

Chatham News + Record

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Pittsboro's Gilero working on face shields to help with shortage

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — As companies and businesses around the world shift their production focus to making products designed to help fight the spread of COVID-19, a Pittsboro-based medical device manufacturer is doing the same.

Kaitlyn Shaffer, the marketing communications manager for Gilero, said the company's employees are working nights, weekends and breaks to put together 3-D-printed face shields to serve as personal protective equipment. The shields will be shipped to health care facilities requesting them.

"As a company that designs, develops and manufactures novel medical devices, we have a talented team of engineers and in-house resources such as labs, a

machine shop, white rooms and cleanrooms," Shaffer said. "Typical Gilero projects are more complex than the face shields we are currently working on, which means that creating CAD files, 3D printing components and assembling these shields was a simple shift from the work we're already doing."

The company is relatively new to Chatham County — with construction work on re-using the 158 Credle St. property in downtown Pittsboro done last year and operation under way soon after. Shaffer said the building was set to come online this year to manufacture "several medical devices," but employees have been dedicating time to this new function as well, all while being "still 100 percent dedicat-



A Gilero worker puts together a medical face shield at the company's facility in Pittsboro. Some of the company's workers have been taking extra time to 3-D print and manufacture this protective equipment needed in the COVID-19 pandemic.

See **SHORTAGE**, page A3

WHY ALL THE TRAILERS?



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Those driving down U.S. Hwy. 421 in Gulf may have noticed the white trailers with yellow and black trim at the former terra cotta plant. The trailers are housing units for base camps purchased by a Sanford-based company which specializes in disaster assistance.

Logistics company poised to provide emergency assistance

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

SANFORD — If you're driving along U.S. 421 between Sanford and Siler City, the growing rows of white trailers with yellow and black trim are difficult to miss.

Sanford-based QualTek Recovery Logistics has been building its inventory of "sleeper trailers" at the former site of terra cotta manufacturing plant in near Gulf to help with disaster preparedness.

Tom Mix, president and CEO of QualTek Recovery Logistics, said the company has been supplying "base camp" accommodations during natural disasters, often for power companies, for 21 years. In years past, Recovery Logistics rented trailers to companies such as Duke Energy and Florida Power and Light during hurricane season, but felt it was best to invest in its own product.

Each of the trailers on the property contains "high-end sleeping quarters." Each trailer has "16 beds per trailer, separated into two completely independent rooms of eight," according to promotional materials for the equipment. There are also privacy curtains, USB ports, lights, and power at each bed.

According to Mix, the company began ordering them late last year to build its own stock. Mix says that "thousands of beds" are housed at the former manufacturing plant. While originally purchased in preparation for hurricane relief, some of the stock is currently being used in New York City, one of the hardest hit areas in the country by COVID-19, to create base camps that are essentially a type of triage and testing area.

"We have thousands of beds stationed and more are arriving," Mix said.

The company has "base camp solutions" which include housing, fuel trucks and mobile kitchens that can feed up to 50,000 meals per day. In addition to physical set-ups, Mix says the company has more than "20,000 storm workers" across the United States to respond to disasters.

"We are the guys that help the utility workers, and now healthcare providers in the country," Mix said.

And it's not just the sleeper trailers. The company is working with a company through FEMA to provide portapotties and handwashing stations to medical personnel and patients in New York.

Mix noted that many people have driven past the trailers, stopping to ask what is going on. He's hoping that people realize these are the "good guys" trying to keep things going in a time of strife.

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

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF CHATHAM

With schools closed, CIS forced to pivot in time of transition

BY BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — April was supposed to be the hand-off month at Communities In Schools of Chatham County, with long-time Executive Director Kim Caraganis' retirement and the transition of leadership at CIS — a non-profit which serves and empowers local at-risk students — to staff veteran Tych Cowdin, who becomes the new person in charge after working as the director of CIS' school-based programs.

But instead of a hand-off, it's hands-off.

The coronavirus pandemic has provided plenty of disruptions, but few in Chatham County have been so significantly affected as students. Chatham and the rest of North Carolina closed its public schools on March 16, throwing life into a bit of chaos for the 12 full- and part-time Communities In Schools staff who worked out of offices on North Chatham Avenue in Siler City. Those offices closed to visitors that day. Staff members began developing work plans that



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Outgoing Communities In Schools Executive Director Kim Caraganis stands outside CIS' offices in downtown Siler City with her successor, Tych Cowdin. Cowdin has been with CIS since 2014. The organization has been forced to get creative in working with the students and families it serves in the age of COVID-19.

involved serving remotely, and key CIS programs such as Teen Court, Community Service & Restitution, group activities and home visits were, for now at least, suspended.

The rest of the work went on, however, meaning pivot time and a shifting focus for Caraganis and

Cowdin and the rest of the team.

Priority No. 1: assisting Chatham County Schools in addressing the issue of food insecurity among the student population it serves, which consists of about 275 students from elementary schools across the county, primarily in

western Chatham.

After that: getting creative by finding ways to continue the kinds of services CIS provides, and has been providing, for three decades — among them, providing a network of support and resources for stu-

See **CIS**, page A3

Chatham domestic violence advocates concerned about potential increase of cases

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Renita Foxx says she hasn't yet seen an uptick in calls to the county's domestic violence and abuse hotline since the COVID-19 pandemic started.

But even that concerns to her. "I really am fearful for our survivors and our victims in the community," said Foxx, the director of Chatham County Court Programs, which includes the county's Family Violence Services division. "Even with our reports, I'm not seeing a lot of those come in. I know that it's happening, but they're having a hard time reaching out."

Multiple media outlets have written about a potential rise in domestic violence situations during COVID-19, when

Domestic Violence Survivor Resources

CHATHAM COUNTY 24/7 CRISIS PHONE LINE: (919) 545-STOP (7867)

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE: 1-800-799-7233

CARDINAL INNOVATIONS MENTAL HEALTH LINE: 1-800-939-5911

many people are asked or required to stay home to avoid spreading the virus.

See **CASES**, page A12

COVID-19 CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC

Musicians grounded by pandemic still find ways to reach audiences

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

"Music," poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote, "is the universal language of mankind" — and as the coronavirus pandemic spreads worldwide, music has served as a comforting balm to many people sheltering in place, even as the musicians who create it adjust to this temporary new reality and find new ways to reach audiences.

"We'll make it through," said Daniel Routh of the Siler City-based bluegrass band Nu-Blu. "I'm remaining positive."



Submitted photo

But the band — comprised of husband wife duo Daniel and Carolyn Routh of Siler City and members Justin Harrison

of eastern North Carolina and Austin Heflefinger of Pennsylvania

See **MUSICIANS**, page A12

IN THE KNOW

West Chatham Food Pantry seeking donations, volunteers. **PAGE A6**

FAQ: Answering some key 'state-at-home' order questions. **PAGE A7**

Olympic swimming dream still alive for Siler City's Fadely. **PAGE B1**

Trucks keep moving products despite pandemic challenges. **PAGE B12**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Events are subject to change based on closures due to coronavirus. Verify with organizers prior to events.

CLOSURES

• **Chatham County Council on Aging:** Both centers are closed at this time until further notice. If you need to pickup supplies, call the Siler City or Pittsboro location or check our website: chathamcoa.org.

• **CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM:** For the safety of visitors and volunteers, the Chatham County Historical Museum is closed until further notice. See our website: <https://chathamhistory.org>.

• **CHATHAM COMMUNITY LIBRARY:** Closed to the public at this time.

• **STATE EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION (SECU)** branches statewide have temporarily transitioned to drive-thru only. Members who need to access safe deposit boxes, drop off tax return information, or inquire about a loan should call the

branch to schedule an appointment.

• **The Second Bloom of Chatham Thrift Shop** will be closed for shopping and donations until further notice.

• **2020 EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA** - The Town of Siler City Department of Parks and Recreation has cancelled the Eggstravaganza scheduled for Saturday, April 4, at the Bray Park Sports Complex.

• **The Chatham County Council on Aging - the 2020 Senior Games and SilverArts** competition will be postponed until further notice. We are working to reschedule all athletic and art events for a later date when restrictions have lifted. We will keep our participants, volunteers, venues and sponsors informed as more information about event dates, times and location that become available. We will also keep you informed as we learn more from the North Carolina Senior Games about State Finals, traditionally held in the fall. We hope to have information to share with you in mid-April. Please check the Chatham County Senior Games website at <https://chatham-councilonaging.org/activities/senior-games/> for updates. Once the new event calendar

has been finalized, we will send an event confirmation email and letter, by mail to all parties.

THURSDAY

• **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.

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

UPCOMING

• **Siler City Lions Club** will host a **Blood Mobile** from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 18 at the First United Methodist Church in Siler City.

ALSO HAPPENING

• **Chatham Habitat for Humanity** is seeking groups – corporate, school, neighborhood, etc. – to volunteer on their Siler City build sites. Build days are on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. For more informa-

tion, visit chathamhabitat.org/ volunteer, or email rachelh@chathamhabitat.org

• **Adult Volunteers Needed** at Chatham Hospital in Siler City, a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital located in Siler City and part of the UNC Health Care System. All prospective volunteers must complete an on-line application, a criminal background check, an orientation and have documentation of required immunizations. To learn more go to: www.chathamhospital.org/ch/about-us/volunteer.

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

• **Meals on Wheels drivers** are needed in Chatham County. Regular and substitute drivers are needed. We are looking for individuals or teams to deliver meals as a regular driver for our routes. Meals are delivered between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon. Routes take about an hour.

Substitutes will likely deliver 1 to 2 times per month. Contact Allison Andrews with Chatham Council on Aging, phone: 919-542-4512, ext. 226. allison.andrews@chathamcouncilonaging.org.

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

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

• **Motorcycle Association** — The Motorcycle Association for Chatham, Western Wake, Lee, Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com.

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

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

Data: Nearly 2 in 5 Chathamites have already completed 2020 Census

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Every 10 years brings the U.S. Census, the official count of people living in America.

So far, in the 2020 count, Chatham is showing up.

As of Tuesday, 36.9 percent of Chatham County residents had been accounted for in the Census count, according to the US Census Bureau's Census response rate map. These are individuals that have received notices by mail and have filled out the online form.

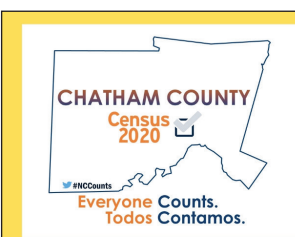
The rate is higher than both the national (36.2 percent) and state (33 percent) rate.

For Courtney Cooper-Lewter, an analyst with the Chatham County Manager's Office, this type of response is positive because of what the Census means to Chatham.

"The Census is important for three main

reasons: federal funding, political representation and community planning," Cooper-Lewter said. "Census data brings federal tax dollars back to Chatham County. Our numbers determine the number of seats North Carolina has in the US House of Representatives. It is also used for redistricting at the national, state and local level. Lastly, Census data helps plan roads, schools, hospitals, senior centers, and emergency services in our communities. It also assists businesses in locating corporate headquarters, factories and stores."

Specifically in Chatham, Census data affects how much funding is given to programs like the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicare and Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program food stamps and National School Lunch Program grants. Cooper-Lewter said Cha-



Chatham Census Participation

As of Tuesday, March 31

36.9
Percent
Chatham
County

33
Percent
North
Carolina

36.2
Percent
United
States

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Staff graphic by Zachary Horner

tham is the recipient of more than \$132.9 million annually.

The county has put effort into advertising the Census and encouraging people to fill it out. Cooper-Lewter said the Chatham Complete Count Committee (CCCC) — a group made up of county, municipal, organization and business leaders in Chatham

that she chairs — had been making presentations to groups in the area, but the COVID-19 spread has put a kibosh on those.

"We have had to re-imagine some of our efforts due to the COVID-19 pandemic," she said. "However, with limited physical contact we have turned to our social media pages

to share information about the upcoming 2020 Census."

The CCCC is working on scheduling a Facebook Live presentation with The Hispanic Liaison in Siler City as well as giving information to parents picking up meals at schools. There could also be changes in the timeline for counting the homeless

population and making home visits.

If you do not have internet access but wish to complete the Census, you can call 844-330-2020.

"If households have not completed their 2020 Census online or by phone, towards the mid-April and end of April the US Census Bureau will send the paper questionnaire to households," Cooper-Lewter said. "If households have still not completed the Census, then a Census worker will come to their home to collect the Census information. All information provided to the US Census Bureau is completely confidential and by law cannot be shared with any government agency, school or landlord. It is only used to produce statistics."

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorn@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @ZachHornCNR.

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CIS

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dents; relationships with caring adults; and a safe place to learn and grow, all geared toward giving youngsters a healthy start toward a healthy future. “That’s kind of the overarching goal of our work — to be a liaison between the needs of the kids in the community and the schools and connect them with the resources in the community,” said Cowdin, who joined CIS in 2014 and officially took the reins of CIS on April 1. “And so a lot of it lately has been working on communication between the school system and our staff, and then relaying that information from staff to the kids and the families.”

Making connection

These days, with schools closed and a “stay at home” order in place, that starts with staff members regularly checking in on and communicating with students. They do so using a texting application that can translate English into Spanish and vice versa, as well as doing needs assessments and connecting families and students with resources to help them succeed in school and in life.

The work takes different forms for different students. Staff members have daily conversations with some students and more formal weekly check-ins with others. From the communication, staff members run through a checklist of a dozen possible needs that a student or a student’s family may have. Some students have mentors (such as CIS’ “lunch buddy” program partnerships, when school is in session); others have pen pals within the community. Through the communication and assessments, CIS determines how best to support students — even reaching out to Social Services if the need arises.

It all fits within CIS’ mission, which is to surround students with a network of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

“We’re trying to get creative in finding ways they (staff members and volunteers) can stay in connection without being face to face,” Cowdin said.

A backdrop to the work is what was supposed to be a smooth transition at the top of CIS’ organizational chart. Cowdin was selected earlier this year by CIS’ board of directors as the successor to Caraganis, who in March began to hand over the mantle to him. Caraganis

had been planning to retire officially on March 30, but the pandemic led to a decision for her to stay on in an official advisory capacity to Cowdin through the end of June, assisting him when needed.

Transitioning

When she does step away for good, it’ll mark the end of a 30-year career in the organization for Caraganis. She began working at CIS — then known as Chatham County Together! — in 1990. She became executive director in 1998 and led the organization’s move to become an affiliate of the nationwide Communities In Schools in 2014, the year Cowdin came aboard.

At CIS, Caraganis has been responsible for supervising the staff, overseeing an annual budget of more than \$500,000, doing liaison work with CIS North Carolina and program partners on community collaborations dedicated to youth health and welfare, and directing the program’s fundraising. CIS reaches more than 1,500 students in Chatham County annually through mentoring, family advocacy, community service and restitution and school-based programs in collaboration with Chatham County Schools.

Caraganis’ reach and impact has been so instrumental that she was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the state’s highest civilian honor, last fall. When she accepted the award at a CIS event at Fearington in September, she shared credit for the honor with her staff.

“This group and the people I’ve worked with over the years are the ones who’ve make me look good,” she said that day.

Count Cowdin among them. The Kansas native has spent the last few years supporting the three CIS model schools and Youth FIRST programs after his initial work with the program as a student support specialist at Chatham Middle School. Cowdin, who previously

spent two years as an Operations Assistant with the University of North Carolina football team after earning an MBA at Washburn University in his hometown of Topeka, also assists with social media communications, expansion support and community engagement.

It’s community engagement that makes CIS’ work so beneficial in Chatham, particularly at times like these. Cowdin says a key CIS objective is to deepen relationships between staff and students and “vulnerable community members” who may not trust or rely on information coming from the school system or official community channels. CIS’ new reality in the age of COVID-19 has shifted from being the resource provider to being the connector to the resources.

“We’re a communication tool between families and the systems providing resources,” Cowdin says.

As it has done with people in general, the pandemic has created extra stressors, fears and levels of uncertainty to the population CIS serves.

‘A lot of uncertainty’

“We don’t know the field of play,” Cowdin said. “We don’t know where the goalposts are now. So it’s hard to make a game plan if you don’t know where the boundaries are, what the rules are. We don’t know the rules of the game and there’s a lot of uncertainty.”

It’s during times of uncertainty that the “human connection” is so critical, Caraganis says.

“I feel like relationships have been primary to everything that this organization has done,” she said. “And that’s really what our services are built upon. And we won’t be able to fix all the things that are happening or maybe any of the things that are happening, but we will be able to be that human voice that says, ‘I hear you, I see you there, I care.’ I think that’s going to be incredibly powerful — at any time, but especially at a time where people are feeling isolated or scared.”

Cowdin said many of the families of students CIS works with are used to disruption, so therefore resiliency also develops. CIS staff works to leverage its relationships to help equip students and families with tools that provide constructive, positive solutions — in school and in life.

“And in focusing on those strengths and opportunities, identifying those weaknesses and those threats,” he says, “there will organically be this new way of doing things. It’s almost like a new awakening, you know, because people are going to operate differently.”

“We see a real creative process,” Caraganis adds.

“Yes, absolutely,” Cowdin responds. “But it’s founded in communication and relationships. And that’s what we’ve always been about. So I feel like we’re really well-equipped to meet that need because we have those established relationships and that trust in the community. And we can be the connector, you know, and the liaison between those systems and the actual families.”

Which is what Caraganis says has been the hallmark of Communities In Schools for three decades.

“Our history of being community-based — that’s really the roots of this organization,” she said. “And so, while we’ve been in the schools, we’ve also been in the community



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Outgoing Communities In Schools Executive Director Kim Caraganis poses in downtown Siler City with her successor, Tych Cowdin. Caraganis has worked for the organization for three decades and has delayed her March 30 retirement to assist Cowdin and CIS staff as it transitions to serving students and families in Chatham in the pandemic.

CIS SNAPSHOT

Communities In Schools of Chatham County Organization Statistics (FY 2018-19)

- 1,471 Chatham youth served by a program.
- 17 schools with case-managed youth.
- 163 volunteers.
- Children served: 40% Latino, 28% Black, 20% White, 1% Asian, 11% two or more races.

Program Information

- Mentoring:** Adult spends 1-4 hours a week with young person in mentor-mentee relationship.
- Family Advocacy:** Staff support for communication skills and accountability at home, work with children involved in Department of Juvenile Justice.
- Community Service & Restitution:** Community service program with youths who have committed crimes.
- Teen Court:** First-time juvenile offender program for misdemeanor offenses; it gives a second chance but holds them accountable.
- CIS Model:** On-site student support specialists at schools.
- Youth F.I.R.S.T.:** Finding Integrated Resources & Supports Together. More comprehensive support for students needing more than a lunch buddy or mentor.

School-Based Programs

- 214 children served as of March 11.
- Staffed position: Chatham Middle School, Virginia Cross Elementary School, Bonlee School.
- Mentoring & Lunch Buddies: Horton Middle School, Pittsboro Elementary School, Siler City Elementary School.
- Services: Case management, 1-on-1 check-ins, parent engagement, mentoring, basic needs support, small groups, field trips.

CIS of Chatham staff

- Full-time:
 - Tych Cowdin – Executive Director, Elect. Current Program Director of School Based Programs.
 - Pam Johnson – Chief Operations Officer: Finances/Payroll/Office Manager.
 - Ramiro Martinez – Community Service & Restitution Program Coordinator.
 - Shirille Lee – Youth F.I.R.S.T. Program Coordinator (Mentoring, Lunch Buddies).
 - Jazmin Mendoza Sosa – Student Support Specialist at Virginia Cross Elementary.
 - Maria Soto – Family Advocacy Program Coordinator.
 - Pablo Avendaño – Teen Court Program Coordinator.
 - Fatima Beck – Family Advocacy Program Assistant.
- Part-time:
 - Kim Caraganis – past Executive Director and now consultant until June 30.
 - Angela Degraffenreid – Youth F.I.R.S.T. Program Assistant (Mentoring, Lunch Buddies).
 - Tiara White – Student Support Specialist at Chatham Middle School.
 - Wes Lail – Student Support Specialist at Bonlee Elementary School.

for 30 years. So it’s not uncomfortable for our staff to be reaching out to families, calling them at home. That’s just the way we’ve delivered services.” And will continue to,

Cowdin and Caraganis say, even in the face of a pandemic.

Publisher/Editor Bill Horner III can be reached at bhorner3@chathamnr.com.



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SHORTAGE

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ed to our regular customer projects.”

Gilero designed CAD (Computer-Aided Design) files for the face shields and made them publicly-available, meaning that the company is manufacturing shields using parts made both in-house and by “a number of generous companies and individuals,” Shaffer said — at this point 10-15 different parties. The company chose 3-D printing because it’s more efficient and cost-effective than the traditional injection molding approach.

This kind of innovation is something Alyssa Byrd,

the president of the Chatham Economic Development Corporation, said she was excited about prior to Gilero’s arrival, and referenced now.

“They’re planning to create at least 60 jobs, which will have a great economic impact on the downtown area with employees shopping and eating nearby,” she said of Gilero. “They are creative and innovative, as this recent development shows, and that blends perfectly into the culture of Chatham County.”

The shields are available for free for healthcare facilities facing PPE shortages by contacting Shaffer at kshaffer@gilero.com. She added that the company and its employees are also working on “several COVID-19 related projects,” including

an emergency ventilator.

“The time and effort put in by the Gilero team has been on a strictly volunteer basis,” Shaffer said. “The overall attitude we’re seeing from our people is that they want to do their part and make a difference however they can.”

The CAD files for 3-D printing face shield components and assembly instructions are available online at grabcad.com/library/3d-printed-face-shield-1 and gilero.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3D-Printed-Face-Shield-Instructions.pdf.

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

VIEWPOINTS

Finding some grace among the moving pieces

Somewhere amongst the verbiage in the 137 or so email messages I wrote out last Thursday and Friday, I included the phrase “moving pieces” in a commentary to someone about life in a pandemic.



BILL HORNER III
From The Publisher's Desk

As in: the reality of the life these days, with scenarios changing and news breaking constantly, brings with it lots of moving pieces.

Instability, uncertainty, navigating choppy and uncharted waters.

Dealing with shifting norms.

It's understandable if there are minor breakdowns along the way. And that will necessitate finding, and extending, grace among those moving pieces.

This was reinforced in a humbling way to me on Saturday. My wife Lee Ann, our son Zach and his wife Sarah and our daughter Karis, having had a handful of planned spring and summer trips get canceled or postponed, decided on a getaway to the mountains

of North Carolina for a few nights at the end of last week. So we sequestered ourselves in a rental house on the banks of the New River between the hamlets of Todd and Fleetwood in a valley north of Boone. It was a tranquil setting to do what we went to the hills to do: work, primarily (our group included two journalists and two teachers); and, when there was opportunity, chill out and grill out.

Circumstances, however, necessitated a trip “into town.” We had five MacBook computers firing on all cylinders as we worked Thursday, taxing the rental house's internet, but a malfunction with one computer led to a rush order and a replacement shipment. Zach and Sarah volunteered to do the pickup at the UPS/mail store in Boone the next afternoon, and combine the trip with a run to the grocery store (we'd brought our own food, but had forgotten or run low on a few things) and a side trip to Mellow Mushroom, the groovy pizza place near the Appalachian State University campus, for take-out for dinner.

So imagine my bewilderment when my phone rang some 20 or so minutes after they left, with Zach on the other end telling me the laptop wasn't at the UPS drop location.

Impossible, I said. Was he at the right store?

Yes, he said — the store he was calling from was near Walmart and adjacent to two ethnic restaurants in a shopping center, just as the caller from the UPS store described his location to me earlier that day.

Turns out, though, that Zach and Sarah were at the wrong place. They had entered “UPS store” on their GPS and, not being familiar with the mountain roads, ended up going north to West Jefferson from the rental house instead of south to Boone.

As chance would have it, the West Jefferson UPS site was indeed near a Walmart and two ethnic restaurants — just like the one in Boone.

In short order, after a bit of panic, we re-confirmed the location of the computer and the kids were on their way to Boone — to the correct UPS location — some 30 minutes away.

There was no harm done; the kids had just gone the wrong way after picking the wrong store on their GPS. But I have to admit I was still pretty incredulous. Having spent a lot of time up there, I know there's a big difference between Boone and West Jefferson. How could they have made that mistake? I mean — BOONE! Knowing

that's where the computer was, why would you drive in the opposite direction to West Jefferson?

I'd offered up guidance and thoughts about how to get “there” from “here,” but the kids trusted their GPS — despite, I found out later, a brief debate in the car about the accuracy of the directions — and ended up going away from Boone, not toward it.

Lee Ann, being the good mom, chided me for my reaction, but for me it was still a “SMH” (shaking my head) event in my book.

So, as I sat there in my state of judgment, I continued doing what I'd been doing when Zach called. In an effort to help expedite things for everyone, I'd earlier volunteered to order the pizzas online to have them ready when Zach and Sarah arrived. I completed the order on Mellow Mushroom's website not long after Zach's call from West Jefferson, entered my credit card information and pressed the “order” button, timing the order for their arrival.

Imagine my surprise — my shock — a few minutes later when, upon checking my email, I saw the order confirmation from Mellow Mushroom. The message confirmed that my payment was good and that the

pizzas would indeed be ready in 23 minutes — in Acworth, Georgia, some 300 miles from Boone and an awfully long way to go for a few pricey pies.

What the heck?

How did I make that mistake?

Simple: by not fully paying attention to what I was doing, which led me to ordering online from the very first Mellow Mushroom location listed on the website — instead of specifying the correct location.

I got distracted by the moving pieces and made a blunder of my own.

Lesson learned.

I called the kids to tell them that the pizzas would be ready when they got to the restaurant — only that, because of my mistake, their short hop from the UPS store to Mellow Mushroom was now going to be about six hours or so.

I was kidding, of course. I got the Georgia store to cancel the order and re-placed it with the Boone store.

All in all, I guess, the two wrongs DID make a right. The new computer works beautifully and the pizzas were delicious, but, most importantly, the kids had a good laugh — at my well-deserved expense.

