

Chatham News + Record

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Storms bring damage, flooding to Chatham County

Next round of rain adds to flood threat

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

The powerful line of storms that blew through Chatham County last Thursday brought high winds and rains that damaged homes, caused power outages and flooded roads and bridges.

This week's forecast rains could exacerbate local flooding.

By mid-day Thursday, tornado and severe thunderstorm warnings were popping up in Chatham and surrounding counties. As a result, officials with Chatham County Schools decided to release students early. But some of those students found themselves unable to leave upon dismissal. At the time, there was a tornado warning issued which initiated principals in schools in the warning's path to implement "tornado protocol," according



Staff photo by David Bradley

Bobby D. Johnson contemplates the ruins of his home last Thursday.

to John McCann, public relations coordinator for Chatham County Schools.

Parents described arriving at Chatham Central High School and Siler City Elementary School as the storm struck, bringing high winds and flying

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Staff photos by David Bradley

Pittsboro resident Bobby D. Johnson was eating breakfast at the home he rents near the intersection of N.C. Hwy. 87 and U.S. Hwy. 64 Friday when a large oak tree toppled onto the home. Neighbors came to his assistance. Heavy rains and winds Thursday contributed to the fall of the tree, removal of which began on Monday. Johnson, 80, was not injured.

A FIGHTER RISES FROM SILENCE

Distinguished Chatham Charter alum was first person to undergo treatments to restore hearing

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Amber Vaughn was born into a largely silent world.

Now a 19-year-old college freshman, she was diagnosed at birth with bilateral microtia and atresia, or the absence of an external auditory ear canal, which resulted in conductive hearing loss.

At just one month old, Amber was equipped with a hearing aid, outfitted to a band the infant wore around her head.

Her doctors weren't optimistic about her future, breaking news to her parents — Brian and Christina Vaughn — that their young daughter would likely depend upon sign language to communicate. It was just one of those things. The luck of the draw.

Amber's hearing impairment wasn't hereditary. But she did inherit from her parents — who weren't content to merely accept the doctors' prognosis — a fighting spirit. Her parents always encouraged her to live as normal a life as possible and interact with the hearing community.

Instead of relying on sign language, as doctors had forecast for Amber's future, her parents charted a different path: enrolling her in auditory verbal therapy when she was merely six weeks old. As the toddler grew, her parents continued their efforts to improve Amber's hearing. They provided her with hearing devices in 5th grade, a decision that "completely transformed" Amber's ability to communicate.

At a young age, she was sometimes picked on by other children because of the visible, physical mis-formation of her external ear. But the bullying, she says now — her fighting spirit emerging —



Staff photo by David Bradley

Amber Vaughn, Chatham Charter's homecoming queen for the 2018-2019 school year, crowns the 2019-2020 Queen, Tamia Lipford, Jan. 31 in Siler City.

"was only really a struggle when I was little."

Persisting to fight and stay positive, Amber, with the love and support of her family, consulted audiologists with the aim of improving her hearing as much as possible.

When she was in her early teens, she became the first person in the world to undergo a series of operations — six or seven in total, she said, in 2012 and 2013 — aimed at improving her hearing. She was casual at first — her attitude, she says laughing, was "yeah, whatever" — about being the first in this particular medical arena, but now she says the distinction

is "super cool." Her doctor wrote a paper about the groundbreaking procedures and, Amber said, at least "a couple of other people" have since benefited from the same procedures.

Most importantly, those operations prepared her to finally receive bilaterally implanted Bone Anchored Hearing Aids (BAHA).

The devices not only helped Amber hear, they changed her life.

"It helped so much," she said. "I could hear better. And it also made me feel a lot more confident."

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CHATHAM'S SALES TAX REFERENDUM

How might new tax revenue be used?

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series examining the proposed local sales tax option on Chatham County's March 3 ballot.

North Carolina counties which enact the Article 46 sales tax — a local option levy of an additional quarter cent on all retail items except for unprepared food and gasoline — have the option of also writing a resolution saying how the funds will be used.

It's not required, but the Chatham County Commissioners, like many county boards before it, have set aside four potential uses for any revenues from the tax, which will be decided on by Chatham voters during the 2020 primary vote in March.

Chatham's resolution states that the board of commissioners "recognizes the need for revenue to support and enhance the County's efforts in the areas of: Affordable Housing, Education, Parks & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation & Enhancement," specifying that any revenue from the

See TAX, page A6

BRIAR CHAPEL WASTEWATER

ONSWC responds to customer complaints

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of stories on the proposed wastewater transfer from Fearington Village to Briar Chapel. There will be more in next week's edition of the News + Record.

CHAPEL HILL — Old North State Water Company, the firm which oversees wastewater treatment in the Briar Chapel development, said it has heard customers' complaints and has promised improvements, as well as offered explanations, in a 13-page document

submitted in response to resident testimony.

The company has been under fire in recent months by Briar Chapel residents in light of ONSWC's plan to transfer the wastewater operations at Fearington Village, a mile down the road off of U.S. Hwy. 15-501 north of Pittsboro. More than 600 residents signed a petition to the North Carolina Utilities Commission, which oversees ONSWC, asking the Commission to deny the application, citing multiple wastewater spills and alleging poor customer service.

See WATER, page A14

2020 Census set to begin

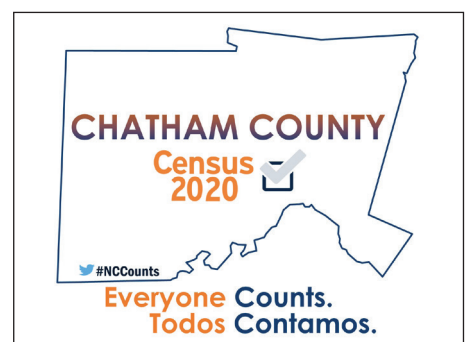
Alert letters set to go out beginning in March

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

The 2020 Census is gearing up in Chatham County.

The census, a Constitutionally-mandated population count that occurs every 10 years in the U.S., helps to determine the share of federal money a county or state receives for health, transportation, education, human services and housing, in addition to being used to determine the allocation of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives

Chatham County, in order to try to get as accurate an account of its population as possible, has tasked Courtney



Cooper-Lewter, an analyst with the county, with coordinated efforts to raise awareness through the Chatham Complete Count Committee. The group's participants, who have been meeting

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IN THE KNOW

Pittsboro Commissioners start process to hire new manager. **PAGE A7**

What you need to know about N.C.'s state-level primaries. **PAGE A8**

Siler City's Floorazzo to hire 12, invest \$2 million in new digs. **PAGE B6**

Contestants set for 'Sing and Play' competition on Feb. 20. **PAGE B8**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ON THE AGENDA

• The **Chatham County Soil and Water Conservation District** has a regular meeting at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 13 at the New Agriculture Building in Pittsboro. This is an open meeting. To confirm the meeting, call Brenda at 919-542-8240 or 919-545-8440.

• The **Chatham County Board of Commissioners** has a regular meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 17, 2020, at the Chatham County Historic Courthouse, 9 Hillsboro St., Pittsboro.

• The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** has a regular meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 17, at the Siler City Town Hall courtroom, 311 N Second Ave., Siler City.

• The **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** has a regular meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, at the Pittsboro Town Hall, 635 East St., Pittsboro.

THURSDAY

• Film Screening: **“Iron Jawed Angels”**, in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters - The Ladies of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties and the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro are co-sponsoring a complementary film screening of the Golden Globe award-winning HBO film “Iron Jawed Angels”. The film, starring Angelica Huston as the League founder Carrie Chapman Catt, will be shown from 3 to 5 p.m. on Thurs., Feb. 13, at the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro. This celebration will conclude with refreshments honoring the League’s 100th Anniversary. This event is free and open to the public, with free parking available.

• The **Second Bloom of Chatham Thrift** shop is having a **50% OFF** Winter Sale including winter wear and all shoes, boots, jewelry and purses. We have men’s and women’s clothing and shoes in all sizes. The sale will run until Saturday, Feb. 29. We now accept credit cards, with hours from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. We are in Pittsboro on the Courthouse Circle beside the Roadhouse. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.

• **St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church** - We provide a healthy, appetizing meal at no cost to those who come to us hungry at noon on Thursdays. We provide a place of hospitality and fellowship for everyone. All are welcome, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

• **Chatham Community Library** - Volunteer genealogists are available to assist with family history research, whether your ancestors lived in Chatham County, the 50 states, or overseas. A genealogy volunteer is on site in the library most Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and other days and times by appointment. Call 919-545-8086 to make an appointment.

• The **Pittsboro Farmers Market** is open with seasonal items year-round from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thurs-

days. They are located at 287 East St., Pittsboro.

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

• **2020 Spring Baseball and Softball** registration is Open! Bonlee Recreation is holding sign-ups for boys and girls, ages 4 - 12. Sign up in person from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15 at the Bonlee Recreation Ball Park. Call 919-353-4694 for more information or email us at bonleerecreation@gmail.com.

• **“Whack-Attack” Workday**, from 9 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 15, the Friends of Lower Haw will hold an invasive species removal workday in the Bynum Mill area of the Lower Haw River State Natural Area. Sign up by contacting lowerhaw-events@gmail.com with “Invasives” in the subject line. Learn about invasive plant species and removal techniques. All tools will be provided. Bring work gloves, insect repellent and water. Wear closed-toe shoes, long pants and long sleeve shirt.

SUNDAY

• **Nature Heart Adventure**, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., Sunday Feb. 16. Does your family love nature? Come enjoy the winter woods in the Lower Haw River State Natural Area. Our family adventure will begin with a short scavenger hunt, searching for hearts that nature has created along the Haw River. After our hike we will create some Valentine nature art in the shape of hearts made from materials found in the woods. Enjoy a walk by the river and make a Valentine nature art project. All ages welcome! Meet in the lower Bynum Mill parking lot off Bynum Church Road.

• **Meet for a NHAS Bird Walk (all these meet at the Wild Bird Center in Chapel Hill)** at 8 a.m. on Sat., Feb. 15, 8 a.m. for about a 3 hour walk at an area site. Questions: contact Kent Fiala at kent.fiala@gmail.com. - Wed., Feb. 19, meet at 8 a.m. Contact Nan Dewire at ndewire@hotmail.com. Meet Sun., Feb. 23, 8 a.m. for about a 3 hour walk at an area site. Questions: contact Bo Howes at bohoves@gmail.com, or meet Wed. Feb. 26, for 3 hour walk in area. Questions, contact Fleeta Wilkinson @fleetalee@gmail.com. Heavy rains will result in cancellation of individual walks. For walks, wear long pants and closed toe shoes with socks. Bring snacks and water if you like.

MONDAY

• **Writing Toward Resilience** has resumed, at the UNC Hospice Home Mondays from noon to 1 p.m. Come and enjoy a respite from your day – to reflect and write. Just drop in. No registration necessary. This weekly group is led by Carol Henderson, a professional writer and facilitator. There is no requirement to read anything you write, but you may if you wish. SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC Healthcare

is located at 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro – behind Bojangles. Contact Ann Ritter with any questions, 984-215-2650.

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

• **Big Band swing and jazz sounds** from 2 to 5 p.m., every Monday at the Pittsboro Roadhouse and General Store. The dance floor is open and bands rotate. For more information, see our website: www.pittsbororoadhouse.com.

UPCOMING

• Chatham Community Library is offering a series of **free computer classes** in February. You can find a description of each class, including topics covered and prerequisites for attending, by visiting www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses. Microsoft PowerPoint Basics, and Intro to Facebook: From 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20. Spaces are limited and you must register in advance. Register online at the address above. For more information, call 919-545-8086 or email reference@chathamlibraries.org. Classes take place in the computer lab at Chatham Community Library, on the campus of Central Carolina Community College.

• Showcase contestants have been selected for **“Sing and Play 20”**, scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 20 at Jordan-Matthews High School. Fifteen musical acts were selected in earlier auditions and will perform in elementary, middle and high school competitions. “Sing and Play” is open to both instrumental and vocal acts, with a \$50 prize in each age division. Winners will be selected by audience vote during the showcase concert. General admission is \$5 per person and includes one vote in each age-based competition. This event raises money for JMarts, the Jordan-Matthews Arts Foundation, a non-profit organization created to provide what student artists need to excel.

• The **Carolina Mountain Dulcimer Players** meet at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month (Feb. 21), at the Seymore 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 919-929-5359.

• Join the gathering for the **Bluegrass Jam Circle** at Bynum Front Porch Pickin’ and make music every 2nd and 4th Saturday throughout the year, at 950 Bynum Rd. The circle forms around 10 a.m. until 12ish. Singers, new pickers, (spoons, washboards) and audience members are all welcome! This is an open circle type jam for all skill levels and ages. If you pick, bring your instrument (Acoustic instruments only). If you sing, bring your voice. Come to enjoy great music at the historic Bynum General Store. As always, the Circle Jam is free and open to the public!

• **Census Countdown** - The League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham presents “Census 2020: Let’s Make it Count!” from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Chapel Hill Public Library located at 100 Library Drive, Chapel Hill. The program will provide information about the Census, including volunteer opportunities and the importance of an accurate count. Jessica Stanford, demographic analyst with Carolina Demography, will present an overview of the Census, why it is important and the consequences of an undercount. Orange County Commissioner Renee Price, who heads the Census 2020 Complete Count Committee for Orange County, will highlight the process and the logistics of the Census. This event is free and open to the public. Free parking is available.

• The **85th annual High-falls Old-Time Fiddler’s Convention** will be held Saturday, March 14, in the North Moore High School Auditorium in Robbins at 1504 N Moore Road. Registration from 4:30 to 7 p.m. - Admission will be \$7. - There will be a concession stand with BBQ sandwiches, Hot Dogs and Baked Goods; also a 50/50 Raffle. The ACC Basketball Tournament will be

televised in the lobby. -- For sponsorship opportunities, contact Highfalls Elementary School at 910-464-3600, HFEFiddlers@gmail.com.

• Until April 15, the Chatham County Council on Aging will host **Free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** at their Pittsboro and Siler City Senior Centers. This free tax preparation assistance is offered through the IRS VITA Grant initiative. For an appointment, call 919-542-4512, ext. 225. --- Volunteers are needed for Saturday receptionists for this Free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance. For more information or to volunteer, contact Allison Andrews at 919-542-512 or allison.andrews@chathamcouncilonaging.org.

• Free performances of **“The Lottery”** will be offered as part of the second-annual spring theater workshop at Jordan-Matthews High School. Auditions will be held on Tuesday, March 18 to select the cast of about 13 actors. Rehearsals will be after school, about twice a week, during March. “The Lottery” will be performed for students during school on Wednesday, March 26, and then for the public that evening at 7 p.m.

• Award Winning Author Mrs. Cassandra King Con-

roy to appear at a **Chatham Literacy Event**. Known for humor and honesty, Mrs. Conroy, wife of former southern literary icon Pat Conroy, will speak at the Governor’s Club April 29 for Chatham Literacy’s Fall for Literacy event. She will discuss her new memoir about life with Pat Conroy. Go to www.chathamliteracy.org for tickets.

• The **3rd Annual Becoming One Awards Ceremony and Banquet** will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, July 11, at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro. For more information about being a part of the Celebration and Banquet or to be a sponsor, contact Sandra Reddick, Administrative Assistant at 919-663-3183 or email reddick-sandra1945@gmail.com.

ALSO HAPPENING

• **SECU tax preparers** are on hand in all locations across the state to answer questions and complete and electronically file 2019 federal and state income tax returns for members who are eligible to participate in our Low-Cost Tax Preparation Program now through tax season. Qualifying members can have both federal and state tax returns prepared and filed for a flat fee of only \$75.00.

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STORMS:

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debris. School resource officers and administrative officials ordered students and parents into buildings as the storm passed. One resource officer, Herbie Stubbs, scooped up two distraught students to get inside the building. Once inside, all the students, parents and teachers laid on the floor until the storm passed.

On Friday morning, high winds following the storms resulted in power outages in parts of Chatham County, much of it on the western side, resulting in the closure of four schools on Friday. Parents of children at Chatham Central, J.S. Waters, Bennett School and Bonlee School received a phone call Friday morning alerting them to the last-minute closure. Buses were already en route to pick up students for school that morning when the power outages were discovered. Each school "made provisions to keep the kids safe" until arrangements were made "for a safe return home," according to McCann.

The storms and subsequent wind knocked down numerous trees around the county, in some cases blocking roadways. According to Steve Newton, Chatham County's emergency management director, at least two homes were damaged when trees fell onto them — one in Pittsboro on U.S. Hwy 87 and another on Sam Jones Road.

Areas prone to flash-flooding did experience it during last week's storm, but some areas saw less impact compared to previous flash flooding events, according to Newton. Newton noted that the repaired culvert on Pittsboro Elementary School Road, for instance, "looked like an improvement" over the one that washed out during flash flooding from heavy hurricane rains in 2018.

The storms dropped four inches of rain or more on some parts of the county, according to the National Weather Service and Chatham County Emergency Management, causing both flash flooding in areas as well as pushed all three major rivers in Chatham — the Haw River, the Deep River and the Rocky River — to or near flood stage. The Haw River peaked at just over 17 feet on Friday, six feet above flood stage, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The Rocky River peaked at 16 feet. Though the USGS does not indicate a "flood stage" for the river, prior to the storm, the river was at three feet. The Deep River's gauge in Moncure said the river peaked at 10 feet last week, one foot over flood stage. But Newton noted that the gauge there does not accurately tell the tale of the Deep River on the western side of the county.

As river levels rose Friday and Saturday, flood waters prompted road closures, particularly along the Deep River in the southwestern area of the county. Roads near the Deep River-Camelback Bridge were closed, including R. Jordan and Rosser Roads. In the Goldston-Gulf area, Goldston-Carbon-ton Road, Alton King Road, Plank Road and U.S. Hwy 42 were closed over the weekend after flood waters made travel impossible on portions of the roads.

According to Newton, one water rescue of kayakers was conducted Friday at the Buckhorn Dam on the Deep River. There were also at least two motorists made the mistake of attempting to drive through flooded roadways. Newton said that the driver of a tractor trailer had to be rescued on R. Jordan Road and the driver of a car had to be rescued near Caribton, both over the weekend.



Staff photo by Casey Mann

A portion of Alton King Road in Goldston was turned into a pond by flood waters from the Deep River over the weekend.

'I'm not a weatherman, but additional flooding would not be out of the realm of possibility considering the amount of water already in our swollen creeks and rivers.'

STEVE NEWTON, Emergency Management Director for Chatham County

"The Chatham County Sheriff's Office and first responders do our best to notify the public of flooded roads," Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson said. "And we continue to have people try to cross covered roads which is extremely dangerous."

Roberson said that flooding roadways create the "highest risk for loss of life" as it takes "very little water to move a car." When those who ignore warnings get "into trouble," it "puts first responders lives at risk" as well.

"We ask everyone to not drive on flooded roads," Roberson said. "If you can't see the pavement, don't try to drive on it."

By Monday, the waters receded and N.C. Dept. of Transportation crews began the work of removing

mud and debris from the roads in order to re-open them. But the threat of additional rain this week may also bring the threat of more flooding along the rivers. The National Weather Service is predicting rain for most of the week.

"I'm not a weatherman," Newton said. "But additional flooding would not be out of the realm of possibility considering the amount of water already in our swollen creeks and rivers."

Jordan Lake, which was measured at a level of 228 feet on Monday, is technically in flood stage as well, according to Dana Matics, assistant operations project manager for Jordan Lake. Matics said that on Monday morning, the Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the lake, were in a "holding pattern," doing a minimum water release of



Photo courtesy of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office

Flooding from the Deep River closed R. Jordan Road over the weekend.



Alton King Road in Goldston was closed over the weekend when flood waters from the Deep River crossed the road.

Courtesy Chatham County Sheriff's Office

200 cubic feet per second. However, by Monday afternoon, that amount was increased to 1,000 cubic feet per second. This release, located at the Jordan Dam in Moncure which flows back into the Haw River and eventually the Cape Fear, is about double the average flow of 500 cubic

feet per second. "That's the balance," Matics said. "We have to balance what's in the lake with what's going to fall out of the sky and not add to flooding downstream."

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



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VIEWPOINTS

THE CN+R EDITORIAL

A season for misinformation — but a time to know

If anything, politics has shown itself over time to be an arena for misinformation, either intentional or inadvertent.

Chatham County is faced with that now. A recent advertisement on the “Chatham Chatlist,” a local bulletin-board type email thread that is often rife with misinformation, had an item about the upcoming Article 46 local option sales tax referendum. It called the proposed levy “another NO-NEED TAX INCREASE proposed by Chatham Commissioner Candidates Dasher & Howard.”

The post indicated it was paid for by the Chatham County GOP.

A request for comment from Chatham’s Republican

Party didn’t get a response within a week, so we don’t know for sure if this was an intentional ploy to gather steam against the aforementioned Mike Dasher and Karen Howard ahead of their re-election bids this year. But what we do know is that the claim that the pair were responsible for the proposal is patently false.

County staff first proposed the idea last year during budget discussions — agenda documents for the January 16, 2019, budget workshop indicate the county staff asking commissioners about the referendum then. But the commissioners did not take a final vote on it until October.

Additionally, significant discussion has gone into how this tax would affect people

living on fixed or low incomes more. But this sales tax option — which would only cause people to pay 25 cents more in additional sales taxes on a purchase of \$100 — does not apply to unprepared food like groceries, or to fuel.

Our point here now is not to advocate “for” or “against” the ballot issue. Voters decide on these, and in most cases, sales tax options fail on ballots. But our plea is for those voters to make a well-informed decision, a decision based on facts and not misleading, untrue exclamation-point claims.

In the age of “fake news” and social media, bad information flies fast and recklessly. It’s been crippling to our institutions and detrimental to public discourse. And it’s not limited to any

one party. In the recent New Hampshire primary debate, Joe Biden claimed that fellow Democrat Bernie Sanders’ Medicare for All plan would cost more than the entire current federal budget — something independent fact-checking website PolitiFact found to be false. (On the other spectrum, President Trump saying that Nancy Pelosi’s ripping up of his State of the Union address was illegal was also untrue.)

It’s our commitment as a newspaper to report the truth and reality when it comes to any issue, particularly those involving taxpayer dollars and what’s on the table when you go to the ballot box. We’ve had two stories so far that explore the reality of the sales tax referendum, and

we’ll have another one next week. As you weigh your vote on the tax issue, you’d do well to read those stories first.

If misinformation — deliberate and calculated or unintentional and mistaken — is a sign of things to come for the 2020 election season in Chatham County, it’s a sad state of affairs. But that’s one of the reasons we exist as a news outlet, to double-check claims made by candidates and point out what’s true and what’s not.

As we head full steam into a politically-charged year, we hope that both political parties, all political candidates and all voters, will seek for and only repeat facts. Skip the lies and hyperbole. Stick to the truth.

That’s what’s best for Chatham County.

Some potential points of interest for spring planning

Just a couple of weeks ago, I used the bully pulpit of this column to write about the chilly stretch of weather we were enduring at the time here in the mostly moderate middle of our southeastern home state.

But weather is apt to change, sometimes very suddenly and not always — as hurricanes and tornadoes and straight line winds will sometimes remind us — without drama. Then again, like recalling what we supped on last Saturday, it’s easy to forget that today, though we might bask in balminess, a couple of Fridays ago we froze.

Such is the weather. Pennsylvania’s Punxsutawney Phil, fortunately, has forecast an early spring, and — though it’s maybe misplaced trust to put any stock in a whistlepig’s opinion — I choose to trust him.

We’ll know in a few weeks if the celebrated groundhog was right because, regardless of what the mercury and the marmosets say, we’re officially stuck with winter — whatever that means around here — until March 19 when, as our calendars promise, spring begins.

That’s our chance, following four months of winter hibernation, to emerge from our cabins. But what to do once we’ve sloughed off winter?

There are plenty of possibilities. Here are a few not-distant destinations you could consider.

North Carolina has its share of ghost stories and related sites and some are interesting to see. Once, en route to Ocean Isle Beach, I took the long way there just to pass through a small Brunswick County community which is the setting of the legendary Maco light.

Never mind that I drove through the unincorporated community of Maco Station mid-morning, in broad daylight, the famed Maco light — said to be the ghost of a beheaded railroad worker scanning the tracks with a lantern looking for his missing part — is impossible to spot under those conditions. It was still a thrill to drive through Maco Station, pondering the legend of the headless searcher.

Our state is blessed with many such stories, including — of course — one here in Chatham County’s flatwoods with the Devil’s Tramping Ground, just off Devil’s Tramping Ground Road. Legend has it that at the precise spot of the “tramping ground” itself, where it’s said Satan himself pensively paced, is a wide dirt patch where nothing grows.

But if Halloween seems the better time of year for those spooky sorts of adventures, spring — that hopeful season full of promise and life — would certainly be suited for a visit to some of North Carolina’s literary landmarks.

Carl Sandburg’s home (called “Connemara”) in Flat Rock, about a three-and-a-half-hour drive from Pittsboro, is a good place to start such a tour. Maintained nearly exactly today as it was when Sandburg — three times the winner of the Pulitzer Prize — lived there, the mountain home was the first National Historic Site dedicated to a poet.

A bit farther northwest of Flat Rock, in Asheville, is the boyhood home of novelist Thomas Wolfe, who wrote “You Can’t Go Home Again.” For whatever truth there is or isn’t in that famous title statement, you can go to Wolfe’s home, and it’s worth the trip and would make a fine springtime destination, the home itself a testament to the spirit of renewal the spring season inspires, having been restored after an act of arson destroyed portions of the home and its many artifacts. It re-opened in 2003 after a \$2.4 million renovation effort.

Or you might enjoy a visit to Cool Spring Tavern, the oldest house in Fayetteville and the location where novelist Carson McCullers completed “The Heart is a Lonely Hunter” and composed “Reflections in a Golden Eye.”

Southport boasts the childhood home of Robert Ruark, newspaper columnist and author. If you’ve read either of his memoirs about growing up in the Southport/Wilmington area (“The Old Man and the Boy” and its sequel, “The Old Man’s Boy Grows Older”) it’s nice to see the home that served as Ruark’s headquarters for his many youthful outdoor adventures.

But those two last words in the above sentence — outdoor adventures — are key here. With winter quickly (according to Phil) coming to a close, it will soon be time to dust the winter from our shoulders and get back out there.

Whether our adventures are inspired by a mysterious phenomenon of light in Maco Station or a desire to visit the former haunts of an old Flat Rock poet, you don’t have to travel too far to find a perfect springtime pursuit.



What would happen if Phil had all the tech gadgets?

Long ago and far away in another world and another time, weather forecasting was a different animal. Tribal folks, nomads, even city dwellers got their hopes up or down by observing the heavens or remembering age-old trends or even spur-of-the-moment happenings.



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

That latter would include, for instance, that if in the middle of the day, the sky all of a sudden turned pitch black and the wind started howling, then Ogg in his cave or Caesar in his palace could pretty well figure out that a big honkin' storm was on the way and appropriate action such as tying down the camel should take place pretty soon.

