500. The last day to **request** an absentee ballot by mail is **Tuesday**, October 1, 2019. The last day to **receive** your voted ballot at the Chatham County Board of Elections is by 5:00 pm on October 8, 2019. Absentee Ballots postmarked on or before Election Day and received by October 11, 2019 will be accepted and processed. You can vote One Stop Absentee voting in person beginning Sentember 18, 2019 at the Board of Elections office at 984 Thompson Street, Suite D, Pittsboro, NC 27312. One Stop voting hours at the Board of Elections office will be Wednesday, September 18, 2019 thru Friday, September 20, 2019 from 8 am until 5 pm, Monday, September 23, 2019 thru Friday, September 27, 2019, 8 am until 5 pm, Saturday, September 28, 2019, 9 am until 1 pm, and Monday, September 30, 2019 thru Friday, October 4, 2019, Early voting will only be available at the Board of Elections office. The last day to vote absentee

in person at the One Stop site is **Friday, October 4, 2019, 8:00** am until 5:00 pm. The polling place is accessible to the handicapped and to the elderly. In accordance with North Carolina General Statute, 163-166.8, any voter requiring assistance is entitled to such from a person of his or her choosing. Voter photo ID is not required for elections in 2019, but will be required in elections for 2020. If you have any questions regarding registration, absentee ballots or other election matters, please call the Board of Elections office at 919-545-8500. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. **Exercise Your Right To Vote**

!!!!!!!! It's Your Voice.. It's Your Choice...... Laura Heise, Chairman Chatham County Board of Elections

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Au29,S5,S12,3tc

19 E 411 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of SANDRA H. IHLY, 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 November

29, 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 29th day of August, Kurt Ihly, Executor

1708 Turtle Ridge Way Au29,S5,S12,S19,4tp

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE State of North Carolina County of Chatham Sale of Motor Vehicle G&M Auto Sales
NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE

Date of Sale: 09-06-2019 Time of Sale: 10:00 a.m. Phone number: 336-581-3863 Vehicle: 1999 Ford Tk ,4c Au29,S5,2tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

19 E 392 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of RUTH ELIZABETH JONES, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at her address, P. O. Box 294, Pitts-boro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 29th day of November, 2019, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 26th day of August, 2019. Elizabeth Ann Jones Eubanks P. O. Box 294 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 GUNN & MESSICK, LLP P. O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880

Au29,S5,S12,S19,4tc

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM The annual meeting of the North Chatham Volunteer Fire Department Inc. will be held at North Chatham Volunteer Fire Station #1, U.S.15-501 North, on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing two (2) Directors of the Corporation and of such business as may properly come before the meeting. All residents of the North Chatham Fire Protection District eighteen (18) years of age or older are entitled to attend and vote at said meeting. The directors to be elected at said meeting shall be residents of the North Chatham Fire Protection District of Chatham County and shall be fairly representative if the geographic areas and populations served by the corporation. This 26th day of August, 2019. Chuck Quinlan, President North Chatham Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Au29, S5,2tc

EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY

IN THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

AND WETLANDS
To: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals This is to provide notice that the Town of Siler City has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and 11990, to determine the potential affect that its activity in the 100-year floodplain and jurisdictional wetlands will have on the human environment for activities related to the Community Development Block Grant Economic Development (CD-BG-ED) program. The Town of Siler City is requesting grant funding from CDBG-ED. See attached Location Map for the Town of Siler City Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion. In May 2016, Mountaire Farms selected the Town of Siler City, North Carolina as its next location for a processing facility. With two hatcheries located in southwest Chatham County and the Town of Siler City's history of poultry processing, the location was ideal to invest \$170 million and create over 1,100 jobs within the community.
The Town of Siler City currently owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) that is permitted to discharge up to 4.0 MGD of treated effluent to Love's Creek, Sludge removed from the storage basins is land applied to local farmland. Flows treated at the WWTP averaged

approximately 2.0 MGD, or 50% of the plant's permitted capacity prior to Mountaire's construction. While the plant has the hydraulic capacity to service both current flows and the Mountaire Farms facility, the WWTP is not currently designed or required to meet an effluent limit for Total Nitrogen (TN). The Town has therefore entered the planning phase of upgrading the WWTP to accommodate nutrient removal. The project is anticipated to be constructed as two phases. The first phase to improve nutrient removal at the current capacity of 4.0 MGD and a second phase to increase capacity to 6.0 MGD. The first phase of construction includes improvements to the existing oxidation ditches, blowers, controls and electrical. The second phase improvements include expansion of the influent screening and grit removal systems, influent pump station upgrades. constructing a third oxidation ditch basin and clarifier, new effluent filters, disinfection system expansion, solids handling facility and associated electrical and piping upgrades. The project also includes up-