(And Mellow Mushroom didn't charge extra for the additional “humble” topping on my pizza.)

An adjustment for people and pets alike

Of the various worries I've been sorting, collating and trying to resolve during the COVID-19 pandemic, some have centered around our pets.



RANDALL RIGSBEE
Randall Reflects

We have two — a dog, Bella, and a cat, Ophelia, whom we often refer to simply as “the girls” — and both are a central part of our family.

Sometimes, like when we're planning a vacation and have to figure out their care and feeding during our absence, we wonder why we have them at all; but when we return home after those vacations and find the girls so eager and happy to see us, we remember why.

Bella isn't much use for home security detail, unless squirrels ever attempt a coup. She fancies interaction with humans — any human; she once tried to hop in a pizza delivery guy's car — too much to earn her keep as a watchdog, but she makes up for that minor failing with a deep pool of unconditional love and an ear always open to listening. Sometimes neurotic, often awkward, she's nevertheless ours and with us is precisely where she belongs.

Ophelia, conversely, isn't such a great listener — her strong will and relative independence place her a bit lower than her canine sibling on the warmth scale — though she's excellent with indoor security. She can, for instance, hone in with razor-like precision on the occasional stray bug that finds its way into our house. Unlike her older sister, Ophelia is largely free of neurosis and much too lithe and agile to ever be called awkward, but she, too, is ours and she's precisely where she belongs with us occasionally awkward and neurotic humans as her house mates.

We love them both — as they seem to love us — in spite of (or is it because of?) their quirks, and in the early stages of the developing COVID-19 crisis, when I overheard an anecdotal account (that I later decided was, at best, stretching the truth) of pet food flying off of store shelves as if it was toilet paper, I worried about our ability to feed them. It didn't help that, when this disturbing account of the pet food supply landed on my ears, we were already running low on our household supply of kibble, which was of greater concern to me than any shortage of toilet paper.

“What about pet food?” I asked a friend, who'd just freshly navigated the grocery stores, and whose observations I valued. His

reassurance that pet food wasn't in short supply did a lot to assuage my worries, and as soon as able, I replenished our supply.

It meant one less worry.

Then came our sheltering-in-place.

My wife Jessica, a teacher, was the first of the two humans in our house to shelter in place, after the initial call to cancel school; a week later, I joined her, working from home.

In my initial fears about our pets' bellies, I hadn't thought about their brains. But a few days into our self-quarantining, I realized that Bella and Ophelia, though neither could be unsettled by news reports, were both sensing that something was up, something was off.

I don't credit either animal with supernatural skills. Maybe it was merely the change in their routines that had them seeming a tad out of sorts. Accustomed to their people venturing out five mornings out of seven and staying away for most of the day, the girls have their own routines. I don't know exactly what those routines are, not normally being there to observe, but I suspect those routines involve quality sleep time. With their parents suddenly home 24/7, their routines were disturbed.

The change in their behavior, although subtle, was evident. Bella, already a social butterfly, became more clingy. Ophelia, too.

Jessica set up her home office in a room we call “the office,” which is where our desk is and a large chunk of our book collection resides. I set up my “office” at the kitchen table.

In these days of COVID-19, as we do our part to attempt to stop the spread of this scary disease by limiting our movements, instead of leaving the house, locking up and commuting to work, Jessica and I are kissing goodbye in the living room before parting for our respective new work stations.

In what has become her new routine, Bella follows Jessica to her office, stretching out on the carpeted floor to keep her company as she works.

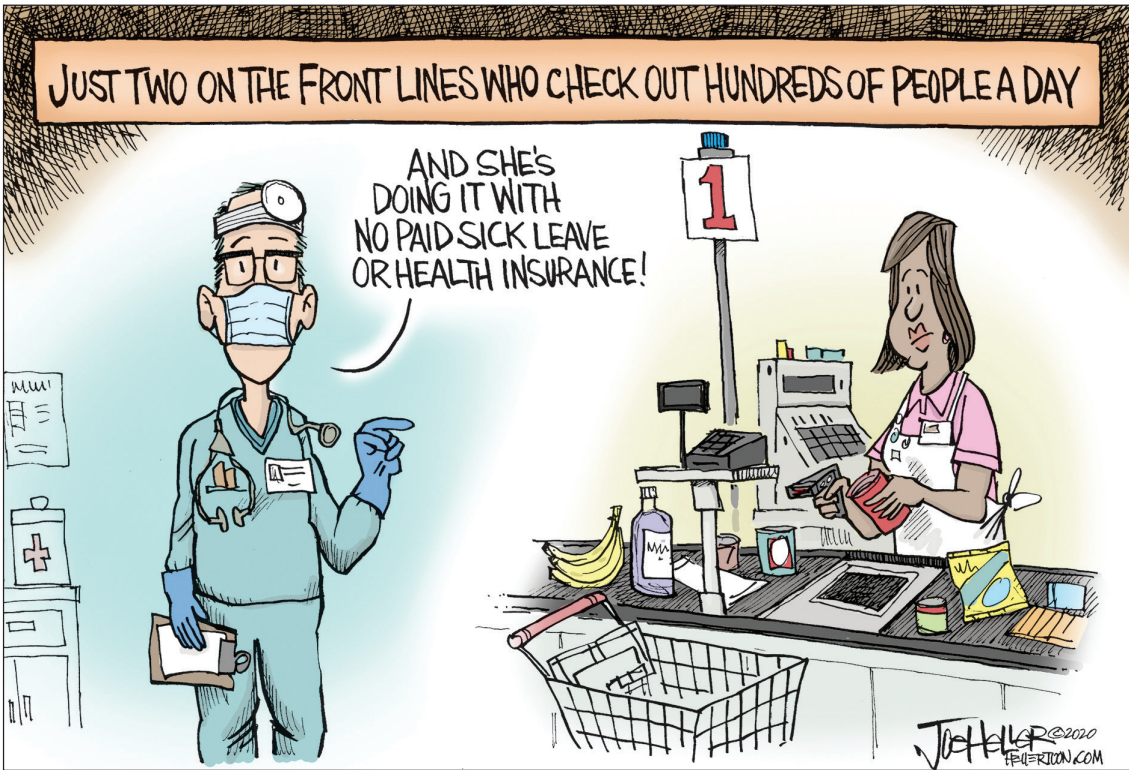
Ophelia sticks close to me in the kitchen. Yes, her food is there, but I'd like to think she's also drawn to my new office thanks, in part, to my charm.

Whatever is behind it, the girls seem to need us now more than ever, and having them around is helping us adjust too.

As each day passes and we all grow a little more used to this odd reality, it's still a weird situation. It still sometimes catches me off guard. It still feels, at times, like a dream.

Worldwide, everybody is adjusting to this sudden new reality.

Even, I believe, our four-legged friends.



Do what Bear Bryant said while you still have time



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

In the early days of cellular phones and all the technology that goes — and has gone — with all that, it was AT&T (I think) that produced a television commercial featuring the legendary University of Alabama football coach Paul “Bear” Bryant.

That TV spot showed him, plaid hat and all, clutching a mobile phone of some description and growling into the camera at the end of the spot the words, “Call your mama.”

While that ad may have been created around Mother's Day, again as I think or remember, it got more air play than just for that season.

How profound was it, at least to me? Pretty profound I'd say, for I remember it to this day. And wish I could take the ol' ball coach's (sorry, Steve Spurrier) advice.

All this came home to me a few days ago when I turned the page on my desk calendar from March to April and realized April 6 was still there. It made me realize that, if my mama could do the same, she would be 102.

Let's you think I'm operating under some false illusion or looking back through rose-colored glasses, let me assure you I did not think my mama was Wonder Woman. But she was close to it.

On the other hand, neither was

I holder of the title “World's Most Perfect Little Boy” or even runner-up to the title of “Greatest Son Ever.” Not sure I was even close to it. But she was my mama and I was her little boy, last of three of those creations.

And I miss her. Still.

We had good days — from the time she pushed me in a stroller to uptown Apex, where we lived when I came to be, to the days she didn't work and stayed at home until I got old enough to stay by myself after school, to the days she managed the school lunchroom and kept a watch on me and my buddies.

Later, she amused herself spoiling my two now 40-somethings who used to be teenagers who lived at my house. Sometimes I would take her along on my newspaper delivery route and buy her a hot-dog at the little grill that was the last stop.

That got to be a routine — for both of us, I think. We'd pull up in the parking lot about 5 p.m., and as I hopped out, I would ask her, “Ma, do you like hot dogs?”

“Yeah,” she'd answer.

“Well, Piggly Wiggly (or Food Lion, depending on that week's market) has ‘em on sale. You ought to get some.”

“Don't get smart with me. Get me a hot dog.”

Most of the time I thought I was playing her; it probably was the other way around.

She lived her last five years in a care facility. First room you came to when you entered the building. That meant that everyone who

came in, whether to see her or someone else, had to go by her room. And since she knew a gazillion people, she always had plenty of company. Also, the enormous amounts of candy she kept in her chest of drawers meant many staff members would take their breaks in her room.

The last time I spoke with her was on a Sunday afternoon. My little family had gone by, as was a longstanding custom. She was sometimes here and sometimes not, kind of painful for me since she had always been pretty sharp, sometimes too much for my good. We visited for some time; then we had to leave. I had been sitting in a chair beside the head of her bed, got up, leaned over, kissed her on the forehead and said, “Mama, I've got to go but I'll see you tomorrow.

To that, with a big smile, she said to me, “OK...and if you see Bob tell him to come see me.”

“I will, Ma. If I see that sorry rascal I'll tell him to come see you.”

She died the next morning.

I've wondered many times since then just how much was she confused and how much was she pulling my string. All I know is I miss her; 17 years after the fact. And if I could call her, I would.

If you can call yours, what are you waiting for?

And when this health crisis is a memory, remember; if you spent hours confined to your home, that's how it is many days for aged parents who live alone.

So right now, if you can, do what Bear said. Call your mama. And when you can, go see her.

What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

VIEWPOINTS

State must brace for recession

The precise course of the COVID-19 outbreak and its medical, social, and even political consequences are impossible to know at this writing. But there is at least one thing state lawmakers and other policymakers can take for granted: North Carolina's economy is in recession.

Many North Carolinians are already feeling its effects. They've been laid off, furloughed, or seen their self-employment income dwindle to little or nothing. Although lenders, landlords, and others will probably let bills go unpaid for a short time, they lack the capacity to float the economy for long.

That's why the Federal Reserve, Congress and the White House are scrambling to come up with a policy response

that uses some combination of grants and loans to keep enterprises in business and absorb the temporarily unemployed back into the workforce when the immediate crisis abates. State and local governments in North Carolina, as well as private and nonprofit vendors, will play a major role in administering this aid.

Good. As a longtime opponent of federal bailouts and other forms of corporate welfare, I see a governmental response to the COVID-19 recession as an entirely different matter. Businesses are closed and workers sidelined primarily because of government mandates. The mandates may be entirely justified to protect public health. But just as private owners must be compensated when government takes their property for a legitimate public use, private enterprises and workers should be compensated as much as possible when government takes away their ability to earn income and pay their bills.

I know that Gov. Roy Cooper and state legislators are currently considering ways in which North Carolina can supplement the federal response with state relief. I think that idea is reasonable, too — and is only a real possibility because the General Assembly has exercised fiscal discipline over the past decade.

The state has about \$2.3 billion in the General Fund's unreserved credit balance, another \$1.2 billion in its rainy-day fund, nearly \$4 billion in its unemployment-insurance trust fund, and hundreds of million more set aside for Medicaid shortfalls and other emergencies.

The unemployment fund is the obvious place for policymakers to go to provide immediate relief to jobless and displaced North Carolinians. Cooper has already issued an executive order making it easier to apply for and receive UI benefits. When the General Assembly convenes, it should enact a temporary increase in benefit amount and eligibility

to help tide North Carolina families over, since traditional concerns about discouraging people from filling available jobs don't apply in this case.

Tapping the General Fund reserves would be riskier, however. Remember: every month that large numbers of workers stay home and large numbers of businesses log few or no sales, the government's revenue collections will tank. Meanwhile, service demands will shoot up for some programs, including Medicaid.

Just as we should assume North Carolina is in a recession, we should also assume that North Carolina's state and local governments will soon experience large and growing deficits in their operating budgets. We should be very thankful that the state has billions of dollars in reserves. But we should be mindful that the state's annual budget is counted in the tens of billions of dollars, and that some localities may soon face fiscal deficits they cannot shoulder without state aid.

If lawmakers and the Cooper administration dip too far into the state's savings accounts now, they may be forced in the not-too-distant future to lay off teachers and other public employees, cut back precipitously in other programs, and raise taxes — all actions that would lengthen the recession and worsen the hardship for North Carolina families.

We will get through the COVID-19 crisis and the resulting recession. Indeed, North Carolina went into it better prepared than most, and our elected officials appear to be working together more cooperatively and successfully than we see in Washington and many other places.

But as our leaders fashion the state's response, it can and should be rapid, robust, and prudent.

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

Good things from the pandemic?

I wish it hadn't happened. Already, the losses have been jarring. And there is much more to come.



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

But as with other catastrophes, such as floods, hurricanes, fires, 9/11, recessions, depressions, world wars, and the Cold War, there are some pluses.

The first plus, perhaps, is that it could be worse, much worse. What if the Covid-19 novel coronavirus had not only been fast-moving and communicable, but also Ebola-like

deadly?

Such a disease could wipe out the human race. It passed us by this time. That is one plus.

We are warned about the dangers, and foolishness, of being unprepared. We have time to prepare and the motivation to devote resources to preparation.

But as Bill Gates pointed out in a TED Talk in 2015, the Ebola epidemic gave us a good warning and should have led to a degree of preparedness to face the current pandemic.

Gates explained that Ebola did not spread through the air and that it did not work its way into urban areas. "Next time we might not be so lucky," he said.

"There are things that would make it 10 times worse," he continued, pointing out how air travel could contribute to the rapid spread of the disease.

But Gates was optimistic. He pointed out that we could build good systems to respond to a new virus with tools such as the cell phone, advances from directed scientific research and development, coordination with and mobilization of the military, establishment of a medical reserve corps, and practicing exercises such as simulation-germ games.

However, we did not demand that our nation's leaders follow Gates' advice. Instead, we stood by while our leaders dismantled some of the limited capabilities we had developed.

We are paying the price now, economically and health wise for those decisions.

So let's remember this positive: the current pandemic, as bad as it is, gives us another opportunity to prepare for the even worse one to come.

(View Gates' 2015 TED talk at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Af6b_wyiWI or Google "The next outbreak? We're not ready.")

Putting aside these challenges, what other pluses has the virus brought?

Although we may not like being confined at home, we are learning to manage. For the first time, I learned the magic of participating in virtual meetings. The Chapel Hill East Rotary Club is using Zoom for its meetings. The group is mostly senior men and women who are not naturally high tech people. But more than 40 of them showed up for a virtual meeting last week. It was a little rough, but it worked to share information and connect to friends.

This success has me thinking that every now and then you and other readers could gather virtually to share information, challenge views, and build connections. If that works, I could try to have virtual meetings with authors who appear UNC-TV's North Carolina Bookwatch. It would give others opportunities to ask authors questions that the program's host failed to raise.

More importantly, the pandemic and the availability of programs such as Zoom has opened the door to more working from home. Most of us will be happy to get back to our regular places, but some others are finding they can be effective, even more effective, operating remotely.

The closing of schools has prompted a rush to find ways to deliver effective classroom-like experiences. Most students and parents will be glad for schools to open again. In the meantime, however, the forced development of good virtual educational tools will enrich the experiences of many students long after the pandemic has been tamed. For example see this free site recommended by N. C. Superintendent of Public Instruction Mark Johnson: www.khanacademy.org.

Also on the positive side, the pandemic has forced us to become closer to our families, unless, as my wife says, "I kill him first."

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

How will the economy change after the virus crisis?

Most crises have lasting effects. World War II spawned the United Nations but also the Cold War.



MIKE WALDEN
You Decide

The Vietnam War caused many to question our major institutions and also created a revaluation of U.S. military tactics and objectives. One of the lasting impacts of the Great Recession of 2007-2009 has been a renewed interest in frugality by the millennial generation.

The current turmoil induced by the coronavirus, which I will shorten and call the "Virus Crisis," will also affect our society. Here I examine four impacts that could occur in our future:

"Tele" in Everything: One of the most notable features of the Virus Crisis has been the strong recommendation — in some cases mandate — for people not to interact. It's been dubbed "social distancing." Of course, the reason behind social distancing is to reduce the chances of a person infected with the virus passing it to others.

With schools, restaurants, gyms and other businesses closed, communicating and exchanging via the internet has sometimes been used as a substitute. Elementary and secondary schools as well as colleges and universities have used the internet to "teleteach."

Telemedicine, in which patients can receive diagnoses and advice via internet conversations with medical professionals, has been encouraged during the Virus Crisis. There are huge savings in both money and time potentially associated with this type of interaction. With more people being introduced to telemedicine, I expect its use to expand even after the Virus Crisis ends.

Similarly, working from home using the internet has been a method used by many companies to cope with the Virus Crisis. Teleworking is not new, and it has been growing well before the onset of the Virus Crisis. Companies can save money on buildings and workers can save time by not commuting by teleworking. Although teleworking is

Telemedicine, in which patients can receive diagnoses and advice via internet conversations with medical professionals, has been encouraged during the Virus Crisis.

certainly not suitable for all jobs, I would expect that with more companies and workers experiencing tele-working during the Virus Crisis, the technique could become much more popular in coming years.

Shifting Supply Chains: Most businesses buy inputs from other businesses in order to make the products or provide the services they sell. These business to business linkages are called "supply chains."

With the increase in globalization during the 21st century, more supply chains have ties to foreign countries, with China being the most prominent. When China was first hit by the coronavirus, many of its manufacturing industries shut down, thereby interrupting supplies sent to the U.S. and other countries. So even before the coronavirus came to our country, many of our companies had been adversely impacted.

I predict the Virus Crisis will cause many domestic firms to rethink their supply chains. The coronavirus has exposed a potential cost of globalization. While firms may not necessarily completely cut themselves off from foreign suppliers, many will be motivated to re-establish U.S. supply chains as a complementary or back-up to foreign chains. The upside is a revival of domestic supply chains will create more jobs and more earnings in the U.S.

China's Image Takes a Hit: And speaking of China, I think China's image and economy will suffer some long-term losses in coming years. It's widely thought the coronavirus began in China. Some also say China was not forthcoming to the world with early information about the onset of the virus. If they had been, perhaps other countries could have taken more actions to contain its impact.

I don't have enough knowledge

to gauge how accurate these claims are. But if enough businesses and consumers think they are accurate, China will be hurt. I talked about supply chains in the previous section. I expect more consumers in the future will refrain from buying any product made in China. Domestic sellers could go out of their way to advertise that their products do not originate from China.

A Boost to Lower Density Living: Both the nation as well as North Carolina are urban areas for living. Increasingly we are choosing to reside in cities and metropolitan areas. That's where the jobs are, and many people also like the urban lifestyle of easily accessible shops, restaurants and entertainment options.

But we've learned during the Virus Crisis that dense living and close contact with others can come with a cost. Viruses spread more easily when people are packed together. This is why — during the crisis — we've been told to limit contact with others, and why venues and events with large gatherings have been closed or postponed until after the Virus Crisis passes.

Small towns and rural areas are, by definition, less dense, and so there is less potential for human contact on a large-scale basis. Hence, one impact of the Virus Crisis might be a reconsideration of small town and rural living. People may think that, while the current virus will pass, others may come in the future. And with tele-teaching, tele-medicine, and tele-working likely increasing in use, rural isolation will be lessened.

In my opinion, the best of all worlds is the development of a vaccine that protects us against all potential future viruses. Then we can all go back to the world that existed before the Virus Crisis. But if that's not possible, then maybe the world I've outlined here is in our future. You decide — and also — please be safe.

Michael Walden is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at N.C. State who teaches and writes on personal finance, economic outlook and public policy.

LETTERS

Fed virus response dangerously lacking, lagging

The heading of John Hood's column last week (*News + Record, March 26-April 1 edition*) reads: "Virus response fits government role." Make no mistake, help from our federal government has been dangerously lacking and lagging in its response! The "freedom" that Mr. Hood endlessly seeks to ensure his quest of autonomy from the government is one of the many reasons

we are in our current situation. With Trump's s-l-o-w response and initial disbelief in this worldwide threat, many people are at risk. Reducing CDC staff, namely the pandemic team, has put all of us in harm's way.

Hood's repeated refrain of the restrictions of "freedom of individuals to make their own choices about how to use their own resources to advance their own goals" speaks of his personal station in life: no money wants, secure housing, health care, and the luxury of pursuing his

goals.

His belief that panic has led to the cancellation of public events and social distancing, and the injuring of our economy speaks volumes of his empathy for his fellow Americans. He speaks reassuringly of our state's current financial status. Hood proudly says that the state has "more than \$600 million in Medicaid reserves" among other assets. How did we amass this \$600 million dollars? By denying healthcare to underprivileged citizens, good idea! How are these

disadvantaged people to pursue the same rights that he holds so dear? They seek life's basic needs, and most do not have medical care. Oh, they can get free testing for the virus, but will incur medical costs for its treatment.

So to Mr. Hood, I quote John Donne: "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." Maybe an island would be better suited to Mr. Hood's personal goals.

Adele Kelly
Pittsboro

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West Chatham Food Pantry seeks food, volunteers

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — As county residents descended on grocery stores, clearing shelves in response to COVID-19, the West Chatham Food Pantry is facing the challenge of obtaining food to provide for the most vulnerable residents of Siler City and the western part of the county.

The non-profit agency typically serves about 600 families each month, but the demand for help from its clients increased substantially in March, according to Diane Smith, the organization's executive director.

"We have been receiving more clients, in particular people we had never served before," Smith said.

The West Chatham Food Pantry provides supplemental food to qualifying Chatham County residents. The non-profit determines if someone qualifies based on proof of residency, income and expense information and creates pre-prepared packages based on family size. Those who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as food stamps, automatically qualify.

Smith said the organization is trying not to turn anyone away, but since a majority of the West Chatham Food Pantry's regular clients are elderly, they are trying to serve them first.

"One reason we're trying to serve our existing clients first is our food supply is dwindling," Smith said.

While the West Chatham Food Pantry has "plenty of meat," she said, its stock of staples — soups, crackers, canned vegetables and break-

fast items — is in short supply.

The pantry typically receives its food from grocery stores and box stores through the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, a non-profit organization that distributes food to pantries in seven North Carolina counties. But Smith notes that those deliveries are more limited than normal.

In addition, bulk purchasing of staples, another method the West Chatham Food Pantry gets supplies, is now unavailable because of the demands of the supplies due to COVID-19.

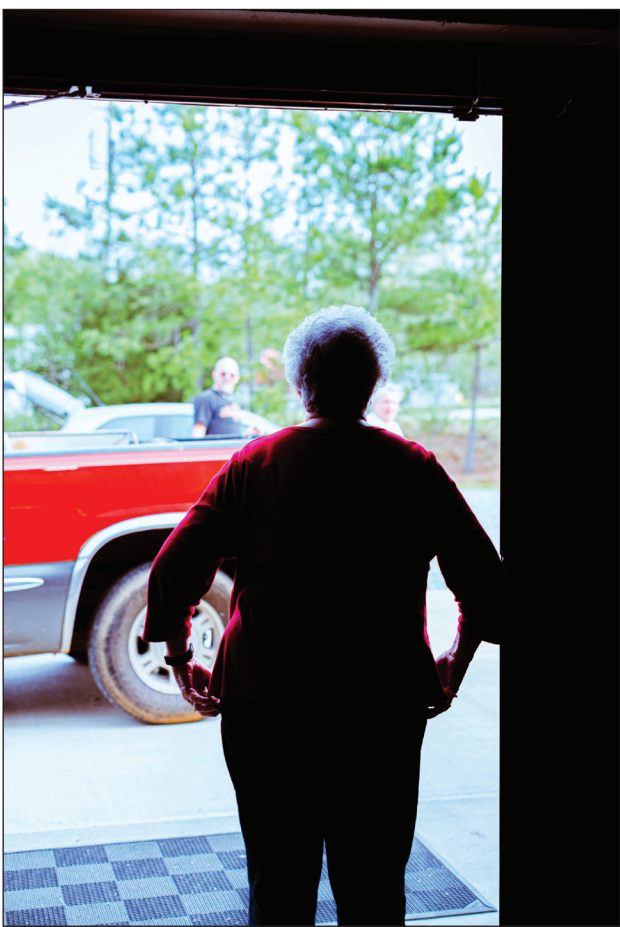
"And we don't when that's going to be available," Smith said.

The West Chatham Food Pantry also need volunteers.

"A lot of our volunteers are older," Smith said. "And that's another challenge. We can't find volunteers."

Smith said the pantry has implemented practices due to COVID-19 concerns to protect both the volunteers and those seeking assistance. The pantry is now serving through a drive-up process, where clients remain in their cars and volunteers bring the food out to them. That has its own challenges. For example, they have a shipment of fresh vegetables, but because clients are not entering the facility at this time, packaging and distributing the produce is challenging for the limited number of pantry workers.

The West Chatham Food Pantry's work is supported by several grants, and Smith said the organization is applying for more that are available during the COVID-19 crisis to "keep the bills paid," but even with funding, the lack of supplies is a greater challenge, said



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

The West Chatham Food Pantry has moved to drive-up service to protect both the volunteers and the clients during the outbreak of COVID-19.

Smith. "Money is helpful," she said, "but then we still have to go out and find the food."

Smith urges members of the community who want to help by volunteering or donating food to visit the West Chatham Food Pantry, 126 Village Lake Rd., Siler City, during its regular operating hours — on Mondays from 4:30 to 6 p.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

"We're going to try to stay open as long as we can," Smith said. "We hope we don't have to close."

