

Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | NOVEMBER 19-25, 2020 | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | \$1

'LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR FELLOW HUMANS'

Health officials recommend smaller, outdoor Thanksgiving celebrations

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Leslie Cox normally spends Thanksgiving Day hosting a gathering with upwards of 30 friends and family members.

This year — as daily case counts of COVID-19 and deaths caused by the virus continue to set daily record highs — she's opting for a different, safer Thanksgiving affair.

"We love to do it," Cox said of her family tradition, "but this year, we've been kind of worried about what we might be able to do for a while."

Thanksgiving is known as a holiday which brings people together who are often regularly physically far apart — cousins, aunts, uncles and significant others alike. During years with smaller gatherings, Cox, of Pittsboro, said a dozen people

attend her gathering, at which her husband, Brendan, cooks a delicious meal for everyone in attendance.

But this year, with an indoor gathering limit of 10 people in North Carolina to slow the spread of the coronavirus, even a dozen people is too many.

Instead, Cox, who owns Oakleaf with her husband in Carrboro, said she will be delivering a Thanksgiving meal to

her mom from their restaurant — but they won't eat together. Her mother, who has congestive heart failure, was the most concerned about meeting at all, Cox said. They'll sit outside in their masks with her parents, both over 80 years old, for about an hour before they head to Thanksgiving with their "social pod," three other couples who

See **THANKS**, page A11

Cyber-attack could 'sow mistrust'

D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

The cyber-attack which leveled the Chatham County government computer network three weeks ago — disconnecting phone lines and email services and prohibiting access to county records — could have been launched to sow doubt in the integrity of the elections process, according to a local cyber security expert.

Chatham County has still not disclosed details of the security breach, including whether or not it involved demands for a ransom. But county officials have confirmed the severity of what they describe as "an incident," rather than an attack — and which County Manager Dan LaMontagne called "really, really bad," and has yet to be resolved — acknowledging in a press release last week that federal agencies are involved in the recovering effort and admitting it could not estimate when county services would be restored.

"The cyber incident discovered on October 28th that affected Chatham County government's network is still under investigation," the press release said. "Chatham County's Management and Information Systems (MIS) Department, along with federal, state, and local partners continue working to restore the affected systems. A timeline has not been established for full-service restoration, but we continue to make progress in our efforts."

The county declined to answer News + Record inquiries as to which federal agencies might be involved in the investigation.

A number of theories have emerged in the weeks following the attack to explain its purpose. Perhaps the

See **CYBER**, page A6

FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

'It's a difficult job, but a privilege...'

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

On her dad's 92nd birthday, Liz Lahti spent half an hour with him through the window of his assisted living facility in Raleigh.

The day marked a series of milestones beyond John Cabot Diller Jr.'s Aug. 12 birthday: it was the first time she'd seen her dad and the first time he was Hoyer lifted into his wheelchair since COVID-19 restrictions were put in place in March. After his birthday, Lahti would see her dad one more time when restrictions were lifted, this time face-to-face, before a series of positive coronavirus cases hit the facility.

"He didn't even recognize me with a mask on," Lahti said of the visit. "COVID-19 has been extremely difficult. I can't see him, and I am trusting his total care over to a facility."

Lahti, who is the senior center manager at the Council on Aging's Eastern Chatham Senior Center, joins millions across the country as a caregiver — a 24/7 role. Before the pandemic, Lahti was with her dad more days than not, to check his mail, sit with him at meals, do exercises with him and trim his mustache. It's a level of attention that has earned her the nickname "Mother Hen" from her father. And that role doesn't stop just because she can't see him in person.

"My roles in the past and present include being an advocate, advisor, companion, shopper, personal care assistant, wardrobe planner, room decorator, exercise instructor, masseuse, mail reader, financial assistant, meal provider, calendar reminder, appointment setter, mood lifter, laundress, communicator, spy," she said. "It's a difficult job, but it is a privilege to be entrusted with this role."

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners joined the state last month in recognizing November as Family Caregivers Month, calling on the people of Chatham to join the Council on Aging in honoring

See **CAREGIVERS**, page A3



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Susan Hardy, the caregiver specialist on the Council of Aging, shown here holding her written entry in the 2020 Candlelight Reflections Booklet, dedicated to caregivers and care receivers in Chatham.

'WHAT DO YOU NEED?'

Two Hispanic-owned businesses open in Chatham despite COVID-19

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

Editor's note: All interviews for this story were conducted in Spanish.

Few would dare to risk a career change during a pandemic that has suffocated America's economy and left millions without work — yet, that's exactly what Pittsboro resident Jimmy García decided to do.

Up until September, García, a native of San Luis Potosí, Mexico, worked in high-rise window cleaning. Today, he owns and operates a Hispanic shop — Tienda Hispana El Rayo — with his wife, Tanya. The store opened on Oct. 16 at 119 Hillsboro St. in Pittsboro in the former location of an insurance agency.

"(I wanted) to have more opportunity and be with my family because if there's an emergency, we can close," García said. "For anything that we need, we can close for a little while, go home, return. In the job I had before, I had no possibility of leaving early."

Named after Los Rayos, García's favorite soccer team, Tienda Hispana El Rayo lies nestled between Circle Books & Music and Deep River Mercantile. Out in the walkway, a big sign lies in front of the shop's double-door storefront, telling passersby, "Estamos ABIERTOS," or "We're OPEN."

On the inside, the store's a bundle of art, food and colors.

"We have crafts, paintings that my wife paints," García said. "We have money



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

Jimmy García owns and operates Tienda Hispana El Rayo in Pittsboro. Among other things, the shop sells sugar skulls (on the counter), objects used in Day of the Dead celebrations.

transfers, pan dulce (sweet bread) and food. There's a little bit of everything."

Sweets, snacks and chips — priced cheaply for children — line shelves in a room in the back of the shop. To the right, several tables display colorful, handcrafted ceramics and a few small paintings. Close to the window, a blue

See **BUSINESSES**, page A11

Chatham's legislative officials face uphill climb

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

RALEIGH — Rep. Robert Reives II and Sen. Valerie Foushee, both Democrats, have retained their seats as Chatham County's elected officials in the North Carolina state legislature. But as members of the General Assembly's minority party, they will face an uphill battle to enact the policy changes their constituency expects.

As the election season neared its end in recent weeks, all eyes turned toward the U.S. Senate where Democrats in pivotal states across the country hoped to take key victories in the party's bid to reclaim a slim majority. But a similar struggle was at play among N.C.'s state legislators.

"The goal was to get majorities in both houses, obviously," said Reives, who represents House Dist. 54. "But at a minimum, I think the realistic expectation was to be able to get majority in one of the houses."

Instead, the November election netted two seats for Republicans after three Democratic incumbents lost in the House and only one Republican incumbent lost in the Senate.

"In the House, you've got 120 people," Reives said. "A majority, obviously, will be 61. And in this particular year, we're going to have 69 Republicans, 51 Democrats. And in the Senate, which is 50 people, they're going to be at 28 (Republicans) to 22 (Democrats) this year."

The Democratic minority is nothing new for N.C. Until 2018, Republicans held a super-major-

See **OFFICIALS**, page A6

IN THE KNOW

Communities In Schools receives \$25,000 Duke Energy grant. **PAGE A7**

Statewide decrease in kindergarteners reflected in Chatham. **PAGE A9**

Pittsboro businesses prep for Small Business Saturday. **PAGE B5**

The rivers rise: scenes from floods in Chatham County. **PAGE B9**



NOTE TO READERS

Beginning in December, the News + Record will be changing printers — moving from The Winston-Salem Journal's facility to that of the News & Observer in Raleigh. For subscribers, starting with the Dec. 3-9 edition, this space on the front page will contain your name and address label. For single-copy buyers, this space will be blank. If you're not a subscriber, you can become a CN+R member at chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

CANCELLATIONS

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

ON THE AGENDA

• **Central Carolina Community College:** Whether you are looking for flexible course choices to meet your personal schedule or starting a new program of study, CCC's 8-week term allows you to find courses that fit your academic and career goals. To register for courses, contact your advisor or the admissions office at 919-718-7300 (Lee Main Campus), 919-545-8025 (Chatham Main Campus), and 910-814-8827 or 910-814-8867 (Harnett Main Campus). See www.cccc.edu/12and8 for a list of classes.

THURSDAY

• **Chatham Literacy** will hold its first "Holiday Door Decorating Event." If family can't visit this holiday season, open your doors anyway through Chatham

Literacy. Decorate your door celebrating a holiday between Thanksgiving and New Year's and you may win a prize and bragging rights. \$20/door, per entry, now through Dec. 21. Registration details at www.chathamliteracy.org or 919-214-1269.

• **The Chatham Historical Museum** will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but will be open the day before and the day after. Regular hours are Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Masks required and groups will be distanced. Adult and kid friendly; with no admission fee. The current special exhibit is vintage toys. Don't miss it! Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The Museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the circle at Pittsboro. More info: <https://chathamhistory.org>

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

• **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** provides 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.

FRIDAY

• **Thanksgiving Food Drive!**

Non-perishable food items will be collected through Friday, through Nov. 20. Drop off items during regular business hours at Smith and Buckner Funeral Home, 230 N. 2nd Ave., Siler City.

• **Supper with Santa and Mrs. Claus** will be held on Friday, Dec. 4, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Paul Braxton Gymnasium, where the facility will be turned into a winter wonderland. This is a floating event and pre-registered tickets are required to enter as space is limited. Event tickets are available online at www.silercity.org or in City Hall, 311 North Second Ave., Siler City. Adult tickets are \$10 and tickets for children age 12 and younger are \$5. The deadline to register is Nov. 27 or until full. No tickets will be available on the day of the event. For more information, contact Daniel Spivey with the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at (919) 742-2699, email recreation@silercity.org, or visit us online at www.silercity.org.

• **The Central Carolina Community College Foundation** is sponsoring a special holiday season drive-thru event on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center parking lot. The event is geared toward small children and will include cookies and candy canes, elves, and a snowwoman — and, Santa Claus. Appropriate COVID-19 measures are in place and will be observed.

• With COVID-19 sweeping the

country, artists' livelihoods are being challenged like never before. The Chatham Arts Council has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: **Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort.** For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.

• **JMArts** hosted a **JMACoronaConcert** via Twitter featuring performances submitted by JM students and faculty. Concerts can be viewed on its Twitter account @JMArts and by using the hashtags #JMACoronaConcert performances and #JMA-CoronaConcert program.

• **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.

• **Foster and/or adoptive**

information: Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 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.

• **Scout News**

• Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstroop93.org for more information.

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

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

Election season draws to a close, but misinformation persists

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

After a long, tumultuous election season, Chatham County's Board of Elections has completed the brunt of its work, but rampant misinformation — mostly disseminated and shared on social media and online — still has many voters at arms over election results.

Misinformation is not just a local problem. Nationwide, dissatisfied members of the electorate have promoted theories, without evidence, of voter suppression and elections tampering. Even President Donald Trump has cast the integrity of election processes into disrepute citing unfounded allegations of misconduct.

In Chatham, the same arguments have gained traction in some circles. "My understanding is that there were a good number of GOP ballots rejected especially in Siler City, please check to see if you vote was counted (sic)," one Chatham resident posted on Facebook.

Such claims are derived from misunderstandings of how elections operate.

"We didn't have any ballots thrown out," said Pandora Paschal, the director of Chatham's Board of Elections. "... We did deduct one because of somebody being deceased."

A second vote was also deducted after a voter submitted two absentee-by-mail ballots thinking the first would not count.

"So, that's two deducted," Paschal said.

Even in the tightest of Chatham County's elections — the Dist. 5 board of commissioners race between incumbent Andy Wilkie, a Republican, and challenger Franklin Gomez Flores, a Democrat who ran unaffiliated — the margin of difference was several hundred votes. Flores has all but officially won the contest now (the vote will be certified by the state on Nov. 24), having maintained a 305-vote lead after canvass. While the results are unlikely to change, Chatham elec-

tions officials announced late Tuesday they would hold a recount in the Dist. 5 race, as well as the N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice race, beginning at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19.

Another frequent contention, according to Paschal — oft cited to imply some kind of voter suppression — is that individuals could check online if their early vote had been counted, but not if their Election Day ballot was added to the total.

"I think when people went to the polling place and put their ballot in the machine, I don't know if they just didn't understand that their ballot counted right then," she said. "When they put it in there, the ballot automatically counted then. Your vote was tabulated."

Conversely, the online tracker was designed to assure early voters that their ballots, which were not immediately tabulated, had reached their destination and had been added to the count.

"With everything we do," Paschal said, "we try to be real transparent about it. And if anybody has any questions, we're glad to answer them or to even show them what we do, within the legal limits. And I think what people should do — and this is the key piece — don't go on what you hear; go to the source. Come to the source."

To stymie the spread of elections misinformation, N.C.'s state board of elections released the following facts about post-election vote-counting processes across the state. These steps are required by law, and they always have been.

"I've been doing this for 17 years," Paschal said, "and these processes have been in place as long as I've been here. We have not changed. They've always been the same."

It's the law

The post-election "canvass" process occurs after every election. Canvass is the entire process of

ensuring votes have been counted correctly and required audits have been completed, culminating in the certification of results during meetings of every county board of elections. By law, these meetings will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 13. Also pursuant to state law, the State Board of Elections will meet at 11 a.m. Nov. 24 to finalize the results. N.C.G.S. § 163-182.5.

All eligible ballots must be counted

In 2020, county boards of elections must count absentee-by-mail ballots postmarked on or before Election Day that arrive in the mail by 5 p.m. Nov. 12. Ballots from military and overseas voters received by 5 p.m. Nov. 12 will also be counted, as required by state law. N.C.G.S. § 163-258.12. During the post-election period, county boards also conduct research to determine whether to wholly or partially count provisional ballots. All eligible provisional ballots are counted during the canvass process. N.C.G.S. § 163-182.2. The post-election period ensures that the ballots of eligible voters will be counted as long as they meet statutory deadlines and comply with all other laws. This allows more eligible voters to lawfully exercise their right to vote.

Results must be audited

After each election, the state board randomly selects two precincts in each county, where paper ballots must be counted by hand for the highest contest on the ballot — the presidential race in 2020 — and compared with the tabulated results. Called the "sample hand-eye count," this audit recounts the ballots in the random precincts to ensure reliability of machine-tabulated results. Bipartisan teams at county boards of elections have been conducting these audits during the past week. The state board conducts additional audits to verify

the accuracy of the count. The results of all audits will be submitted to the board as part of the final certification of the election. For more information, see the state board's Post-Election Procedures and Audits webpage.

Elections officials do not 'call' elections

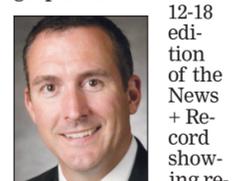
Many North Carolinians have contacted elections officials to ask why certain contests have been "called" for a particular candidate, while others have not. The state and county boards of elections have never — "call" or project a race for any candidate. Projections are made by media and/or candidates using unofficial results, typically based on the vote difference and the number of votes yet to be counted in a contest. In some cases, including the North Carolina governor's race and North Carolina U.S.

Senate race, the trailing candidates "conceded" when they realized they could not make up the vote differential with the ballots still uncounted. The state board will certify final results on Nov. 24. After that, the boards of elections will issue certificates of election to the prevailing candidates. N.C.G.S. § 163-182.15.

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.

CORRECTION

In the elections graphic in the Nov.



12-18 edition of the News + Record showing results of

the Chatham County Board of Education Dist. 1 vote, a photo of Dennis Lewis was labeled as being that of Timothy Winters. Winters, shown here, finished 3rd in the Dist. 1 race behind winner Melissa Hlavac and runner-up Ryan Armstrong. The News + Record regrets the error.

Chatham County Council on Aging

WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT!

Q: How many sites in Chatham County are listed in the National Register of Historic Places?

Find the answer in this issue for your chance to win a \$25 Visa Gift Card!

Central Electric
Membership Corporation
A Tri-State Energy Cooperative

Building a Brighter Future By Supporting Local Education

Chatham News + Record
www.chathamnewsrecord.com

Chatham Media Group LLC
303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, North Carolina, 27344
COPYRIGHT 2020 CHATHAM MEDIA GROUP LLC

CONTACT US

To subscribe, put your paper on hold, or report a missed issue:
919-663-3232

To place a classified or display ad:
919-663-3232; Fax: 919-663-4042

To submit news, or to correct a factual error:
919-663-3251; Fax: 919-663-4042

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Inside County
\$45 for 1 year/52 issues
\$25 for 6 months/26 issues

Outside County
\$50 for 1 year/52 issues
\$30 for 6 months/26 issues

BILL HORNER III, *Editor/Publisher*
bhorner3@chathamnr.com 919-663-3250

NEWSROOM
HANNAH MCCLELLAN, *Reporter*
hannah@chathamnr.com
VICTORIA JOHNSON, *Reporter*
victoria@chathamnr.com
PATSY MONTESINOS, *Reporter*
pmontes2@chathamnr.com
LARS DOLDER, *Reporter*
dldolder@chathamnr.com
CHAPEL FOWLER, *Sports Editor*
cfowler@chathamnr.com
OLIVIA ROJAS, *News Intern*
olivia@chathamnr.com
KIM HAWKS, *Staff Photographer*
khawksnest53@gmail.com
PEYTON SICKLES, *Staff Photographer*
peyton@sickles.org

NEWSROOM INQUIRIES, PRESS RELEASES AND WEBSITE QUESTIONS
news@chathamnr.com

ADVERTISING
JASON JUSTICE
jjustice@chathamnr.com
DAWN PARKER,
Advertising Specialist
advertising@chathamnr.com
919-930-9668

OFFICE
KAREN PYRTLE
karen@chathamnr.com
DORIS BECK
doris@chathamnr.com
FLORENCE TURNER
billing@chathamnr.com

The Chatham News + Record (USPS #101-160) is published weekly, 52 weeks a year, by Chatham Media Group LLC, 303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, N.C. 27344. Subscription rates: 1 year — \$45 in county, and \$50 out of county; 6 months — \$25 in county and \$30 out of county. Periodicals postage paid at the U.S. Post Office in Siler City.

N.C. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Chatham News + Record, PO Box 290, Siler City, N.C. 27344

A family circle of caregiving love

BY DENNIS STREETS
Chatham Council
on Aging

Editor's note: November is National Caregivers Month, created to share appreciation for family caregivers around the country. In this remembrance, Dennis Streets, the executive director of the Chatham County Council on Aging, reflects on caregivers in his family.

I was always told that my Grandpa Streets had "hardening of the arteries." He died when I was 12. Sadly I don't have many recollections of Grandpa that are not clouded by his cognitive impairment. Grandpa was a western Pennsylvania coal miner who started in the mines at age 9 and retired in the mines at age 65.

My understanding is that soon after moving to Pinellas Park, Florida, he began showing worri-

some signs. He would get lost walking his dog, Skippy, and people in town would drive him and Skippy back home. I do remember how quiet he was in our family gatherings — only occasionally laughing at something my brother David would do. David could make us all laugh with his one-person plays. I especially recall one at Thanksgiving — one of the last times Grandpa sat with us at the dinner table.

My pronounced memories of Grandpa Streets, though, are the days and nights I would be present when Aunt Eva would be trying to manage his confused and sometimes combative behaviors — and then later on when

Grandpa was bedridden, and Eva was doing her best to provide loving care.

I remember how upsetting it was to Grandma to see her dear lifelong partner roaming the house in the middle of the night acting as though he was wiring the mine. I was just 7 — nearly Grandpa's age when he worked as a miner — but I was so unsettled by what I saw.

What was most amazing about Aunt Eva, during the 10 years that she was the live-in caregiver for Grandma and Grandpa, is that Eva also taught elementary school that entire time. In fact, because Eva started teaching in the coal mining town of Sutersville, Pennsylvania, as soon as she graduated from high school, she also had to earn her college degree at the same time she was Grandpa's caregiver. I often wonder how Aunt Eva did all of this and

more. Eva ended up teaching 48 and a half years — only retiring because there was a mandatory retirement age in our school district at that time.

Not only did Eva survive during this period of her life ... she flourished in many ways. She had a tremendous sense of humor. She was active with a close knit group of friends. She took trips overseas, including Cuba. And Eva helped my brothers, sister and me achieve our education. She was our "second mother."

Having never married, Aunt Eva eventually moved to Christmount, near Black Mountain, into a house next to my parents when they moved from Florida to the Tar Heel state.

Fortunately she enjoyed several wonderful years there — making vegetable soup, pickled eggs, ambrosia and so much more. She made

new friends, took a few more trips, and loved playing cards.

On one winter day, Eva fell at the front door of her house and broke her hip. This was the beginning of a long, but steady decline. In some ways Eva fit the profile of someone who might predictably end up living her remaining years in a nursing home. While still cognitively very sharp, Eva eventually required considerable personal care assistance. She became incontinent and frail. She was in a hospital bed in her living room for three years. At the age of 92, Eva died at home, as had Grandpa Streets.

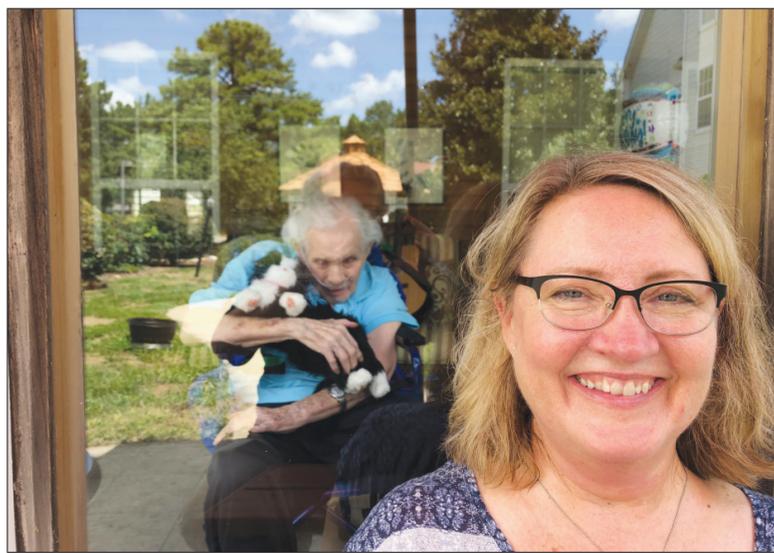
The caregiving that Eva began came full circle when my brother David left his teaching position at a local community college to become her caregiver, along with providing loving assistance to our mother and father as well. He devoted

11 years to enabling them to enjoy as much quality of life as they could at home. My mother lived to age 87 and my dad, 93.

David often says: "I never considered the caregiving a burden, but rather a privilege."

After caring for my dad, who outlived both my mom and Aunt Eva, David applied what he had learned about caregiving to a new role. He became a certified nursing assistant and staff member of a retirement community. His humor, compassion, caring nature, knowledge and practical skills added immensely to those residing in the community assisted living unit.

When I hear about "essential" workers during this period of COVID-19, I cannot think of any two persons in my life who better defined what it means to be "essential" in a loving and caring family.



Submitted photo

On her dad's 92nd birthday, Liz Lahti spent half an hour with him through the window of his assisted living facility in Raleigh due to COVID-19 restrictions. 'COVID-19 has been extremely difficult,' she said.

CAREGIVERS

Continued from page B1

and supporting family caregivers. That support is necessary, said the Council on Aging's Susan Hardy, because being a caregiver is a hard and potentially isolating job.

"A caregiver is someone who devotes 24 hours a day caring for a loved one," Hardy said, adding that this makes it hard for caregivers to find time for themselves. "This does not necessarily mean that they are present in the home with the loved one, but they carry the weight of worrying about that person almost every minute of the day. In many cases, this means the caregiver neglects their own health because he/she is so busy trying to deal with the changes in the health of their loved one."

Hardy, who is the human services team leader and caregiver specialist for the Council on Aging, said COVID-19 has only emphasized those challenges. For many caregivers who live with the care recipient, the isolation is even greater as fear of spreading the virus leads to less visits from family and friends, and potentially even from home aides, who offer a much-needed reprieve for caregivers. For the caregivers who have placed their loved ones in a residential care facility, stress is compounded as COVID-19 restrictions prevent them from seeing and checking in on their loved ones.

One of the caregivers Hardy works with used to take his wife, who is living with dementia, to a local restaurant every day for lunch — the only social interaction he and his wife had with other people. Restaurant restrictions as well and concern over exposure to the virus has halted this

outing, one that gave him much-needed support in his caregiving role, Hardy said. Another caregiver she works with enjoys talking to people as they walk by on the trail that runs by her backyard. It's the only interaction she has all day with anyone besides her husband, who has severe memory loss.

"My work and time I spend at work has not slowed down," Hardy said. "I have more and more caregivers calling in asking to be considered for meal deliveries. I have seen an increase in more male caregivers asking for help. More caregivers are reaching out to get incontinent supplies from us, since most of them are seniors and they are encouraged to avoid being around crowds due to COVID-19."

The Council on Aging provides many services to support caregivers: in-home respite aides to give caregivers a break, caregiver support groups, in-home aides who can do more personal care tasks such as bathing and feeding, assistive equipment loan program and lists of local businesses and services providers caregivers can hire from. They also offer meal deliveries through Meals on Wheels and frozen and shelf stable meals, delivered on a weekly or bi-weekly schedule during COVID-19.

This month, the council will host its second virtual caregivers' support group meetings, with each group limited to eight people. Hardy has started driveway visits with her caregivers — one of which recently took place in the rain while the caregiver sat beside his wife at one end of the carport and she sat at the other end.

COVID-19 grants and funding also allowed Hardy to add 10 more in-home respite aides to the council's roster, which she said is important in helping allow loved

ones to continue living at home, and it's also allowed her to increase emergency respite — required in cases like when a caregiver must unexpectedly travel or wishes to go on vacation.

"Our numbers statistically show that providing an in-home aide for the caregiver for as little as three hours once a week over time has allowed more loved ones to die at home instead of being placed in a facility," she said. "This is testament to how the power of giving the caregiver a break to run errands or just have some 'me' time can help the caregiver to continue to care for their loved ones until the end."

For Lahti, it was a difficult but necessary decision to move her dad to a facility after he broke his back in 2019, then didn't improve after going to the hospital and rehab.

Last Thursday, he was diagnosed with COVID-19 — he's been bedridden since January of last year and is on oxygen, but so far, Lahti said, he has not shown severe symptoms. Though she can't see him in person, she can check in on him through the camera recently installed in his room and through his cellphone — when he answers it, that is.

One of the most challenging things, Lahti said, is that her dad has no conception of time, meaning she sometimes gets phone calls at work and all hours of the night, even as she doesn't physically see him because of COVID-19.

"He would forget he called and then call again leaving me the same message over again and again — it would fill my voicemail up," she said. "I did save the ones that ended in, 'I love you so very much.'"

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.



Hallmark
GOLD CROWN

866 Spring Lane
in the Spring Lane Galleria
kathrynhallmark.com • 919-774-8912

Open Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.,
Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.,
Sunday 1-7 p.m.



CUSTOMER INFO FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

Complete form to receive special offers and promotions.

Submit completed form to receive 20% discount off one regularly priced item*
(* Some exclusions apply)



Willy's
CINNAMON ROLLS ETC.
BAKING WITH LOVE MAKES IT DELICIOUS!