grades to approximately 5,600 LF of gravity sewer interceptor from the point that Mountaire Farms flows enter the interceptor to the WWTP. These improvements are proposed to be constructed to reduce nutrients to levels at or below the mass of Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus discharged when poultry processing was not discharging to the Town's WWTP. This project is critical to allow the Town of Siler City to serve Mountaire Farms. The project would include work within a 100-year floodplain of Loves Creek and may impact riparian wetlands. The proposed gravity sewer line construction will be below grade with

minimal changes to the current

topography. The sewer line will be installed primarily within

existing road right of way and existing utility easements

however some areas will be rerouted to minimize impacts to the floodplain and wetlands. The project will not impede or change the flow in any roadside ditches. Activities in floodplains and wetlands would include minimal clearing of vegetation, material laydown, installation of erosion control measures, and excavation of a 4-foot wide trench for installation of the sewer line.

There are three primary

purposes for this notice. First,

people who may be affected by activities in the floodplain and wetland areas and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural resources should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about their interests. Second. an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The spread of information about wetlands and floodplains can help the public understand the importance for protecting these natural resources and the issues concerning occupancy, modification, and development in these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at risk. Written comments must be received by Roy Lynch, Interim Town Manager, Town of Siler City at the following address: P.O. Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344, (919) 742-4731, before September 20, 2019 with a 15-day comment period beginning the day after this posting. Comments may also be submitted via email at rlynch@silercity.org. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Roy Lynch, Interim Town Manager, Town of Siler City en la siguiente dirección: P.O. Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud.

Au29,1tc

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of FAYE WILSON BRIGGS, deceased, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at 6277 US Highway 64 E, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 29th day of November, 2019, or this Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 26th day of August, 2019. Thomas Woodrow Briggs
Limited Personal Representative 6277 US Highway 64 E

Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 Gunn & Messick, LLP Post Office Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina

Au29,S5,S12,S19,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of EMMA **SUE 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 November 29, 2019 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recoverv. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make

immediate payment. This the 29th day of August, 2019. Nathanial Clark, Administrator

811 Driftwood Drive Siler City, NC 27344 Au29,S5,S12,S19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **PAUL IRVINE**, JR., late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate of said Decedent to present them to the undersigned at the address below on or before November 29. 2019, or this Notice will be plead in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons, firms, or corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate settlement. This the 22nd day of August, 2019. Paul Irvine, III Executor of the Estate of Paul Irvine, Jr.

Stephanie B. Irvine Irvine Law Firm, PLLC 825-C Merrimon Ave #321 Asheville, NC 28804 (828) 424-7573

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

19 E 412 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Execu-tor of the Estate of **ARNOLD** WILLARD MOODY 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 under-signed on or before November 29, 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 29th day of August, 2019.

Henry Dale Moody, Executor 708 Flynt St. Kernersville, NC 27284

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Siler City awarded grant for sewer upgrades

CN+R Staff Report

SILER CITY — The N.C. Dept. of Commerce awarded Siler City a Community Development Block Grant for \$3 million to assist in upgrading its wastewater treatment plant.

The grant program was for economic development and to accommodate flows generated by Mountaire Farms, the Delaware-based poultry processing facility that opened in Siler City.

The grant is only a portion of the \$21.4 million the town requires to perform all of the upgrades. Previously, the town has been awarded \$2 million

in Golden LEAF funding and \$750,000 from Chatham County.

According to new Town Manager Roy Lynch, the town is also in the process of filing with USDA for funding that would be 45 percent grant and 55 percent low-interest loan for the project. Lynch said the town is also in

communication with the Economic Development Administration to ascertain what funding opportunities may be available through that organization.

The wastewater treatment plant upgrades will be performed in two phases.

The CDBG funding,

along with the funding already received, will support phase one which will reduce the amount of nutrients that are released into Loves Creek by the wastewater treatment plant. Phase one is estimated to cost about \$7 million.

Lynch said the town is in the process of filing the final environmental paperwork for phase one and will begin construction after the first of the vear.

The second phase will be an expansion at the wastewater plant, allowing for additional flow to be treated at the site. That phase is estimated to occur in 2024.

More water focus of Pittsboro board business

BY ADRIANNE CLEVEN News + Record Correspondent

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro's Town Board of Commissioners dedicated the bulk of their regular meeting Monday night to addressing one of the area's biggest growing pains: a need for increased drinking water infrastructure.