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



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

The West Chatham Food Pantry typically serves 600 families at its Siler City location. As supplies are dwindling, the organization is asking for food donations and volunteers.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

The West Chatham Food Pantry is available for Chatham County residents that qualify based on their income and expenses or if they already participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

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FAQ: Answering some key questions about Gov. Cooper's 'stay-at-home' COVID-19 order

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Gov. Roy Cooper's March 27 executive order No. 121 served as a "stay-at-home order," as well as issuing "strategic directions for North Carolina in response to increasing COVID-19 cases," and it goes into effect at 5 p.m. today.

So what does a "stay-at-home order" actually mean? What qualifies as an "essential business"? What other things need some clarifying? Here's an FAQ just for those of you asking those questions.

Why was this issued?

The executive order states that health care officials and experts "have expressed concerns that unless the spread of COVID-19 is limited," hospitals will be overrun, and "limit(ing) unnecessary person-to-person contact in workplaces and communities" is essential and deemed "reasonably necessary" to try to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Cooper's order also says that the governors office has "determined that local control of the emergency is insufficient to ensure adequate protection for the lives and property of North Carolinians."

Essentially, the order codifies the need for social distancing as a means of trying to slow down the spread of the disease, and local measures are either not being taken, not

enough or not effective enough to cover the areas where it's needed. Additionally, Cooper's order states, "the scale of the emergency is so great that it exceeds the capability of local authorities to cope with it."

How long will this be in effect?

As of now, the order will be in effect until 30 days from March 30, meaning April 29. That date is effective "unless repealed, replaced or rescinded by another applicable Executive Order." Additionally, canceling the state of emergency declaration will also nullify the order.

What gives the governor the authority to do this?

N.C. General Statute 166A-19.10 designates powers of the governor as part of the "State Emergency Management Program." The statute gives the governor power to "exercise general direction and control of the State Emergency Management Program" and "make, amend or rescind the necessary orders, rules, and regulations within the limits of the authority conferred upon the Governor herein, with due consideration of the policies of the federal government." Furthermore, 166A-19.30 allows the governor, during a declared state of emergency, to "regulate and control...the congregation of persons in public places or buildings" as well as "control ingress and egress of

an emergency area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein."

The law gives the governor fairly broad powers in these types of circumstances. The language mentioned in the previous question is found within the same statute as that just mentioned. The statute also says the governor is allowed "to perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population."

What does a 'stay at home' order mean?

The governor's executive order charges residents to stay at home or their current place of residence "except as allowed in this Executive Order" — meaning for what's deemed "Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Operations or to participate in or access COVID-19 Essential Businesses and Operations, all as defined below." Essentially, you are to stay at home unless you need to participate in activities including those for health and safety, for necessary supplies and services, for outdoor activity, for certain types of work, to take care of others, going to a place of worship, to receive goods and services, to go to your place of residence and volunteering.

It seems fairly broad, but there are some specifics. For example, as long as you are engaging in

proper social distancing and avoiding gatherings of 10 people or more, you can go walking, hiking, running and even golfing. You can visit public parks, but since "public playground equipment may increase the spread of COVID-19," the order says, all public playgrounds are closed. You can attend weddings and funerals, but they must also comply with social distancing and mass gathering requirements. Funerals are an exception to the 10-person requirement, instead allowing 50 "in an effort to promote human dignity and limit suffering."

What counts as an 'Essential Business'?

Lots of things. It might be easier to say what doesn't count, but here's a sampling: dental offices, eye care centers, adoption agencies, child care centers, food and beverage production, solid waste and recycling collection and removal, grocery stores, nonprofits "when providing food, shelter, social services and other necessities of life," religious entities, newspapers, film, gas stations, post offices, laundromats, airlines and other transportation "necessary to access COVID-19 Essential Businesses and Operations" and book stores "that sell educational material."

The list is very long and covers nearly four pages of the 10-page executive order. But those businesses are required to meet certain standards,

including maintaining social distancing standards, washing hands "as frequently as possible" and "facilitating online or remote access by customers if possible."

If your business does not count as an "Essential Business," you can still operate, but have two restrictions: only doing the "minimum necessary activities" to keep operating and preserve your company's value, as well as making sure employees can work remotely, if possible.

Previously-closed businesses like nail salons, hair stylists, gyms, yoga studios, bowling alleys, tattoo and massage parlors, movie theaters and live performance venues are to remain closed.

So the 'mass gathering' number is now at 10?

Yes. The order lowers the number of people allowed at a "mass gathering" from 50 to 10, with the exception of funerals. However, this number doesn't apply to normal operations at any places deemed as "Essential Businesses" or operations.

What happens if I violate the order?

The order says violations are subject to prosecution and punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor, the normal punishment given to someone who violates an executive order. General Statute 15A-1340.23 mandates the maximum punishment is a 60-day prison sentence and a \$1,000 fine. Accord-

ing to the website of Wiley Nickel, a Cary-based attorney, other Class 2 misdemeanors include simple assault, disorderly conduct and resisting a police officer.

What if I'm going to work? Do I need papers?

The Executive Order does not clarify whether or not an individual needs "papers" or some kind of identifying document to go to their job or place of businesses. An FAQ put out by the governor's office, however, states that neither businesses nor employees are required to have specific documentation "to report to work under this Order."

What about local orders?

The governor's order supersedes all local orders, unless that order is of greater restriction than the governor's. Wording within the order states that "nothing herein is intended to limit or prohibit" cities and counties from putting "greater restrictions or prohibitions," as long as it is allowed under state law.

"The undersigned [Cooper] recognizes that the impact of COVID-19 has been and will likely continue to be different in different parts of North Carolina," the order states. "Urban areas have seen more rapid and significant spread than most rural areas of the state."

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

COVID-19 PERSPECTIVE

There's no seminary course for COVID-19

BY BRENT LEVY
Pastor, The Local Church, Pittsboro

Editor's Note: As part of our series of first-person perspectives on living during a pandemic, The Rev. Brent Levy, pastor of The Local Church in Pittsboro, writes about being a member of the clergy

during COVID-19.

There's no seminary course on pastoring during a pandemic.

This is not something they teach you in divinity school. As I've spoken to colleagues in the community and beyond, the general sense is that this is, for us, a

strange new world — just as it is for so many globally. Like the early church in the book of Acts, we're trying to assemble a bike while riding it.

What makes this especially difficult is that so much of what we do — so much of what it means to be a faith

community — is the tangible and physical and in-person. Whether it is in worship on Sunday mornings or small groups during the week or loving our neighbors through mission and service, our communities thrive on the social. On connection.

In fact, we make the

theological claim that, as those made in the image of God, we are hard-wired for connection. To be disconnected, then, feels so weird because it's not who we were made to be.

And yet, we are dealers in hope, too. We have been challenged to consider alternative and innovative ways to connect with God and one another and love our neighbors. For The Local Church, our mantra is "love where you are," and we didn't know it then, but it was made for such a time as this. Because church is more than a place, and it's more than something that just happens for one hour a week. It can happen all the time — wherever you find yourself.

We are leaning hard into this mantra in this unprecedented season. "Love where you are" has looked like virtual worship through Facebook Live and YouTube on Sunday mornings — trying to make the experience feel as familiar and "normal" as possible to give people that sense of regularity and comfort. It looks like hosting "happy hours" through Zoom just to see one another's faces and check in and pray for one another and offer virtual hugs. And

it's especially meant responding with care and concern to the significant needs our community now faces — to be love in this place we cherish so much.

I have also been inspired to see so many faith communities come together to this end, too. As challenging as it is, it is in circumstances like this that the Church does what she does best: offering the light and love of Christ through compassion and grace to bring healing to a hurting world.

Mostly, in my pastoral role, I'm working to keep our community connected, inspired, and hopeful. I was reminded recently of theologian Dr. James H. Cone's words in "The Cross and the Lynching Tree": "Despair was real; but it was not ultimate."

In other words, yes; this is really hard. So many are facing tremendous challenge now and will continue to for the foreseeable future. And yet, God is with us in all of it, and will see us through. This is the message I'm carrying and seeking to share in every moment.

You can contact Brent Levy at brent@thelocalchurchpbo.org.

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OBITUARIES

NANCY TUCKER WILLIAMS



Mrs. Nancy Tucker Williams, age 78 of Wilkesboro, passed away Tuesday, March 14, 2020 at her home.

Graveside services were held at 2:30 PM, Friday, March 27, 2020 at Scenic Memorial Gardens with Rev. Dr. Susan Pillsbury-Taylor officiating. Prior to the service the family received friends from 1 to 2 p.m. at the graveside.

A celebration of life will be planned for a later date.

Nancy touched the lives of everyone who knew her with her kindness and unconditional love. She loved flowers, gardening and birds, but her main passion was caring for her family. She was a loving childcare giver in the home and an active member of Union United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Williams was born May 2, 1941 in Chatham County to James McCree and Mildred Irene Landreth Tucker. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Billy Tucker and Edsel Tucker of Siler City; and one step-grandchild, Tyler Minton.

She is survived by her husband of 51 years, John Delaney (JD) Williams; two daughters, Penny Minton (husband Steve) of Wilkesboro, Johnna Phillips (husband Mike) of Knoxville, Tn; a sister, Diane Burgess (husband Barry) of Mebane, NC; three brothers, Bruce Tucker (wife Teresa) of Raleigh, Tony Tucker (wife Jane) of Bear Creek, Gary Tucker (wife Marilyn) of Bear Creek; four grandchildren, Payton Miller, Morgan Gowan (husband Josh), Colton Miller, and Delaney Phillips; two step-grandchildren, Hannah Minton and Andrew Minton; and she leaves behind her special Knollwood family.

Flowers will be accepted. The family also encourages everyone that loved Nancy to carry on her caring spirit by performing random acts of kindness in her honor.

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

ANGIE CLARK



Angie Clark, 48 of Goldston passed on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at her residence.

A private graveside service will be held at Goldston United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Angie was born March 15, 1972 in Chatham County to John Rufus Clark and Kay Pickard Clark. She worked for over 30 years as a Paramedic. Her last 16 years have been with the Moore County EMS and an instructor in both the curriculum program and continuing education program at Sandhills Community College. She taught countless continuing education classes for both Fire and EMS. She was a past member of the Goldston Rescue Squad and an honorary lifetime member of Cypress Point Fire and Rescue. She was an avid reader.

She is survived by her mother and father, Johnny and Kay Clark of Goldston; three sisters, Renee C. Key and husband Marty of Carthage, Jennifer C. Whitfield and husband David of Haw River, Courtney C. Hart and husband Chris of Goldston; five nieces and nephews, Hannah Key, Lane Whitfield, Cole Whitfield, Lilly Kayte Hart, Graham Hart; and her sweet fur baby Mona.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in memory of Angie Clark to The Sandhills Community College Angie Clark Scholarship Fund at <https://www.sandhills.edu/giving/> and leave Angie Clark's name in the comments.

On line condolences can be made to: www.bolesfuneral-home.com.

Services entrusted to Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines.

CHRISTINE S. MITCHELL



Christine Sanders Mitchell, age 87, of Pittsboro, died peacefully on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, at her home. Her daughter and beloved cat Patches were by her side.

Christine was born June 15, 1932 in Chatham County, NC to the late Laura Annie and Clen Sanders. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Lewis 'Sidney' Mitchell.

Surviving relatives include her daughter Linda Thomas of Pittsboro; her son Ralph Sanders (Debbie) of Pittsboro; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Friday, March 27, 2020 at 1 p.m. at Bynum United Methodist Cemetery with Rev. Jerry Sanders presiding.

Christine was a homemaker and also worked at Chatham Mill for many years. She had a love for gardening and planting beautiful flowers.

Christine enjoyed cooking for her family and friends. Knowing her means that you have a memory of cooking with her or eating something she'd poured her heart into. That famous 'ho cake' or egg custard pie... or if you're a grandchild, you'll remember those 'doughboys' she'd make with you out of those leftover biscuit scraps!! The love she had for her family was always evident in all she did - her family was her heart and soul! If you learned anything from her example, it should be to always treat others the way you want to be treated, be kind, and always do good for others.

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

Arrangements by Donaldson Funeral Home & Cremation.

RICHARD "RICKY" HAMPTON SCOTTON



Richard Hampton Scotton, 66, of Siler City, died Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro.

Private graveside services were held Saturday, March 28, 2020, at Holly's Chapel Pentecostal Holiness Church, Ramseur, with Rev. Dwayne Lester officiating.

Ricky was a native of Randolph County, a longtime resident of Coleridge, and a proud farmer. He was a graduate of Eastern Randolph High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from UNC Greensboro.

Ricky was preceded in death by his father, Hampton Scotton.

Survivors include his mother, Edna Brafford Scotton of Ramseur; sister, Jill Mitchell and husband Allen of Siler City; brother, Jay Scotton and wife Ronda of Coleridge; nieces, Melissa Mitchell, Julikaye Scotton and nephews, Jayson Scotton and Jaron Scotton.

Memorials may be made to Holly's Chapel Pentecostal Holiness Church, Hope Fund, 8003 Ferguson Road, Ramseur, NC 27316.

Condolences may be made online at: www.loflinfuneralservice.com.

Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Ramseur.

JOHN RAYMOND ELKINS, JR.

Mr. John Raymond Elkins, Jr., 84, of New Hill passed away Monday, March 30, 2020 at Wake Medical Center in Cary.

He was born in Chatham County, the son of the late John Raymond Elkins, Sr. and Mattie Frances Oldham Elkins.

Junior was also preceded in death by his wife, Carolyn Elkins. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service and retired after many years of service. Junior enjoyed working in the yard and planting a vegetable garden each season. He also enjoyed attending dances at the Enrichment Center in Sanford on Saturday nights. Junior attended Duncan Baptist Church in Fuquay-Varina.

Junior is survived by his son, Johnny Elkins and wife Shirley of Bear Creek; daughter, Teresa Wood and husband Dwight of Siler City; son, Wesley Elkins and wife Tracey of Sanford; seven grandchildren, Angie Murray, Brandon Elkins, Matthew Wood, LeeAnn Jackson, Britnee Roy, Brandee York and Kameron Elkins; nine great-grandchildren, Chase Murray, Reagan Murray, Aubree Jackson, Alana Jackson, Ally Jackson, Rylee Roy, Emmett Roy, Macie York and Avery York; sister, Kay Cook and husband Jim of Bear Creek; and fiancé, Wanda Head of Sanford.

A private family graveside service will be held.

Arrangements by O'Quinn-Peebles-Phillips Funeral Home & Crematory, Lillington.

Online condolences at: www.oppfh.com.

JOHN WALTER EVANS

John Walter Evans, 58, of Siler City died Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

Mr. Evans was born in Lee County on June 26, 1961, the son of Charles Lee Evans, Jr. and Lela Lois (Clark) Evans. John worked in maintenance for Sapona Mills. He enjoyed spending quality time with his three sons. They were the highlight and joy of his life. He loved to fish and spend time with his siblings and extended family. John was a Christian, dedicating his life to Christ in 2016. He faithfully attended Moon's Chapel Baptist Church of Siler City. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, William Ray Evans and Reid Evans; and a nephew, James Smith.

John is survived by three sons, Colbe, Chandler and Collin Evans of Goldston; three sisters, Brenda E. Fore (Jim) of Ramseur, Gayle Evans and Lois Smith; one brother, Scott Evans (Vivian) all of Sanford; and several nieces and nephews.

A private service will be held with Dr. Patrick Fuller officiating.

Memorials may be made to Moon's Chapel Baptist Church Building Fund, 175 Moon's Chapel Road, Siler City, NC 27344.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

TAMMY SHAMME DOWDY

Tammy Shamme Dowdy passed away Sunday, March 22, 2020.

Services will be scheduled at a later date.

She was born on September 29, 1965, in Harlem, NY to William D. and Doris J. Dowdy. Tammy attended the Lighthouse for the Blind and from there she went to the The Jewish Guild for the Blind, where she graduated. In July 2002, Tammy moved to Siler City, along with her parents. Tammy is preceded in death by her father.

Survivors include her mother, Doris J. Dowdy of Siler City; sister, Yolanda Shark of New Jersey; two brothers, Gary and Warren; adopted brothers, Hakim and Kasim Dowdy, all of Siler City.

FRANCES CALLAHAN LEDNUM

Frances Callahan Lednum, 85, of Asheboro died Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at Randolph Health.

The funeral was held Monday, March 30, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Pugh Funeral Home Chapel in Asheboro. Burial followed in Randolph Memorial Park.

Mrs. Lednum was born in Robbins on December 13, 1934, the daughter of Walter and Glennie Maness Callahan. She was a graduate of Eloise High School and a member of Russell Grove Baptist Church. She retired from Acme McCrary after 25 years of service. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Bobby Callahan.

Survivors include her husband of 65 years, George Gilbert Lednum; son, Tim Lednum of Siler City; sisters: Peggy C. Kivett of Ramseur and Faye C. Snider of Asheboro.

Memorials may be made to Make-a-Wish Foundation of Central & Western NC., 1131 Harding Place, Charlotte, NC 28204.

Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

FRED BENNETT MURCHISON, SR.

Mr. Fred Bennett Murchison, Sr., 101 of Sanford, passed away Saturday, March 21, 2020 at Liberty Commons Nursing and Rehabilitation Center of Lee County.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 26, 2020 at New Zion Baptist Church. The family will not be receiving visitors at their home due to the coronavirus.

Mr. Murchison was born in Durham, to the late Marie S. Terrell. He was a member of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church where he was a member of the Mission Choir and taught the Adult Men's Sunday School Class as long as health permitted. He was also a member of the Silverstone Gospel Singers of Sanford. He served in the US Army during World War II and retired from the City of Sanford.

Fred was married to the late Alise Johnson Murchison and was also preceded in death by a son, Ronald A. Murchison.

Survivors include his son, Fred B. Murchison, Jr. of Sanford; daughter, Vanessa Y. Murchison of Sanford; three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and one great-great granddaughter.

ANN BENNETT POWERS

Ann Bennett Powers, 74, of Bennett, died Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC Health Care in Pittsboro.

Graveside services were held Friday, March 27, 2020, at Fall Creek Baptist Church, in Bennett, with Rev. George Townsend officiating.

Ann was a native of Durham County, retired from Duke University Health Care where she worked as an office manager. She was a member of Fall Creek Baptist Church. After retiring, Ann worked at the N.C. Zoological Park. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph R. "Joe" Powers, her parents, William T. Bennett, Jr. and Hazel Parker Bennett, and a sister, Vickie Bennett.

Survivors: daughter, Deirdre "DeeDee" Powers Dean, of Bennett; son, Joseph Lundy Powers of Juneau, AK; sisters, Pamela Bullock of Mebane, Deborah Christensen of Hillsborough; brother, Mark Bennett of Durham; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Fall Creek Baptist Church, 1745 Fall Creek Church Rd., Bennett, NC 27208.

Condolences may be made online at: www.loflinfuneralservice.com.

JOYCE ANN SMITH

Joyce Ann Smith, 74, of Lillington, formerly of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at FirstHealth Hospice.

A graveside service was held Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Cool Springs Baptist Church Cemetery in Sanford with Rev. Scott Yow officiating.

Joyce was born in Lee County on February 11, 1946 to the late Carl B. and Hazel Ford Smith. She worked at Moen.

Survivors include sons, Chad Rollins of Lillington, Scott Rollins of Tennessee and Jason Rollins of Benson; daughters, Shelia Ricketson of Georgia and Amy Dearborn of Broadway; brother, Carl Smith of Goldston; sister, Carla Martin of Cameron; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

RICHARD EARL MCIVER

Mr. Richard Earl McIver, 88, of Sanford, passed away Thursday, March 26, 2020 at Liberty Commons Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

Services entrusted to: Knotts Funeral Home.

See OBITUARIES, page A9

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OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

LOUIS EARL CALTRIDER

Louis Earl Caltrider, 71, of Apex, died Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at home.

A private graveside service will be held Friday, April 3, 2020.

Louis was born in Parkersburg, WV on January 6, 1949 to the late Charles Caltrider and Doris Roth Caltrider. He is also preceded in death by a son, Jason Caltrider, and grandchildren, Anna Belle Horton and Oliver Horton. He enjoyed a long career at Nortel Networks and was IT Manager at Cary Orthopaedics and Spine Center. He was a member at Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Parkersburg, WV

He is survived by his wife Elaine Ketcham; sons, Evan Caltrider of Sanford, Bryan Horton of Efland, Malcolm Eric Horton pf Bellingham, WA; brother, John Caltrider of Argyle, TX; sisters, Linda Lauderman of Parkersburg, WV, Melanie Drecksel of Mount Vernon, WA; and five grandchildren.

If desired, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to The American Lung Association or Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

Condolences may be made at: www.donaldson-funerals.com.

Donaldson Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the Caltrider family.

ROSA MAE (TAYLOR) BURNS

Rosa Mae Burns, 60, of Aberdeen, passed Monday, March 9, 2020 at Mount Pleasant, SC.

Memorial services were held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2020 at Knotts Funeral home in Sanford.

She was born to the late Orey and Rosa Lee Taylor on May 10 1959.

She leaves survivors, sisters, Tammie Taylor of Vass and Jane Jones of Whispering Pines.

BILLY RAY JONES

Billy Ray Jones of Goldston died March 23, 2020 at UNC Hospitals.

A graveside service was held on Friday, March 27, 2020 at 3 p.m. at Lemon Springs United Methodist Cemetery with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

He was born in Lee County to the late Roland Hayes Jones and Beulah Mae Stone. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Carolyn Geneva Jones; two brothers, Teddy Jones and Jerry Jones. Billy Ray worked at Holt Truck and Tractor.

He is survived by his wife, Joella Mobley Jones; sons, Robert Ray Jones and Phillip Lee Jones, both of Olivia; step-son, Justin Williams of Bear Creek; brothers, Jimmy Jones of Sanford and Jerome Jones; and four step-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridges-cameronfuneralhome.com.

CHRISTOPHER “HUMP JACK” OCTAVIS GORDON

Christopher “Hump Jack” Octavis Gordon, 50, of Siler City, passed on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at WakeMed in Raleigh.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2020 at Knotts Funeral Home in Pittsboro.

The family will not be receiving visitors at their home due to the coronavirus.

Survivors include daughter, Candace Gordon of Fayetteville; sons, Christain and Joshua Gordon, both of Henderson; sister, Wonda Johnson; brothers, Clayton Gordon, Danny Gordon, both of Durham and Eric Gordon of Moncure; and one grandson.

RAYMOND JEROME BARNES

Raymond Jerome Barnes, 57, died Sunday, March 22, 2020 at The Laurels of Chatham Nursing Home Facility in Pittsboro.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, 2020 at Knotts Funeral Home.

Mr. Barnes, the son of Raymond Dexter Barnes and Marian McLean Barnes was born on May 2, 1962, in Lee County. He attended Lee Senior High School, worked at Caterpillar, and was a member of Fair Promise AME Zion Church. He was preceded in death by his father.

Surviving is his mother, Marian McLean Barnes; sister, Tara Barnes of Fayetteville; and brothers, Tony Barnes of Durham, and Christopher Barnes of Kansas.

THOMAS “KNOT” BRANTON KNIGHT

Sanford - Thomas “Knot” Branton Knight, 83, of Pittsboro passed away Monday, March 30, 2020.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mr. Knight was born in Harnett County, son of the late James Cortis Knight and Annie Viola Malone Miles. He was preceded in death by his son, James “Jimmy” Knight, a brother, James Halford Knight, and a grandson.

Survivors include his daughter, Jessica Knight O’Hara of Pittsboro; four grandchildren; and sister, Elizabeth Knight Wilson.

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

Arrangements are by Rogers-Pickard Funeral Home.

CHRISTOPHER DIEGO COTTON

Christopher Diego Cotton, 58, formerly of Pittsboro, passed away Saturday, March 21, 2020 in Raleigh.

Survivors include his daughter Chrystal E. Stackhouse of Brooklyn, NY; mother, Linda L. Hil; Sisters, LaShaunda M. Ladouceur, Township of Newburg, NY, Dana S. Thomas of Stormville, NY.

Services Entrusted to: Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro. Jose Luis Gonzalez Giron

January 24, 1957 ~ March 25, 2020 (age 63)

Provided by Knotts Funeral Home

JOSE LUIS GONZALEZ GIRON

Jose Luis Gonzalez Giron, 63, of Chapel Hill, passed away on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at SECU Jim Betsy Hospice Home in Pittsboro.

Visitation was held from 12 to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, 2020 at Knotts Funeral Home.

MARGO SMITH SIMMONS

Margo Smith Simmons, 75, of Liberty passed away on Sunday, March 29, 2020 at her home.

Due to the coronavirus, a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Loflin Funeral Home of Liberty is honored to serve the Simmons family.

JOHN GRIFFIN

John Griffin, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at his home.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time and will be announced by Bridges Cameron-Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridges-cameronfuneralhome.com.

JOHN DONNELL WATSON

John Donnell Watson, 59, of Pittsboro, passed away on Sunday, March 22, 2020 at UNC Hospital, Chapel Hill.

Arrangements will be announced later.

Services entrusted to: Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro.

NEWS BRIEFS

Causey urges residents to be on guard against COVID-19 scams

RALEIGH — North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey joins the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud in urging residents to be on guard against scammers preying on fears related to the coronavirus pandemic.

“Crooks will stop at nothing to scam the public, including using the coronavirus as a means of stealing your money, or worse your personal identity,” Causey said. “If you get an unsolicited visit, call or email offering “corona” insurance, free or low-costs tests, or seeking personal information, it’s best to close the door, hang up, or exit out of the email and notify the authorities.”

The Coalition Against Insurance Fraud has identified the top five coronavirus – or COVID-19 – scams:

1. Fake “corona” insurance. Fake health insurance agents may try to sell low-priced insurance to cover coronavirus treatment. Most standard health insurance policies provide coverage for coronavirus treatment. If you receive one of these calls, simply hang up on the caller or robocall.

2. Canceled health insurance. Beware of bogus calls warning you that your health insurance was canceled. These scammers may give you a tollfree number to call or you may be urged to click on a link in an email. Clicking on the link could result in the scammer installing malware on your

electronic device. Most of these are attempts to steal your personal information. If you have a question regarding your health insurance, call the number on your insurance card.