WillysRolls.com
(252) 305-9227

**BAKING WITH LOVE
MAKES IT DELICIOUS**

We ship cinnamon rolls nationwide!

HANDMADE CINNAMON ROLLS, MUFFINS, SCONES, BREAD, DESSERTS AND MORE!

In this season of gratitude, Willy's Rolls would like to thank our community for the ongoing support and patronage!

Our handmade cinnamon rolls can be sent **NATIONWIDE** and ordered online or in our micro-bakery. They are the perfect **GIFT** or addition to your family traditions.

Come in to select from our wide assortment of muffins, scones, bread, desserts, and of course, our handmade cinnamon rolls. Current bakery hours are Monday-Saturday 8 am- 1pm.

We appreciate your online orders and visits.

Order now for your pans of holiday, or everyday, cinnamon rolls for pickup at our bakery.



35 W. CHATHAM ST., PITTSBORO, NC
(252) 305-9227 • willysrolls.com
WILLYSROLLS@GMAIL.COM



VIEWPOINTS

THE CN+R EDITORIAL

When it comes to COVID-19, Thanksgiving is no time to take a holiday

Throughout a long and somewhat dismal summer, there was hope that in post-election America we'd be in a better position both politically and — yes, it's a word — pandemically.

Judge for yourself about politics, but with each passing day, as we stride toward Thanksgiving, COVID-19 data shows more and more alarming trends. What was anticipated to be a long winter looks to get even longer.

- Consider:
- In the U.S., newly confirmed cases are averaging more than 157,000 per day — up from 49,000 just a month ago.
- U.S. hospitalizations have increased 90 percent in that same time.
- Every state in the country, save Vermont and Hawaii, qualifies as a COVID-19 hotspot.
- Across the U.S., 16 states reported single-day infection highs as recently as Friday, and 30 states added more cases in the last week than any other seven-day period since the pandemic began.
- It was less than two weeks ago that the U.S. reported its

first 100,000-case day. Soon — perhaps by the time you read this — we'll have our first 200,000-case day.

• North Carolina seems to set new benchmarks just about every day, with highs for hospitalizations on Monday (1,424); the rolling average for new cases now nears 2,900 per day.

• In rural areas across the country, there are now more coronavirus cases per capita than in cities. And as cases continue to grow in big cities, rural healthcare systems may soon have no place to send infected patients for treatment.

• Everywhere, health care workers are overworked, stressed and burning out — at the same time as hospitalizations climb dramatically.

• 10% of the Secret Service's core security team has been forced to quarantine because they either tested positive for COVID-19 or had close contact with infected co-workers — some linked to largely mask-less campaign rallies held by President Donald Trump in the run-up to the Nov. 3 election.

This "third wave" is indeed frightening, but in the words of

Eli Perencevich, an infectious disease doctor at the University of Iowa: "The wave hasn't even crashed down on us yet." And Gregory Schmidt, the associate chief medical officer at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, told ProPublica: "People in leadership are starting to say things in meetings like, 'I have a sense of impending doom.'"

Plainly put, in the words of an analysis published over the weekend in the online publication *The Bulwark*, "what this data suggests is that over the past nine months, the United States has been quietly building momentum toward a huge fall/winter outbreak. The full burden of a mismanaged pandemic is now bursting upon us."

There is good news. In the last week, we found out a vaccine being developed by Pfizer, now in late-stage trials, was 90% effective — bringing much relief on that medical front. And already this week, drug maker Moderna announced that preliminary phase-three trial data showed its own coronavirus vaccine candidate was more than 94 percent effective.

If it's a race, though, we have

to think about the role transmission plays. Colder weather is here, Thanksgiving is nearly upon us, and — despite ample scientific and other tangible evidence to the contrary — some political leaders and voices of influence continue to poo-poo masks (or the existence of the coronavirus itself) as more people congregate together indoors. Even as states with stricter forms of mask policies and limits on gatherings are showing slower growth in positive cases compared to states with fewer restrictions, reckless public officials cry out "Masks are oppressive!" and fight back against government restriction. Leaders in some state call mask mandates and stay-at-home orders — measures used successfully in many countries to slow community spread — "totally and completely unreasonable."

Which brings us to Thanksgiving.

If you haven't already, you'll want to read the story in this week's edition about the pandemic and the upcoming holiday and safeguards you should heed. And you'll want to think

hard about the plans in your own household — and for your own family. "The virus," the Chatham County Public Health Department rightly points out, doesn't care about your family — it cares only about spreading.

"What's important to remember is that when you are around someone, their exposures to COVID-19 become your exposures," our story says, quoting interim Health Director Mike Zelek. "The virus doesn't care if you are related. It wants to spread. We have seen family gatherings, locally and across the country, that have led to many new cases and, sadly, deaths. With the understanding that informal gatherings, even among families, are a main driver of the pandemic, it is important to limit your 'bubble' to those closest to you — your household."

It's serious. As one official said: People infected with COVID-19 over Thanksgiving could enter the morgue by Christmas.

Play it smart over the holidays. Enjoy a safe Thanksgiving, and make for a merry Christmas.

Some things are worth hanging on to

The "holidays" are upon us. Actually, they've been here awhile already. As I've whined about before in this space, they've been with us since about ...



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

oh, last year's holiday season. Check out the ads and the music playing in stores and in television commercials and tell me what you see and hear.

Obviously there's a big difference this year as "COVID-19" and "coronavirus" are now new words added to our everyday vocabulary. And as we approach the "holidays" in a new culture, who can forget how our friends in authority are telling us masses to do as they say and not as they do, but that's a story for a different day and column.

The "holidays" used to be "the Big Three," more or less, with some bigger than others. There was Halloween, when we'd get bags of M&M's for dressing up like a princess or a pirate and nothing any scarier. I'm pretty sure I would have been afraid of myself if I'd worn some of what goes today, even if I knew about Freddy Krueger and the nightmares on Elm Street.

Then there was Thanksgiving. It used to be a big deal, worth three or four days of its own with the preparation, the day itself and a few days afterwards of turkey sandwiches and turkey hash. Now it's mostly just the day before Black Friday, which is on hold of sorts this year.

While I enjoyed the Thursday festivities, I was just about as much in love with the thick slices of white breast meat that went into the Friday sandwiches on fresh white bread and significant amounts of Duke's mayonnaise.

And then, of course, there was Christmas. It didn't really start in my child world until school let out, most often Dec. 18.

Now, it seems, all three go at the same time, at least judging from marketing and shopping and so forth. It's kind of like the wide, wide world of sports when we have the World Series, college and NFL football and the NBA games going on at the same time, especially this year in the midst of the pandemic, another new word.

It's all very confusing. Anyway, as I have been pondering these shifts from the things of my youth to those of this day, it has finally come into focus that what I really miss are the traditions that have gone the way of all flesh, again in "The Year of The Virus."

The "experts," whoever they are, tell us we need not get caught up in traditions, that they are shackles to the past and we need to let go and make new ones.

Baloney. Well, at least in part ... we do need new ones since some of the folks of this day were not around when some of the ones we have were coming into being. But to just toss them all ... I don't think so, even in these hard times of social infection, air hugs and virtual life.

I remember Halloween was a time of friendly ghosts and school carnivals and "fishing booths" where you could get really neat plastic junk that cluttered up your room. And there was candy, lots of it, chocolate as often as not. Hard to beat chocolate covered anything — M&M's, raisins, peanuts, baby bumblebees ... whatever.

Thanksgiving was when my brothers came home from college and we all sat around the table groaning with an over-

load of food as I tried to remember the name of the newest girlfriend (theirs, not mine).

Mama always made mashed potatoes — the real kind, and several gallons of them. The gravy was good but she put enough butter in the potatoes to keep an average size dairy farm afloat for a week. Consuming large amounts of that dish helped me create the physique I enjoy today.

Over the years, after my brothers and I left home, we'd still gather at our folks' place. We'd rake the yard and play football, overeat and play Rook or Rummy. Later, that festival moved to my place since it was kid-friendly with lots of toys and swings and in-laws and a few outlaws. This year, again thanks to the folks who brought you a virus, that won't happen.

And, as my mind takes faltering steps back to those times with my folks, I especially remember — why, I'm not sure — the big crystal dish with the Ocean Spray cranberry sauce right out of the can, jiggling around waiting to be consumed. Maybe it was those rings that the number 303 can made on the bottom end of the sauce that caught my eye.

Then came December. At various times we'd wander out into the woods behind the house and find what was really a scraggly Charlie Brown tree, but which my mama would transform into a Norman Rockwell model. It was the old time garlands, I guess, and the tons of icicles we threw on them ... literally threw, from a few paces back. You never arranged them neatly. I thought that gave it an artistic look.

Then she'd hang those big ol' painted bulbs — blue and amber and red and some heretofore unknown pigment. I learned one year that I could take a fingernail and scrape off some of the paint. Didn't do that but once.

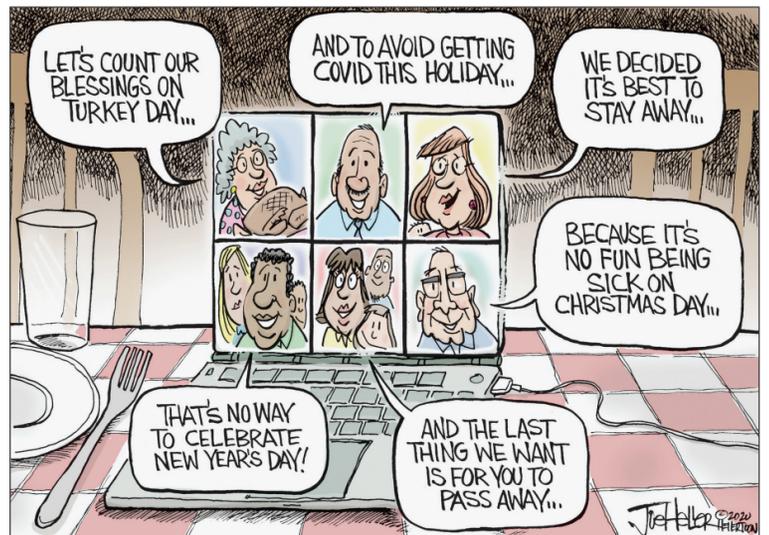
In time, she'd take left-over cedar, tie it together, hang a bell or two and onto the front door it would go, ringing every time that door would open. There was cedar throughout the house, on the mantle and other places. She taped Christmas cards all over the doors and door frames. And there was the smell of baking, of cookies and her fruitcakes, which she would lovingly soak in various and sundry liquids to "keep them moist." That also added some significant flavor.

It's been a few years since I had a Thanksgiving or Christmas like that. And I've given up on stocking up on Halloween treats. Where we live, little folks don't wander around and if we bought a boatload of candy, I'd wind up eating it all.

I know now I can only go to those places and times in my mind, but there's one tradition I refuse to give up. In those tender days of my youth, "holidays" was those three, and others. That day, about a week before the end of December, was "Christmas" and it was supposed to be "Merry."

If you want "Happy Holidays" or "Winter Solstice Day," have at it and knock yourself out. I'll keep my tradition ... and hope for no more surprises like maybe a COVID-20.

Bob Wachs is a native of Chatham County and retired long-time managing editor of the Chatham News/Chatham Record, having written a weekly column for more than 30 years. During most of his time with the newspapers, he was also a bi-vocational pastor and today serves Bear Creek Baptist Church for the second time as pastor.



Vaccines and our holy cause

After my recent eye exam, the receptionist informed me that she would not get the flu vaccine because she has gotten the flu as a result. I have heard this argument before.

In a recent timely guest column, Dr. John Dykers warned against this very mistaken assumption on this very page in the Chatham News + Record. The problem is that people typically wait

too long to get the shot and then catch the flu before the vaccine has taken effect in their immune systems. According to Dr. Dykers, "Then you would tell others the shot caused flu when it did not."

People mistake correlation with causation. My last three optometrists have all been Roman Catholic, but I don't jump to conclusions and claim that all optometrists must be Catholic or argue that all Catholics raise their children to become optometrists!

There is a false yet persistent claim that certain vaccines cause cognitive impairment in children. While I'm sure there are kids with autism who have been vaccinated, the medical community has proven that vaccines do not produce neurodevelopmental disorders. Causation and correlation are not the same thing.

Last week, we learned about a new COVID-19 vaccine from Pfizer. Dr. Anthony Fauci called the results "extraordinary." Yet, even if the new coronavirus vaccine proves to be as effective among the general population as in Pfizer's clinical trials, surveys have shown that a significant percentage of the American public will not be vaccinated.

In terms of my eye doctors, I do not want them to decide my lens prescription based on blind faith. I want to look at the data.

Let's be clear: In order for the most vulnerable and at-risk members of a population to be protected from an infectious disease, the rest of us must be vaccinated.

'In terms of my eye doctors, I do not want them to decide my lens prescription based on blind faith. I want to look at the data.'

The American public needs to be on the same page. Yet, myths about vaccinations persist. And people do not comply.

Like Dr. Dykers, I want to convince so-called "anti-vaxxers" that the proof of vaccinations is in the science — not in anecdotal evidence or limited personal experience. To the chorus of physicians and public health officials, I add my voice as a theologian.

I think of people with a higher risk of serious symptoms from COVID-19 in terms of an ancient parable. The punchline is that, whatever people do for "the least of these" in their nation, they do for God as well (Matthew 25:31-40). According to Jesus, sick people are among those we are called to help.

The wisdom and genius of many religions and worldviews is that, by envisioning a Higher Power who so loves the world, we are motivated to care for the welfare of our fellow creatures. Because we understand that each life is part of the fabric of creation, we make ethical judgments not merely about what is advantageous for an individual or small group but what is most life-giving for the common good. That is a holy cause.

Causation and correlation are not the same thing. This mistake is often ridiculous. For instance, I've known exactly three white guys named Marcus and all of them have been Lutheran pastors. Let's not jump to conclusions ...

And let's not make deadly misunderstandings about vaccines.

Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church and author of Gently Between the Words: Essays and Poems. He is currently working from home with his wife and three children.

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. Letter-writers are limited to two published letters per month. 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 bthorner3@chathamnr.com; or drop by our office at 303 West Raleigh Street in Siler City.

VIEWPOINTS

Parity extends down the ballot

In 2020, North Carolina Republicans and Democrats took their respective cases to the public. Each party asked voters to put them fully in charge of North Carolina government.



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

The voters said no. Well, to be more precise, the vast majority of voters actually said yes to the pitch — each party's base vote was about 46% of the electorate — but the remaining 8% chose to split their tickets. Some of them left individual races blank or went third-party, most notably in Senate race (4.4% voted for neither Thom Tillis nor Cal Cunningham). Others chose an assortment of Republicans and Democrats, depending on the office.

Longtime readers know that I like to look at outcomes be-

yond the headline races to get a better handle on the state's political trajectory. Thanks to data gathered by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and crunched by my colleague Anna Martina, I can now supplement what you've already heard about the elections with a closer look at county commissions.

Going into the 2020 cycle, 56 of North Carolina's 100 counties were governed by Republicans. That was a high-water mark for the state GOP. For most of the 20th century, their local candidates had been irrelevant in all but a handful of Piedmont and mountain counties. As recently as 1976, 89 counties had Democratic boards.

Higher up on the ballot, the 1970s was the time that true two-party competition arrived in North Carolina. Republicans won ground-breaking gubernatorial and Senate races. It just took several cycles for the effect to filter down to counties. Republicans secured 20 county commissions in 1980, 33 in 1988

and 42 by the big red-wave election of 1994.

At that point, however, the GOP's rise to political parity began to stall out. During the rest of the 1990s and the first decade of the 2000s, North Carolina Democrats enjoyed significant success in rebuilding their previous electoral majorities, with coalitions that included progressives, moderates, and even rural voters with conservative leanings.

As recently as 2004, way more than 8% of voters split their tickets. President George W. Bush won reelection that year with 56% of North Carolina's vote even as Democratic Gov. Mike Easley won reelection with, yep, 56% of the vote.

Those days are past, however. During the first midterm of President Barack Obama's tenure, state Republicans blasted through their previous blue ceiling. They didn't just win congressional seats and take over both chambers of the General Assembly in 2010. They also won 49 county commis-

sions. Over the next four cycles, the GOP became the majority party in North Carolina county government.

So what happened in 2020? The trend continued. The number of Republican-controlled boards jumped from 56 to 61.

A decisive outcome? Not so fast. While each has its own government and political climate, counties differ widely in population. Even as Republicans have been winning more and more local offices in rural and suburban counties, they've been losing ground in urban ones.

It wasn't that long ago that the most populous one, Wake County, had a Republican county commission. Not long before that, Mecklenburg's board was also up for grabs. Not anymore. While a few high-population counties still have GOP boards, the party lost its majority this year in the county with the third-highest population, Guilford.

As a result, while 61 of the state's 100 counties now have

Republican governments, approximately 51% of North Carolinians live in counties with Democratic governments. Before the 2020 election, most North Carolinians lived in GOP-run counties.

Looking at these county trends brings the state's overall political picture into sharper focus. Democrats used to be competitive in much of rural and small-town North Carolina. They are less so today. On the other hand, when Republicans first became a competitive force in state politics, much of their strength was found in the suburbs of Charlotte, Raleigh, Greensboro, and other metros. That strength has ebbed.

The net effect? We are a closely divided state — which is evident all the way down the ballot.

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

Greek and Hebrew guides to our political differences

How can ancient Greek and Hebrew thinking help us understand why our friends who support other political candidates see things so differently from us?



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Why are we locked into such different positions?

It is dangerous for anyone to try to explain why people support opposing political figures or different political parties or programs.

We sometimes rush to describe our opponents in strong, condemning and disrespectful ways.

The temptation is strong to say simply that they are too stupid or too uninformed to reach the right conclusions.

On the one hand, we say they are too unthinking, too old, too white, too conservative, or on the other hand, too diverse, too young, or too smug about their university educations.

Candidates who support nationalistic or conservative positions get accused of ignoring science and rejecting wholesale the conclusions of scientists about the causes of pandemics, global warming, and pollution of our water and air.

Meanwhile, progressive candidates get accused of rejecting out of hand the deeply held religious views of others about marriage, abortion, and freedom of religion.

Have we separated ourselves into two groups? One that holds out science as the path to knowledge and guidance for governmental policy and action? Or another that asserts we must look to some higher authority to be the guide for public decisions about morality and public policy?

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Lloyd Kramer, the director of Carolina Public Humanities and a professor who specializes in the history of different ideas throughout the ages, points out that our division into these two groups is not something new.

In an outline that accompanies his "The Great Courses" lectures on "European Thought and Culture in the 20th Century," he writes that these kinds of differences "expressed the tension between the two oldest strands of thought in the Western cultural tradition. Historians have often described Western civilization as a complex fusion of two ancient cultural traditions: the Greek culture that developed especially in Athens and the Hebrew culture that developed in ancient Palestine."

Kramer points out how these different ways of searching for the truth still guide and undergird our different approaches.

He explains: "The Greeks developed the philosophical understanding of reason, stressed the rational pursuit of knowledge, and (in such thinkers as Aristotle) emphasized the observation or study of nature. Although the Greeks talked about the gods and a higher metaphysical realm, they were fascinated by the human body and the material world.

"The Hebrews, in contrast, developed the idea of monotheism, stressed the unique human ability to communicate with God, and (in such thinkers as the prophets) emphasized God's role in human history.

"Although the Hebrews wrote about political events and real people acting in the world, they gave great attention to spiritual issues and to divine powers or ethical injunctions.

"To summarize these distinctions in very broad terms, the Greeks saw reason as the path to truth and the Hebrews saw divine revelation as the path to ultimate truth."

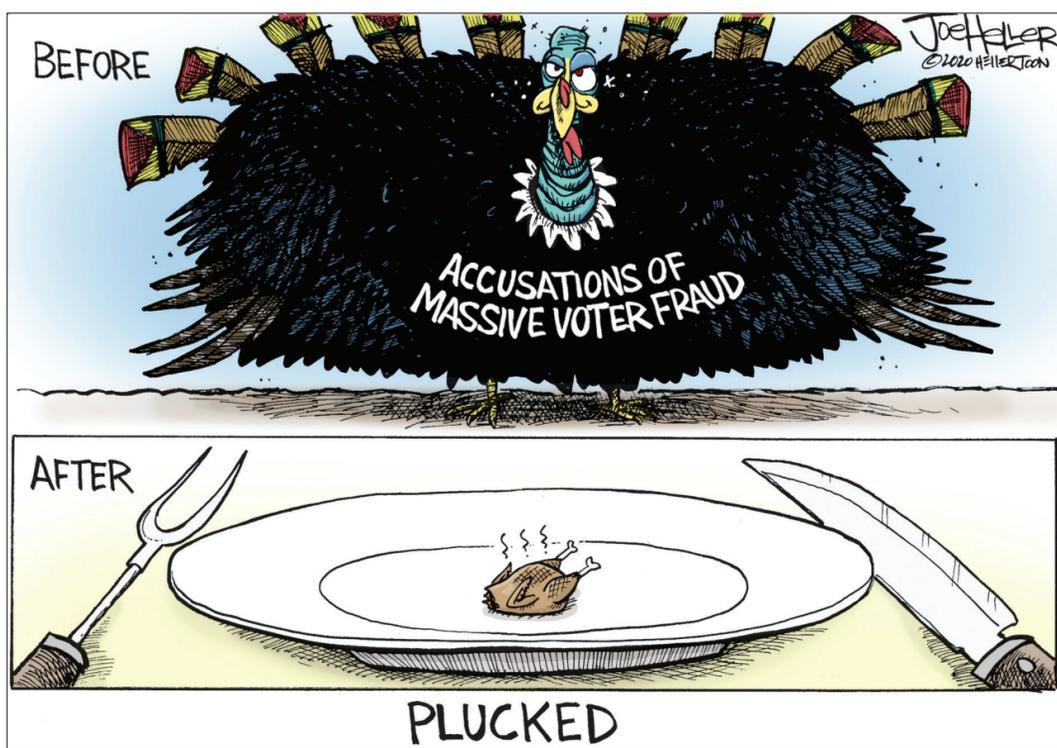
These cultural debates have continued throughout the centuries and today's differences can, in part, be seen as the modern expression of those long-existing tensions between the Greek and Hebrew traditions in Western intellectual life.

Kramer reminds us, however, that "nothing in history ever stays exactly the same; of course, the debate between what we might call 'reason' and 'revelation' took new forms as society, science, and culture evolved in the late nineteenth century."

Americans on both sides of today's cultural divide are influenced by both of these lasting traditions. But few, if any of us, are pure Greek or pure Hebrew.

Nevertheless, applying the Greek and Hebrew different models to modern American political differences has helped me put some of our different approaches in perspective.

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.



If a stranger got into my personal space, I'd snarl at them, too

"Your dog is a celebrity, and you're their security guard."



RACHEL HOROWITZ
Millennial Musings

This is one of the top posts on the "reactive dogs" subpage on Reddit, a popular web forum that establishes niche communities like "birds with arms" and "unstirred paint." It was there I realized that my dog's behavior patterns are resoundingly common. Dog owners — this one's for you.

First, what defines a reactive dog? Reactivity is not and should not be confused with aggression. Dogs considered "reactive" typically respond intensely to unfamiliar stimuli or over-stimulation. This is common in rescue dogs who were never properly socialized as puppies.

I first feared that Sheba fell into this category when we brought her to a dog park. She enjoyed the off-leash time and curiously sniffed at the plants and other dogs. However, one overly-friendly puppy immediately tried to mount her. This dog didn't pick up on her anxiety and warning growl and continued his

efforts. Finally, the owner looked over as I was trying to separate the two dogs. I apologized as I dragged Sheba away, even though she didn't know what she had done wrong. (Honestly, if a stranger got in my personal space, I'd snarl at them too.)

Another time, we were walking around the neighborhood when an off-leash dog sprinted across the road. Thinking this dog may have gotten loose, I edged closer to take a picture. The dog spotted Sheba and immediately changed course toward her. She reeled back but noticed that she was on leash and couldn't run away. I instinctively threw my arm in between the dogs, somehow ready to get my own arm torn off to protect Sheba.

Luckily, a high-pitched whistle lured the other dog away. This time, the owner was the one who apologized. "It's OK," I replied, "but she gets reactive. You really need to put your dog on a leash." I didn't mention that dogs legally have to be on a leash in our area.

I wish I could tell others with reactive dogs that I understand, and I see their valiant efforts to train their dogs. A reactive dog doesn't make you a bad owner, and it doesn't make your dog a bad pet. To revisit the initial analogy,

you are your dog's security guard: "No touching the talent. Don't make eye contact. Keep it moving." You may have to establish more boundaries than other dog owners, but you are simultaneously giving your dog a safe and healthy environment.

If you have a non-reactive dog, you can help by keeping your dog on a leash in public areas, respecting others' walking space, and not judging the reactive dog's owner. The other day, Sheba and I visited a local dog park to play fetch. Another dog was energetically sprinting around, and the owner asked if we wanted to them to play together. "Is yours a puppy?" I ask hesitantly. Yep, he is. "She doesn't like puppies, unfortunately." The owner immediately understands and the dogs sniff each other through the fence instead. As we part ways, the dog's owner calls out, "Maybe one day she can play!"

I hope so. But if she can't, I won't love her any less.

Rachel Horowitz resides in Chatham County and works in Pittsboro. She is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill's Hussman School of Journalism and Media and can be reached at millennialmusings.nc@gmail.com.

LETTERS

In schools, COVID-19 numbers are worrisome

TO THE EDITOR:

The current COVID-19 pandemic and reopening of schools in the area is cause for some serious thought.

I am not a medical professional. I did work as an educator for nearly 30 years as a teacher and administrator.

During my own education, I saw the schools seriously affected by measles, mumps, polio, influenza and other illnesses before immunization was available. I also saw

the positive effects on our schools when our population was no longer threatened by these diseases, thanks to medical and scientific advances.

While younger children appear to be somewhat less susceptible to the worst of COVID-19, numbers are increasingly worrisome. Teachers, administrators and support staff as well as students have been affected and deaths have been recorded. Our state officials, who are under considerable political and economic pressures, are issuing daily warnings about family holiday gatherings and recently set a guideline of no

more than 10 people at indoor functions. Yet schools have been welcoming thousands of children back to classrooms.

I urge you to take a close look at the numbers and make your own carefully considered decisions. We appear to be only a few months away from vaccinations that could have a major positive impact on the future of the pandemic and its victims.

We are all exhausted with 2020. Let's not let that exhaustion lead us to make an ill-timed decision on when to return to the classroom.

Edward F. Pryor
Pittsboro

CYBER

Continued from page A1

most troubling hypothesis was that the security breach, which came six days before the election on Nov. 3, may have compromised the integrity of the county's elections process. Chatham officials quickly ruled out the possibility of such interference, however, emphasizing that voter registration data was housed separately from the county's main computer network and that polling machines and tabulators are kept offline and secure.

"None of them are connected to the internet," Chatham County Board of Elections member Frank Dunphy previously told the News + Record. "They're electronic, but they've got a little chip inside with all the tabulated votes for the candidates. So, they can't be tampered with by some Chinaman, or Russian, or Romanian — some high-tech expert in some foreign country. They're totally separate from the internet."