Representatives from Massachusetts-based consulting firm CDM Smith, walked the board through a draft of the firm's recently completed Water Supply and Treatment Expansion

"Most of your water supply sources over the next 40 years need to be tapped in some way," CDM Smith representative Reed Barton told the board. "It's just, what is the best order - the most strategic order

for the town? The presentation, which marked the third time CDM Smith had presented to the board since the beginning of the year, included water need projections stretching 40 years into the future. It provided seven proposed options to increase the town's treated water availability, including expanding Pittsboro's existing water treatment plant, building an additional plant, and combining with other local treated water programs. It also included a long-discussed idea to purchase and pump water at least 14 miles to Pittsboro from Sanford.

Barton said that chemicals like Bromide, 1,4 Dioxane, PFOS and PFOA have been

found in varying amounts within the Haw and Cape Fear rivers as well as in Jordan Lake, though the chemicals tend to be more diluted in Jordan. Barton stressed the importance of a pilot study to test the most effective water treatment solutions and assess the chemistry of the town's water, which he says, "varies significantly across regions of the state. The board agreed to continue with that study.

"For the amount of money that you would be spending on the overall project," Barton said, "... it's really a drop in the bucket to verify that we're taking the right approach.'

As could be imagined, there is a mind-boggling cost to expand Pittsboro's water treatment capability from its current maximum of 2 million gallons per day (GPD) to a maximum of 6 million GPD in 2040. According to CDM Smith, purchasing water from Sanford would mean an estimated \$38 million spent on a piping and pumping system, not to mention the cost of treating all that water. They discouraged the

CDM Smith suggested a few options for funding the project, mostly involving low-interest government loans that are geared toward community infrastructure projects, like the WIFIA and SRF programs.

The board's water discussion kept flowing as they tackled the recently reported existence of several contaminants, including 1,4 dioxane and bromide, in the town's current drinkable

supply. The commissioners worked together to wordsmith a notice about the chemicals to Pittsboro water customers

"I think it's good to remind everybody that by all standards - all the legal standards – we're doing a great job," Commissioner John Bonitz said. "However, we are going the extra length because this information has been brought to our attention and we're concerned. We don't know what the problem is, but we're concerned enough to try to solve it.'

The commissioners also reviewed a site plan for a proposed Chatham Concrete plant near Moncure Pittsboro Road. The commissioners eventually denied the permit over concerns about noise pollution and dust discharge near homes.

"I just want to say that I would welcome this plan to the town, but not in this location. commissioner Bett Foley said. "But we'd like to see you come here, but not so close to a residential community like this.

Though no residents commented during the period allotted for community comment, Town Manager Bryan Gruesbeck announced that Pittsboro's staff will stop using Glyphosate, the weed-killing chemical present in RoundUp, in local projects.

It's not quite clear whether the precaution is warranted. Though a research entity with the World Health Organization piqued the nation's interest when it reported that the chemical was "probably carcinogenic to humans," the EPA publicly

contradicted that finding in April. Still, residents are taking notice.

"I was on one of my walks today, and the folks out at Potterstone have their garden entrance professionally done,' Mayor Cindy Perry said. "And a fellow was really interested in the idea that we were looking at alternatives.

Gruesbeck also provided an update on several projects in the works, including a new town hall and an improvement project for the traffic circle around the town's historic courthouse. Increasing pressures on NCDOT resources mean that the latter plan will be pushed back to 2021, he said.

In the meantime, town officials are looking to fill the empty space that once held Pittsboro's Piggly Wiggly grocery store. Alyssa Byrd, representing Chatham's Economic Development Corporation, emphasized that the approximately 24,000 square foot space is around 30 years old.

The EDC's research on the grocery retail recruitment process, which the board requested back in July, revealed that visibility, parking, traffic levels and aesthetic quality are all key factors that grocery stores consider as they plan to move into a space.

'We might need a little bit of elbow grease to get it fitting a tenant's requirements," she told the board.

A new grocery store would be the third one in Pittsboro, joining a Food Lion and the Chatham Marketplace Co-op.

"[Pittsboro's] demographics are a little on the light side, but they're changing," Byrd said. "So as we see increased rooftops, we're going to see increased opportunity for these types of developments.

The EDC remains in conversation with real estate brokers about the empty storefront and will update the board on its progress around October.