Later as life became more civilized, folks started writing down weather histories and trends and teaching them to the next generation. Some of that has survived even to this day. My dear departed mother — bless her heart and soul — was fond of quoting to me and my brothers something about “Red sky at night, sailors’ delight; red sky at morning, sailors take warning.” Since I never joined the Navy, there was not much I got out of that but she liked it and on occasion would remind me that the storm we were enduring at that moment was brought to you by that proverb.

Included among those trends, of course, is the latest edition of *The Old Farmer’s Almanac*. According to the folks there, the *Almanac* has been in business since George Washington was president and has

been predicting temperatures and precipitation with, they say, “amazing accuracy.” I guess if you don’t believe in yourself, there’s no point in being in business.

Anyway, the *Almanac* goes on to say its “historical average rate for forecasting the direction of temperature and precipitation from normal” is 80 percent.” *Almanac* publishers say they do their work, forecasting 18 months in advance, through a combination of several methods.

One is a “secret formula” devised by *Almanac* founder Robert B. Thomas in 1792. Thomas believed Earth’s weather was influenced by sunspots — magnetic storms on the surface of the sun. He made notes about those storms; those notes are today kept in a locked black box at *Almanac* offices in Dublin, New Hampshire. Exactly how Mr. Thomas was able to spot those storms in those days isn’t divulged.

Almanac officials go on to say that since those first days they have refined the formula with state of the art technology and modern science and now use three scientific disciplines in making their predictions: solar science, the study of sunspots and other solar activity; climatology, the study of prevailing weather patterns; and meteorology, the study of the atmosphere.

Anyway, words like “climatology” and “meteorology” are words that Big Weather or Mike Maze toss around on the TV as they click their computer gizmos and put up maps with big letters and squiggly lines all over them as they explain to us what it all means, all the while leaving them on display for about two seconds so we don’t have enough time to take it all in.

So where does that leave us today as we now march boldly into mid-February?

I’m glad you asked that question. The answer, of course, is Punxsutawney Phil from the same named town in Pennsylvania, actually from a suburb, the colorfully named village of Gobbler’s Knob, or, on a more local level, Sir Walter Wally of Raleigh. These two groundhogs, rumored to be twin sons of different mothers, are in the weather forecasting business — specifically, if they saw their shadow earlier this week, then we’re in for six more weeks of winter weather. Personally, I’m inclined to believe that since we haven’t had all that much winter yet, that it’s far from being over, despite what Phil or Wally may say. Besides, it may be sunny where Phil is and cloudy for Wally. So who’s right?

I say all the above to say this: weather forecasting is tricky business. I watch the forecasts as a way to help plan my days. Will it be OK to go out in short sleeves to feed the cows, or should I bundle up like I was in the North Pole? Should I have Shirley bring in more firewood or is she OK to lug it up as needed? Do we have enough coffee — forget the milk and bread — to make it through the coming blizzard? These and a host of other questions figure front and center as the forecasts are made.

So pay attention to the sunspots, groundhogs and squiggly lines on maps and tune in later.

And, oh by the way, the *Almanac* says February will be sunny, cold, rainy, sunny, mild, rainy, snow, cold, sunny, cold, mild, sunny, rainy, mild, showers, cool — in that order. More from Phil later...

Chatham News + Record

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What’s on your mind?

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

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

RESTORE:

Continued from page A1

Amber went on to excel both personally and academically, distinguishing herself as a student at Chatham Charter School in Siler City, where she graduated, she allows modestly, with a 4.0 GPA.

"I don't want to brag too much about it," she said, "but I was a pretty good student."

Administrators at Chatham Charter don't mind bragging on the distinguished alum.

"She's the epitome of what we would want in a student at Chatham Charter," said Beth McCullough, the school's executive director of Secondary Programs &

(Amber is) 'the epitome of what we would want in a student at Chatham Charter. She was an excellent student. Very accomplished.'

BETH MCCULLOUGH, Chatham County Schools

Communications. "She was an excellent student. Very accomplished."

McCullough recalled that she only became aware of Amber's hearing challenges when Amber was in her junior year at the Siler City school.

"That probably tells you something right there," said McCullough. "She's so accomplished and so self-confident. I never knew about it."

Amber's hearing devices have also allowed the teenager to flourish in high school extracurricular

activities. She served in several leadership positions with Chatham Charter's chapter of DECA, a program that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools nationwide. She was also heavily involved in high school sports, playing volleyball and serving as captain of her school's cheerleading team.

"I liked cheering the best," she said. And Amber was

Chatham Charter's 2019 Homecoming Queen, returning to her alma mater in Siler City just two weeks ago to crown her successor.

"She's still very involved in the school," McCullough said.

Now a freshman at Roanoke College, a private school in Salem, Virginia, Amber is continuing to excel academically — she's enjoying learning French, she said, and she particularly likes mathematics.

On top of all that, Amber was also recently chosen to receive of an academic scholarship from Cochlear, the manufacturer of hearing aids. She was selected for the 9th annual Cochlear Anders Tjellström Scholarship, which recognizes young leaders who

uphold Cochlear's "ideals of leadership, humanity and demonstrate high academic achievement."

According to Oliva Kuhn, a spokesperson for Cochlear, eight out of 189 applicants were selected to receive either the Anders Tjellström Scholarship or the Cochlear Graeme Clark Scholarship from Cochlear this year. The awards are given annually to Cochlear device recipients to help them accomplish their goals through education.

Scholarship winners receive \$2,000 per year for up to four years at an accredited college or university. Applicants are selected for the scholarship program by a committee of hearing healthcare professionals, which take into account

the applicant's leadership, academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement.

As a high school senior, she'd undertaken a project with the North Chatham Fire Department, where dad Brian is a firefighter, developing a marketing plan for the department's 50th anniversary celebration.

Even now though out of state for studies, Amber has her mind on home.

"I love Pittsboro," she said. It's not only where she was born and raised, it's where she plans to return after college, aiming to live and work in her hometown.

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

TAX:

Continued from page A1

tax would be dedicated to those efforts. A report from the N.C. Department of Revenue stated that Chatham could have received an additional \$1.6 million in 2017 if the tax had been in place that calendar year.

As part of the News + Record's coverage of this referendum — which was placed on the ballot by a unanimous vote by the commissioners — we will examine the four areas listed, why they're listed and what the funds might be used for.

Affordable Housing

More than a third of Chatham residents pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing, a statistic usually utilized to measure the need for affordable housing. The topic has been of significant interest to both the county and the Town of Pittsboro, which each have advisory committees dedicated to the topic.

Susan Levy, the chairman of the county's committee, said the county's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee was "really grateful" to see the item listed on the resolution.

"That could be a really significant amount and could really help us move the needle for affordable housing," Levy said. "Without a real significant injection of funds at some point, it's going to keep falling further and further behind the need."

The county currently operates an Affordable Housing Trust Fund, administered by AHAC and approved by the commissioners, which distributes money to companies and firms producing affordable housing options. The first \$209,000 was approved last month to three separate projects across the county to three different agencies — the Farm at Penny Lane, Rebuilding Together of the Triangle and Wallick Communities.

Levy argued that it was affordable housing's inclusion on the referendum that convinced her to vote for it.

"It does cost something to residents, but what it costs compared to what it could should make it



Staff graphic by Zachary Horner

worthwhile," she said. "I think it's important for people to realize that it's not just a sales tax increase for the sake of raising taxes. We are in favor of, if it does pass, a significant amount of it being allocated to affordable housing."

Education

Both Chatham County Board of Education Chairman Gary Leonard and Chatham County Schools as a whole refrained from taking a position on the referendum, but both cited needs that could be addressed with funding.

A growing county needs schools, and per state law, county governments are responsible for paying for construction of and at least some operating costs for those schools. Chatham will see a new elementary school begin operation later this year and a new high school up and running next year.

"According to our... consultants, there will be continued growth in the county which will undoubtedly result in the need for more schools," Leonard said. "With new schools opening, there will be additional operating costs."

The school board recently voted to freeze supplement pay to teachers — not to eliminate the payments, but to keep them at their current levels instead of the planned increase. Counties across the state use these supplements to pad state-paid salaries as part of recruitment efforts.

"Our emphasis is always on recruiting and retaining quality employees across all areas in order to ensure smooth operations in the classrooms and all of the many areas that help support our students in some way," Chatham County Schools said in a statement.

Parks & Recreation

The board of commissioners approved a comprehensive plan for the county's parks and recreation system last February. The document, citing gaps in the county's offerings and matches with county health priorities, calls for an additional 85.3 miles of greenways and nature trails over the next 10 years, as well as improvements for current parks and plans for future parks.

Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett told the News + Record last July that the plan was "important to satisfy the desire for recreation needs and wants of the public, protect natural resources, preserve the rural character of the county and to plan for future growth."

Two improvement plans — one each for Earl Thompson Park in Bynum and Southwest District Park in Bear Creek — were already approved by commissioners, with an estimated price tag of \$7.9 million. Funds could be used for those improvements, as well as construction of a new park in Moncure.

Agricultural

Preservation & Enhancement

Originally suggested as an option by Commissioner Andy Wilkie, on recommendation from the county's Agricultural Advisory Board, farmland preservation has been a topic of discussion among commissioners in recent months. The 2010 Chatham County Farmland Preservation Plan stated that the agriculture sector in Chatham is "undergoing significant structural change" in the county's shift from a "rural, resource and manufacturing based economy to a more suburban, service driven economy."

The challenge, in response, is finding a way to provide protections for existing farmland and keeping agriculture viable in Chatham. Board Vice Chairman Diana Hales suggested in January allocating some funding specifically for a "farmland preservation fund." "This is an accessible way to put that land under conservation," she said. "If we want to conserve our ag, and we want to conserve our open space, time is changing. So why not just make a

commitment there?"

Hales' comments echoed a request made by a joint committee of members from the Agriculture Advisory Board and Chatham Community Food Council. The request, made to the commissioners last October, said the county needed to make financial investments to help preserve farmland and rural character, two of the "top goals" of the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan.

"We are asking the board of commissioners to consider allocating recurring funds to establish a Farmland Preservation Program," the statement said. "Working in partnership with existing agencies and non-profits, a Chatham County program would leverage

existing resources while demonstrating commitment and providing a vehicle for future investment in some of the county's most valuable long-term assets, its farmland and farmers."

Other options for Article 46 revenue in this area include upgrades and new additions to the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro.

Next week: In the third part of this series, we will report on what people are saying about this referendum, including efforts by a local political party to sway voters to say "no."

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

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Pittsboro works process for new town manager

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Pittsboro Board of Commissioners this week set a plan in motion for the process for finding a new town manager.

Since the January 27 resignation of former manager Bryan Gruesbeck, Pittsboro leaders have received interest from three candidates to fill the position on a temporary, interim basis. Commissioners agreed to allow a small sub-set of the board — commissioners Michael Fiocco and John Bonitz — to conduct initial interviews of the and present their recommendations to the board. The result may or may not result in final

interviews being conducted by the full board during an upcoming closed session.

The board also asked that Mayor Jim Nass send out requests for proposals from search firms, companies that manage high-level recruitment, to consider for the process of finding a permanent town manager.

The board also discussed possible “policy changes” that Nass, who took office in December, brought for consideration.

“This is to begin a discussion, not to take any action,” Nass said as he opened the discussion.

Some of the ideas, such as the board signing off on the hiring of key positions, appeared to be not warmly

accepted by the board. But the board was very interested in conducting exit interviews of key positions. Those interviews could be done in closed session with the full board, with a sub-set of the board or with an “independent” person not affiliated with the town so that the employee could feel free to discuss openly their period of employment with the town. Nass noted he would work on writing a policy for the board’s review and future consideration.

The board expressed interest in having reviews for staff included in the town’s personnel handbook, something that several commissioners said was not included in current policies. Commissioner Kyle Shipp suggested “peer or

360 feedback” from people who work with staff members should be included in those reviews.

Commissioners also proposed semi-annual reviews of the town manager. Shipp said that the process would help the board “be in tune” with the town manager. These would likely be held with the full board during closed session. Nass said that he would work on creating a policy draft for such a process for the board’s review.

Commissioners also voted Monday to approve severance pay for Gruesbeck in the amount of \$38,300.

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

SCHOOL BOARD ROUNDUP

No makeup days for schools closed after power outages

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Board of Education decided Monday that the four schools closed related to last week’s bad weather would not need to make up those missed days.

Bonlee School, Bennett School, J.S. Waters School and Chatham Central High School each dismissed students early on Friday after power outages occurred on campuses. Superintendent Derrick Jordan said Monday some students were still in the carline when the announcement was made. The day was then designated as an optional teacher workday.

“Things happened pretty quickly,” Jordan said.

School districts like Chatham regularly “bank” days in their calendars to avoid needing to have makeup days.

2020-2021 calendar draft presented

District staff also presented a draft for the 2020-2021 school year calendar during Monday’s meeting.

The proposed calendar meets all state requirements and includes three early-release days designed to leave time for professional development. The first day is slated for Aug. 24, with Christmas break starting with a half day on Dec. 18. School

resumes Jan. 4, with Spring Break scheduled for April 5-9 and the last day of classes set to be June 9. A final vote on the calendar is scheduled for the board’s March meeting.

During the presentation, Janice Frazier, the district’s assistant superintendent for human resources, said the district’s calendar committee brought up the possibility of “unpairing” Spring Break from the Easter holiday.

“There were a few comments there, both in the stakeholder survey as well as the committee, questioning the ‘why’ behind that,” Frazier said.

Any change in that would not happen until next year. School districts have the freedom to

schedule their Spring Break at their discretion.

Grandfathering letters sent to Horton Middle students

The school board had already determined grandfathering rules for students at Pittsboro Elementary School and Horton Middle School in relation to the Mount Gilead Church Road area and the new Chatham Grove Elementary School.

The district will now, by vote of the board, send letters to Horton Middle School rising 8th-graders giving parents instruction on how to apply for grandfathering. Horton Middle students were originally redistricted to Margaret B. Pollard

Middle School, but this option will allow parents to keep their 8th-graders at Horton Middle.

“Every effort has been made to establish new attendance zones and modify existing attendance zones with longevity in mind,” the letter states. “However, it is important to understand that the nature of student assignments combined with the growth that is already occurring and the potential for additional growth in the northeast part of the county could necessitate changes in the near or distant future.”

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

NEWS BRIEFS

CORA's hosting Miles for Meals Hunger 5K in March

PITTSBORO – CORA

is hosting the Miles for Meals 5K run and 1 Mile Fun Walk starting at 8 a.m. on March 29 at Central Carolina Community College in Pittsboro.

This new event will bring individuals and families together to raise awareness about the severity of childhood hunger in Chatham County and raise

money to help alleviate the problem.

Speed walk, casually stroll, jog or take a chip-timed run. Participants are encouraged to form a team, bringing together friends, family and even their dogs (the course is dog and stroller friendly!) to challenge themselves to complete the course and raise additional funds.

Participants are encouraged to register in advance to receive reduced rates, including a special rate for kids 14 and under, to encourage them to be active and to participate in their first 5K. Registration is available online through March 24 at <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/milesformeals/>.

All proceeds will support CORA’s SNACK! program. SNACK! (Summer Nutritional Assistance for Chatham Kids) distributes food to more than 1,500 kids who depend on federal school meals during the school year, but who have little or no replacement for this nutrition in the summer. SNACK provides participants with enough nutritious food to ensure that they have 3 meals per day plus snacks for each day that school is not in session during the summer. It costs CORA \$150 to feed each child in the SNACK program.

More information about the event, including registering online, can be found at www.corafoodpantry.org. In addition, corporate sponsorships opportuni-

Registration open for Chatham Habitat’s Women Build

Registration for Chatham Habitat for Humanity’s Women Build, set for April 30-May 2, is open. Participants can reserve their spots at women-build.chathamhabitat.org.

volunteerhub.com. For additional information, or to inquire about sponsorships, contact Rachel Horowitz at 919-542-0794 or rachelh@chathamhabitat.org.

ties are available, please contact Rebecca Hankins at 919-491-5896 for more information.

NC Sierra Club endorses incumbents Dasher, Howard for county commissioner

The Orange/Chatham Sierra Club announced its decision to endorse Chatham County Commissioner Mike Dasher in the March 3 primary election.

The club cited Dasher’s work on the adoption of the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan as well as his participation in the Chatham-Orange Task Force and Climate Advisory Committee. “Clearly in his first term, Mike Dasher has been doing exactly what

his constituents elected him to do and deserves a second term,” the group said in a press release.

Dasher represents District 2, which covers Pittsboro and much of eastern Chatham County. He faces Katelyn Hancock in the Democratic primary. The winner will face Republican Jimmy Pharr in November.

The Club also endorsed Karen Howard, who currently represents District 1. She faces no primary challenge but will square off with Republican Jay Stobbs this fall.

“She supports energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in the County,” the club said. “She has fulfilled her promises to work to protect the environment in the county and we enthusiastically endorse her for another term.”

— CN + R staff reports

Town of Siler City to Perform Annual Temporary Switch to Chlorine Disinfection January 20, 2020

Beginning March 3, 2020, the Town of Siler City Water Plant will temporarily suspend the addition of ammonia to its water treatment disinfection process, as required by North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR). Siler City will resume the addition of ammonia to the water treatment disinfection process on April 7, 2020.

Siler City uses both ammonia and chlorine to form chloramines for its disinfection process. Ammonia is added to the water in a carefully regulated dose and reacts chemically with the chlorine to produce chloramines. Chloraminated drinking water is safe for drinking, bathing, cooking and many other daily uses. NCDENR requires all systems using chloramination to suspend the addition of ammonia for a one month period annually.

During the changes in our disinfection process, three groups of people need to take special precautions for higher concentrations of chlorine – kidney dialysis patients, pretreatment owners and aquatic pet owners using City water. Dialysis patients and aquatic pet owners already treat the water they use for chlorine removal. Any customer who pre-treats City water for any process should be aware of their change and consult the manufacturer of any pretreatment equipment for recommendations.

Customers with concerns may contact the Town of Siler City at 919-742-4731 or cmccorquodale@silercity.org.

Ciudad de Siler Realizará el Cambio Temporal Anual a la Desinfección del Cloro Enero 20, 2020

A partir del 3 de Marzo de 2020, la Planta de Agua de la Ciudad de Siler City suspenderá temporalmente la adición de amoníaco a su proceso de desinfección del tratamiento de agua, como lo requiere el Departamento de North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR). Siler City reanudará la adición de amoníaco al proceso de desinfección del tratamiento del agua el 7 de Abril de 2020.

Siler City utiliza amoníaco y cloro para formar cloraminas para su proceso de desinfección. El amoníaco se añade al agua en una dosis cuidadosamente regulada y reacciona químicamente con el cloro para producir cloraminas. El agua potable cloramiada es segura para beber, bañarse, cocinar y muchos otros usos diarios. NCDENR requiere que todos los sistemas que utilizan cloraminación suspendan la adición de amoníaco durante un período de un mes al año.

Durante los cambios en nuestro proceso de desinfección, tres grupos de personas necesitan tomar precauciones especiales para mayores concentraciones de cloro – pacientes de diálisis renal, propietarios de prettratamiento y propietarios de mascotas acuáticas que utilizan agua de la ciudad. Los pacientes de diálisis y los dueños de mascotas acuáticas ya tratan el agua que utilizan para la eliminación de cloro. Cualquier cliente que pre-trata el agua de la ciudad para cualquier proceso debe ser consciente de su cambio y consultar al fabricante de cualquier equipo de prettratamiento para recomendaciones.

Los clientes con inquietudes pueden comunicarse con la ciudad de Siler City al 919-742-4731, o cmccorquodale@silercity.org

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CHATHAM VOTES 2020

What you need to know about (some of) 2020's N.C. state-level primaries

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

The year 2020 is already shaping up to be an intriguing one for North Carolina politics.

After all, there are 15 contenders now for what will eventually become two candidates in November for the state's lieutenant governor.

That's right — the lieutenant governor, not the "big" job.

But that's far from the only state-level race that will see voters make decisions in March's primary and in February early voting. All registered Chathamites will be asked their preferences for the Democratic and Republican nominees for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor, and Superintendent of Public Instruction; Republicans will choose their candidate for Attorney General, Commissioner of Insurance, Secretary of State and Commissioner of Labor; and Democrats will make their choice in the N.C. Treasurer and Commissioner of Agriculture races.

Now, take a deep breath. To help you along the way, we're going to (briefly) preview the primaries and candidates in three of the major races in North Carolina politics and government: Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction. Some of the people in these races you know, some you've never heard of, and, as elections sometimes go, some you'll likely never hear of again. It's up to the voting public of North Carolina, at least partly, to make that decision. We'll also provide you the links to their campaign websites so you can see more.

Early voting starts today, Feb. 13, and concludes on Feb. 29. Election day is March 3.

Governor

The governor serves as North Carolina's



"president," more or less. The person in this office serves as the figurehead of the state who can also write executive orders, create budget proposals and shape policy discussions. The governor also has appointment powers in many state boards and committees such as Education.

Gov. Roy Cooper (D): The incumbent Cooper has been in this office since 2016. A former lawyer who served in the N.C. Senate and House, he was the state's Attorney General from 2000 until his election as governor. The Nash County native has made noise in recent months pushing for Medicaid expansion in North Carolina and waging battles with the GOP-controlled General Assembly. Campaign website: roycooper.com.

Ernest T. Reeves (D): Cooper's primary opponent has lost races for office five times, including the state's Third Congressional District seat in 2016. Reeves, who lives in Greenville, is a retired U.S. Army officer who also competed in the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate twice, but lost. Campaign website: ernestreeves.com.

Lt. Gov. Dan Forest (R): Perhaps the leading candidate for the Republican nomination is the state's current lieutenant gov-

ernor. Forest has made his name advocating for a number of conservative causes, particularly the controversial House Bill 2 bathroom bill. He's been in the race (unofficially at first) since early 2019. Campaign website: danforest.com.

N.C. Rep. Holly Grange (R): A military veteran who lives in Wilmington, Grange has been in the N.C. House of Representatives for five years. On her website, she touts her support of President Donald Trump and that she "led the charge to require North Carolina sheriffs to cooperate with ICE." Campaign website: hollygrangenc.com.

Lieutenant Governor

Here's the biggie: nine Republicans and six Democrats are seeking their respective party's nomination. Currently held by Forest, North Carolina's Lieutenant Governor presides over the State Senate and serves on various boards and committees, including the Governor's Council of State and State Board of Education. The Lieutenant Governor would also succeed the Governor in the case of absence, death or incapacitation.

Since there are 15 candidates, we're giving snippets, and they're shared in alphabetical order. Check out their respective

websites for more.

Buddy Bengel (R): Restaurant owner in New Bern, member of the N.C. Education Lottery Commission. Campaign website: buddyforn.com.

Deborah Cochran (R): Two-term mayor of Mt. Airy, teacher and former radio broadcaster. Campaign website: votecochranfornc.com.

Renee Ellmers (R): Three-term U.S. Congress member who represented Chatham, worked in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as White House appointee. Campaign website: reneeellmers.com.

Greg Gebhardt (R): Iraq War veteran, worked on photo ID legislation as policy advisor in N.C. House. Campaign website: jointeamgreg.com.

State Supt. Mark Johnson (R): N.C. Superintendent of Public Instruction since his surprise election in 2016, former teacher and member of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education. Campaign website: markjohnsonfornc.com.

John Ritter (R): Attorney from Moore County. Campaign website: johnritter.org.

Mark Robinson (R): Rose to prominence in the state after making a viral speech to Greensboro City Council on gun rights. Campaign website: markrobinsonfornc.com.

Scott Stone (R): Former

N.C. House member, heads civil engineering firm in Charlotte. Campaign website: electscottstone.com.

Andy Wells (R): Three terms in N.C. General Assembly, owns development company in Hickory. Campaign website: andywells.org.

N.C. Rep. Chaz Beasley (D): Lawyer in Mecklenburg County, first elected to state House in 2016. Campaign website: chazbeasley.com.

N.C. Rep. Yvonne Lewis Holley (D): Four-term state representative from Wake County. Campaign website: yvonnelewisholley.com.

Allen Thomas (D): Hoke County Commissioner since 2014, has been giving away cars to "the needy" on campaign trail. Campaign website: allenthomasjr.com.

Bill Toole (D): Environmental attorney, former Belmont City Councilman. Campaign website: votebilltoole.com.

N.C. Sen. Terry Van Duyn (D): Represented Buncombe County in State Senate since 2014. Campaign website: votevanduy.com.

Superintendent of Public Instruction

The SPI, in shorthand, leads the state's public education system similar to how county superintendents head their respec-

tive districts. However, at the state level, this is an elected position. The SPI reports to the State Board of Education like local superintendents report to local school boards. The current SPI, Johnson, is not seeking re-election as he competes for the GOP nomination for Lieutenant Governor.

N.C. Rep. Craig Horn (R): Elected to N.C. House in 2010 from Weddington, dubbed "Education Legislator" by education policy blog EdNC. Campaign website: horn4ncschools.com.

Catherine Truitt (R): Current chancellor of Western Governors University NC, former senior advisor on education for former Gov. Pat McCrory. Campaign website: catherinetrutt.com.

James Barrett (D): Member of Chapel Hill-Carrboro school board, worked in corporate IT. Campaign website: barrettforschools.com.

Constance (Lav) Johnson (D): Magazine owner and former school teacher and administrator. Campaign website: constancelavjohnson.com.

Michael Maher (D): Former assistant dean of professional education at N.C. State University and former high school science teacher. Campaign website: maherfornc.com.

Jan Mangrum (D): Former teacher and professor, ran for state Senate in 2018. Campaign website: jemmangrumfornc.com.

Keith A. Sutton (D): Wake County Board of Education chairman, runs education consulting firm. Campaign website: votekeithsutton.com.

For sample primary ballots by party in Chatham County, visit chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/board-of-elections/2020-election-information-notices.

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

Extension lunch touts Ag in Chatham



Staff photo by David Bradley

The Chatham County Agricultural Cooperative Extension luncheon and annual report on Feb. 3 offered the Chatham County Commissioners updates on current efforts in the county, including the status of agriculture and the work of the 4-H clubs for farmers in the future.



Victoria Brewer, 4-H Extension agent, and Liz Mauney, 4-H program assistant, offer questions during a game used as a learning tool for the luncheon at the Agricultural Center in Pittsboro. Guests used a remote to select their answers which were later displayed on the screen.

Staff photo by David Bradley

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Chatham VOTES

Early Voting Availability

DAY	DATE	HOURS
Thursday	Feb. 13	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 14	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 15	9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Monday	Feb. 17	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 18	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Feb. 19	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday	Feb. 20	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 21	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 22	9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Monday	Feb. 24	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 25	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Feb. 26	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday	Feb. 27	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 28	8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 29	8 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NEW POLL LOCATION

Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center
1192 US HWY 64 West Business, Pittsboro

NEW POLL LOCATION

CCCC Health Science Building
75 Ballentrae Court, Pittsboro

Earl B. Fitts Community Center
111 S. Third Ave., Siler City

Goldston Town Hall
40 Coral Ave., Goldston

Staff graphic by Jason Justice

CORA's Empty Bowls event



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

There was a full house of support at Fearington Village last Sunday for the annual 'Empty Bowls' fundraiser for CORA (Chatham Outreach Alliance). A total of 375 participants were treated to samples of soup from 14 local restaurants, raising \$21,000 for the nonprofit.



