

# Chatham News + Record

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## 'IT WAS VERY NEEDED'



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

**Franklin Gomez Flores, Chatham County commissioner for District 5, receives his first dose of Moderna vaccine at St. Julia Catholic Church. Nurse Evi Bonilla administers the shot.**

## Chatham health department vaccinates hundreds of Hispanic residents at St. Julia's

**BY VICTORIA JOHNSON**  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Just off U.S. Hwy. 64 on Harold Hart Road last Saturday, a line of cars began to wrap around St. Julia's Catholic Church shortly after 10 a.m. There, a few yards behind the church, hundreds of Hispanic residents cracked open their windows, rolled up their sleeves and received their first dose of protection against COVID-19.

In total, the drive-thru vaccination clinic — spearheaded by the Chatham County Public Health Department

and the Hispanic Liaison — administered 280 first doses of the Moderna vaccine. Leading up to the event, they'd originally scheduled 320 appointments.

"We had some no-shows and were able to vaccinate some later in the day who were not on the schedule," said Mike Zelek, Chatham's public health director. "No-shows aren't uncommon, and we are grateful to all who came and the many who made the event successful."

And the first person to get a shot there Saturday morning?

See **VACCINE**, page A3

## WHAT ABOUT RECOVERY?

## As pandemic wanes, local economist examines long-term ramifications

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**  
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — With state-imposed restrictions lifting, vaccine distribution hastening and coronavirus deaths lessening, local economies seem poised for speedy recovery.

Expert forecasts depict new growth and expansion, especially in budding areas like N.C.'s Triangle. But colossal federal spending — while instrumental in reviving the shackled economy — may have compromised some future prospects.

"But I am optimistic," said economist Dr. Mike Walden, keynote speaker at the Chapel Hill Chamber of Commerce 2021 Critical Issues Series: Economic Forum last Thursday.

"I do think that we're coming back," he said. Walden is a William Neal Reynolds distinguished professor and extension economist at North Carolina State University where he has worked for more than four decades. He is also a frequent contributor to the News + Record.

"By the third quarter of this year," Walden said, "I'm predicting that we will fully be back in terms of our aggregate production in the economy in North Carolina."

Still, a "fully" recovered economy may represent a complete return to normalcy. Throughout his career, Walden says, he's lived through and studied many economic recessions. But 2020's belongs in a category of its own.

"This has not been a recession where every

See **RECOVERY**, page A6

## IN THE KNOW

Easter: Carl Thompson Jr. on the need for hope, peace. **PAGE A4**

## Chatham reacts to Plan A for middle, high schoolers

**BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN**  
News + Record Staff

In the last month, shifting state and federal COVID-19 guidance on school reopening led to a whirlwind of district decisions increasing in-person instruction — including in Chatham.

While students, parents and school staff alike have long expressed a desire to safely return to the classroom, many hold mixed views on the latest decision to

return middle and high schoolers to school under Plan A.

The Chatham County Schools Board of Education voted on March 22 to send 4th-5th graders back a week earlier than previously planned on April 12 — along with Pre-K to 3rd students — in order to comply with Senate Bill 220's deadline. Three days later, the board also voted on March 25 to send 6th-12th graders back April 19.

"I just want to make sure we do it right," board chairperson Gary

Leonard said at that meeting.

Over the last year, the board has consistently faced criticism from community members with conflicting opinions about reopening — a reality often acknowledged in the board's discussions.

For many parents, some outspoken advocates of increasing in-person learning, the return to in-person instruction has not happened quickly enough.

See **PLAN A**, page A7

## THREE MONTHS AFTER CAPITOL RIOT

## Chatham residents reflect on meaning of patriotism

**BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN**  
News + Record Staff

When Pittsboro resident Monnda Welch heard about the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol, she was angry.

Like many people, she was angry to see violence committed in the name of a false cause and a lack of preparedness by law officials to respond.

What made her angrier still was the slew of American flags and patriotic messages at the Capitol riot. She served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam era. So had her husband, Richard Brothers, who died in 1992 from complications wrought by Agent Orange exposure. For Welch, patriotism is deeply important — but it's not what she saw displayed in front of the Capitol.

"It's been hijacked," she said. "The patriotism that we had for the last four years was toxic."

Welch entered the military when she was 18 in 1966, and was honorably discharged the next year when she got pregnant. During that time, she was frequently one of the only women in many spaces — something she said took "some strong backbone." Her husband remained in the service; the couple paid for schooling and their house with military benefits. Her daughter, Anna Brothers, retired from the U.S. Coast Guard last June after serving for 20 years.

A few months have passed since the Jan. 6 riot, but Welch takes seriously what she sees as a distortion of patriotism.

"If you see a flag flying now, it represents to some folks' minds, Christian conservatives who are also patriots," Welch said. "That offends me a lot, because I'm not any of those. And I certainly do have the right to fly my flag."

### 'A black eye to the sense of patriotism'

Nearly one in five people



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**'If you see a flag flying now, it represents to some folks' minds, Christian conservatives who are also patriots,' said Pittsboro resident and veteran Monnda Welch. 'That offends me a lot, because I'm not any of those. And I certainly do have the right to fly my flag.'**

charged over their alleged involvement in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot has some military history, according to a Jan. 21 analysis by NPR.

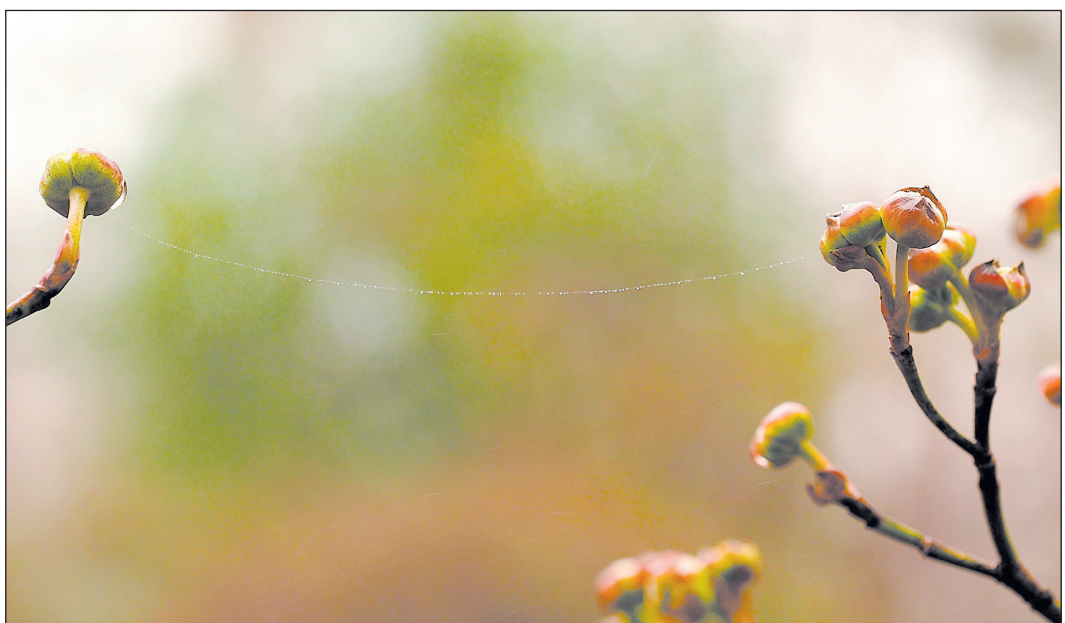
Welch referenced that report, and said it represented a hijack of "healthy" patriotism. To her, healthy patriotism means not confusing pride in a country with pride in its government.