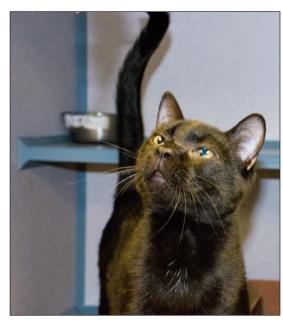
Jim Nass of the Chatham County ABC board also took the floor Monday night to praise the town's ABC store for revenue increase as reported in this year's audit. Nass also announced his transition out of his current role as board chairman; he'll become mayor after November's election. He promised to stay on the ABC board as a regular member through November to ease the transition, and Pittsboro's Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to hand over the chair position to existing member Hugh Harrington.

I've enjoyed working with all the board members and with this board on building that ABC store into something I think the whole town can be proud of...,

According to the ABC commission, 90 percent of Pittsboro ABC's profits go into the town's general fund.

And as residents look forward to a replacement for Piggly Wiggly, Commissioner Bonitz reminded the board that they'll be able to tuck in at Abundance N.C.'s 12th annual "Pepperfest" food festival. It's scheduled for September 22.

Pet of the Week: Puma







The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Puma, the Watcher on the Wall and self-appointed Kitty Overlord of the Animal Resource Center. Puma's unwavering expression of judgment and condescension can be downright comical, but staff members say he is super sweet with a heart of gold. He plays well with other cats and tolerates dogs, but mostly sticks to plotting world domination from atop his cushy cat bed. He would make a fine companion for a mildly obedient human with a sarcastic sense of humor. For more information on how to meet or adopt Puma during the ongoing \$20 cat adoption special, swing by the office at 725 Renaissance Drive in Pittsboro or call 919-542-2911 to speak with an animal resource officer.

Back to School Safety: Know the rules of the road

RALEIGH — August is Back to School Safety Month, and North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey, who also serves as Chair of Safe Kids N.C., reminds students, parents, and motorists to use extra caution as students walk, drive, or ride the bus to school

'With children going back to school, our roads and crosswalks will be much more crowded so it's important that everyone compensates by using more caution," Commissioner Causey noted. "It only takes one unsafe move to cause a tragic injury or death to one of our precious children."

While students on traditional calendars will go back to school on Aug. 26, students at year-round schools have already started boarding buses and have headed back to

On a typical day, more than 14,000 school buses carrying nearly 800,000 students operate on North Carolina roads. Passing a stopped

school bus can result in the motorist adding four insurance points and seeing an 80 percent increase in auto insurance premiums.

Commissioner Causey encouraged all motorists to watch for children walking to school or waiting by the roadside for a school bus. And he advised motorists to understand the rules of the road when a school bus is stopped picking up passengers.

Commissioner Causey also offered National Safety Council tips as students and teachers head back to school.

For pedestrians:

 Walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you must walk in the street or road, walk facing traffic.

 Before crossing the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see

if cars are coming Never dart out in front of a parked car.

· Parents: Practice walking to school with your child, crossing streets or crosswalks when available.

• Never walk while texting or talking on the phone.

 Do not walk while using headphones.

NEWS BRIEFS

Chatham County 4-H horsekateer wins 4th place at Southern Regional Competition

PERRY, Georgia — On Aug. 1, Chatham County 4-H member Taylor Cloer, 18, competed in the Southern Regional Education Contest. Teams and individuals from 13 different states competed in Horse Judging, Horsebowl, Hippology and Communications events.

Cloer's Hippology team placed 4th in Written Exam and Slides, 4th in Judging, and 5th Overall. Individually, she placed 8th in Written Exam and Slides, 9th in Judging, and 10th Overall High Individual. In addition, she made the NC National Hippology team so she will be competing at AQHA Congress in October and 4-H Eastern Nationals in November.

Cloer has been in the Chatham County 4-H Horsekateer group for fiev years. She will be attending N.C. State and studying animal science.



Pictured third from right is Taylor Cloer with Coach Mary Dickerson in the center.

For bike riders:

• Always wear a helmet that is fitted and secured

 Children need to know the rules of the road: Ride single file on the right side of the road, come to a complete stop before crossing the street and walk the bike across.

 Watch for opening car doors and other hazards. Use hand signals when turning.

 Wear bright-colored clothing.

For bus riders:

 Teach children the proper way to get on and off the bus.

· Line up six feet away from the curb as the bus approaches.

• If seat belts are available, buckle up. · Wait for the bus to stop completely before standing.

• If you must cross the road, walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus. For motorists, in

addition to obeying the stopped school bus law: Don't block crosswalks.

• Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and take extra precaution in school zones.

Stop far enough back

• Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.

from a school bus to allow children room to safely enter and exit the bus. The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children.

For more information on how to keep children safe during Back to School Safety Month or throughout the year, visit the website SafeKidsNC.org.

--CN + R staff reports