3. Corona medicines and tests. Scammers are peddling fake vaccines, drugs, all-natural or organic treatments that are “insured and paid for” by your health insurance policy. The novel coronavirus is new. There is no known cure yet.

4. Senior scams. Beware of free virus tests at senior centers, health fairs or in your home. These scammers might ask for your Medicare number, Social Security number or other information to steal your medical or personal identity. Talk to your doctor or local health department if you think you need a test. Call your health insurer to answer any coverage questions.

5. Bogus travel insurance. Be wary of pitches for travel insurance that claim to cover coronavirus-related trip cancellations. Most standard travel insurance policies do not cover viral outbreaks or pandemics unless you are sick or if you have an expensive “cancel for any reason” policy. Know what your policy does and doesn’t cover.

If you have questions, you may speak to a consumer specialist at the N.C. Department of Insurance by calling 855-408-1212. To report suspected fraud, contact the N.C. Department of Insurance Criminal Investigations Division at 919-807-6840. Callers may remain anonymous.

— CN+R staff reports



Bowen Insurance Agency, Inc



Bowen Insurance Agency has a new location in Pittsboro (formerly APC Insurance)!

We are an independent insurance agency founded in Wake County in 2001 by Brad Bowen. We are thrilled to be expanding into Chatham County! The new location will be managed by Pittsboro resident, Jennifer McLaurin.



Bowen Insurance Agency is located at: 1345 Thompson Street (formerly APC Insurance)

Give us a call at 919-444-2499



CHURCH NEWS

LYSTRA BAPTIST CHURCH

The Lystra Clothes Closet will be closed on the regularly scheduled open-

ing date of April 4, due to the COVID-19 virus. Will announce the next opening date as soon as possible.

Sheltering in place? What about your car?

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — As more Chatham County residents hunker down in their homes aiming to avoid contact with COVID-19 and help curb its spread, traffic on local roads and highways is noticeably light.

“We’re definitely noticing our call volume go down,” said N.C. Highway Patrol Sgt. Marsh, who works out of the Patrol’s regional office serving Chatham and Lee counties.

“But there’s still traffic,” he said last week before a statewide stay-at-home order was enacted by Gov. Roy Cooper.

“People are still out and about.”

The Patrol remains fully staffed, Marsh said, and Patrol officers continue to do their jobs.

“It’s business as usual and we’re still responding to calls,” the sergeant said. “Nothing with our mission has changed yet.”

The Patrol, while continuing with duties, has implemented some new measures as the statewide law enforcement agency adjusts to working during the COVID-19 pandemic, including additional cleaning of vehicles to limit officers’ exposure to the novel coronavirus.

“We’re having officers clean the inside of their patrol cars daily,” said Marsh. “And they’re social distancing. With this job, that’s not always possible, but we’re doing that to the extent we can.”

Fewer people operating their cars and trucks, of course, means decreased need for auto repairs; and this is already affecting the business bottom line of car care professionals like Keith Nelson, owner of Nelson Tire & Automotive in Siler City. The East Third Street auto shop fulfills a variety of service and repair needs, and automotive shops are included in the list of businesses deemed “essential” in North Carolina during this crisis.

With many North Caro-



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Normally late on a weekday afternoon, traffic on West Street near downtown Pittsboro would be busy. But on Monday, there was little of it.

lina residents sheltering in place over the last couple of weeks, and with statewide stay-at-home orders in place in North Carolina as of Monday, March 30 at 5 p.m., demand for car care service has shrunk proportionately.

“There’s very little traffic,” observed Nelson late last week before Gov. Roy Cooper issued a stay-at-home mandate. “I got out on [U.S.] 64 this morning and I didn’t see a lot of traffic. It’s usually very busy and just not there. The more traffic on the roads, it seems like the busier we are.”

So a reduction in traffic norms has “definitely had an affect on us,” said Nelson, who added that he plans to keep his business open during the duration. “We’ve slowed down a lot in the last five or six days compared to where we were even two weeks ago.”

Including himself and his wife, Nelson employs 10 full-time employees and one part-time staffer.

“We always stay busy, even with that much help,” he said, of the normal business climate.

Of the current business climate, Nelson noted, “I’m going to stay open as long as I can and everybody wants to work and there’s work to do.”

Greg Henson, owner of Downtown Automotive on South Chatham Avenue in Siler City, said his automotive repair business — normally steady and

bustling with repair work usually scheduled four and five days out — has slowed considerably with growing concerns about COVID-19.

“It’s really slowed things down and it’s affected business a whole lot,” said Henson, who employs six people. “We may have to start laying people off, or having some employees alternate days. We’ve talked about that. This is having a big impact on everybody’s business.”

Some customers who had scheduled appointments for work have failed to show up for those appointments, said Henson, who speculated those no-shows may be occurring as more people grow concerned about being in public places.

As more cars likely sit in driveways unused for longer-than-normal periods of time, Henson advised motorists take at least one easy measure to help keep their cars operating: every few days, start it up and let it run to avoid draining the battery.

“If they’re going to sit for months, that’s one thing. But if your car is going to sit for four or five days, it’s a good idea to start it up and let it run for about 15 minutes to avoid draining the battery,” he said. “That’s the biggest thing.”

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

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

BLOOMIN' HUMANS

ACROSS

1 "Rabbit food"
6 Back-and-forth talk
12 Cold case solvers, often
20 Oven maker
21 Source of weather upheaval
22 This instant
23 MTV's first Latina video jockey
25 "Don't go anywhere"
26 Dresses up
27 Cubs' and Eagles' gp.
29 Mazda
30 Common conjunction
31 Social-climbing snob on "Keeping Up Appearances"
37 Gp. in the Arab League
40 Funny Conan
42 Blends to mush
43 35th president's mother
46 Banjoist
47 Inking
51 Carve — career
52 Post-Q string

53 "The Sea, the Sea" novelist of 1978
56 Highway jam
58 Adhesive rolls
60 German king called "the Great"
61 Verb suffix in London
62 When Hamlet's soliloquy is recited
66 — New Guinea (island nation)
69 Li'l Abner's mother
71 Friend of Lucy van Pelt and Patty
76 Beef up
77 Clout
79 Cold, in Peru
80 "You can't — train"
83 Actress
84 Famed killer whale
86 "Lost Souls" novelist of 1992
90 Penpoint
93 Siberia locale
94 Chichi
95 Tehran locale
96 Vampiric TV housewife

100 Shorthand whiz, in brief
102 Poe's "radiant maiden"
103 Cleveland-to-Raleigh dir.
104 Aunt of Harry Potter
109 DJ's platters
111 Level, grassy plain
112 Pub fixture
113 Ball-shaped blooms
117 Aim for
121 Hippies (and an alternate title for this puzzle)
125 Tidied up
126 Novelist Gay
127 Trashed stuff
128 Declared
129 Declared
130 Busybody

DOWN

1 "Smooth Operator" singer
2 "Walk Like a Man"
3 Woodsy den
4 Actor
5 Diary
6 God, in Latin
7 — de-France
8 Actress
9 Ignited
10 Last year before the first century
11 Busybody
12 HMO VIPs
13 Petty peeve
14 — Khan
15 Lymphoid organ in the neck
16 Moral code
17 Sort not to be trusted
18 Eggy cake
19 Elbow grease
24 "Giant"
25 Wolf-headed Egyptian god
31 Inking
32 "—haw!"
33 Common conjunction
34 Uno plus dos
35 Ship's wheel
36 Romeo
37 Bit of expert advice
38 Writer — May Alcott
39 "Your Best Life Now" author Joel Osteen
41 ICU figures
44 Water, to
45 "Gadzooks!"
47 Dog collar attachment
48 Part of many an emoticon
49 Friendly introduction?
50 Sushi tuna
54 Keanu of the screen
55 Driving paths
57 Check-giving time at work
58 Fri. follows it
59 Arrid target
63 Film dancer
64 Wee kid
65 Ring victory, for short
66 Cooking vessels
67 Muhammad
68 Guitar piece
70 Overly sweet
72 Suffix with journal
73 Celebrity tributes
74 Fighting forces
75 1983 Lionel Richie hit
76 Film holder
80 Health club
81 Blue Jays, on sports tickers
82 Decide
83 Triumph in the end
85 Keeps
87 Tube-shaped pasta
88 La — Tar Pits
89 Senator Paul
90 Big Apple's city and state: Abbr.
91 "I'd say," in a text message
92 Coarse sack material
97 Unwell
98 Spike of films
99 They may cry "Uncle!"
100 One napping noisily
101 Inserted plant shoots
104 Main course of action
105 Nobody — (mine alone)
106 Spanish bar appetizers
107 Link up
108 Messy impact sound
110 MIT business school name
113 Historical slave Scott
114 — facto
115 Countertenor
116 Filter slowly
118 Strip doc
119 Golf prop
120 Singular
122 Ending for Motor
123 Soggy
124 Suffix with journal

Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

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FACEBOOK LIVE TRANSCRIPT

Chatham health officials Layton Long, Dr. Stephanie Freese talk COVID-19

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The News + Record sat down with Layton Long, director of the Chatham County Public Health Department, and Dr. Stephanie Freese, member of the Chatham County Board of Health and owner of Polaris Equine Mobile Veterinary Clinic, to talk about all things COVID-19 in Chatham, from why it's called COVID-19 to the potential for spread in Chatham to why numbers of tests and positive tests may not be reflective of the full story in the county.

The interview was broadcast on Facebook Live on the Chatham News + Record's Facebook page on Tuesday, March 25. The following transcript has been edited for clarity and length. The full transcript is available online at chathamnewsrecord.com.

What is COVID-19? What does it stand for?

Long: The World Health Organization announced the official name of the disease that is causing the corona virus outbreak which emanated from China. The name of the coronavirus disease abbreviated COVID-19. CO stands for Corona, VI for virus and D for disease. And of course, the 19 is related to the year in which it was first identified.

Freese: So COVID-19 is the name of the disease. The name of the actual virus itself is SARS-CoV-2, and that stands for severe acute respiratory syndrome, the coronavirus and the number 2 because there was a SARS that you're probably familiar with in the media several years ago that was also a respiratory disease. And so that is why there's a name for the disease that'd be COVID-19. There's a name of the virus and then Coronavirus and novel Coronavirus; novel simply just means new.

What's specific to COVID-19 that's different from other coronaviruses?

Long: A lot of this has been in the media and has remained consistent throughout this outbreak. The disease usually has symptoms similar, very similar to flu: cough, fever, and particularly a shortness of breath. COVID-19 typically causes mild symptoms, mild respiratory symptoms. Most people are going to be able to get over it without hospitalization. Although there have been reports of severe illnesses resulting in death and hospitalization, respiratory symptoms alone are not necessarily the indicator of COVID-19. So, if you're having



Photo courtesy of Kara Dudley

Chatham County Public Health Director Layton Long, left, talks about COVID-19 during a Facebook Live chat with the News + Record last Tuesday. Looking on are Dr. Stephanie Freese, center, a member of the county's Board of Health, and News + Record reporter Zachary Horner.

fever, cough, flu-like symptoms, then certainly you might want to consult with your medical professional about where to go from there. And just a reminder, we are still in flu season, and it could be the typical flu that we experience every year.

What's the difference between this and the flu?

Long: The difference is, the communicability of it is significantly different. It is a much more highly infectious to the public and it spreads much more rapidly. The biggest concern is that flu, typical flu, a certain small percentage of people will need medical care beyond what they can do at their home — 1 or 2 percent of my understanding of people that will present (to the hospital) in any given flu season. What they're seeing with this particular coronavirus is that it's upwards of sometimes 20 percent of people will need assistive care beyond what they can manage at home, which is why it's critically important that we try to flatten this curve of infection, because if you wind up having that many people presenting at the hospital, it can overwhelm our medical systems.

Freese: One more very important difference between the coronavirus and the flu, aside from the higher mortality rate, is the fact that we actually have a vaccine already for the flu. So we have measures in place that we can take to try and slow the flu down if there's a particularly bad flu season. And I know there's a lot of talk in the media right now about possible

treatments for the coronavirus, but unfortunately, at this stage, none of them have been proven to be successful. Because we don't have any kind of mitigation, there's no treatment, there's no vaccine. That is what makes this disease so scary. There's just nothing we can do except for the social distancing and the personal hygiene to slow it down.

Is there any special concern around Chatham and the higher than average rate of senior citizens?

Long: I think it is certainly a factor. If you're looking at communities that have a predominantly young population, then probably the numbers would change, not the percentages necessarily but the actual numbers of people involved with increased medical care would certainly factor into that. One of the things that we've seen out west, with (COVID-19) running through a nursing home like that, it can spread very rapidly and have pretty dramatic impacts. So yes, age is certainly a factor. Yes, age will be a big concern moving forward and protecting those populations, again, to reiterate, is our ability not to protect ourselves, which is important, but to protect others.

Where are we in Chatham County regarding the number of tests and people who have contracted?

Long: The testing guidance is changing. It's changed a lot in just a couple of days. Most people are aware that initially we had one case in Chatham County, then we had two more

following that. And I think that one of the things I want to emphasize relative to testing is that the change that has come down is related to the designation that it is now community spread in North Carolina. So that being the case, the testing has shifted. And there's a lot of reasons for this shift from "we're going to test anybody that is sick or presenting" to "we're going to test people that meet certain categories." And your doctor would be the one to screen out whether that was appropriate for you, based on your conditions and your health status at that time whether or not it would be appropriate for you to be tested.

Freese: I think it's important to define what community spread is so that people have a better understanding of why we're using that term. So, from a fun epidemiological standpoint — and I know most people don't think science is fun, so you're going to have to forgive me. When we are tracking an outbreak of any disease, you start with the people who have symptoms, and then you try and trace it backwards to wherever it started. And as long as there is this tracing where you can say, "Person A touched Person B who kissed person C," that's contact tracing, and we know exactly where the virus is. When we talk about community spread, that means Person F showed up with symptoms, and we have no idea how they touched Person A, B or C.

What would you say to people who say they have a right to know if they've been in close contact with someone who has contracted COVID-19?

Long: When we got the initial cases, the health department knew those individuals, we were in contact with them. We were following them, we were tracking them, tracing, and I actually issued isolation and quarantine orders for those individuals. And they were getting testing done. Because they were the first case, we knew where they were, and we were trying to manage it at that level. And that's what the state was doing initially in the process.

And at this point, with community spread, that's, I guess to use the analogy, the horses are out of the gate. We've had them in a corral as long as we could contain them, but now they're out. And so we just need to realize that knowing the individual is really not relevant at this point.

The Health Department absolutely has a legal obligation to protect anybody's personal

health information and their privacy. If you're that individual, you would certainly want that allowed for your personal privacy and protection. So I want to hope that the message here is that the focus is doing those behaviors that protect us all.

Freese: I think the the focus on the number of cases is very understandable. We're trying to ascertain our own risk levels — are there three, are there five, are there 20. But because of the way that the testing guidelines have changed, in order to protect your first responders, your doctors, your firefighters, it's going to make the numbers appear falsely low.

Do you think all the closures being put into place is a good and positive step?

Long: The whole premise of doing these closures is to reduce the possibility of people coming into contact with a case or somebody that has the virus. Are they going to be effective? Time will tell. They are certainly prudent. And that's why the state health department and the governor's offices recommended them. The less you have people in congregations — like in dense congregations, like schools or churches or sports events and those kind of venues — when you're looking at an R0 of what this virus carries, if you've got one infected person and a very densely crowded event, then the probability of that virus being spread to multiple people increases dramatically versus not having the event. So you significantly reduce that probability. So that is the reason for the closings.

Any chance you know when we can get back to "normal"?

Long: I'd be terribly afraid to make any kind of prediction on that.

Freese: We're probably going to look at a new normal. You're probably never gonna think about shaking hands the same way as you did several months ago. And you might not value the amount of time that you can spend in pajamas the same way that you did six months ago, and for those of us like myself, who are extreme extroverts, and just love physical interaction and and face-to-face interaction, it will be an absolute adjustment. I'm going to have to learn to love the sound of my own voice just a little bit more than I currently do in order to protect the people I love.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@Zach-HornerCNR](https://twitter.com/Zach-HornerCNR).

Duke Energy, county officials to test sirens around Harris Nuclear Plant

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

NEW HILL — Duke Energy will conduct a scheduled quarterly test of the 83 outdoor warning sirens around Harris Nuclear Plant between 10

and 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 8. During the tests, the 83 poll-mounted sirens will be sounded for five to 30 seconds, according to Duke Energy officials, who note that all tests of sirens around the nuclear facility are conducted in

cooperation with emergency officials, who are responsible for sounding the alarms, in surrounding counties, including Chatham, Harnett, Lee and Wake counties. The emergency sirens are regularly tested to make sure they work

properly. Siren tests are loud and can be heard for several miles, although residents may or may not hear sirens while inside, according to the utility provider. It is important to note, stress Duke Energy officials, that in an emergency, the sirens

would sound repeatedly. Sirens may also be sounded on non-scheduled days after needed maintenance. Local media outlets are notified if sirens are to be tested on a non-scheduled day. Residents within the 10-mile Harris Nuclear

Plant emergency zone are notified in advance of the quarterly tests, which are tested every January, April and July. The annual schedule of tests is included in the 2019-20 Harris Nuclear Emergency Preparedness booklets sent to residents living within the emergency planning zone. Sirens for all six of Duke Energy's nuclear plants are additionally tested for three-minute periods each October.

"Because this is a test," a press release from Duke Energy states, "local broadcasting stations will not interrupt regular programming to broadcast Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages. If there were ever a real emergency at the plant requiring the sirens to be sounded, local radio and television stations would broadcast information and instructions to the public."

While quarterly testing of sirens is routine, Duke Energy plans to upgrade the Harris plant's siren activation system this year, requiring additional siren testing during several time periods later this year. To ensure the newly-installed equipment is functioning properly, sirens will be individually tested over two weeks in mid-May. During testing in May, sirens will sound briefly, approximately five to 30 seconds. Siren testing will occur between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

More information about the outdoor warning sirens is available at duke-energy.com/NuclearEP.



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MUSICIANS

Continued from page A1

— nevertheless is making necessary adjustments during the international crisis.

As the coronavirus pandemic began to take a foothold in the United States a few weeks ago, Routh and his bandmates found themselves suddenly grounded in the middle of a tour as venues began canceling shows.

“We were on the West Coast, halfway through a tour when we suddenly lost all our gigs,” Routh said.

They were also headed for Long Beach, California, with gigs along the way — they’d already played four sold-out shows en route — where they were booked to perform on a cruise ship.

“Halfway out there, they canceled the cruise,” he said. “And I’m like, ‘OK, this is getting serious.’ We lost three shows in a matter of 48 hours.”

Within another 24 hours, shows the band had lined up past April also started canceling.

“It snowballed,” Routh said. “One after the other.”

Gigs planned as far out as June remain uncertain.

“The good news,” Routh said, “is, most of those people have said ‘We’ll reschedule you.’”

Nevertheless, it’s been a tough blow for the members of Nu-Blu and other musicians who make a living recording and touring.

“For me as a band owner, I’m having the same stress as any other employer,” Routh said. “We’ve still got to keep everybody paid and keep the lights on.”

Chatham County bluegrass musician Tommy Edwards, like other musicians, hasn’t stopped playing music and writing songs, but he’s also been largely hamstrung by COVID-19.

Edwards normally plays a dozen or so gigs each month. Last October, he played 20.



Submitted photo

Tommy Edwards of Pittsboro normally plays about a dozen gigs per month, but with stay-at-home measures in place with COVID-19, he played only one in March: a Facebook livestream show.

“In March, I had seven cancellations and one postponement,” he said. The upside?

“I’m getting a lot of practice time in,” Edwards said.

At age 74, Edwards is mindful of the need for social distancing to help prevent further spread of coronavirus.

“I’m being very careful,” he said. “I hope everyone will stay safe and we all sort of look out for each other.”

He’s staying at home with his wife, Cindy, spending a lot of time reading, writing songs, playing music at home, and getting exercise (while keeping a six-foot distance from others) on the walking trail at Central Carolina Community College near his home in Pittsboro.

“I’m enjoying time with my wife,” he said. “It’s nice to have a little slow down.”

Since the pandemic, Edwards has

played one show: a solo set livestreamed to Facebook audiences on March 21 from the Bynum Front Porch’s “Live and Rockin’” series. Musicians Eric Bannean and Cynthia Raxter were also on the bill, but all played solo sets and kept a distance of six feet from each other.

Such livestream performances allow musicians to still play for their audiences, keeping them entertained while maintaining social distancing; such creative ways of making and broadcasting music have proven a positive experience for both audience and musicians.

“It felt pretty good,” Edwards said of the gig. “It was very gratifying to get to play, but I miss the audience a lot.”

The March 21 livestream reached an appreciative audience of nearly 3,000, though instead of cheering and clapping, they left comments on Facebook: “We all need some sunshine right now,” wrote listener Amy Sugg Burke. “Loving this performance,” wrote Selbe Bartlett.

Bynum Front Porch organizers are appreciative, too.

“We at Bynum Front Porch would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who have watched our livestream shows, given us uplifting messages, and sent us good vibes the past few weeks,” the non-profit posted on its Facebook page. “Together, we are learning to live a ‘new normal’ in this rapidly changing world.”

But the organization still needs funding to keep the music coming.

“We can only continue to exist and thrive with help from all of you,” they continued. “Without crowds filing in and out of the store on weekends, without our pith helmet being passed around the audience, and without having our donation jars filled up with ‘fives and tens’ our mission will come to a screeching halt.”

Listeners may donate to Bynum Front Porch through a link on Facebook.

Nu-Blu, finding itself having to turn around mid-tour and head back east to hunker down, has also gotten creative in reaching its fans.

While headed back to the East Coast, Nu-Blu made an impromptu pit stop, performing a livestreamed concert from the roadside in the California desert.

“It was pretty cool,” said Routh.

Nu-Blu has also released a new song called “Horse Thieves and Moonshiners,” the lead single from the group’s upcoming full-length project set for release in summer 2020.

“Right now all of us in Nu-Blu are feeling the same way everyone else is feeling,” reads a statement released by the band. “We’re worried about loved ones, concerned about finances and seem to find ourselves watching the news or scrolling through social media hoping for that announcement that this is all over. But we realized there’s no better time than this, while we’re all together with our families to learn more about where we came from. It’s those stories that many times we only hear at holidays or family reunions, that we pass down through a verbal history. Now is the time to learn about that crazy story from mom or dad of something they did as a teenager, or uncover something really cool about your great-great grandparents. Who knows, they might have just been horse thieves and moonshiners.”

Nu-Blu is also continuing to reach its audience as the host of the nationally-syndicated weekly television program, “Bluegrass Ridge,” which airs on multiple channels including Heartland TV and The Family Channel and is streamed online through the Bluegrass Ridge app available at bluegrassridgetv.com.

“It’s a weird time,” said Routh, “but we’re going to stay positive. One cool thing about music is that it keeps us positive.”

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

CASES

Continued from page A1

Advocates say that will often leave those suffering abuse in their abusive situations all day with less chance for a way out.

“Any reprieve with an abuser at work, and possibly children at school, is most likely not available,” said Tamsey Hill, program director of Second Bloom of Chatham. “Also, tensions can intensify with the uncertainty, loss of power and control, and anxiety of living through a pandemic and the repercussions a

pandemic can have financially and socially on a family. As tensions increase, so does the possibility of abuse.”

Firm numbers are not available yet, but examples are available across the United States and the world. The Montgomery County, Texas-based KHOU reported Monday that the county District Attorney’s Office saw a 35 percent increase in domestic violence cases filed in March 2020 compared to March 2019. Sixth Tone, an English-language Chinese publication, reported March 2 that one police station in Jianli County saw a tripling of

domestic violence reports in February 2020 compared to the same month last year, and the January 2020 numbers were twice that of January 2019.

While many government services and nonprofits have had to limit their operations and exposure to the world due to social distancing guidelines, both the Family Violence Services division at the Chatham County courthouse and Second Bloom of Chatham are continuing to operate. Their joint hotline, available at (919) 545-STOP (7867), is still in operation. Domestic Violence Protective Orders can still be

sought, and advocates are available to take calls and provide guidance.

Hill said Second Bloom is following guidelines set down by the state government as well as the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence while seeking to help survivors.

“Unfortunately, unlike the rest of the world, in times of emergency and pandemics, domestic violence does not stop and often increases,” Hill said. “Even though we may be required to limit face-to-face services or be creative in providing services, we need to be available and

supportive as clients need to know they are not alone, and there is help and hope.”

Foxx said she and her staff are doing that as well, but she said some resources like shelters are stretched. In the meantime, she said, survivors can call either the county helpline if able or call Cardinal Innovations’ mental health helpline to help individuals with heightened anxiety.

“It’s really been some battles in trying to figure out what resources are available,” she said. “We are still here operating inside of the Justice Center with providing protection orders, and we’ll do our best to provide resources.”

And despite the low number of calls, both inside Chatham and out, domestic violence advocates in the county continue to be ready.

“No one’s really seeing an increase, which is why everyone’s on high alert,” Foxx said. “We know that it’s out there. Usually when the abuser goes to work, they can make that phone call. But if they’re home with you 24-7, they don’t have the chance.”

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

JUST RELEASED: FIRST RESIDENTIAL HOMES IN CHATHAM PARK

Chatham Park, in partnership with Fresh Paint by Garman Homes, announced that public pre-sales for their first residential homes will begin on Thursday, March 19, 2020. Widely anticipated in the marketplace, purchase appointments will be available via invitation only, on a first come, first serve basis.

“The ultimate goal of Chatham Park is to create, what our future residents will consider to be, the perfect community...”

The homes, aptly named The Cottages, will range from 828-1,397 sq. ft., with single story and two story plans, and be priced from the low \$200’s. With names like “Hot Chocolate,” “Apple Pie” and “Chicken Noodle Soup,” the home plans offer unique, simple, nostalgic comfort to homebuyers.

“We’re building to deliver an experience-rich, simplistic lifestyle,” says Rebecca McAdoo, Division President of Fresh Paint by Garman Homes.