"There's a difference," she said.

"This country is very beautiful. We all do some really hellacious things in and to it."

In Chatham, many residents — veterans and civilians alike — have supported what took place Jan. 6, and the events and narrative of patriotism that led up to it. Still, local Republican and Democratic leaders

See **RIOT**, page A6



## Signs of spring

The lone strand of a spider's web, bathed in the morning dew, connects two blooms of a dogwood tree. Spring's arrival heralds Easter on Sunday and the color of the season.

Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Vaccine eligibility opens to all N.C. adults on April 7. **PAGE A9**

You've gotten your reappraisal notice. What's next? **PAGE B5**

Budd visits Siler City to pay tribute to the late John Grimes. **PAGE B6**





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Events are subject to change based on closures related to the coronavirus pandemic. Verify with organizers prior to events.

- **The 2021 Spring Chicken Festival**, scheduled for May, has been cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **The Friends of the Chatham Community Library** has cancelled its Spring Book Sale due to the continued lockdown of government offices and businesses, ordered by federal, state, and local government. More information can be found on the website: friendscl.org.
- **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

- **The Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet

at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 5, at city hall via Zoom.

## THURSDAY

- **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, **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.

## OTHER UPCOMING:

- **Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting** will be held Thursday, April 8 at 7 pm. Anyone who would like to attend, please reach out to Brady at (919) 545-8440 as in-person seating is limited due to COVID-19 safety guidelines. We will also allow interested guests to call in via a provided

teleconference number I can give them.

- **The League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham counties** invites the community to a lecture series on "The State of Our Democracy". Join us as six distinguished scholars from local universities explore the roots of our government, past and present pressures on our system and the resiliency of our democracy. Register below for one or more events by clicking on each title, they are free and open to the public. Wednesday April 7, 6:30-8 p.m., American Democracy – Neither Fragile nor Robust – But the System Held; Frank Rogers, Meredith College; and Adjunct Professor History and Political Science.
- Tuesday April 13, 6:30-8 p.m., Partisan Evolution: Race, Gender and American Politics, Suzanne Globetti, UNC – Chapel Hill, Associate Professor of Political Science.

The **Chatham Historical Museum** is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Masks required and groups will be distanced. Adult and kid friendly; no admission fee. Our 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. More info: <https://chathamhistory.org>

- **Second Bloom Thrift Store is now open** in our new location at the Food Lion Shopping Center. Our new store hours will be from Tuesday until Saturday 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Masks are required and hand sanitizer is also available. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.
- 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](http://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 #JMACoronaConcert program.
- **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](http://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 CCCC Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit [www.bstroop93.org](http://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.

# Eating at my desk



**DEBBIE MATTHEWS**  
The Curious Cook

My boss at the dealership is the sales manager. His name is Andy. He is kind, funny, and very supportive of this complete car-selling neophyte. Every day his patience surprises me. I get nervous and excited, get ahead of myself and my knowledge, leave a path of procedural carnage and chaos of policy in my wake. He cleans up after me, corrects my errors, and gently points out where I've gone wrong and lessons I should remember. There is one area though, in which we have common ground, and meet as equals: our devotion to that classic, singular sandwich, the peanut butter and jelly. And we share a firm commitment to the vertical, rather than diagonal cleaving of those sandwiches. A PBJ

may be a majestic marvel of food, but it is also ubiquitously both humble and homey, thus the honest, fitting rectangulation of slice. Our approach, though, couldn't be more different. Andy has a time-tested recipe that has developed over years of delicious trial and error. It never varies, because to his palate, he has discovered the best, and only, peanut butter and jelly sandwich. On the other hand, I am an unabashed, uber enthusiastic dabbler. I construct my PBJ's according to whim. Am I feeling sweet yet spicy? My sandwich is sun butter (made from sunflower seeds) and homemade root beer jelly. Have I had a bad day need a culinary hug? Plain apple jelly and the best and creamiest peanut butter (IMHO), Reese's. Sometimes I want something light-colored, so I turn to peach or apricot. Occasionally I feel like the adventure of travel and use marionberry from the great Northwest,

or maybe lingonberry from Sweden. Andy generously offered me half of his sandwich to experience, "The ultimate peanut butter and jelly." When I told him it was pretty good, he looked as stricken as if I had questioned his parentage and kicked his puppy. "I thought we were friends..." I'm pretty sure he was joking. All of this brown-bag angst made me think about lunching at work. The dealership has a two-tiered generational staff. There are young guys, in their early to late 20s. These guys haven't yet discovered budgeting or their mortality. So, almost to a man (and they are all male), they go for fast food. The dealership is located within a nexus of drive-through, take-out, and delivery options. These sweet dumb guys have apps from most of these joints on most of their phones. The more mature members of the staff have learned the wisdom and

efficacy of bringing something from home. It's usually healthier, cheaper, and made completely to the taste of the diner. My watermelon-decorated lunch box has been in almost constant use. I strive for big flavor and healthy. I want to look forward to unzipping that bag every day. Peanut butter and jelly has made numerous appearances, but the sandwich has been different every time. Noosa yogurt cups and crispy graham crackers for dipping are also frequent meals. But lately, I've been bringing a sandwich that's so fancy it demands to be sliced on the diagonal. But it's really easy and very inexpensive (under \$4 for the whole thing inexpensive), because the amount of imported, gourmet ingredients is practically minuscule. Whether you venture out into the world each day or WFH, make a lunch that makes you happy. Treat yo' self. Thanks for your time. Contact me at [dm@bullcitymom.com](mailto:dm@bullcitymom.com).



Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Some of the ingredients for root beer jelly.

# READ IT ONLINE

**Chatham County Council on Aging WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT!**

*Q: On what date did the Colonial Assembly establish Chatham County?*

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

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**Andy's Ultimate PBJ**

Skippy Natural Chunky Peanut Butter	Smuckers Red Raspberry Jam
Cinnamon bread	

Spread peanut butter and jelly onto untoasted bread, with a 2:1 ratio of peanut butter to jelly. Cut into two rectangles. Claim to have made the world's best PBJ and then eat it.

**Root Beer Jelly**

1/2 bottle or can of your favorite root beer	1 teaspoon root beer concentrate	1 teaspoon salt
18-ounce jar of apple jelly	1 teaspoon vanilla extract	

Put the root beer in a heavy pot and cook on a boil until it's thickened to a syrupy consistency. Add jelly and cook until it's smooth and thickened slightly (it will get thicker as it cools). Stir in concentrate, vanilla and salt. Take off heat and let sit until it's cool enough to pour into a jar. Keep refrigerated.

\*Makes a delicious ham glaze and adds unexpected flavor to barbecue sauce.

**Debbie's Fancy Ham Sammich**

Whole grain bread (I like Sarah Lee Delightful)	thin you can see through it, literally.	French salted butter
Imported Tyrolian Speck or Italian Prosciutto sliced so very thinly	Lacy Swiss cheese, also sliced	Tomato marmalade (I love Trader Joe's)

Spread an incredibly thin layer of butter on both slices of bread. On one side spread about 1-1/2 teaspoon tomato jam onto butter on one side only. Drape 2-3 slices of ham on one slice. Cover with one slice of cheese. Cover with the other slice of bread. Cut into two triangles. Wrap snugly in parchment then plastic wrap. Keep refrigerated until eating — you want the butter firm.