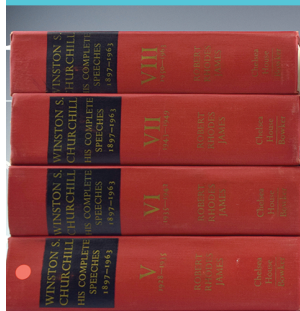
Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Guests at CORA's Empty Bowls event received six small soup bowls to sample soups and dishes from local restaurants. The 'Empty Bowls' theme is to remind us that food insecurity is a real issue in Chatham County, one CORA is working to address.

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Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Postal Fish chefs Bill Hartley (left) and James Clark serve up creole shrimp bisque at CORA's Empty Bowls event.



Dental Insurance

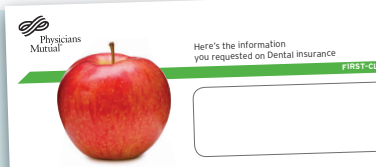
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OBITUARIES

AUBREY JUNIUS MENDENHALL



March 1, 1929 - February 4, 2020
Final Assignment-HEAVEN
Aubrey J. Mendenhall, born March 1, 1929, passed away peacefully on February 4, 2020, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. He would have been 91 on his next birthday. He was the middle son of Jack and Queen Mendenhall, raised in Siler City, N.C., and will now be joining brother Ivan, and Bobby Mendenhall, in Heaven.
Aubrey joined the Air Force in 1950. He met his beautiful wife of 65 years, Margarete, while stationed in Erding, Germany and were married in 1954.

He dedicated 21 years to the military as crew chief and helicopter maintenance instructor. He served in Vietnam from 1964-1965. His love of flying, aircraft maintenance and instruction, carried him throughout his career. He retired from the US Army in 1972. Aubrey served our country proud and continued to be the inspiring veteran in his later years.
He is survived by his wife, Margarete Schack Mendenhall, daughter, Kathy Willis, son-in-law, Jeff Willis of Durham. Grandchildren are Caroline Mendenhall of Charlotte and Grayson Mendenhall and wife, Megan, of Durham, and great-grandchildren include Maddy Laneve, Caedon Weaver, Elena Mendenhall and Karl Mendenhall II.
Mr. Mendenhall is preceded in death by his son, Karl Mendenhall of Charlotte, grandsons, Justin Mendenhall and Collie Wayne Mendenhall.
A memorial service is planned at a later time.
In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Alzheimer's society, www.Alzheimer's.org. and Amedisys Hospice.

LARRY EDWARD MATTHEWS



Larry Edward Matthews, 78, of Pleasant Hill Church Road, Siler City died Wednesday, February 5, 2020, at Peak Resources Of Alamance in Graham.

Mr. Matthews was born in Alamance County on December 31, 1941, the son of Anne Chriscoe Andrews and step-father, Newman. Larry was preceded in death by his mother, step-father and an aunt, Alma Curl.
He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dian York Matthews; sons, David "Eddie" Matthews of Burlington, Neil Matthews and wife Heidi; daughter, Julie Gantt and husband David, all of Siler City; grandchildren, "Drew" Riggins, Chase, Chandler, and Caroline Matthews.
Larry spent his early childhood in Burlington. He moved to Shenandoah in 7th grade, during which time he developed several lifelong bonds with childhood friends that withstood the time and years that followed. He returned to Alamance County in 1957 and was a member of the last graduating class of Sylvan High School in 1960. He loved playing baseball and basketball at Sylvan and that is where he met his sweetheart. He was a dedicated member of Pleasant Hill Christian Church, where he served as a deacon and sang in the choir. He will be best remembered as a farmer, tending poultry, dairy and beef cattle as well as the land. His pleasures in life were his family, his church, and his farm. He also enjoyed participating in and watching sports. He especially loved watching his grandkids and Duke basketball, when they were winning. In his later years, he loved his daily morning "educational" trips to Kidd's Drive in with his friends, spending time in the hayfields; and "playing" on his farm equipment. He loved RVing with his group of travel buddies but he could never convince his wife, Dian, to take as many trips as he wanted in their motorhome.
The family received friends Saturday, February 8, 2020, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home. The funeral was held Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 3 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Christian Church, 1712 Pleasant Hill-Liberty Road, Liberty, with Rev. Howard Spray officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.
Memorials may be made to Pleasant Hill Christian Church, 1712 Pleasant Hill-Liberty Road, Liberty, NC 27298.
Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneral-home.com .

JOSE MANUEL HERNANDEZ

Jose Manuel Hernandez, 23 of Broadway, died Monday, February 3, 2020 at his home.
Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday at the St. Stephens Catholic Church with Father Robert Ippolito officiating. Burial followed in the St. Stephens Catholic Church Cemetery.
He was born in Los Angeles, CA, son of Cirilo Hernandez Macedonio and Griselda Torres. Jose was a graduate of Lee County High School and worked at Hernandez Auto Repair and Body Shop.
Surviving are his father

Cirilo Hernandez Macedonio and Griselda Torres; brothers, Eduardo Hernandez and Mario Hernandez; sisters, Jessica and Griselda Hernandez, all of Broadway; grandparents, Bacilia Penaloca and Fausto Torres, Juana Macedonio and Bentino Hernandez.
Online condolences can be made at www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com .

BERNICE MCSWAIN

Bernice McSwain, 67, of Siler City, passed away, Thursday, February 06, 2020 at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.
Arrangements by: Knotts and Son Funeral Home, Siler City.

RICKY LYNN HALL



Ricky Lynn Hall, 62, of Siler City died Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at Laurels of Chatham, Pittsboro.
Mr. Hall was born in Chatham County on November 20, 1957, the son of Otis Odell and Juanita (Cain) Hall. Ricky had been employed as a cook at Granville Towers Restaurant in Chapel Hill. Ricky was of the Christian Faith. Ricky wasn't one to go on outings. He stayed close to home, watching television, listening to music or fishing. Ricky was preceded in death by his father, Otis Odell Hall and a brother, Royce Ray Hall.
He is survived by one son, Derrick Hall of Siler City; mother, Juanita (Cain) Hall of Bear Creek; three sisters, Carolyn H. Goodwin of Bear Creek, Annette H. McClanahan of Dixon, Kentucky, Fay H. Barnes of Bennett; and one brother, Larry Hall of Bennett.
The family will receive friends Thursday, February 13, 2020, from 2 to 3 p.m. at Sandy Branch Baptist Church, 715 Sandy Branch Church Road, Bear Creek.
The funeral will follow Thursday at 3 p.m. at Sandy Branch Baptist Church with Rev. Jay Smoot officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.
Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family.
Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneral-home.com .

GEORGIE STOUT BURKE



Georgie Stout Burke, 92, of Bear Creek, died peacefully Tuesday, February 4, 2020, at his residence.
Mr. Burke was born in Chatham County on December 15, 1927, the son of Georgie Goodson and Rosa (Stout) Burke. Stout was a US Army Veteran of the Korean War and retired from Collins & Aikman as a supervisor in supply. Stout was an active member of Sandy Branch Baptist Church where he had served as a deacon and in many other areas. He was known as a jack-of-all trades including wood working, gardening and other outdoor activities. One of his greatest joys was spending time with his family, especially watching his grandchildren grow. He will be remembered as a kind, gentle, humble man who faced life's challenges with a positive "can-do" attitude.
Stout was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Sarah Margaret Dunn and Reberta Phillips.
He is survived by his wife of 66 years whom he affectionately called "Sug" and who was the light of his life, Norma Burgess Burke; son, William Michael Burke and wife Sharon of Garner; daughter, Melinda Burke Overton and husband Jeff of Apex; brothers, Raeford Burke of Asheboro and Thurman Burke and wife Emma Jean of Bear Creek; grandchildren, Kala and Kristen Burke and Tiffany and Kyle Overton; great-grandchildren, Levi and Kallie; and several nieces and nephews.
The funeral was held Saturday, February 8, 2020, at 2 p.m. at Sandy Branch Baptist Church, 715 Sandy Branch Church Road, Bear Creek, with Rev. Allen Overton, Rev. Dr. Rob Roberts, Rev. Marc Sanders and Rev. Jay Smoot officiating. The family received friends following the funeral service in the Fellowship Hall at Sandy Branch Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Sandy Branch Baptist Church or the Don Moody Benevolence Fund of Sandy Branch.
Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family.
Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com .

JAMES HENRY SALMON, JR.

James Henry Salmon, Jr., 66, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, February 3, 2020 at First-Health Moore Regional Hospital.
The funeral was held Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 1 p.m. in the Chapel of Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Pastor Gary Buffkin officiating.
He was born in Lee County on March 16, 1953 to the late James Henry Salmon and Lillian Irene Blackburn Salmon. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Rose Salmon, brothers, Ronnie Salmon, Donald Salmon, and one grandson. Junior retired from Tyson Foods after 22 years.
Junior is survived by his wife, Sylvia; daughters, Tabitha Tillman and Lauren Salmon, both of Sanford; step-sons, Anthony Morrison of Sanford, Doni Morrison of Harnett County; brothers,

Eddie Salmon of AR, Elbert Salmon and Michael Salmon, both of Sanford; sister, Lynell Salmon of Sanford; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.
Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com .

LOYALTY ALEXA SCOTTON

Baby Loyalty Alexa Scotton, born October 29, 2019 passed on Tuesday, February 04, 2020 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.
Arrangements by: Knotts and Son Funeral Home, Siler City.

JAMES ANTHONY LYNCH SR.

James Anthony Lynch, 63, of Bear Creek, passed away on Wednesday, February 05, 2020 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.
Arrangements by: Knotts and Son Funeral Home, Siler City.

CHARLES EDWARD HARRINGTON, SR.

Charles Edward Harrington, Sr., 85, passed away on Monday, February 3, 2020.
The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 8, 2020 at Liberty Chapel Church in Moncure with burial following in the church cemetery.

GEORGE NATHANIEL SMITH

George Nathaniel Smith, 85, of Sanford passed on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at his residence.
Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, February 8, 2020 at Liberty Chapel Church in Moncure. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

DELLA HALL STEWARD

Della Hall Steward, 78, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2020 at her home.
The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at New Life Fellowship Church with Dr. Gail Dickens officiating. Burial followed in Lemon Springs Methodist Church Cemetery.
She was born in Lee County on December 6, 1941 to the late William and Ruby Douglas Hall. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by brothers, Rickie Hall and William Hall; sister, Margaret Douglas; one granddaughter and two great-grandchildren. She retired from Magneti-Marelli.
Della is survived by her husband, Johnnie; daughters, Denise Godfrey, Debbie Starling, Michelle Jackson; sisters, Jackie Stack, Kathy Jordan, Jean Hall and Donna Borowiec; eleven grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.
Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com .

CHARLES ELMER "BUD" OLSON

Charles Elmer "Bud" Olson, 81, of Siler City died Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at UNC Hospitals.
Mr. Olson was born in West Georgetown, NH on June 26, 1938, the son of Charles Eric and Vivian (Camber) Olson. Bud was employed in the public works department of Wallingford, CT. He was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly Jean Olson, his parents, and sisters, Burlene and Rowena Olson.
He is survived by daughters, Arleen McPherson of Siler City, and Stacey Olson of CA; sister, Betty Farone of CT; two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.
Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneral-home.com .

NANCY MERDRIETH FOUSHEE WHEELER

Nancy Merdrieth Foushee Wheeler, age 70, of Moncure, died Friday, February 7, 2020 at UNC Hospital.
The funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at Donaldson Funeral Home & Cremation, Griffin Chapel with Rev. Ray Gooch presiding. Burial followed in Mt. Gilead Baptist Church cemetery.
Nancy was born in Chatham County on March 16, 1949 to Hazel Mann Foushee and the late Frank Foushee, Sr. She was also preceded in death by her husband Charlie Wheeler.
Surviving relatives include her son, Andy Wheeler of Shalotte; one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter.
Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com .

CCCC Foundation gift from Pittsboro woman benefits Sustainable Agriculture program

From Central Carolina Community College

SANFORD — The Central Carolina Community College Foundation has announced the establishment of the Acosta Integrative Therapies Gratitude Scholarship to benefit the college's Sustainable Agriculture program.

Nancy Acosta, of Acosta Integrative Therapies, was once a student in the Sustainable Agriculture program.

"My entire career has been in the health and wellness field, so learning how to grow my own food organically was exciting for me," said Acosta, whose practice is located at 290 East St. in Pittsboro. "The courses were taught by

experienced and knowledgeable instructors that made a positive impact on me. I learned so many things that I use today, like soil quality and amending, direct seeding, transplanting, watering, harvesting, season extension and organic pest management. I still make mistakes, but I have a base of knowledge that works and it is so much fun."

Acosta says that she remembers being impressed by the passion and dedication of the young, future farmers that were in her class.

"People who are interested in and committed to healthy, whole food and a healthy earth," said Acosta. "Contributing to the program is doing my part in creating a healthier, sustainable community, one organic farmer at a time."

Acosta started Acosta Integrative Therapies in 2007. A Licensed Massage

Therapist for 29 years with a degree in Physical Education, she specializes in Neuromuscular Massage Therapy, Essential Oil Education, and Nutrition Consulting. In addition, as a yoga instructor, whole foods advocate, and former personal trainer, she said she enjoys educating people on natural health and wellness.

Dr. Emily Hare, the executive director of the CCCC Foundation, noted there was something special when alumni of the college pay it forward by establishing a scholarship to assist a current student.

"CCCC is one big family and Nancy truly exemplifies this through her generosity back to the college and the program she loved," Hare said. "We are grateful for her support of the Sustainable Agriculture program."

The CCCC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable

organization affiliated with, but independent of, Central Carolina Community College. It receives donations of money and equipment on behalf of the college and uses them to promote its educational mission and assist students through scholarships and grants.

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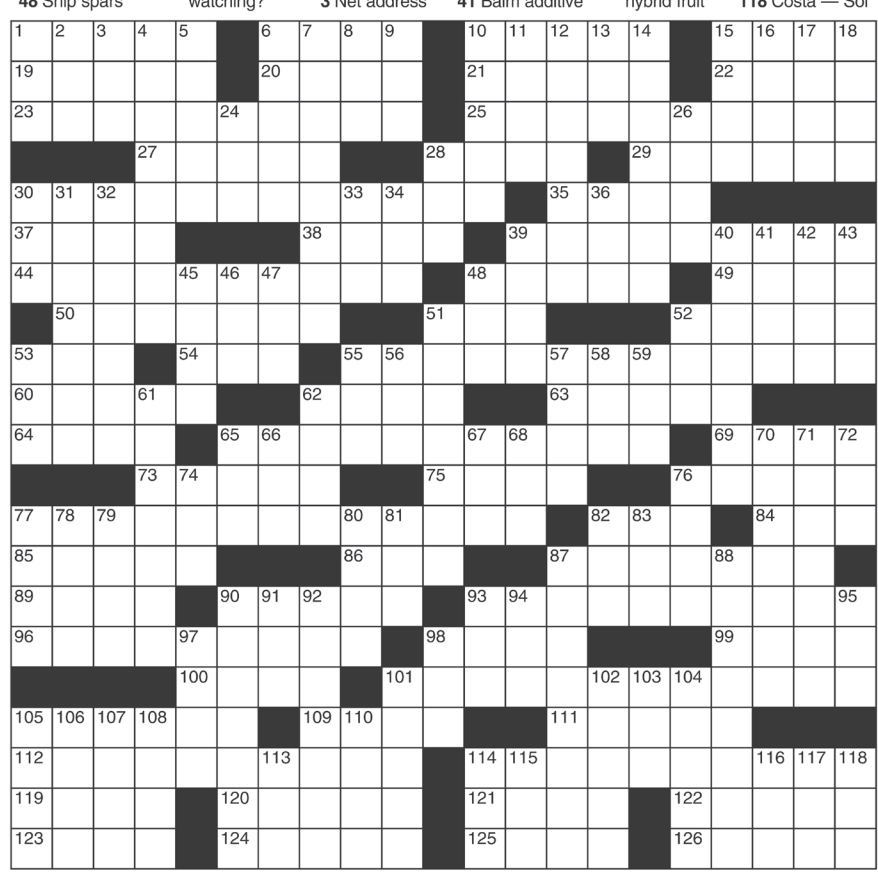
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Uncertainty
 - 6 Home to the Taj Mahal
 - 10 Sporty Mazda
 - 15 Pats gently
 - 19 Mistake
 - 20 Co. bigwigs
 - 21 Tunesmith Harold
 - 22 Opera solo
 - 23 Denim pants that rise up to the navel?
 - 25 Illusions a postman performs with his letters?
 - 27 Astrologer Sydney
 - 28 Small dent
 - 29 Discusses at length, with "over"
 - 30 Bet taker who's great with scissors?
 - 35 Weed-nixing tools
 - 37 — B'rith
 - 38 "— afraid of that"
 - 39 Baffle a lecherous fellow?
 - 44 Actor Crystal playing a high-ranking policeman?
 - 48 Ship spars
 - 49 Margarine, quantify
 - 50 Pants lines
 - 51 Ump relative
 - 52 Ridicule
 - 53 Busy crawler
 - 54 Phone bug
 - 55 Violent guys on a Greek island?
 - 60 "Can — witness?"
 - 62 Abbr. on a bank door
 - 63 Eagle's nest
 - 64 Make anew
 - 65 Add
 - 69 Sitarist
 - 73 Appeals
 - 75 Debt memos
 - 76 Involving warships
 - 77 Bloated dancer?
 - 82 Genetic helix
 - 84 Sugar suffix
 - 85 Florida Air Force Base
 - 86 Realty unit
 - 87 Uses logic
 - 89 Kingly Norse name
 - 90 Seismic event
 - 93 Romantic song sung with an audience watching?
 - 96 What might result in an octuple bogey?
 - 98 Arizona tribe
 - 99 Oscar —
 - 100 Currency unit of 11-Down
 - 101 Solution to rinse partially closed eyes?
 - 105 Akron native
 - 109 Sale caveat
 - 111 Olive-green songbird
 - 112 Supermarket vehicles within easy reach?
 - 114 Comic
 - 115 Fox being shamelessly bold?
 - 119 Longish skirt
 - 120 Kellogg's waffles
 - 121 City in central Poland
 - 122 Beast of Borden
 - 123 Plumlike fruit
 - 124 Tending to ooze
 - 125 Comply with
 - 126 Ford fiasco
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Collision star
 - 2 Mine metal
 - 3 Net address
 - 4 Cowboys' neck cords
 - 5 "Go ahead, I'm listening"
 - 6 Sour-tasting lubricants
 - 7 Transmission
 - 8 "Hellboy" star
 - 9 Beast of burden
 - 10 First lady Eisenhower
 - 11 Persia, now
 - 12 Dismounts from a horse
 - 13 — Aviv
 - 14 Patriotic songs
 - 15 Lectern spot
 - 16 Shoe part
 - 17 BMX vehicle
 - 18 Give lip to
 - 24 Pantry item
 - 26 Scraping file
 - 28 Belittle, informally
 - 30 Ottawa-based TV network
 - 31 Disconnect, as a door
 - 32 Sullied
 - 33 Barn hooter
 - 34 Eloise creator
 - 36 Ump's cry
 - 39 Ump's cry
 - 40 Musical period since the 1950s
 - 41 Balm additive
 - 42 Deborah of "Quo Vadis"
 - 43 Huge spans
 - 45 Greek cheese
 - 46 Lamb's call
 - 47 Bratty kid
 - 48 Encountered again
 - 51 Proof of purchase
 - 52 —fi
 - 53 Make public
 - 55 Public health agcy.
 - 56 "Drop Dead Fred" star
 - 57 Infants' cries
 - 58 "Isn't — little old for her?"
 - 59 Jackie's "O"
 - 61 Best-of list countable on one hand
 - 62 Closed hand
 - 65 Actor Danson
 - 66 Possesses
 - 67 — Valley, San Francisco
 - 68 Mongrel dog
 - 70 "Anne of Green Gables" town
 - 71 Feudal tenants
 - 72 Dot in la mer
 - 74 Actor Cariou
 - 76 SkyLab org.
 - 77 Lowly worker
 - 78 Aptly named hybrid fruit
 - 79 Custard tart
 - 80 Deer cousins
 - 81 "Annabel Lee" poet
 - 82 Wildlife lair
 - 83 Arrest
 - 87 Enter hostilely again
 - 88 Europe, Asia and Africa
 - 90 Pear relatives
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 - 92 Like fugitives
 - 93 —wester (storm type)
 - 94 —Pen
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 - 97 Talk to God
 - 98 Command ctrs.
 - 101 Actress Spacek
 - 102 Fluster
 - 103 Previous to
 - 104 Zellweger of Hollywood
 - 105 Resistance units
 - 106 Salute
 - 107 — Chinese
 - 108 Pooch in "Garfield"
 - 110 Knock off
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 - 118 Costa — Sol



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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ANNUAL GOSPEL SING
 at New Salem Church,
 Sunday, February 16th
 at 6:30pm
 - GOSPEL BAND
 - GOSPEL QUARTET
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CHURCH NEWS

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

First Responder Appreciation Luncheon will be held at the First Missionary Baptist Church, to acknowledge the people who risk their lives to keep others safe.

This invitation includes the Chatham County Fire Department, EMT, Police, Sheriff Department, NC State Troopers, Mayor, Commissioners and all that serve Chatham County, and will be celebrated with an Appreciation Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 22, at the First Missionary Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for putting your lives on the line to save others in times of crisis.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact: rosa.marsh@ncdps.gov or call 919-799-3042.

The public, members

and friends are all invited to come out to show your appreciation, and meet and greet our First Responders of Chatham County. The church is located at: 914 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City.

MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The ushers of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate their anniversary at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 9. The speaker will be Pastor Keith Wooten of Staunton Memorial of Pittsboro, who will be joined by his choir and congregation.

The church is located in Moncure. Join us if you can.

BRUSH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

In the 11 a.m. service on

Sunday, Feb. 23, Doug and Joli Cullen from Pineville, Kentucky will be the guest speakers at Brush Creek Baptist Church. Their ministry, "Choose Life Ministries," spreads the gospel and educates and equips churches to uphold biblical truth and life.

The church is located at 5345 Airport Road, Bear Creek.

CORINTH CHURCH NEWS

There will be a black history program sponsored by the Christian education departments of Corinth Church, Evans Chapel and Gees Grove. Come and hear one woman's experience of integrating Lusher Elementary School in New Orleans at the age of 5 years old.

The program will be at 3 p.m. at Corinth AME Zion Church on Sunday, Feb. 16.

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

Served at Elementary and K-8 Schools

**Middle and High School Menus

Monday, February 17

BREAKFAST: Breakfast Round, Pineapples (**Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)

LUNCH: Big Daddy's Pepperoni Pizza, Macaroni & Cheese w/Roll, PB&J w/ Cheese Stick Combo, Seasoned Green Beans, Baby Carrots w/Dip, Tropical Fruit Mix (**Dig Daddy's Pepperoni Pizza, Macaroni & Cheese w/Roll, PB&J w/ Cheese Stick Comb, Seasoned Green Beans, Baby Carrots w/Dip, Tropical Fruit Mix, Fresh Fruit)

Tuesday, February 18

BREAKFAST: Strawberry Parfait w/French Toast Sticks, Fruit Cocktail (**Breakfast Griddle Sandwich, Fresh Fruit)

LUNCH: Chicken & Waffles, BBQ Pork w/ Corn Muffin, Southwest Chicken Salad, Oven Baked Fries, Cole Slaw,

Fresh Fruit (**Chicken & Waffles, BBQ Pork w/ Corn Muffin, Southwest Chicken Salad, Oven Baked Fries, Cole Slaw, Chilled Applesauce, Fresh Fruit)

Wednesday, February 19

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

LUNCH: Popcorn Chicken w/Roll, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Build a Pizza Combo, Broccoli w/Cheese, Baked Beans, Rainbow Fruit Cup (**Popcorn Chicken w/ Roll, Hawaiian Ham & Cheese, Chicken Wings w/Roll, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Baked Beans, Rainbow Fruit Cup, Fresh Fruit)

Thursday, February 20

BREAKFAST: Breakfast Griddle Sandwich, Peaches (**Strawberry Parfait w/ Fr Toast Stix, Fresh

Fruit) **LUNCH:** TexMex Beef w/ Chips & Cheese, Fruit & Yogurt Combo, Deli Ham Chef Salad, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Corn, Fresh Fruit (**Walking Taco w/Beef & Cheese, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Deli Ham Chef Salad, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Corn, Chilled Pears)

Friday, February 21

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

LUNCH: Mozzarella Sticks w/Marinara, Fish & Shrimp Basket w/ Hushpuppies, PB&J w/ Cheese Stick Combo, Carrot Soufflé, Baked Potato, Peach Crisp (**Bacon Cheeseburger on Bun, Fish & Shrimp Basket w/ Hushpuppies, Mozzarella Sticks Combo, Carrot Soufflé, Baked Potato, Peach Crisp, Fresh Fruit, Lettuce & Tomato)

STUDENTS HONORED

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Kelsey A. Roper of Siler City was named to The University of Alabama president's list for the fall of 2019.

To be named to the president's list, students must have an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

DEAN'S LIST

Jamie L. Hall, of Snow Camp was named to The University of Alabama

dean's list for the fall of 2019.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have an academic record of 3.5 or better.

GREENSBORO COLLEGE

DEAN'S LIST

Greensboro College announces that the following students achieved dean's list academic status for the fall 2019 semester. To qualify, a student must have a 3.5 grade-point average or better for the semester.

The students are: Amos Zachariah Brady, Bennett Matti Kaitlyn Moore, Bear Creek Aaron Taylor Partin, Pittsboro

NEWS BRIEFS

CCCC offers BLET training based in Pittsboro
 The Central Carolina

Community College Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program is designed to give students essential skills required for entry-level employment as law enforcement officers with state, county, or municipal governments, or with private enterprise.

A BLET class will begin March 16 on the CCCC Chatham Main Campus in Pittsboro. The class will meet Monday through Thursday from 6 to 11 p.m.

To register or for further information, contact Robert Powell at 919-777-7770 or by email at rpowe254@ccc.edu. Deadline for paperwork is Feb. 17.

The basic requirements are: U.S. Citizen; at least 10th grade reading level; at least 20 years old; high school graduate; N.C. driver's license.

CCCC will host free college tuition open house in Chatham County

PITTSBORO — Central Carolina Community College will host a free college tuition open house for high school students and their parents at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 26 at the CCCC Chatham Main

Campus, 764 West St., Pittsboro. Information will be available on the Central Carolina Promise program, which offers free tuition to qualifying 2020 public, private, and home-school high school graduates in Chatham County. To learn more about the Promise eligibility requirements and to see an enrollment checklist, visit www.cccc.edu/promise/.