The size and style of these homes are a direct response to a larger consumer trend showing that more people are desiring smaller homes in order to enjoy greater peripheral benefits, such as walkability and a greater sense of community. All of the Cottages will be walking distance from historic downtown Pittsboro and across The street from a new 10 acre town park, being built by Chatham Park, and Thales Academy school.

“The Triangle marketplace has never seen a home product like this. We are proud to be working with Preston Development Company on the Chatham Park project and believe that this up and coming community is the perfect place to showcase our new offering,” adds McAdoo.



“The ultimate goal of Chatham Park is to create, what our future residents will consider to be, the perfect community and the perfect place for them to call home. That means doing things differently than they’ve ever been done before,” says Vanessa Jenkins, Executive Vice President of Preston Development Company, who is developing Chatham Park. “The Cottages will be the first of many unique neighborhoods here that will cater to niche lifestyle groups, such as minimalist living and artist studios, in order to create a community energized by an expansive diversity of perspectives and talents.”

To receive an invitation for a purchase appointment, interested parties will need to add their name to The

Fresh Paint by Garman mailing list at <https://www.freshpaintbygarman.com/communities/pittsboro/chatham-park>.

The Cottages will be move-in ready by October, 2020 and available for viewing at the Triangle Parade of Homes next fall.

To learn more, contact Fresh Paint by Garman Homes at 800.560.1160, SayHello@GarmanHomes.biz or visit their website [freshpaintbygarman.com](https://www.freshpaintbygarman.com).



Visit us at [ChathamPark.com](https://www.ChathamPark.com)

Olympic swimming dream still alive for Siler City's Jennah Fadely

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — While the outbreak of COVID-19 has brought the sports world to a virtual standstill, one local athlete continues to pursue her aspirations of becoming a world record holder in swimming and one day representing the United States in the Olympics.



Fadely

Jennah Fadely, a rising senior at Jordan-Matthews High School this fall, was born in Sanford and has always called Siler City her home. She is the daughter of Lewis and Kim Fadely and has one older sister, Morgan, who actually was the inspiration for Jennah to get into swimming.

"I have always looked up to my sister, so when she started swimming I wanted to do it too so I could be more like her," Fadely said during a recent interview.

She started taking lessons when she was seven and began year-round swimming when she turned 13. She swam part-time with the Sanford Squids under coaches Greg Huff and Ashley Long when she was nine before moving on to swim with the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA the past five years under the guidance of her current coach, Shawn Columbia.

"Since joining our swim team, Jennah has progressed from being a good age group swimmer to being a great senior swimmer," Columbia said. "She has continued to work at her technique, race strategies and strength, with a strong focus on breaststroke events. Her solid commitment has allowed



Submitted photo

Jennah Fadely of Siler City prepares to take the starting platform in meet action earlier this season. Fadely is up for consideration for All-American honors nationally.

her to obtain many individual national rankings along with qualifying times for the TYR Pro Series, YMCA Nationals and USA National Championships."

Having already obtained her lifeguard and CPR certification, Jennah commented that one of the aspects she likes about her present team is the number of little kids involved. "I really enjoy having an opportunity to work with younger swimmers by giving them pointers and helping teach them the basic

swim strokes," she stated.

Columbia said he's noticed how much of an influence she is on his team.

"Jennah is a team leader and positive role model," he said. "Our younger swimmers often refer to her as 'grandma' because of her maturity and wisdom, and they see everyday what the potential can be when you work hard."

While she said the breaststroke is her favorite swim

See **FADELY**, page B2



Submitted photo

Siler City's Jennah Fadely posted a 1:02.58 in the breaststroke and is in the running for All-American honors. Fadely, a rising senior at Jordan-Matthews, has aspirations of performing for the U.S. Olympic swim team one day.

Baker's Dozen All-County Basketball teams filled with talent

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

To say the 2019-2020 basketball season was a banner season would be a vast understatement.

Eight of the 10 high school teams advanced to the state playoffs with six teams taking opening round playoff wins, five moving into the third round, and a pair reaching the regional finals in the Northwood and Chatham Charter boys.

The Northwood boys and Chatham Charter boys both had late leads against Fayetteville Westover and Winston Salem Prep respectively before falling just short of battling for a state championship. Also, the Chatham Central girls lost out to Weldon, which was headed to the 1A state championship, and the Jordan-Matthews boys fell to Farmville Central, which was set to defend its 2A state crown.

In Pittsboro, the Northwood boys closed at 27-3 under coach Matthew Brown while

a young Northwood girls team finished 22-6 under coach Cameron Vernon.

At Chatham Charter in Siler City, the Knights boys and girls teams shattered basically every school record in the six-year history of the programs, including the boys going 32-2 under coach Jason Messier and the girls 27-4 under coach Jennifer Dameron.

All four of those teams won conference titles, as did the Chatham Central boys under coach Robert Burke, who posted a 22-6 record overall and shared

the 1A Yadkin Valley Conference regular season crown with North Rowan. Woods Charter, under the guidance of Princess Alston, rode the play of Emmi Hutter-DeMarco and Corinn Harrington to make the state playoffs a year after not even fielding a team while finishing at 11-7 overall.

What a great year it was, And now, below, I present to you the 2019-2020 Chatham News + Record Baker's Dozen All-County Boys and Girls Basketball Teams...

2019-2020 Baker's Dozen All-County Boys Basketball

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

In normal years, choosing ten players for an All-County basketball team would suffice. But the overall wealth of talent in Chatham County in the 2019-2020 season on the hardcourt made that virtually impossible. One only needs to wade through the results to discover that fact. Thus the Baker's Dozen was formed, and I present to you the 2019-2020 Chatham News + Record Baker's Dozen All-County Boys Basketball Team.

The latest edition of the All-County team features five players from Northwood, three each from Chatham Charter and Chatham Central, and two from Jordan-Matthews. It features talented guards, wing players and post players with talent that can run the floor, bang the boards, hit treys, and score off the dribble and transition. Simply put, depth-wise it is one of the best ever in the county.

In Pittsboro, coach

Matthew Brown did a fabulous job as his Chargers came within minutes of beating a special 29-0 unbeaten Fayetteville Westover team to advance to the NCHSAA 3A State Championship game.

Coming into the season, Northwood was expected to be good and this was a proverbial "this is the year" club with all five members making the All-County team as seniors and in at least their third season at the varsity level.

Leading the way is Deuce Powell and Aaron Ross. The two are almost clones performance-wise in that they can do it all, with Ross being a bit more of an inside player and Powell more of an outside threat.

Powell averaged 14.8 per game and Ross 14.4 to lead the way in scoring for a Chargers team that had so many offensive weapons to provide points.

As far as Powell goes, who will ever forget one of the greatest finishes in Chatham County sports

history when the senior guard heaved up a trey at the buzzer from the right sidelines off an inbound pass from midcourt to beat Fayetteville Terry Sanford 56-54 in the second round in Pittsboro?

Powell could hit the trey and score off transition and the dribble while providing stellar defense and also rebounding for the 27-3 Chargers.

Ross, well, he is just silky smooth and was a slicer through opposing defenses going to the hoop while also a top rebound for the Northwood squad. The senior left-hander who has a lot of ups was uncanny positioning himself in the paint against taller players while also exploding down the court in the transition game.

Also making the squad from Northwood were Alex Snively, Jalen McAfee-Marion, and Jack Thompson.

Snively coupled with Powell in taking care of most of the ball-handling duties for the Chargers

See **BOYS**, page B3

2019-2020 Baker's Dozen All-County Girls Basketball

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

It was a great season in girls basketball in 2019-2020 as four of the five Chatham County teams made the NCHSAA state playoffs and three advanced into the third round.

Northwood, Chatham Charter, and Chatham Central all made it into the third round while Woods Charter made the state playoffs after not even fielding a team a year ago.

In Pittsboro, a young Northwood team posted a 22-6 record under coach Cameron Vernon and the Chargers led the way on the All-County team with five players.

Sophomore McKenna Snively, freshman Tekeyah Bland, junior Rae McClarty, sophomore Natalie Bell and freshman Gianna Mcmanaman all made the squad.

Snively, a 5-foot-10 guard, led the Chargers in threes while also providing a long guard that presented huge match-up problems with her length

on the defensive end as well as off the dribble. With added strength, Snively could develop into one of the very top players in the county in the coming seasons.

Bland, meanwhile, came into Northwood with a lot of hype. The freshman delivered with 12 points per game to lead a Lady Chargers squad that was full of capable scores up and down the roster, leading to a great deal of balance. With develop and consistency the sky is the limit in the coming seasons for the 6-foot Bland who is also a force on the glass and in blocked shots (33), and mobile enough to get up and down the court in transition.

Bell, McClarty and Mcmanaman are basically a trio of stocking stuffers for coach Vernon. All three play tenacious on the ball defense out top with Bell lightning quick at 5-foot-2, and McClarty and Mcmanaman longer at 5-foot-8 each. Bell was second in the team in three-pointers with 26, Mcmanaman easily led

the team in assists with 53, and McClarty added totals of 47 rebounds, 39 steals, 22 assists and 10 blocked shots.

In Siler City, the Chatham Charter girls obliterated every conceivable record this season, team and individually. In going 27-4, the Lady Knights placed three on the All-County team in freshman speedster Tamaya Walden, and junior twin towers Morgan Lineberry and Rebecca McGaughnea.

Walden, like Bland, was expected to explode onto the scene and the freshman did with a stat line that read like a Christmas gift. Walden scored 13.1 points per game, had 160 rebounds, 122 assists, 154 steals and 28 blocks. Little wonder that she is considered one of the up and coming stars in the county for the coming years.

Lineberry, at 6-foot-0, was one of the top post players in the county this fall and averaged 15 points and nine rebounds

See **GIRLS**, page B2

Mock NCAA tournament marches on

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

What has been a well-received mock NCAA Tournament in Chatham County continued over the weekend with the Sweet 16 and the Great Eight contests.

Locally, Duke flew past top-seed Dayton 86-81 at the East Regional in New York City to advance to battle the Creighton Blue Jays in the Great Eight. Despite falling behind by double digits late in the opening half, the Blue Devils rallied to capture a 93-91 overtime win to punch its ticket to the Final Four in Atlanta.

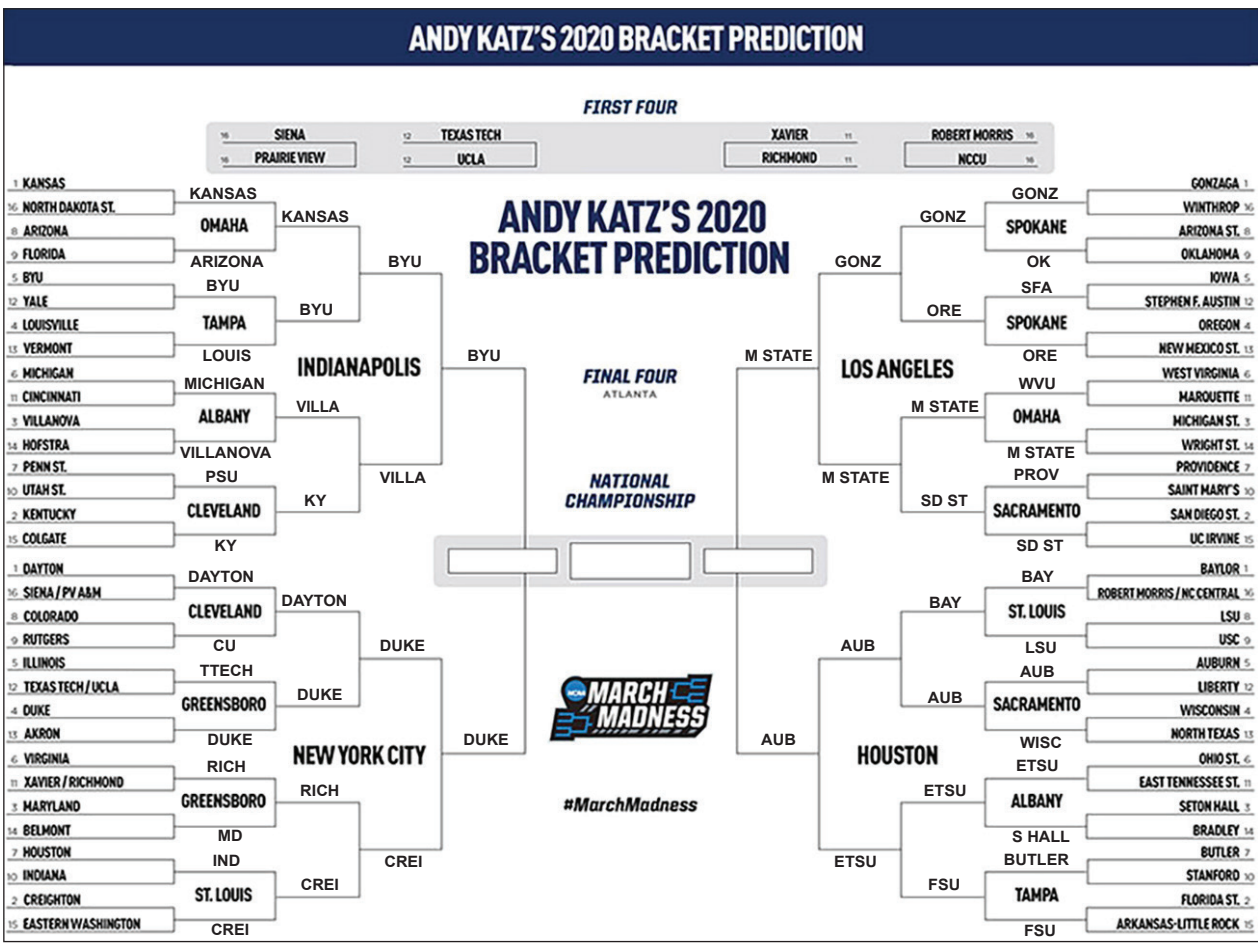
The news wasn't as good for fellow ACC member Florida State, which was upset by a red hot East Tennessee State club by a 77-69 count at the South Regional in Houston. The Buccaneers went on to battle Auburn, a 69-61 victor over topseed Baylor in the Sweet 16.

Despite a great effort, East Tennessee State fell 88-84 to Auburn which returns to the Final Four for a second straight season under coach Bruce Pearl.

In Indianapolis at the Midwest Regional, top-seeded Kansas was upset 92-90 in overtime by the most veteran team in the tournament, Brigham Young. The Cougars went on to cruise past Villanova 74-62 to reach the Final Four in Atlanta in stunning fashion.

Out at the West Regional in Los Angeles it was Michigan State, the preseason No. 1, battling past Gonzaga 91-90 in a thrilling contest in the finals. Gonzaga was the last hope for a No. 1 seed in the tournament to advance to the Final Four, only to see its hopes dashed by the Spartans.

Action begins on Saturday in Hot Atlanta in the semifinals with the NCAA Finals set for Monday night.



GIRLS

Continued from page B1

a game while also blocking 49 shots and recording 47 steals. The junior should be one of the top post players in the area next season regardless of classification.

McGaughnea did it all down low for the Knights, teaming up with Lineberry to give Chatham Charter and Coach Dameron n talented duo post presence. When needed, McGuaghnea could score while consistently providing a rebounding and defensive presence for the Knights.

In Bear Creek, Mary Grace Murchison and Danielle Vaughn, both junior guards, were selected for the Lady Bears after strong seasons which resulted in a 16-13 final record and a third round loss at Weldon, which was slated to play Murphy for the state title when COVID-19 put an end to things.

Murchison and Vaughn both ran the show as ball handlers for the Bears and did it all — scoring off the break, off the dribble and from behind the arc and setting up teammates via the pass. The two were both strong defensively and rebounded as well. Murchison and Vaughn should provide Chatham Central with one of the best guard combos in all of 1A next season.

In Siler City at Jordan-Matthews, one of the most exciting players in the county was sophomore Ellia Wright. The shifty 5-foot-4 guard did it all for first-year coach Charles Bryd with her tough defense, ability to drive, and quickness in the transition game. Wright paced the Lady Jets in scoring on the season and should be a fun player to watch in the area in the coming seasons.

Much of the same could be said for junior Emma Hutter-DeMarco of Woods Charter, who's more of a strong and powerful guard who can also score off the dribble and from behind the arc like Wright. Hutter-DeMarco was the central figure in

The Chatham News + Record Baker's Dozen All-County Girls' Basketball Team

Natalie Bell (sophomore, Northwood)
Tekeyah Bland (freshman, Northwood)
Emma Hutter-DeMarco (junior, Woods Charter)
Morgan Lineberry (junior, Chatham Charter)
Rae McClarty (junior, Northwood)
Rebecca McGaughnea (junior, Chatham Charter)
Gianna Mcmanaman (freshman, Northwood)
Mary Grace Murchison (junior, Chatham Central)
McKenna Snively (sophomore, Northwood)
Danielle Vaughn (junior, Chatham Central)
Tamaya Walden (freshman, Chatham Charter)
Ellia Wright (sophomore, Jordan-Matthews)
Caitlyn Bailey (senior, Northwood), Corinn Harrington (senior, Woods Charter), Avery Headen (senior, Jordan-Matthews), Eliana Phillips (senior, Chatham Central) (tie)

Honorable Mention: Chandler Adams (senior, Northwood), MaKayla Glover (senior, Jordan-Matthews), Sophie Phillips (junior, Chatham Central), Jasmine Scotten (junior, Jordan-Matthews), Jy Smith (senior, Northwood), Savannah Stilwell (junior, Chatham Central)

leading the Lady Wolves to a state playoff bid after the program failed to field a team a year earlier.

So by now you've guessed it, and probably realized that the Baker's Dozen is one short. Well, I've decided to do something pretty unprecedented, and given these strange times, something appropriate. I'm letting four seniors share that final spot — not because they are the most talented players on the team, though they are all talented in their own right — but that they all played vital senior leadership roles for their respective teams and I basically debated for hours here at work back and forth for who should get the spot.

Finally, that was my

conclusion, and why not honor these four in Chatham Central's Eliana Phillips, Woods Charter's Corinn Harrington, Northwood's Caitlyn Bailey, and Jordan-Matthews' Avery Headen.

Now the one thing all four brought outside of leadership was hustle, defense and capable scoring for their respective teams. Headen and Phillips did more from the outside though Phillips would seemingly line up everywhere while Bailey and Harrington were big on the boards for their teams and also capable scorers. So that final spot is for a foursome of seniors, and given the success of this season, very deserving.

FADELY

Continued from page B1

stroke, Fadely added that she also enjoys freestyle and the individual medley, which consists of all four strokes (butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle). She hopes to receive a scholarship to a liberal arts college where she can continue to swim while possibly majoring in the field of art history or sports therapy.

Before concentrating on swimming, Jennah enjoyed other recreational activities such as basketball, soccer and cross country but stopped participating in those sports in middle school when she decided she liked swimming better

and wanted that to be her primary focus.

Under normal circumstances, Jennah's routine training schedule at the YMCA consists of two-and-a-half hour sessions six days a week, but with the current mandate on social distancing in effect, she is confined to practicing in her backyard pool. While her short course season (all swim meets scheduled for this spring) has been cancelled, she remains optimistic her chance to qualify for the Olympics has only been delayed for the time being.

The Olympic Trials (which occur once every four years) were originally scheduled to be held the end of June 2020 in Omaha, Nebraska. They have been postponed until

further notice, but Fadely qualified for All-American consideration for her swim time clocked earlier this year in the women's 100-yard breaststroke.

As she explained it, "The consideration time standard was 1:03.80 and my time was 1:03.32, while the automatic time standard was 1:02.58. If you make either the automatic or consideration time standard in any event, you are eligible to submit your results to the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association, and the top 100 times submitted per event nationwide are selected to be All-Americans. I won't know if I have been selected until sometime in June."

Reflecting back on her junior season, Fadely said

she enjoyed going to swim meets and cheering on her teammates, particularly during relays. When not in the pool, she likes painting and spending time with family.

It's quite obvious after talking with Jennah that she has the discipline, hard-work ethic and passion to be a top-level swimmer, one who is continually striving to improve in all areas of her favorite sport. With that thought in mind, here's wishing her the best in all her future endeavors, that success follows her wherever she goes, and that one day when our lives eventually return to normalcy we might see her representing both our community and our country on the world stage at the Olympics.

NCAA Council issues official release on collegiate winter, spring sports eligibility vote on Monday

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

The Division I Council on Monday voted to allow schools to provide spring-sport student-athletes an additional season of competition and an extension of their period of eligibility.

Members also adjusted financial aid rules to allow teams to carry more members on scholarship to account for incoming recruits and student-athletes who had been in their last year of eligibility who decide to stay. In a nod to the financial uncertainty faced by higher education, the Council vote also provided schools with the flexibility to give students the opportunity to return for 2020-21 without requiring that athletics aid be provided at the same level awarded for 2019-20. This flexibility applies only to student-athletes who would have exhausted eligibility in 2019-20.

Schools also will have the ability to use the NCAA's Student Assistance Fund to pay for scholarships for students who take advantage of the additional eligibility flexibility in 2020-21.

Division I rules limit student-athletes to four seasons of competition in a five-year period. The Council's decision allows schools to self-apply waivers to restore one of those seasons of competition for student-athletes who had competed while eligible in the COVID-19-shortened 2020 spring season.

The Council also will allow schools to self-apply a one-year extension of eligibility for spring-sport student-athletes, effectively extending each

student's five-year "clock" by a year. This decision was especially important for student-athletes who had reached the end of their five-year clock in 2020 and saw their seasons end abruptly.

The Council's decision gives individual schools the flexibility to make decisions at a campus level," said Council chair M. Grace Calhoun, athletics director at Penn. "The Board of Governors encouraged conferences and schools to take action in the best interest of student-athletes and their communities, and now schools have the opportunity to do that."

Winter sports were not included in the decision. Council members declined to extend eligibility for student-athletes in sports where all or much of their regular seasons were completed.

The Council also increased the roster limit in baseball for

student-athletes impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the only spring sport with such a limit.

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PITTSBORO ROADHOUSE: Offering pickup or delivery for items on a limited menu including Family Meals and a la cart items as long as we can. Order from 11 am-5pm for pickup between noon-7pm. RECENTLY ADDED: front room "convenience store" complete with beer, wine, family games, local products (including Carolina Cravings), pork, micro greens, lettuce, cheese, beef, chicken and even TP! Expanding regularly! Our menu is updated daily. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date daily menu and bookmark the page for future reference: PittsboroRoadhouse.com/pickup-and-delivery/ We operate a commercial kitchen and bar, a small fleet of delivery vehicles, and licensed to provide food, wine, and beer deliveries. If you can pick up your order, please do. We'll deliver curbside to your car at your request. Located at 39 West Street, Pittsboro NC 27312, Phone: 919-542-2432 (Gift cards available) If the phone is busy, send email to takeout@pittsbororoadhouse.com with your name and phone and ask us to call you to get your order. Stay up to date with us via <https://www.facebook.com/PittsboroRoadhouse/>

THE PHOENIX BAKERY: Currently open Tuesday-Friday (8:30am-5pm) & Weekends (8:30am-2:30pm), providing full breakfast & lunch menu to-go as well as breads, pastries, and cakes. Come in & shop or order ahead for curbside delivery. Let's connect on Facebook! (<https://www.facebook.com/ThePhoenixBakery/>) DELIVERY PROGRAM launching soon! You'll be able to find the ordering menu, pricing, and details on our website: <http://www.thephoenixbakerync.com> once we go live with the program. 664 West Street, Pittsboro, 919-542-4452, email us: thephoenixbakery@yahoo.com

THE ROOT CELLAR CAFE & CATERING IN PITTSBORO AND CHAPEL HILL: What's available: Family Dinner Meal Program How it works: Provides 1 week's worth of prepared meals, serves 2 people. Simply heat and eat. Kids meals can be added onto any order. Choose from: Regular (meat entrees), Vegetarian, Paleo (follows Paleo diet), or Micro Meals (3 entrees, serves one person, microwavable) Menus updated weekly. Order safely and securely at <https://rootcellarchapelhill.com/family-dinners> Deadline to order: Fridays and Saturdays Curbside Pickup: Available in Chapel Hill (750 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd) and Pittsboro (35 Suttles Road) on Mondays and Tuesdays. Email questions or inquiries to hello@rootcellarchapelhill.com

SMALL B&B CAFE: Continuing to offer delivery within 10 miles of the cafe with minimum order of \$20 (addl \$3 fee), Please call our phone number to place ALL orders. We are planning to be open Wednesday thru Sunday (7:30 am- 2 pm) Keep up to date with us & menu options via Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Small-BB-Cafe-128435270586175/>) or our website (<http://smallbandbcafe.com/cafe-menu/pick-up-order-menu.html>) Located at 219 East St, Pittsboro, NC 27312, Phone: 919-537-1909

THE MODERN LIFE DELI: Open Tuesday-Saturday from noon-8pm for carry-out or curbside delivery. Currently serving our full menu and pizza. We've added PIZZA KITS you can make and bake at home (dough, sauce, cheese, pepperoni, and basil). Gift cards are also available. Our menu is online at www.themodernlifedeli.com Keep up with us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheModlife/> Feel free to call ahead to place your carry-out order. 46 Sanford Road, Pittsboro Phone: 919-533-6883

TOWN HALL BURGERS & BEER: Limited To Go menu offered from 11am - 8pm daily includes shared plates, salads, sides, burgers, tacos, and wings (see our menu at <https://www.facebook.com/thbbbc/>). Call ahead ordering with curbside pickup only with credit card payment (must pay in advance by phone), GIFT CARDS available, we are delivering to first responders at UNC Hospital and have also set up a fund to help our part-time employees (contact the restaurant for more info), 58 Chapelton Ct, Suite 140 Chapel Hill, NC 27516, Phone: 984-234-3504 ONLINE: <https://townhallburgerandbeer.com/locations/briar-chapel/>

VIRLIE'S GRILL: Call ahead orders (pick up inside, one person at a time, please wait under awning or in your vehicle), full menu and daily specials are being served 11 am-7pm Monday-Friday (closed temporarily on weekends), gift cards available 58 Hillsborough Street, Pittsboro NC 27312 Phone: 919-542-0376 Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/Virlies-Grill-410167659129954/> or online at <https://virliesgrill.com>

WILLY'S CINNAMON ROLLS AND MICHAEL'S BREADS: Offering assorted breads and baked goods, Call to pay ahead for pick up & go or curbside delivery, Open Mon-Fri 8-5, Sat 8-2, Gift cards available, 35 W. Chatham Street, Pittsboro NC 27312, Phone: 252-305-9227, Email us: willysrolls@gmail.com, Online: <https://willysrolls.com> and <https://www.michaelsbreads.com> Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/willyscinnamonrolls/> and <https://www.facebook.com/pittsborobread/>



*Disclaimer: All content subject to change, please contact restaurant directly for up-to-date information, consider supporting local restaurants by purchasing gift cards for future use, and please remember to tip as you would if dining at the restaurant.