## Chatham News + Record

[www.chathamnewsrecord.com](http://www.chathamnewsrecord.com)

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# VACCINE

Continued from page A1

Franklin Gomez Flores, Chatham's first Latino commissioner.

"To me, it (the vaccine) brings hope," he told the News + Record immediately after being administered the vaccination. "A lot with what's going on, with what my family's gone through, what the community has gone through, it's hope to actually get things going back to how they were before COVID."

Originally, Gomez Flores said he'd planned to wait to get his shot "to allow enough vaccines (to be) available for the public." Then he realized just how many people, particularly Latinos, still worried about getting a shot.

"That's the reason I took it," he said, adding, "I wanted to get vaccinated as soon as possible because I realized that a lot of my community members weren't getting the shot. And so, I shifted my mentality to try to encourage others to do so."

Health department staff and volunteers set up four stations around the church. Manned by bilingual volunteers primarily from the Hispanic Liaison, the first two stations checked people in, confirmed their appointments and checked over their forms.

Behind the church, nurses approached car after car, administering the shots at a third station as cumbia music blared in the background from nearby speakers. Near the exit, staff set up a fourth station to monitor those vaccinated for any allergic reactions.

Volunteers came from a broad swath of organizations and local government commissions, including the Chatham County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Chatham Literacy and the county's board of health. Gomez Flores volunteered after receiving his first shot as well, and most, if not all, of the Hispanic Liaison's staff helped out with the event.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

**The Hispanic Liaison partnered with the Chatham County Public Health Department to carry out a mass vaccination clinic at St. Julia Catholic Church for the Hispanic community. Staff volunteered last Saturday by helping with check-ins and form reviews.**

"(They're) a lot of our clients, and that way they can see our faces," said the Liaison's Hannia Benitez, deputy director for the organization's Lee County office. "I go there and be serious, but at the same time, I'm all over the place, like, 'Hey!' I know that's what I would want if I'm nervous."

After all, reassuring people, she said — especially those who "taking that step of faith in not only the agency, but the vaccine" — counts among one of the Liaison's biggest goals for the St. Julia clinic.

"Here, it's not only, like, 'Hey, let's get the numbers,'" she said. "It's the experience from the moment that they register their appointment, from the moment that they go through the whole process, and they just feel reassured that they're going to be OK."

It's also about bringing a mass clinic directly to the underserved members of the community, she added.

"We're just excited to have this event for our community," Benitez said. "Hopefully, this is a stepping stone for other

people to also get their vaccine."



**'It was very, very strategic'**

Preparations for the clinic began about several weeks ago in early to mid-March, according to organizers.

On March 12, StarMed Healthcare took over the health department's mass vaccination operations at the Ag Center in Pittsboro, Zelek said, granting the CCPHD "much needed capacity" to carry out more targeted outreach to the county's minority communities.

They also requested and received 300 additional "equity doses" from the state Dept. of Health and Human Services, a three-week allocation Zelek said they've now exceeded.

"We know that extra effort like this can really make a difference, especially when we're talking about populations that may face barriers," he said, "and I think the Hispanic/Latinx population is one, whether it's language or connectivity to other options."

And why host a clinic at St. Julia Catholic Church?

It just seemed like a "natural fit," said CCPHD communications specialist Zachary Horner.

The church's congregation is more than 80% Hispanic, and the church offers both Spanish and English masses. They'd also hosted several drive-thru events for the community in the past, organizers said, which made the event's logistics a piece of cake.

"It was very, very strategic," Benitez said, "because everybody knows where St. Julia is."

"St. Julia's is obviously really a centerpiece of the Hispanic/Latinx community," Horner said, adding, "We had already had conversations and contact with them throughout the pandemic, and so ... really, it's just make a call and work with the pastor there and just get the ball rolling."

And about three weeks ago, that's exactly what they did, according to Father Julio Martinez, who's led St. Julia's for several years now.

"I jumped at the idea probably immediately," he said.

The church's main role is providing the space for the clinic, Martinez told the News + Record.

"I want to give them that freedom, so that they can have the freedom to do this again and again and again, whatever time, whenever they need to do it here at St. Julia's," he said. "Our property is at the service of the community and any time that we can be of service to the community, well, I think that's just great."

On March 21, right after masses, staff from the CCPHD and Hispanic Liaison set up a table just outside the church and registered nearly 200 people within just three hours, according to Benitez. The Liaison also held another registration event at Country Living Estates on March 24, and by noon the next day, 317 people had registered for St. Julia's clinic.

"We also did outreach with communities and with other churches as well, so it's not just St.

Julia's parishioners who (were) getting vaccinated (Saturday)," Zelek said. "There were multiple outreach events in neighborhoods, particularly in Siler City."

## 'It was very needed'

This mass vaccination clinic, Benitez said, came at just the right time — especially as more and more people in North Carolina become eligible to receive the vaccine.

"It was very needed," she said, "and that came from the feedback that we were hearing from the members of our community."

Over the past month, she said the Hispanic Liaison has been receiving "an influx" of calls from clients and community members who want to get vaccinated but have struggled to get appointments. On average, she estimated that they've steadily received 10 to 20 calls a day asking about vaccinations.

"Members of the community (have) said, 'Hey, I've tried to access the websites, the phone numbers, but we can't get through. We need help,'" she said. "So El Vinculo started getting — unofficially — a waitlist of people who said, 'Hey, I'm interested. We want to get our vaccines. We want to get our shots. What can we do?'"

At the beginning of March, they collected a list of 60 people within three days who signaled interest in getting vaccinated, and since then Benitez said that list "kept on growing and growing and growing." As of last week, they'd helped 185 people, either by providing them vaccine information or helping them schedule their appointments — and that number doesn't include the people they'd signed up for the St. Julia clinic.

Despite increasing vaccine access and Spanish-language forms, Benitez said many Hispanic community members still struggle to overcome various barriers, whether internal or external.

A large group of people, she said, are still hesitant about getting vaccinated thanks to a mountain of misinformation circling around the web inside the U.S. and from Latin America.

"There's so much misinformation," she said. "We hear like, 'Well, they said, we're going to get mutated.' I had a person that I called earlier (last) week, and she's like, 'I heard that people become zombies.'"

Others worry about having bad reactions, and while staff have been doing the best they can to debunk vaccine myths, she said they've still got their work cut out for them. Otherwise, Benitez said, many clients just haven't been able to schedule appointments.

"A lot of our population are the sustainers of our economy, people that can't afford to take one or two days off of work to be on the computer and be on the phone to try to finally get a hold of someone," she told the News + Record. "These are people who are first thing in the morning, like, they're off at work. They're not watching their phone, trying to see, 'Hey, is there a spot available?'"

It's been particularly hard for the Liaison's clients to schedule vaccine appointments with Piedmont Health Services, Benitez said — something they're working with Piedmont to fix. Piedmont tells existing clients to call their health centers to schedule their vaccinations, but according to Benitez, many just couldn't get through when they

called.

"When we first started, we had to put their people, their clients, in their own waitlist," Benitez said. "And I was hearing that, 'Oh, yeah, we're calling them within a week and this and that.' They weren't. They weren't being called."