Also, information will be available on the Career & College Promise program. CCP enables high school students to enroll, tuition-free, in college credit courses that also apply toward their high school diploma. By the time they graduate from high school, they have a jump-start on their career or college education. Learn more about the CCCC CCP program at www.cccc.edu/high-school/ccp/.

The open house includes a look at selected CCCC academic programs, as well as information on admissions and financial aid.

To learn more about high school opportunities at Central Carolina Community College, visit the website www.cccc.edu/highschool/.

Creative Goat opens



Pittsboro Mayor Jim Nass (left), Creative Goat owner Beth Rhew and her husband, Kevin, do the honors at the store's ribbon-cutting.

Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Owner Beth Rhew and her husband, Kevin, pose at The Creative Goat in Pittsboro, a new arts and crafts supply store, during its ribbon-cutting on Feb. 8 sponsored by the Chatham Chamber of Commerce. The Creative Goat carries a wide range of craft supplies with everyone in mind, from the hobbyist to the small business owner. The store is located at 630 East St., Suite 9 in Pittsboro, beside Food Lion.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks



Justin Rhew, son of store owner Beth Rhew, poses with Chaco the goat at the opening of The Creative Goat in Pittsboro.

Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Black history in Chatham



Dr. Charles Johnson, associate professor of history at N.C. Central University in Durham, spoke to a full house last Saturday at Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro. Johnson presented a lecture on 'Black Chatham: Its People and Institutions,' the second in the library's month-long series of Saturday events celebrating Black History Month. Among other points, the history professor noted that in the 1830 Census, Chatham County's total population was 16,242, of which 3,000 (or 18.5 percent of the population) were enslaved. Church — sometimes conducted in slave quarters or in homes — grew to become the cornerstone of the black community, serving many functions including meeting halls, nurseries, hospitals and incubators of black leadership.

Staff photos by Kim Hawks



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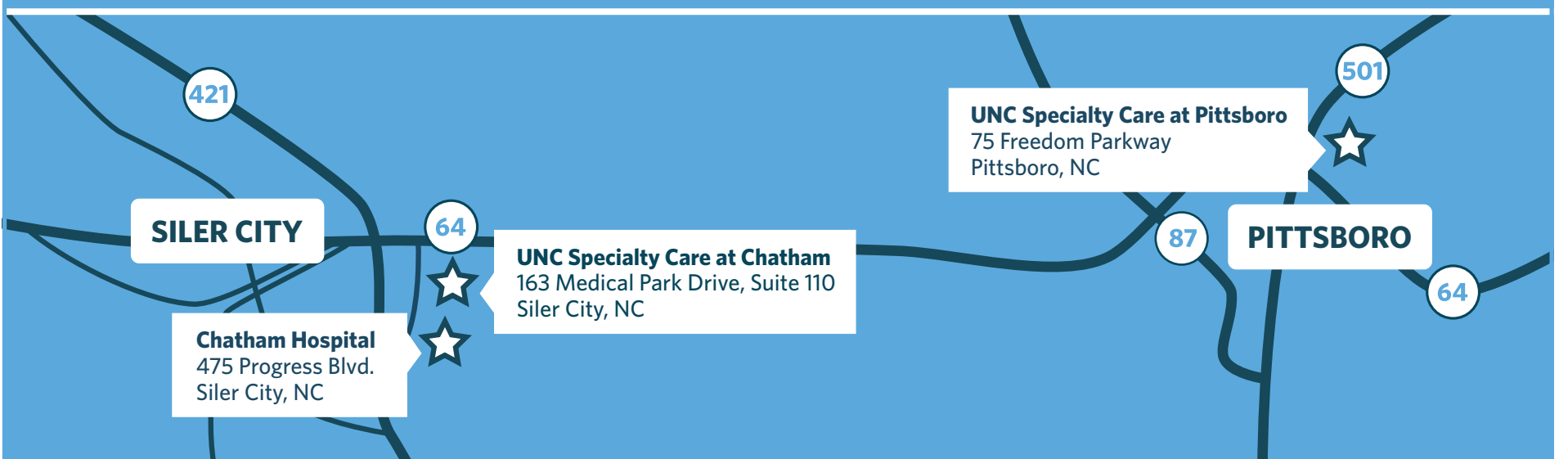
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Siler City's Chicken Festival expands

Mountaire returns as sole sponsor for May 2 event

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

The second annual Siler City Spring Chicken Festival will be expanding to a three-day event, scheduled for the first weekend in May.

The event will kick off with a golf tournament on April 30 at the Siler City Country Club and a See The Chicken Run 5k on May 1 to benefit the Siler City Lions Club at Bray Park before the big event on Saturday, May 2, in downtown Siler City.

Once again, Mountaire Farms, the Delaware-based poultry processing company which has a facility in Siler City, is the sole sponsor of the event. The town celebrated the \$20,000 sponsorship with a check presentation last Thursday at the Siler City town hall courtroom. Mountaire, in collaboration with Chatham Transit, is also hosting a free shuttle service for visitors who will be able to park at the Mountaire Farms Employee Parking Lot off of East Raleigh Street and ride a Chatham Transit vehicle to the festival.

"Siler City has been a tremendous city in which to have our poultry processing plant, not to mention the help and friendly welcome we have received from the citizens and town managers since we have been here," Mark Reif, Mountaire's Community Relations Manager said. "It has been a great working relationship, so we are glad to be a part of this Festival celebrating the arrival of Spring and to be a part of Siler City and Chatham County."

"Siler City Parks and Recreation is thrilled to organize and present the Spring Chicken Festival along with Mountaire Farms each year because it creates such a great



Staff photo by David Bradley

Jack Clelland, Siler City Mayor John Grimes, Mountaire Farms' Mark Reif and Siler City Town Manager Roy Lynch are on hand for a \$20,000 check presentation last Thursday morning. Reif presented the check from Mountaire Farms as sponsorship for Siler City's annual Chicken Festival, which is set for early May.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Colorful booths and displays decorate the walkways of S. Chatham Avenue in Siler City last May as the Chicken Fest returned to the area.

community atmosphere in the Town that we all love," Daniel Spivey, Administrative Support Specialist for Siler City Parks and Recreation said. "We continue to be overwhelmed with excitement and support from the community and it excites us to see people making memories at the event that will last for generations to come."

"This is a great advance in the parks and recreation program, more than anything," Siler City Mayor Grimes said during the check presentation. "[Mountaire shows us] they are good corporate neighbor. It's been a blessing, because they have added an increased tax base for us, funds from taxes have helped in other parts of community."

Last year's event drew an estimated 5,000 attendees and the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department, which manages the event, expects even more this year. Spivey notes the event "reaps large benefits for Siler City, both economically and socially," spurring tourism with visitor dollars going to local vendors, merchants, galleries and restaurants.

"The festival encourages community engagement and has a social impact for our citizens and guests," Spivey said.

The main event on Saturday will feature many of the popular attractions from last year including a Ferris wheel, mechanical and inflatable attractions, a rock wall, food vendors, a

Second Annual Siler City Spring Chicken Festival

WHEN: Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

WHERE: Downtown Siler City

MORE INFO: To register as a vendor or get more information, contact Siler City Parks and Recreation at 919-742-2699.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN: Thursday, April 30, at 9 a.m.

WHERE: Siler City Country Club

MORE INFO: Benefiting Siler City Parks and Recreation Department programming and youth athletic leagues for the. Pre-Registration and team registration deadline Friday, April 17.

CONTACT: Register online at www.silercity.org or in City Hall. For more info regarding the tournament, please contact Siler City Parks and Recreation at 919-742-2699.

SEE THE CHICKEN RUN 5K

WHEN: Friday, May 1, at 6 p.m.

WHERE: Bray Park Sports Complex in Siler City

MORE INFO: Benefiting the Siler City Lions Club. Early registration deadline is March 3, regular registration available up until the day of the 5k Run.

CONTACT: To register and for more information, contact Siler City Lions Club Director, Juanita Brown, at 336-824-4730.

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

WHEN: Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

WHERE: Beaver Street in Siler City

MORE INFO: Benefiting the Chatham Training School/Chatham High School Scholarship Fund. Pre-registration required and the deadline is Tuesday, March 31.

CONTACT: For more information and to register, please contact the CCT/CHS Scholarship Fund Committee at 336-337-9721.

classic car show and live music. There will also be vendors and merchants where visitors can peruse arts & crafts, gift items, informational booths and the Oasis Open Air Market will again offer beer garden for mature guests.

Musical guests include headliner The Embers, featuring Craig Woolard, on main stage at the intersection of Beaver Street and Chatham Avenue. The Embers are a well-known N.C. Official Ambassador for Music and listed in the South Carolina Beach Music Hall of Fame who perform beach music, heart and soul, rhythm and blues, and feel good music, according to Spivey. The Sand Band, which performs oldies, classic rock, Motown music, Carolina beach and shag

music, will be returning to the main stage as well.

The Spring Chicken Festival Classic Car Show will return this year featuring classic vehicles. Proceeds from the car show will benefit the Chatham Training School/Chatham High School Scholarship Fund. Pre-registration is required and the deadline to register is March 31.

The Thursday golf tournament will begin at 9 a.m. and will benefit programming and youth athletic leagues for the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department. Pre-Registration and team registration is required and the deadline to register is April 17. Friday's See the Chicken Run 5k begin at 6 p.m., starting and finishing at the Bray Park Sports

Complex in Siler City. Proceeds from the 5K will help the Siler City Lions club program for assisting the blind and visually impaired with eye exams and glass. The early registration deadline is March 3 with regular registration extending to the day of the event. The Chatham Relay For Life celebration will also be taking place at the end of the 5K.

The Siler City Parks and Recreation is still seeking vendors to participate in the event. Vendor registration deadline is March 27 or until full. For more information, contact the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at 919-742-2699.

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

CCCC president selected for inaugural cohort of Aspen Institute's New Presidents Fellowship for community college excellence

From Central Carolina Community College

SANFORD — Dr. Lisa M. Chapman, President of Central Carolina Community College, has been selected by the

Aspen Institute to join the 2020-21 inaugural class of the Aspen New Presidents Fellowship, a new initiative designed to support community college presidents in the early years of their ten-

ure to accelerate transformational change on behalf of students.

Dr. Chapman is one of 25 Aspen Fellows selected from more than 100 applicants for this opportunity, which is fully funded by JPMorgan Chase & Co. and run by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. The leaders, all of whom are in their first five years as a college president, will engage in a seven-month fellowship beginning in June 2020.

"It is such an honor to be included in this inaugural cohort. Everything we do at Central Carolina is organized

around learning first and student success. As we continue to improve on the equity of our services, working within the college family and alongside our community partners, I look forward to learning from and sharing with our Aspen partners as well as other national leaders regarding best practices and am grateful for this opportunity," said Dr. Chapman.

The fellows, who have been college presidents for five years or less, were selected for their commitment to student success and equity, willingness to take risks

to improve outcomes, understanding of the importance of community partnerships, and ability to lead change.

"We know more than ever before about how community colleges can improve outcomes for students, both in and after college," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "And the urgency for them to do so only increases — especially for students of color and low-income students. These fellows have shown they are fully, urgently committed to excellence and equity, and we look forward to working alongside them."

Nearly 80 percent of community college presidents nationwide plan to retire in the next decade. Through this fellowship and its other leadership programs, Aspen is committed to helping to replace those exiting the presidency with an exceptionally capable and highly diverse talent pool. According to the American Council on Education, only 36 percent of community college presidents are female, and 20 percent are people of color. The incoming class of Aspen fellows is 48 percent female, and 40 percent are people of color. Their institutions span 15 states and vary widely, from a rural college with fewer than 2,000 students to a statewide system that educates more than 150,000.

"By preparing students and workers for in-demand jobs and meeting the training needs of businesses, community colleges are critical institutions for



Submitted photo

CCCC President Dr. Lisa Chapman

their regions' prosperity and development," said Jennie Sparandara, head of workforce initiatives, JPMorgan Chase. "JPMorgan Chase is proud to partner with the Aspen Institute's College Excellence Program to build the next generation of diverse community college leaders."

The program for new presidents is an addition to the Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence, which has been serving aspiring presidents since 2016. Of the nearly 160 fellows who have taken part in the Rising Presidents Fellowship, 41 are now community college presidents, serving more than 500,000 students.

JPMorgan Chase is funding the Aspen Presidential Fellowship as part of New Skills at Work, a five-year, \$350 million investment to support community colleges and other pathways to great careers and economic mobility.

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Pittsboro's 'Worst Cook' sent home

Dr. Lulu Boykin eliminated from The Food Network show

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Her run is over, but Pittsboro's Dr. Lulu Boykin's fun sure wasn't.

Boykin was a contestant on season 18 of The Food Network's "Worst Cooks in America" until this past Sunday, when she was eliminated at the end of the sixth episode of the show's 18th season.

"Worst Cooks" pits contestants who boast terrible cooking skills against each other to see who, with the guidance of the show's chef-hosts Anne Burrell and Alton Brown, can be transformed into a skilled chef. Each week, the worst performing contestant on one of two teams is sent home. In the final episode, the lone "worst cook" standing will receive \$25,000.

This week's episode, entitled "Opposites Attract," focused on "unlikely" combinations of ingredients. The show opened

with a game where each contestant "punched" through a thin wall to grab an ingredient then had to rush to pair it with an "unlikely ingredient." For example, for the contestants that grabbed peanut butter, the correct "unlikely ingredient" pairing was pickles. Boykin, who said she wanted to "win, win, win for the red team," correctly paired meat with blueberries — a sweet and savory combination.

The teams were then given a crash course in pizza-making before being challenged to make their own pizzas with one of the "unlikely duos" from the game. Boykin, who chose ham and blueberries for her pizza, was gleeful about the prospect, saying, "It's creative time."

But Burrell was not enthused about Boykin's enthusiasm.

"Hold on one second, Lulu, cause you're going off the deep end," Burrell said. "You need to edit yourself. It's just going to taste like a mess."



Scott Gries

'Worst Cooks in America' contestant Lulu Boykin of Pittsboro, shown in this promotional photo for season 18 of The Food Network program.

"I just see her grabbing way too many ingredients," Burrell said into the camera. "When I talk to her about it she just seems to go get more ingredients."

"Already I'm in trouble," Boykin responded. "But I'm having such a good time. Party!"

As she finalized her pizza by dicing mint to top it, Boykin said, "This is going to brighten it up and make it delicious and unexpected."

When she presented her pizza, Burrell

seemed surprised, noting that Boykin's pizza was "nicely constructed" and her dough looked "really good."

"I've never had a pizza with blueberries on it," Burrell said. "But when you get a piece with all the stuff on it, it really works."

For the final challenge of the episode, the contestants were charged with replicating a dish pairing pork with fruit in one hour's time. Throughout the challenge, Boykin hummed and sang as she

'This experience was amazing, magical and made me proud of myself because I didn't think I'd ever learn to cook.'

DR. LULU BOYKIN, Pittsboro's Worst Cook

prepared her dish, a pork tenderloin with mashed sweet potatoes and a mango sauce.

"I never made pork, but I love eating pork," Boykin said. "Mother Goose says the three little piggies. I say 'yum, yum yum and yummy!'"

As Boykin sang her way through the challenge, Burrell often scolded her, concerned that Boykin wouldn't finish in time. At one point Burrell shouted, "Lulu, you need to be plating!"

When Boykin presented her plate, Burrell again complimented her dish, the doneness of her meat and its flavor, except for heavy salt and cayenne in the sweet potatoes. At the same time, Burrell said that if she "hadn't been coaching" Boykin, Burrell was not sure she would have finished on time.

In the end, that was the final straw in deciding that it was time for Boy-

kin to go home. "I loved having you on my team," Burrell said. "You've been delightful."

Burrell said Boykin "put heart and soul" into every task while being "fun and flamboyant" as she wished her farewell.

"I don't want to go," Boykin said. "I wanna stay because I've been having too much fun."

"This experience was amazing, magical and made me proud of myself because I didn't think I'd ever learn to cook," she later said.

If you missed this episode, it will air again at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 16.

The next episode, "Amore Sucre," will air at 9 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 16 on The Food Network. Six more contestants are competing to be the "Worst Cook in America."

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

CENSUS:

Continued from page A1

since August, have been reaching out to businesses, setting up information tables at events and collaborating with non-profit groups to ensure that as many Chatham County residents as possible respond to the 2020 Census.

The group is also working with the Hispanic Liaison in Siler City to communicate to the Spanish-speaking community the importance of the census as well as allay any fears about the privacy of the information collected.

"By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your answers with the IRS, FBI, Welfare, Immigration or any other government agency," the U.S. Census Bureau website says. "No court of law, not even the President of the United States, can find out your answers. And the same law that keeps your answers out of the hands of these

agencies, prevents the Census Bureau from selling or giving away your address to people who want to send you mail."

What the Census means to Chatham

Chatham County's response rate in the 2010 census was estimated to be at 81 percent, higher than the state average of 74 percent for the same year. The 2010 census indicated Chatham County's population to be 63,505, which in turn resulted in allocations of about \$132,961,408 in federal funding out of the \$16.29 billion the state receives annually. But the state now estimates that the county is likely at about 76,000 residents now, an increase of 19.7 percent.

"If the county continues to grow at this pace and we are under-counted, we may not have sufficient resources in place to support the community," Cooper-Lewter said. "For example, if we undercount the number of children ages

0-5 living in an area in Chatham, then that school for that area can become overcrowded because we anticipated less children in the area."

Most importantly, Cooper-Lewter said, she wants people to understand that completing the census "is safe, easy and so important."

"It will have a lasting impact on Chatham County for years," she said.

Next steps

Households will begin receiving letters inviting them to complete their census online or by phone. This year is the first year the census can be completed online. Cooper-Lewter recognizes the challenges with having the census online, including lack of internet access as well as concerns about entering personal data online. But this year's form is the "short form," according to Cooper-Lewter, which only has 10 questions and does not request any personal information about

'If the county continues to grow at this pace and we are under-counted, we may not have sufficient resources in place to support the community.'

COURTNEY COOPER-LEWTER, Analyst for Chatham County

income or questions about citizenship. April 1 is the official "Census Day," the day the program hopes to use as a benchmark date to encourage residents to complete their census. If residents do not complete their census by the end of April, census workers will begin visiting individual homes to complete the count. Census workers will likely be "on the ground" between May and July.

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

WATER:

Continued from page A1

Odors

The primary complaint from many customers was the presence of foul odors from both the treatment plant and the development's irrigation system. ONSWC says in the report that it is "committed to reducing and managing odors from the wastewater treatment plant to the extent practicable and has taken numerous steps to address this issue," including spending \$100,000 a year on a calcium nitrate solution designed to "inhibit the formation of hydrogen sulfide and its odor" and a \$350,000 investment in an "air scrubbing system" that would clean the air using carbon filtration "prior to being released to the atmosphere."

ONSWC cited "an unfortunate and unusual confluence of circumstances" regarding that latter process as the cause of odor issues last year. The report stated that while seeking to replace the filtering tools, an air pump would not restart and needed to be replaced, which took three weeks.

"But this waiting period for the new pump resulted in about a one-month period where the air scrubbing system at the wastewater treatment plant was out of service," the report said. "Also, because this occurred during the summer, the higher ambient air temperatures exacerbated the odors."

Within the irrigation system, the company says it found organic material coming from the reclaimed water pond and not the plant itself. That organic material could have included "ducks, geese, and vegetation, such as duckweed," and steps are in progress to rectify that.

Spills

The company was given letters of violation by both the N.C. Dept. of

Environmental Quality and Chatham County Watershed Protection Department in recent years — one from DEQ in October 2017 and again in August 2019, and one from the county in September 2019. Combined, the spills accounted for more than 14,000 gallons of sewage.

In its report, ONSWC claims that, after acquiring in 2014 the setup previously run by Briar Chapel Utilities, it found "design issues...where previous breaks had occurred," and an initial upgrade was completed in 2018. One of the breaks, the report says, "occurred during the period ONSWC was completing the work to address the items identified previously." Additional issues arose last year due to "pressure waves in the line," which led to the company installing three air relief valves in September 2019.

Along with upgrades to a lift station, the report stated such "measures should address the cause of those overflows and prevent them from occurring in the future."

Customer Service

Another common complaint among customers was ONSWC's lack of response, through Envirolink — the company responsible for day-to-day operation of the wastewater treatment plant — to concerns from residents.

ONSWC said in its report that it found "no evidence of calls not being answered or subsequent service orders not being issued." Perhaps, it argued, customers called the development's homeowners association or another group seeking resolution. But an internal review of service order response times led to the company saying that "the vast majority of service orders are completed within the same day," dating back to ONSWC's takeover of the system.

The company stressed in the letter that it was "committed to improving

relations and communications within the Briar Chapel community" and expressed its willingness to have meetings open to the entire neighborhood to report on the progress of its efforts. It added that many of the changes "will not be apparent" until the spring.

ONSWC Moving Forward

In a telephone interview with the News + Record, ONSWC President Michael Myers said the relationship between his firm and Briar Chapel customers is "strained" and that the company is committed to repairing it.

"We are working very, very diligently to address those concerns," Myers said. "A lot of

the mechanical issues that are related to a lot of those concerns, we have addressed a lot of those already and have upgraded the issues that have manifested themselves. There are additional upgrades and improvements above and beyond any regulatory requirements that we are planning to make in the near future."

As in the report, Myers stressed the company's desire to "dialogue with our customers" and that ONSWC has hired someone to put together a communications plan.

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

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SPORTS NEWS & CLASSIFIEDS

FEBRUARY 13-19, 2020 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

Jordan-Matthews' Fadely brings home silver in 200-meter IM at state swim championships

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

CARY — Chatham high schoolers posted good times and earned a medal in last week's state high school swimming and diving championships.

Jennah Fadely of Jordan-Matthews finished second in the 100-meter breaststroke and grabbed fourth-place in the 200-meter individual medley, earning all of the Jets' 32 points in the women's 1A/2A meet held last Thursday at the Triangle Aquatic Center in Carrboro. The team finished 18th.

Two days later, also in Carrboro, the Northwood girls finished ninth in the 3A championships with 104 points.

Julia Earnshaw captured fifth place in the 50-yard freestyle with a 24.12 before finishing seventh in the 100-yard freestyle with a 53.23 time. Mia Corrado took 5th in the 500-yard freestyle for with a mark of 5:06.92. Suzanne Earnshaw finished 11th in the 100-yard breaststroke with a 1:07.78 time.

The Northwood 200-yard medley and 400-yard freestyle relay teams comprised of Corrado, Julia Earnshaw, Suzanne Earnshaw and Gwen Hoeg took 6th place in both events with times of 1:50.61 and 3:36.86 respectively.

The Carrboro women earned their second straight team title in the 1A/2A on and Charlotte Catholic captured its third consecutive 3A crown on.

On Thursday, Emme Nelson from Community School of Davidson claimed the Most Outstanding Swimmer for the women's 1A/2A meet. Nelson

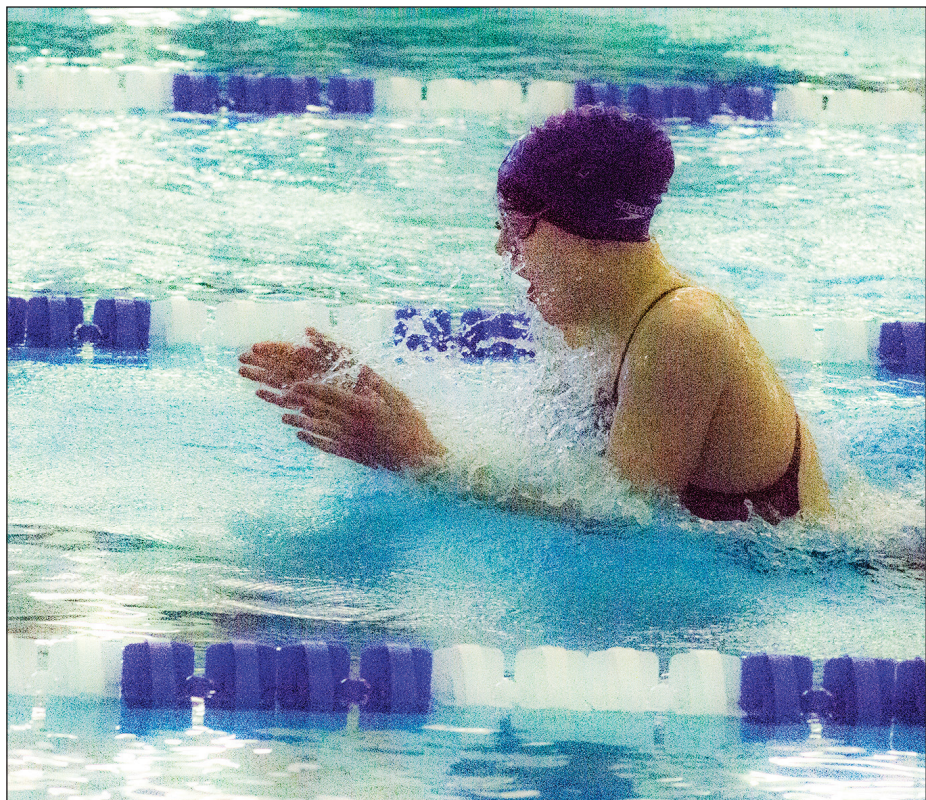
touched first in two events and participated on a victorious relay team. She and her 200-yard medley relay teammates Katie Tolone, Eliana White and Meredith Tucker won the meet's opening event in a time of 1:48.18 as Nelson swam the second leg for the squad.

Nelson capped off her high school career winning the 200-yard individual medley and 100-yard breaststroke. She won the 200 IM for the fourth time in her career, touching in 2:03.49 and cruising to the victory by over four seconds. She also won the 100 Breaststroke for the fourth time in her career, edging the field with a time of 1:02.81 for her final high school swim, edging out a hard-charging Fadely.

Carrboro won two of the meet's three relay events with the Jaguars team of Emily Carpenter, Lucy Carroll, Lindy Bilden and Kate Hegland combining to win the 200-yard and 400-yard freestyle relay events. The quartet touched in 1:38.13 to win the 200-yarder, racing past second place Community School of Davidson. Then in the final women's race of the night, the foursome blitzed past the field by more than five seconds, touching in 3:33.54. Bilden also managed to win the individual title in the 50-yard Freestyle, posting a time of 23.65 seconds.

Emily Knorr from Salisbury also won a pair of individual events. Knorr captured the 200-meter freestyle in 1:50.56, holding off Ede Kosik from Voyager Academy. Then Knorr dominated the 500-meter freestyle, winning the event for the

See **FADELY**, page B3



Jordan-Matthews' Jennah Fadely swims the breaststroke as part of the 200-yard individual medley at the state high school championships in Cary last Thursday. She placed fourth in the preliminary event, swimming 50 yards each for all four basic strokes, and moved on to the final match later in the day.