But the intention may not have been to corrupt the elections system — just to promote distrust among the electorate, according to a local cyber security expert and former senior Homeland Security employee who spoke to the News + Record on the condition of anonymity to discuss potentially sensitive information.

"If the attacker is capable enough and knowledgeable enough to get into Chatham County's front door," the source said, "then they absolutely know that the election system is separate (from the main network)."

But introducing voter wariness in a historically divided county with the state's number one voter-turnout rate may have been enough to indirectly upset election

results.

"If any foreign actor wanted to sow mistrust and concern about the integrity of the election system," the source said, "carrying out this kind of attack is something that they might do simply to create the impression that it affects the elections, even if there's no possible way, technically, that it could affect the election outcomes, or even gain access to voter data."

When asked if a "foreign actor" was necessarily involved in the incident, the source confirmed there was a strong likelihood based on its severity.

"Folks who have the ability to do that, in some significant way, are likely to be criminal groups," the source said, "most of whom are operating not in the United States, but outside of the United States. That gives them a level of protection and anonymity that they can't get from operating within the United States ... Nation states have been capable of this kind of thing for a long time."

The notion of elections interference from foreign entities is not unprecedented in the United States or even in North Carolina.

In 2016, two days before the Nov. 8 election, Durham County appeared to have been hacked, according to a Politico report. Laptops to be used as electronic poll books exhibited severe lag times before crashing or freezing. Then, some indicated voters had already voted when they had not.

State officials ordered the county to abandon the laptops in favor of traditional paper printouts.

"And so, in Chatham now we print them all out," said Mark Barosso, another member of Chatham County's board of elections, "because of that very scenario. After Durham was attacked, we de-

cidated to have a printed backup."

Chatham County's election was not compromised in this election season, nor was Durham's four years ago. But both incidents contribute to the increasing prevalence of voter suspicion surrounding elections.

"Everyone should be concerned about the integrity of elections," said Terry Schmidt, chairman of the Chatham County GOP. "I have several issues this year ... Everyone's vote should count, but only legitimate votes should count."

Many second Schmidt's sentiment, often spurred on by President Donald Trump's own claims of election insecurity. Despite projections of Joe Biden's victory in the presidential election, Trump has declined to concede, citing unproven allegations of voter fraud and elections tampering.

The cyber-attack — the exact motivation for which may never be uncovered — may therefore have played into a larger, nationwide rhetoric which is successfully dividing the population.

"We have seen that the trend in North Carolina and across the country is for government systems to be attacked in some way, or to be brought down in some way and then to create the appearance of some type of negligence with significant effect," the former Homeland Security employee said, "whether it's on an elections system, or a budgeting process or any hot topic of debate in the community. Anybody who has an interest in disrupting those things, and in sowing uncertainty, can use cyber capabilities to try and affect that outcome."

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dlolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dlolder.

OFFICIALS

Continued from page A1

ity in the General Assembly, commanding more than the two-thirds voting margin required to overturn a governor's veto. Democrats claimed enough seats in the last mid-terms to chip away at the Republican stronghold, but the balance is tilting right again.

"We had the goal of being able to be more relevant," Foushee said. "That's the term I like to use in the General Assembly. And the only way that we were going to be more relevant was to achieve more parity, or to flip either chamber or both, because what we've seen over the last 10 years is that there is no compromise, there is no negotiation, there are only the bills that are put forward by Republicans."

The difficulty in securing a more balanced representation stems from lingering effects of gerrymandered district territories, according to Reives.

"If you objectively look at the maps, our maps are not fairly arranged," Reives said. "The districts we lost this year were simply majority Republican districts."

Strong Republican support in this year's presidential race also influenced down-ballot contests.

"Whatever somebody's personal feelings about President Trump, he is an amazingly popular figure with his voters," Reives said. "He turned out more voters than any Republican president in the history of this country. And so that, of course, has a trickle-down effect, because if voters turn out and vote straight ticket, then a lot of races are decided before they even start. And that's really what you had happen this year."

While the statewide power play was less publicized than its congressional counterpart, the battle for General Assembly dominance was arguably more important in the day-to-day lives of N.C. residents.

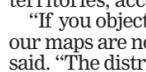
"The General Assembly is not a sexy position," Reives said, "and you know, it's not something that's going to be. It's never high enough to get on the news or to get into a bunch of TV commercials, and it's not local enough to always be in the newspapers."

But state legislators are responsible for dictating local taxes and the state's money-spending philosophy.

"The state legislature determines a budget, which is a spending plan for the state," Foushee said. "So, to the extent that the state provides funds for education, for Health and Human Services, for a whole host of things that affect our everyday lives, I think that people sometimes take it for granted."



Foushee



Reives

Chatham County, which has historically toed the line between Republican and Democratic leanings, swung strongly to the left in this year's election. Reives and Foushee each received more than 55% of the vote.

Many voters identified with their calls for expanded broadband and healthcare. But without Democrats having won the majority, Reives and Foushee are dismayed by their chances to enact meaningful change.

"Broadband has become a partisan issue," Reives said. "And I just really would like to see us meet halfway on broadband, because I just don't think it's sustainable as a state for us to continue not to invest in broadband. I mean, I think about what we could do with these rural counties, who feel like they're falling farther and farther behind, if we could just give them something as simple as broadband ... At this point in time, it's got to be a utility, just like when we brought electricity to everybody. It can't continue to be an issue."

Opinions on healthcare, too, have become subject to political allegiance.

"It's strictly about party lines," Foushee said.

Unlike some policy conflicts which pit the parties' disparate views on budgetary spending against each other, Medicaid, according to Reives, would not cost North Carolinians any more money in taxes.

"It costs us nothing," he said. "That is the freest, easiest way to address half a million people out the gate. And so that's really what I'd like to see us focus on, is to go ahead and do Medicaid expansion. Let's go ahead and take this money that we've already invested in the federal government — let it come back to us and let it stop going to New Jersey and Indiana and all these other places that have already expanded Medicaid."

It would also help with job creation, Reives added, a subject important to both parties' political agendas.

But the likelihood of Republicans and Democrats coming together to work for N.C. residents seems bleak as the political divide widens.

"I mean, it's really disappointing ..."

Reives said. "At some point in time, we've got to decide that we're sick of this. We've got to decide that whatever party we're in, whatever group we follow, whatever beliefs we have, that at a minimum, we believe in having representatives of our parties who believe that compromise is not a bad word, and believe that civil discourse is the only way you're going to solve problems."

Before the General Assembly can address any legislative needs, then, its constituent halves must learn how to work in harmony.

"I see what Republicans see," Foushee said. "They see what I see ... And so, you know, I would just hope, as I have since I've been in the legislature, for the ability to meet with and have real conversations with my colleagues across the aisle about how we address the needs of North Carolinians across the board."

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dlolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dlolder.

Back for a limited time, Employee Pricing, plus all available incentives!*

<p>2020 Ram 1500 Big Horn</p>  <p>Crew Cab, 4X4, 5.7 HEMI 8 Speed Auto SR1595</p>	<p>2020 Ram 2500 Laramie</p>  <p>Mega Cab, 4x4, Cummins Turbo Diesel SR1593</p>
<p>2021 Jeep Grand Cherokee Summit</p>  <p>4X4, 5.7 HEMI 8 Speed Auto SJ1469</p>	<p>2021 Jeep Compass Limited</p>  <p>4x4, 9 Speed Auto Sirius XM SJ1434</p>
 <p>2020 Dodge Caravan SE SD1338 V6, 6 Speed Auto Multi Media Interface</p>	

*Discounts based on consumer eligibility



2624 Hawkins Ave., Sanford, NC 27330
(919) 775-5588 • hiestersanford.com

At Cambridge Hills & Twin Rivers
Your Family Is Our Family



CAMBRIDGE HILLS ASSISTED LIVING
140 Brookstone Lane • Pittsboro
919.545.9573



25 S. Rectory Street • Pittsboro
919-545-0149



www.silver-thread.com



Communities In Schools receives \$25,000 Duke Energy grant

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

Communities in Schools Chatham County, a non-profit delinquency prevention organization which provides a network of support for local students, has received \$25,000 in funding from Duke Energy as part of a \$1 million grant program to support North Carolina organizations focused on social justice and racial equity.

CISCC was one of 40 such organizations across the state selected for the program, and the only one in Chatham County.

"We all have a role and responsibility in advancing justice and equity," said Duke Energy's North Carolina president, Stephen De May, in a press release. "Duke Energy is committed to creating equal opportunities for the communities we serve, and we're proud to support organizations already leading this critical work across North Carolina."

Formerly known as Chatham County Together!, CISCC has been a community advocate for social justice and racial equity since the group's founding as a mentoring agency in 1989, according to executive director Tych Cowdin. The organization, based in Siler City, runs seven programs de-



signed to address individual and community risk factors which have historically promoted disparate opportunities for youth in Chatham County.

"So, addressing issues of racial inequity is really something we've been engaged with since our inception," Cowdin said.

Between 2019 and 2020, 82% of the 265 children involved in CISCC programs identified as people of color.

"And so, we certainly are focusing on that demographic," Cowdin said, "and are hoping to continue to make a difference to improve outcomes for racial minorities. So that's what we've been doing with our work. And, you know, we're going to continue to do that going

forward."

The grant arrives at a critical time for CISCC as the non-profit navigates pandemic circumstances that have upended much of its regular activity. The public education system has adjusted dramatically in recent months and CISCC has had to pivot accordingly.

"I mean, we're Communities in Schools," Cowdin said. "So, obviously, schools are closed down, right? However, we are more than just being in the schools. We are liaisons between the students, the schools and the community, and the resources that are available. And so, we were able to just continue our work. It looks a little bit different now, obviously, since a lot

of our work was done in the school building. But we've kind of taken that out into the community."

Besides academic assistance, which program members still receive via remote learning applications and virtual tutors, CISCC provides emotional support that can make a tremendous difference in helping underprivileged youth overcome barriers to success. Many CISCC children, who span ages 5 to 19, were referred to the organization by the school system, social services, juvenile justice or health providers.

"Case managed youth display persistent social-emotional, health, and/or developmental risk factors that increase their probability for dropping out of school before graduation," Cowdin wrote in his application for the Duke grant. "Our versatile and nimble services are able to address a wide range of risk factors that act as critical connections for many of our communities most marginalized youth."

Introducing a measure of stability and emphasizing the need to graduate from high school helps stymie the insidious "school to prison pipeline," Cowdin said.

"And that's something that's become even more necessary since the start of the pandemic," he

added, "addressing those mental health needs. So, a lot of phone calls, a lot of conversations, a lot of virtual connections with our youth. And we've turned into a mini food hub."

The CISCC office, located at 208 N. Chatham Ave., keeps nonperishable foods in stock and available free of charge for any of its students who may need a meal. It has also partnered with several local organizations to secure foodstuffs for preparation and delivery to families in need.

"Through some great partnerships, food providers such as the Pittsboro Roadhouse and CORA," Cowdin said, "and churches here in Siler City like United Holiness Church and First Missionary Baptist Church, we've worked together to put together resources so we can deliver food out to families."

The combined efforts have yielded about 30 meals per week, according to Cowdin's estimation.

Strategic partnerships have also helped CISCC provide structured and safe learning environments while schools remain closed.

"We've been working with local cafes, the Peppercorn Cafe in Siler City, as well as a new co-working space called the Alliance," Cowdin said. "So, we've been able to

work with those partners to secure quiet learning spaces with internet and printers for kids to come and visit. We've also been providing in-person academic assistance in those settings as well."

Generous partners have been instrumental in helping CISCC to maintain operations, but its work is still costly. Duke's grant will, therefore, help substantially in the organization's effort to continue and expand on its mission.

"There's a few ways that we're planning to utilize this money," Cowdin said. "First is to continue to generate greater organizational sustainability. You know, we've been able to adapt our services — bilingual communication, leveraging growing partnerships with the schools and the Department of Public Safety, providing basic needs, social-emotional connections with families — and this will enable us to maintain those integrated student supports. And when I say maintain, I mean, it's going to secure funding for us to keep people on the ground. It's going to help pay some salaries for folks to continue this important work."

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.

NEWS BRIEFS

CCCC registration under way for spring classes; Cougar Cruise-Ins set

SANFORD — Registration is under way for spring semester classes at Central Carolina Com-

munity College. Classes begin Jan. 8, 2021.

In addition, the college is holding three Cougar Cruise-In events: Dec. 1 at the CCCC Harnett Main Campus in Lillington, Dec. 2 at the CCCC Lee Main Campus in Sanford and Dec. 8 at the CCCC Chatham Main

Campus in Pittsboro. The hours for each of the events is from 3 to 7 p.m.

Learn more about Central Carolina Community College — and have an opportunity to win a great prize — by registering and attending one of the Cougar Cruise-In events. Attendees

will arrive on campus and college representatives will come to their vehicles to answer questions and help them get started on applying/registering.

Visit cccc.edu/spring to learn more about applying and registering for the spring semester, as well

as to RSVP for any of the Cougar Cruise-In events. In addition, individuals can request personalized assistance at this website.

Central Carolina Community College offers a wide variety of programs, as students can earn associate degrees or college transfer credits, diplomas, or certificates. CCCC has been nationally ranked as No. 25 in The Best Community Colleges & Trade Schools of 2020 by BestColleges and ranked first in the Niche 2020 Best Community Colleges in North Carolina rankings. To learn more about CCCC, visit cccc.edu.

censes issued to a person under 18. The change will extend the expiration date for a full provisional license to 60 days after a person's 21st birthday.

NCDMV already offers online access for many services, including driver license renewals, ordering duplicate licenses and ID cards, driving record requests, driver license office appointments, registration renewals, vehicle property tax payments, duplicate registration cards, ordering personalized and specialty plates, payment of insurance lapse fines, and applying for voter registration.

Webinar scheduled for nonprofits interested in applying for United Way funding

A virtual webinar will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 7, for any nonprofits interested in applying for a grant from the United Way of Chatham County. The webinar will detail the 2021/22 allocations process, components of the funding application, criteria used to evaluate proposals and the online application software.

United Way strongly recommends all human service nonprofits planning to submit a request for funding attend the webinar, which will be held virtually via Zoom.

To register, please visit www.UnitedWayofChathamCounty.org/Allocations. Once you have submitted your registration, an email will follow with a Zoom link.

The 2021/2022 application will be accessible beginning Dec. 7. Applications must be submitted online by Feb. 26, 2021. Contact the United Way office with any questions at (919) 542-1110 or katie@unitedwayofchathamcounty.org.

Chatham County to host free document shredding event

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling division is holding a free document shredding event for Chatham County residents from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Solid Waste & Recycling Main Facility at 28 County Services Rd., Pittsboro.

Chatham County residents can bring up to three boxes or bags of documents from their household for free shredding. Residents are encouraged to bring old tax records, credit card statements, and other personal documents.

"We are pleased to offer this free service to residents as a way to safely dispose of and recycle shredded paper," said Shannon Culpepper, a Chatham County recycling & education specialist. "Shredded paper cannot be placed in your recycling bin at home. It is too small to be properly sorted when recyclables are mixed together. Paper shredded through this event will be recycled since it goes directly to a paper recycler."

Due to coronavirus, staff will not be able to unload documents for residents. Residents will need to unload their documents and put them into a cart. Face coverings are required.

Please remove papers from folders or files, as those items can be placed in a recycling bin and do not need to be shredded. Do not bring CDs, tapes, etc.; throw those items in the trash. Businesses are not allowed to participate in the shredding. Individuals with questions may contact Solid Waste & Recycling via email at swr@chathamcc.com. Due to a recent cyber incident, the Main Office does not have phone service at this time.

NCDMV expanding its online services

RALEIGH — To provide more options for its customers, the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles is expanding its online options.

The changes mean that starting Saturday certain full provisional license holders will be able to convert credentials to a Class C driver license. Details on which license holders qualify can be found on the DMV website.

The changes were part of House Bill 211, which was signed into law in 2019. Also new is a change for full provisional li-

— CN+R staff reports



ROTARY CLUB OF SILER CITY

"Service Above Self"



2020 VIRTUAL THANKSGIVING FUNDRAISER

GIVE THANKS BY GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY!

All proceeds will benefit non-profit organizations working for the betterment of people throughout Chatham County.

Donation checks of any amount can be mailed to the **Siler City Rotary Club (PO Box 463, Siler City, NC 27344)**. *Please make checks to Siler City Rotary*

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

PLATINUM

WREN FOUNDATION • BROOKWOOD FARMS
DR. BYRON HOFFMAN • MARK & ELIZABETH ZERINGUE

GOLD

Mountaire Farms

SILVER

CW Dunn & Associates CPAs, PLLC • James & Ann Marie Schwankl

BRONZE

Liles Plumbing and Heating • Laura Clapp, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones • Dr. Paul Mitchum, DDS
Moody, Williams, Roper & Lee LLP • PalletOne of North Carolina, Inc • Marsh Auto Parts
Siler City Pharmacy • Luke Stone Corp.

OBITUARIES

BRANTLEY JOHN JACKSON



Brantley John Jackson, 3 weeks old, passed away on Sunday, November 15, 2020, at UNC Hospital, Chapel Hill.

Born October 21, 2020, Brantley was the son of John Jeffery Jackson Jr. and Heather Wood Jackson. He is preceded in death by his grandfather, John Jeffery Jackson Sr.

He is survived by his parents; sisters, Aubree LeeAnn, Alana Paige and Ally Grace Jackson; grandparents, Teresa and Dwight Wood of Siler City, Alice Taylor Jackson of Siler City, and great grandparents, Elsie H. Phillips of Bear Creek, and Mattie Jackson of Bear Creek.

There will be a memorial service on Saturday, November 21, 2020, at 2 p.m. at Gulf Presbyterian Church, 1325 Gulf Road, Gulf, with Rev. Hal McElory officiating.

Smith & Buckner is assisting the Jackson family. Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneral-home.com.

JACK MONROE BREWER SR.



Jack Monroe Brewer Sr., 91, of Siler City passed away on Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at First Health Hospice and Palliative Care, Pinehurst, N.C.

Mr. Brewer was born January 20, 1929, a native of Chatham County, the son of William Caleb and Myrtis Presnell Brewer. Jack was a member of First Baptist Church. He was an Army veteran, serving as a Military Police in the Korean Conflict. Jack spent his working years as an Insurance Agent in his hometown of Siler City, N.C. He coached little league. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his son, Gary Lynn Brewer, and siblings, Vernon Brewer, Pete Brewer, Wade Brewer, Jane Brady and Max Brewer.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mildred Hussey Brewer; daughter, Charlene Brewer Sullivan and husband Rick of Archdale; son, Jack Brewer Jr. and wife Lori of Foxfire; brother, Charles Brewer and wife Barbara of Bennett; nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two step-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family received friends on Saturday, November 14, 2020, from 12 to 1 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 314 N. 2nd Ave., Siler City, N.C. A memorial service followed at 1 p.m. with Rev. Thomas Farrell Hussey and Rev. Tony Capehart officiating. Burial was at Bennett Baptist Church Cemetery, 68 E. Bonlee Street, Bennett, N.C. 27208.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 314 N. 2nd Ave., Siler City, N.C. 27344. Smith & Buckner assisted the Brewer family. Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneral-home.com.

LYNN RAY HILLIARD



Lynn Ray Hilliard, 51, of Greensboro, N.C., died suddenly on Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

Lynn was born in Siler City, N.C., on May 26, 1969. He graduated from Chatham Central High School and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was employed by Walmart in Siler City with 20 years of service. Lynn was a gentle man with a generous spirit to each and every life he touched. He held a great love for his family and friends. He was a Tar Heel fan throughout his entire life along with being an avid

comic book collector. He is preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Rachel Phillips Hilliard, and granddaughter, Katelyn Ann Burns.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Barbara Jones Hilliard of the home, daughters, Kimberly Testerman and husband Michael of Aberdeen, Jessi Hall and husband Josh of Midway; grandchildren, Michael Berry, Hannah Womack, Ethan and Eden Hall; brothers, Jerry Lee Hilliard Sr. of Bear Creek, John Howard Hilliard Sr. and wife Cheryl of Siler City, and William M. Hilliard and wife Debbie of Clayton; and sister, Sue H. Martin of Franklinville.

Mr. Hilliard laid in repose from 1 to 5 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City, N.C. on Saturday, November 14, 2020. A graveside service was held on Sunday, November 15, 2020, at 2 p.m. at Hope Cemetery at Bonlee Baptist Church with Rev. Darrell Williams officiating. Smith & Buckner assisted the Hilliard family. Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

ROBERT LOUIS GUNN



Robert Louis Gunn was born September 29, 1931, in Washington County, Alabama, near the village of Millry. He died October 29, 2020, in Chatham County, North Carolina.

A 1950 graduate of the Millry public schools, he enlisted in the United States Air Force on September 11, 1950, and served in Puerto Rico until April 1952 when he was discharged to enlist in the United States Army to attend Officer Candidate School. Commissioned a second lieutenant

on April 17, 1953, he served as an officer in the Army until transferring to the reserves on April 30, 1958. Bob served as unit commander in the 108th Infantry Division, an instructor in the USAR School, and a legal advisor and unit commander in the Selective Service Reserve. From June 1966 until April 1986, he was the Legal Advisor to the North Carolina State Director of the Selective Service. He retired from the Army reserve on April 30, 1986, with the rank of Colonel.

He enrolled at UNC Chapel Hill in June 1958 and received a BS in Business Administration in January 1960 and an LLB in May 1962.

Bob served as Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government at the Institute of Government from 1962-1965 when he became the attorney for the North Carolina Department of Revenue. In 1967 he became Assistant Attorney General for the State of North Carolina; he represented the Department of Revenue until he went into private practice in Pittsboro on January 2, 1969.

After serving as Town Attorney for Pittsboro, he served as County Attorney for Chatham County from December 1, 1973, until December 31, 2006. During his tenure as County Attorney, Chatham's population more than doubled. At his retirement, the County Commissioners passed a resolution praising Bob for "providing expert legal advice in a professional, straight-forward, and unpretentious manner." Bob provided the legal framework for many significant events in Chatham's history, including the development of a water system, the appointment of the first county manager, the construction of five schools, and the implementation of land use regulations.

Paul Messick Jr., joined Bob in the practice of law in 1971, and they had a general law practice in civil and criminal courts until Bob's death.

Bob married Rebekah Gray McBane on July 1, 1967, and they have a daughter Rebekah Gray Gunn who is married to Nathan Christie. His daughter Geneva Kathryn Gunn Shumaker has a son Thomas Alan Shumaker.

Bob lived his life with integrity, always true to himself and his high standards. He was a man of honesty whose every word and deed could be trusted. He enjoyed an equanimity of temperament that enabled him to traverse the turbulence of personal and professional life with calm and dignity.

No stranger to hard work, he often told of plowing the family farm with oxen or of riding over rutted dirt roads with his father to take the cattle to the Meridian Stockyards. He had to read by an Aladdin lamp since the home place did not get electricity until the 1950s.

Some people might have thought that Bob's play was work. He planted garden after garden, raising acres of Seneca Chief yellow corn and Clemson Spineless okra. He spent countless happy hours in his workshop where he made a matching cradle and high chair for Rebekah and a four-poster bed for Kathy. While successfully sheltering at home from COVID-19, he built a huge storage cabinet for his drill bits, three lap top desks, and a walnut towel rack. A square dancer for thirty years, he was loved by the other dancers — his genial smile encouraged new dancers and his command of the calls prevented squares from breaking down.

In fact, no matter what his role in life, Bob Gunn radiated geniality and kindness that faded only in death. Bob faced death without fear although he was not in a hurry to leave the life he loved. On November 7, he was buried with Masonic Rites and Military Honors on a serene hillside at Sunnybrook, the farm he loved. To honor Bob and his love of books, the family requests that donations be made to the Chatham Community Library, 197 N.C. Highway 87, Pittsboro N.C. 27312.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com. Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory is honored to serve the Gunn family.

AARON STANLEY HAGANS

Aaron Stanley Hagans, 33, of Waterbury, Connecticut, passed away on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at his home.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, November 14, 2020, at Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford. Burial followed in Lee Memory Garden.

PETER GEORGE MARSHALL SMITH

Peter George Marshall Smith, 79, of Pittsboro passed away on Wednesday, November 11, 2020.

Arrangements by Cremation Society of the Carolinas in Raleigh.

EDNA MAE FRYE CARTER

Edna Mae Frye Carter, 78, of Sanford, died Monday, November 9, 2020, at her home.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home on Saturday, November 14, 2020, with Pastor Rhonda Wilson presiding. Burial followed at Grace Chapel Cemetery.

She was born in Lee County, on April 1, 1942, to the late James Burke Frye and Lillie Thomas Zimmerman. She retired as a production planner for Eaton Corporation. Mrs.

Carter was preceded in death by her parents and husband, J.C. Carter Jr.

Edna is survived by her children, Sherry Smith of Olivia, Tammy Carter and Deborah Blackmon, both of Sanford; sisters, Betty Frye Killgore of Alabama, Shirley Frye Phillips of Yadkinville, Loretta Frye McCarroll of Raleigh; seven grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

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

DIANE LAURIE COLFAX DEGROAT

Diane Laurie Colfax Degroat, 65, of Sanford, died Sunday, November 15, 2020, at her home.

No services are planned. She was born in Morris County, N.J., on September 2, 1955, to the late William and Joan Sisco Colfax.

She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Albert Degroat of Sanford; daughter, Heather Thomas of Sanford; and brothers, William Colfax and Steven Colfax, both of New Jersey.

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

MOLLIE MAY PRESLEY

Mollie May Presley, 15, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, November 9, 2020.

A private graveside service was held at Jones Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery.

She was born in Lee County on January 20, 2005, to Lisa Nunnery Shue. She was preceded in death by an infant brother, Archie Ray Shue IV and biological father, Ryan Presley.

She is survived by her parents, Lisa Nunnery Shue and Archie Ray Shue of Sanford; brother, A.J. Shue of Sanford; sisters, Mattie Presley and Alissa Shue, both of Sanford; maternal grandparents, Sylvia and Ricky Nunnery; and a step-grandmother, Merry Shue.

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

PANSY SUE HARDY BYRD

Pansy Sue Hardy Byrd, 59, of Lillington, died Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at her home.

Graveside services were conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday at Calvary Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Garland Smith officiating.

She was born in Davidson County, daughter of the late Harvey Lee and Rebecca Ann Hall Hardy. She was preceded in death by her parents, daughter, Tiffany Lemons, her husband, Tony Johnson Byrd, brothers, Lynn Hardy, Jerry Hardy and sister, Annie Hardy Richardson.

She is survived by her son, Timmy Robert Lemons of the home; sisters, Peggy Kennison and Sharon Thomas, both of Sanford; brothers, David Hardy of Sanford, Terry Hardy of Siler City; and three grandchildren.

Online condolences may be made at www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com.

CAROL LYNN WOFFORD VALDEZ

Carol Lynn Wofford Valdez, 61, of Sanford, died Monday, November 9, 2020, at Central Carolina Hospital.