Previously, Piedmont CEO Brian Toomey has told the News + Record that Piedmont gets about 3,000 calls a day. Likewise, spokesperson Debra Markley said new patients should fill in the online form so that Piedmont's phone lines would be open for their existing patients. Around half of Piedmont's 48,000 patients across seven counties are Hispanic.

"The numbers (of calls) have erupted since the vaccine came out and our patients who want regular medical appointments are having a hard time getting through," she told the News + Record earlier this month. "It is a system problem, and we are working on solutions."

Benitez said many clients have also tried to register with UNC's Chatham vaccine clinic — and some even "prefer UNC," she added.

"It's just hard," she said. "Even UNC patients, when they try to do the My Chart, they're like, 'Oh, here's one.' Oh! It's gone. They didn't have a waitlist. That's why it's so hard trying to get into UNC, but we're also in conversations with them."

## 'It won't just stop there'

The St. Julia mass vaccination clinic isn't the first outreach effort to the Hispanic community that the health department's led — and it won't be the last.

Besides the mass vaccination clinic at St. Julia's, the health department partnered with the North Carolina National Guard to vaccinate 70 workers and their family members at Brookwood Farms on March 19 in Siler City. They've also transferred several doses to Mountaire Farms' in-house clinic, an enrolled provider, to help vaccinate their workers, many of whom are Hispanic.

Over the last two weeks, the CCPHD has also worked with the Chatham Health Alliance, Communities In Schools and the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle to go out into a predominantly Spanish-speaking neighborhood, hand out vaccine information in Spanish and sign up people for vaccinations.

"Through the outreach events we've done, including these hubs, they've had 400 people say they found out about getting signed up for the vaccine through those outreach events," the Chatham Health Alliance's Julie Wilkerson told the News + Record last week.

Thirty people specifically cited those events as the reason they knew to sign up, Wilkerson added, "but that's just people who offered up that information, so it was probably more."

As of March 29, about 6.8% of all first doses administered in Chatham County had gone to Latino residents. A week ago, 6.3% of the health department's first doses had been administered to Latinos, but as of Monday night, that percentage jumped to 13.3%. The Hispanic community accounts for about 12% of Chatham's total population.

"But then it won't just stop there, of course," Zelek said. "The work continues."

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at [victoria@chathamnr.com](mailto:victoria@chathamnr.com)

# CHATHAM LITERACY

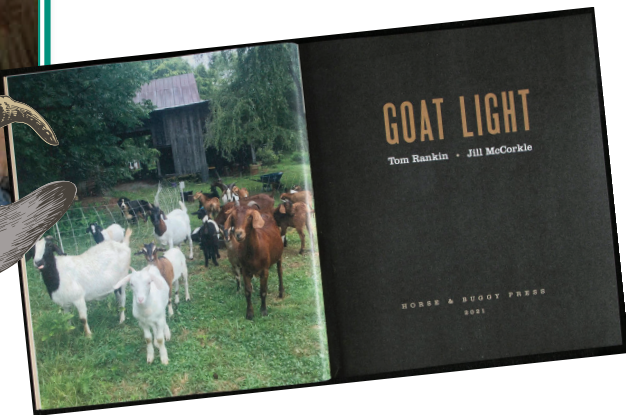
## Please Join Us for Our Online Spring Author Event!

You won't want to miss this live online presentation with local authors Jill McCorkle and Tom Rankin.

Tuesday, April 20 from 11:00am to 12:15pm Chatham Literacy presents a Virtual Spring Author Event with noted novelist and award-winning short story writer Jill McCorkle and Duke Professor, photographer, folklorist and author Tom Rankin.



This online event includes live discussions with the couple about their acclaimed book, *Goat Light*, showcasing vivid photography and reflective stories about their rural Piedmont life.



**Ticket sales: \$100/person, beginning February 15 at [www.chathamliteracy.org](http://www.chathamliteracy.org) and 919-742-0578.**

Each ticket purchased includes one raffle ticket for the door prize drawings done throughout the event.

- 1) Golf for four at the Golf Course at Chapel Ridge, carts included
- 2) Two-night stay at the Inn at Celebrity Dairy
- 3) One-night stay at the Inn at Celebrity Dairy
- 4) Autographed copies of *Goat Light*
- 5) \$50 gift card to the Sycamore at Chatham Mills





# VIEWPOINTS

AN EASTER MESSAGE | DR. CARL E. THOMPSON SR.

## We need the hope and peace Easter brings



**DR. CARL E. THOMPSON SR.**  
Guest columnist

I have loved the celebration of Easter and the fun-filled activities associated with it from my early childhood. As a youngster, I never grasped a complete understanding of the true meaning of Resurrection Sunday. The excitement seemed to be more in the spring celebration, seeing the people dressed in their Sunday morning brightly-colored clothing. There was the sunrise service and the sumptuous breakfasts that ensued, as well as the Easter egg hunts.

For many people, the spiritual experience and perspective were lost in the celebration activities. One might say “their reverence was lost in the revelry”!

Few would argue that Easter, as with other major holidays, has become very commer-

cialized. Would you believe that Easter is second only to Halloween as the holiday for selling the most candy? The Easter Bunny, the lily flower and the egg have, for centuries, symbolized the Easter Holiday celebration. But the fact is these symbols are never mentioned in the Bible as related to the Resurrection Sunday story. The rabbit and egg have been a symbol of new life and fertility for many cultures since ancient times.

When I became a believer in Christ, my spiritual understanding of Easter and its significance evolved. In a letter to the Corinthian church, Paul writes, “Christ died for our sins according to scripture, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day.” With the Holy Spirit’s guidance, I began to experience and appreciate the work of Christ on Calvary and the significance of His resurrection.

As we approach the Easter holiday this year, I am so thankful for the gift of Jesus Christ, who sacrificed His life

so that all who believe would receive eternal life. I have learned to appreciate not only the efficacious work of His death but the profound significance of His resurrection. Paul, again, quotes to the Corinthians the following: “And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.”

But Christ *was* raised from the dead! The Easter Holiday embodies and symbolizes one of the most important spiritual events in Christianity. I encourage all who believe in Him to rejoice in the certainty of eternal life that He has given us through His resurrection. Many will celebrate the Easter Holidays who are *not* believers in Christ. Still, my prayer is that they would have a personal, life-changing encounter with God and share in the new life and hope of eternal salvation.

As I reflect on the world situation, with its diversity of

challenges, I am reminded of the dire need for the hope and peace that the Christian message brings. This country alone has experienced over 500,000 deaths from the pandemic and unprecedented violence and death. There is a pervasive fear, distrust and prevailing uncertainty about the future that enshrouds our present reality. Many children and adults alike are experiencing emotional stress and mental illness, causing the suicide rate to spike to unprecedented levels.

In today’s world, now, more than ever in our history, we need a church with a unified voice that acts by the leading of the Spirit of God! Unfortunately, many believers have let politics and culture divide us, therefore rendering our voice fractured and ineffective. Consequently, the moral credibility and relevance of the church are coming more and more into question.

Lastly, my final thoughts are these: King Solomon prayed to God that he would never

forsake the Nation of Israel for its rebellion if they asked for forgiveness. His response from God is recorded in 2 Chronicles 7:14 and reads as follows: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

My prayer and hopes for this Easter season are that the body of Christ would manifest the love of God in unity and oneness by praying for America. Our prayers should be done in humility, sincerely seeking the face of God, and refusing the temptations of sin and the flesh. I am sure that our Father will do as he promised Solomon. He will bring much-needed healing to this country that we love!