BOYS

Continued from page B1

who saw virtually all five players on the court with the ability to do so. Snively edged out Powell for the most treys on the team, with 35, as Powell closed with 32. Despite his thin frame, the 6-foot-2 Snively could also rebound when needed while also running the court, collecting assists, and steals like virtually the entire roster.

Mcafee-Marion was simply the most explosive player in the county, providing some highlight reel dunks. At 6-foot-4 with a great vertical, Mcafee-Marion played above the rim more so than any other player this season in Chatham County and the senior collected some great games defensively and on the glass while also providing a wing that could get up and down the court and score, proving to be a nightmare matchup for opposing teams.

Thompson had the potential to score much more than he did but the 6-foot-3 senior was the ultimate team player, doing whatever needed to help the Chargers win. Much like a Swiss Army knife serves multiple purposes, Thompson rebounded, played tenacious defense, set picks, collected assists and steals, and scored when needed. His role was invaluable.

In Siler City at Chatham Charter, what else can you say about what coach Jason Messier and his Knights boys team did — 32-2 and had six-time state champion Winston Salem Prep on the ropes entering the final minutes before falling in a heart-breaker 65-60 in the 1A West Regional Final.

Leading the way for Chatham Charter is all-everything Jordan Hamilton, the one true Old School post player in the county this season. At 6-foot-5, 255 pounds, Hamilton averaged 20.1 points and just under 10 rebounds per game. The senior was the force in the middle for Chatham Charter and wasn't really stopped all season long. He also has great feet and post moves for a big man, and could block shots and score in transition while his physical presence led to 134 points from the charity stripe.

Also from Chatham Charter, senior wing Connor Murphy and junior forward Trevor Golden were also chosen for the team. Murphy, much like Thompson, did it all for the Knights with the lone difference that Murphy was counted on for more scoring and tallied 10.5 per game for what was a balanced attack after Hamilton. Murphy also was part of a senior-laden team that seemingly knew exactly where the other players would be, which led to a lot of assists to go along with points, steals, rebounds and defense.

Golden, meanwhile, burst onto the scene, and along with Ryan White and Cole Milholen, gave the Knights some additional scoring especially in the second half of the season and through the play-

ers where the 6-foot-4 southpaw forward really stepped up his game. Golden, a great passer with a soft left-handed touch, also pounded the boards with Hamilton and was capable of stepping out to hit the trey.

In Bear Creek, Michael Moore, a 6-foot-5 guard, proved to be one of the top players in the area without question for coach Robert Burke and the 22-6 Bears.

Moore could hit from behind the arc, from the elbow, off transition, and in the paint. Simply put, he could do it all and made his team better while opening things up for his teammates despite being who opposing defenses game-planned to stop. Moore has draw P5 attention in football and basketball and will be one of the top players in the state of N.C. next season in both.

Also on the team from Chatham Central are Preston Cox and Lucas Skertich. Cox was the a true point guard in every sense of the way plus he could score. The junior was the premiere ball handler for Chatham Central and basically the quarterback of the team, getting the offense set and stabilized, and the ball where it needed to be. A great passer, Cox led the team in assists while also providing some scoring in transition and from behind the arc with some huge performances which helped CC to a share of the 1A YVC regular season title.

Skertich, meanwhile, was the second leading scorer for the Bears and could score the ball in transition, off the dribble, and from behind the arc. Much like Snively, the senior provided points in bundles when needed and when hitting from the outside took the and elevated Chatham Central to a different level. Skertich also gave the Bears some real tenacity on defense while providing some relief with ball handling when needed.

At Jordan-Matthews in Siler City, the regular season was a disappointment for the Jets, who lost close game after close game in agonizing fashion. But coach Rodney Wiley's squad showed just how much talent J-M had when the locals rolled off three straight wins to take the 2A PAC 7 crown and earn a berth into the NCHSAA 2A State Playoffs.

The leaders in the run were senior Camden Fuguay and sophomore Lanice Hedgepeth.

Fuguay, at 6-foot-1, banged and battled inside much like Ross of Northwood all season long against taller players. But the senior was never out-hustled, and he consistently rebounded and played defense. Fuguay was also a good passer and could score down low, off the transition and from behind the arc while also providing senior leadership by example.

Hedgepeth, meanwhile, is a slicer who provided scoring off the dribble and on the break. A solid rebounder on both ends of the court, Hedgepeth has the talent to be one of the better players the next two seasons in Chatham County.

The Chatham News + Record Baker's Dozen All-County Boys Basketball Team

Preston Cox (junior, Chatham Central)

Camden Fuguay (senior, Jordan-Matthews)

Trevor Golden (junior, Chatham Charter)

Jordan Hamilton (senior, Chatham Charter)

Lanice Hedgepeth (sophomore, Jordan-Matthews)

Jalen Mcafee-Marion (senior, Northwood)

Michael Moore (junior, Chatham Central)

Connor Murphy (senior, Chatham Charter)

Deuce Powell (senior, Northwood)

Aaron Ross (senior, Northwood)

Lucas Skertich (senior, Chatham Central)

Alex Snively (senior, Northwood)

Jack Thompson (senior, Northwood)

Honorable Mention: Justin Brower (Northwood), Cole Milholen (Chatham Charter), Seth Moore (Jordan-Matthews), Ryan White (Chatham Charter)

A SAFE PLACE TO SHOOT HOOPS

Eagle Scout project results in full basketball court for Goldston church

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

GOLDSTON — Two new basketball goals were installed at Goldston United Methodist Church just recently, completing the final touches of a project initiated last year by Chatham Central High School senior Riley Michael Lagenor to fund and build a full basketball court at his church.

Lagenor undertook the service project as his work towards earning the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank a Boy Scout can earn. To attain the honor, a Scout must plan, develop and lead an Eagle Scout Service Project that benefits a religious institution, school or community. Such projects cannot be commercial or solely fundraising.

Lagenor observed at his church an opportunity to fulfill a public need.

“My church hosted a small service on Wednesday nights,” Lagenor said, recalling the origins of his Eagle Scout project, “and after the youth finished their devotion, we would go play basketball in the parking lot. I felt playing in the parking lot where cars are coming and going was a little dangerous, so I wanted a place where the youth and even the community could play safely.”

So the Scout launched a fundraising effort to create a safer setting to shoot hoops.

“I raised around a total of \$4,000,” Lagenor said.

Lagenor, the son of Pete and Kristen Lagenor of Pittsboro, was honored at a ceremony at Goldston United Methodist Church last October.

“I could not be more proud of the effort, time and dedication Riley put into this project,” said Kristen. “Many people don’t know how many sacrifices he made personally to focus on this project as well as staying involved in Scouting.”

He undertook a project he felt would serve many in our community and it has served more than we could ever imagine. Prior to the Covid-19 outbreak, men and boys of all ages were meeting to play basketball on a regular basis.

Once an idea to serve as a place for our youth in the area to go to play in a safe environment now has been used by people of all ages. As many as upward of 30 people at a time have been seen enjoying the court.

The project he undertook — a full 94-foot by 50-foot basketball court — realized completion late last month with the installation of the two goals.

“The court is completely finished,” Lagenor said last week. “With help from friends and volunteers, the concrete was poured back in July of last year, but about a week ago two new goals were placed in the ground. Basketball is my favorite sport and I’ve been playing since I was 7 years old as I’ve had the opportunity to play for J.S. Waters for two years and Chatham Central all four years.”

Lagenor said he “began Scouting when I was in the 1st grade, so I’ve been in this for about 11 or 12 years. I began in Cub Scouts, which was Pack 900, and then I crossed over in 5th grade into Troop 900 out of Goldston.”

The Scouting program has been beneficial to him in many ways, he said.

“It’s important to me because I learned many skills and values that I might not get if I hadn’t been in Scouts,” he said. “I learned things like how to pitch a tent, properly manage my finances, how to delegate a large group as a leader, and I even got experience with customer service through selling food in fundraisers.”



Submitted photo

Riley Lagenor, pictured with his mother, Kristen was honored for his recent accomplishment of becoming an Eagle Scout during a ceremony late last year at Goldston Methodist Church. For his Eagle Scout project, Lagenor raised funds for a new full basketball court at the church.

In addition to Scouting, Lagenor has a passion for athletics.

“I really love to play sports,” he said, “whether it’s football, basketball, or baseball. I also enjoy fishing and volunteering with my church youth group.”

School “isn’t my favorite thing to do,” he confided, “but I really enjoy American history and some math, the math I understand.”

School and team sports are, of course, on hold for Lagenor, as they are for all students during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“This definitely was not how I wanted my senior year to end as the majority of the baseball season is canceled as of currently and I don’t get to hang out with friends as much as I would like,” he said.

But he’s trying to make the most of his time while maintaining social distancing.

“During this time, I’ve tried to make the most of what I have by doing my school work and spending time with my family and also working around trying to earn a

few dollars,” he said.

In the fall, he’ll be attending N.C. State in Raleigh.

“I’m not entirely sure what I want to major in,” he said, “so I applied for the Exploratory Studies program which helps students figure out their interests and majors that relate to their interests.”

Meanwhile, Lagenor’s achievement in fulfilling a local recreational need hasn’t gone unnoticed, though it has been understandably impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home measures.

“He undertook a project he felt would serve many in our community and it has served more than we could ever imagine,” Kristen Lagenor said. “Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, men and boys of all ages were meeting to play basketball on a regular basis. Once an idea to serve as a place for our youth in the area to go to play in a safe environment, now has been used by people of all ages.”

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

Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling service changes due to NC stay-at-home order

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — Due to North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper’s stay-at-home order, Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling will be making changes to some of its services.

“Waste and recycling services are considered essential, so we are trying to balance the safety of our employees with the responsibility to provide service,” said Kevin Lindley, Chatham County Environmental Quality Director. “Since some of the processors we use are closed, there is not a place for us to take some materials; therefore, we will not be able to accept them at this time. We also have a responsibility to reduce the face-to-face interactions of our staff and the public.”

The Collection Centers will remain open and operating with normal hours. However, effective March 30, 2020, Solid Waste & Recycling will be closing its Swap Shops. The Electronics Recycling program will also be suspended until the processor can reopen. Electronics accepted in the recycling program are banned from disposal in landfills, so they cannot be thrown away. Residents will need to hold onto those items until the Electronics Recycling program is back up and running. For a list of items, visit the following website: chathamnc.org/electronics.

“With more people at home, we have also seen an increase in trash and recycling brought to the Collection Centers,” continued Lindley. “We ask residents to have patience if bins are full when they arrive. Also, as people have time to clean out their homes, garages, sheds, etc., we want to remind residents that attendants cannot help unload large items. They can only help with bagged trash and recycling.”

Starting March 31, the Main Facility will suspend some services. The Main Facility is located at 28 County Services Road, Pittsboro. Electronics Recycling for both residents and commercial businesses will be

suspended. Yard waste disposal and inert debris disposal for residents will also be suspended. Commercial businesses may still dispose of yard waste and inert debris, but they MUST have an account with Solid Waste & Recycling. Businesses that do not currently have an account, should call the Main Facility before bringing yard waste or inert debris at 919-542-5516 Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Those with scrap metal, mixed recycling, glass bottles and jars, or tires can still access the Main Facility, whether residential or commercial, but the gate will be closed. Individuals will need to call the office when arriving at the gate, so staff can open it. The Main Facility will also not be able to accept batteries, light bulbs, tanks, pesticide containers or Styrofoam.

All of these changes will be in effect through April 30. Those who need a decal may call the Main Facility at 919-542-5516 Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or email recycle@chathamnc.org. Decal requests can be handled over the phone or email.

Lindley continued, “These changes are to protect our staff from handling any money or paperwork, while still providing services for those deemed ‘essential services’ in the Executive Order.”

Mulch sales for the month of April have been canceled. Mulch sales will resume on the first Saturday in May, unless the stay-at-home order is extended. The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Medicine Take Back event scheduled for April 18 has been canceled. However, there will be HHW events monthly through November, so residents can bring their items to a future event. Visit the following website for more details on future dates: chathamnc.org/recycle.

All of these changes will be in effect until, at least, April 30. As this is an ever-changing situation, please check the website for any future updates, www.chathamnc.org/recycle. Individuals can also email their questions to recycle@chathamnc.org.

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Netflix's 'Tiger King' reigns online and roars with sweeping scope

In our new quarantined reality, the movie theaters are closed but the online media streaming services are wide open. As cloistered millions (re) discover movies new and old, the first hit sensation is a zany documentary



NEIL MORRIS
Film Critic

that has it all: murder, sex, betrayal, and greed. Throw in animal rights, polygamy, lawsuits, and a hint of human trafficking, and you have "Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness," a backwater tale full of brackish characters. It is also the best sort of crowd-pleasing documentary, titillating yet sweeping in its scope and the breadth of its amazing access and elaborate story building.

Directors Eric Goode and Rebecca Chaiklin launched their film project five years ago on a simple fact: there are currently more tigers in captivity than in the wild. Exploring that surprising reality led them into the subculture of exotic animal owners, and in turn the crazy, largely untamed big cat industry. One of the sad undercurrents of "Tiger King" is that the plight of these captive animals almost becomes a sideshow to the main attraction: the small, madcap world of big cat owners and the incredible tale of Joe



Photo courtesy of Netflix

'Joe Exotic' serves as the focal point of the new Netflix documentary series 'Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness,' available to stream now on Netflix.

Tiger King: Murder, mayhem and madness

GRADE: B +

DIRECTOR: Eric Goode and Rebecca Chaiklin

DISTRIBUTOR: Netflix (7 episodes)

Exotic.

With the real name Joseph Maldonado-Passage, Joe is a gay, Oklahoma redneck with a bleach bonde mullet that matches his outsized, outlandish personality. He opens his G.W. Zoo in 1999 to house tigers,

lions, puma, and other big cats to train and showcase for the public. He's also suspected of mistreating his animals, making him a target of PETA and other animal rights activists, chiefly Carole Baskin and her Florida-based Big Cat Rescue

park.

Joe exudes a roguish charm, but we soon see that just below that surface lies an undisciplined, uncouth, and unpleasant person, undoubtedly dogged by childhood demons that include the deaths of his brother and other loved ones. Joe makes Carole the single-minded focus of his ire, using his shambolic social media presence to hurl unrelenting attacks at her. Some seem to stick, like his assertion that Carole is a hypocrite who also profits off captive cats and low-paid labor. Others are more shocking, like his repeated accusation that Carole killed her former husband and fed him to her tigers. The funny thing, though, is that Carole's former husband did disappear under suspicious circumstances, leaving Carole his unclaimed fortune and the directors an entire episode devoted to that subplot.

The menagerie of side characters are numerous in quantity and oddity. There's "Doc" Ankle, whose animal preserve in Myrtle Beach resembles a cult and could be the focus of its own movie. There's an animal breeder and ex-drug lord in Miami who was probably the inspiration of "Scarface's" Tony Montana. There are Joe's multiple husbands, Doc's multiple mistresses, and multiple shady strangers, chief among them a ne'er-do-well named Jeff Lowe, who be-

comes Joe's business partner before things go wildly awry.

Unpacking every plot twist and turn in "Tiger King" would be a foolhardy exercise. Indeed, that's largely the fun of digesting the seven-episode saga. Goode (who occasionally appears on camera) and Chaiklin expertly weave together the varied story strands using an outstanding array of supporting material, including an endless supply of archival footage their subjects filmed and preserved, along with Internet show broadcasts, social media posts, and talking head testimonials. Some of the participants, like Carole, now lambaste the film, claiming the filmmakers misrepresented the focus of their project. Still, "Tiger King's" success ultimately rests in the narcissism of the characters, each of them far from camera shy.

"Tiger King" gradually spirals from tawdry to tragic — just when you think you have the storyline figured out, something else will happen to change its trajectory. There are no innocents in this sad story, especially Joe. Still, while the transgressions of his foes boil down to money and old-fashioned greed, Joe's downfall is a more modern deadly sin: pride. Our celebrity culture are accelerants for this Tiger King's raging ego and vanity, to the detriment of those around him, including his exploited feline subjects.

CCCC transitioning college and career readiness program classes to online in response to COVID-19 pandemic

From Central Carolina Community College

The Central Carolina Community College and Career Readiness (CCR) program is transitioning to online classes in response to the

COVID-19 pandemic.

All High School Equivalency (HSE) and Adult High School Diploma (AHS) classes are transitioning to distance classes effective April 1.

All English as Second Language (ESL) and

Civics/Citizenship classes are transitioning to distance classes April 6.

Students who have questions or concerns can contact Sandra Thompson, CCCC Associate Dean of College and Career Readiness, at 919-545-8666

or by email at carenrollment@cccc.edu. Students also will need to use this contact information to enroll in the classes.

"For academic support, students will have an assigned instructor who will monitor their prog-

ress, answer questions, and offer assistance with any issues that may arise. For non-academic services, I would refer everyone to the college's website (www.cccc.edu) for a comprehensive listing of resources," Thompson

said. "We are also available to answer questions and address concerns by email at carenrollment@cccc.edu."

To learn more about CCCC's CCR programs, visit www.cccc.edu/ecd/college-career-readiness/.

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Pet of the Week: CHICKIE



Photo courtesy of Chatham Sheriff's Office

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Chickie, a 3-year-old boxer mix with a positively delightful personality! Chickie is extremely affectionate and loves to show her appreciation to anyone who comes to visit the Animal Resource Center (ARC). She is playful yet attentive and enjoys spending time outdoors and making new friends. Chickie gets along great with other dogs and was quick to win over our staff members. She loves to run and frolic in the ARC play yard, and would do best with an active family to match her energetic nature. Chickie would also enjoy being around one or more other dogs, especially since she is fond of her other canine playmates. For more information on how to meet or adopt Chickie, call ahead to 919-542-2911 to schedule an appointment or speak with an Animal Resource Officer. The ARC is located at 725 Renaissance Dr. in Pittsboro and currently remains open for pet adoptions!

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POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Terry Chrisco, 30, of Goldston, was charged March 20 with failure to appear on charges of larceny of property or goods. Chrisco was held under a \$400 bond with a May 5 court date in Siler City.

Christopher Williams, 40, of Durham, was charged March 21 with assault on a female. Williams was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with an April 29 court date in Pittsboro.

Jack Wyman, 40, of Pittsboro, was charged March 22 with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia and violation of a release order. Wyman was held under a \$40,000 bond with an April 27 court date in

Pittsboro.

Mario Burgess, 32, of Siler City, was charged March 23 with second-degree kidnapping and assault on a female. Burgess was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with an April 27 court date in Pittsboro.

Carol Krawetz, 75, of Pittsboro, was charged March 23 with driving while intoxicated. Krawetz was released under a written promise with a June 3 court date in Pittsboro.

Deandra Baker, 20, of Durham, was charged March 23 with assault and battery, interfering with emergency communications and injury to personal property. Baker was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a May 6 court date in Pittsboro.

Teresa Stone, 46, of Siler City, was charged March 23 with assault and battery. Stone was released under a written promise with a May 5 court date in Siler City.

Jordan Bryarley, 33, of Elon, was charged March 23 with failure to appear on charges of simple assault. Bryarley was held under a \$5,000 bond with an April 22 court date in Pittsboro.

Johan Nieves, 27, of Chapel Hill, was charged March 26 with communicating threats. Nieves was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a May 6 court date in Pittsboro.

Rodrigo Pineda-Carachuri, 25, of Brewster, Washington, was charged March

26 with failure to appear on charges of speeding. Pineda-Carachuri was issued a written promise with an April 7 court date in Pittsboro.

Nathan Matthews, 33, was charged March 26 with breaking and/or entering, larceny after breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods/property, attempt to obtain property under false pretense and injury to real property. Matthews was held under a \$1,000 bond with an April 27 court date in Pittsboro.

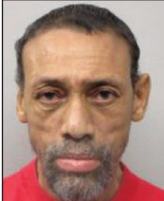
SILER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jaron Smith, 34, of Siler City, was charged March 27 with felony breaking and entering and misdemeanor injury

Bear Creek man arrested on sexual abuse of child charges from September report

A Bear Creek man is facing several felony charges after he was arrested by the Sanford Police Department last week. Dwayne Marsh, 58, is alleged to have sexually abused a child “multiple times over a two-year period,” according to a March 27 news release from the Chatham County Sheriff’s Office. Deputies first received a report of the abuse in September 2019 and Marsh was charged

after “a thorough investigation,” the release stated.



Marsh

Marsh is charged with 13 counts of felony statutory sex offense with a child by an adult, 14 counts of felony indecent liberties with a child, felony statutory rape of a child by an adult and thirteen counts of sexual battery. He is being held under a \$2.5 million bond with an April 27 court date in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro.

Chatham schools utilizing new anti-vaping text program ‘This Is Quitting’

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — In the midst of responding to COVID-19 and campus closures mandated by state government, Chatham County Schools is continuing its push against teen vaping by announcing its partnership with an initiative designed to help youth quit vaping.

This Is Quitting (TIQ) is a free text-message program operated by the Truth Initiative, a public health nonprofit focused on, according to its website, “making tobacco use a thing of the past.” Thanks to this partnership, according to a CCS press release, district students will be able to simply text “DropTheHabit” to 88709 and receive support texts to help teens quit vaping.

“This is Quitting allows a teen the opportunity to receive information about vaping and the option to quit on their own terms,” said Rob Schooley, CCS’ instructional program facilitator for student health, physical education and wellness. “This is done confidentially so teens can maintain their privacy.”

Chatham high schoolers have a higher than state- and national-average rate of students using vapor products currently. The 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed that 22.4 percent of Chatham teens have used vapor products within the last 30 days, compared to 16.9 percent of North Carolina high schoolers and 13.2 percent of high schoolers across the country.

But Chatham students are not alone in their use, and increased use. The CDC reported that the number of middle and high school students using e-cigarettes rose from 3.6 million in 2018 to 5.4 million in 2019.

What makes vape products different than normal tobacco oftentimes is the flavoring included in many. While it is now illegal for companies in the United States to produce, sell and distribute several flavors of cartridge-based e-cigarettes, the new e-cigarette rule does not ban flavored vapor liquid for disposable products, creating a loophole teens are already exploiting, according to a Jan. 31 report from The New York Times



Courtesy of Chatham County Schools

Chatham’s public school district is working with a nationwide initiative to stop teen vaping by introducing a text-message program encouraging quitting.

Anna Stormzand, a health promotion coordinator for the Chatham County Public Health Department, which is partnering with the district in this effort, told the News + Record in February that the flavoring is the main draw for youth.

“Flavors are what capture kids, especially the younger ones,” Stormzand said. “And they don’t even realize they have a product that has nicotine that’s highly addictive.”

In the press release, she said 90 percent of adult tobacco smokers begin before leaving high school and 99 percent start before turning 20.

“Vaping makes it easier for young people to try smoking,” Stormzand said. “There is now emerging research that shows a link between young people that use e-cigarettes — vape — now and smoking in the future.”

The TIQ program, ac-

cording to the CCS press release, incorporates messages from other youth who have attempted to or succeeded in quitting vape use.

The CCS press release stated that users including a desired quit date in the text will receive one support text per day for a week both prior to and at least 30 days afterward. Those not ready to establish a quit date will receive at least two weeks of messages aimed at moving toward that end. TIQ participants are able to receive on-demand support for cravings, stress and setbacks, in addition to their scheduled interactive messages. Additionally, materials with the code and contact number have been distributed to schools and community partners.

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



Submitted photo

Front row, from left to right, Savannah Byrd, Maddie Loops, Marlena Heim, Alina Handel, Taylor Cloer (Coach). Back row, from left to right, Ruthy Voder-Brugge (Coach), Caitlin Gantt, Samantha Durham, Caleigh Gantt, Jadyn Clark, Mary Dickerson (Horsekateer 4-H Club Leader).

Chatham’s Horsekateer 4-H Club competes in 2020 NC State 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest

From Chatham 4-H

PITTSBORO – On Saturday, March 7th, members of the Horsekateers 4-H Club competed in the 2020 North Carolina (NC) State 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest held at North Carolina State University (NCSU). For each contest, there were three divisions — junior, mixed, and senior. The Horse Bowl Contest is designed to offer youth interested in horses the opportunity to utilize their knowledge in a competitive and friendly environment.

The Hippology Contest offers participants an opportunity to blend the knowledge and skills they have acquired through horse judging, bowl, demonstrations, public speaking, and showing into one activity.

The Hippology Contest featured thirty-three teams and 136 contestants. The Junior

Hippology members were Alina Handel and Rookie Marlena Heim. The Senior Hippology Team members consisted of Caleigh Gantt, Maddie Loops, Samantha Durham and Jadyn Clark. The senior team finished in the top 40 percent, placing 6th overall. Senior member

Maddie Loops, placed 10th high individual in exam, and senior member Caleigh Gantt, placed 7th high individual in judging. In addition, Savannah Byrd participated as a Senior Individual.