She was born in Lee County on October 20, 1959, to the late Harold Scott and Dorothy Jean Hall Wofford. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Monico Valdez Gonzalez, and sister, Brenda Craig.

Carol is survived by her children, Freddy Valdez and Heather Valdez, both of Sanford; sisters, Beverly Vanhoose of Ohio, Debra Smith of Sanford; and one grandson.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home, 600 W. Main Street, Sanford, N.C. 27332 to assist the family with funeral expenses.

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

CARLIE MARISSA VOSS

Carlise Marissa Voss, 20, of Robbins, passed away on Wednesday, November 11, 2020.

A graveside service was held at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 15, 2020, at Pine Grove Baptist Church, in Eagle Springs, with Andy King presiding.

Carlise was preceded in death by her grandparents, Vernon Lee Allred, Betty L. Voss, Diane Collins, great-grandparents, Arlene M. Jefferies and Lucy Derotha Allred. She graduated from North Moore High School in 2019.

Carlise was born October 24, 2000, to parents, Bryant and Pamela Allred Voss, of the home. She is also survived by brothers, Christopher V. Newsom of Mt. Holly and Cody R. Voss of Seven Lakes; sisters, Cailyn V. Chadwick of Spring Lake and Victoria Hash, of the home; grandparents Brenda J. Allred of Robbins; Billy R. Voss of Carthage and Frank C. Collins of Rockingham.

Carlise graduated from North Moore High School in 2019.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Carolina Bible Camp and Retreat Center, 1988 Jericho Church Road, Mocksville, N.C. 27028.

Condolences may be offered online at www.joycebrady-chapel.com.

WILLIAM ANGUS KOEHLNLINE

William Angus Koehlnline, 94, of Chapel Hill, passed away on Friday, November 13, 2020.

Arrangements by the Cremation Society of the Carolinas in Raleigh.

MARSHALL ANTHONY KINNEY SR.

Marshall Anthony Kinney Sr., 55, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, November 15, 2020, at Duke University Medical Center in Durham.

Services are entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

JOSEPH LOUIS SCAFFO

Joseph Luis Scaffo, 43, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, November 12, 2020, at his residence.

Services are entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

MARY ANN (MURPHY) WILLIAMS

Mary Ann Murphy Williams, 83, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, November 12, 2020, at Central Harnett Hospital.

Services are entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

JOHNNIE JEAN RICE

Johnnie Jean Rice, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at Peak Resources of Pine Lake.

All arrangements are private and condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

DARRELL MITCHELL

Darrell Mitchel, 53, of Sanford passed away on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Services are entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

NEWS BRIEFS

Holiday in the Park: A holly jolly drive-thru with Chatham County Parks & Recreation

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County community is invited to get into the holiday spirit with the Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department's 2nd annual Holiday in the Park event, set for 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11 at Northeast District Park.

Modified due to COVID-19, this year's event will take place as

a holly jolly drive-thru, where participants will be asked to stay in their cars while in attendance.

During Holiday in the Park, families can collect an ornament kit to decorate at home, reindeer food, and candy canes, while supplies last. Participants are encouraged to write a letter to Santa Claus ahead of time. Children will be able to hand their letters to Santa himself and wave at him through their car window.

"We are excited to continue to provide recreational activities and

special events to allow Chatham County families the opportunity to enjoy fun times while also maintaining safety during the pandemic," said Chatham County Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett.

For more information, visit the Holiday in the Park Facebook event at facebook.com/CCParksandRecNC/events, or contact Mallory Peterson at (919) 548-0301 or at mallorypeterson.ccp@gmail.com.

— CN+R staff reports



CHATHAM MONUMENT CO.

Charles Campbell

Greg Campbell

Quality Monuments At Affordable Prices
Phone: **663-3120**

Over 50 years experience designing, lettering and erecting monuments in Siler City and surrounding area.
Opposite Smith & Buckner Funeral Home

Statewide decrease in kindergarteners reflected in Chatham

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Preliminary data from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction released last month seems to confirm what media organizations across the country have been reporting since the beginning of the school year: a decline in kindergarten enrollment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The data shows the average daily membership, a measurement used by the state to give an idea of how many students are in schools, declined by 15.21% since last year across the state's public schools, EducationNC reported Oct. 23. While this data is available for every grade level, the EdNC article said, kindergarten saw the steepest decline among all the grades when compared with data from 2019-20.

North Carolina, along with 30 other states, does not require children to attend kindergarten, though all public school systems must offer it.

In Chatham County Schools, this decrease in kindergarten enrollment is also evident, declining by 8.6% since last year, the difference of 58 students. In order to examine enrollment trends, the News + Record compared the district's publicly available enrollment data, specifically looking at the Month 1 enrollment data for each school year over the

last decade.

Month 1 enrollment data shows that there was also a 3.76% decrease (232 students) in enrollment of K-8 students since last year, and a 3.3% increase (93 students) of 9-12 grade students. Data analysis showed that some fluctuation was normal among the enrollment of individual grade levels, though these fluctuations consistently trended upward, with nearly all other decrease rates from one year to the next at less than 1%.

In fact, in the 2010-2020 time range analyzed, the total number of students in the district increased every year — apart from this year, which saw a 1.5% decrease from the 2019-20 school year, or a difference of 139 students.

The News + Record reached out to the district prior to the publication of this story to ask about the significance of these decreases. Public Information Coordinator John McCann said the district would “let the numbers speak for themselves.”

It's important to note that analysis in Chatham is based on enrollment numbers, which is slightly different from ADM, the measurement used in DPI's October report.

The Department of Public Instruction gives the following definition for ADM: “The total number of school days within a given term, usually a school month or school year, that a student's name is on

the current roll of a class, regardless of his/her being present or absent, is the number of days in membership for that student. The sum of the number of days in membership for all students divided by the number of school days in the term yields ADM.”

ADM is a more accurate count of the number of students in school than enrollment, the department says. In North Carolina, school districts receive funding based on their projected ADMs, meaning that they could face budget cuts for lower numbers. This year, in September, the General Assembly passed a bill ensuring districts would not face such cuts for ADM declines.

Prior to this year, 2015 and 2016 saw the lowest number of kindergartners in Chatham over the last decade, with 604 students enrolled in Month 1 of 2015 and 613 enrolled in Month 1 of 2016. The most updated enrollment data for this year shows there are 615 kindergarten students. In 2015, there was a 6% decline from the year before.

Across the state, EdNC reported that kindergarten ADM had increased slightly at a rate of 0.95% from the 2018-19 school year to 2019-20 school year. That's why the 15.21% decrease this year — a difference of 15,721 kindergartners — is so staggering. All but five districts in the state saw a decrease in kindergarten ADM this year.

In 1999, the first year of CCS enrollment data on the district's website, there were 6,923 students in the district and 564 kindergartners. Today, total student enrollment is up 27% while kindergarten enrollment is up 9%. If compared to 2019's Month 1 data instead of this year's, kindergarten enrollment shows an increase of 19.3%.

Last month, The Washington Post reported that student enrollment had “dropped markedly” this school year across the Washington region, where school budget exemptions based on enrollment data have not yet been made. The article attributes the decline to families who have switched to home schooling or private schools with in-person learning, or those who've moved to farther-away school districts. The News + Record does not currently have data on the reasoning for any withdrawal in CCS; this data doesn't necessarily exist for kindergartners new to the district.

“We do not know how many students will return to school when buildings reopen but would anticipate that the numbers will rise,” Lucy Caldwell, a spokesperson for a Washington school district, told The Washington Post. “This will be a challenge to balance if the budget is reduced prematurely.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnc.com.

A multilayered monolith

BY ALIRIO ESTEVEZ
Special to the News + Record

Editor's note: Alirio Estevez is a Chatham ESL teacher and leader of Voto Latino Chatham, an organization that sought to register Chatham's Latino voters and encourage them to get out and vote in this past election.

“Which part of Mexico are you from, Alirio?” a well-intentioned colleague of mine asked me about 20 years ago. I laughed inside. I'm from a mountainous city in Colombia called Bucaramanga. My colleague wanted to establish a warm relationship with me and assumed I was a Mexican because of my looks and, of course, my accent. I understood his confusion since for many Americans, we Latinos are the same. However we are not. We're not a monolith.

We have some things in common, such as ancestors from Spain and our love for music. Nevertheless, we have different tastes regarding food, drinks, and politics. Latinos come from diverse backgrounds, and these backgrounds affect the perspective from which we look at societal issues.



Submitted photo

Originally from Colombia, Alirio Estevez is an ESL teacher with Chatham County Schools. He's taught ESL for more than 20 years.

Like a Venn Diagram, we have some intersecting interests and some diverging views.

Many Latinos have inhabited this country before the Pilgrims set foot in Plymouth, Massachusetts. They already lived in California, Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, etc., when the American government took control of those territories. As many of them say, “We never crossed the border. The border crossed over us.” Unfortunately, the American government and many of the white settlers discriminated

against them. Thousands of Americans with Mexican ancestry were deported from their own county during the infamous Braceros raid by the Eisenhower government; thousands were denied their rights to a sound education. This unfair and cruel treatment leads many to distrust the federal and state government because those governments allowed the white establishment to attack them.

Other Latinos came from Cuba and settled in South Florida. They escaped the dictatorship of Fidel Castro and his communist government. For them and many of their descendants, the legacy of the Castro regime is an open wound. They strongly reject anything that for them smells like communism and have found refuge in the Republican Party. Something similar has happened to victims of Chavez and Maduro in Venezuela. That evil regime forced them to abandon their beloved homeland and they fear the spread of its tyranny into other lands.

Puerto Ricans are American citizens. They are not immigrants, as some misinformed Americans believe. They are

deeply attached to their roots and the gente (or “people”) in their beloved island, Borinquén.

They are proud of their origin, their food, their music, their Taino ancestry.

In the middle of the past century, thousands of Boricuas left Puerto Rico and settled in New York and its metropolitan area. They came looking for a better future, for the American Dream.

You may have heard or even watched the Broadway musical (and film) West Side Story which narrates the rivalry between the Jets (a white gang) and the Sharks (a Puerto Rican gang). The musical depicts how ostracized Puerto Ricans felt during that era by the white society. Such treatment affects their form of American society.

Recently, several natural disasters have devastated the island compelling more Puerto Ricans to come to the continent. They moved to Florida, Massachusetts, North Carolina, and other states. One issue they have found hard to forget and forgive is the lack of compassion shown by the Trump administration towards the island's residents, evidenced by the soon-to-be former President Trump's disgraceful action of throwing paper

towels to desperate families.

There are other Latinos who immigrated or whose ancestors immigrated from Mexico and Central America. They came here escaping hunger, oppression, civil war, death squads, criminal

organizations. They tend not to trust the government because their government failed them, betrayed them. Their governments were actively engaged (and some still are) in torture, bribery, extrajudicial killings and the people didn't (or don't) have anybody who could assist them. America was also part of the problem along with the defunct Soviet Union. They used Central American countries as pawns during the Cold War, ignoring human rights violations in order to pursue their foreign interest in this cruel and lethal game of chess. Due to this experience, many of these Latinos don't vote, because for them, “democracy” is a meaningless word.

Religion is another aspect in which we are not a monolithic entity. Many Americans assume that all Latinos are Catholic. While a majority of Latinos profess this faith, hundreds of

thousands belong to several denominations — from Episcopalian to Baptist. Several are active members of evangelical churches, have the same beliefs as the white evangelicals and are prone to support Republican candidates. Regarding Catholics, some Latinos are conservative while others adhere to a more progressive theology as Pope Francis does. Those on the conservative side hold the same ideology as Justice Amy Coney Barrett regarding reproductive rights and the role of women. Those on the progressive side share the same beliefs as President-Elect Joe Biden, who thinks we should help the less fortunate.

We are not a monolith. We Latinos come in different sizes and flavors. We may have indigenous ancestors, Asian ancestors, African ancestors, Polynesian ancestors, European ancestors, and so on. Many of us speak English and Spanish, many only English, some only Spanish, and a few only indigenous languages. Some of us have brown skin, others white skin, and others still dark skin. Many of us believe in God and Jesus Christ, but not all of us. Politically, we do not agree 100%. About 70% of Latinos in the United States prefer the Democratic Party; about 25% prefer the Republican Party. Roughly 5% are unaffiliated.

But we do share two traits: We love our families, and we love the United States of America.



DOCUMENT SHREDDING EVENT

Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling Main Facility
28 County Services Road
Pittsboro, NC 27312

SAT NOV 21
9 AM TO 3 PM



Residents can bring up to 3 boxes or bags of documents.

Due to coronavirus, staff will NOT be able to unload documents. You will need to unload your documents and put them into a cart.

Face coverings are required.

FREE for Chatham residents ONLY.
No businesses.

For more information, visit www.chathamnc.org/recycle or call 919-542-5516.



Submitted photo

New Farm Bureau office in Siler City

The North Carolina Farm Bureau has opened a new office at 1102 Perry Ave. in Siler City. Farm Bureau, which offers a variety of products and services including auto, home, life, health and bank products, has 185 offices statewide with nearly 2,700 employees. It has operated in Chatham County for more than 50 years, with a Siler City location first opening in 2006. “We are pleased to be opening our new office that will allow us the room to grow,” said Siler City Agency Manager Mark Rains, “and keep up with the ever changing needs of Siler City.”

BUSINESSES

Continued from page A1

donkey wearing a floral necklace winks at you.

Painted by Tanya, she's as blue as the walls that surround the cash register and a display case of decorated masks, pan dulce and sugar skulls — small, decorative skulls used in Day of the Dead celebrations.

"I want people to come in and feel happy when they enter and see the colors," Tanya said. "That's why I paint and make everything with a lot of colors because they make me feel better in times like we're in right now."

Many items on display were locally made, including the store's cloth masks, paintings and even keychains. Some friends and community members leave their handcrafted or hand-painted products with the Garcias and receive part of the proceeds if the items sell. That's part of the store's purpose, according to the Garcias — to serve the needs of the local Hispanic community.

"What we wanted to do is do something that the community needed," Tanya said. "We haven't had any Hispanic stores here in Pittsboro I think for nearly 11 years ... Everyone has to go to Sanford or Siler City or Wake County to buy things."

She said that's why they always ask anyone who enters the store: "What do you need? What are we missing?"

Even now, Garcia said they're still looking to increase their inventory, and right now, spices is at the top of the list.

About a month in, business has been a bit slow, even as Gov. Roy Cooper gradually lifted COVID-19 restrictions on businesses in September and October.

"We waited until after they passed all the rules," Tanya said, "so (the restrictions) didn't affect us much."

Instead, Garcia said their biggest challenge has been letting the community know they're here — and where they are.

"There are times or hours that people don't come in and others last for a while, two hours, when nothing happens. It's slow," Garcia said. "A lot of people say, 'We know there's a Hispanic store, but we can't find it.' Well, it's hard because if people don't walk by here, they don't see the shop."

It's not just people; Google Maps still can't find them by name either. That's why the Garcias began putting up signs in the walkway and on the windows. They've also created several social media accounts and posted a few videos just to show people where they're located and what the shop looks like.



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

Jimmy Garcia owns and manages Tienda Hispana El Rayo with his wife Tanya. The shop opened in Pittsboro in mid-October and sells an assortment of pottery, art and food.

"I think a lot of people pass by and ask, 'What's that?' but they don't want to enter," Tanya said with a laugh.

"Or some people come in and say, 'Do you have take-out?' They think it's a restaurant," Garcia added.

Later, he joked: "Maybe I need to put out some food to attract more customers."

Both are a bit worried for the future, especially as winter approaches and as COVID-19 surges across the country, but they're also optimistic.

"We're earning much more than I thought we would at first," Tanya said. "The community, the friends we have here have contributed a lot."

"Many people have told us, 'Wow, it's great that there is a store where we don't have to go any further to send money, to buy bread, to buy things,'" Garcia added. "It's important that the people who enter tell us those things so that one feels better about moving forward."

'Nearly at the point of not opening anymore'

Tienda Hispana El Rayo isn't Chatham's only new Hispanic business. In Siler City, Mexican immigrant Bernardo Gallegos Rodríguez recently opened a bakery, named Panadería y Pastelería Melanie — or Melanie's — after his youngest daughter.

But his experience setting up shop was nearly the exact opposite of the Garcias': While he had the clientele and name-brand recognition, the pandemic's restrictions and closures nearly thwarted his expansion into Chatham County.

Gallegos Rodríguez, 39,

set up a bakery — the first Melanie's — in Biscoe around eight years ago. He first thought of expanding to Siler City about five or six years ago while bringing bread to a Mexican shop called La Posadita.

"(The town) caught my attention," he said, but he didn't act on it until 2018, when he rented out space to sell bread in Siler City's Compare Foods, a Hispanic supermarket chain. When the pandemic

arrived, the owners no longer wanted to rent out space, so Gallegos Rodríguez moved his business to his current address — 224 N. Chatham Ave. So, when he opened on Sept. 18, he already had a loyal customer base, the majority of them Hispanic, who had followed him downtown. Since he's been downtown, he said he's even picked up new customers.

"Many people who didn't buy bread (in Compare Foods) come here to buy bread," he said, adding, "A lot of Americans already come here, so it's much better here than over there in Compare Foods."

Business has been great, he said, and he's not at all worried he'll have to close.

"Despite the fact that we've only been open for two months, it is profitable," he said, adding, "As a business owner, it's calm, it's maintaining itself ... What helped us is that a lot of people already knew us. They already knew the name of the bakery."

But it was incredibly hard to get to that point, Gallegos Rodríguez said. After moving his business downtown, he spent nearly five months trying to secure the fire and sanitation inspections he needed to open. But since COVID-19 forced most government offices to



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

Panadería y Pastelería Melanie — or Melanie's Bakery — sells about 50 different types of bread, as well as cakes for weddings, birthdays and Quinceañeras. Bernardo Gallegos Rodríguez bakes fresh bread every day.



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

Bernardo Gallegos Rodríguez, the owner of Melanie's in Siler City, bakes a fresh batch of bread. He's been baking since he was 11 or 12 years old.

close or curtail services, nobody responded to his inspections requests.

"So I was nearly at the point of not opening anymore," he said.

He kept calling and calling — only to be told nearly every time to call another number, which only resulted in an unending stream of phone numbers and missed calls.

"I filled out a sheet of numbers," he said, adding, "You call this person, that person. Then there's no response from anyone, and if there's not, they give me a name, another name, someone here, someone there. The moment does come when you say, 'No, you are already too stressed out,' and you say, 'No more.'"

All the while, he continued renting a building he couldn't yet use, and COVID-19 had hurt his Biscoe bakery's bottom line. He was just about to pull the plug when "a light opened at the end of the tunnel."

He finally heard back from county building, fire and health department inspectors.

They came within a few days and completed the required inspections, which allowed Gallegos Rodríguez to finally open his shop in mid-September.

"It's difficult in itself to open a business outside of a pandemic," he said, especially since he doesn't speak English. "(During a pandemic), the difficulty triples because, man, nobody gives you an answer ... and you don't even know what to do. But, well, here we are. We opened."

There will always be good times and bad times, he said, and you've just got to seize opportunity whenever it comes knocking.

"The same opportunity (to expand) might not have presented itself again," he said. "The opportunity came at a bad time, and sure, it was a bit difficult because I had just suffered a great loss. But we have to keep moving forward. There's no other way; we've got to keep going."

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at victoria@chathamnc.com.

THANKS

Continued from page A1

also own local restaurants. Outside at one of the couple's farms, the group will share a Thanksgiving feast they've all helped to create — turkey, oyster stuffing and pastry desserts galore.

"We'll have a really good time," Cox said of their new plans. "For us, adjusting it does sting a little bit, but I would always rather take a little bit of a hit on my side to keep my mother safe."

In North Carolina, Gov. Roy Cooper has repeatedly emphasized public health messaging urging all people to adjust their Thanksgiving plans. The governor announced that the state would remain paused in Phase 3 at a news conference last Tuesday, and urged North Carolinians to focus on how to celebrate the holiday safely.

"Even though this means changes to long-standing holiday traditions for many of us, take comfort in the fact that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. With our continued dedication, by next Thanksgiving or sooner, this pandemic can be behind us," Cooper said. "But that takes everyone committing to a safe holiday, even if that means changes this year. Reduce the invite list. Space out your tables. Get a COVID test before the event. Or better yet, connect virtually."

'It wants to spread'

In Chatham, the Public Health Department has echoed this guidance, emphasizing that limiting any gatherings to the people you live with is crucial in preventing the spread of the virus.

"The virus doesn't care if you are related," Interim Health Director Mike Zelek told the News + Record. "It wants to spread. We have seen family

gatherings, locally and across the country, that have led to many new cases and, sadly, deaths. With the understanding that informal gatherings, even among families, are a main driver of the pandemic, it is important to limit your 'bubble' to those closest to you — your household."

Because the coronavirus spreads by respiratory droplets from your mouth and nose, Zelek said being around other people at all is risky, but particularly so in a typical Thanksgiving environment — inside, around a table and without masks while people eat. That's why, he said, it's important to limit the size of any gathering and to continue practicing the three W's (wash your hands, wear a mask, wait six feet) around people you don't live with.

Zelek said the best options for celebrating the holiday safely this year include eating only with people you live with, having a virtual dinner with family and friends and preparing family recipes to share safely with family neighbors, especially those at a higher risk of illness from contracting the virus.

If you do decide to attend a gathering, Zelek recommends:

- Keeping it small (remember, the max is 10 people indoors in the new executive order)
- Practicing the 3 W's
- Opting for pre-plated meals instead of buffet style
- Going outdoors, weather permitting
- Get tested for COVID-19 before you attend. Testing options in Chatham can be found at chathamnc.org/coronavirustesting.

"However, a negative test is not a free pass to let down your guard," Zelek said. "Tests are imperfect and only tell what is going on at the time they are collected. You could still bring COVID to a gathering, and you can still get infected at a gathering."

'Keep the people that you

Tips for A Happy, Safe and Healthy Thanksgiving This Year

- Eat with people in your household, or host a virtual dinner.** Prepare traditional family recipes to deliver to family and neighbors in a socially-distanced way. The best way to reduce your risk of viral transmission is to limit travel during the holidays and limit physical contact with people who do not live in your household.
- You should practice the 3W's and wear a face covering, keep 6 feet of social distancing, wash hands well.** The 3W's are even more important if you are getting together with someone at high risk of complications with COVID-19.
- If you are traveling or plan to travel to be with people not in your household, consider having a COVID-19 screening prior to travel.** Even if you test negative, following the 3 Ws is still important.
- Remind invited guests to stay home if they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.** The day before the event, all guests should screen for symptoms and stay home if they are not feeling well.

chathamnc.org/coronavirus | covid19.ncdhhs.gov

Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health Department

'This is a deadly disease,' Chatham County Interim Health Director Mike Zelek said of COVID-19. 'There is no better reason to be safe, cautious and smart around the holidays than looking out for your fellow humans.'

love safe'

As of Tuesday morning, 317,495 North Carolinians have tested positive for COVID-19 and 4,852 have died from the virus — with cases, deaths and hospitalizations continually setting record highs in the state. In Chatham, there have been 2,193 positive cases and 65 deaths caused by the virus.

Even with such concerning trends, some people are still suggesting the virus is not as big of a threat as health officials are widely claiming, with many of those people pushing back against safety protocols, like wearing a mask or socially distancing. If you fear others at a gathering will not practice the three W's, Zelek said, it is better to stay away.

"If you attend large gatherings, especially indoors and where the 3 W's are not consis-

tently followed, sooner or later you will become infected and will likely spread the virus to others," he said regarding those who aren't taking the virus seriously.

For Cox, changing her well-loved Thanksgiving traditions wasn't ideal, but making the choice was easy.

"It's sad to not be able to do the things that you do every year — those family traditions, especially the ones built around the holidays, are really important to people," she said. "But I think there's also obviously a very important family tradition of caring for each other, and wanting to keep the people that you love safe. We always do the things that we have to do to take care of our family and this is just one of those things."

Though Chatham is currently seeing a rise in cases like in

the rest of the state, its case rates have been consistently lower than in surrounding areas. That, Zelek said, is because of the community's "steadfast response" to the pandemic. Still, he urged folks to remain vigilant, particularly as the holidays approach.

"This is a deadly disease," he said. "As of Friday, more than 4,700 North Carolinians died due to COVID-19, 63 in Chatham County. These are your family, friends and neighbors. There is no better reason to be safe, cautious and smart around the holidays than looking out for your fellow humans."

You can find more resources for how to celebrate Thanksgiving safely at rb.gy/7tj0pr.

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnc.com.



Maternity Care Close to Home

Chatham Hospital Maternity Care Center is a new maternity care center providing compassionate and expert care.



Expert Staff

Our team of physicians and midwives means you get expert care from expert practitioners.



Customized Comfort

We're here to create a personalized birth experience that is right for you and your baby, with modern rooms and amenities.



Personalized Care

We provide labor support every step of the way with the focus of keeping you and your baby comfortable.

All of this is just around the corner.

You can learn more at chathamhospital.org/baby

'JOE'S A LEGEND'

Chatham County's Glasson is a senior softball standout

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — The older you get, the better you were.

That's a running joke on the United States senior softball circuit, where injuries come and linger in bunches, the legs you swore wouldn't give out on you do so quite rapidly and the home runs you're hitting at age 60 are lucky to even sniff the warning track 10 years later.

But Chatham County's Joe Glasson is bucking that trend — relative to his competition, at least.

Glasson, 81, is no more immune to Father Time than anyone else. Fifteen years into his senior softball career, though, he remains about as consistent and successful as they come in

the sport.

"On a relative basis, I feel like I'm as good of an athlete as I ever was," Glasson said last week. "I'm not anything like I used to be in terms of physical nature. But from a mental standpoint, I understand the game so much better."

Last month, Glasson's Carolina Blazers traveled to Myrtle Beach for the International Senior Softball Association's 2020 U.S. Open and left as champions in the highest division for men 80 and up.

It was another notch in the belt for Glasson, who keeps a garage closet full of plaques, medals and jackets from the dozens of state, regional and national softball championships he's won since first entering the sport as a 65-year-old

retiree who grew bored of golf.

Never one to brandish his gear or boast about his accomplishments, Glasson also maintains a collection of imitation gem-studded championship rings that would put the Boston Celtics' Bill Russell to shame.

"Joe's a legend in senior softball," one friend, Donald Parson, said in an email.

During two hours of conversation at the Governors Club home he shares with Tae, his wife of 59 years, Glasson never took that bait, instead remaining consistently humble and self-deprecating when it came to describing his softball career and accomplishments. But he did have plenty of stories to tell.

"I just love the game," Glas-

See **GLASSON**, page B2



Joe Glasson, 81, has played on the senior softball circuit for 15 years.

Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

'A STUDENT OF THE GAME'

Northwood's Brendan Harrington off to a hot start for Mountaineers

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Back in high school, Brendan Harrington didn't have to worry about touches.

Even as he blossomed into a star Division I linebacker prospect at Northwood, he maintained a steady diet of carries and catches as a do-it-all running back for the Chargers' offense. And he loved it.

That's made the first seven games of Appalachian State's 2020 football season extra special for Harrington. Not only has he emerged as an every-game starter at outside linebacker for an excellent team, but he's picked off a team-high three passes and racked up some serious yards after the catch.