*Former Chatham County Commissioner Dr. Carl E. Thompson Sr. is senior pastor of the Word of Life Christian Outreach Center in Siler City.*

## Harmless pranks good for the soul, but make sure that’s what they are



**BOB WACHS**  
Movin’ Around

April Fools’ Day is upon us, and, as such, it doesn’t rank all that high on the calendar of holidays. As a matter of fact, some calendars don’t even note it. Others, like the one in my head, aren’t really sure how to spell “Fools.” Is it “Fools” or “Fool’s” or “Fools”?

There are no days off from school. The feds don’t close down. Banks stay open. The mail is delivered. Don’t see all that many Hallmark cards celebrating the occasion. It’s pretty much business as usual.

In a way that’s too bad. I understand the reasons behind time off for Thanksgiving or Christmas or Easter or July 4th. And I get the logic for vacation/time off days named after folks. But April Fools’ Day provides something the other days don’t and that’s an acceptable excuse or reason, regardless of your age, to be foolish and act silly, to have a bit of fun, as long as it isn’t at someone else’s expense. And in a world that today seems to have banned good news or happy stuff, that kind of behavior might help us stay sane, at least if we already are.

I’ve never been one who thought “anything goes” on this day. We don’t need April Fools’ stuff that harms or frightens someone. There’s not one thing funny about telling someone their entire family has been lost in a cruise ship accident off the coast of East Bunjinama and then slapping them on the back and hollering “April Fools!”

But to tape a piece of paper onto someone’s back with the request “Kick Me” on it is something that some of my alleged high school buddies did to me more than once. And I, of course, found suitable retaliation.

There’s a danger to April Fools’ shenanigans, however, and that is when they are taken to extreme. Playing a harmless prank or joke on someone, preferably a friend or family member, isn’t the end of the world. Sometimes I wonder if we’re not headed toward the end of the world. We live in one where nations are bombing other nations, people are cutting off heads and blowing up airports and shooting people and fussing in Congress and where the most important nightly news at times seem to be what Oprah is up to.

Having the opportunity for a prank or a joke that produces a laugh to give our minds, albeit so fleetingly, a momentary break from North Korea, or China, or all the cast of characters in Washington, or health care, or violence in the streets or the election or whatever *isn’t* an escape from those realities. We don’t need to forget them but we don’t need to live in a world of constant distress.

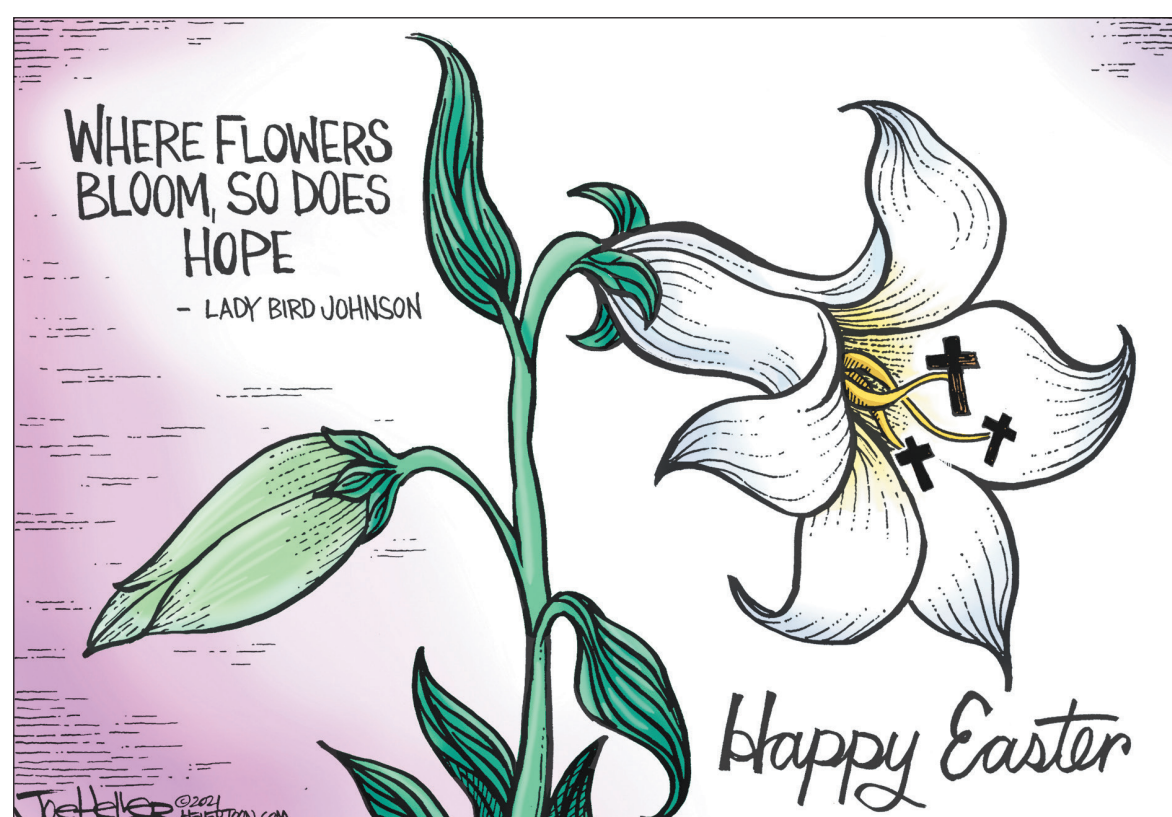
Gluing a quarter to the sidewalk and watching people try to pick it up can give us opportunity to refresh our souls so we can go back and work on those concerns mentioned earlier.

I hope if someone slapped you on the back this April Fools’ Day that you didn’t mind it, and that you didn’t go ballistic if you later found a piece of paper that said “Kick Me” on it on you. And when — and if — you retaliate, don’t go too far ... and don’t forget to help folks in need ... starting with those around you.

That’s no April Fools ... or Fool’s ... or Fools’.

Or however you spell it.

*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.*



## On life’s rear-view mirror and the perspective of time



**BILL HORNER III**  
Publisher + Editor

Fragments of your old life can look much different when you’ve put a few decades in the rear-view mirror. Most of us have been back “home” enough to know that things in our pasts appear smaller, but really aren’t. Your perspective just enlarges with time.

New perspectives on the old, however, can leave a real impression, too. On a melancholy trip back to Kansas last month, a few things I saw and did moved me deeply. At my high school, for example, I briefly set foot in Miss Yadon’s old classroom, where I’d spent hundreds of hours as a student. Marcia Yadon, my Spanish and speech and drama teacher, was only 10 years older than most of her students when I was in school. She came to a few parties at our house my senior year. Unimaginable now — keep in mind that my mom was home at the time, and the parties were small, mostly subdued affairs — but back then, in our small community, it didn’t seem odd.

Miss Yadon (she became Mrs. Arganbright) went on to help design and serve as the founding principal for a high school in Oregon, then later curriculum director of the Portland Public School District. A brain tumor killed her in 2013. We exchanged Facebook messages before she became ill; she blossomed into an incredible educator and community servant. She was 59 when she died, but to me she’ll always be 27 — the age she was when I graduated.