The Horse Bowl Contest consisted of 34 teams. After a tiebreaking match, the Senior Horse Bowl Team finished in the top 20 percent as Reserve Champions. Members of the team included Caitlin Gantt, Maddie Loops, Savannah Byrd and Samantha Durham. In addition, Caitlin finished second high indi-

vidual, Maddie finished sixth high individual, and Samantha finished seventh high individual. All three have been invited to try out for the Regional/National NC team. The Mixed Horse Bowl Team, consisting of Caleigh Gantt, Jadyn Clark, Alina Handel and Marlena Heim, was one of 12 teams to qualify for the State 4-H Horse Bowl out of 25 regional teams.

Chatham County 4-H is very proud of these Horsekateer 4-H Club members for their dedication, determination, and success! We look forward to seeing what other things they accomplish in 2020.

For more information regarding Chatham County 4-H, please contact Victoria Brewer, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent, via email (victoria.brewer@chathamnc.org) or phone (919-545-8303).

NEWS BRIEFS

First 3 homes sold at Chatham Park

PITTSBORO — Pre-sales for Chatham Park’s first residential homes started March 19 and three homes were sold in the opening weekend. The houses are a product of Fresh Paint by Garman Homes, a Cary-based home-builder and the first residential builder to partner with Chatham Park in this project.

“We’re working with partners like Fresh Paint by Garman Homes to build, what our future residents will consider to be, the perfect community,” said Vanessa Jenkins,

Executive Vice President of Preston Development Company, who is developing Chatham Park. “These first homes are a reflection of the community-centric approach we’re taking in Chatham Park which will allow residents to walk or bike to everything they need: work, grocery stores, doctors offices, yoga studios, restaurants, concert venues, movie theaters and breweries. Chatham Park will be unlike anything the Triangle has ever seen.”

The Cottages range from 828-1,397 sq. ft., with single story and two story plans, and are priced from the low \$200’s. All homes will

open to community space and provide access to Chatham Parks’ integrated greenway system connecting residents to everything Chatham Park and the Town have to offer.

All of the Cottages will be walking distance from historic downtown Pittsboro and across The street from a new 10 acre town park being built by Chatham Park and a new campus of Thales Academy.

The Cottages will be move-in ready by October 2020 and available for viewing at the Triangle Parade of Homes next fall.

— CN+R staff reports

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CHATHAM CHAT | HANK CARDELLO, FOOD INDUSTRY EXPERT

In times of shortage and doubt, the food industry should step up

How is the food industry stacking up against other industries in the age of COVID-19? News + Record Publisher and Editor Bill Horner III talked this week with Hank Cardello, a Governors Club resident who writes about food policy for Forbes magazine. Cardello is the director of the Obesity Solutions Initiative for the Hudson Institute and the CFO of 27° North, a company which helps corporations identify profit and market opportunities while solving major social problems. The firm offers a range of speaking, advisory, workshop and consulting services to the food industry, government agencies, public health organizations and associations.

Cardello

The transcript of this interview was edited for length and clarity.

Let's start with the impact from COVID-19 on the food industry, and your insights about supply and demand for food. How is the virus making a difference in the industry?

First of all, the food's there. So I don't think we're going to see any kind of major shortages in supply, I think, except possibly meat and chicken. Supply might be a little constrained just because you can't just press a button and crank out those products.

But for the most part, I think there's plenty of food. I think my issue has been more of the fact that some people in the food industry have said, "Well, this is a demand problem rather than a supply problem." And people are a little panicked and they don't know what the public policy is in grocery stores, and you see empty shelves...

I think the industry needs to step up and be a little bit more proactive and coming up with some alternatives to distribution centers, where they could open up more avenues for consumers to buy these products. The fact that we have a hand sanitizer and a toilet paper problem from consumer products... to me, this is insane. So I prefer philosophically for industries or companies to step up when they see problems and own it and then go fix them, rather than say "It's a demand problem," and stop with that.

What the food industry needs to do is to get all these executives together on TV and in full-page ads and say, "America, don't worry, we've got your back, you'll have your food." Nobody's done

that yet. That was a huge missed opportunity for the industry.

I wanted to ask you about the article you wrote in Forbes magazine, because you did touch on that subject, that need for the industry to make a statement about how it will respond...what kind of response have you heard either anecdotally or directly from the industry as a response to what you wrote? (The article can be seen here: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/hankcardello/2020/03/19/food-industry-tell-americans-there-is-plenty-of-food/>.)

Overwhelmingly, the comments I've gotten out of folks I know in industry, including some other trade association folks, is that they felt it was right on.

The point is that I'm not a critic here — I look for a solution. And so overall, the industry folks get it. I always work to be objective when I highlight some issues, or come up with prescriptions, which I think is important. So overall, the response has been yeah, this is pretty much right on.

You mentioned in that article about some of the videos that have gone viral, showing people fighting in stores over toilet paper and paper towels. We have some social media groups in Chatham County where people are posting about which retailers have toilet paper, and when shipments come in, etc. My wife and I went to our favorite grocery store after church on Sunday and they had no meat, no chicken, and absolutely no paper products like paper towels and toilet paper. I've never seen the inventory so picked over, even in the worst snowstorms. What's your message to people who are going to stores and seeing what they're seeing? How do you comfort them?

Well, again, I think the industry needs to step up. One of my recommendations is literally for suppliers to do what Verizon did — they took out a full page ad in the Wall Street Journal telling customers how they're going to help and make it clear what they're doing to help. (Verizon announced it will waive late fees and overage charges for 60 days from March 16 to May 13 for customers who are unable to pay as a result of economic hardship due to the pandemic, and that it won't terminate service to those customers.) The industry needs to do little things like that, and make it clear what they're doing in response.

As I've said, the food industry and different associations, such as the chicken and the meat associations, the packaged goods crowd — I really feel they need to step up. The industry needs to get up and make a statement like that on TV, in social media and full page ads so that the consumers can calm down and not

do these rushes on the grocery stores which creates panic buying and out-of-stocks.

Some of the panic is driven by what's being said on social media, and some of the confusion in messaging from politicians and some health officials. There have been a lot of contradictory statements; some officials downplay the seriousness of the pandemic, and at the same time some of the worst-case scenarios are absolutely frightening. What kind of advice do you, as someone who's trying to follow this situation, have for people insofar as how they're gauging and filtering the news they're hearing?

That's a challenging question. My belief is, first of all, that in a public health crisis, I'm going to listen to the public health experts on this one and take the politics out of it.

Looking around the world, when you see what has happened in a number of places (with the exponential growth of positive tests for COVID-19) and where it's about to still happen, and if you look at the Johns Hopkins tracking data of the virus from the days from inception, and how many cases and things like that, it's clear we're now leading the world on an ugly trend. And to me, that suggests that we all know we were a little late responding. OK, so fine; let's move on. How do we how do we fix problems now?

And I think right now, the public health people — in a perfect world — they would shut everything down. So you have to get realistic and say, "OK, well, how do you mitigate it as good as you can?"

I think their advice is sound; they're trying to limit the number of people who are exposed because they don't have the equipment to deal with all the people who may end up hospitalized. They talk about the curves and the humps on the curves and things like that; their biggest concern is the medical system being overwhelmed.

And, you know, we may not prevent everybody from getting this. But if you overwhelm the medical system, then you double or triple the number of fatalities. And so to me, that's sage advice (for everyone to shelter in place).

We need more guidance before we're too quick to open things up and have public gatherings and large crowds. I just don't think we're ready for that. I know we want to, and I know we want to get our economy healthy, etc. But I think first things first, because the economy will be really taking a hit if we have even more cases because that'll lower confidence while everyone's hunkered down even more. So again, I'm 100 percent behind knowledgeable public

health types on this one.

We're going to emerge from this at some point. What will the food industry look like and what do you think positive will change as the result of all this?

I've been thinking a lot about that. First of all, what I see when I've talked to a number of the companies is that there's been some analysis that show that companies that totally cut their costs and get rid of labor and all that suffer more than companies which manage their costs a little bit but still focus on their R&D (research and development) and their branding and their positioning.

I think coming out of this, there will be a heightened interest in health and wellness among consumers. So it's already increasing; that trend is up. It'll be even magnified coming out of this. So I think the food industry needs to pay attention to that and make sure they're totally aligned and recognize that their product portfolios need to shift to healthier offerings.

I also think food safety will be top of mind coming out of this. People in the consumer segment don't all think alike; I think the foodies will always be the foodies and they want exotic ingredients from all over the world. But I anticipate that there might be some hesitation about using ingredients from other countries for a while — say, imports from Asia. Not that they're any more dangerous, but I think psychologically there might be some hesitation at least for the more mainstream consumers.

But overall, I do see health and wellness cranking up, and I think that sustainability is on a trajectory that's going to continue increasing, so companies that pay attention to that will grow.

Any final thoughts?

I think with Chatham County, the good news is when you look at your grocery store options right around here, they're well run, and everything I'm gathering from the grocery side is that they're trying to stock their shelves as quickly as possible.

I'm not concerned about running out of food. So I think people need to not worry about that: there will be food. I suspect there will continue to be intermittent problems with things like hand sanitizers, and even silly things like toilet paper. And you mentioned meat and chicken...we're going to see some ins and outs on these kinds of products.

But for the most part, I don't think people have to worry. I don't think they have to worry about their food supply. So if there's a message, it's this: there's ample food out there.

The acquired taste of avocados

When I was a kid, our Coast Guard family moved to



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

to Puerto Rico for three years. Our base was like Eden. Every yard had multiple fruit-bearing plants. We had coconuts and key limes. Other families had mango, lemons, breadfruit, bitter orange, finger lime, bananas, plantains, you get the idea.

Like I said, Eden. The commanding officer of the base had four

kids. One of them was Kitty, my best friend. We lived around the corner from each other and split our time between houses.

I thought the whole family was glamorous and exciting — a kind of Coast Guard Kennedy clan.

The matriarch of the family is Mama Cat, the sophisticated Jackie O. I adore her. The couple entertained a lot, so she introduced exciting foods into my meatloaf-and-canned-green-beans world.

The Murphys had an avocado tree in their yard. Mama Cat loved them way before they were cool. Many days she'd have a fresh avocado for lunch, just peeled, sliced

and salted.

After seeing her eat them awhile, I wanted in. So, one day, I asked for a taste.

She looked dubious, "Have you ever had avocado? They're kind of an acquired taste."

Maybe so, but I was an especially cosmopolitan 4th grader.

So, I had a taste.

Good googa mooga! Why, in the name of all that is holy, would somebody put that nasty green mess into their mouths on purpose? If I were on a desert island, I would happily starve to death rather than eat that horrible, horrible punishment of a food.

Cut to 15 years later, and in a restaurant, I receive a few slices of

avocado as a garnish. I had recently discovered that I was in love with artichokes, so I thought maybe my palate had matured enough to enjoy another problematic, intimidating veg.

In the ensuing years, it had happened: taste acquired.

Petey's not a big fan, but The Kid and I love them. People may make fun, but avocado toast is a delicious way to use them. You can tailor the recipe to your own taste.

The Kid loves chili flake, goat cheese and pea shoots. I like shaved red onion and a poached egg. Sourdough is our toast of choice.

Unless I'm in a rush, I buy really hard, unripe



Submitted photo

Debbie Matthews' spinach avocado pesto, made with two avocados and three-and-a-half cups of raw baby spinach.

avocados and let them ripen at home. Costco sells a bag of them for a good price. If too many ripen at once to eat, they can be stored in the fridge. This stops the ripening process so they wait on you, and not the other way around. They can hibernate in

the chill chest for up to a week.

I invented this pesto when I had plenty of extra, in case the sauce was a dud.

It so isn't a dud. Thanks for your time.

Contact me at dm@bullcitymom.com.

Your continued support means so much to this small business! Here are a few ways that you can continue to help in these uncertain times

*PRIVATE, PERSONAL SHOPPING. Schedule a private shopping trip! Give me a call and I will schedule a time that you can come in and shop in person!

*SHOP ONLINE ANYTIME. We are adding merchandise daily to our website. We can ship anywhere. You can schedule a pick up time or I can hold until you feel comfortable getting out and about! Free local delivery is also available!

LIKE. COMMENT. SHARE. Every interaction on our social media handles helps! If you see something you like, let us all know with a like and a comment! Share with your friends! They need to shop from the comfort of their homes as well!



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What to do if you’re a small business owner during COVID-19

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Being a small business owner is a challenge unto itself.

The Small Business Administration’s Office of Advocacy’s 2018 Frequently Asked Questions document stated that around 80 percent of small businesses survive their first year — meaning 20 percent don’t. Additionally, only about half survive past five years, and one in three get to 10 years.

We don’t yet know the full impact that COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, and the ensuing restrictions on social proximity and business operations will have on the economy in Chatham County and beyond. But we do know a number of government-related organizations working to offer some help, both financial and practical, to small businesses who are wrestling with the pandemic.


Here’s a list:

Small Business Administration


The SBA is a federal



U.S. Small Business Administration



NC Rapid Recovery



CHATHAM EDC
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

covid19relief.sba.gov

Application information for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program

ncrapidrecovery.org

Application information for the NC COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Lending Program

chathamedc.org/news/covid19

Important links and advice for small businesses across Chatham during COVID-19

Staff graphic by Zachary Horner

agency, headed by a Cabinet member, “fully dedicated to small business and providing counseling, capital and contracting expertise as the nation’s only go-to resource and voice for small businesses,” according to the agency’s website.

The SBA’s primary tool of aid during COVID-19 is the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Advance Loan. Available for up to \$10,000, the program is designed “to provide economic re-

lief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue,” the SBA says. Funds are available within three days of a successful application, and the loan will not need to be repaid.

To learn more information and apply, visit covid19relief.sba.gov.

NC Rapid Recovery

Headed by the Golden LEAF Foundation and supported by several

entities including the NC Rural Center and Carolina Small Business Development Fund, the NC COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Lending Program is offering loans up to \$50,000 to businesses that meet certain criteria.

“The North Carolina COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Lending program supports North Carolina small businesses and family farms as they recover from the economic impact of COVID-19,” the program’s

website states. “This rapid recovery loan helps small businesses bridge the gap between when crisis strikes and when federal loans, insurance payouts and other relief funds are approved, or businesses have time to recover.”

The website also states that the loans are “not designed to be a singular source of assistance,” but must be repaid. Recipients are not required to make payments and no interest is accrued over the first six months, followed by 48 months of principal and 5.5 percent interest payments.

For more information, visit the website at ncrapidrecovery.org.

Chatham Economic Development Corporation

The Chatham EDC is not currently a source of loans or funds, but has made itself available as a resource to assistance during the pandemic.

A page on the organization’s website says it is working with the Chatham Chamber of Commerce and Chamber for a Greater Chapel Hill-Car-

boro to “compil(e) resources and advice for businesses amid the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.” The page has links to both the SBA and Rapid Recovery program websites and suggestions for operational changes.

“Cross-train employees for key functions so that daily schedules can continue relatively uninterrupted by potential employee absences,” one piece of advice reads. “Where relevant, consider staggering start and end times to reduce large numbers of people coming together at the same time; and create and test remote employee collaboration systems.”

The EDC also encourages measures of self-care during the pandemic: “Eat well, sleep and exercise. Wash your hands. Don’t touch your face, or anyone else.”

For more information, head to that page at chathamedc.org/news/covid19.

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

COVID-19 PERSPECTIVE

Practical advice for small businesses when a pandemic hits

BY JON SPOON
Director, Small Business Center, Central Carolina Community College, Pittsboro

Editor’s note: Jon Spoon, the director of the CCCC Small Business Center on the college’s Pittsboro campuses, shares some tips for small businesses as they deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. You can find the Chatham Small Business Center online at chathamsmc.com.



The past couple of weeks have been the most difficult of my professional life. I have heard from many people that are struggling desperately to keep their businesses and lives on track. The uncertainty can be debilitating. However, with some creativity and grit, we will make it through this. Here are a few tips for small business owners during the crisis.

Come up with a plan: If you have never had a business plan, you will need one now. At the very least, write out what your business will need to do to operate for the next six months. Explain how your business operated before the crisis, how it will have to adapt during the crisis and what benchmarks you will use to

know if things are going well enough.

Reach out for assistance: Seek out webinars and help from support organizations. The Small Business Center, Chatham EDC and Chatham Chamber of Commerce are here to help. Check their websites for information and register for online trainings.

Let everyone know how you are handling the crisis: If your business has changed its operations and hours, you must let everyone know it. If you can operate with social distancing measures in place, do it and explain what changes you have made. Make sure your messaging is consistent and uses all communication methods you have available. Send out a newsletter, post on all your social media pages, and search for your business online. Make sure every account has up-to-date information.

Get in touch with your creditors: Talk to your landlord, your suppliers and your bank. Let them know that you have had to scale back your operations and ask for flexibility with payments.

Consider a loan to provide cash-flow: If you were profitable or have prospects for when we are able to return to normal, consider taking out a loan for the next few months. The SBA has a loan program for Economic Injury during the disaster and the CARES Act may provide more help. Figure out if one

of them is right for your business and apply.

Talk honestly with your employees: If you are unable to maintain their hours or employment under the current conditions, help your employees seek benefits and make plans for when you are able to operate again. The unemployment offices are dealing with record numbers of claims, but be sure to be responsive and proactive in seeking benefits for your employees.

Be creative: Now, more than ever, you will need good ideas on how to stay afloat. Sell gift cards, create subscription programs, or find new avenues for sales.

Make a digital marketplace: You don’t have to reinvent the wheel, but if your business model fits, find a way to do business online. People will be at home and on their computers; they will not stop caring about you. Find ways to let them help you from home.

Act quickly to take advantage of help as it becomes available: Talk to other business people and read newsletters to learn what programs are being created to help small businesses. If the program fits and could really help your business, apply quickly. Many grant and loan programs are being overwhelmed immediately with applications. If you read about something and say you will put

together an application next week, you will be too late. If something comes up that can actually help, put your name in the hat as soon as possible.

Be wary of scams: People are going to try to take advantage of the uncertainty of all this. If something sounds too good to be true or you got it from an unreliable place, reach out for guidance before you waste your time on it. Ignore offers that ask for money upfront to assist your business in finding funding.

Maintain contact throughout the crisis: This goes for your best customers, your suppliers and the public at large. Spend time each week to let people know how you are weathering the storm. Make a call list of your most important connections and touch base with them to see how they are doing. If you want to get back to normal after this is over, you will need to assure people know that is your intention.

I hope this list will help you during these difficult times. Small businesses are vital to durable communities. We live in a wonderful place and it will return to growth once this has passed. Stay in touch with your community and do not be afraid to ask for help when you need it.

Jon Spoon can be contacted at jspoon@cccc.edu.

For the foreseeable future, it’s all COVID-19

In this edition of “the business world thanks to COVID-19,” as politicians debate over and pass stimulus packages, some companies and industries are finding their own ways, as of now, to respond to what the coronavirus hath wrought on America and the world.



ZACHARY HORNER
Corner Store

NCRLA starts restaurant workers relief fund

The North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association, the state’s top association of restaurant and hospitality workers, has started the N.C. Restaurant Workers Relief Fund. Citing the March 17 closure of dine-in service across the state, a website supporting the fund says it’s collecting money for workers who had to be let go.

“There are now thousands of North Carolinians from the restaurant and hospitality industry without jobs or a source of income,” the website, found at ncrestaurantrelief.com, states on its home page. “They need money

for the basic necessities. They’ve always served us. Now it’s our chance to serve them back.”

Visitors to the page can either “leave a tip” and donate money or apply for some funds.

Some N.C. cities seeing slower internet

BroadbandNow, a website that tracks the efficiency of internet service providers, reported last week that speeds were down by more than 20 percent in Raleigh, Charlotte and Fayetteville and down by 6 percent in Wilmington.

Tyler Cooper, the editor-in-chief of the website, wrote in a report: “Though many cities listed below have experienced some degree of degradation in terms of median download speed, the vast majority of them are still well within speeds that can support crucial remote work and learning tasks. That said, it is important to note that though speeds may be holding relatively steady across the nation, many areas do not have robust connections to begin with.”

GoFundMe seeing influx of campaigns

According to a March 26 report in the New York Times, GoFundMe is the

home for millions of dollars in COVID-19-related relief funds. The company told the newspaper that donors had contributed around \$60 million to coronavirus-instigated campaigns, with more than 14,000 campaigns from small businesses.

The NYT’s Nathaniel Popper and Taylor Lorenz reported that around 27 percent of GoFundMe campaigns hit their goal “in times of relative calm,” but wrote that “the current crisis is likely to pose even more difficulties than usual because of the sheer amount of need, and the fact that most people who may be donors are also living through an economic crisis.”

Waffle House declares ‘Index Red’

Who knew that the number of Waffle Houses closing was a barometer by which we measure disaster?

The chain declared a “Waffle House Index Red” last week, closing more than 400 locations in the early days of last week. At the time, Chatham’s two locations were not affected. An NBC News report by Elisha Fieldstadt explained the moniker.

“The Waffle House Index, which was coined nearly a decade ago, refers to the measure of destruction caused by a natural disas-

ter based on how many Waffle Houses remain open or have closed,” the report stated. “The chain, which has restaurants in about two dozen states but

is a staple in the South, is known for its disaster preparedness and ability to stay open during destructive weather events, like tornadoes and hurricanes.”

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



EST. 2016

PHARMACY

- Now Offering Adherence Packaging
- Purchase Your Broadway Hemp Company, Down South Hemp CBD, and cbdMD Products at 501 RX
- Compounding Available

OPEN MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

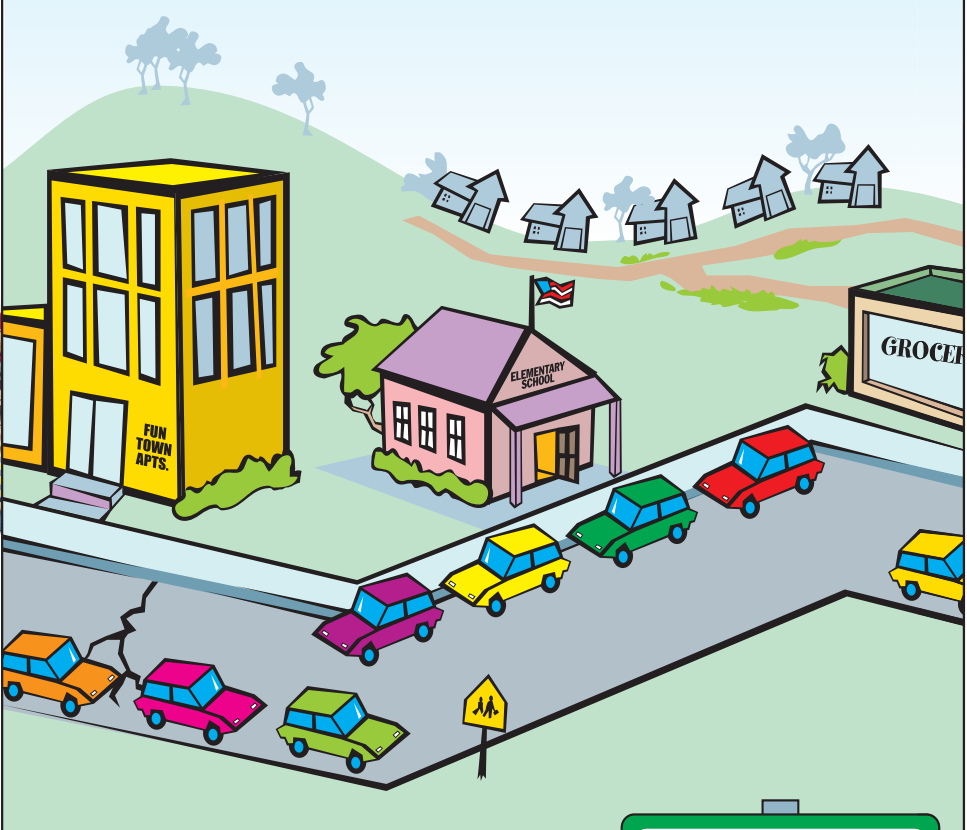

Locally Owned & Operated by Pharmacist Han Su

THE VERANDA AT BRIAR CHAPEL

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Everyone Counts!



United States Census 2020

Every 10 years, every person in the United States gets counted. The count, called the **census**, is required by the U.S. Constitution. It lets the government know how many people live in the United States, including citizens and non-citizens.

One of the main reasons for the census is to be sure that each state is represented fairly in Congress. The number of representatives that can be elected from each state depends upon how many people live in that state.

The census also tells where people live, how many people are in each household and much more.

The government also uses the census to provide important services. These services include roads, schools, hospitals and fire departments.

Standards Link: Social Science: Current Events.

You Decide

Imagine you are a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. You are looking at Fun Town and trying to decide what services are needed and what services will be needed in 10 years.

Circle the services they need now. Draw a line around the services they will need in 10 years.

hospital roads high school fire department elementary school public transportation

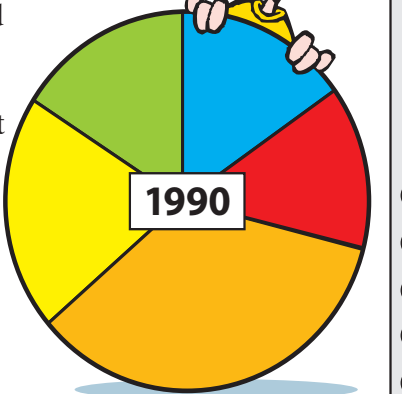
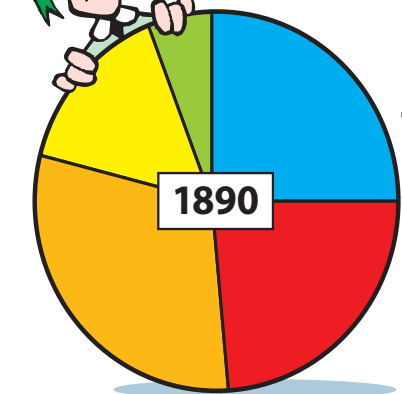
| Fun Town | |
|------------------|-------|
| Number of People | |
| Ages 0-9: | 550 |
| Ages 10-19: | 1,260 |
| Ages 20-39: | 620 |
| Ages 40-59: | 420 |
| Ages 60+: | 275 |

Standards Link: History/Social Science: Students understand and distinguish cause, effect, sequence and correlation in historical events including long and short-term causal relationships.