Staff photo by David Bradley



The 2019-2020 Northwood High School swim team members (from left) Julia Earnshaw, Mia Corrado, Coach Jill Wenstian, Gwen Hoeg and Suzanne Earnshaw pose on the deck at the 3A State Championships in Cary on Feb. 8. The event, held at the Triangle Aquatic Center, featured boys and girls events for 35 high schools across the state. The Chargers team swam in relay and individual events.

Staff photo by David Bradley

Northwood's Dream Walker shows off her medal after taking fourth place in the 182/195 Division at the second Annual Girl's Wrestling State Championships in Concord on Saturday.

Submitted photo



Submitted photo

The second annual NCHCAA Women's Wrestling State Championships took place last Saturday in Concord and two Chatham County wrestlers competed. Pictured (from left) are Chatham Central coach Sherman Howze, Chatham Central's Hailey White, Northwood's Dream Walker and Northwood coach Jason Amy.

Chatham pair competes at NCHSAA women's wrestling state championships

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

CONCORD — Two Chatham high schoolers participated in last week's 2020 state high school women's wrestling tournament, marking the county's debut in the event.

Northwood's Dream Walker and Chatham Central's Hailey White combined for a 3-4 mark, falling short of a state title but earning praise from their coaches along the way.

Just a freshman, Walker finished fourth in her weight class and earned a copper medal with a 3-2 record. She started off with consecutive pins for victories over Northern Durham's Isuara Morales and Hoke County's Samantha Kidder to reach the championship semifinal. Walker then lost a narrow contest to Burns' Saige Cook.

"She was so close in that semifinals match against Cook, just point here or there could have made the differ-

ence," said Northwood coach Jason Amy. "But that's a match she will win in time with experience. It's all new and everything that happened this weekend will help Dream in the future."

She rebounded by pinning Savannah Hurley of South Stanly in the consolation semifinals before losing via a fall to Rosewood's Julissa Jaramillo in the consolation finals.

"I couldn't be more proud of Dream. She's worked so hard and improved so much throughout the season," Amy said. "To capture fourth place as a freshman is a testament to her talent, determination, and dedication to the sport."

In the 138-pound division, White dropped a pair of pin decisions, including a loss to Laura Thompson of Cleveland High in the first round and Lauren Horvath of Richlands in the consolation first round.

Chatham Central coach

Sherman Howze was happy with White's effort despite the 0-2 mark.

"All this is new for her. She came up and competed and did the best she could," Howze said. "It's exciting to see the sport growing the way it is for the girls. I think it will continue and Hailey is leading the way for Chatham Central and the future of the sport for our girls there."

The inaugural event, held in Winston-Salem in 2019, featured 81 female wrestlers from across the state while this year's event saw 182 wrestlers entered in the field which featured 14 weight classes. The 106, 113, and 120-pound classes feature A and B brackets while there were brackets in 126, 132, 138, 145, and 152 pounds as well. The competition combined wrestlers in the 160/170 pound divisions, 182/195 pound divisions, and the 220/285 pound divisions into a single bracket for each weight class pairing.

No. 8 Northwood boys basketball crushes Orange

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Deuce Powell pumped in 20 points and Aaron Ross added 17 as Northwood crushed Orange 80-57 in Pittsboro on Tuesday night in 3A Big Eight Conference basketball action.

Northwood improved to 10-1 in the league and to 19-2 overall with the victory while Orange fell to 2-9 in the Big Eight and to 8-13 overall.

All told, nine players scored for the Chargers in the convincing blow out of the Panthers with Jalen McAfee-Marion chipping in 12, Alex Snively and Jack Thompson eight apiece, Sam Mehringer five, Justin Brower four, and Troy Arnold and Tommy Ocariza three each.

Northwood shot 31-of-64 (48 percent) from the field

with Powell sinking 9-of-14 (64 percent) and Ross 8-of-14 (57 percent). The Chargers made 6-of-14 (38 percent) three-point attempts with Snively canning a pair of treys, and Ross, Ocariza, Arnold and Powell one each.

Ross completed an all-around great outing with 16 rebounds, eight assists, and three steals in the win while Snively chipped in two boards, four assists and two steals, Ocariza three rebounds and an assist, McAfee-Marion three boards, seven assists and a steal, and Powell three rebounds, two assists and an steal.

Joey McMullin led the Orange effort with 22 points, nine rebounds, one assist and one steal while Jerec Thompson and Jared Wood chipped in seven points apiece, and Jason Franklin seven.

Chatham Charter boys basketball improves to 23-1 with pair of league wins

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

GRAHAM — Chatham Charter took a pair of victories last week to improve to 23-1 on the season.

The No. 10-ranked Knights hosted River Mill in Siler City on Friday night and captured a key 59-39 in a 1A Central Tar Heel Conference tilt.

Chatham Charter roared to a 19-2 run in the opening period before cruising to the easy win.

River Mill cut the deficit to 31-18 at th intermission after a 16-12 run in the second but the hosts used a 18-9 spurt in the third to extend the lead back out to 49-27 before settling for the easy 20-point triumph.

Connor Murphy led the way with 18 points for Chatham Charter while Ryan White chipped in 15, Trevor Golden

nine, Jordan Hamilton seven, Cole Millholen four, and Clay Griffin three.

White was four-of-six from behind the arc in the win while Golden and Griffin added a trey apiece.

On the boards, Murphy added six in the win to go with three assists and five steals while Millholen chipped in five boards, five assists and five steals, and Hamilton five rebounds and three assists.

Chase Mebane had 21 points for River Mill to lead all scorers in the contest while chipping in 11 rebounds.

The Jaguars (8-4, 17-6) also received 15 points, seven rebounds and three steals from Cameron Lutterloh.

Three nights earlier on Tuesday evening in Siler City, Chatham Charter dismantled a completely outmanned Eno River squad 82-32.

The Knights went up 22-7 after one period of play before using a 19-12 run in the second quarter to pull in front by a commanding 41-19 count at the half.

A 24-6 spurt in the third all but ended the contest and upped the lead to 65-25 entering the fourth before a 17-7 run closed out the easy 82-32 triumph.

Hamilton had a monster contest with 28 points, nine boards, an assist and two steals for the Knights while Murphy added 15 points, Golden 12 points and Griffin seven including a trey. Murphy added five rebounds, three assists and two steals in the triumph while Golden chipped in five boards, four assists and two steals.

Chatham Charter is scheduled to battle Raleigh Charter on the road Wednesday before closing out the regular season on Friday in Greensboro against Cornerstone Charter Academy.

National media misses on Duke and UNC rivalry game

For more than a week leading up to the first of two annual Duke and UNC rivalry games, the national media repeatedly downplayed the contest due to UNC entering the game on Saturday night in the Dean Dome in Chapel Hill with a sub-par 10-12 record.

Since the Tar Heels entered with a losing

record, certainly the contest would be a blow out with the No. 7-ranked Blue Devils winning in a landslide.

Dear national media, it's called a rivalry game for a reason. And Duke and UNC in basketball is as crazy and unpredictable as any rivalry game in any sport. The result was one of the greatest games ever played between the two with one of the wildest and most improbable finishes you will ever see.

How much so? Well you had Duke and UNC fans on Facebook actually congratulating the other fan base

on their efforts. Really think about that — Tar Heel and Blue Devil fans throwing out mutual admiration for the opposing fan base just minutes after one of the greatest finishes ever in the historic series.

Of course, the national talking heads jumped on board on Twitter and social media outlets declaring it one of the best games ever between the two different shades of blue. And it was.

It also shows just because a team is having a down year does not mean that a rivalry of this proportion means any less.

The UNC fans showed up in full force and were a real factor in the game. The simple fact that they were playing that darker shade of blue team from just seven miles away was enough for the students, alumni and just everyday fans alike to rally around their squad.

And the Tar Heels as a team played its best game of the season, and really should have won the game, leading throughout the contest including by 13 points with under four minutes to play.

Duke, well, they could have just folded and

gave in, playing at the famed Dean Dome on a night which just didn't seem to be theirs. So what did the favored Blue Devils do? They continued to battle and fight, and forced an improbable overtime period.

Even then, UNC appeared again headed for a victory, leading by five points with 20 ticks left on the clock.

The Tar Heels would fail to close out the win, however, as the Blue Devils tallied the final seven points of the game including the game-winner as time expired on a lay-in bas-

ket by Wendell Moore of an errant shot by teammate Tre Jones to seal the 98-96 overtime triumph.

The lesson learned for the national media is that never overlook a rivalry game, especially Duke and UNC in basketball. History says that this game is always unpredictable, regardless of which gym they are in and who is higher ranked. We will see if they learn from their mistakes when Duke and UNC meet in Cameron Indoor Stadium in Durham in less than a month on Saturday, March 7.

Chatham Charter girls collect landmark 20th win over River Mill

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — For the first time in school history the Chatham Charter girls' basketball team reached the 20-win mark.

The milestone victory came Friday night in a 59-30 drubbing of visiting River Mill on Friday night in Siler City in a 1A Yadkin Valley Conference clash.

Chatham Charter (12-0, 20-2) led 16-11 after one

period of play before using a 10-6 run in the second to pull in front 26-17 at the intermission.

A key 12-3 surge in the third by the Lady Knights ballooned the lead to 38-20 before the locals closed out the blow out win with a 21-10 run in the fourth.

Rebecca McGuaghnea led the way with 18 points for Chatham Charter while Morgan Lineberry chipped in 16, Lillian Jones had 11, and Tamaya Walden score nine.

Three nights earlier on Tuesday in Siler City, Chatham Charter destroyed Eno River Academy 59-13.

Walden, a freshman, collected 18 points in the blowout victory as the Knights led 29-8 after one, 41-8 at the break, 48-10 after three, before capping the victory with an 11-3 run in the fourth.

Lineberry also chipped in 18 points in the victory while McGuaghnea, Jones and Olivia Cheek

each chipped in five.

Walden capped a complete game effort with eight rebounds, seven assists and five steals while Jones chipped in three boards, two assists and three steals, Adelia Rickman five boards, an assists and three steals, Taylor Brewer six rebounds, an assist and four steals, Cheek three boards, three assists and one steal, and Lineberry six rebounds and one assist.

Northwood girls basketball squeezes out overtime win over Orange

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

HILLSBOROUGH — Find a way to win. It's an age-old adage in sports.

Northwood's Lady Chargers basketball team did just that on the road Wednesday night in Hillsborough, capturing a hard fought 51-44 victory requiring extra time over a fiery Orange club in 3A Big Eight Conference action.

Northwood coach Cameron Vernon labeled the tight game as a "tough conference overtime win."

"Our girls right now have a bullseye on our chest being the top team in the conference, and every night we are going to get the opponent's best shot," he said. "I thought Orange played really hard and gave great effort. We played hard, but our shot selection was suspect at times and a lot of our shots weren't falling."

After an even contest in the opening half which saw the teams tied at 7-all after one and 19-19 at the break, Northwood (10-1 conference, 16-5 overall) appeared to grab some breathing room in the third with a 13-7 surge that sent the locals into the final eight minutes of play leading 32-26. Chandler Adams and Natalie Bell had four points apiece while McKenna Snively drained a trey. Aliyah Harris countered with four points for Orange in the third while Grace Andrews sank a three-pointer.

Orange (4-7, 10-9) would come roaring back in the fourth, with a 14-8 advantage to send the contest into overtime. Harris

put on a show with eight points in the period for the Lady Panthers while the Chargers received six from Adams.

In overtime, the Chargers controlled the action with a tenacious defense that allowed just four points as the locals pulled out the seven-point triumph. Bell swished a trey in the overtime stanza for Northwood.

Gianna McManaman had five points in the second period for Northwood to keep the locals tied at the break.

"We shot 29 percent for the game and were only 4-of-10 from the free throw line, so not our best statistical night, but we found a way," Vernon said. "I thought Chandler Adams and Gianna McManaman had good games offensively. At the end of regulation McKenna Snively came up big with a made shot after a out of bounds play to tie it up. I thought in overtime we were focused and had a little more gas in the tank than Orange did."

Adams had 15 points to pace Northwood in the win while McManaman added nine, Snively eight, and Bell seven. Bell, Snively and McManaman all sank a trey in the win while Snively added seven rebounds, two assists and five steals, Adams 11 boards and a steal, Rae McClarty three rebounds and three assists, Bell two boards, an assist and three steals, and Tekeyah Bland five points, 10 boards, two steals and three blocks.

Orange was led by 12 points from Harris while Andrews chipped in 11 more.

Lady Bears fend off furious Cavaliers rally

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — Chatham Central surged to a 12-2 advantage midway through the first period on its way to fashioning a 14-point lead at intermission, then withstood a determined second-half rally by North Rowan that cut the margin to two in the closing minutes before holding off the Lady Cavaliers 52-47 in Yadkin Valley 1A Conference action Tuesday night in Gerald L. Binkley Gymnasium.

Winning their third straight outing while gaining a measure of revenge for a 59-38 loss on the road to North Rowan eight days earlier, the Lady Bears climbed to 8-5 in the league standings and evened their overall record at 10-10, whereas the Lady Cavaliers fell to 10-3 in the conference and 14-7 for the year.

Mary Grace Murchison led the winners with 12 points, while Danielle Vaughn and Grace Jones chipped in eight apiece. Chatham Central connected on 20-of-49 (41 percent) of its attempts from the floor while committing 20 turnovers.

Natavia Taborn topped North Rowan with 17 points and Hannah Wilkerson added nine as the visitors from Spencer shot 17-of-58 (29 percent) from the field and held a 33-32 edge on the boards while turning the ball over 18 times.

"We came out and stopped North Rowan's fast break attack early while moving the ball really well on offense and working to get good looks at the basket," said Lady Bears' coach



North Rowan's Chloe Stoner (24) and her teammate Kamora Cannie frame Chatham Central's Mary-Grace Murchison (24) in the second half of their game Feb. 4 in Bear Creek. The Lady Bears won the game, bringing their season record to .500.

Staff photo by David Bradley

Lynda Burke. "Defensively we changed from a 3-2 zone to a 2-1-2 in the second quarter which kept them off-balance while helping us build on our lead.

"But they made adjustments at halftime and out-hustled us the second half, while their press began to force turnovers that allowed them to make a run at us down the stretch before we buckled down and decided we were not going to let this win slip away."

Lady Cavaliers' coach Ronald Wilkerson said that after his team played one of its worst halves of the season in the opening 16 minutes, they managed to regroup and bring their style of play to the court over the last two quarters. But the deficit they faced was too much to overcome.

"We came out flat tonight while Chatham Central came out aggressive and took it to us early before we became more the aggressor in the second half," said Wilkerson. "We don't

normally give up a lot of transition points, but they got a lot of easy baskets in the first half off their rebounding as we didn't do a good job boxing out. Even so, we battled back and had an opportunity to pull out a victory at the end but couldn't put a couple of point-blank layups in the hole when it was still a one-possession game."

Back-to-back treys by Murchison and Vaughn capped off the Lady Bears' opening burst with 4:18 to go in the initial period prior to North Rowan trimming the gap to 14-8 on McKiyla McDaniel's jumper in the lane with 42 seconds left in the first quarter. But with Jones and Lindsey Johnson combining for 10 points in the second stanza Chatham Central gradually extended its advantage to 29-15 at the break.

Following a jumper from the right wing by Eliana Phillips with 6:04 remaining in the third period that gave the Lady Bears their biggest lead of the evening at

31-16, the Lady Cavaliers outscored their host 12-2 over the next three-and-a-half minutes to pull within 33-28 on a Wilkerson free throw before Johnson's three-pointer from the right side sparked an 8-4 quarter-ending run, climaxed by Murchison's trey from the right wing at the buzzer, that put Chatham Central up by nine entering the final frame.

After Phillips' conventional three-point play with 6:50 to go increased the Lady Bears' advantage to 46-33, North Rowan mounted one last comeback attempt that eventually narrowed the difference to 49-47 on a pair of Taborn foul shots with 2:16 left to play.

But while the Lady Cavaliers failed to convert a pair of shots under the basket as the clock was winding down, Chatham Central proceeded to put the contest away on a Murchison charity toss followed by her backcourt steal and subsequent layup as time expired.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Swimming to win

Northwood's Mia Corrado swims in the women's 100-yard backstroke Feb. 8 at the state prep swimming championships at Triangle Aquatic Center in Cary. Corrado placed third at 59.60 in the preliminary match.

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North Rowan controls the paint in conference victory over Chatham Central

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — For North Rowan's Brandon White, it was simply a matter of dominate the lane, dominate the game.

With the 6-foot-10 sophomore collecting 14 points and 15 rebounds while asserting his prowess in the paint at both ends of the court, the Cavaliers overcame a slow start to seize the lead for good two minutes before halftime and sailed to a 51-37 Yadkin Valley 1A Conference triumph over Chatham Central last Tuesday night in Gerald L. Binkley Gymnasium.

Avenging an embarrassing 54-30 setback to the Bears on its home floor eight days prior, North Rowan improved

to 11-2 in the league standings and 13-6 for the season, while Chatham Central slipped to 10-2 in the conference and 16-5 overall.

Brandon Jefferson tallied 12 points and Zay Davis contributed 10 off the bench for the Cavaliers, who shot 45 percent (19-of-42) from the field and outrebounded the Bears 31-29 while turning the ball over 17 times.

Michael Moore and Lucas Skertich tossed in 10 points apiece for Chatham Central, which connected on 25 percent (13-of-51) of its attempts from the floor while committing 13 turnovers.

"Playing Chatham Central the first time at our place we didn't know anything about their personnel and

didn't have an answer for their initial burst out of the gate that put us back on our heels, and we never recovered," said North Rowan coach Jason Causby. "But after studying the game film I thought we came in here much better prepared tonight. We had a good inside/outside game, hit jump shots and some big three-pointers while finding Brandon (White) on the back side of their zone for easy dunks. He had some foul trouble the first time we met, but this evening he played extremely well with his back to the basket and they had no one who could match up with him around the rim."

Bears' coach Robert Burke commented while his team took the Cav-

aliers by surprise their first meeting and had control after a fast start, the rematch went all North Rowan's way.

"We didn't allow them to make interior passes the first time and doubled-down on the big man, but tonight we let them play their game," said Burke. "They gave us a lot of off-ball pressure this evening and had success pounding the ball down low for dunks. Not to take anything away from North Rowan, but two of our starters (Moore and Phillip Gaines) were not at full strength tonight. Nevertheless, we didn't get good penetration inside while the big guy stayed in the paint and eliminated our back-door cuts. In addition, we were only four-of-20

from three-point range, made a lot of bad passes and shot too quickly at times."

Both teams shot poorly in the initial period, and despite jumping out to a 5-0 advantage at the outset Chatham Central only held a 9-6 lead after one quarter.

Following a Skertich layup and Phillip Gaines' put-back off the right baseline that allowed the Bears to increase their advantage to seven at the start of the second stanza, the Cavaliers battled back to pull even at 16-all on White's dunk with 2:39 left in the frame. Jefferson then drained a trey from beyond the top of the key 36 seconds later to put North Rowan ahead to stay, prior to the winners carrying a 23-18 lead into intermis-

sion. Chatham Central threatened to regain the advantage after Moore's pull-up jumper off the left baseline and Micah Gurley's tip in drew the Bears within 23-22 with 5:01 to go in the third period, but Jefferson's three-pointer from the left wing 25 seconds later ignited a 14-3 spurt by the Cavaliers to expand their lead to 37-25 at the end of the quarter.

The closest Chatham Central got down the stretch was 39-31 following a Skertich free throw with 4:40 left in the contest before North Rowan outscored its host 12-6 the rest of the way, forging its biggest advantage of the night at 50-34 on White's put-back in the lane with 1:18 remaining on the clock.

NCPreps/HS Media Basketball Polls

GIRLS

CLASS 1A

- Murphy (7) 18-0 - 88
 - Pamlico County (2) 18-1 - 83
 - Vance County 18-1 - 69
 - Bishop McGuinness 16-2 - 58
 - Gray Stone 15-0 - 57
 - Community School of Davidson 17-2 - 37
 - Alleghany 18-2 - 30
 - Weldon 15-1 - 29
 - East Surry 10-5 - 23
 - Princeton 14-3 - 5
- HM: Mitchell - 4; Robbinstonville - 4; Chatham Charter - 4; Clover Garden - 3; Cherokee - 1; Langtree Charter - 1.

CLASS 2A

- Forbush (4) 18-2 - 80
 - Salisbury (3) 18-1 - 78
 - Farmville Central (2) 14-3 - 76
 - Randleman 17-1 - 52
 - Newton Conover 17-2 - 48
 - St Pauls 19-0 - 40
 - East Burke 17-3 - 38
 - Shelby 14-1 - 26
 - Kinston 18-3 - 19
 - Mountain Heritage 15-5 - 17
- HM: West Stokes - 8; North Lenoir - 8; West Wilkes - 2; Bertie - 2; Croatan - 1.

CLASS 3A

- Freedom (8) 19-0 - 89
 - DH Conley (1) 20-0 - 75
 - EE Smith 20-1 - 70
 - SE Guilford 19-1 - 66
 - SW Randolph 20-1 - 43
 - Cuthbertson 19-2 - 36
 - West Rowan 17-2 - 33
 - Charlotte Catholic 15-4 - 26
 - Asheville 17-2 - 21
 - Carson 17-3 - 20
- HM: East Rowan - 10; Enka - 5; Watauga - 1.

CLASS 4A

- SE Raleigh (9) 18-1 - 90
 - Glenn 17-1 - 79
 - NW Guilford 19-2 - 70
 - Providence 18-2 - 48
 - Ashley 16-4 - 46
 - Mallard Creek 17-2 - 45
 - Ragsdale 17-3 - 34
 - Vance 15-4 - 29
 - Holly Springs 14-6 - 17
 - Apex Friendship 17-1 - 16
- HM: Millbrook - 9; Laney - 5; South Meck - 2; Jordan 2.

BOYS

CLASS 1A

- Washington County (7) 16-0 - 88
 - Lincoln Charter (2) 19-2 - 83
 - Winston Salem Prep 13-6 - 64
 - Holmes 19-1 - 56
 - East Carteret 13-3 - 51
 - Hayesville 18-2 - 30
 - West Columbus 16-3 - 29
 - Pender 13-6 - 27
 - Andrews 17-2 - 18
 - Chatham Charter 21-1 - 14
- HM: Granville Central - 13; North Edgecombe - 9; Chatham Central - 5; Mountain Island Charter - 3; Starmount - 3; Pine Lake Prep - 2; East Surry - 1.

CLASS 2A

- Farmville Central (5) 18-2 - 86
 - Forest Hills (3) 20-0 - 72
 - South Granville (1) 20-0 - 71
 - Kinston 18-3 - 66
 - Mountain Heritage 18-1 - 47
 - West Caldwell 19-1 - 37
 - Reidsville 15-2 - 26
 - Shelby 14-3 - 25
 - West Stokes 15-4 - 19
 - Goldsboro 15-3 - 13
- HM: Hibriten - 8; Lexington - 7; East Lincoln -

5; Lake Norman Charter - 2; Patton - 1.

CLASS 3A

- Westover (9) 20-0 - 90
 - Freedom 18-1 - 86
 - Mt Tabor 19-1 - 72
 - Clayton 18-2 - 56
 - Cox Mill 17-3 - 52
 - Rose 16-1 - 42
 - Ben L. Smith 15-5 - 27
 - Northwood 18-2 - 24
 - Charlotte Catholic 16-3 - 16
 - Eastern Guilford 16-6 - 15
- HM: Parkland - 8; Weddington - 7; Vance County - 4; Huss - 3; West Carteret - 2.

CLASS 4A

- North Meck (9) 19-1 - 90
 - NW Guilford 16-3 - 78
 - Hillside 15-2 - 70
 - Lumberton 17-2 - 57
 - Vance 17-3 - 50
 - Millbrook 18-2 - 44
 - Garner 16-5 - 27
 - Apex Friendship 18-3 - 26
 - Pinecrest 17-3 - 18
 - Ardrey Kell 16-5 - 10
- HM: Leesville Road - 8; Harding - 5; South Central - 4; Olympic - 1.

FADELY:

Continued from page B1

second straight year by posting a time of 4:52.40, over three seconds clear of the field.

On Saturday, the Charlotte Catholic women raced to victory

with wins in two of the three relay events in the 2020 3A State Meet. The Cougars 200-meter freestyle relay of Olivia Rhodes, Hope Borders, Abigail Parks and Alina Stout out-touched the 3A meet record of 1:34.39 set by Weddington a year ago in the event, as the Cougar quartet brought

home gold in 1:34.30. The 400-meter freestyle relay was also victorious, with Stout, Victoria Dichak, Madeline Menkhaus and Parks combining to win in 3:27.08.

Menkhaus and Rhodes also won individual events for Charlotte Catholic. Menkhaus won the 100-meter butter-

fly in a time of 54.42 seconds while Rhodes collected the top spot in the 50-meter freestyle in 23.44 seconds. The pair helped lift Charlotte Catholic to a third straight NCHSAA 3A State Championship and the 16th team title in program history.

J.H. Rose's Madeline

Smith turned in a pair of wins, collecting gold in the 200-meter and 100-meter freestyles. Smith touched in 1:49.38 in the 200 and 50.15 seconds in the 100 to lead the Ram-pants. She was named the 3A Most Outstanding Swimmer for the women's meet.

The 200-meter medley

relay team from Cuthbertson also broke a 3A state meet record, rolling to a time of 1:45.30. Jordan Browning, Alison Thome, Avery Murray, and Leah Sandock combined for the Cavaliers to take down the previous record of 1:45.46 established by the Charlotte Catholic relay squad from 2018.

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Winter sports heat up



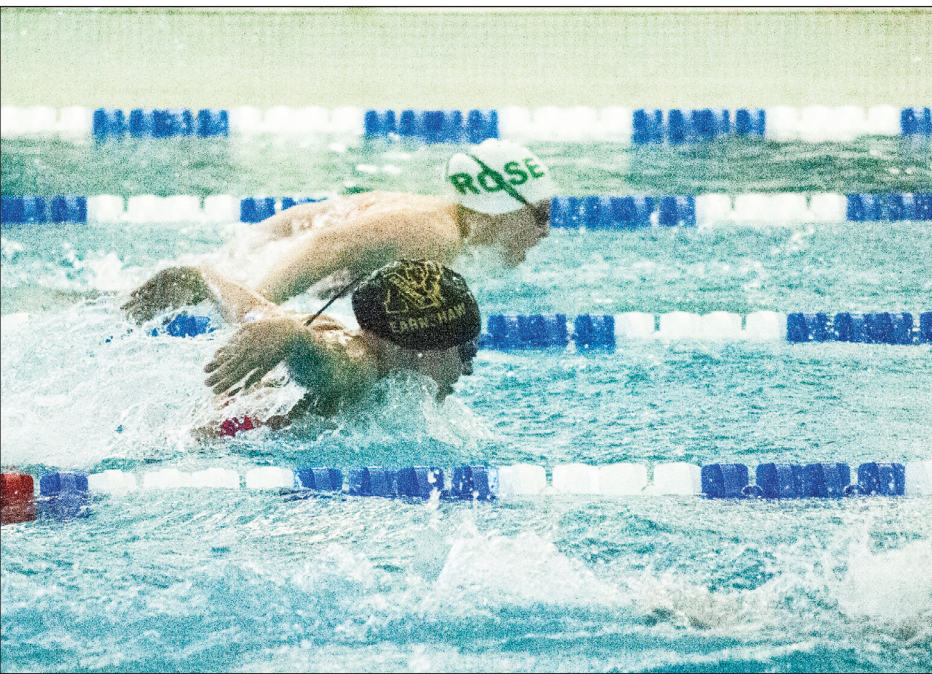
Staff photo by David Bradley

North Rowan's Zay Davis, a co-captain for the Cavaliers, stretches out in an attempt to block Chatham Central's Philip Gaines' (30) shot in a contest Feb. 4 in Bear Creek.