The same day we visited my high school, I drove my wife Lee Ann through the gates of Blue Rapids’ town cemetery, separated from the back yard of our old house on East

4th Street by only a thin grove of trees. I spent hours in that cemetery honing my golf swing, launching 9-irons between rows of black walnut and cottonwood trees in the east-facing section of the property.

Back then, that section was devoid of gravestones, so it didn’t seem disrespectful. Now, several rows of family plots and headstones are there.

Among the graves — I was surprised to see — was the resting place of a classmate of my sister’s. Back in 1998, Brent killed a lover and then turned the gun on himself. He’s buried next to his mom and his dad, a man who was our town’s physician, a gentle healer who was beloved by everyone who knew him. The juxtaposition of their lives is still heart-breaking to me.

And for the first time in 40 years, that same day, I set foot in a large old house on Pomeroy Street that I’d been to a hundred times before while in school. It’d been the home my classmate Carol, whose sister, Mandy, was a year younger than we; Mandy was part of a group I hung out with during with my senior year. There was a third sister, Sue. I’ll never forget the night Sue made me walk her home from a party and stay with her at the house until someone else arrived — the house was haunted, she said, and she was scared to be there by herself. I dutifully obliged her, waiting with her until a sister arrived.

I didn’t see any ghosts that night, or on this visit. Today, that house is the home of my now-retired high school golf coach and math teacher, Larry, and his wife, Nancy, who have remodeled it beautifully. We spent two splendid hours in their kitchen reminiscing and telling stories, looking at family photos, and marveling at the passage of time and the fact that

they have college-aged grandchildren.

Also on this trip, I saw many faces I hadn’t seen in 40 years, including married classmates who lived for years in Alaska and are now back in town, nearing retirement. I saw one of my sister’s best friends, Kathy, a girl I had a secret crush on for years as an underclassman. Upon my graduation, Kathy gifted me a beautiful leather-bound journal. She filled the first 10 pages with a long, heartfelt message that touched me with its honesty and frankness as she reflected about what she learned about life and herself during her just-completed first year of college — encouraging me to seek and learn as well. Four decades after receiving it, I was able to thank her for it.

And Lee Ann and I spent our last night of the short visit in Kansas City with my classmate Heather and her husband James. It’s been 40 years since we walked the stage together at Valley Heights at graduation — and 36 years since the two of us got our college diplomas together at the University of Kansas — but Heather looks exactly like she did in high school. She still has the easy smile and bright laughter that made her so popular back then.

But the purpose of the visit in the first place was to help the mom of my high school friend Darrell — who died unexpectedly on Christmas Day — clean out his house, then later gather for a memorial lunch at his favorite brewery and toast his memory. More laughter and more tears.

Darrell’s house seemed big and empty without him there. Looking at these pieces of my life through the prism of 40 years, though, I was reminded: it’s Darrell, Miss Yadon, Kathy, Heather and the people I’ve known — not the places I’ve been — which make my life full. My memories of them are large, not small.



# VIEWPOINTS

## A churchless sermon for Easter



**ANDREW TAYLOR- TROUTMAN**  
Hope Matters

I am a Christian pastor and a believer in the Resurrection. I capitalize “Resurrection” in reference to the faith of the church that a man named Jesus

was raised from the dead. For this churchless sermon, intended for readers who do not necessarily share my faith or tradition, I use lowercase “resurrection” not in a dismissive or pejorative way, but to indicate the general sense of the word — a resurrection means “to rise again” and can refer to many different things or events.

This is the season of Easter, but resurrections occur all the time. Think of the rising of the sun as the resurrection of the day. Think of the resurrections during the spring season — greening trees and blooming flowers after the cold, bare winter.

Again, I do not write to discredit such resurrections. They may even save lives.

That’s why, when I want to hear a resurrection sermon, I listen to addicts.

I know people, blessed and broken like all of us, who display the rare courage to talk about death and their own death-dealing impulses — their bents for self-destructiveness, shame spirals and cavernous holes of regret. It is only by naming such chasms that they believe they can keep from fall-

ing back into them. Alcoholics Anonymous claims, “We must face who we are, else we die.”

It is also true the first steps of AA are to admit powerlessness over addiction and believe that a Higher Power brings recovery from addiction and resurrection to new life. Likewise, the New Testament is clear that the Resurrection of Jesus was an act by a Higher Power — a force greater than nature. Humans cannot bring life from death any more than we can spin the Earth through space and recreate spring.

But it is clear to me from listening to addicts preach that resurrections still require human effort. That is a lesson for all of us.

This Easter, I have heard many people hoping for a return to “normal” after the

COVID-19 pandemic. Next year, I hope it will be safe to gather in churches for Sunday worship.

It is also clear that the world outside the walls of our sanctuaries needs our attention. We need to face some painful truths about what is “normal” in our community.

In the fall of 2020, the Chatham County Public Health Department released a study of “health disparities” — preventable differences in health outcomes between groups in our society. Disparities occur across many dimensions, including race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, location, gender, disability status and sexual orientation. Even before the coronavirus, “normal” was often unjust and inequitable. Like any addict, the society

that has created and perpetuated these “disparities” must first face the truth about itself. We cannot return to the status quo or business as usual. Once we name the injustices and inequalities, we must rise up to transform them.

I wrap up this churchless sermon by noting that writer Flannery O’Connor claimed “everything that rises must converge.” May people of all faiths work together to address disparities and bring about a new day for justice and equality. May it be so: amen.

*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.*

## Ignoring my Asian friend’s question — a big mistake



**D.G. MARTIN**  
One on One

A few years ago, I ignored a friend’s question about whether there was a risk of violence to Asians in North Carolina.

That was a mistake.

My friend, Don Mar, grew up in the Chinese community in San Francisco and has lived in the Bay area all his life.

I met him more than 60 years ago when we worked summer jobs together at a Green Giant pea cannery in eastern Washington state.

He was Chinese-American and we shared a Presbyterian connection. He was very nice and talkative. So, we hit it off.

He told me that, if I ever came to San Francisco, I should look him up and he would show me around.

“Just go to the Chinese YMCA,” he said, “and tell them you are looking for me, and they will track me down.”

Sure enough, when I got to San Francisco on my hitchhiking trip back to North Carolina, I found my way to the Chinese Y and asked if they would help me get in touch with Mar.

Thirty minutes later Mar was there to show me around the Y, then Chinatown and the other San Francisco sights. With a group of his Chinese-American fellow students at the University of California in Berkeley, I got a good look at that campus long before it erupted in protests a few years later.

A never-to-be forgotten highlight was a big meal with the group at a Chinese restaurant, where Mar took charge and, using the Chinese dialect he learned as a boy, ordered bountiful and delicious dishes that his friends and I enjoyed while we talked and laughed.

It was the summer of Willie McCovey’s debut with the San Francisco Giants. I remember the sights of young Chinese boys walking along with portable radios close to their ears listening to the game and showing the excitement that McCovey brought to the city.

Mar and I have stayed in touch. He brought his wife to stay with us at Myrtle Beach in the 1970s. I have spent nights at their home in Oakland.

The internet has made it easier for us to stay in touch. When his email about the risks of violence to Asians in North Carolina came, I owed him a prompt and honest response.

Why didn’t I answer?