The Census: Then and Now

The first census was taken in 1790. Since that time, the U.S. Government has counted people every 10 years.

The number of people in different age groups has changed over the past 200 years. These two charts show the ages of people in 1890 and in 1990. How has the size of each age group changed? What does this tell us?



AGES: 0-9 10-19 20-39 40-59 60+

In the News Count


How many of each of the following can you find in today's newspaper:

- ☐ pictures of women
- ☐ pictures of men
- ☐ pictures of boys
- ☐ pictures of girls
- ☐ pictures of animals

Standards Link: Math: Compare, sort and count common objects.

Standards Link: Math: Interpret results summarized and displayed in charts.

WILD CENSUS



Some census takers don't count heads. They count beaks or fins or tails. Volunteers and scientists all over the world count wild animals. They do this to find out if animals are becoming extinct. How many animals can you find in the picture above?

Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

Double Double Word Search

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

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CENSUS | M | E | T | N | U | M | B | E | R | H |
| UNITED | F | V | C | O | U | N | T | E | D | E |
| COUNTED | A | P | E | O | P | L | E | D | F | A |
| GOVERNMENT | M | U | N | I | T | E | D | E | V | D |
| SERVICES | I | O | S | E | R | V | I | C | E | S |
| PEOPLE | L | C | U | T | L | F | F | I | M | T |
| STATE | Y | N | S | O | S | I | T | D | A | A |
| FIRE | G | O | V | E | R | N | M | E | N | T |
| FINS | N | U | P | E | R | S | O | N | Y | E |
| NUMBER | | | | | | | | | | |
| HEADS | | | | | | | | | | |
| PERSON | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAMILY | | | | | | | | | | |
| MANY | | | | | | | | | | |
| DECIDE | | | | | | | | | | |

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

Kid Scoop SCOOP THE NEWS GAME

Read the article on this page. Then answer the questions below!

How often does the government count the number of people living in the U.S.?

Are both citizens and non-citizens counted?


The government uses the Census to provide important services. List three of those services:

How old were you when the last Census happened?

Census data shows that there were more people above 60 years of age living in the U.S. in 1990 than there were in 1890. Why might that be?

FREE BOOK!

Everyone Counts!



You can get a FREE 2020 "Everyone Counts!" story and activity book by visiting www.census.gov

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: VOLUNTEER

The noun **volunteer** means a person who offers to do a service of their own free will.

The park clean-up was completed by **volunteers**.

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

What if you were in charge?

Choose a social problem that is currently being covered in your newspaper. Make a list of all the groups of people concerned about this issue. What does each group think about the issue? What do you think could be done to keep as many people as possible happy?

Standards Link: History/Social Science.

Five kids under an umbrella. Why did none get wet?




ANSWER: It wasn't raining!

Write On!

What's your opinion?

Should kids be allowed to vote? Why or why not?



Chatham YMCA

- CHATHAM YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL

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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

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,tfnc

RENTAL APARTMENTS

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, A2,tfnc

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, key-less 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. A2,tfnc

LIVESTOCK & PETS

FOR SALE - ONE 2-year old Pure Bred Black Angus Bull. If interested, call 919-704-5253. M26,A2,2tp

AUTOS FOR SALE

2005 HONDA PILOT, needs head gasket. 919-478-4041, M26,A2,2tp

AUCTIONEERS

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, A2,tfnc

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, A2,tfnc

SERVICES

AFFORDABLE LAWN CARE NEEDS - All your grass mowing, weed-eating, bushhogging, aerator, plugging and fertilizing needs. Call Mike, 336-467-1081. A2,9,16,23,4tp

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, A2,tfnc

JUNK CARS PICKED UP Free of charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no charge. 919-542-2803. A2,tfnc

I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! J9,tfnc

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

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

HELP WANTED

HOMECARE SEEKING, Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive Weekly Pay, CNA's start at \$10.00/hr. & up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call (919) 704-8962 for more info or to apply. F20,27,M5,12,19,26,6tc

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,tfnc

HIRING ALL SHIFTS - CNAs, PCAs, Med Techs, Under new ownership. Competitive pay, insurance and vacation. Apply at Coventry House in Siler City. O17,tfnc

MISC

VEGETABLE PLANTS and German Johnson Tomato Plants are READY at Vestal's, 969 Poe Road, Siler City. Call 919-200-3755. A2,9,2tc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against MARGARET RAMSEY PENNYBACKER of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 9th day of January, 2020, are notified to present them to William George Sunda, Executor of the Estate of Margaret Ramsey Pennybacker in c/o David R. Frankstone, 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 June 18, 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 Margaret Ramsey Pennybacker. Those indebted to Margaret Ramsey Pennybacker are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. David R. Frankstone Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against NANCY HARRIS RIEFENHAUSER, deceased, of Cary, NC, are notified to present the same to the undersigned on or before June 13, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. Debtors of decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 12th day of March, 2020. Jane Bossert, Executrix, c/o Sprunger Law PLLC PO Box 91597 Raleigh, NC 27675 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator of the Estate of KENNETH LYLE WOOD, 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 June 18, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 12th day of March, 2020. RONALD P. COLLINS, Administrator of KENNETH LYLE WOOD, ESTATE 117 West Raleigh Street Siler City, North Carolina 27344 919) 663-2533 M12,M17,M26,A2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 70 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of NAOMI BERMAN 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 June 12, 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 12th day of March, 2020. Jessica Booker, Executrix 803 Spring Dell Lane Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 372 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JACQUELINE GILLAN PHILLIPS AKA JACQUELINE LEE PHILLIPS, 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 June 12, 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 12th day of March, 2020. Robert Hill, Executor 173 Cardinal Court Pittsboro, NC 27312 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 108 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of JOANNE M. SNEED, 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 June 12, 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 12th day of March, 2020. Julie Sneed Moore, Administrator CTA 404 Colony Woods Dr Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 560 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of DANIEL ENRIQUE SALGADO, 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 June 19, 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 19th day of March, 2020. DANIEL ENRIQUE SALGADO SR. Administrator 1 Carolina Meadows: Apt 307 Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M19,M26,A2,A9,4tp

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK 20 SP 34 JAMES HARVEY BOWDEN, BY AND THROUGH HIS ADMINISTRATOR CTA RONALD P. COLLINS Petitioner vs THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT RUBY SILER GEORGE; THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT ERNESTINE SILER; THE HEIRS BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT SAMMIE WHITE; THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT WILLIS DARK; THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF JUNIUS BOWDEN; THE HEIRS BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT WILLA MAE BOWDEN STRICKLAND, AND HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT ELSIE MORROW. NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION Respondents TO: The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Ruby Siler George The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Ernestine Siler The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Sammie White The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Junius Bowden The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Willa Mae Bowden Strickland The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Elsie Morrow TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of relief being sought is as follows: To determine the heirs of James Harvey Bowden in order to make distributions and close the estate. You are required to make a defense to such pleading no later than the 28th day of April, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the parties seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. This the 10th day of March, 2020. MOODY, WILLIAMS & ROPER, LLP BY: C. TODD ROPER, ESQUIRE ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONERS Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 Telephone: (919) 542-5605 Facsimile: (919) 542-5609 State Bar No. 17206 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 17-CVD-294 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. INGRID COLLETTE CAMPBELL AS TRUSTEE, et al Defendants. NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: INGRID COLLETTE CAMPBELL, as Trustee and not Personally Under the provisions of a Trust Agreement dated the 12th day of May 1998, Known as Trust Number 3401 Hwy. 87 North Land Trust A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by

publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 11-CVD-1048 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. SIMON AGUILA et al Defendants NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: SIMON AGUILA and spouse, if any, and any HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVISEES of SIMON AGUILA and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 16-CVD-706 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND DEVISEES OF JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE, et al Defendants NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVISEES of JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, which may include THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVISEES of KATHY DIANE FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, and any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 17-CVD-296

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND DEVISEES of MARY A. HUNTER, et al Defendants. NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVISEES of MARY A. HUNTER and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF SHIRLEY G. HARTMAN NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons, firms and corporations having claims against SHIRLEY G. HARTMAN, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Gregory Herman-Giddens, as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before June 19, 2020, c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Attorney at Law, 8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 400, Naples, FL 34108, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor. This the 11th day of March, 2020. Gregory Herman-Giddens, Executor c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty. Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. 8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 400 Naples, FL 34018 M19,M27,A2,A9,4tc

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

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.

WILLIS WRENN a/k/a C. WILLIS WRENN, 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 17th day of June, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 10th day of March, 2020. Neil A. Wrenn, Executor of The Estate of Carrol Willis Wrenn a/k/a C. Willis Wrenn Post Office Box 665 Siler City, North Carolina 27344 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 665 SILER CITY, NORTH CAROLINA 27344 (919) 742-5614 M19,M26,A2,A9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 518 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of LISELOTTE EDELTRUD SMITH, 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 June 19, 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 12th day of March, 2020. Walter Butler, Executor 3004 Silk Hope-Gum Springs Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 M19,M26,A2,A9,4tp

Career Opportunities Available Visit www.chathamnc.org and click on Jobs

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up. 400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312 919-542-5410 TDD 1-800-735-2962 Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMGt.com EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **FRANK PRESS**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 19th day of June, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 19th day of March, 2020.

PAULA PRESS & FREDRIC PRESS,
CO-EXECUTORS ESTATE OF
FRANK PRESS
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
M19,M26,A2,A9,4tc

PUBLIC NOTICE
Chatham County Schools is developing the following federal projects in keeping with the 2015 Every Student Succeeds Act:
Title I (Helping Disadvantaged Children Meet High Standards)
Title II (Preparing, Training and Recruiting High-Quality

Teachers)
Title III (Language Acquisition)
Title IV A (Student Support, Academic Enrichment, Career and Technical Education)
McKinney-Vento (Homeless Education)
Migrant education program
IDEA (Students with Disabilities) — The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446): This project, which is being amended, pertains to the special education programs that Chatham County Schools proposes for federal funding for the 2020-21 school year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this federal program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open for public review and comments during the week of April 20-24, 2020, in the office of Melvin Diggs, the executive director of exceptional children and academically and intellectually gifted programs in Chatham County Schools, located at 79 South Horton Street, Pittsboro, NC, 27312. These projects describe the programs that Chatham County Schools proposes for federal funding for the 2020-21 school year. Interested persons are encouraged to review the federal guidelines for the projects listed above and indicate their interest in participation if qualified. These projects are being developed in April and May and are due to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction by June 30, 2020. The initial meeting regarding equitable services for private schools is April 28, 2020, at 2 p.m. in the Chatham County Schools Boardroom, 369 West Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312. Interested parties should contact Carol Little, executive director federal programs and school improvement for Chatham County Schools.
M26,A2,A9,A16,A23,5tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified on the 16th day of March, 2020 as Executrix, of the Estate of JOYCE ANN WEISER, 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 26th day of June, 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 26th day of March 2020. William Edward Weiser of the Estate of Joyce Ann Weiser PO Box 51579 Durham, NC 27717-1579 Gwendolyn C. Brooks, Esquire Kennon Craver, PLLC 4011 University Drive, Suite 300 Durham, North Carolina 27707 M26,A2,A9,A16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
2020 E 68
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **BETTY WALL BREWINGTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at 85B Rocky Knolls, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27516, on or before the 26th day of June, 2020, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 19th day of March, 2020. Ricky Lee Austin 85B Rocky Knolls Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516 Gunn & Messick, LLP Post Office Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 M26,A2,A9,A16,4tc

THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
19 SP 96
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
LARRY DONNELL GOINS, BY AND THROUGH THE GUARDIAN OF HIS ESTATE RONALD P. COLLINS, Petitioner VS. DEQUINCEY G. GOINS, BETTER LIVING HOMES, INC., AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, NA, AS TRUSTEE FOR BANKAMERICA MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT TRUST V, SENIOR/SUBORDINATED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 1998-2, Respondents
NOTICE OF SALE, PURSUANT TO G.S. 1-339.15
Pursuant to G.S. 1-339.15, Commissioner C. Todd Roper notices the public sale of real as follows:
1. C. Todd Roper was appointed Commissioner to sell the real property referenced in the Petition pursuant to an Order of Public Sale filed December 3, 2019.

2. The real property hereinafter referred to shall be sold at public auction **on the 9th day of April, 2020, at 3:00 o'clock p.m. at 1032 Glovers Chapel Road, Bennett, North Carolina 27208.**
3. The real property to be sold is identified as follows: 10 acres more or less described in Deed Book 648, Page 659, and more particularly described as: BEGINNING at a nail in the center of SR #1145, and being the Southeast corner of Lot No. 7 and being Reference Point 56, as per Plat hereinafter referenced; and running then with the line of Lot No. 7, North 13° 47' 44" East 456.96 feet to an iron stake and being Reference Point 65; thence continuing with the line of Lot No. 7 North 24° 29' 39" West 1,220.17 feet to an iron stake located in James A. LeTendre's line and being Reference Point 93; thence with LeTendre's line, South 82° 09' 15" East 81.36 feet to an iron stake located in the C.L. Allen Estate line; thence with the line of the C.L. Allen Estate, South 08° 04' 24" West, 1,415.29 feet to an iron stake located in the C.L. Allen Estate's line and being Reference Point 52 and being in Wilbert A. Coble, Jr.'s corner; thence with Coble's line, North 77° 52' 48" West 224.07 feet to an iron stake and being Reference Point 54; thence continuing with Coble's line, South 45° 05' 21" West 203.92 feet to an iron stake and being Reference Point 55; thence continuing with Coble's line, South 33° 37' 37" West 111.07 feet to a nail located in the center of SR #1145 and being Reference Point 57; thence with the center of SR #1145, North 56° 17' 51" West 86.09 feet to a nail in the center of SR #1145 and being the point and place of BEGINNING, and containing 10.000 acres, more or less, and being all of Lot No. 6, as per plat entitled "Survey for Dewey V. Goins", dated 10/12/85 to 12/14/85, prepared by Rufus L. Johnson, PLS, and recorded in Plat Cabinet A, Slide 527, Chatham County Registry, to which Plat reference is hereby made for greater certainty of description.
For chain of title see Book J-I, Page 482, Book L-F, Page 273; Book L-F, Page 294; Book L-F, Page 372, and Book 489, Page 47, Chatham County Registry. See also Plat Book 33, Page 30, Chatham County Registry.
4. The personal property to be sold is as follows: Manufactured Home, 980 Square feet, Wood Siding, Metal/Vinyl skirting, frame deck and package heat/air conditioning.
5. The terms of the sale will be as follows:
It is responsibility of the highest bidder to personally inspect the property being sold and to bid accordingly based on his or her judgment; inspections, which may constitute a condition of sale, must be completed prior to the auction. The highest bidder shall be

required to sign the Purchase Agreement at the auction. This is a cash transaction and is not subject to the highest bidder obtaining financing or any other contingency. After the expiration of all of upset bids as required by law for real property, the highest bidder shall receive a Commissioner's Deed with possession being granted to the highest bidder at closing. The purchaser of personal property shall receive a bill of sale and possession will be delivered at the sale upon payment of the purchase price. The purchaser shall remove the personal property from the real estate above unless the same person buys both.
The sale of real property is made subject to any easements, encumbrances and covenants of record, and likewise subject to any cemetery or cemeteries that may now exist on this property which are not mentioned in the above findings of fact. Auctioneer and sellers do not warrant or covenant with the highest bidder with respect to the existence or nonexistence of any pollutants, contaminants or hazardous waste prohibited by Federal, State, or local law or claims based thereon arising out of the actual or threatened discharge, release, disposal, seepage, migration or escape of such substances at, from or into the demised premises. Highest bidder is to rely upon its own environmental audit or examination of the premises.
6. If the Commissioner so chooses, he may make the following additional terms of the sale in this action:
a) The highest bidder shall pay 10% buyers' premium to the auctioneer conducting the sale which shall be added to the highest bid to determine the final contract price explained as follows: A 10% buyers' premium will be added to the highest bid price to determine the final contract price of the property. Example: your bid \$1,000.00; buyers' premium \$100.00; your final contract price will be \$1,100.00;
b) Auctioneers shall be compensated by receiving a commission equal to 10% of the final contract purchase price which shall include the buyers' premium above and seller's obligation for the balance of said commission. Example: final contract price is determined above \$1,100.00, then auctioneers receive a commission of \$110.00 which shall be paid as follows: Buyer pays \$100.00 and seller pays \$10.00, the balance of the commission.
c) The highest bidder at this sale will be required to make a deposit of 10% of the final contract price by cash or certified check on the date of sale. The bid on the real property will remain open for 10 days for an upset bid as by law required. Within 30 days following the upset bid's expiration on the real property, the highest bidder shall close and tender the final contract price to purchase the real estate which shall include the buyers' premium according to the terms of said public auction as determined by the auctioneer; provided however, this shall be subject to confirmation by the Clerk of Court.
THIS, the 9th day of March, 2020.
BY: C. TODD ROPER, COMMISSIONER
M26,A2,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 131
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **WILLIAM WOOLSEY AKA WILLIAM HENRY WOOLSEY**, 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 June 26, 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 March, 2020.
Evelyn Woolsey Burger, Executrix
909 Beltline Blvd
Columbia, SC 29205
M26,A2,A9,A16,4tp

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
20 E 126
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
HAVING qualified before the Honorable Dana Hackney, Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, as executor of the estate of **KATHLEEN SUE KAZEMIAN**, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of June, 2020, or this notice shall be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.
This the 26th day of March, 2020, and the 2nd, 9th, and 16th days of April, 2020.
Mohammad A. Kazemian, Executor of the Estate of Kathleen Sue Kazemian
12020 Iredell
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
Harry B. Crow, Jr.
Attorney for the Estate
315-B North Main Street
Monroe, NC 28112
Telephone: 704-283-1175
M26,A2,A9,A16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
OF DONALD E. HUNTER
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
All persons, firms and corporations having claims

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against **DONALD E. HUNTER**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Lewis N. Lampiris, as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before June 26, 2020, c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Attorney at Law, 8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 400, Naples, FL 34108, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor. This the 24th day of March, 2020.
Gregory Herman-Giddens, Executor
c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty.
Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A.
8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 400
Naples, FL 34108
M26,A2,A9,A16,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 141
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **RHONDA L. SMITH**, 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 June 26, 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 26th day of March, 2020.

Willissa C. Smith, Administrator
2322 NC Hwy 902
Pittsboro, NC 27312
M26,A2,A9,A16,4tp

LEGAL NOTICE
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of The Estate of **MARIE KIVETT ISELEY AKA CLADIE MARIE KIVETT ISELEY** of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against her estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of July, 2020, or this notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to her estate please make immediate payment. This is the 2nd day of April, 2020.
John Monte Iseley, Executor
11007 S. NC Hwy 49
Liberty, NC 27298
Andrew M. Brower
Wilson, Carlson & Brower, PLLC
605 N. Asheboro St.
Liberty, NC 27298
Telephone: (336)-622-2267
A2,A9,A16,A23,4tc

CREDITOR'S NOTICE
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified on the 26 day of March, 2020, as Administrator of the Estate of **BRAD JACKSON CRACE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 1st day of July, 2020, or this notice

will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment. This the 27th day of March, 2020.
Shelly A. Crace, Administrator of
The Estate of Brad Jackson Crace
172 Canopy
Pittsboro, NC 27312
c/o Attorneys: Law Offices of W. Woods Doster, P.A.
115 Chatham Street, Suite 302
Sanford, NC 27330
A2,A9,A16,A23,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **PATRICK A. CABE**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 2nd, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 2nd day of April, 2020.
Suellen Cabe, Executor
Estate of Patrick A. Cabe
c/o Roberson Law Firm
1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
A2,A9,A16,A23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 151
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **BETTY JEAN MERRITT**, 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 July 2, 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 27th day of March, 2020.
Co-Executors:
Christopher P. Cox
795 Thomas Kelly Rd
Sanford, NC 27330
Shawn A. Cox
370 Thomas Kelly Rd
Sanford, NC 27330
A2,A9,A16,A23,4tp

PUBLIC NOTICE:
Cellco Partners and its controlled affiliates doing business as (Verizon Wireless) are proposing to build a 199-foot Monopole Telecommunications Tower located at Gum Springs Church Road, Moncure, Chatham County, NC 27559 (35° 38' 57.28" North and 79° 06' 43.12" West). Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30-days from the date of this publication to: I.Avila , Terracon, 2105 Newpoint Place, Suite 600, Lawrenceville, GA 30043, 678-564-0568 or javila@terracon.com.
A2,1tp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
Chatham County
Construction Manager at Risk
for Chatham County Emergen-

cy Operations Center
Chatham County is requesting statements of qualifications for Construction Manager at Risk (hereafter referred to alternatively as "CM" or "CM at Risk") services for one Chatham County Emergency Operations Facility. This facility will house Chatham County's Emergency Management and Communications Departments. The total space needs allocation required for the new facility is approximately 22,800 square feet. The building will house Admin/Staff spaces; EMA Administration; Communications Administration; Emergency Operations Center; Communication Operations; Training Spaces; Technology Spaces; Common Spaces – Staff; Common Spaces – Building Support. The new facility will be located on a site off of Renaissance Drive in Pittsboro, NC which will allow sufficient space for new project and future expansion. The use of up-to-date technology and proper accountability for Threat Assessment will be critical components of the project as well. Deadline and Number of Submittals: Proposers must submit one (1) electronic copy by 2:00 pm EST on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. The electronic copy should be submitted in .pdf format via an e-mailed DropBox (or similar share file method due to anticipated file size) link to Brian Stevens, Project Manager at brian.stevens@chathamnc.org. The electronic copy must be received by the deadline above. Responses received after this time will

not be accepted. Chatham County will assemble a review team to evaluate the RFQ's via team input and an evaluation matrix. The team may include: 1) representatives from the Chatham County Manager's Office, 2) the Chatham County Facilities & Construction Director, 3) representative from the Chatham County Finance Office, 4) the Chatham County Emergency Management Director, 5) the Chatham County Communications Director, and 6) the project architect. The County reserves the right to add additional people to the review team. Questions regarding the RFQ must be submitted in writing either via e-mail to Cacie Langley at purchasing@chathamnc.org or by fax to 919-545-2417. All questions requiring additional information will be responded to in an addendum. The deadline for questions is April 14, 2020 at 5:00 PM. This announcement and other opportunities can be found on the County's "Bid Opportunity" webpage at http://www.chathamnc.org/business/current-bid-proposal-opportunities. Any addendum issued will be posted here as well. Chatham County shall award the contract to the most qualified firm and reserves the right to reject any of and all responses. Chatham County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, age or disability.
A2,1tc

Trucks continue moving products amid COVID-19 despite challenges

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — As the state of North Carolina begins to “stay at home” as ordered by N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper last week, trucks and truck drivers are continuing their work to keep the supply chains moving — even as they face their own unique set of challenges.

Jeff Wilson, president of Wilson Brothers Trucking in Bear Creek, said that his business is continuing its work, with more demand to cover expanding needs of shippers.

Wilson Brothers Trucking, which has been serving transportation needs for more than 70 years, handles mostly animal agriculture such as poultry, livestock, swine and dairy delivered locally and regionally. About 15 percent of the business’ work is freight.

As more businesses are either closing or changing practices in the face of COVID-19, truck drivers are having difficulty in accessing food and restrooms while traveling while still dealing with the struggles each North Carolina family is facing at this time.

With restaurants serving only by way of drive-thru and take-out only options, truckers are sometimes left out — commercial vehicles cannot go through drive-thrus and many truck stops are closing their restaurants as well, according to Wilson.

“Parking a commercial vehicle is always a struggle,” Wilson said. “But it’s more challenging now.”

Truck drivers are required to take 10-hour breaks when on the road. Often they will use rest areas to park, sleep and use the restrooms. But Wilson said because many rest stops are being closed, truck drivers are having a harder time finding a place to do that.

“Even locally, at markets where you can purchase fuel, you can go inside, but a lot of the restrooms are closed,” Wilson said. “I understand why, but it’s making it hard on our drivers.”

According to the North Carolina Trucking Association, 85.6 percent of North Carolina communities depend exclusively on trucks to move their goods. With a workforce vital for the supply chain, Wilson said that the “health and well-being” of his employees is a “number one priority.”

“They are out and with the public,” Wilson said. “We have a lot of customers that are minimizing contract with the drivers, allowing them to stay in their trucks while things are loaded or unloaded.”

Wilson noted his



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

As the state of North Carolina begins to ‘stay at home,’ trucks and truck drivers are continuing their work to keep the supply chains moving, even as they face their own challenges. Willie Monroe of Wilson Brothers Trucking is one of them.

drivers, in addition to the work challenges, are also facing the stresses most of us are familiar with at home.

“Kids are at home, doing schoolwork,” Wilson said. “We’ve had to be flexible to let them work different times around childcare. And getting supplies is hard for everyone; you can’t just make one trip. We’re all facing that. [Our drivers] have additional rigors compounded.”

Wilson said he was grateful to have work for his employees and continues to seek out additional qualified drivers to help meet the demands.

“Transportation is a vital part of everything we touch or use,” Wilson said. “When we feed our families, clothe our families, those physical pieces

or some part are transported on a truck at some time. Without that part of our infrastructure, we don’t have that flexibility. It’s part of our day to day economy.”

As the more and more people are staying at home, Wilson’s team will be on the roads.

“We look at our employees as our most important asset,” Wilson said. “I expect my workforce to respect each other and the public. I hope the public understands the challenges and is courteous on the road. None of us are perfect. We all have room to improve and that’s something we should strive for every day.”

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



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Truck drivers are facing new challenges on the road with closures of rest areas and restaurants, limiting access to food and restrooms. Driver Willie Monroe of Wilson Brothers Trucking is gassing up his rig with Dawn Lincourt to prepare to hit the roads again.

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Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Grant #19CE000418 (NIMH) and #19CE000420 (SAMHSA).
1. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2018). Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2017 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.