"You always love getting your hands on the ball," Harrington, 19, told the News + Record in a phone interview last week. "Especially in college, and especially on defense."

He showed his first flashes in the Mountaineers' Sept. 12 home opener against Charlotte, when he intercepted a deflected 49ers pass around midfield and took off for 46 yards on his return. Four games later, he got his second interception, diving to secure another tipped ball against Louisiana Monroe.

And two weekends ago, in the first quarter against Texas State, it all came together.



Photo courtesy of App State Athletics

Former Northwood linebacker Brendan Harrington has three interceptions this season for Appalachian State.

Harrington played a flat zone coverage, baited the Bobcats' quarterback into a throw, jumped the route from below, spun around, broke a tackle and followed a convoy of teammates down the left sideline and into the end zone for a 49-yard pick-six — the first touchdown of his college career.

Add in his 23 tackles, five pass breakups and seven starts, and this much is clear: the 2018 Northwood graduate isn't

the sole reason the 6-1 Mountaineers are surging, but he's absolutely one of them.

"He's one of the most productive players on our football team as far as stops, interceptions, tackles for loss, sacks," App State head coach Shawn Clark said. "He's all the right things."

Perhaps more impressively, Harrington's doing it as a relative rookie. He played in 11 games as a true freshman

in 2019, but he contributed almost exclusively to special teams as two seniors — future NFL fourth-round pick Akeem Davis-Gaither and Noel Cook — held down the team's outside linebacker spots.

So, yes, he can understand why some are surprised at his semi-rapid rise to relevance at one of the country's top Group of Five football programs. Heck, if you had told a freshman Harrington last fall what

he'd be doing now as a sophomore, "I'd be shocked, too," he said with a laugh.

"But," he added, "I pride myself on being a student of the game."

In other words: some of his interceptions have been improbable, but Harrington didn't just walk into them. His being in the right place at the right time is less sheer luck and more an amalgamation of two years of growth and preparation within App State's practice fields, weight rooms and film rooms.

"There was never a doubt in my mind," said Brian Harrington, Brendan's uncle and the former football coach at Northwood. "Not one time. Even when he was sad and doubtful, I said: 'You've just got to trust it. Things will work out in your favor. I just knew if he got out on the field, he'd show them.'"

If anyone can speak definitively on Brendan's intrinsic motivations, it's Brian.

His younger sister, LaKisha Harrington, is Brendan's mother — and since Brendan's biological father has never been present in his life, Brian gladly embraced parenting duties for his nephew from the start. He may as well have been a father; Brendan and B.J., Brian's oldest child, may as well have been brothers.

By the time Brian succeeded the legendary Bill Hall as Northwood's head football coach in 2015, and Brendan made the varsity roster as a freshman, the Harringtons

See **HARRINGTON**, page B2

NCHSAA COVID-19 UPDATE

Tucker: 'Give us a chance' to hold a safe 2020-21 sports season

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

As prep volleyball and cross country competitions resumed across the state, NCHSAA commissioner Que Tucker held a news conference Monday to deliver a final rallying cry to everyone involved.

"High school sports is what we're trying to do right now," she said. "Give us a chance."

After eight long months, the association's 400-plus member high schools — including five in Chatham County — are starting back up with matches and meets.

And, as Tucker and NCHSAA leadership braced for, the restart comes during another concerning coronavirus spike. State health officials have reported record highs in positive COVID-19 cases in recent days, and North Carolina's positive test rate sat at 7.9% last Friday (well above the state's 5% target).

So, during a 45-minute Zoom conversation with statewide media, Tucker once again appealed directly to coaches, student-athletes, parents and administrators. Here are some



Staff file photo

Northwood cross country runners left behind these individual water bottles (a COVID-19 safety precaution) as they began a skill session earlier this fall.

main takeaways from the call:

Mask mandate a 'necessary' step

Last week, the NCHSAA made news when it announced a mask mandate for indoor events.

Under that rule, anyone participating in a regular-season volleyball practice or match

— including coaches, spectators and student-athletes, even those who are actively playing — must wear a cloth face covering. The mandate also holds for all indoor skill sessions for out-of-season sports. (Cross country, an outdoor sport, isn't affected.)

Tucker said Monday the mandate was developed with input from the state Department

of Health and Human Services, the NCHSAA's sports medicine advisory committee and its board of directors.

"We believe this is a necessary and safe step to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19," Tucker said, adding that student-athletes can receive medical exemptions from wearing a mask with proper documentation. "We have several (volleyball) teams who've reported they're in quarantine."

She continued: "Would this have happened with a mask mandate? We're not sure, but it's my personal belief that if we hadn't taken the step of doing something, completing a volleyball season may not have been possible" given current coronavirus metrics in the state.

Basketball and masks

After the NCHSAA announced its mask mandate, much of the ensuing social media conversation focused on if and how it would apply to men's and women's basketball. There was plenty of disinformation, too.

Tucker made sure to correct

that Monday. For one, NCHSAA men's and women's basketball do not start their season until Dec. 7, the first day they can hold official practices/tryouts. As of now, those two sports remain out of season and can only hold preseason skill sessions, which have more restrictions.

"So, no scrimmaging, two-on-two or three-on-three," Tucker said. "Those should not be occurring."

It'll be a few weeks before the NCHSAA takes any further action on basketball, which the state DHHS classifies as a high-risk sport. Tucker said she's "keenly aware" that mask-wearing is an issue for basketball and acknowledged a schedule adjustment for the sport isn't out of the question later on.

But for now, she said the NCHSAA is simply asking basketball athletes to wear masks for skill session drills, which per NCHSAA rules must be done individually or in small groups without any contact.

Dialing back club sports

See **TUCKER**, page B2

CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEWS

With high school sports gradually returning, the News + Record is previewing local teams across Chatham County, from Pittsboro to Siler City to Bear Creek to Chapel Hill.

Here's a breakdown for local cross country teams, who along with volleyball teams were the first to start their 2020-21 coronavirus-altered seasons with official competitions on Monday.

Chatham Central Bears

Head coach: Eric Patin, second season
 2019 highlights: Third in men's Yadkin Valley 1A Conference title meet, 10th in men's NCHSAA 1A Midwest Regional meet



2020 outlook: The Bears will be deep on the men's side with five returning seniors plus several strong freshmen. The women's team needs a few more consistent point-scorers, but Patin said the top of its lineup, which includes all-conference returner Kailey Green, is "very strong."

Top men's returners: senior Parker Crowley is an "anchor" for the team, Patin said, and barely missed quali-

fyng for the 1A state championship meet last fall. Other potential returners include sophomore Travis Crissman, junior Sawyer Elkins and seniors Chandler Wilkes and Jacob Ziblay.

Top men's newcomers: Jacob and Seth Gilliland will both be "strong additions as freshmen," Patin said.

Top women's returners: sophomore Kailey Green earned all-conference honors as a freshman after finishing sixth in the conference meet. Junior Chloe Fuquay may also return.

Top women's newcomers: N/A

Chatham Charter Knights

Head coach: Gary Oakley
 2019 highlights: second in men's Central Tar Heel 1A Conference title meet, sixth in men's NCHSAA 1A Mideast Regional meet
 2020 outlook: In 2019, the men's team got a big boost from in-season soccer players who also joined the cross country roster. Without soccer going on this fall, those contributors "haven't been as invested," Oakley said, and the

Knights' top two middle school prospects also opted not to run. So he expects 2020 to be more of a rebuilding year with some strong juniors. Chatham Charter only has two women's runners, so they will compete individually in meets this season.
 Top men's returners:



Junior Brandon McKoy had an excellent 2019 season; he was an all-conference runner, finished second in the Knights' conference and 1A regional meet and qualified for states. Oakley said junior Caleb Kolb, relatively new to the sport, is "very reliable and hard-working." He finished 14th in the

conference meet in his first year running cross country.
 Top men's newcomers: N/A
 Top women's returners: N/A
 Top women's newcomers: Freshman Meredith Reece is positive, motivated and "fast for having no experience," Oakley said. Adelia Rickman, a junior, is also brand new to the sport. Chatham Charter didn't field a women's team last season.

Northwood Chargers

Head coach: Cameron Isenhour, second season
 Assistant coach: Tanelle Smith
 2019 highlights: Second in men's Big 8 3A Conference meet and fourth in women's, second in men's NCHSAA 3A Mideast Regional meet and sixth in women's, eighth in men's state title meet



2020 outlook: The Charger men are "more ready than ever before," Isenhour said. Northwood returns six runners who represented the team at last fall's 3A state championships and has legitimate title aspirations. After an injury-plagued 2019, Northwood's women also return plenty of experience; they're "tough as nails," Isenhour said, and hoping to making the cut at regionals — which they narrowly missed last season — to qualify for the state title meet.

Top men's returners: Seniors Malachi Levy and Carter

Pippin, junior Colin Henry and sophomore Christian Glick were all-conference picks in 2019 — and Levy and Henry finished among the top 35 at the state title meet. Senior Glenn Porter and junior Andrew Kimbrel also return.

Top men's newcomers: Sophomore Jackson Adams missed most of the 2019 season with an injury but is healthy now; junior Patrick McCaw and freshman Ethan Becker are new to the team, too.

Top women's returners: Junior Caroline Murrell, a reigning all-conference and the only state title qualifier for the Northwood women, is the star here. Seniors Tessa Yell and Liv Riggsbee and junior Ella Hennessey have experience, too.

Top women's newcomers: The Charger women are looking for depth — Isenhour thinks freshman Anna Bolejack, sophomore Sarah Barbour and junior Emma Serrano have a shot to provide it.

Woods Charter Wolves

Head coach: Karen Hawkins, first season
 2019 highlights: First in men's Central Tar Heel 1A Conference meet and second in women's, fourth in men's NCHSAA 1A Mideast Regional meet and fifth in women's, 14th in men's state title meet



2020 outlook: Hawkins, a former runner at N.C. State, expects a "fairly even mixture" of veteran and young runners in her debut season. The men's and women's top returners are underclassmen, but several seniors will be just as important to the Wolves' overall finishes in meets this season. In a strong conference, Hawkins is excited to "see how much we can grow as a program this year and beyond."

Top men's returners: Sophomore Wiley Sikes placed third at last fall's conference meet and finished among the top 30 runners at

the 1A state title meet as a freshman. Senior Primo Costa was a top-15 runner in the 2019 conference meet, and other returners include senior Kyle Howarth, sophomore Noah Hyman and senior Tobin Berrier.

Top men's newcomers: N/A
 Top women's returners: Sophomore Maddie Sparrow

was a top-25 finisher at last year's state meet as a freshman. Sophomore Chloe Richard has been "one of the most consistent" in attending summer and fall workouts, Hawkins said, while senior Samana Young was a top-10 finisher in the conference in 2019 and senior Ember Penney also returns.

Top women's newcomers: Freshman Ellie Poitras placed 22nd in the 2019 AAU National Cross Country Championships and will contribute immediately for the Wolves.

Jordan-Matthews Jets

Head coaches: Tyrone Hanner (men's) and Michael Milian (women's)

2019 highlights: Third in men's PAC 7 2A Conference meet and fifth in women's, eighth in men's NCHSAA 2A Mideast Region meet and ninth in women's



2020 outlook: The Jets were a solid mid-tier team last season that relied heavily on their top men's and women's runners for points. That worked at the conference level but hurt them in regionals; this season, J-M wants to develop more depth to fill out the bottom of

its scoring lineups. Top men's returners: Jacorey Coats emerged as J-M's top men's runner by a mile. He was runner-up in the Jets' conference meet, their top regional runner and their only state title meet qualifier.

Top men's newcomers: N/A
 Top women's returners: All-conference runner Clarissa Morales was the standout here, as she finished a team-high 10th in the conference meet but struggled a bit in regionals.

Top women's newcomers: N/A

READ IT ONLINE



Photo courtesy of App State Athletics

Harrington's pick-six against Texas State two weekends ago was his first career touchdown at the college level.

HARRINGTON

Continued from page B1

already had an unbreakable bond.

But to avoid any appearance of favoritism, Brian was "very hard" on his nephew as a coach, he said. Especially so during Brendan's freshman year, when he was a talented yet raw defensive back.

"I definitely had to prove to him that I was worthy of being on the varsity team and worthy of holding the varsity spot," Brendan said. "We bumped heads a lot, but it was for the good."

As Brendan literally grew into his current position — he put on around 20 pounds of muscle as he

moved from DB to safety to line-backer — Brian gave him more reign over defensive play-calling. After all, the only person in the Northwood program who watched more film than Brendan was Brian himself.

"And there were times where he even made me look good," Brian said, laughing, "because I called the wrong coverage, he fixed it, got an interception and life was good."

That cerebral knack has served Brendan well at App State, where he plays a hybrid position that Clark, his head coach, describes as one of the most important in the Mountaineers' base defense.

On any given play, Harrington — a fluid athlete at 6-foot-1 and 215

'He's one of the most productive players on our football team.'

SHAWN CLARK, Appalachian State head coach

pounds — could be blitzing, sitting in a zone or picking up a receiver or tight end in man-to-man coverage (no small task in this air-raid era).

"It's a little bit of everything," he said.

And so far this season, Harrington's been doing a little bit of everything pretty well.

Reporter Chapel Fowler can be reached at cfowler@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @chapel_fowler.

TUCKER

Continued from page B1

Tucker understands she has zero enforcement power outside of the NCHSAA. But if she had a magic wand, she said, she would use it to have club sport organizations "dial it back for a bit."

Club sports, such as volleyball and AAU basketball tournaments, have been going on all summer in and out of the state, and plenty of NCHSAA student-athletes have participated. But as the regular season begins, Tucker said experts have emphasized to her club sports are increasingly "concern-

ing."
 "Say I'm a club volleyball player," Tucker said, "and we're traveling out of state. Where did I sit? Where did I eat? What doorknob did I touch? What did I do that perhaps put me at greater risk?"

Tucker said if she was coaching in 2020, she'd ask her players to commit exclusively to their high school regular season. She acknowledged that was an unpopular view, and that she'll likely take heat for her overall critique. But she remained steadfast in her message to independent/club sport organizations.

"Dial it back," she said, "because we're trying to play at the high

school level."
 Tucker's office also received a video of a basketball team violating skill session protocol, so she emphasized the same message for out-of-season NCHSAA teams: slow it down, and if you're going to hold an indoor skill session, make sure to follow guidelines and have everyone wear a mask.

"As a former high school coach, I can think of plenty of other (appropriate) drills to get students ready for Dec. 7 practices," she said, referring to the video that showed a basketball team scrimmaging.

Reporter Chapel Fowler can be reached at cfowler@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @chapel_fowler.

CENTRAL PIEDMONT URGENT CARE
 101 Walmart Supercenter • Siler City, NC 27344
 919-663-3911
 1011 High Point Street • Randleman, NC 27317
 336-498-0226
www.central piedmonturgentcare.com

Animal Resources
Low Cost Spay / Neuter - Only \$20
 Qualified applicants may purchase vouchers to use at participating pet clinics. Submit applications to:
Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center
 725 Renaissance Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312
 Phone: 919-542-7203 | facebook.com/chathamsoar
 Hours: MTWF 11a-5p • TH 11a-7p • SA 10a-2p
 For a printable application, visit:
www.chathamsheriff.com

2020's Final Household Hazardous Waste Events
FINAL EVENT: Saturday, November 21
 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
 28 County Services Road
 (6 miles west of Pittsboro, off Hwy 64)
 Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as
 • chemicals • cleaners • solvents • paint
 • pesticides • gasoline • antifreeze • electronics
 For a complete list of items visit www.chathamnc.org/hhw
 The Chatham County Sheriff's Office will provide a free take back of unwanted medicines during this HHW event. No needles, sharps, or liquids will be accepted.
No trash or empty containers. No business waste. No decal required. Must show NC Drivers License.
 Questions? Call (919) 542-5516
 HHW events will resume in March 2021.

GLASSON

Continued from page B1

son said.

He grew up in San Antonio and was a “pretty darn decent” four-sport athlete in high school — enough to finagle preferred walk-on spots for the freshman football and baseball teams at the University of Texas, where he enrolled in 1957. A rib injury, however, derailed his varsity dreams pretty quickly.

Glasson’s teenage years still instilled in him a lifelong love for sports. He graduated from Texas in 1961 and married Tae, a NASA mathematician, in 1962. As they moved around the country — Glasson most notably had a long career as a senior executive at Allstate — he always made time for recreational athletics.

But work and family naturally took precedence. Glasson didn’t throw himself at any specific sport for a long time, and he was fine with that. Once he officially retired at 56, though, he started searching.

In search of warmer weather, he and Tae officially moved into Governors Club in 2000, where he took up golf. For five years, Glasson played four or five times a week with some Triangle buddies.

Always one to stay active, Glasson dabbled in other sports, too, and stumbled upon a lowkey senior softball league in Raleigh. In 2005, he was playing there and caught the eye of Walt Gustafson, a local circuit player.

“We have a travel team, and we play a national schedule,” Gustafson said. “Would you consider playing for us?”

“Are we talking high-level competition?” Glasson said.

“Yes, high-level competition.”

“Talk to me in six months.” Glasson was in shape, but he wasn’t in softball shape. At least to him. So he spent half a year lifting weights, doing aerobics and practicing drills — including throwing a weighted



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Every morning, Glasson practices his throwing motion in his garage with this trampoline-esque bounce-back machine and small medicine ball.

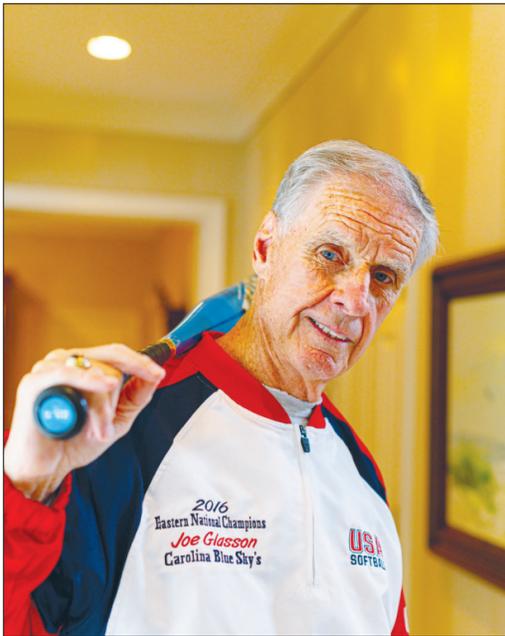
ball at a bounce-back machine, something he still does daily — before calling the guy back and joining his first serious roster.

Since then, he’s played all over the field (outfield, first base, second base) and country (Ohio, Utah, Nevada) for about 25 total teams, most notably the Carolina Cardinals, Carolina Blue Skies, Carolina Blazers and Burlington Classics. His other appearances have come as a ringer — or “hired gun,” as he calls it — for teams across the South on a select, often one-time basis.

“What struck me, the very first time I ever went on the circuit, is how collegial it is,” Glasson said. “The respect everyone has for each other is unbelievable ... we trash talk each other like you wouldn’t believe, but it’s all in sincere good fun. It’s never personal.”

And he loved the non-stop competitiveness regardless of circumstance: “When each one of us walks onto the field, we get serious about playing, even though we’re a mere shadow of what we used to be.”

When he started playing at age 65, Glasson’s stated goal was to hang around long enough to be on an 80 and up team, which he’s now done as recently as October. And,



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Glasson has played for around 25 total softball teams, including the Carolina Blue Skies.

obviously, he’s no placeholder — at 81, Glasson remains an effective shortstop offensively and defensively and pledges to keep chugging “as long as I can play as an impact player.” His secret?

“I’ve become a student of my body for the past 15 years,” Glasson said. “Like, how have I changed in quickness and strength and everything else? And

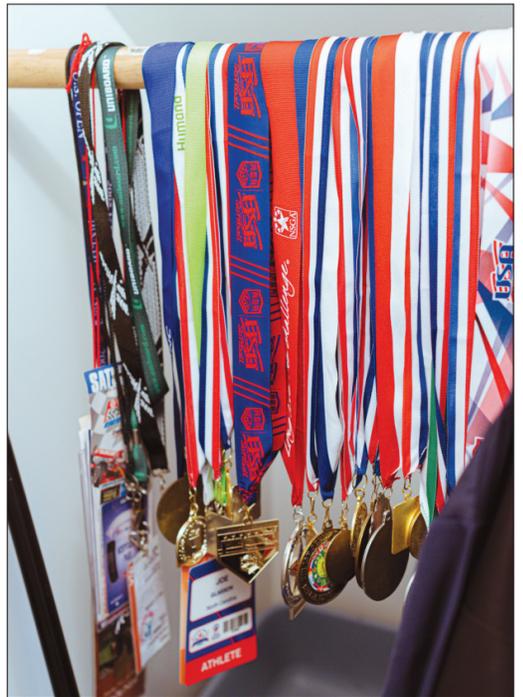
how can I accommodate for that?”

For example, he finds himself reading batters’ feet much more frequently now. If someone’s lead foot reveals what direction they’re trying to hit, Glasson will cheat over a full step. He can’t casually read the ball off the bat anymore like he used to in his 60s (a feat in itself). It’s a subtle tweak that



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Glasson proudly holds onto this softball bat he once bust open with a swing.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Glasson keeps a closet’s worth of plaques, medals and jackets from his various softball championships.

keeps the game cerebral and engaging — one of the many reasons Chatham County’s Glasson still relishes any and all chances to play in senior softball tournaments, which he’d argue have done as much for him as he’s done for his teams while competing in them.

“There are guys out there whose bodies are torn up from previous injuries, but, by God, you’re still out there playing,” Glasson said. “To be able to see the three things — collegiality, competitive-

ness, and that true love of the game (from everyone) — I feel honored just to be among them.”

‘I’ve become a student of my body for the past 15 years.’

JOE GLASSON, local senior softball champion

Reporter Chapel Fowler can be reached at cfowler@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@chapelfowler](https://twitter.com/chapelfowler).

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

DIRECTORY

CROSSROADS BACKHOE SERVICE

- Install and Repair Septic Systems
- Pump Existing Septic Tanks
- All Sorts of Backhoe Work
- Specializing in Bush Hogging
- Ponds, Ditches & Driveways

Call Monty Justice @ (919) 545-4107

See Us For:
Commercial Refrigeration
Heating & Air Conditioning
Sales & Service

LANGLEY
Refrigeration Company
Ph: 742-2777

FOR THIS SPOT CALL
(919) 663-3232

ASHEBORO TIE YARDS, INC

Beautiful Yards Start Here!

- Mushroom Compost • Shredded Hardwood Mulch
- Pine Mini Nuggets • Brick Chips • Sand • Top Soil
- Black, Brown & Red Mulch • White Pea Gravel • Railroad Ties

205 Hanner Town Rd. Bear Creek
(2 miles South of Bonlee on Old 421)
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM - 4 PM, Fri. 7 AM - 12 PM
(919) 837-2822 • We Deliver!

D & G PLUMBING

Plumbing Problems?
Commercial and Residential Installation and Service
Located in Siler City

Locally Owned and Operated by Greg and Donna Kennedy
Licensed and Insured
Office: 919-742-4587 Cell: 919-427-2374

Caviness Farms
GRADING AND HAULING
Siler City, NC • 919-548-3064

CHRIS CAVINESS
GRAVEL • TOPSOIL • POND • MULCH • FILL DIRT
DRIVEWAY • LAND CLEARING • SITE DEVELOPMENT

TREEMASTERS

- Brush Chipping
- Tree Climbing • Stump Removal
- Free Estimates

(919) 775-7408
Tommy Dunigan Cell: (919) 548-3542

PASCHAL LAW OFFICE

Wade Paschal, Attorney
119 North Fir Avenue, Siler City, NC
Ph: 919-742-6006
Email: wadepaschal@gmail.com

TRAFFIC TICKETS • DIVORCE • CHILD CUSTODY • WILL • PROBATE
DURABLE POWERS OF ATTORNEY • LIVING WILLS
HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY • SPECIALIZING IN
RESIDENTIAL LOAN CLOSINGS AND REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

THIS SPOT CAN BE YOURS!

Call Advertising @ 919-663-3232

Bob Atkinson, GRI, CRS, E-PRO
Homes-Land-Investments
C: 919-362-6999

LearnAboutLand.com

Atkinson Properties Group
bobatkinson321@gmail.com

Find the help you need in the *Services Directory* of Chatham News + Record
Advertise Your Business in the Service Directory for ONLY \$20 PER WEEK!

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEWS

Chatham Central Bears

Head coach: Brett Walden, third season
Assistant coach: Katherine Little
2019 highlights: 14-11, 9-7 Yadkin Valley 1A Conference, lost in second round of playoffs
2020 outlook: The Bears in a word? Experienced. Walden is excited to return five seniors from a rock-solid 2019 team. Four of them played frequently as juniors, and two of them have been entrenched as starters since their

sophomore year. Walden added that lead assistant coach Little, a 2017 Chatham Central graduate and four-year volleyball player, has been “a big part of our success” so far.
Top returners: Senior Tanner Little (Katherine’s cousin) was an all-conference libero last season, and senior

Lindsay Polston has long been a steady presence at setter.
Senior outside hitter Grace Jones led the team in kills last season, and senior middle blocker Savannah Stilwell led the team in blocks. Junior Lindsey Johnson was the only underclassman on last year’s varsity roster

and played as a defensive specialist.
Top newcomers: Junior Sadie Gaines will likely replace 2020 graduate Eliana Phillips at defensive specialist, and junior Ivey Tillman will likely replace 2020 graduate (and Greensboro College softball commit) Olivia Hudson as the team’s second middle hitter opposite of Stilwell. Taylor Poe, a junior, is versatile and will see playing time somewhere on the court.



With high school sports gradually returning, the News + Record is previewing local teams across Chatham County, from Pittsboro to Siler City to Bear Creek to Chapel Hill.
Here’s a breakdown for local volleyball teams, who along with cross country teams, were the first to start their 2020-21 coronavirus-altered seasons with official competitions on Monday.

Chatham Charter Knights

Head coach: Johnny Alston, fifth season
Assistant coach: Jamarr Ross
2019 highlights: 16-12, 11-4 Central Tar Heel 1A Conference, lost in first round of playoffs
2020 outlook: Chatham Charter was “outstanding” under coach Holley Hall last season, Alston said. Now, after a one-year break, he’s back for a fifth overall season with the team and ready for the Knights to get rolling again. Chatham Charter has made the 1A playoffs two seasons in a row and returns two all-conference seniors plus three more honorable-mention players in 2020. They’ll be a team to watch.
Top returners: Morgan Lineberry and Breanna Spinks

have been mainstays at middle hitter/blocker for three seasons now; they were both all-conference picks in 2019 and “provide great leadership,” Alston said. As do senior Sydney Bowman, junior Molly Wilson and sophomore Emerson Clark, all of whom were all-conference honorable mentions. Reserves include seniors Grayson Haiges and Riley Bennett.
Top newcomers: the Knights welcome a few JV players to the varsity roster: juniors Olivia Cheek and Taylor Brewer and sophomores Alison Perez, Ashlee Rains and Tamaya Walden (a basketball standout), Freshmen Riley Maynor and Delana Loflin both have previous experience at the middle school level.