“We don’t have any problems with Asians,” I thought. “We have big racial problems, but they are mostly between whites and Blacks.”

The Siamese Twins who settled in Wilkes County and then Surry in the 1800s were treated as honorary whites. So was Charlie Soong, the Chinese cabin boy who was educated at Trinity College (later Duke University) and sent back to China as a Methodist missionary. In China, he became wealthy and influential.

When I visit our state’s college campuses, I see Asian faces everywhere, busily mingling with other students. I read about the success of such students and contributions they have made in business, medicine, and education.

The doors are open for Asians, I thought. The welcome mat is out.

How wrong I was.

The killings of Asians in and near Atlanta a few weeks ago unleashed other stories of discrimination and dangers they face.

One report that caught my attention came from former UNC-Chapel Hill basketball player Kane Ma. In 2019 he was assaulted by three attackers who taunted him with, “You gonna try some kung-fu on us?”

Kane Ma recovered from his serious injuries. But his experience demonstrates the same terrible feelings of hatred that have traditionally motivated violence against blacks in North Carolina also plague Asians.

For me, it is time to answer Don Mar’s email and acknowledge the challenges and dangers Asians face.

And to promise to work to alleviate them.

*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.*

## No, inequality isn’t increasing



**JOHN HOOD**  
John Locke Foundation

Every argument has three parts: definitions, premises and logical reasoning. When conservatives and progressives disagree about a specific issue, each side often leaps to the conclusion that the other side is being illogical (or dishonest, or stupid).

In my experience, however, most disagreements don’t stem from faulty reasoning. We usually disagree because we don’t accept the same sets of facts. Or we define our terms in very different ways.

For example, are the incomes of North Carolinians and their counterparts in other states diverging in unfair and dangerous ways? Are the richer getting richer and the poor getting poorer — as the middle class disappears?

Most progressives say yes. Most conservatives say no. I’m in the latter camp, and have devoted hundreds of columns, many lengthy articles and monographs, and large swaths of my books to exploring the subject in some detail. It’s a technical debate, in part, having to do with alternative ways of measuring incomes, living standards, and price changes.

But the core dispute is about whether government efforts to redistribute income ought to be fully counted in income comparisons.

I think the answer to that question is clearly yes. If government decides to address economic inequalities by supplying public housing or health care to low-income house-

holds, or giving them earned-income tax credits, not counting the value of those subsidies as income seems obviously silly to me. Such a measure no longer reflects the reality of people’s lives. It’s purely theoretical.

Unfortunately, that’s our current reality. The official government statistics you see on income inequality and poverty do not count those and other sources of income. That’s why they massively overstate both inequality and poverty.

Former U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm and former Bureau of Labor Statistics official John Early explained the consequences in a recent Wall Street Journal piece. According to the official U.S. Census Bureau measure, income inequality in the United State rose 21% from 1967 to 2017. But that measure excludes about two-thirds of what the government spends on transfer programs, expenditures that in turn flow overwhelmingly to lower-income people.

What happens if you add that income in? “Not only is income inequality in America not growing,” they wrote, “it is lower today than it was 50 years ago.”

As for poverty, of course there are still many people in North Carolina and elsewhere who have inadequate food, clothing, shelter, and health care. But official poverty measures that leave out public-assistance spending not only exaggerate the rate but also obscure the tremendous decline in poverty we’ve experienced over the past two generations.

According to analysis by Bruce Meyer of the University of Chicago and James Sullivan of Notre Dame,

a corrected measure based on living standards (not reported cash income) shows that the poverty rate fell from 16.8% in 1972 to 2.8% in 2018.

If you find a 2.8% poverty rate implausible and would rather raise the income threshold for what classifies someone as “poor,” we can have that conversation. I may even agree with you. But remember that raising the threshold would change the endpoint in 2018, not the trendline. Whatever threshold we choose, the data would still show a massive decline in poverty since the early 1970s — a fact that neither progressives nor conservatives have adequately factored into their policy analysis.

Remember my original observation about the origins of political disagreement? Assuming it derives from the stupidity, dishonesty or bad intent of your opponent is almost always mistaken and counterproductive. If you think the gap between rich and poor is soaring and I don’t, based on the fact that we’re looking at different measurements, we probably won’t be able to come up with a shared vision of what our economic policies should be.

Furthermore, upstream of facts lie definitions. When some use the term “equality” to describe the end of government, they mean equal treatment under the law. Others define it as radical egalitarianism. Building a bridge over such a yawning gap will always be an impossible feat of political engineering.

*John Hood (@JohnHoodNC) is chairman of the John Locke Foundation.*

## The promise of spring and the labor it brings



**DWAYNE WALLS JR.**  
The Roundabout

The best way to see the promise of spring is to take a drive in the country.

Viewed close up, the darling buds of spring are almost indiscernible, but through the windshield of my car I see trees dappled and stippled and daubed with colors, as if the spirit of some long-dead French Impressionist were in charge of pixelating each branch. In landscaped areas I see Bradford pear trees as white as virgin snow and screaming yellow forsythia erupting from mulched beds. The redbud tree in our front yard popped. The red magnolia is peaking.

I rejoice at the promise of longer, warmer days ahead. I dare say we all do.

I was walking our dog down a trail through the woods when I caught my first whiff of the new season. As we threaded our way between leafless trees, the sun broke through the morning fog — dramatically illuminating two large colonies of daffodils bursting from the ground off the path. The bright yellow flowers and their fresh green stems looked starkly out of place against the gray and brown winter landscape, stopping me in my tracks with what the poet Wordsworth termed an “impulse from a vernal wood.”

Naturally, I wondered how a colony of bulbs had ended up here, and after some searching I found brick footings outlining where a structure of some sort had stood. Tall trees grew inside

the footprint, mute testament to the cycle of decay and renewal as old as any Eleusinian Mystery. To quote my farmer’s almanac, “A peck of spring is worth a king’s ransom.”

Winter is over, and although I am sorry not to have seen any snow, I am ready to be shed of it. I am ready to work in the garden.

Ms. Walls has forgotten more about gardening than I will ever know. She has shelves of books on the subject, and she lived on a farm in upstate New York before we met. She does the planting. My job is to dig where she points, and to mulch after she plants. Only after I show the ability to distinguish the difference between the desirable and undesirable plants does she give me the green light to rip things up by the roots. I must admit, taking out my frustrations against unwanted plants is a great way to channel bottled up frustration accumulated over winter. Gardening also focuses my attention; I find it impossible to ponder anything other than the soil in front of me, the plants in it, and the task at hand. As Benedictine monks in monasteries say in Latin, “Laborare est orare” — which translates as, “To work is to pray.”

But my biggest job is to mow. I mowed my front yard for the first time this past week after changing the oil in the little Briggs & Stratton I bought at Lowe’s a few years back. The mower doubles as an exercise machine; the blades have only about a 12-inch radius, so mowing means me huffing and puffing for about 60 minutes while I push the noisy thing around the yard.

You will notice I write “yard,” not lawn. I do not care what grows

outside our flower beds as long as it is green and I can keep it cut close to the ground. I know I should consider dandelions and chickweed and purslane and even clover as enemies to be eradicated, but hey, at least they’re green. I have bush-hogged too many pastures and thrown too many bales of hay to care for fescue or zoysia or bermudagrass. They are all the same to me.