North Rowan's MaKiya McDaniel comes up to defend the basket against Chatham Central's Grace Jones (32) as teammate Olivia Hudson (40) arrives for the assist in the third quarter of play at Bear Creek Feb. 4.

Staff photo by David Bradley



Staff photo by David Bradley

Northwood's Suzanne Earnshaw, in the black cap, does the butterfly stroke as part of the 200-yard individual medley at the state championships in Cary Feb. 8. Her preliminary time was 2:17.03.



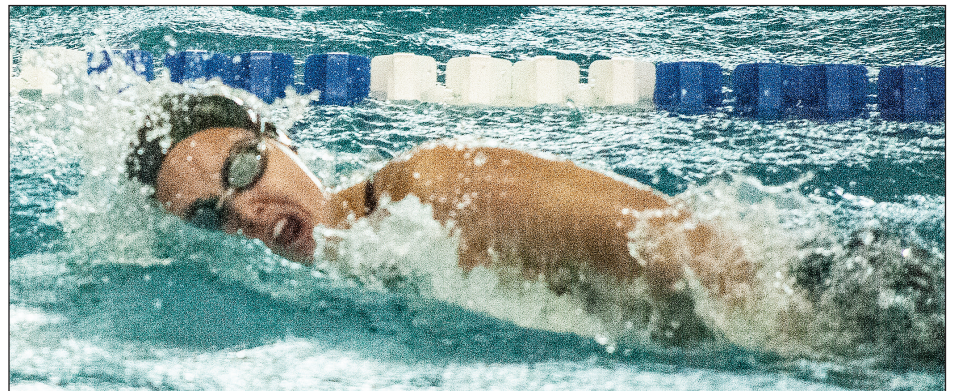
Chatham Central's Michael Moore (4) goes up to shoot against North Rowan's Brandon White in Bear Creek Feb. 4. The Bears trailed by five at halftime and lost the game, 51-37.

Staff photo by David Bradley



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central's Eliana Phillips (4) works against the defense of North Rowan's Kimya Lynch and Hannah Freeman (right) in Bear Creek Feb. 4. The Lady Bears built a 15-point lead in the game and won by five points.



Staff photo by David Bradley

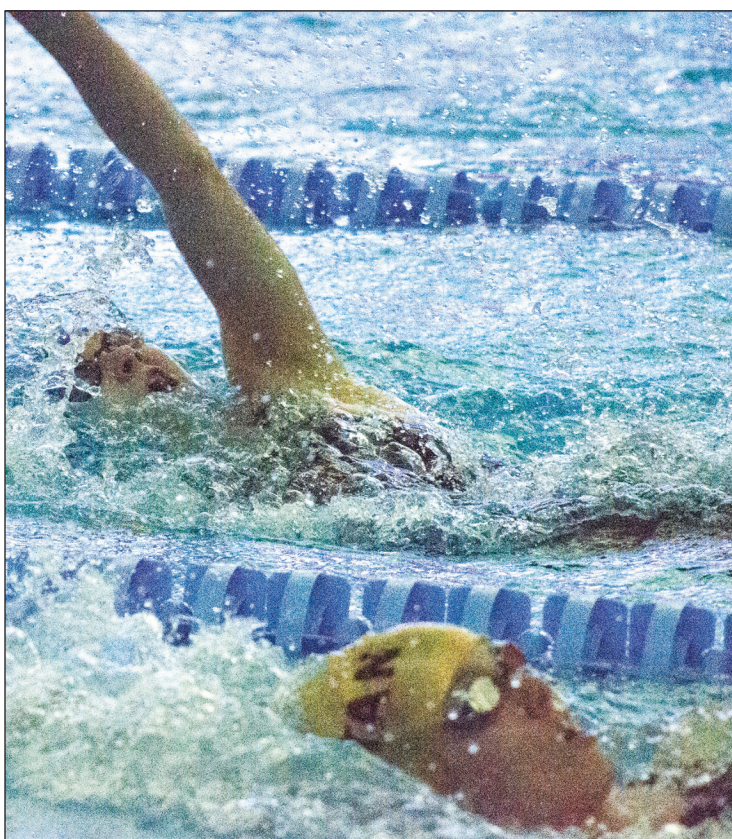
Northwood's Julia Earnshaw flows through the water in the women's 100-yard freestyle event. In the final of the event, later in the day, her time of 53.23 earned her a 7th-place finish.



Staff photo by David Bradley

North Rowan's Brandon White stands by teammate Malcolm Wilson Jr. to defend the basket against Chatham Central's Preston Cox (14) in Bear Creek Feb. 4. The disappointing finale, 51-37 for the Cavaliers, knocked the Bears out of first place in the conference.

Jordan-Matthews' Jennah Fadely (middle) swims in the 200-meter individual medley last Thursday in the state high school swimming championships in Cary as Teal Edholm from Croatan follows in the lower lane. Fadely came in second in a field of eight swimmers in the third heat of the event and advanced to the finals.



Staff photo by David Bradley

North Rowan's Kimya Lynch (30) and MaKiya McDaniel fence in the efforts of Chatham Central's Mary-Grace Murchison (24) as they battled in Bear Creek Feb. 4. The Lady Bears had a 14 point lead at halftime and won the game, 52-47.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Hindu temple's plans loom large over rural NC area, with a god as tall as a lighthouse

BY MARTHA QUILLIN
The Raleigh News & Observer

MONCURE — A Triangle-based Hindu group plans to build a temple that will help preserve its ancient culture and language, while embracing a modern American ideal: It will be huge.

The temple will feature the world's largest statue of Lord Murugan, the principal deity of Tamil Hindu followers.

The likeness of Murugan (Mer-OOH-gun), the warrior god who fights evil in Tamil Hindu tradition, would soar above the pines on a 130-acre tract of land in Moncure, in eastern Chatham County. The statue itself would be 155 feet tall, mounted on a 35-foot base, with the structure topping out at 190 feet, according to plans.

To get an idea of Murugan's scale, compare it to the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor, which is 151 feet 1 inch tall from the top of the base to the torch, according to the National Park Service.

The Cape Hatteras Light Station, on the North Carolina Outer Banks, measures just under 198 feet 6 inches from the bottom of the foundation to the pinnacle of the tower, according to the Park Service. N.C. State University's bell tower is 115 feet tall; UNC's is 172 feet.

The new giant statue would be part of a Carolina Murugan Temple

complex that would include the temple itself and buildings that would house a library, museum and other functions. Temple organizers also plan to include a soccer field, wedding venue, community garden and a hiking field on the property, which borders the Deep River.

'ANYONE CAN COME'

Radha Ravi Varma of Cary, chief secretary of the Carolina Murugan Temple, said the temple would serve Hindu people in the Triangle area and beyond who are of Tamil Heritage. But it will be open to the public as well. "Anyone can come,"

Varma said in a telephone interview with The News & Observer last week. "We want people to know they can come there with their family. They can get married there. They can play and have a picnic. If they want to go to the temple, they can go. If they want to use the library, they can. We are thinking this will be a unique place."

There are Hindu temples in Cary and Morrisville and others across the state. Their membership has grown with the influx of people from India, where Hinduism is a major religion. The American Immigration Council estimates that in 2015, North Carolina had more than 60,000 residents who came originally from India. Some of them are of Tamil

heritage. The largest portion of people moving into North Carolina from non-U.S. locations were from India, according to 2018 statistics from Carolina Demography.

Tamils originally were of southern India, and now have settled in other countries. The Tamil language is believed to be one of the oldest surviving languages on Earth. Varma and other organizers proposed the Carolina Murugan Temple to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners last year. They have tentative approval for the project, Varma said, though no permits have been issued yet and nothing built.

Kaali Dass of Cary, chairman of the temple's board of directors, said in a phone interview that the group began planning the project and raising money for it around 2017. It bought the land in 2019 for more than \$430,000.

The property is off Old U.S. 1 in the rural community of Moncure, a late 1800s railroad settlement that now has about 700 residents about 30 miles southwest of Raleigh. Neighbors say the property the group acquired is forest and former tobacco farmland that has sat unused for years.

OTHER PLACES OF WORSHIP IN CHATHAM

Chatham County Manager Don LaMontagne said in a statement

that places of worship are common throughout rural Chatham County, including in residential areas like the one where the temple is to be built.

The county approved the project last year.

"It will be built in phases, starting with the temple," Dass said. Phase 1 is expected to cost about \$7 million, for which organizers are accepting donations now, he said.

LaMontagne said the county has not received a timeline for construction but expects that some modular units may be set up on the property this year. Chatham County ordinances that restrict the height of buildings don't apply to church spires, monuments, belfries and certain other structures, meaning Lord Murugan will be exempt. The statue also will come in under Federal Aviation Administration height restrictions designed to prevent flight-path obstructions, according to the FAA website.

Even with its soaring height, organizers say, the statue won't be visible from far away because it will be set near the middle of the property, whose pine trees and gently undulating topography will shield it, according to the temple board.

Models and architectural drawings show buildings strikingly different from the humble white-clapboard Haywood Bible Church that dominates the residential

neighborhood closest to the temple site.

Dass said plans are to leave as many trees as possible on the site, while developing the property in the shape of a huge spear tip. Statues of Lord Murugan show him with a spear, the point of which symbolizes knowledge and wisdom, according to Hindu tradition. The buildings would lie within the outline of the spear tip. The statue would lie outside it.

The rectangular temple would be about 5,000 square feet, with ornate columns. From there, visitors could follow a walkway and steps leading to the statue.

The statue will be built on-site, Dass said, starting with a steel skeleton that would later be covered in a concrete skin. Drawings show the statue finished in gleaming gold, but Dass said, "We don't know what color it will be. That will be up to the designers."

SOME FEAR TRAFFIC

Neighbors have been wondering about the temple and the statue since it was proposed. Access to the property now is by way of two-lane Haywood Road off old U.S. 1, and then 1st Road, a gravel route about a land and a half wide.

"Traffic," neighbor Merlon Hill said, is what she's worried about. "There's only one way in here and one way out."

Dass said the property will be used the way other Hindu temples are. It will have set hours, typically opening in the morning and closing at night, during which visitors can come and go to pray briefly at the temple or walk around the property, usually a few at a time. Hindu temples don't hold regular weekly worship services. Except for special occasions, Dass said, there will rarely be large gatherings at the site.

Dass said he hopes the temple and oversized statue will draw tourists to Chatham County, which may be best known for its recent midnight removal of a Confederate monument from the grounds of its historic courthouse, or for the photogenic belted Galloway cows that graze at the Fearington Village development. The county also touts biking, access to Jordan Lake, golf, an agriculture and conference center, and the shops and restaurants of Pittsboro, Siler City and Fearington.

At the moment, the largest statue of Murugan is outside the Batu Caves in Malaysia. Unveiled in 2006, it stands 140 feet tall and took three years to build. It soon will be surpassed by a 145-foot Murugan statue under construction in the town of Vazhapadi in southern India.

Carolina Murugan's statue will be 5 feet taller still. "Because we're in America," Varma said.



Submitted photo

Bowers gets honor at PCV

Megan Bowers was recently recognized as the Pittsboro Christian Village 2019 Employee of the Year. She is a supervisor in the Care Home of Pittsboro Christian Village. Bowers is from Siler City and has been serving at Pittsboro Christian Village since 2014.

Chatham County celebrates seniors in February with 'We Love Seniors Month'

From Chatham County

PITTSBORO — "Chatham County's seniors have helped define and develop our sense of community and they remain key leaders and positive mentors," stated Chatham County Board of Commissioners Chair Karen Howard in proclaiming February 2020 "We Love Seniors Month." The Commissioners passed a supportive resolution at their January 21st meeting.

Continuing a local tradition, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, along with the Chatham County Council on Aging, are leading the call to use the spirit of Valentine's Day in February to recognize and value the talents, resourcefulness, imagination and dedication of our growing older population.

The Chatham Council on Aging is offering multiple opportunities for the broader community to share in celebrating seniors throughout the month of February.

Chatham County youth in Kindergarten through 12th grade will be able to participate in the first ever "Chatham Loves Seniors"

Art & Essay Contest for a chance to have their winning entries appear in the pages of an upcoming edition of The Chatham Senior Times, the Council's quarterly newsletter, with a combined print and online readership of over 3000.

Chatham's social media enthusiasts can also follow along and participate in the Council's online hashtag #ChathamLovesSeniors via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The Council invites members of the Chatham community to spread the love and help spotlight the contributions of local seniors by sharing their own #ChathamLovesSeniors posts on their favorite social media platforms throughout the month.

In addition to their many ongoing activities and services, the Chatham County Council on Aging will host a number of events that highlight, celebrate, and support local seniors in February. These include a Black History Month Celebration on February 4th, at which Commissioner Howard will serve as Master of Ceremonies. State Senator Valerie Foushee and Representative

Robert Reives, II will also speak at the morning event being held at the Council's Western Center in Siler City.

On February 18th, the Council will hold its 24th Annual Healthy Heart and Body Expo. Many community organizations will participate at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center.

In addition, registration for the Chatham County Senior Games and Silver-Arts, will begin on

February 17th. The Council on Aging, local games coordinator, was recently recognized for achieving the largest percentage growth in North Carolina among medium-sized Local Games Programs in 2019.

To follow the Chatham Council on Aging #ChathamLovesSeniors campaign on social media, visit the Council on Facebook: @ChathamCOA Twitter: @ChathamCOA and Instagram: @chathamcoa1

For more information on any of these activities, please visit the Council on Aging's website at www.chathamcoa.org or call its Eastern Center at 919-542-4512 or its Western Center at 919-742-3975.

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POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Alan Garcia-Perez, 23, of Moncure, was charged February 1 with failure to appear. He was held under a \$300 bond with a February 19 court date in Hillsborough.

Michelle Martinez, 43, of Pittsboro, was charged February 1 with breaking and entering and larceny. She was held under a \$1,000 bond with a February 3 court date in Pittsboro.

William Clontz, 47, of Julian, was charged February 1 with trespassing. He was released on a written promise with a February 18 court date in Siler City.

Sunnee Glenn, 48, of Chapel Hill, was charged February 2 with assault and battery. She was released on a written promise with a March 18 court date in Pittsboro.

Charles Strickland, 33, of Hillsborough, was charged February 2 with probation violations. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a February 6 court date in Hillsborough.

Kelly Phillips, 27, of Siler City, was charged February 2 with assault and battery. She was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a February 19 court date in Pittsboro.

Sean O'Brien, 50, of Cary, was taken into custody February 3 on a true bill of indictment for forgery of an instrument, and February 5 on a true bill of indictment for forgery of an instrument and uttering a forged instrument. He was released under a written promise with a March 2 court date in Lenoir.

Haley Cable, 22, of Siler City, was charged February 3 with violation of pretrial release - driving under the influence, violation of pretrial release - failure to wear a seatbelt, violation of pretrial release - driving while license

revoked and violation of pretrial release - reckless driving/wanton disregard for safety. She was held under a \$25,000 bond with a March 10 court date in Pittsboro.

Mason Lupek, 32, of Pittsboro, was taken into custody February 3 on a true bill of indictment for breaking and entering to terrorize/injure and damage to property. He was held under a \$10,000 bond with a March 9 court date in Pittsboro.

David Minter, 35, of Bear Creek, was charged February 4 with fleeing to elude arrest with a motor vehicle, reckless driving, speeding, felony possession of cocaine, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for use/storage/sale of a controlled substance, failure to stop for a stop sign/flashing red light and failure to maintain lane control. He was held under a \$5,000 bond with a March 2 court date in Pittsboro. Minter was charged February 6 with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, for which he was released under a written promise with a March 2 court date in Pittsboro.

Kasey Glover, 29, of Siler City, was charged February 4 with failure to appear. He was held under a \$10,500 bond with a February 21 court date in Charlotte.

Stephen Garcia, 28, of Siler City, was charged February 5 with stalking and violation of a domestic violence protective order. He was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a March 2 court date in Pittsboro.

Kacy Bumpas Jr., 30, of Siler City, was charged February 5 with assault on a female, communicating threats and child abuse. He was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a February 25 court date in Siler City.

Cameron Green, 29, of Pittsboro, was charged February 5 with assault on a female. He was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a February 6 court date in Durham.

Bishop Leach, 59, of Pittsboro, was charged February 5 with violations of a domestic violence protective order, for which he was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a February 12 court date in Pittsboro. He was also charged February 5 with sexual battery and assault on a female, for which he was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a March 2 court date in Raleigh.

Tina Smith, 31, of Staley, was charged February 6 with breaking and/or entering, larceny after breaking/entering, injury to real property and possession of stolen goods/property. She was released on a written promise with a March 3 court date in Pittsboro.

Joseph Zumbo, 32, of Pittsboro, was charged February 6 with larceny of a motor vehicle, for which he was held under a \$2,500 bond with a February 10 court date in Sanford, and possession of marijuana up to one-half ounce and possession of marijuana paraphernalia, for which he was issued a written promise with a March 25 court date in Pittsboro.

PITTSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calvin Megginson, 29, of Pittsboro, was cited January 9 for misdemeanor simple assault. He was given a February 5 court date in Pittsboro.

Ralph Crutchfield, 55, of Pittsboro, was charged January 17 with driving while impaired. He was released under a written promise with a March 5 court date in Pittsboro.

Jamie Edwards, 23, of Haw River, was charged January 28 with injury to personal property, assault on a female and assault inflicting serious injury. He was held under a \$500 bond with a February 5 court date in Pittsboro.

SILER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Charlton Matthews, 43, of Siler City, was charged January 25 with intoxicated and disruptive behavior. He was released on a written promise with a February 4 court date in Siler City.

Jacob Matherly was taken into custody February 9 on a charge of failure to appear from Randolph County, for which he was held under a \$1,000 bond with a March 2 court date in Asheboro. He was also cited February 9 for filing a false police report, for which he has a February 18 court date in Siler City.

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Donald Guth of Hillsborough was cited February 4 for failure to maintain lane control on N.C. Highway 751 in Pittsboro.

Jay Langhurst of Chapel Hill was cited February 4 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. Highway 15 in Pittsboro.

Colby Blackmon of Erwin was cited February 6 for exceeding a safe speed and unsafe tires on N.C. Highway 42 in Siler City.

Joy Duquette of Pittsboro was cited February 6 for failure to reduce speed on Mt. Gilead Church Road in Pittsboro.

Kevin Castellanos Echeverria of Apex was cited February 6 for exceeding a safe speed and no operator's license on U.S. Highway 1 in Pittsboro.

Hunter Marlette of Winston-Salem was cited February 6 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. Highway 64 in Pittsboro.

Richard Mattson of Fuquay-Varina was cited February 7 for unsafe movement on U.S. Highway 15 in Pittsboro.

Nicholas Atkins of Goldston was cited February 9 for failure to yield for a stop sign on U.S. Highway 421 in Goldston.

Siler City's Floorazzo to add 12 employees, invest \$2 million in new facility

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The Chatham Economic Development Corporation announced last Thursday that Floorazzo Tile, a Siler City-based company which manufactures prefabricated terrazzo tile, will create 12 new jobs and invest \$2 million as part of an expansion.

An EDC press release stated that construction has already begun on a new 20,000-square-foot facility on Harold Andrews Road in Siler City. The building is currently under construction and expected to reach full operating capacity in June.

Floorazzo President John Sich told the News + Record on Friday that the lease in the company's current building, located on Third Street, was not going to be renewed. Coupled with growing sales, a new and bigger building was needed.

"It looks like sales will

have doubled over the last three years," Sich said. "So we're rapidly expanding. It's a happy problem. We are going to hire. We'll put on a second shift at the new facility and have at growing this business."

EDC President Alyssa Byrd said the organization was encouraged by Floorazzo's desire to stay in Siler City.

"Early in the process, when expansion was just an idea, we were impressed by their commitment to Siler City," Byrd said. "We know they could choose anywhere to locate, but John and his team were adamant about continuing their operations locally."

Staying in Chatham County was a natural fit, Sich said, because the company could access a "trained workforce" and take advantage of a terrazzo rock quarry in Liberty, the only one on the east coast.

Floorazzo currently counts Johns Hopkins hospitals, the John Wentworth Cancer Center in



Staff photo by Randall Rigsbee

Floorazzo Tile, a Siler City-based company that manufactures prefabricated terrazzo tile, will create 12 new jobs and invest \$2 million as part of an expansion. Company President John Sich, shown in this file photo, told the News + Record on Friday that the lease in the company's current building, located on Third Street, was not going to be renewed. Coupled with growing sales, a new and bigger building was needed.

Illinois and numerous school systems and military bases across the United States among its clients. Sich said the company is expecting its first \$1 million order in

coming months.

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

NEWS BRIEFS

Chatham County Schools seeking budget input

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Schools (CCS) has launched a survey seeking community input for its budget process. CCS has reached out to the community for that kind of feedback every year since 2012. "We welcome stakeholder input as we build the budget for the upcoming school year. This survey has become an annual part of our budget development process for that reason," CCS Chief Financial Officer Tony Messer said.

The survey is another tangible way the school district works in cooperation with the community.

"Last year we didn't see as much community input as we had in prior years, but we are hoping to hear from as many stakeholders as possible this year," Messer said.

The survey launched Feb. 4 and is available through Feb. 29. It can be accessed at bit.ly/ccs-budget20-21.

Kids' books festival headed to Fearington in March

McIntyre's Books in Fearington Village is hosting the WhirlriKids Book Festival early next month.

The event, scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, will feature storytimes, readings, book signings, panel discussions with authors and illustrators, crafts and more throughout Fearington Village at the Barn, the Garden Terrace and the book store.

The keynote speaker, scheduled for 3 p.m. on Saturday, is Kelly Yang, the author of "Front Desk," which won the 2018 Asian Pacific American Award for Literature and the Parents' Choice Gold Medal.

Kids of all ages are invited, but the event is best suited for children ages three and up. For more information, visit whirlrikids-03-07-20/ or call McIntyre's Books at 919-542-3030.

— CN + R staff reports

CHATHAM BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Big storms, big meeting and big developments

One of the things I hoped to do with this



ZACHARY HORNER

Corner Store

to what they're doing.

Where are you, guys?

If you have any news items you want to submit for the Corner Store, please send them my way at zhorn@chathamnr.com. You can also tweet me at [@ZachHornerCNR](https://twitter.com/ZachHornerCNR).

Hope to see a bunch of emails flood my inbox in the coming week. But for now, the roundup:

This weekend's storms

According to a tweet

from the National Weather Service Sunday morning, the central North Carolina area saw two to four inches of rain in the swath of storms and tornado watches. As a result, Jordan Lake rose 11 feet — from around 216 feet to around 227 feet. It wasn't high enough to flood — that's 240 feet — but it's quite a stunning shift. The storms saw school early releases and closings across the center of the state.

This upcoming meeting

The Chatham Economic Development Corporation's annual meeting is right around the corner. Scheduled for 8-10 a.m. on Friday, March 6, "Opportunity Chatham" is "a tremendous gathering of business and community leaders from Chatham County and the region," according to the EDC.

The keynote speaker will be Ted Abernathy, an economic development consultant who has been working with the group in recent years. You can get tickets for the event, which will be held at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro, at eventbrite.com/e/opportunity-chatham-tickets-91196843213.

This new development

It's not in Chatham, but it's just outside the border — Miami-based Lennar is planning a massive mixed-use development west of Apex in Wake County. The 200-acre project, currently called "Depot 499," is slated to have as many as 1,350 new homes and up to 650,000 square-feet of commercial space. The Triangle Business Journal reported on the

project from Lennar, the second-largest home builder in America.

This money spent

Now to something not really related to Chatham, but a fun fact: TV and film productions in Wilmington spent nearly \$137 million last year, according to the N.C. Dept. of Commerce. North Carolina as a whole saw a total of \$167 million and 11,820 jobs from the productions. Among the projects: "Halloween Kills," the slasher sequel slated for release this October starring series star Jamie Lee Curtis, and thriller "The Georgetown Project," starring Russell Crowe, which does not yet have a release date.

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

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RCC NAMES HONOR STUDENTS

RANDOLPH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2019 Fall Semester Honors Lists
President's List, GPA of 4.0
Bear Creek: Emily Ferrell
Bennett: Lauryn Hill
Franklinville: Curtis Blevins, Amelia Garrison, Sarah Gregg, Daniel Kaminski, Dalton Sides, Mickaela Toomes, Bethany Walker
Graham: Barbara Cox
Liberty: Rhonda Hargis, Katie Rose
Ramseur: Danielle Cruey, Alexia Farrish, Cameron Frye, Rachel Hawks, Cesar Jaimes Montes de Oca, Yaheli Rangel, Lauren Stanley, Sara Tomlinson
Robbins: Meghan Bannick, Trenton Sloan
Seagrove: Dillon McNeill, Dakota McPherson
Siler City: Pamela Lopez Ulloa, Doris Tomas Garcia
Dean's List, GPA of 3.50 to 3.99
Bennett: Trever Gray, Dakota Green
Franklinville: Hannah Anderson, Josie Pedraza, Hannah Shore
Liberty: Erika Alejo Pacheco, Giovana Bautista Castro, Jazmin Becerril-Pena, Emily Castro, Erich Hartman, Kristan Kirkman, Daniel Redding, Hunter Rook, Jacob Smith, Kirstin Thomas
Ramseur: Anna Bowser, Kiersten Brower, Tyler Campbell, Haley Kearns, Ana Morales, Jackson Richardson, Alex Rodriguez
Seagrove: Dairien Bennett, Destiany Binkley, Lindsay Castlebury, Nicole Kluba, Zachariah Mabe, Grace Poole, Braydan Reeder, Ethan Wallace
Siler City: Abigail Andrade, Natalee Clark, Flavio Sabaleta, Wesley Shelton, Charlie Vicente
Staley: Sabrina Rau
Academic Merit List
Bennett: Jonas McCanless, Suzana Morgan, Rebekah Way
Coloridge: Dylan New
Franklinville: Trenton Crutchfield, Roman Diaz, Daniel Ellison, Alejandro Gray, Danielle Handley, Allie Johnson,

Walter Johnson, Alyson Kidd, Jordan Lester, Ashley Lowe, Journey Nixon, Josie Parrish, Kayli Vaughan, Jeffrey Wright
Liberty: Andrew Brock, McKenna Bush, Natalie Canter, Yasmin Cervantes, Trinity Currin, Samantha Duran, Bruce Hartman, Tyler Jones, Kory Langley, Mya Locklear, Kailey Mabe, Montserrat Mariscal, Kendall Mauldin, Shane McDuffee, Tia Meredith, Katherine Norris, Ana Perez, Parker Robb, Zaria Russell, John Suits, Leah Switzer, Olivia Tuck, Issac Vera-Espinoza, Jacqueline Vera-Raya
Pittsboro: Maria Benitez
Ramseur: Alexis Alvarez, Daniel Avila, Cody Badeaux, Carlie Badeaux, Dylan Brown, Bria Burnett, Jessica Cardin, Amber Cole, Kelsey Craven, Michael Crowley, Kody Cummings, Clayton Flinchum, Aaron Flinchum, Kimberly Flores-Perez, Debrae Gray, Camden Greene, April Hayworth, Taylor Locklear, Kasual Marley, Alexandria McCormick, Megan Parrish, Jacqueline Peltier, Hannah Proper, Marlene Rangel, Dylan Shores, Amanda Smith, Brodie Smith, Debra Sutphin, Brittany Sykes, Shaffaq Usman, Elijah Whitaker, Susan Wright, Matthew York, Robert York
Robbins: Megan Kimball, Amari Moore-Johnson, Maria Najera Vazquez
Seagrove: Austin Atkins, Andrea Auman, Hailee Cagle, Nathaly Chacon Bustos, Caroline Crotts, Jessica Dunlap, David Edwards, Cody Evans, Melinda Hill, Emma Humphrey, Allie Joines, Katelyn Kidd, Maramnda Lynch, Tyler McNeill, Macie McRae, Hong Nguyen, Juliana Owen, Corbin Richardson, Sabrina Snider
Siler City: Jason Armas Fentanez, Mason Clark, Brandon Frye, Ana Galicia, Erika Gil, Diana Soto, Jocelyn Tolentino
Staley: Barry Hicks, Noah Schmidt, Gladis Vera-Raya



Staff photo by David Bradley

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Leon Williams takes the dogs for a walk Jan. 29 in Pittsboro. The dogs, all Golden Retrievers, named Harley, Stella, and Baxter, have been part of several weddings in the area. Rumors of snow were flurrying about at the time, but Williams, a Chatham County native, wasn't optimistic. His skepticism was well-founded.