Northwood Chargers

Head coach: Krista McGivern
Assistant coach: Olivia Metcalf
2019 highlights: 9-16, 3-10 in Big 8 3A Conference, lost in first round of playoffs
2020 outlook: Northwood struggled in one of the 3A classification’s top conferences last season. But McGivern hopes her Chargers can take a step forward with an experienced roster that features three seniors and seven juniors used to the grind of the Big 8 — plus one intriguing freshman. The Chargers will develop talent this season, too, with

a nine-player JV team coached by Metcalf.
Top returners: Senior setter Kennedy Cox and junior Hannah Forbes (the daughter of UNC baseball coach Scott Forbes) are the team captains this season. They should take a big statistical step forward, especially with the Chargers’ only all-conference player last season having transferred.
Top newcomers: On a roster of upperclassmen, freshman outside hitter Asia Thigpen stands out. McGivern wouldn’t have placed Thigpen on the varsity roster if she didn’t believe in her.



Woods Charter Wolves

Head coach: Scott Green, third season
Assistant coach: Taylor Ritchie
2019 highlights: 1-17, 0-14 Central Tar Heel 1A Conference
2020 outlook: Woods Charter has finished last in its conference two seasons in a row. But with a core group of eight juniors returning, “we’re striving to move up,” Green said. With an improving attack from his middle hitters, too, Green hopes he can take some pressure off outside hitters and, more importantly, compete consistently in the Central Tar Heel Conference.
Top returners: Junior

Emi Hutter-DeMarco is an “all-around outstanding” player, Green said. She’s an outside hitter who also plays basketball. Junior Jana Thompson is a natural leader and repeat team captain who’s moving from libero to outside hitter this year. Juniors Emma Hobbs, Julia Christian and Ada Green (Scott’s daughter) are also returning and will see time.
Top newcomers: Freshman middle hitter Lexi Smollen has height and “potential in the middle,” Green said. And freshman libero Chloe Haswell has shown “outstanding effort and hustle” in practices.



With high school sports gradually returning, the News + Record is previewing local teams across Chatham County, from Pittsboro to Siler City to Bear Creek to Chapel Hill.
Here’s a breakdown for local volleyball teams, who along with cross country teams, were the first to start their 2020-21 coronavirus-altered seasons with official competitions on Monday.

Jordan-Matthews Jets

Head coach: Taylor Crowder
2019 highlights: 2-16, 1-11 PAC 7 2A Conference
2020 outlook: Af-

ter a rough 2019, the Jets might as well shoot for a fresh start. Jordan-Matthews lost four seniors from last year’s squad and had no all-conference picks. Will that year of action help its sophomore class make the jump now that they’re juniors? In 2020, one can hope.
Top returners: Eve Long is a returning senior, and J-M also hopes to benefit from a large and experienced class of juniors: Alana May, Courtney Shackelford and Erin Maddox. Macy Beavers is a returning sophomore.
Top newcomers: N/A



EDUCATION BRIEFS: WEEK OF NOV. 19

Cn+R Staff Reports

Chatham County Schools increasing internet access with bus Wi-Fi

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Schools has equipped 42 Chatham County Schools buses with Wi-Fi to help families with connectivity issues. The buses have an orange sticker with the Wi-Fi symbol near the door. Students who ride these buses will be able to access the internet safely and securely while riding to and from school. For additional internet access, some of the buses during the day will be parked at various locations in the community. Locations and service times will be communicated at the school level. Students’ Chromebooks have been updated, so their devices will connect automatically when the signal is available.
The district has provided hotspot devices to all families who made a request. The school system deployed more than 1,800 hotspot devices. Those needing a hotspot may reach out at the school level or submit a request by clicking here.
The school system continues to emphasize the importance of the 3Ws — washing hands for 20 seconds throughout the day; waiting six feet from others; and wearing a face covering.
- Chatham County Schools

CCS COVID-19 Tracker

Prior to partially reopening under Plan B on Oct. 19, Chatham County School administration emphasized a commitment to transparency in its handling of COVID-19 cases.
The result is a COVID-19 Tracking dashboard, available

on the district’s site, which was published last month around the time some schools reopened but tracks data from Aug. 17, the first day of school.
According to the tracker, since Aug. 17, there have been 17 positive cases of the coronavirus among staff and seven positive cases among students, with 3 new positive cases for students and 1 for staff in the last two weeks. The highest number of cases at any school is 4 staff cases at Chatham Central, though its unclear if those cases are connected or occurred in the same exposure period. The district has not reported any clusters, or a grouping of five or more cases thought to be connected based on common exposure points.
It’s important to note that this data does not necessarily mean COVID-19 is being spread at school, but rather that school community members are testing positive for COVID-19. As health officials have advised the CCS Board of Education, there will be cases of COVID-19 present in the school — what matters is that those cases do not lead to more cases. The district has said it will be forthcoming of any clusters or outbreaks should they occur.
“It is about data. But it’s not just about data,” Chatham County Public Health Department’s Interim Health Director Mike Zelek told the BOE at its Nov. 9 meeting. “It’s about how well schools can consistently and correctly implement the guidance that they’ve laid out, and I know we’ve been working with them for several months now to fine tune that guidance that comes from the state and the CDC.”

N.C.’s newly elected Superintendent of Public Schools

Republican Catherine Truitt was elected superintendent of the state’s K-12 public schools on Election Day, receiving 51.4% of the vote in her first run for office. She ran against Democrat Jen Mangrum, who received 48.6% of the vote.
Current superintendent Mark Johnson, a Republican, was not on the ballot after making an unsuccessful primary run for lieutenant governor. He’s held the job for the last four years.
While the superintendent position doesn’t yield a lot of official power, the job can influence the state Board of Education, the General Assembly and the governor — as well as their decisions about public education. Truitt, a former teacher who is chancellor of the online Western Governors University North Carolina, will step in as state decision-makers continue to make important calls regarding COVID-19, equity and literacy. Her priorities, as listed on her website, include having a “highly qualified teacher” in every NC classroom, pushing for research-based early literacy strategies and expanding the collaboration between public schools and “four-year colleges, community colleges, the business community, hospitals, local workforce boards and IT centers.”
In September, Truitt spoke at a news conference with Republican Senate leader Phil Berger and Lt. Gov. Dan Forest urging Gov. Roy Cooper, a Democrat who successfully ran for reelection, to give parents the option of in-person, full-time school.
“All students need and deserve a quality education experience this

Fall,” her website reads regarding reopening schools. “North Carolina has 100 counties, 115 school systems, and hundred of public charter schools. A one-size-fits-all approach won’t work for our schools and our students.”

Chatham COA Helpful Happenings November 19th - 25th

Thursday, November 19th

- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise](#) at 10 AM
- [Science with Alan](#) at 11:15 AM

Friday, November 20th

- [Body Conditioning Exercise with Jackie](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Weekly Call with Director Dennis Streets](#) at 10:15 AM

Monday, November 23rd

- [Tai Chi for Arthritis](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Bingo with Joe](#) at 11:15 AM

Tuesday, November 24th

- [Body Conditioning Exercise with Jackie](#) at 9:00 AM

Wednesday, November 25th

- [Tai Chi for Arthritis](#) at 9:00 am
- [Bluegrass Music](#) at 10:00 am
- [Short Stories with Chris](#) at 12:30 pm

On Zoom | On Conference Line: 727-731-8717

For more information or to register for these programs, visit our website: <https://chathamcouncilonaging.org/coa-virtual-activities/>

Join the Trivia Hunt & Win!

Each week the COA will offer a trivia question in the *Chatham News + Record*. Find the correct answer in the paper and enter to win a \$25 VISA gift card in the COA’s monthly trivia hunt contest drawing. Look in **Section A** for this week’s question.

Free Help with Your Medicare Open Enrollment Questions!

Give the Council on Aging a call to set up your appointment for free and unbiased information and assistance. Just ask for the SHIP program!

The Chatham COA is Here for You!

For more information on our ongoing programs & services visit our website at chathamcoa.org or call our centers, Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

Eastern Chatham Senior Center | **Western Chatham Senior Center**

365 NC-87 N | 112 Village Lake Road
Pittsboro, NC 27312 | Siler City, NC 27344
919-542-4512 | 919-742-3975

Check Us OUT on

(@chathamnr)
 (chathamnewsrecord)

Chatham News + Record

Eureka! You found the answer!

A: 58, including the most recent addition, the Bynum Bridge which was just added in April.

To enter the COA’s monthly drawing for a \$25 Visa Gift Card, call the COA at 919-542-4512, extension 223 and follow the prompts on the voicemail.
November’s winner will be drawn from eligible entries provided by 11/30/2020. The November winner will be announced in a December issue of the Chatham News + Record. One entry per household, per week. Employees of the COA and their dependents not eligible.

CHATHAM CHAT | SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Pittsboro businesses prep for special day, virtual holiday event

Retailers in Pittsboro have big plans for Small Business Saturday, a shopping holiday held each year the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This week, we speak with members of the Pittsboro Business Association about this day earmarked to showcase small business: Pam Fulk — who's coordinating Small Business Saturday — and the Pittsboro Business Association's Maria Parker-Lewis and Scott Dunham, PBA's Marketing Committee chairman.

Fulk is the executive director of Carolina Tiger Rescue and the PBA's president. Parker-Lewis, PBA's vice president, and her husband, Greg, own 39 West catering and a soon-to-be-opened new restaurant at Chatham Marketplace, and are the former owners of Pittsboro Roadhouse. Dunham owns Tarheel Getaways, a vacation planning service, in Pittsboro.

The pandemic seems to have put life on hold for a lot of us, but for many businesses, it's more of a distinct reality. As Pittsboro's businesses move into the heart of the fourth quarter of the year — a make or break time under normal circumstances — what's the general outlook and feeling about sustainability?

Most businesses remain nervous but hopeful. Owning a successful business depends on a mixture of hard work, the ability to be forward thinking, flexibility, an optimistic attitude and a measure of luck. The first four ingredients come into play in almost equal parts these days. However, a double dose of optimism is required. It's necessary when times are so challenging. You absolutely must believe this, too, shall pass and we will come through it strong.

We're like everyone else; we want this situation to pass, but we continue to do everything we can to keep our customers, our staff and ourselves healthy. However, another shutdown, or further restrictions, may prove to be too big a challenge for many small businesses.

Many organizations have been relegated to meeting virtually or not at all during the pandemic. What's the case for the PBA?

Virtually. We've been Zooming and it's been working well for us. I think there is a certain level of energy that

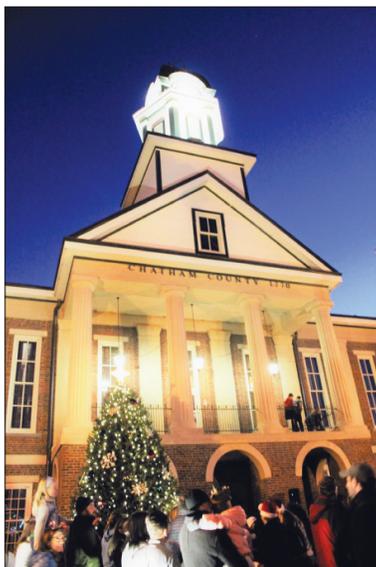


Photo from last year's tree lighting at the historic Chatham County Courthouse.

can't be duplicated that comes from meeting in person, but there's definitely the level of convenience that comes with the ability to meet from your office or home. Maybe, moving forward, we'll do a combination.

Some of the PBA's hallmark events have changed. Let's start with Small Business Saturday — what do we need to know about it?

It's set for Saturday, Nov. 28, and is sponsored by American Express. It'll start at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m.

Based on our 2019 experience, we expect to receive from American Express one box of tote bags and one large banner, along with a few other promotional items, so we will be delivering to all downtown businesses the week prior to SBS to help them promote the day.

The PBA will have a free gift-wrapping station set up at the new welcome center. We will have a few more totes, blank passports, and two containers for completed passports for shoppers. The \$100 drawing requires passports stamped (or handwritten verification)



Submitted photos

your PBA page.

Music (especially holiday), inviting scents, treats, cider/cocoa, small giveaways, your own door prize drawings and other such fun incentives can really lure people in, get them in the spirit, and make them remember you fondly for further shopping later.

Christmas is just six weeks away. What are the plans for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting?

The Tree Lighting will be virtual this year. We are seeking pre-recorded performances from schools, students, local bands, local businesses, churches and individuals. We do need them submitted within the next several days. We have some fabulous groups that have already sent in their performances, but we need more. We're also interested in hearing a child record their letter to Santa, which we will play for him when he is here.

Santa will not be able to visit person to person, but we will have a drive-up photo op with Santa inside a giant snow globe. Families can contact the PBA and we will give them time a time slot between 1 and 4 p.m. on the 22nd to drive up, pose in front of the globe and take a picture with Santa.

The Tree Lighting and the Snow Globe are on the 22nd, at 6 p.m., but we need to stress that the entertainment portion is virtual. No concert will occur; the pre-recorded entertainment will be streamed via a YouTube channel; information for that and for Snow Globe times can be found using the information below.

We need to thank Phillips Farms who have very generously donated the tree which will be placed in its traditional location in front of the courthouse. They have a number of beautiful trees and we encourage people to check them out when they're ready to purchase a tree for their home.

How can people find out more about those events and the PBA?

Information about Holly Days events is available on Facebook in the "events" section of our Pittsboro Business Association page, and on our website at www.shoppittsboro.com. Questions may be emailed to downtown.pittsboro@gmail.com.

Ranked #1
houzz buildBOLDnc.com
CHAPEL HILL



Your **home** has never been more **important**.
We'll help you find it.

BOLD
REAL ESTATE
www.boldre.com

Chatham News + Record
would like to acknowledge & thank our **online** advertisers.
Visit (our site) to connect with them!

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

SILER CITY COMMISSIONERS

Board talks planning ordinance, teachers' pay, CARES Act spending and vacancy at mayor

D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The town's board of commissioners divided most of its time on Monday between discussions about planning ordinance revision proposals and adjustments to teacher evaluation and pay before readdressing the coronavirus relief fund and acknowledging the late Mayor John Grimes' vacancy.

Planning and Community Development Director Jack Meadows kicked off the meeting with a series of proposals to simplify the approvals process for new development projects. Among several minor adjustments in ordinance language, Meadows suggested the commissioners consider expanding the definition of "minor subdivisions," thereby allowing town staff to approve bigger development projects without involving the board.

"The critical change would be the number of lots that would allow it to be considered a minor subdivision versus a major subdivision," Meadows said.

As per town ordinance, town staff can approve construction of minor subdivisions — developments including four lots or fewer. Anything larger must go before the board of commissioners for approval. Meadows' proposal would change the defi-

inition of a minor subdivision from four lots to 12.

"This is somewhat of a significant change," he said.

The recommendation was based on considerable research into standard practices across similar towns in N.C., Meadows emphasized.

"We try to investigate all the communities in and around Siler City," he said, "the seven, eight, nine counties around us, and maybe a little further."

His findings yielded a precedent — 12 lots seemed to be about the standard tipping point. In fact, the number 12 appeared frequently as the maximum allowable size at which town staff can approve project development without board consent.

"So, we've continued to use this as we've updated planning ordinances," Meadows said, "and 12 or 13 is sort of the magic number the planning board chose."

Meadows, therefore, proposed a second amendment of town ordinance, permitting town staff to approve apartment complex projects of 12 units or fewer, and a third to expand the acreage maximum that town staff can approve for retail projects to 10 acres.

The board could not make an immediate decision. The proposals were part of a public hearing and required 24 hours for public comment. But recep-

tion was positive, and it seemed likely the commissioners would approve the ordinance amendments in their next meeting on Dec. 7.

"This is good," Commissioner Lewis Fadely said, "I think this will help with our housing problems."

Town employee salaries

Every year, Siler City town employees undergo a performance evaluation process that begins on March 1 and ends in the following February.

On Monday, Town Manager Roy Lynch introduced a proposal to amend and simplify the evaluation process. The changes would tighten the parameters under which town employees receive promotions and pay raises.

The measure was suggested in part to unburden supervisors of a complicated evaluation process, and to limit potentially reckless spending trends.

It was met with strong opinions.

"I personally think we need to rethink pay for performance," said Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Bray. "I think we've treated our employees very well in the last few years, and I know we want to keep good employees ... but can we sustain the amount of money we're giving these people, especially

with COVID, when people are out of work? It seems like the town is getting a lot of raises, and everybody else is not getting a job."

Fadely felt otherwise.

"Mayor Pro Tem, I hear your arguments," he said, "and while I respect them, I respectfully disagree with them ... I don't think we should perpetuate that thinking upon our employees."

Other commissioners expressed a mixture of feelings.

Whatever the board's ultimate decision, however, current pay raise percentages are unsustainable, Lynch pointed out. They cannot maintain the pay raise precedent currently in place. Under the town's current budgetary limits, something will eventually have to change.

The commissioners have until March 1, 2021 to resolve the issue and approve an evaluation system to go into effect with the 2021-2022 evaluation period.

CARES Act funding

Over the course of several meetings, the board of commissioners have deliberated over a spending plan for its more than \$380,000 in CARES Act coronavirus relief fund money.

In its previous meeting, the board expressed dissatisfaction with the portion allocated to

non-profit donation.

In response, Town Manager Roy Lynch shared a modified proposal on Monday that increased non-profit funding 19% from about \$54,000 to \$65,525.

Board members supported the adjustment and the revised spending plan was unanimously approved.

Mayor Grimes

For the first time since Mayor John Grimes' death on Oct. 20, the board discussed potential action to fill his vacancy.

"It's whatever you want to do, really," Town Attorney William Morgan told the board, "in whatever time-frame you want to do it."

Town law does not require the board to fill the mayor's seat as it would if a commissioner passed away. Even before Grimes' death, Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Bray was already presiding over board meetings as she still does.

The board tabled the discussion for further review in its Dec. 7 meeting. If board members choose not to officially replace Mayor Grimes, his position will remain vacant until the next election season in Nov. 2021.

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dlldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dlldolder.

CHATHAM CHAT | CHATHAM CONNECTING

Online nonprofit hub kicks off 'Holiday Wishes'

Chatham Connecting is an all-volunteer group which — through the chathamconnecting.org website — matches local organizations in need of volunteers with people who want to volunteer. This week, we speak with volunteers Dianne Birch and Maggie Pearson, both of whom live in Fearrington Village, about Chatham Connecting's "Holiday Wishes" program.

Give us a refresher on Chatham Connecting, and also share what kind of things have changed with this resource during the pandemic ...

Chatham Connecting is an online database of nonprofits and agencies that serve residents of Chatham County. More than 100 agencies have shared information on chathamconnecting.org about their programs to serve our community. People also can find volunteer opportunities, where to donate goods or funding, and what special events are planned by each agency.

During this pandemic, everyone has been challenged. The needs in our community have mushroomed as we face increased isolation, job layoffs, remote work and education, and increased illness. Many people need more help at this time.

Our nonprofit agencies have had to adapt their services, often moving to virtual interactions with their clients. Many volunteers are older and, with higher risk, have had to stop volunteering in person. Nonprofit agencies still seek volunteers, including teens and college students, and have adapted volunteer work to follow safety guidelines. Some volunteer work can be done from home.

Funding has declined for many agencies. They are working hard to provide services to our community safely while keeping staff employed. Some have had to reduce salaries in order to avoid layoffs. Fundraising events have been canceled. All of this underscores a greater need of donations of all kinds. Yet, the adaptability of our agencies is amazing. They have found creative ways to continue to serve and help others.

Let's focus now on the Holiday Wishes programs, which just went live. Holiday Wishes is a collection of



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Renowned Chatham County artist Siglinda Scarpa is among those registered on the Chatham Connecting site, seeking cat food donations for the Goat House Gallery.

Chatham-centered holiday programs serving local residents. What do we need to know about the programs now under the Holiday Wishes umbrella?

Each year Chatham Connecting features "Holiday Wishes" to directly link to the holiday programs that serve Chatham residents. It is the season of giving and many people want to know how to help others. This year our agencies have had to adapt their efforts to help, to follow health guidelines. There are holiday programs to provide gifts for children at Christmas and to provide food for families during the holidays. There are programs to help seniors who may be alone and need some cheer. The Chatham County Department of Social Services has a wonderful Christmas Wishes program for foster children and other children receiving social services. Christmas Dreams for adults in need also is from Social Services. The Chatham Council on Aging has a virtual Angel Tree this year to provide gifts for homebound seniors. Goathouse Refuge seeks gifts for kittens. A Helping Hand will help provide groceries and basic needs with gift cards. CORA is providing food for more people than ever, seeking donations to feed 1,000 families during the holidays.

More information about each of these programs and specific ways to give is on chathamconnecting.org

For nonprofits, there's a very useful "Resources for Agencies" tab. Can you talk



tion and "Resources for Agencies" can open that door.

Chatham Connecting also provides a way to browse for programs for those who want to give or volunteer. What else can we find on the site?

If users click on the "News" button they can find real-time information about special events from various agencies and non-profits. As Thanksgiving approaches, and then Christmas, there are many holiday listings that offer everything from Christmas trees to sports challenges to blood drives to food donation needs.

Chatham Connecting tries to be a clearinghouse with resources for our neighbors who need help as well as for agencies searching for information. As we say, Chatham Connecting brings together those who need help with those who can help.

More at www.chatham-connecting.org and info@chathamconnecting.org.

about putting that information together, and what's there?

Thank you for asking about that. This section of the website was created to provide links to Chatham

County as well as statewide information for use by donors and non-profit agencies. For example, a user can find links to sites that offer statistics about individual Chatham County townships as well as North Carolina sites offering labor and economic data. We hope our nonprofit agencies can use the links in "Re-

sources" to quickly get the data needed to apply for grants or describe needs in our community. Because we have a large and diverse county, using averages — such as for income or education or transportation — does not fully describe our county. Our non-profits need a solid understanding of how to find more informa-

CHINA TRADE

BY BUCK RYAN
Special to the
News + Record

As heated election rhetoric cast dark clouds over U.S.-China relations, a silver lining is emerging for North Carolina farmers.

If you have any doubts something historic is happening, get this: U.S. farmers are selling rice to China, the world's largest rice producer.

Nothing goes better with rice than beef and pork, and that's one reason North Carolina is one of the states positioned to cash in on Phase One of the U.S.-China trade deal, according to an international trade researcher, as control of the pandemic has strengthened China's economy.

"Definitely, there is already significant improvements in the exports and commodity prices, especially in recent months," said Wendong Zhang, an assistant professor in Iowa State University's Department of Economics.

Zhang's optimism was echoed in an interim government report on Phase One issued Oct. 23 by U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue.

"It is still to be seen whether they meet their target," the report said, "but particularly given the COVID-19 effects on the global economy, they are making substantial progress."

Also offering an optimistic outlook is Ryan Quarles, the president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

"2020 should have been the year of trade for agriculture, but it has been overshadowed by the pandemic," said Quarles, Kentucky's agriculture commissioner. "With that said, progress on China has been significant as they seem to be buying historic amounts of U.S. commodities of corn, soybeans, and — for the first time ever — rice."

The U.S. and China signed the deal, formally known as the Economic and Trade Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the People's Republic of China, last Jan. 15.

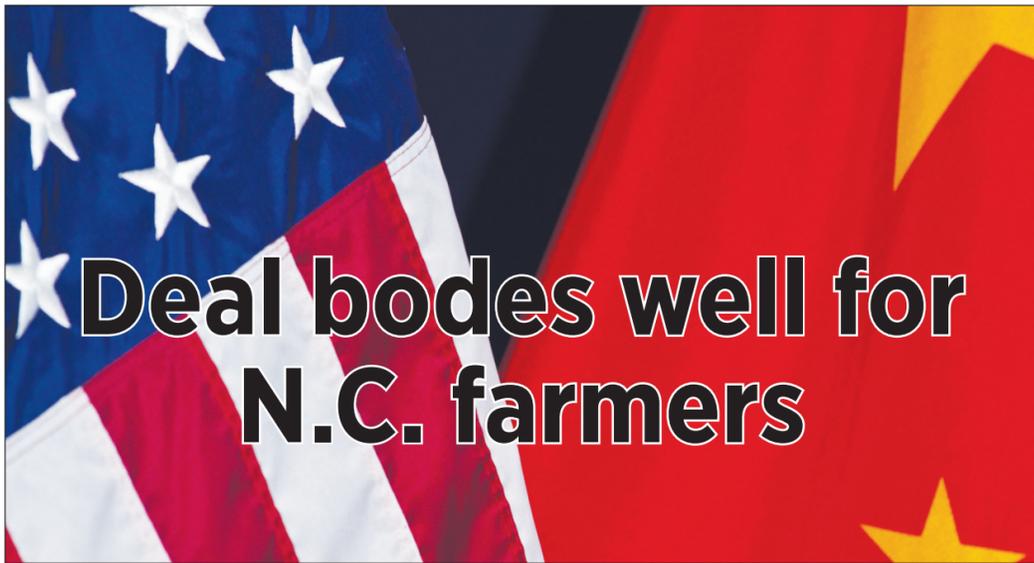
The deal addresses issues involving intellectual property, technology transfer, trade in food and agriculture products, financial services, macroeconomic policies and currency, and dispute resolution.

As for trade, Phase One covers manufacturing (70%) and agriculture (22%) as well as energy.

In the deal, China agreed to increase its purchases of U.S. goods and services by at least \$200 billion over the next two years with 2017 imports as the baseline.

The deal formally started on Feb. 14. As March 14 represented the first full month of the deal, the interim government report covers eight months of transactions. Phase One extends until Feb. 14, 2021.

Independent observers like Zhang include Chad P. Brown of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, an independent nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization based in Washington, D.C.



Although results so far are mixed, Brown noted on Oct. 27 that "some U.S. exports to China — including medical supplies, pork, and semiconductors — actually accelerated in 2020."

8 is a lucky number

In English the trade deal is 96 pages, including appendices, but the Chinese version is an 88-page document. Eight is a lucky number in China. Symbolically, the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympics in Beijing began at 8 minutes after 8 o'clock on the eighth day of the eighth month, August 2008.

Would U.S. farmers be so lucky? In February, Zhang wondered whether Phase One would be "a big win for farmers or too good to be true?"

After all the deal followed nearly two years of a U.S.-China trade war.

Zhang noted that in the deal China made "historic and bold promises" and committed to reduce and eliminate structural, non-tariff barriers to U.S. agriculture in China's market.

"This is especially significant politically and symbolically," Zhang said, "because this deal represents the first time both countries made moves to actually reduce the tariff rate rather than escalate the situation."

According to the interim government report, the agricultural categories included corn, soybeans, dairy products, poultry, pork, beef, seafood, rice, infant formula, pet food, animal feed and feed additives, products of agricultural biotechnology, and horticultural products, including fresh chipping potatoes, California nectarines and California Hass avocados and blueberries.

"Using the best methodology, we have calculated that China has purchased approximately 71% of its target for 2020," the interim government report said. "They have purchased \$23.6 billion in agricultural products so far this year. This is substantially more than the base year of 2017, and should end up being our best year ever in sales to China."

Zhang raised a cautionary note: "The key thing is that the 71% counts commitments that may not be realized soon." Likewise, an Oct. 23 Bloomberg report questioned the \$23 billion figure, saying "that amount includes both goods that have been shipped and also sold but not yet exported."

On Oct. 13 the General Administration of Customs in China announced the latest data for the first three quarters of 2020, noting that China imported 91.39 billion yuan (\$13.61 billion) of agricultural products from the U.S., an increase of 44.4%, according to a Xinhua (New China) news agency story from Beijing.

The government report said, "American farmers have never sold as much corn to China as they are selling right now ... As of October 8, 2020, total accumulated corn sales for 2020 are more than 12 times greater than those accumulated by the same date in 2017."

According to the government report, U.S. pork exports to China hit an all-time record in just the first five months of 2020, and as of October 8, total accumulated beef sales to China in 2020 were over 25 times greater than those accumulated over the same period in 2017.

Outstanding sales of corn to China are 8.7 million tons, an all-time high, the report said, while outstanding sales of soybeans to China stand at 17.4 million tons, double 2017 levels.

Asked which U.S. farmers are best positioned to cash in on Phase One targets, Zhang mentioned soybeans grown in the Midwest, where beef and pork are abundant; poultry in the Southeast, including North Carolina; and nuts and wine from California.

If there were any question that farmers live in a global economy, Zhang and his colleagues, Xi He and Dermot J. Hayes, put that to rest last month in a policy brief.

In the first six months of 2020, they noted, China imported 93% of its corn from Ukraine, 72% of its soybeans from Brazil, 57% of its pork from the European Union and 72% of its beef from Brazil, Australia and Argentina, combined.

Quick Quiz 1: What U.S. farm product cornered 97% of China's imports in June 2020?

Answer: Sorghum. "There is still a lot of room for U.S. corn and soybean exports to China in the following months," the policy brief added

optimistically.

Farmers hit on both sides

Feeling the brunt of a trade war beginning in 2018, weathering storms and natural disasters, then being hit with a pandemic, American farmers will take any good news they can get. The same is true in China.

Also beginning in 2018, farmers in China battled African Swine Fever, which wiped out an estimated 180 million hogs, or 40% of China's herd, last year, and heavy rains and floods in southern China have contributed to renewed outbreaks.

Wuhan, a trade hub for the distribution of products for many industries through water, land and air, was shut down for two months, two weeks and two days, ending April 8, 2020, as it became the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Quick Quiz 2: What country poses the greatest competition for U.S. farmers in meeting China's demand? And how might it have an edge?

Answer: Brazil. "Germany would have been," Zhang said, "but now they are also dealing with African Swine Fever, which gives the U.S. a rare opportunity for pork exports. Brazil is the biggest competitor because of strategic diversification by China and sharp depreciation of the Brazilian currency this year."

Brown at the Peterson Institute for International Economics added Canada to the list at the expense of Maine lobster farmers.

"Sales of the lobster industry remain at only 39% of its year-to-date target," he said on the PIIE website, adding that China lowered its tariffs on lobster from Canada and other countries while retaliating with higher tariffs on U.S. lobsters beginning in 2018.

Assessing progress on the Phase One deal is complicated, but the government report said the U.S. tally "corresponds with the similar numbers China keeps."

"Looking at simple import or export numbers alone is misleading because actual sales oftentimes lag exports by several months," the report said. "What we have done is combine actual export numbers with the sales indicated in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) weekly Export Sales Reports (adjusting to eliminate any double counting) then, since the weekly sales reports

only cover approximately 80% of U.S. agriculture sales, we have proportionally adjusted upward to cover products not included in the weekly reports."

The agreement does not clearly specify how progress should be calculated.

Seth Meyer, the associate director of the University of Missouri's Food & Agricultural Policy Research Institute, told Bloomberg: "The agreement explicitly calls for the goods to be imported into China, so on its face, compliance would seem to require not just an outstanding sale, but also delivery within the calendar year." It can take up to a month for goods to reach China.

According to the government report, another indicator of Phase One success is the number of facilities in the U.S. that can export agricultural goods to China. It calculates a 167% increase to more than 4,000 facilities from about 1,500 before the agreement.

Scorecard: Here are some highlights from the government report on progress over the first eight months of Phase One:

Soybeans

U.S. soybeans sales for marketing year 2021 are off to the strongest start in history. Exporters reported nearly 15.0 million tons in sales of U.S. soybeans to China since early August, valued near \$6.2 billion at current prices, and U.S. soybean exports to China are averaging over 1.1 million tons per week since the beginning of September.

Pork

U.S. pork and pork product exports to China stand at more than \$1.5 billion from January through August 2020. As of October 8, 2020, total accumulated pork sales to China in 2020 are eight times greater than those accumulated by the same date in 2017.

Sorghum

U.S. exports of sorghum to China from January through August 2020 totaled \$617 million compared with \$561 million for the same period in 2017, a 10% increase.

Poultry

U.S. farmers exported nearly \$436 million in poultry meat to China on pace to a record year.

Alfalfa

U.S. alfalfa hay exports to China totaled \$270 million from January through August 2020, up from \$236 million during the same period in 2017.

Corn

The last week of July U.S. corn exporters sold 1.94 million metric tons of corn to China, the largest daily sales total to China ever, and the third largest single U.S. corn sale on record.

Beef

Total 2020 exports of U.S. beef and beef products to China through August are up 118% compared with the same period in 2019 and are already more than triple the total for U.S. beef exports to China in all of 2017.

Nuts

U.S. pecan exports to China totaled \$23 million from January through August 2020, which represented an 84% increase from the same period last year. U.S. peanut exports to China totaled over \$168 million from

January through August 2020, compared with just \$30 million during the same period in 2017.

Pet food

U.S. pet food exports to China totaled more than \$20 million, nearly doubling the previous annual record.

Dairy

Exports of U.S. dairy products to China rose 38% from January through August 2020 compared with the same period in 2019.

The larger picture

Measuring results for U.S. farmers depends on where you begin to see the larger picture.

To counter the negative impact of tariffs in the trade war with China,

American farmers received tens of billions of dollars in federal subsidies in 2018, 2019 and 2020, according to Brown.

"It took until September for farm exports to reach pre-trade war levels again," he said on the PIIE website. "China will need to import 62% of the total farm commitment in October, November, and December if it is to meet the 2020 target."

The view from China

A planned six-month Phase One review by the two countries, originally scheduled for Aug. 15, was pushed back by the pandemic and turned into a phone call Tuesday morning, Beijing time, on Aug. 25 for the benefit of Chinese Vice Premier Liu He.

Speaking to their Chinese counterparts Monday with the 12-hour time difference was Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Lighthizer, who followed up with a statement from the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative:

"The parties addressed steps that China has taken to effectuate structural changes called for by the Agreement that will ensure greater protection for intellectual property rights, remove impediments to American companies in the areas of financial services and agriculture, and eliminate forced technology transfer."

The official Chinese government statement spoke more broadly about a "constructive dialogue on such issues as strengthening bilateral coordination of macroeconomic policies."

It added that both sides "agreed to create conditions and atmosphere to continue to promote the implementation of the first phase of the China-U.S. economic and trade agreement."

The dark clouds around U.S.-China relations cannot be darker than news coverage these days in China. That's why a bright China Daily story popped out Sept. 2 with the headline: "China stresses win-win for Chinese, U.S. firms."

Pang Chaoran, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation under China's Ministry of Commerce, struck an optimistic note about the future:

"With the help of Chinese government's effective measures to contain the pandemic, the pent-up consumption potential will be gradually released, and China will see rising demand for U.S. products. By then, we will also see a stable growth in China-U.S. trade."

Parting praise for farmers

"We are optimistic that the Chinese will meet their Phase One projections and this will lead to greater opportunities for the American farmer," said Quarles, elected in 2019 as president of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

"At the end of the day, all American agriculture wants is access to foreign markets as the U.S. farmer is part of the safest, most abundant food supply in the world."

About the author

Journalism professor Buck Ryan, director of the Citizen Kentucky Project on civic engagement at the University of Kentucky, is conducting a case study of the Chatham News + Record, which he considers a model community newspaper here and abroad.



This Community ROCKS!

Abundance NC is matching folks in need during this Covid-19 period with volunteers and locals that have time and resources. Here is a recap of what **YOU** have accomplished since the pandemic started:



To DONATE:



For help or to help:



- Approximately 100 able + generous community members have bought & delivered groceries and paid utility bills directly for about 100 families in need, sometimes repeatedly. ~\$20,000
- Abundance NC has raised \$16,000 and paid \$11,000 worth of utility bills.
- You have avoided evictions several times by pooling in money to cover unpaid rent due to lack of work or reduced hours due to the pandemic.
- You have avoided disconnection of utilities and helped people get their utilities reinstated for about half a dozen families.
- We have connected approximately 50 families with other community resources available.
- We have been able to cover Abundance NC staff time to run this Neighbor2Neighbor program!!

Thank YOU!

Much LOVE and BLESSINGS from the families YOU help! This is community resilience!!

She gets her hair from her mom.

Her eyes from her dad.

And her drugs from her home medicine cabinet.

53% of people who abuse prescription drugs get them from family or friends.¹ Prevent children, friends and relatives from abusing medication by securing your meds in safe places they cannot access.

BE AWARE. DON'T SHARE.®
LOCK YOUR MEDS.®
www.lockyourmeds.org/nc



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

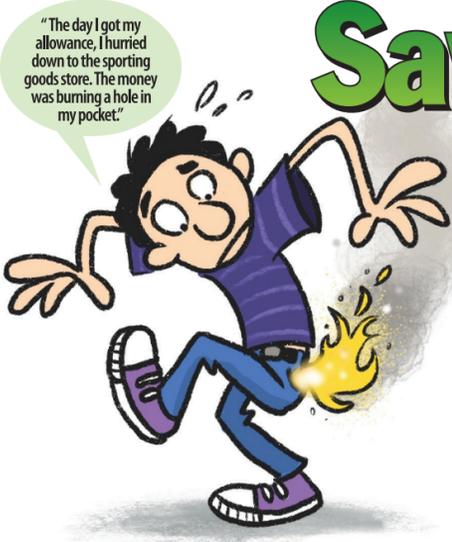
Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, opioid 319, Caregiver (Grant #19P2002237) and 319-R (Grant #19P2002287).
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.



Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
 Find Kid Scoop on Facebook
 © 2020 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 36, No. 50

Saving Money



"The day I got my allowance, I hurried down to the sporting goods store. The money was burning a hole in my pocket."

Is money burning a hole in your pocket?

This does not mean your pocket is on fire. It's an **idiom** that means that you have some money you are eager to spend.

We all enjoy spending money when we get it. But have you ever wanted to buy something, but had no money because you already had spent everything you had?

When we spend money quickly, we lose a chance to save for something we want or need in the future.

Another important idiom is, "A penny saved is a penny earned." This means that we shouldn't carelessly spend or waste money, but try to save it. That's because "Money doesn't grow on trees!"

One Year's Savings
 Imagine that you save the amount of money shown each month. How much will you have saved at the end of one year?

JAN.	FEB.	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
\$5.50	\$9.00	\$6.50	\$8.25	\$7.50	\$5.25
JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
\$6.00	\$9.75	\$9.75	\$8.00	\$5.75	\$9.50
TOTAL: \$ _____					

The Ten Year Plan
 Now imagine you saved that same amount money every year for 10 years. How much money would you have saved?

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____				

Very Interesting!

Putting money away in a piggy bank is a great way to start saving. But putting money into a savings account at a bank or credit union really pays off.



That is because a bank pays you **interest** on your money. That means you can earn money by letting your cash sit in your savings account.

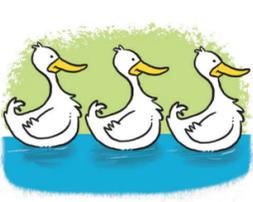
Idioms are Funny Phrases

An idiom is a common phrase which means something different from what the actual words say. Look at the common idioms below. Then, match each idiom with its meaning by writing the correct number next to that idiom's definition at right.

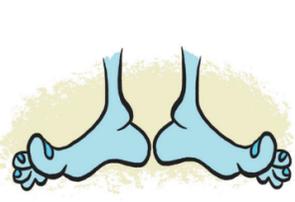
- ___ Nervous or reluctant
- ___ Don't be too sure
- ___ In an unfamiliar place
- ___ Something that's impossible
- ___ Be organized
- ___ Sick or unwell



1. That will happen when pigs fly.



2. Get your ducks in a row.



3. He's getting cold feet.



4. Don't count your chickens before they're hatched.



5. She's been feeling under the weather.



6. I felt like a fish out of water.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Understand the meaning of common idioms and their uses.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Circle the rows of numbers that add up to 12. Look up, down, sideways and diagonally.

3	1	9	4
3	6	1	2
3	3	1	4
3	2	5	2

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

ALLOWANCE POCKET SAVING COMMON IDIOM MONEY WASTE FUNNY ITEMS YEAR PLAN BANK HOLE CASH EARN

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

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

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

Kid Scoop Together: What would you say?

Each of the kids below has a question for you. Work with a family member to write how you would answer each of them.

I just got \$3 for walking my neighbor's dog! Want to get an ice cream?



I want to buy a new soccer ball, but it costs \$20 and I only have \$5. What should I do?



My grandma sent me \$10 for my birthday. Should I spend it or save it? Why?



Write On!

Borrow or Lend

Some say that borrowing or lending money to others causes problems. What do you think?

Chatham YMCA

- CHATHAM YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL

287 East Street, Suite 412, Pittsboro, NC 27312
 More Info: 919-545-9622

Chatham News + Record

Subscribe Today
 919-663-3232

Flooding, but no serious damage in Chatham

Remnants from Hurricane Eta brought a deluge of rain to North Carolina late last week, resulting in flash flooding into the weekend.

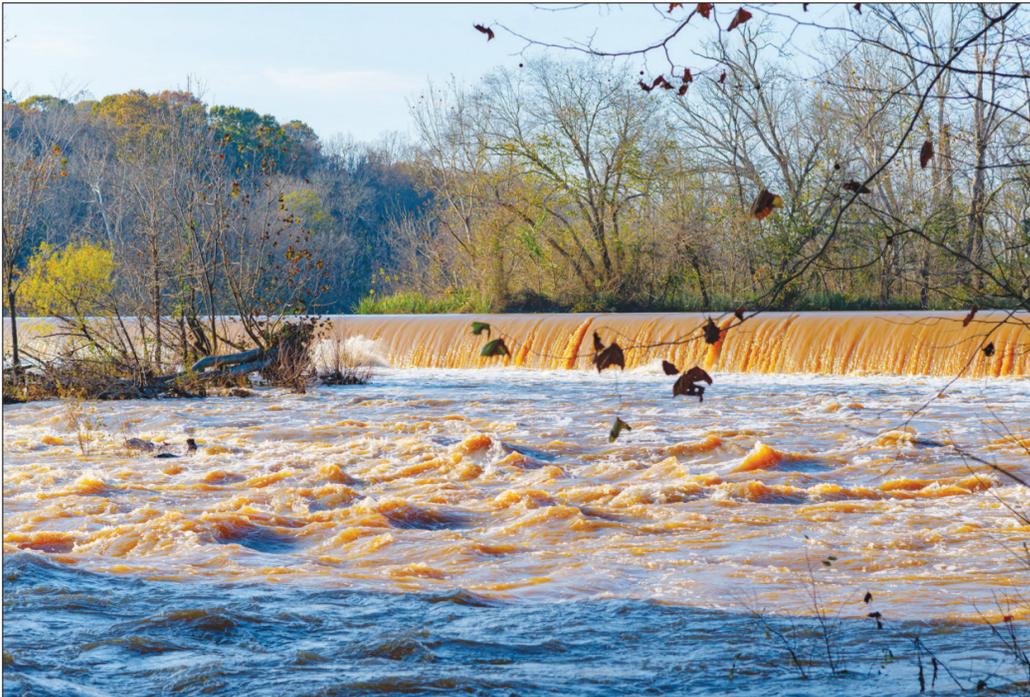
Chatham County Emergency Management Director Steve Newton told the News + Record that roads and parking lots were impacted by flash floods and poor drainage across the county. Among the areas hardest hit: the Rocky River, Tick Creek, and tributaries of Bear Creek; North Fir Avenue in Siler City; and Hwy. 902 at Chatham Central High School — just to name a

few of the places flooded for a period of several hours.

“After the rain worked its way into the rivers we experienced river flooding, which impacted roads in Asbury, Goldston, Gulf, and Moncure, and Alton King Road, Plank Road and N.C. 42 at Carbon-ton,” Newton said.

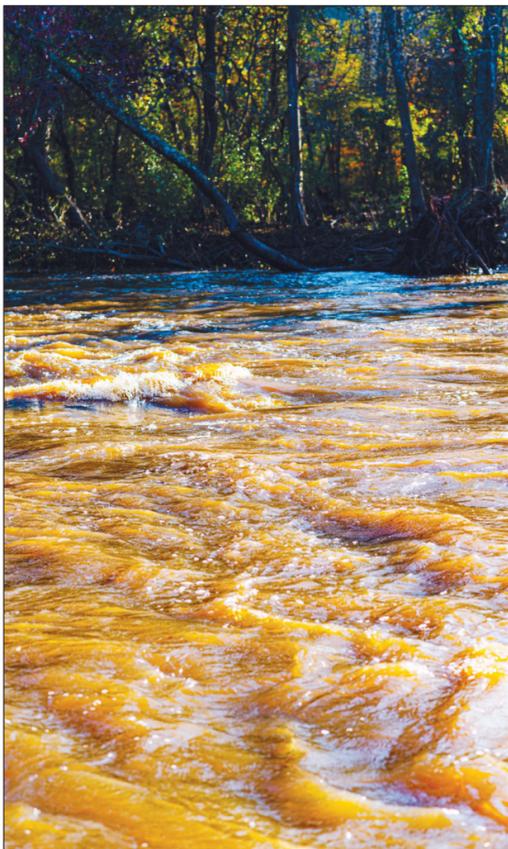
He wasn’t aware of any water rescues.

News + Record photographers Kim Hawks and Peyton Sickles went to locations within Chatham County to capture these photos of flooding and high water.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Flooding led to small cresting waves on the Haw River near Hwy 15-501 last week.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Other waves on the river were choppier.



As the floodwaters of the Deep River peaked, they nearly got to the level of Camelback Bridge.

Staff photo by Kim Hawks



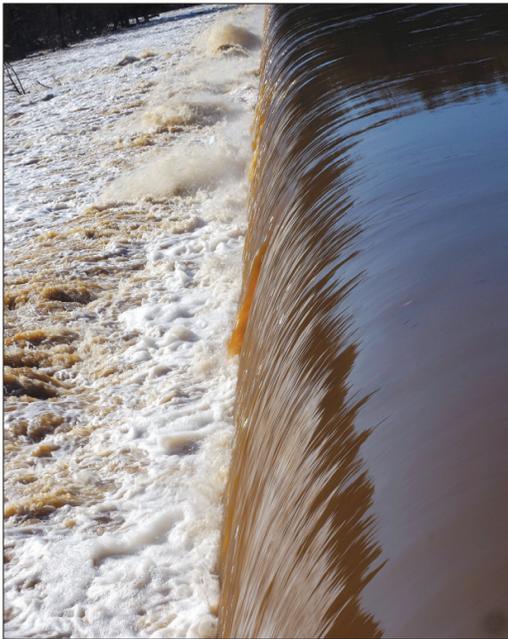
Staff photo by Kim Hawks

A view of the flooding from Camelback Bridge as waters crested on Saturday.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Fishermen watched the Haw River flooding throughout the afternoon.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Here’s the scene Saturday at the dam off U.S. Hwy. 15-501 at the Haw River.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

A flooded road near Deep River Park.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

A wave crests on the Haw River, off the hiking trail near Hwy 15-501.

Floodwaters at Deep River Park on Saturday.

Staff photo by Kim Hawks



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Flooded cornfields near the Deep River.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE FOR \$5 PER WEEK. CALL 919-663-3232

Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each

PLUS: Your ad is posted on chathamnewsrecord.com for FREE!

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - www.learn-aboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

OFFICE SPACE RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, Approximately 2,000 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 LWVODC: Advocates For Inclusive and Diverse Schools Reopening Task Force 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, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. \$486/mo., no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. A2,tfnc

FOR SALE

TOOL AND HOUSEHOLD items for sale, Saturday, November 21, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Home of the late Alton and Betty Dixon, 5040 Old 421 N., Siler City, N19,1tp

FOUR BURIAL PLOTS for sale, discounted price, beautiful location in Chatham Memorial Park, Siler City. Please email tloman@ardurra.com for more information. N19,26,D3,10,17,24,31,7tp

AUCTIONEERS

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal Property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, S3,tfnc

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, S3,tfnc

SERVICES

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, CNAs start at \$10.00/hr and up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call 919-799-7275 or visit 106 Village Lake Rd, Ste. A, Siler City for more info or to apply. N5,12,19,26,4tc

MOUNTAINE FARM OF SILER CITY is seeking an **OCCUPATIONAL NURSE**, Hours 4:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., to provide first aid and emergency care for occupational injuries and illness, performing required pre-employment physicals and drug screens and record-keeping and documentation of visits to health services. Seeking an LPN or RN with 2 years of practical experience preferably in a Manufacturing environment or Emergency Care. Knowledge of case management, workers' compensation and OSHA regulations preferred. Ability to work with limited supervision and high motivation. Ability to work well under pressure, meeting multiple and sometimes conflicting deadlines. Strong computer skills (MS Word, MS Excel and HRIS system), Bilingual English/Spanish preferred. - Job Type: Full-time. - Salary: \$18.00 to \$22.00/hour - https://mountainerejobs.com, Au6,tfnc

LEGALS

CHATHAM COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA NOTICE OF SERVICE Robert Terrell III hereby notifies General Shale Brick Inc., all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate: to notice by the adjustments of the court to determine the orders and judgment of claims preceding conditions. The mandated trial merits are fulfilled formulating issues as their prerogative writs. Robert Terrell III 126 West Presnell Street; Apt C Asheboro, North Carolina 27203 (910) 580-9261 Robertintel.o@gmail.com Self-Represented Jy2-D24,25tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20-E-512 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **EMMALINE ROSE DOHERTY**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 24th day of March, 2020, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 31st day of January, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 29th day of October, 2020. Pearl Doherty, Personal Representative c/o Larry H. Rocaora Attorney for the Estate McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, & Hinkle, PLLC

3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400 Durham, NC 27707 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 E 46 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **RICKY THOMAS BECK**, 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 January 29, 2021 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. The 26th day of October, 2020. Kathy Tavoada, Administrator 1105 George St Siler City, NC 27344 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 E 471 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **GEORGE PAIRE**, 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 January 29, 2021 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. The 26th day of October, 2020. Kathryn Cox, Executrix 711 Massey Rd Reidsville, NC 27320 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 C 530

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **RICHARD B. TABER AKA RICHARD BURT TABER**, 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 January 29, 2021 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. The 26th day of October, 2020. Jeffrey Scott Taber, Executor 495 Beaumont Lane Pittsboro, NC 27312 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 E 533 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JOSHUA GRANT GAINES**, 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 January 29, 2021 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. The 26th day of October, 2020. Connie Sue Gaines, Administrator 144 Windsor St PO Box 284 Goldston, NC 27252 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

19 E 564 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the

Estate of **WILLIAM NEWELL**, 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 **Members Trust Company, P.O. Box 27832, Raleigh, NC 27611** on or before January 29, 2021 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. The 26th day of October, 2020. Hemphill Gelder, PC. PO Box 31205 Raleigh, NC 27622 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 E 545 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **CARLYLE CASWELL LEWTER**, 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 February 5, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the

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.

said estate will please make immediate payment. The 5th day of November, 2020.

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@ECCMG.com
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

HUGE LIVE ON-SITE AUCTION

Personal Property of the Late Gerald Phillips and Marian Phillips (Moving to a Retirement Community) and Others

Saturday, November 21st at 9:00am • Preview Friday Noon till 6pm

1520 Siler City Glendon Rd., Siler City NC 27344

Directions: From the intersection of Hwy 64 and 421 in Siler City Take Hwy 64 heading West. Take a Left onto Raleigh St. Go through town. Raleigh St becomes Siler City Glendon Rd past Piggly Wiggly. Sale Site will be 2.5 Miles on the Right.















1971 Monte Carlo, 350 engine, 4 barrel Carb. Auto Trans. 102,645 Miles. VIN #1G357K104249. **From The Estate of the late James Prosser McMahon**

Tractors & Equipment
John Deere 2040 Tractor w/Loader. Hay Spear & Bucket. Ser#290309L
John Deere H Tractor, 1939 Serial #10123
Toro Groundsmaster 328-D Lawn Mower. Kubota Diesel Engine. 3632 Hrs
Craftsman Tiller
Screw Type Wood Splitter 3pt.
6" Rotary Cutter, Pull Type
Boom Sprayer
4" Aerator
3Pt Auger
6" Box Blade 3pt
Spring Tooth Cultivator 3pt
Home Made Aerator
Feed Trough
John Deere 330 Bailer
20 Disc Harrow 3pt
One Row Cultivator
Fence Roller
Triple Bottom Plow 3pt
4 Row Bottom Plow 3pt
Subsoiler 3pt
3pt Gravel Leveler (Home Made)
Past Driver 3pt
16 Dish Harrow Pull Type
28 Disc Harrow Pull Type Hydraulic
New Holland Model 55 Hay Rake
Plus More!