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CHATAM CH@T | DANIEL SIMMONS

Central Carolina clubs growing, evolving to serve more youngsters

Daniel Simmons is the CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina, a youth development organization which serves nearly 500 children per day across Chatham, Lee and Harnett counties. In addition, Simmons serves as a Guardian ad Litem in the district court system, is the incoming chairperson for the Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce and works as a faculty member at Central Carolina Community College where he teaches courses in business administration and human resources management. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music & business administration from Winthrop University and a Master of Science degree in Human Resources from Indiana Wesleyan University. Simmons also holds the SHRM-CP certification from the Society of Human Resource Management. Simmons's wife Jessica is a Lee County native and a 19-year educator who serves as the band director of New Century Middle School in Moore County.

Can you talk about the work that's been done in the last year at the Wren Family Center, and how it's changing how the club serves Chatham kids?

The most significant project right now is the installation of a kitchen and dining room in the newly-renovated east wing of the Wren Family Center Boys & Girls Club. The project, funded by a family foundation outside of Chatham County, will allow us to prepare meals each day for our kids in-house. This means our kids will receive a dinner each day after school. Plus, they'll receive breakfast and lunch during our summer camp. The kitchen and dining room will also support special events like our annual Thanksgiving meal which served almost 200 club members and parents this past November. Finally, we plan to implement culinary programs with our kids using the kitchen. The plans are made and we've already purchased most of the appliances. However, we are currently in the throes of the permit process with Chatham County Government. Once we're past the permit phase, we'll be full steam ahead on installation.



Staff photo by Bill Horner III

Daniel Simmons, CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina, which serve Lee, Chatham and Harnett counties.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina just opened a new Club in Harnett County. How has that changed things for your staff?

We're certainly a lot busier, but it's a great thing. Opening the Robin Paige Club in Lillington was a real joy and something we'd been working on for at least a couple of years. We have a joke amongst our staff. We call U.S. Hwy. 421 "The Boys & Girls Clubs Corridor." Nowadays, we spend a good bit of time traveling U.S. 421 between Siler City, Sanford, and Lillington as we visit the clubs and engage in civic work in those communities. We also find ourselves doing more conference calls. It's not abnormal for our resource development coordinator, our director of operations and me to be in three different counties while we're on phone meetings with one another. The other thing I really love: Our club directors and board members are collaborating with one another. I'm seeing our clubs grow stronger because of the best practices we're sharing with one another across county lines. By the way, I've already had meetings about starting a club in eastern Harnett County (Dunn). Our basic model of each community funding its own club seems to be working.

The club's annual Youth of the Year celebration was Jan. 30, and the club is hosting the state competition for 2020. Tell us about that.

For nearly 70 years, Boys

& Girls Clubs of America's Youth of the Year program has honored and celebrated the nation's most inspiring teens and their incredible journeys. Stories of outstanding leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle have made Youth of the Year America's premier leadership and recognition program for teens. Becoming National Youth of the Year is an exciting and inspiring journey.

Each year, thousands of club teens participate in local, state and regional Youth of the Year events. State Youth of the Year winners receive \$5,000 in college scholarships. Regional Youth of the Year finalists each receive \$10,000 in college scholarships, renewable for four years up to \$40,000. The National Youth of the Year receives an additional scholarship of \$25,000, renewable each year up to \$100,000. Also, each of the six finalists make a trip to the White House where they will meet with the President in the Oval Office.

Of course, we recently completed the adjudication process for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina 2020 Youth of the Year. The winner was announced Jan. 30 at our annual "Dinner of Champions" event. Participants come from Chatham, Lee and Harnett counties. This year, Jamir Wright of Siler City's Wren Family Center Club was our winner.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and we chose to



Photo courtesy of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina

Once homework is finished, club members at the Wren Family Center can play games and take part in a variety of other activities.

host the state Youth of the Year conference as a means of celebrating our 25 years of service dating back to the opening of the Boys & Girls Club in Sanford in 1995. The state Youth of the Year Competition for N.C. will take place on April 3-4 at the Dennis Wicker Civic Center in Sanford. Contestants from local Boys & Girls Clubs and from The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Clubs across N.C. will compete for the title of "North Carolina Youth of the Year." The Chatham News + Record's Bill Horner III will serve as the Chief Adjudicator for the event.

You have a program designed for small, medium and large-sized businesses in the area that allows them to invest in the Boys & Girls Clubs. What is that about?

Recently, a University of Michigan School of Public Health study found that an investment of \$1 in a Boys & Girls Club provides \$9.60 in current and future economic benefits back to the local community. We're making it easy for local businesses to make the investment. Our Corporate Partners program is designed to promote your business as both generous and socially responsible to your current and future customers, and to make your support of the kids easy. We promote your business via our web/social media platform of over 3,000 followers, as well as our mailing and email lists of over 2,000 recipients that receive correspondence throughout the entire year. The program allows you

to make your unrestricted investment through one donation (or installments) and, in exchange, you can participate in many of our social and special events throughout the year. You can learn more on our website at centralcarolinclubs.org or email Elizabeth Colebrook at elizabeth.colebrook@centralcarolinclubs.org.

You're really focused on workforce development. What are the clubs doing in that arena?

Coming from a professional and educational background in human resources, I am always keen on making sure we support the career planning and development of our youth. I am the incoming chairperson of the Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce and I serve on the board of directors for the Sanford Area Growth Alliance. I care a great deal about our local economy, so I'm trying to work both sides of the equation: workforce development and economic development. We partnered this year with the Triangle South Workforce Development Board to bring their "NextGen" workforce development program to our kids. Staff from the TSWDB in all three counties utilize the online NCWorks system, in-person consultations and classes, community college and university tours, and more to help our kids explore and plan their careers. Also, the professionals at the TSWDB make themselves available to the parents of our kids to offer the same services

and more. Our future plans include implementing internship and apprenticeship programs with local businesses to allow our youth hands-on opportunities to learn while giving our local businesses an opportunity to train and recruit future talent. It's a win-win.

Is the state's budget process having any effect on the Boys & Girls Clubs?

We are very grateful for the support our club members have received and continue to receive in recent years from our state government. Our relationship with the General Assembly and with Governor Cooper have been very positive and continues to flourish.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina currently receives an allocation of approximately \$100,000 per year to support academic and healthy lifestyle programs in our multiple clubs. This is about 8 percent of our total organizational budget. The total block of funds allocated to Boys & Girls Clubs across NC is nearly \$3,000,000. These funds are allocated by the General Assembly and come through the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services. Without these funds, we could not offer our current level of service. Without these funds, we would certainly have to reduce the number of children served by our organization. Unfortunately, though the fiscal year began in July 2019, it is now February and we have not received any allocation of funds. Furthermore, it is my understanding that we will not receive an allocation until a budget is passed by our state government.

I have been in contact with all of our state legislators that represent our service area. I've asked them to remember how this delay in budget is currently affecting and will continue to affect thousands of Boys & Girls Clubs kids in communities, including ours, across N.C., many of whom are already living in disadvantaged financial and family circumstances. We remain hopeful that our elected officials will come to an agreement on the budget. In the meantime, we're watching our finances exceptionally close to make sure we can weather the storm.

Contestants set for 'Sing and Play' music competition on Feb. 20

From JMArts

SILER CITY — Showcase contestants have been selected for "Sing and Play '20," the third-annual music competition scheduled for February 20 at Jordan-Matthews High School in Siler City.

The showcase concert highlights talented student musicians and raises money for JMArts, the Jordan-Matthews Arts Foundation, a nonprofit organization created to provide what student artists need to excel.

Fifteen musical acts selected during auditions will perform in separate elementary, middle and high school competitions.

Elementary contestants are Dahlia Neff Burt of Siler City Elementary, Ember Lindley of Silk Hope School, Lainey Parker of Praise Homeschool and Oliver Vang of Moncure School.

Middle school contestants are Ari Carrillo Ibarra of Chatham Middle School, Cameron Parker of Praise Homeschool, Natalie Zagada Morales of Chatham Middle School and one duet act featuring Katelyn Emerson of Chatham Middle School and Mylana Fulcher of Siler City Elementary.

The competition will conclude with seven high school performances. Laci Burt, Litzy Garcia, Kayli McIntosh, Rilee Rains, Edith Soto and Amari Yarborough compete

from Jordan-Matthews High School. Luz Borraro represents Chatham Charter School.

Two guest performances also are on the program. This year's showcase will feature past winners Jennifer Trejo Benitez of Jordan-Matthews and Jack and Jillian Dixon of Silk Hope.

"Each year we're delighted to see the variety of talent and expression among the young people in our county," said Greg Burriss, who directs the competition and selected showcase contestants with his fellow judge, Joseph Walden. "We consider it a privilege to offer this audition and performance opportunity to so many aspiring musicians. "We know that young performers can benefit from the challenge of competition and the chance to audition in front of accomplished artists. We are grateful that they allow us to know them and see their talent."

"Sing and Play" is open to both instrumental and vocal acts, with students competing for a \$50 prize in each age division. Winners will be selected by audience vote during the showcase concert on February 20, 6:30 p.m., at Jordan-Matthews.

General admission is \$5 per person and includes one vote in each age-based competition.

JMArts president Rose Pate expects another lively showcase. "With the continued popularity of

TV shows like 'The Voice' and 'America's Got Talent' it's clear that music contests have tremendous appeal," she said. "And for our students, the experience of standing on that stage and performing for an enthusiastic, live audience is a thrill like no other."

All money raised by the competition will be used by JMArts for educational projects, including its New York Arts Adventure. That trip scheduled over spring break gives upperclass musicians, actors and visual artists an opportunity to explore one of the world's great cities, experience the very best in the arts and gain new perspectives that will influence their lives and work.

Not only will travelers attend performances on and off Broadway, but they will learn from world-class professionals. That includes discussing theater over lunch with The Washington Post chief theater critic Peter Marks; discussing life in the arts with Tony Award nominee Andy Grotelueschen, who recently performed in the Broadway musical "Tootsie"; and exploring street art in Brooklyn and learning graffiti technique in a hands-on workshop.

More information about "Sing and Play" performers will be available online at facebook.com/JMHSArts. Details about JMArts and other events scheduled for this season are online at jmarts.org.



Jack and Jillian Dixon of Silk Hope School perform at Sing and Play '19, the annual music competition for elementary, middle and high school students throughout the area. Having won their elementary competition last year, the duo will perform as guest musicians this month at Sing and Play '20 on Feb. 20 at Jordan-Matthews High School.

Submitted photo



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EDUCATOR OF THE WEEK

Hubert West | Margaret B. Pollard Middle School

Grades/subjects you teach: 6-8
E-mail address: hwest@chatham.k12.nc.us
Date, place of birth: November 2, 1950, in Mocksville
Education (high school & college attended, degrees): Davie High School; UNC-Chapel Hill, bachelor's degree in recreation administration, 1973; master's degree in physical education, 1979
Brief work history: Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, 9 years; University of North Carolina track coach (assistant coach, 13 years; head coach, two years); The Herald-Sun newspaper, 5 years; Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill (athletics director, physical education teacher, track and cross country coach, 7 years); Healing Waters Fellowship, pastor, 1995 to present
Honors/awards: Chatham County Schools Instructional Assistant of the Year, three

times; Margaret B. Pollard Middle School Bus Driver of the Year; All-Atlantic Coast Conference, nine times; ACC outdoor long jump champion, 1972; Nationally ranked No. 17 in the long jump, 1973; E.J. Evans Sr. Award, UNC track, 1973
Hobbies/interests outside of educating: golf, reading, traveling
Family: wife, two sons, two daughters-in-law and one granddaughter
On teaching...
What led you to a career in education?: I have been involved with education in some aspect for more than 40 years. Being here at Pollard allows me to impact students at an earlier age.
Has becoming an educator been all you expected it would be?: Yes.
How has education changed since you were a student?: The

amount of technology used in the classroom.
What "makes your day" as an educator?: Seeing the smiling faces of the students and staff and a student's eyes light up when they succeed.
What's your favorite memory of your first year in education?: The success of the students I worked with.
How would your "educator" persona handle you as a student?: With a firm but encouraging hand.
For students?: Believe in yourself and your abilities and also don't give up before trying.
For parents?: Stay involved in your child's education process.
If one of your students was asked for a one-word description of you by a student who hadn't had you as an educator, what would that one word be?: Fair
Favorite movie about school or



Photo courtesy of Chatham County Schools

Hubert West teaches grades 6-8 at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School in Chapel Hill.

Education: "Stand and Deliver"
How would you summarize your philosophy as an educator?: Every student can grow
What's special about your school?: The caring staff

'Red scare' and the delicious taste of meatloaf

The Kid adores the brown but absolutely cannot abide the red. It's almost like my child is mad at it, the dislike is so strong. I'm talking about

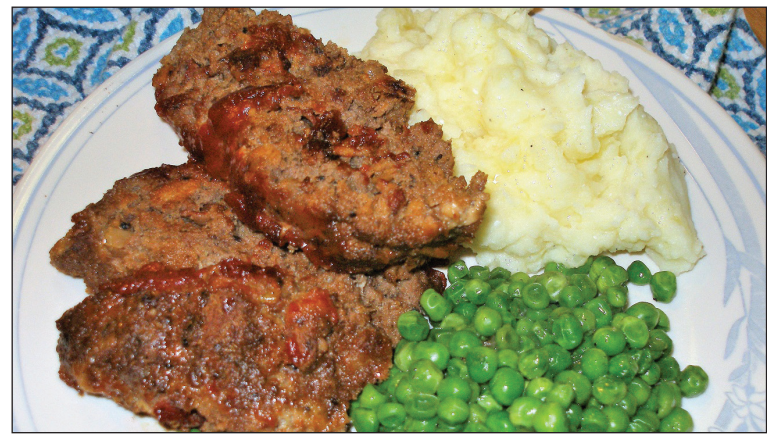


DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

meatloaf. I like both brown and red, but ever since I had my sister-in-law Kelly's, I've loved red. I like how that ketchup-infused glaze gets all shiny and sticky. Anytime I make meatloaf I always make enough so that we can

have sandwiches. When I was a kid, a meatloaf sandwich was a cold slice of meatloaf slapped on a couple pieces of Wonder Bread with some mayo. But I was driven to take the sandwich further. Expanding on food preparation and the benign manipulation of components is actually my kitchen philosophy. Regardless of which ingredients you're working with, or dish you're making, treat every single element with respect and work to make it the very best version of itself. If you do this, you will almost always make a delicious, successful dish. For soup, don't just dump onions, carrots, and celery into a pot. Cut them into similar sizes so that they cook at

the same time. Season them. Put some fat in the pot and get some color on them before moving to the next step. Deglaze the stuck-on brown bits with wine or stock. So, for the meatloaf sandwich, use fresh, crusty bread and a spread that compliments the flavor. The meatloaf gets caramelized and heated through. Then the cheese gets melted and hot. It takes the sandwich from grabbing something to put in your stomach and eat up the leftovers to something delicious and satisfying to more than just your hunger. And your so-so rushed lunch is transformed into a special dinner that you're looking forward to all day. Thanks for your time. Contact me at dm@bullcity.mom.



'Red' meat loaf, which makes great sandwiches.
Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Spicy Glazed Red Meatloaf

2 pounds 80/20 ground beef

Sweet Baby Rae's
1/4 cup finely ground dried mushrooms
1 teaspoon dried thyme
Pinch of Chinese five-spice powder
1 teaspoon horseradish
1 tablespoon Balsamic vinegar
Splash of Worcestershire sauce
Big pinch of salt and pepper
4 slices dense

substantial of bread, ripped or cut into very small pieces

Glaze for top
1/2 cup ketchup
1/4 cup barbecue sauce
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
Pinch of five-spice Salt & pepper

Panade
1 yellow onion, diced and sauteed until lightly golden then cooled
3 eggs
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons ketchup
2 tablespoons barbecue sauce (like

Preheat oven to 375°.

In a very large bowl, whisk together ingredients for panade. Place bread into bowl and mix/mash together. Let sit, undisturbed, for about 30 minutes or up to overnight; you want the bread to fully absorb all the liquid and become paste-like.

Break the meat into very small pieces and drop into bowl with panade. Then, gently mix together just until the panade is fully incorporated — don't overmix or it will be tough.

Bake 75-90 minutes or until internal temperature is 165°. Let sit, lightly covered for about 10-15 minutes before slicing.

Red Meatloaf Sandwiches

6 thin-ish slices of leftover meatloaf
6 thin slices horseradish cheddar
Baby arugula or other crispy green
Miracle Whip (I know... but it works for this
flavor combo)
3 very fresh rolls like ciabatta or baguettes

Get a large heavy skillet hot and place in meatloaf. Heat, brown and crisp up. Flip and cook the other side. Put two pieces together to approximate the size and shape of the bread. Cover with 2 slices of cheese. Lower heat, and place lid on pan. Cook until the cheese is melty and oozy. Carefully move meatloaf to roll which you've sliced and spread with Miracle Whip. Top with a handful of greens. Serves 3.

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Pet of the Week: GARTH

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Garth. He is an energetic, fun-loving German Shepherd mix who is excited to find his fur-ever home. Garth enjoys going on walks and playing with toys, especially if they squeak! Nothing brings his heart joy quite like chasing a ball or spotting a bag of treats. Visitors often comment on Garth's energetic nature and playful personality. He would do best in a home with an active family who loves lots of playtime or has other dogs, as Garth came to the Animal Resource Center (ARC) with a canine companion named Brooks. For more information on how to meet or adopt Garth, swing by the Chatham County Sheriff's Animal Resource Center at 725 Renaissance Dr. or call 919-542-2911 to speak with an Animal Resource Officer.

Photo courtesy of the Chatham Sheriff's Office

One Chatham forum tackles issues of mental health access and reform in Chatham

BY MOLLY WEISNER & ARI SEN
Our Chatham

Students, advocates and lawmakers came together in Pittsboro last Wednesday to discuss mental health at the third “One Chatham” community conversation forum.

The event followed the release of The Chatcast, a podcast series launched as a partnership between the Chatham News + Record and Our Chatham to bring mental health to the forefront of community conversation.

About 60 people attended the event to listen to the conversation.

Since the podcast’s release, episodes of The Chatcast have been streamed and/or downloaded more than 700 times and has been featured and promoted through various other publications, including the EdNC website.

This month’s forum brought together five expert panelists on various issues of mental health in adolescents:

- Abigail Holmes, a sophomore at Chatham Charter School;
 - Wilder Horner, social work supervisor with the Chatham County Department of Social Services;
 - George Greger-Holt, community outreach coordinator of Chatham Drug Free;
 - Tracy Fowler, executive director of student support services for Chatham County Schools; and
 - Rep. Robert Reives II, Chatham’s representative in the North Carolina House of Representatives.
- The News + Record’s Zachary Horner and Adrienne Cleven from Our Chatham moderated the event, which started with an evaluation of mental health resources in Chatham.

“For a long time we had a public mental health system that I thought worked pretty well...” Greger-Holt said. “Somewhere along the line we lost our way in terms of being able to provide support for people suffering from mental illness.”

The problem in creating a network of care for mental health is that Chatham is so large and spread out, Greger-Holt said. He mentioned that services are more available in Pittsboro and North Chatham, but Bear Creek, Siler City and other rural areas are more difficult to reach.

“I remember the day when there were lots of in-home therapists,” Wilder Horner said. “That’s not something that happens a lot anymore.”

But there was no question among panelists that the need is pressing.

Fowler spoke about statistics among adolescents in Chatham. A youth-risk behavior survey was conducted in 2019, but the results are not yet available. Data from 2017, however, indicates that 36.6 percent of high school students felt so depressed for two or more days that they felt unable to do daily tasks.

At the national level, according to the Economist, the country’s suicide rate has jumped for each of the past 13 years – with rural communities, much like a large swath of Chatham, getting hit the hardest.

Holmes said that at the school level, counselors and friends are not always the most helpful. Holmes started giving mental health presentations at her school to bring more awareness.

But outside of school, cost is a significant barrier to access.



Our Chatham photo by Charlotte Ririe

The five panelists for last week’s ‘One Chatham’ event focused on teen mental health during the hour-and-a-half conversation on the campus of Central Carolina Community College in Pittsboro.

“We’ve had a governmental shift in policy in how we treat mental health,” Reives said. “I think the shift has been the ‘Why should we have to pay for this?’ Part of what puts you in a bad place is not being able to pay for things.”

Besides money being a challenge, the panelists all agreed that stigma prevented people from getting the help they need. Instead of turning to medical professionals or therapists, some teens turn to the internet, where suicide, depression and anxiety are sometimes romanticized, Holmes said.

Academic pressure also plays a role in creating atmospheres of competition where asking for help

isn’t addressed.

Fowler said the Second Step program in Chatham schools aims to help youth cope with difficult emotions and stress mindfulness in academic programs.

“We started looking at ways in which we can address things in a more restorative way, looking at alternatives to a suspension model,” Fowler said. “Continuing to do training with teachers, helping them understand trauma.”

With mass shootings and violence at school often being lumped into the mental health debate, panelists said that it’s important to remember that most people with mental illness are not violent.

And while there are

programs at school in the works to help connect kids to mental health resources, support in home life can sometimes be lacking. Politicization of personal relationships and identity politics is a factor that affects youth today in ways it didn’t in the past, Reives said.

“The divisiveness has gotten so acrimonious,” Reives said. “When I was in college, when I was in law school, I didn’t identify myself by politics. If that kind of acrimony is reaching children now, imagine what it will be 10 years from now. I would love to see lawmakers act more mature.”

Also, with politics, lawmakers have made cuts to mental health and social

services in many states as they seek ways to slash budget expenses. North Carolina appears to be an exception in some of these areas, but not all.

Wilder Horner went on to add that mental illness can affect anyone, but having one stable adult in a youth’s life who cares about how they are doing can make a real difference.

Communication between parents, school leaders, community partners and youth is crucial to developing strategies that not only look good on paper but actually reach those who need them.

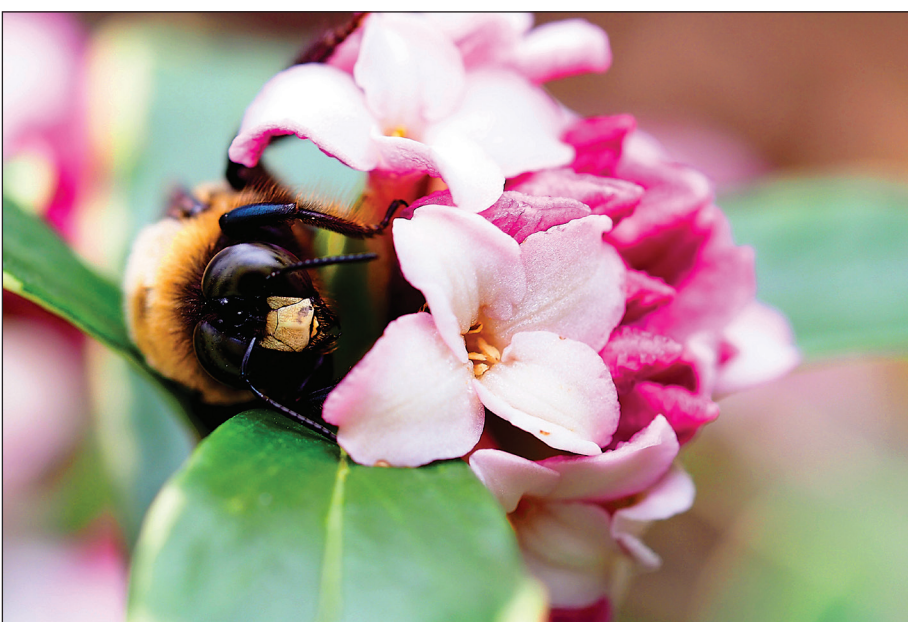
The Chatcast podcast can be heard on several platforms, including Apple Podcasts, Spotify and Stitcher.



Submitted photo

Park dedication in Parkers’ honor

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution Dec. 16 to name a proposed park in the southeastern part of the county in memory of Atlas and Lola Parker. Members of the Parker family, who are trustees of the Lola Tart Parker Trust, sold 147 acres of land on Pea Ridge Road in Moncure at a reduced cost to Chatham County. The land will be used to develop a park that will be named Parker’s Ridge Park. Chatham County has immediate needs for property dedicated to recreation in the southeastern part of the county, and this land will directly address this need. The preservation of this land for recreation and green space also will help protect the rural beauty and character of Chatham County. “We appreciate the generosity of the Parker family and are thrilled to be able to honor Mr. and Mrs. Parker with the naming of the southeast park in their memory,” said Tracy Burnett, director of Chatham County Parks & Recreation. “We look forward to providing a great recreational experience for residents in the southeastern part of the county and our entire community.”



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Napping in a flower hammock

A bee sleeps on a fragrant *Daphne odorata* flower during last week’s mild weather.

A House Divided?