Guns
Marlin Model 336 Cal 30-30
Win Lever Action
Gold Trigger w/ Weaver Scope - Shoulder Strap #71 24154
Harrington & Richardson Model 565 "PAL" Bolt Action - Cal. 12 S-L-LR #5624
JC Higgins Model 66 - 12 Ga Auto Bolt Trigger/ Vent Rib w/ Adl Choke J8 No VS#
Stevens Model 87A Cal. 22 S-L-LR Auto
WM Parkhurst 12 Ga. Hammer Shot Gun D.B. #7515 Double Trigger
Early Fl. Cal. 22 Octagon Barrel Rifle Action No VS#
JC Higgins Model 583.18 / 16 Ga Bolt Action No VS#
Remington Speedmaster Model 552 Cal. 22 S-L-LR w/ BSA Scope #81575124

Furniture
3 Pc Bedroom Suite, Charmant. Kent-Coffey. (Queen)
4 Pc Twin Poster Bedroom Suite (2-Twin)
American Drew Dining Table w/8 Chairs and Table Cover
American Drew China Cabinet
American Drew Buffet
Amish Made Rocker
Luggage Stand
Large Silver & Gold Hall Mirror
Oak Ladies Secretary
5 Pc. King Bedroom Suite, by Unique Furniture Makers
Pair of Burgundy Swivel Rockers
2 Drawer Chest

End Table w/Storage
Metal Magazine Basket
Large TV Armoire
(2) La Z Boy Recliners
Plaid Sofa
Oak Drop Front Desk
Iron Hat/Coat Rack
Wooden Stool/Step Stool
Storage Bench, Brown Vinyl
Wooden Fern Stand
Sofa Table
Queen Anne End Table
Octagon End Table w/Storage
Mauve Colored Sofa
Cedar Side Table
Pair of Wingback Chairs
Boling Chair Co Arm Chair, Siler City NC
Cane Bottom Rocker
Vintage Church Pew
Vintage Furniture packed in the Barn!
NC Pottery
N.H Dixon 3 Gallon Crack (Has some damage)
Small Salt Glaze NC Pottery Jug
Pottery by Marian Phillips
Pottery Kiln, by Econo-Kiln, Model K14, 2640 Watts

China, Glass & Entertaining Pieces
Queen Anne, by Signature China:
8 Dinner Plates, 8 Fruit Bowls,
8 Cups/Saucers
8 Soup Bowls, 8 Salad Plates, 1 Gravy Boat,
1 Platter, 2 Oval Serving Bowls, Sugar
& Creamer Round Covered Vegetable Bowl
Cherish, by Finesse China 4 Place Setting
Lots of Serving and Entertaining China
and Table Settings
Doblets & Wine Glasses
Lace Table Cloths, Hand Made
Rooster Hot Plates
Kitchenware
Small Appliances
Pots & Pans
Canning Ware
Flatware
Artwork & Prints
Seasons Change, by William Mangum Signed 1/27/50
Botanics, Floral Print by Busler (2) Dec. 1970
Southern Comfort, by William Mangum. Signed 22/500
Wicker and Lace, by William Mangum. Signed 170/450
Church, Snow, bird Framed Print by Sam Timm 343/950
Sleepy Hollow, by William Mangum Signed 112/850
Evening's Peace, by William Mangum Signed 125/750
Gold Head Lighthouse, by William Mangum Signed 564/750
Flowering Dogwood by Davidson, 1959
Cardinal, by Guy Coteleach
Cow & Rooster Picture
Oriental Pictures
Oil On Canvas by Viletton P

Collectibles
Lots of Costume Jewelry
Standard Model A Talking Machine Record Player
Bonnie & Western Railway Print 1908-1930's
Whiskey Barrels
Progressive Farmer & Country Gentleman Magazines
German Steins
The World's Worst Cars Book
NC National Bank Coin Bank
John Deere ERTL Toy Tractors
Cast Iron John Deere Toy Tractor
John Deere Model H Die Cast Tractor
John Deere Model B Die Cast Tractor
Kodak Duaflex Camera
Nikon Cameras
Vintage GE Fan
Vintage Diehl Fan
Vintage Singer Sewing Machine
Egg Basket
Southern Living Cook Books 1979-2007
Croquet Set
Hanson Kitchen Scale
Wooden Pepsi Crate
Horse Drawn Plows
Single Trees
Old Doors
Vintage Hub Caps
Cedar Stumps
Household Decor
Brass Sand Dollar Book Ends
Lots of Nice Lamps
Woven Storage Containers
Elephant Plant Stand
Seth Thomas Anniversary Clock
Brass Pineapple Lamp
Large Gold Frame Mirror
Brass Lamps
Misc Items
Pig Cooker
Maytag Washer
Whirlpool Dryer
Butterfly House
Metal Magazine Basket
Samsung Flat Screen TV
Sylvania VCR/DVD Player
CAT Remote Control Bulldozer
Southern Supreme Cook Book
Lots of Nice Bath Towels
Shepherds Hooks
Flower pots
Patio Chairs
Tools, Shop Items, Etc
Duna Glo Propane Heater
Yard Tools
Pullman Shop Vac
20" Aluminum Extension Ladder
Stihl Weed Trimmer
BGD Hedge Trimmers
Shop Shelving
Shop Sink
Cyclone Fertilizer Spreader
Electric Pressure Washer, 1700PSI
Fiberglass 8' Ladder
Fence Chargers
PLUS LOTS MORE!!!

TERMS OF AUCTION: Announcements made day of sale take precedence over any printed material. All items sold in its "AS IS" condition. All descriptions of property are believed to be correct and have been conscientiously described by reliable sources. NOTE: Auctioneer reserves the right to add or delete items. METHODS OF PAYMENT: Cash or NC Checks. Out of State only accepted if approved by the Auctioneer. CREDIT CARDS: Visa, Master Card and Discover will be accepted. Note: NC Sales Tax will be charged at the required rate. Exempt certificates must be on file to waive tax.

13% BUYER'S PREMIUM
10% with Cash or Approved Check

Like us on Facebook

FOOD AVAILABLE

VISA, MasterCard, DISCOVER

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

SCOTT HARRIS • AUCTIONEER • BROKER
Firm #8086 • NCAL #8420 • NCBL #159569
1325 North Second Avenue • Siler City, NC 27344
Office (919) 742-3286 • Mobile (919) 498-4077 • Fax (919) 742-5305
Check our Web Site!!! www.JerryHarrisAuction.com Many More Auctions to Come

Career Opportunities Available

Visit www.chathamnc.org and click on Jobs

HIRING CNA's 3RD SHIFT

CALL: 919-542-3151
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm
for appointment to complete application and interview
Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

Brenda Dail, Executrix
c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC
PO Box 31205
Raleigh, NC 27622
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 E 384**

All persons having claims
against **RUTH ELLEN MILLER
LUCIER** deceased, late of Cha-

tham County, North Carolina,
are notified to exhibit the
same to the undersigned on or
before the 5th day of Febru-
ary, 2021, or this notice will
be pleaded in bar of recovery.
Debtors of the decedent are
asked to make immediate
payment.
This the 5th day of November,
2020.
Stanley Miller, Administrator
CTA
c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC

PO Box 31205
Raleigh, NC 27622
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 E 539**

All persons having claims
against **MILDRED K. JOHNSON**
deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 5th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 5th day of November,
2020.
Lisa Renee Williams, Executrix
26 Landrum Creek Dr
Siler City, NC 27344
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20-E-522**

All persons having claims
against **ELWARD ARNOLD HORTON**
of Chatham County, North
Carolina, who died on the 4th
day of August, 2020, are not-
ified to present them to Jeffrey
Wayne Horton, Executor of the
Estate of Elward Arnold Horton
in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney
for the Estate, at Higgins,
Frankstone, Graves & Morris,
P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite
203, Exchange West at Mead-
owmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-
8834 on or before February 11,
2021. 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
devises of Elward Arnold Hor-
ton. Those indebted to Elward
Arnold Horton are asked to
make prompt payment to the
Estate.
Dean P. Broz
Higgins, Frankstone, Graves &
Morris, P.A.
1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203
Exchange West at Meadowmont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

The undersigned, Jeanne
Wilson Vaughn, having qual-
ified as Administrator of the
Estate of **JIMMIE RAY WILSON**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, this is to notify all
persons having claims against
said estate to present them to
the undersigned on or before
the 13th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be plead
in bar of their recovery. All
persons indebted to said estate
will please make immediate
payment to the undersigned.
This 12th day of November,
2020.
Jeanne Wilson Vaughn, Admin-
istrator
238 Walter Wilson Road
Bear Creek, NC 27207
W. Ben Atwater, Jr., Attorney
at Law
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-2850
batwater@pinehurst.net
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

The undersigned, Jeanne Wil-
son Vaughn, having qualified
as Administrator of the Estate
of **HELEN EDWARDS WILSON**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, this is to notify all
persons having claims against
said estate to present them to
the undersigned on or before
the 13th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be plead
in bar of their recovery. All
persons indebted to said estate
will please make immediate

payment to the undersigned.
This 12th day of November,
2020.
Jeanne Wilson Vaughn, Admin-
istrator
238 Walter Wilson Road
Bear Creek, NC 27207
W. Ben Atwater, Jr., Attorney
at Law
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-2850
batwater@pinehurst.net
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 E 556**

All persons having claims
against **SHERWOOD E.
JOHNSON**, deceased, late
of Chatham County, North
Carolina, are notified to exhibit
the same to the undersigned
on or before the 12th day of
February, 2021, or this notice
will be pleaded in bar of recov-
ery. Debtors of the decedent
are asked to make immediate
payment.
This the 12th day of November,
2020.
Helon Joy Wellons, Executrix
400 Johnson Farm Rd
New Hill, NC 27562
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 E 452**

All persons having claims
against **ROBERT LEE GRAY**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 12th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 12th day of November,
2020.
Jackson C. Gray, Administrator
214 Stone St.
Siler City, NC 27344
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

All persons, firms and corpora-
tions having claims against the
Estate of **WOODARD W. HEATH**,
deceased, of Chatham County,
N.C., are notified to present the
same to the personal repre-
sentatives listed below on or
before February 12, 2021, or
this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. All debtors of
the said estate are asked to
make immediate payment.
This 12th day of November,
2020.
Co-Executors:
Louise Heath Cockrell,
Thomas W. Heath, III,
Woodard Heath Wilder
WHITE & ALLEN, P.A.
106 S. MCLEWEAN ST.
KINSTON, NC 28501
N12,N19,N26,D3,4t

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 E 548**

All persons having claims
against **MARGIE COUNCIL
LANEY**, deceased, late of Cha-
tham County, North Carolina,
are notified to exhibit the
same to the undersigned on
or before the 12th day of Febru-
ary, 2021, or this notice will
be pleaded in bar of recovery.
Debtors of the decedent are
asked to make immediate
payment.
This the 12th day of November,
2020.
Mark Laney, Executor
9120 White Eagle Court
Raleigh, NC 27617
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

The undersigned, having
qualified as Executor of the
Estate of **DOROTHY O'CONNELL**,
Deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, does
hereby notify all persons, firms
& 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 12th
day of February, 2021, or this
notice will be pleaded in bar of
their recovery. All persons in-
debted to the estate will please
make immediate payment.
This 12th day of November,
2020.
**MARK O'CONNELL, EXECUTOR
ESTATE OF DOROTHY O'CON-
NELL**
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle,
PLLC
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
06 E 311**

All persons having claims
against **CLATTIE JANE FAISON**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 19th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Mildred Brooks, Administrator
746 Stockyard Road
Staley, NC 27355
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 -E- 592**

All persons having claims
against **DELORES G. REGISTER**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 19th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Clara R. Robbins, Executrix
c/o Bagwell Holt Smith P.A.
111 Cloister Ct., STE 200
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 E 589**

The undersigned, having qual-
ified as Executor of the Estate
of **ROBERT L. GUNN**, deceased,
late of Chatham County, North
Carolina, notifies all persons,
firms and corporations having
claims against the estate of
said deceased to present them
to the undersigned at her
address, P.O. Box 880, Pitts-
boro, North Carolina, 27312,
on or before the 19th day of
February, 2021, or this Notice
will be pleaded in bar of their
recovery. All persons indebted
to said estate will please make
immediate payment.
This 13th day of November,
2020.
Rebekah McBane Gunn
P. O. Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
C/O GUNN & MESSICK, LLP
P. O. Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina
27312-0880
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

On November 16, 2020 the
Chatham County Board of
Commissioners adopted a
Schedule of Values, Standards
and Rules to be used for the
Chatham County 2021 Property

Tax Reappraisal.
Anyone choosing to challenge
the validity of these schedules,
standards and rules by appeal-
ing to the North Carolina Prop-
erty Tax Commission, must do
so in writing by December 16,
2020. The mailing address is NC
Property Tax Commission, PO
Box 871, Raleigh, NC 27602. For
more information, please con-
tact the Chatham County Tax
Department at 919-542-8211.
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 -E- 558**

All persons having claims
against **MICHAEL EDWARD POE**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 19th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Katie Lawrence Poe, Executrix
360 Bob Horton Rd
Apex, NC 27523
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 -E- 492**

All persons having claims
against **ARNOLD M. YOUNG**,
deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 19th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Elizabeth A. Wylie, Executrix
10 N Madison St
Walla Walla, Wa. 99362
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 -E- 568**

All persons having claims
against **VIRGINIA STUART CLO-
ER**, deceased, late of Chatham
County, North Carolina, are
notified to exhibit the same to
the undersigned on or before
the 19th day of February, 2021,
or this notice will be pleaded in
bar of recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make
immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Burton Wayne Stuart, Jr.,
Executor
81617 Alexander
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 -E- 527**

All persons having claims
against **HARVEY EDWARD
KENNEDY**, deceased, late
of Chatham County, North
Carolina, are notified to exhibit
the same to the undersigned
on or before the 19th day of
February, 2021, or this notice
will be pleaded in bar of recov-
ery. Debtors of the decedent
are asked to make immediate
payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Connie Grayce Kennedy Ship-
ping, Executrix
117 Bowden Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Kendall H Page, Attorney
210 N Columbia Street Chapel
Hill, NC 27514
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
20 -E- 521**

All persons having claims
against **DOROTHY MAE CHIL-
DRESS KENNEDY**, deceased,
late of Chatham County, North
Carolina, are notified to exhibit
the same to the undersigned
on or before the 19th day of
February, 2021, or this notice
will be pleaded in bar of recov-
ery. Debtors of the decedent
are asked to make immediate
payment.
This the 19th day of November,
2020.
Connie Grayce Kennedy Ship-
ping, Executrix
117 Bowden Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Kendall H Page, Attorney
210 N Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF
JUSTICE**

**DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO.: 19 JT 79
IN RE: "A.N."
DOB: 11/23/16
NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PRO-
CESS OF PUBLICATION**
TO: Biological father/Father of
the above female child born
November 23, 2016 at South-
eastern Regional Medical Cen-
ter in Lumberton, NC, Robeson
County to Tina Smith.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that
a Petition has been filed to
terminate your parental rights
to the above-referenced minor
child. You have forty days from
November 19, 2020, the first
date of publication of this No-
tice to respond to said Petition
by filing a written answer to
the petition with the Chatham
Clerk of Court. Your parental
rights to the juvenile will be
terminated upon failure to
answer the petition within the
time prescribed.
Any attorney appointed pre-
viously in an abuse, neglect or
dependency proceeding and
still representing you shall con-
tinue to represent you. If you
are indigent and not already
represented by an attorney,
you are entitled to a court-ap-
pointed attorney.
STEPHENSON & FLEMING, L.L.P.
BY: /s/ ANGENETTE STEPHEN-
SON,
Attorney for Petitioner,

Statewide Classified

YOUR AD can be promoted in multiple markets with one easy and affordable ad placement. Your ad will be published in 114 NC newspapers for only \$375. You reach 1.7 million readers with the North Carolina Statewide Classified Ad Network. Call this newspaper's classified department at 919-663-3232 or visit www.ncpress.com.

Online Only Auction, National Firearms Dealer Inventory Reduction Auction Session 2, Begins Closing: 12/4/20 at 2pm, Firearms Located at Ned's Pawn Shop in Rockingham, NC, ironhorseauction.com, 800.997.2248, NCAL 3936

Online Auction, Farm Equipment, Anson County NC, Begins Closing 12/2/20 at 2pm, Tractors, Planter, Bush Hog, Trucks and More, ironhorseauction.com, 910.997.2248, NCAL 3936

ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 855-667-9944

DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER? You may qualify for a substantial cash award - even with smoking history. NO obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help!! Call 24/7, 844-641-0129

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 877-553-0252 [Stappacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for [350+] procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. [Don't wait!] Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! Call 1-844-496-8601 for details. www.dental50plus.com/ncpress 6118-0219

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-649-1190

Guaranteed Life Insurance! (Ages 50 to 80). No medical exam. Affordable premiums never increase. Benefits never decrease. Policy will only be cancelled for non-payment. 833-380-1218

High-Speed Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-866-925-1505

FTCC. Fayetteville Technical Community College is now accepting applications for the following position: Webmaster. Systems Administrator. For detailed information and to apply, please visit our employment portal at: https://faytechcc.peopleadmin.com/ Human Resources Office Phone: (910) 678-7342 Internet: http://www.faytechcc.edu. An Equal Opportunity Employer

FTCC. Fayetteville Technical Community College is now accepting applications for the following positions: Chemistry Instructor (10 month) Biology Instructor - Anatomy & Physiology (10 month). Business Administration/General Business Instructor (10 month). Senior Secretary -Instructional Design/Quality Assurance & Center for Academic Excellence. Security Officer. Housekeeper. Part-time Financial Aid Technician. For detailed information and to apply, please visit our employment portal at: https://faytechcc.peopleadmin.com/ Human Resources Office Phone: (910) 678-7342. Internet: http://www.faytechcc.edu. An Equal Opportunity Employer

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! Call 833-990-0354.

(M-F 8am-6pm ET)

HEARING AIDS!! Buy one/ get one FREE! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 919-348-4840

COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS ON SITE provides FREE diagnosis REMOTELY 24/7 SERVICE DURING COVID19. No home visit necessary. \$40 OFF with coupon 86407! Restrictions apply. 844-401-1673

Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-855-393-3307 or visit www.walkintubquote.com/nc

DISH Network \$59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY \$19.95/month. Call Today for \$100 Gift Card! Best Value & Technology. FREE Installation. Call 1-877-920-7405 (some restrictions apply)

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 888-912-3728

Applying for Social Security Disability or Appealing a Denied Claim? Call Bill Gordon & Assoc., Social Security Disability Attorneys, 1-888-989-4947! FREE Consultations. Local Attorneys Nationwide [Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broward Co. FL (TX/NM Bar.)]

Donate your car, truck or van. Help veterans find jobs or start a business. Call Patriotic Hearts Foundation. Fast, FREE pick-up. Max tax-deduction. Operators are standing by! Call 1-866-955-1516

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 877-898-3840

Life Alert. 24/7. One press of a button sends help FAST! Medical, Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach a phone! FREE Brochure. CALL 844-902-2362

INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-844-348-2206 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-888-575-3018 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/press

A-1 DONATE YOUR CAR, RUNNING OR NOT!! FAST FREE PICKUP. Maximum tax deduction. Support United Breast Cancer Fdn programs. Your car donation could save a life. 888-641-9690

AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand. Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-855-548-9839

Wesley Financial Group, LLC. Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 844-213-6711

FARM & SHOP EQUIPMENT FOR SALE @ AUCTION

Online Bidding Ends Nov. 24th! Register to Bid @ RogersAuction.com

ROGERS AUCTIONEERS & REAL ESTATE

(919) 545-0412
RogersAuction.com
NCFL7360

CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
109 Conner Dr. Suite 208
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
Telephone: (919) 869-7795
N19,N26,D3,3tc

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Chatham County Schools Wastewater System Operations
Chatham County Schools is seeking individuals or firms to provide professional operational services for five schools with NC DEQ-permitted onsite wastewater systems. The complete RFQ document and details are located on the Chatham County Schools webpage at: <https://www.chatham.k12.nc.us/Page/22097>
Chatham County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
N19,1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Siler City Planning Department, in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program regulation 65.7(b)(1), hereby gives notice of the City's intent to revise the flood hazard information, generally located between S. 2nd Avenue and the intersection of Pony Farm Road and Moonrise Meadow Drive. Specifically, the flood hazard information will be revised along Loves Creek from a point approximately 600 feet SW of S. 2nd Avenue to a point approximately 339 feet SW of the intersection of Pony Farm Road and Moonrise Meadow Drive. As a result of the revision, the floodway will widen and narrow and be relocated based on actual stream location, the 1-percent-annual-chance water-surface elevations will increase and decrease, and the 1-percent annual chance floodplain will widen and narrow within the area of revision. Maps and detailed analysis of the revision can be reviewed by con-

tacting the Planning and Community Development Director at jmeadows@silercity.org or 919-742-2323.
N19,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Co-Executors for the Estate of **PEGGIE LEE BELL a/k/a PEGGIE LEE REDDING BELL**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, Koreen Bell Thomasson and Charles Arthur Bell, the undersigned do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Liipfert Law Group, PLLC, 380 Knollwood Street, Suite 210, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103, on or before February 17, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please

make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Koreen Bell Thomasson, Co-Executor
Charles Arthur Bell, Co-Executor
Estate of PEGGIE LEE BELL 20-E-595
Liipfert Law Group, PLLC
380 Knollwood Street, Suite 210
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

Sherry Jourden Blackmon, Administrator
174 Mountain Laurel
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 20-E-538
All persons having claims against **ROBERT W. DILKS AKA ROBERT WARREN DILKS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Edward Albert Freshwater, Executor
9 Southampton Place
Durham, NC 27705
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

The new mayor and the sea

I have to admit it, Gentle Reader, I deprive Petey and The Kid.



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

Fish just ain't my thing. I like tuna from a can, McDonald's Filet-O-Fish, and the occasional clam strip. But the other members of the Matthews Family Band love just about anything from fresh or saltwater. The Kid was eating sushi at age 6.

And seafood can be tricky to buy, prepare, and cook. It goes wonky quickly and easily. Frozen fish is sometimes treated with scary chemicals. Frozen shellfish doesn't always come from pristine waters, and what they eat is what they are — good or bad.

So... This is why other than

the occasional new twist on Charlie Tuna (try mixing in sunflower seeds), you won't get seafood recipes from me.

But I understand that people love seafood. And, I know that some of you are not afraid to cook fish and would appreciate a new recipe for it every now and then.

Thus, like my own family who must leave home to get their own cravings met, to offer you some good recipes, I must roam far afield.

I am endlessly fascinated by others' edible lives. In the before times, I could sit for hours in the snack bar of Costco, watching and judging what folks have purchased. In the grocery store, when there is a long wait at the checkout, instead of perusing the tabloids to see who's dating who and whose baby Jennifer Aniston is having this week, I study the carts of fellow shoppers.

When I get the ear of interesting people, I love to find out the kind of things they cook and eat.

Recently, I had a conversation with Mary-Ann Baldwin, the powerhouse female elected mayor of Raleigh a year ago, just months before we all encountered the "most interesting" year in modern

memory. We talked food, which was probably a relief from the non-stop challenges she's been dealing with in her work of shepherding N.C.'s capital city in 2020.

Festa dei sette pesci, the Feast of the Seven Fishes, is an Italian-American tradition going back to Southern Italian immigrants to New York in the 1800s. It harkens back to the Italian tradition of "The Vigil," waiting, on Christmas Eve, for the feast of the birth of baby Jesus. The day before feast days are normally meatless — thus the fish-centric menus.

In the Catholic church, fasting and abstinence play a large part. Fasting is refraining from all but water and medicine, and abstinence refers to the type of food one mustn't eat. The money saved from this observance is supposed to be given to the poor.

Mayor Mary-Ann and I discussed holiday entertaining, and she described the kind of event she'd have, "If I were hosting ... over the Christmas holiday, I would build it around the Italian tradition of 'seven fishes,' something our family celebrated over many years on Christmas Eve — until my daughter married her



Submitted photo

Raleigh Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin with a finished dish in her kitchen.

sweet husband who is allergic to shellfish! But I did it a different way. I incorporated seven fishes into a dish I love. Cioppino."

So, Gentle Reader, thanks to Mayor Baldwin,

I finally have a fish dish to offer. And one I'm told, very popular among fish-o-philes.

Please enjoy. "This soup dates back to San Francisco's Italian and Portuguese immi-

grants," the mayor says. "I adapted it from several recipes. Make sure you have great bread for dipping. Here we go."

Thanks for your time. Contact me at debbie@bullcity.mom.

1 chopped yellow pepper
1 onion, quartered
6 garlic cloves, chopped
3 T olive oil
1 28-ounce can of crushed tomatoes
1 cup of full-bodied wine (I use Zinfandel)

2 8-oz. bottles of clam juice
1 cup of white wine
The following spices:
1 teaspoon fennel seeds
2 bay leaves

Cioppino
1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
1 teaspoon oregano
For the seafood, I use:
Sea scallops
Halibut
Peeled and deveined shrimp

Instructions:
Chop onion and garlic and sauce in a big pot with olive oil. Add the pepper and spices. Cook about five minutes until veggies start to soften. Add tomatoes, wine, and 1 bottle of clam juice, and bring to medium-high heat until sauce starts bubbling.
In a separate pan, add clam juice and 1 cup of white wine. Add mussels and clams and bring to a boil. Turn off and let sit for five minutes.
In the meantime, add remaining seafood to sauce and cook for about seven minutes. Pick out all clams and mussels that have opened and add to stew. Let sit for about 10 minutes to let the flavors mix. Serve in large bowls and make sure to put out bowls for the shells.
For many years, I started off a holiday event with this recipe, called Fantasy Shrimp. It was a huge favorite. Simple to make. Also, a great thing to bring to a potluck.

Fantasy Shrimp Appetizer
1 lb. cooked and shelled shrimp, chopped
1 cup mayonnaise
3/4 cup shredded Swiss cheese
1/2 cup shredded pepper jack cheese
1/4 cup chopped scallions
Mix ingredients (except rye toast). Refrigerate for two hours. Spoon mix on toasts and place on lightly greased baking sheet. Bake at 450 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Place on platter and serve. Use some dill on the platter to add color.

DON'T JUST KINDA TV. DIRECTV.

EVERY LIVE GAME EVERY SUNDAY

Out-of-market games only. ONLY ON DIRECTV.

Get the 2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET season included at no extra cost.

*\$19.95 ACTIVATION, EARLY TERMINATION FEE OF \$30/MO. FOR EACH MONTH REMAINING ON AGMT. EQUIPMENT NON-RETURN & ADD'L FEES APPLY. Price incl. CHOICE All Included Pkg., monthly service and equip. fees for 1 HD DVR in-use or \$10/mo. setup fee & paperless bill and \$30/mo. bundle discount for up to 12 lines each. Pay \$29.99/mo. + taxes until discount starts in 3 mos. New approved residential customers only. Equipment lease req'd. Credit card req'd. (except MA & PA). Best's offer.

Don't settle for cable. Call now!

855-653-2438

©2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET OFFER. Subject to change. Package consists of all live out-of-market NFL games (based on customer's service address) broadcast on FOX and CBS. However, games broadcast by your local FOX or CBS affiliate will not be available in NFL SUNDAY TICKET. Games available via remote viewing based on device location. Other conditions apply. 2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET regular full-season retail price is \$299.94. 2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET MAX regular full-season retail price is \$395.94. Customers activating CHOICE Package or above or MAS ULTRA Package or above will be eligible to receive the 2020 season of NFL SUNDAY TICKET MAX at no additional cost. NFL SUNDAY TICKET subscription will not automatically renew. Only one game may be accessed remotely at any given time. Compatible device/operating system required for online/mobile access. Additional data charges may apply. Visit directv.com/nfl for a list of compatible devices/system requirements. For full Max Channel and interactive functionality, HD equipment model HFR-21 or later is required. NFL, the NFL Shield design and the NFL SUNDAY TICKET name and logo are registered trademarks of the NFL and its affiliated leagues. NFL team names and uniform designs are registered trademarks of the teams indicated. ©2020 AT&T Intellectual Property. All Rights Reserved. AT&T, Globe logo, DIRECTV, and all other DIRECTV marks contained herein are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

Dental Insurance

Get the dental care you deserve with dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It can help cover the services you're most likely to use -

Cleanings

X-rays

Fillings

Crowns

Dentures

- ◆ Preventive care starts right away
- ◆ Helps cover over 350 services
- ◆ Go to any dentist you want - but save more with one in our network
- ◆ No deductible, no annual maximum

Call today for all the details.

844-903-1784

Call now to get this FREE Information Kit!

dental50plus.com/chatham

Here's the information you requested on Dental Insurance

Product not available in all states. Includes the Participating Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY, call 1-888-799-4433 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250C; PA: C250D); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TX: P150TX). Rider kinds B43B/B43Z.

SUBSCRIBE

www.chathamnewsrecord.com