The ongoing controversy over the removal of Confederate monuments and symbols across the country is causing a stir by challenging family histories, estranging neighbors, and distressing businesses and communities. Why?

We invite you to join us
Saturday February 15, 2020
10:30am-12:30 pm

Chatham Agriculture and Conference Center, Pittsboro
1192 US 64 West Business

as we explore this question and how it impacts our own community with scholars from UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University.



Dr. W. Fitzhugh Brundage
William Umstead Distinguished Professor, UNC-Chapel Hill



Dr. William Sturkey
Associate Professor of American History, Faculty Advisor UNC Center for the American South



Dr. Thavolia Glymph
Professor of History and Law, Duke University



Dr. Joseph T. Glatthaar
Stephenson Distinguished Professor; Adjunct Professor of the Curriculum in Peace, War and Defense

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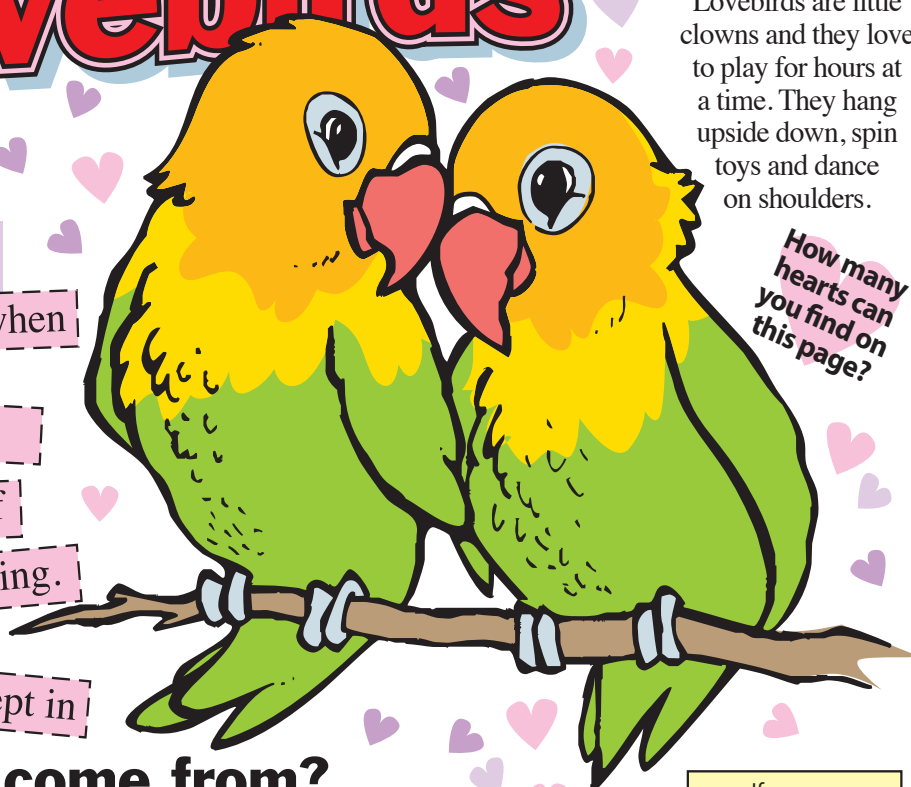
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Lovebirds

Lovebirds are a playful and affectionate type of small parrot. They are only about five inches in length and are sometimes called pint-sized bundles of joy.

Lovebirds are little clowns and they love to play for hours at a time. They hang upside down, spin toys and dance on shoulders.



How many hearts can you find on this page?

Put this sentence back together to find out why they're called lovebirds.

time snuggling close together when

These little African parrots are

pairs, they spend long periods of

sleeping or resting.

called lovebirds because, if kept in

Where do lovebirds come from?

Read about which parts of Africa are home to each of the nine varieties of lovebirds. Then use different colors to show where each kind can be found on the map of Africa.

Madagascar Lovebird
is found on the island of Madagascar.

Red-Faced Lovebird
is found in equatorial Africa, ranging from Sierra Leone to Uganda.

Abyssinian Lovebird
is found in central and eastern Ethiopia and southern Eritrea.

Swindern's Lovebird
is found in Liberia, Cameroon and Democratic Republic of Congo.

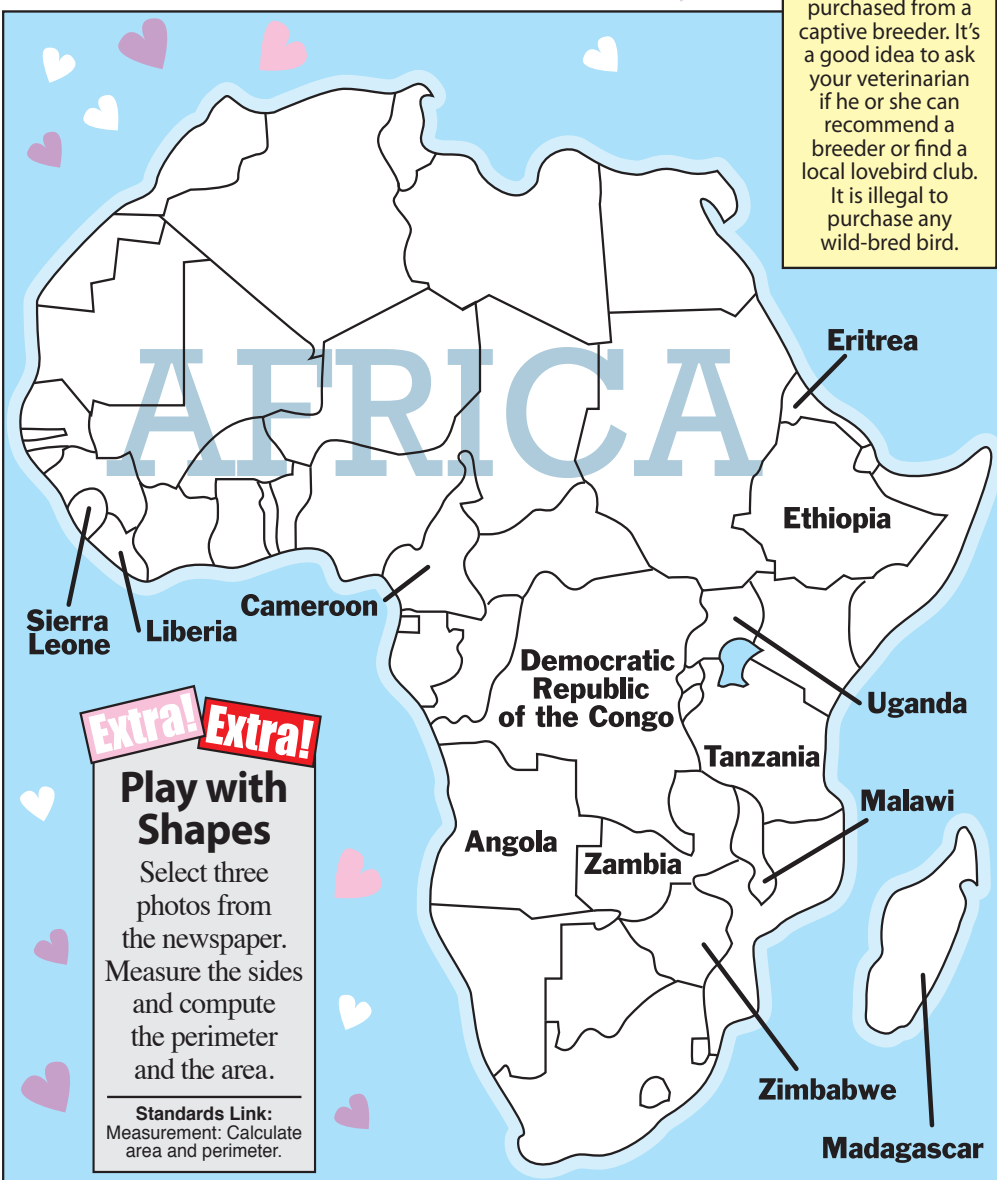
Peach-Faced Lovebird
is found in Angola.

Nyasa Lovebird
is found in parts of Zambia and Malawi.

Black-Checked Lovebird
is found in Zimbabwe.

Fischer's Lovebird
is found in northwestern Tanzania.

Masked Lovebird
is found in northeastern Tanzania.



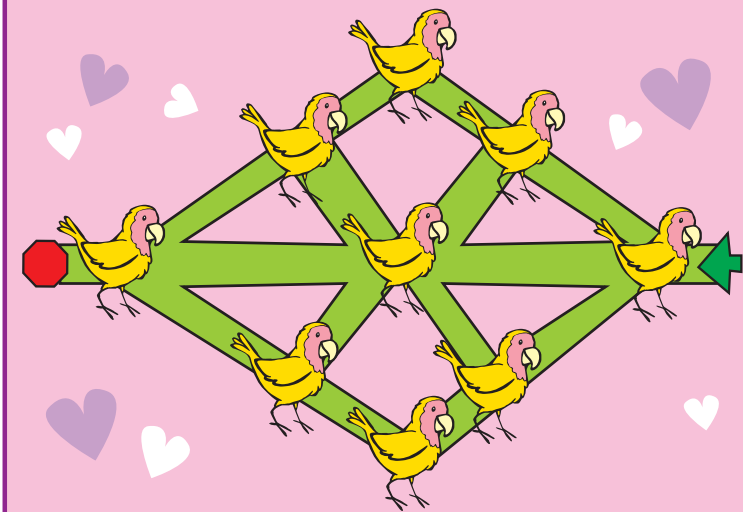
If you are considering lovebirds as pets, make sure they are purchased from a captive breeder. It's a good idea to ask your veterinarian if he or she can recommend a breeder or find a local lovebird club. It is illegal to purchase any wild-bred bird.

Extra! Extra!
Play with Shapes
Select three photos from the newspaper. Measure the sides and compute the perimeter and the area.
Standards Link: Measurement: Calculate area and perimeter.

Standards Link: Geography: Use map skills to locate places.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Draw a line through every lovebird without lifting your pencil or passing over the same bird twice!



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- LOVEBIRDS
- PERIMETER
- PLAYFUL
- CLOWNS
- MASKED
- AFRICA
- PARROT
- ISLAND
- LITTLE
- PEACH
- NYASA
- DANCE
- CONGO
- HANG
- SPIN

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



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

Write On!

Easter Scientist

If you were a scientist and could invent something to help the Easter Bunny, what would it be? Explain how it would work.

Deadline: March 8
Published: Week of Apr. 5
Send your story to:

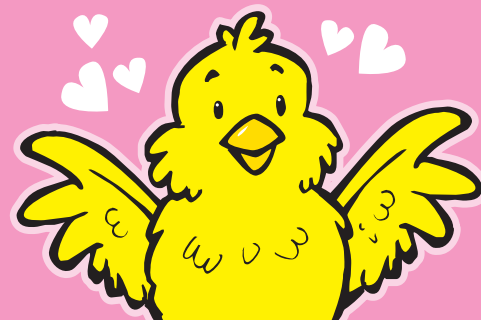
Please include your school and grade.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Lovebirds in the News

Find an article about people in love in today's newspaper or newspaper website. Identify who the article is about as well as the what, when, where, why and how.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Identify main idea and supporting details.



What is a bird after it is nine days old?

ANSWER: Ten days old.



Chatham YMCA

- CHATHAM YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL

287 East Street, Suite 412,
Pittsboro, NC 27312
More Info: 919-545-9622

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CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LAND FOR SALE: 7.65 Acres - Located approximately, 5 miles from Siler City, near Stockyard. Would be great for pasture land, and/or Residence. Can be split into smaller tracts, as well. Call: 336-588-2497 for more information., N14,tfnx

HOUSE FOR SALE

BRICK RANCH HOME with attached carport; Excellent condition, new roof, new heat exchanger, White Oak hardwood floors, ceramic tile bathroom, masonry fireplace with gas logs. Great neighborhood, large lot with outbuilding. One mile from Siler City city limits. \$129,000, 919-548-1593. F6,13,2tp

OFFICE SPACE RENT

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

RENTAL APARTMENTS

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. \$486/mo, no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. J2,tfnx

POWELL SPRINGS APTS - Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD # 1-800-735-2962, Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, J2,tfnx

LIVESTOCK & PETS

PUPPIES FOR SALE - AKC Registered Purebred Yellow Labrador Retriever puppies. Great breed. Great temperament. Friendly. Loyal. Family dogs. 9 weeks young. 3 females \$700, 1 male \$800. Siler City, NC, Call 336-937-0546. F13,1tp

TRUCKS FOR SALE

2001 FORD F-150 XLT Triton V8 Off Road, 4X4 - 4WD, 4 door with bed cover. Mileage 183,320 miles, overhauled transmission (06-04-2019) and good tires! Dark blue - Good first truck for teen! \$5,000. Call 919-548-2969 anytime. J23,30,F6,13,4tp

AUCTIONEERS

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL

#7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, J2,tfnx

AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS at JHA. One Call... We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.JerryHarrisAuction.com, 919-498-4077, J2,tfnx

SERVICES

JHJ PAINTING & PRESSURE WASH - Interior/Exterior - Commercial/Residential, Staining Decks and Fences - Also home repairs. We specialize in all your home improvement needs! Call John Hayes, Jr., 919-548-0474. J16-M5,8tp

HENDRICK SERVICE. Lawn Care, mowing, small back hoe. Will dig up bushes, do storm drain pipes, drive way pipe, cut trees, clean up leaves. 919-548-4609, J10,tfnx

I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! J9,tfnx

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

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

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

HELP WANTED

CNA - PITTSBORO CHRISTIAN VILLAGE is hiring CNAs. Apply in person, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday, at 1825 East St in Pittsboro. F13, tfnx

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC

AFFAIRS MANAGER (Asheboro Location) - Randolph Electric Membership Corporation is currently seeking a Communication and Public Affairs Manager for the Asheboro Office. Successful candidate will preferably have a bachelor's degree in political science, public relations, communications, or related field and 10 years of progressive experience. To apply go to <https://www.randolphemc.com/careers>. Open Until Filled. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or veteran status. F13,20,27,M5,4tc

DATA ANALYST (Asheboro Location) - Randolph Electric Membership Corporation is currently seeking a Data Analyst for the Asheboro Office. Successful candidate will preferably have a Bachelor of Science degree in computer science or equivalent experience. To apply go to <https://www.randolphemc.com/careers>. Open Until Filled. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or veteran status. F13,20,27,M5,4tc

ROBINS CLEANING SERVICE in Siler City, NC is looking for a trustworthy, dependable person for part-time or full-time position. Must have drivers license. Contact 919-742-0964 for more information. F6,13,2tp

DRIVERS NEEDED - Full or part-time, Class A CDL w/clean driving record. Two years experience or more; Local haul; Home everyday, M-F. Paid Holiday and Vacation Pay - Call 919-770-7385 no later than 10:30 p.m. F6,13,2tp

I WANT TO WORK - Horse or barn work - Available immediately, 2 years experience, Siler City area. Call 845-298-9213. J30,F6,13,20,4tp

HIRING ALL SHIFTS - CNAs, PCAs, Med Techs, Under new ownership. Competitive pay, insurance and vacation. Apply at Coventry House in Siler City. O17,tfnx

MISC

WANTED - FIELDS TO HUNT ARROWHEADS with my two sons. Will pay a reasonable leasing fee, respect your land and crops, pick up any trash we find, show you what we find and share finds with approximate dates. Bob 919-306-2243, Rdbaya1@gmail.com, F6,13,20,27,4tp

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **REBECCA MAE CHAMBERS**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of April, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 15th day of January, 2020.

Floyd C. Chambers, Administrator of The Estate of Rebecca Mae Chambers Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 J23,J30,F6,F13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 591 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **LORA H. LYALL** deceased, 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 April 23, 2020 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 23rd day of January, 2020. Carrie Waffa, Executrix Ashley D. Fox, Attorney at Law c/o W.G. Alexander & Assoc. 3717 Benson Drive Raleigh, NC 27609 J23,J30,F6,F13,4tp

LEGAL NOTICE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Kevin James Welsh in the name of the Almighty Creator, by my Declaration of Independence solemnly Publish and Declare my right to expatriate absolute, my res in trust from the foreign jurisdiction known as the municipal corporation of the district of Columbia, a democracy, and return to the United States of America, a Republic. Any political ties implied by operation of law or otherwise in trust with the democracy is hereby dissolved. I, Kevin James Welsh have full power to contract, establish commerce as guaranteed by the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution known as the Bill of Rights of the United States

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Line ad deadline Tuesday — Noon
Display ad deadline Monday — 5 p.m.
Rates and payment Minimum charge of \$5 for each classified advertisement of 25 words or less per week. For each additional word, no matter how many insertions, add 20¢ per word. Payable in advance.
Blind ads No information will be given out by this office to the identity of person placing "keyed" or "blind" ads.
Errors In advertisements that run more than one week, we are responsible for errors appearing in the first week only. If you find an error in your ad, report it immediately.

HIRING

CNA's

Apply in person

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pittsboro Christian Village

1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC



Mountaire of Siler City, NC IS HIRING!

CLASS A CDL DRIVER

Summary: Transport fresh/frozen poultry to storage yards, cold storage facilities and customers. Requires commercial drivers' license.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:
Deliver finished product to Mountaire customers and storage facilities.
Drive a tractor trailer while abiding by all Federal DOT rules and regulations.
Responsible for the accurate count of product at the point of delivery.
Communicate with the dispatch office and maintain a professional courtesy with the customer.

Qualifications:
Active Class A CDL.
Minimum of 2 yrs verifiable tractor trailer experience.
Clean driving record, meeting DOT requirements.
Stable and verifiable work history for the last 10 yrs.
Must be able to pass pre-employment medical and background check.

DIESEL MECHANIC

Position responsibilities include:
Make general and technical routine repairs.
Make emergency repairs on truck, tractor, and passenger cars.
Must be skilled in root cause analysis for equipment issues
Troubleshoot problems and develop solutions.

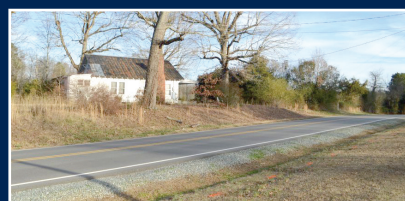
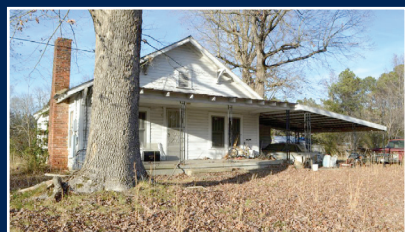
Qualifications:
3-5 years' experience as diesel mechanic.
Must possess high school diploma or equivalent.
Must have valid driver's license, CDL preferred.
Must be able to lift 80 pounds or more.
Able to work in variety of conditions including lying on the ground and at heights.

Apply on line at Mountairejobs.com

EOE

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

House & 10 Acres for Sale @ Auction – Siler City, NC
Pasture, Woods, & Road Frontage
Estate Property of Late Floyd Messer
2 Adjacent Chatham County Parcels: 13624 & 13629
9.25 & .63 +/- Acre Lots
10+/- Acres Total
2534 Hamp Stone Rd., Siler City, NC



Online Bidding Ends February 17th!
Drive by to Preview or Call for Appointment



Rogers Auctioneers

(919) 545-0412
www.RogersAuction.com

NCFL7360

Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discussions. Notice to people with special needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312. F6,F13,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 54
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **ERNEST THURMAN HANNER, JR.**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 6, 2020 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 6th day of February, 2020. Deborah Smith, Executor 41 E.T. Hanner Road Bear Creek, NC 27207 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **ETHEL M. BUCKNER**, of Chatham County, North Carolina, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before May 6, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 6th day of February, 2020. Jan C. Buckner, Co-Executor of the Estate of Ethel M. Buckner 1235 Yale Place, Apt. 210 Minneapolis, MN 55403 Ritchie W. Buckner, Co-Executor of the Estate of Ethel M. Buckner 5458 Siler City-Snow Camp Road Siler City, NC 27344 Martha T. Peddrick Johnson, Peddrick, & McDonald, P.L.L.C. 440 West Market Street, Suite 300 Greensboro, North Carolina 27401 Telephone: (336) 574-9720 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 The undersigned, Jonathan Lucas Nicks, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **GLENN PATILLO NICKS, II**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all

persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of May, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 29th day of January, 2020. Jonathan Lucas Nicks, Executor 211 Sycamore Lake Drive Siler City, NC 27344 919-200-3013 W. Ben Atwater, Jr., Attorney at Law P.O. Box 629 Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2850 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 The undersigned, Joseph L. Boles, Jr., having qualified as Personal Representative for the Estate of **CLARA S. PHILLIPS**, deceased, late of St. Johns County, Florida and formerly of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of May, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 6th day of February, 2020. Joseph L. Boles, Jr., Attorney at Law 19 Riberia Street St. Augustine, Florida 32084 1-904-824-4278 W. Ben Atwater, Jr., Attorney at Law P.O. Box 629 Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2850 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 8
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 All persons having claims against **GERALD UNKS** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 9th day of November, 2019, are notified to present them to Daniel Todd Greiner, Executor of the Estate of Gerald Unks in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before May 14, 2020. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Gerald Unks. Those indebted to Gerald Unks are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. Dean P. Broz, Attorney Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 The undersigned, having qualified on the 29th day of January, 2020 as Executrix, of the Estate of **VIRGINIA D. PEARCE a/k/a VIRGINIA MARIE PEARCE**, deceased, of Chatham

County, North Carolina does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of May, 2020, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 6th day of February 2020. Sarah J. Pearce, Executrix of the Estate of Virginia D. Pearce a/k/a Virginia Marie Pearce PO Box 51579 Durham, NC 27717-1579swg. Rhodes Craver, Esquire Kennon Craver, PLLC 4011 University Drive, Suite 300 Durham, North Carolina 27707 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 51
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **ROSELLA P. SPIVEY**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 6, 2020 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 6th day of February, 2020. Herman Spivey Limited Personal Representative 4978 Cox Mill Road Sanford, NC 27332 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM
 THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 31st day of January, 2020, as Co-Executrix of the ESTATE OF **JOSEPH EDWARD GEOGHEGAN**, Deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of May, 2020 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This, the 6th day of February, 2020. KELLY-ANNE E. CALAMUSA and MARY ALTHEA MCANUFF CO-EXECUTRIX, ESTATE OF JOSEPH EDWARD GEOGHEGAN c/o Jennifer E. Dalman, Attorney Walker Lambe Rhudy Costley & Gill, PLLC Post Office Box 51549 Durham, North Carolina 27717 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 58
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **CHELAVA IDZIKOWSKA MANN** deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having

claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 6, 2020 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 6th day of February, 2020. Joanna Karwowska, Executrix 121 Wild Iris Lane Chapel Hill, NC 27516 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 49
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **BILLY EDWARD WEBSTER** deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 6, 2020 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 6th day of February, 2020. Eric M. Webster, Executor 3119 Mt. Vernon Springs Rd Siler City, NC 27344 F6,F13,F20,F27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **EDWARD EDUWIGIS MARTINEZ**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of May, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 28th day of January, 2020. Kimberly Martinez Jensen, Administrator of the Estate of Edward Eduwigis Martinez c/o Linda Funke Johnson, Attorney at Law P.O. Box 446 114 Raleigh Street Fuquay Varina, NC 27526 F13,F20,F27,M5,4

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **PHILIP W. ALDERKS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on December 25, 2019, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 14th day of May, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 13th day of February, 2020. Claire Alderks Miller, Executor Manning, Fulton & Skinner, P.A. c/o Stephen T. Byrd P. O. Box 20389 Raleigh, North Carolina 27619-

0389 F13,F20,F27,M5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of **GUY M. SICKMOND**, Deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to present the same to the Personal Representative listed below on or before May 13, 2020, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said Estate are asked to make immediate payment. This 13th day of February, 2020. CELESTE YEATES, Executor c/o JOHN R. SLOAN Ward and Smith, P.A. Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 7068 Wilmington, NC 28406-7068 F13,F20,F27,M5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **TINA RENEE SMITH**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of May, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 6th day of February, 2020. Alvin Lee Smith, Administrator of the Estate of Tina Renee Smith Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP Attorneys at Law Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605 F13,F20,F27,M5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 66
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **BRENTLEY CALEY GOODWIN**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 13, 2020 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 13th day of February, 2020. Jason Goodwin, Executor 568 Olives Chapel Rd Apex, NC 27502 F13,F20,F27,M5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 36
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **JOHN FRANCIS STONE**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said

decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 13, 2020 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 13th day of February, 2020. Mary Ann Stone, Executrix 200 St. Andrews Dr Greenville, NC 27834 F13,F20,F27,M5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 43
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
 Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **JOANNA MOORE LEACH**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 13, 2020 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 13th day of February, 2020. Peggy Ann (Leach) Berry, Limited Personal Representative 4206 14th Street, NE Washington, DC 20017 F13,F20,F27,M5,4tp

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Willow Oak Montessori Children's House, Inc. admits students of any race, color, or national and ethnic origin. Our school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, family structure, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its policies and programs. P.O. Box 1180, Pittsboro, NC 27312, 919-240-7787, info@willowoakmontessori.org. F13,1tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
TOWN OF PITTSBORO - The Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners will hold the following Public Hearing on Monday, February 24th, 2020 at 7:00 o'clock in the Town Council Chambers of the Pittsboro Town Hall, 635 East Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina, to consider the following item:
 1. Proposed Annexation, Gary & Donna Shostak, A-2020-01 Annexation request for a parcel totaling 3.59 acres located at 109 Ramsey Lane, and more particularly described with Parcel number 60876. The purpose of the public hearing is to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request. The complete records are on file at the office of the Town Planning Department located at 480 Hillsboro Street, Suite 400, and are available for inspection during regular business hours or by appointment. The public is invited to attend. If you wish to make written comments, please send them to the Town Clerk, Alice Lloyd, PO Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or via email at aflloyd@pittsboronc.gov. F13,1tc

A place to enjoy the game



Staff photo by David Bradley

The back of the ESPN Game Day Bus offers a viewing area for ESPN staff, but while visiting in Pittsboro Feb. 7 as part of the Duke/North Carolina basketball game last Saturday, Chatham County residents were able to get a first-hand view of the vehicle. ESPN College GameDay Covered by State Farm travels the country via bus, producing pregame college basketball shows.



Staff photo by David Bradley

In the back of the ESPN Game Day bus, driver and production crew member Bobby Stephens works with the monitors that are used at game time. Stephens is part of the ESPN crew that sets up for the game day events.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Todd Arrington, who has recently moved to Chatham County from Youngsville, was driving through Pittsboro when he saw the ESPN Game Day bus parked at the offices of State Farm agent Sara Donaldson, 697 Hillsboro St. in Pittsboro on Feb. 7, and stopped for a visit. The bus travels throughout the United States for pre-game college basketball broadcasts and was in Chatham last week for a broadcast about the Duke-Carolina game.



Staff photo by David Bradley

State Farm Agent Sara Donaldson was on hand Feb. 7 to welcome the ESPN Game Day bus to her offices at 697 Hillsboro St. in Pittsboro.