“Stupid, useless grass,” is what I mumble to myself while I push my single-cylinder exercise machine around the house. Last year, I enlarged our flower beds on the logic that every square foot of mulched bed was one less foot of yard I had to mow, but Ms. Walls got wise to me, so I had to stop.

I would stake a goat in my front yard if I thought the HOA would let me get away with it. Perhaps I should; there is no town ordinance against it, like the one against letting animals range free. Maybe I should contact one of our local farmers; I could have their stock eating circles around my trees. Then I could claim they were crop circles and charge two bits a gander, and maybe even bringing in some loose change as a petting zoo.

On second thought, after sitting around this past winter, I need the exercise.

*Dwayne Walls Jr. has previously written a story about his late father’s battle with Alzheimer’s disease and a first-person recollection of 9/11 for the newspaper. Walls is the author of the book “Backstage at the Lost Colony.” He and his wife Elizabeth live in Pittsboro.*



# RIOT

Continued from page A1

alike condemned the Capitol attack. While the Chatham County Republican Party questioned the news coverage outside the Capitol in a Jan. 6 Facebook post, it said it was “adamantly opposed to the break-in at the Capitol.”

“We are also sure that 99% of the people at the protest did not break into the Capitol,” that Jan. 6 post said. The group affirmed the electoral votes and a peaceful transition of power in another post the next day.

For Welch, the number of people who did break into the Capitol — and who supported it — is disturbing enough. She also thinks toxic patriotism is largely to blame.

Welch thinks travel outside of the country — she visited England, France and Wales in 1989 — most influenced her healthy sense of patriotism.

“The travel and education that afforded me showed some weak spots that I had,” she said, “and thinking I viewed as a typical American response — that we’re the most educated, have the best health care, the best transportation, the best yada yada yada.”

“When I traveled I looked around and I thought, I’ve got to rethink some things here. So the travel (made) the patriotism more realistic.”

For Welch’s daughter, her sense of patriotism quickly evolved after she entered the military in May 2000. She’s proud of her service and of her country, but thinks patriotism has been muddled with nationalism.

“Patriotism used to be pretty clearly linearly defined as, I love my country, not I hate every other country,” Brothers said. “I am super proud of my service, and of my country and what I believe it still stands for. But nationalism has given a little bit of a black eye to the sense of patriotism — it’s acquiring a negative connotation.”

People have always identified with a collective population, UNC-Chapel Hill history professor Lloyd Kramer told the News + Record, but modern nationalism is a more systematic attempt to give

people a sense that their national identity is their most important identity. Kramer’s research focuses on modern European history with an emphasis on nineteenth-century France. In his research, he sees two strands of nationalism: one that stresses racial, ethnic or linguistic origins, and one that stresses identification with a set of values or principles.

“These two kinds of nationalism, let’s call it ethnic nationalism and civic nationalism, have always been in conflict in some ways,” he said. “What we’ve seen in the United States is the same thing. The history of the United States, when it comes to nationalism, is an endless struggle between people who have tended to define the nation in ethnic or religious or racial terms, against people who have sought to define the nation in civic terms ... the rights of human beings, the rights of immigrants, the rights of inclusion — no matter where you came from, if you choose to be part of the nation.”

“It’s pretty obvious the two strands we’re dealing with right now,” he added. “There’s a lot of anger and emotion because both sides are convinced that they represent the true meaning of the nation.”

While both strands of nationalism reinforce the idea of American exceptionalism, Kramer said the people most often talking about such exceptionalism today stress “blood and soil and language and Christianity” that is much more like Europe than the U.S.

“There’s a kind of white Christian nationalism now that replicates certain kinds of religious, racial ethnic nationalisms that have long existed in Europe,” he said.

“I was embarrassed” Claude Clegg III, a history professor at UNC-Chapel Hill who primarily studies Black nationalism and Pan-Africanism, said patriotism is typically more inward-looking than nationalism.

“Nationalism is more outward facing, valuing one’s own nation or group identity above those of foreign people or outsiders,” Clegg said in an email interview. “Like patriotism, nationalism thrives on simplistic narratives

about identity and belonging and tends to overemphasize certain shared identity markers (such as religion, race, language, etc.) over differences within that group (such as class, gender, etc.)”

Clegg said nationalism in places such as Africa and Asia provided the ideological foundation for national independence movements against imperial rule. Still, in other places, nationalism has led to world wars, forced mass migrations and even genocide.

“The only positive nationalism is one that is merely an instrument for freeing people from oppression,” Clegg said. “Beyond that, nationalisms that merely seek to divide or to overemphasize differences between people and societies for whatever reasons generally lead to problematic outcomes.”

Such outcomes can be seen at the Capitol insurrection, even with videos of many participants who believed they were being patriotic by following what they thought to be instructions from then-President Trump. Since they were acting on false narrative about the election, Clegg said, these people — regardless of varying ideological views concerning the rebellion — were insurrectionists against the U.S., placing them “at odds with any credible notion of U.S. patriotism.”

For Brothers, this false patriotism left her conflicted following the Capitol riot.

“I was embarrassed by that yahoo with the horns on his head, because of how every other country in the world must have seen that and thought, ‘Holy smokes, what is happening to America?’” she said. “I didn’t do everything I did for just over 20 years, so that we can embarrass ourselves.”

While she doesn’t identify with the flag waving seen outside the Capitol that day, Brothers emphasized she is very patriotic. She’s grateful for America, and isn’t embarrassed by that.

But she wants people to stop confusing patriotism with nationalism — something Kramer said is easy to do in moments of crisis.

“I see the Jan. 6 conflict as simply the latest example of a

recurring battle in America,” he said, “between ethnic and civic conceptions of American national identity.”

“That’s not who Jesus was”

Another element of the Jan. 6 riot that concerned Welch was the Christian messaging and symbolism she saw. Raised Irish Catholic, Welch is no longer religious but considers herself spiritual. Not only was the insurrection a perversion of patriotism, she said, but also of Christian faith.

Eliza Brinkley, a Chatham resident and teacher, was similarly disturbed by the display of Christian symbols. Following the Capitol attack, she updated her Facebook profile picture with a frame opposing Christian nationalism.

Brinkley grew up in the Episcopal church, so she said she didn’t grow up with the evangelical fundamentalist perspective where she said “a lot of this extremism comes out of.”

“Looking at some of this real extremism, which is different than just conservative, it’s pretty alarming,” Brinkley said, emphasizing she has plenty of friends who consider themselves conservative Christians.

In particular, she remembers seeing signs from the riot that read “Jesus 2020” — signs she said epitomize the inflation of political and faith identities.

“It’s just bizarre, it’s kind of like, instead of worshiping Jesus, you’re worshiping America, and not even just America, but a specific kind of America,” she said. “It’s also unfortunately perpetuated by this idea that that version of Christianity is superior — and therefore everyone needs to abide by it and everyone needs to look like that. And I think that’s really problematic.”

She was particularly troubled by people at the riot performing violent acts in the name of Christianity.

“That’s not who Jesus was,” she said. “Jesus was certainly a revolutionary figure, but he was not about attacking people for being truthful, or speaking to their personal beliefs. There’s so many parts of his message that are all about welcoming others, right?”

Whether it’s about a Samaritan, or a Gentile or the poor, Jesus’s example to us should be about letting people in, not about pushing them away or condemning them.”

For Brinkley, who believes patriotism is about working to uphold the country’s values — freedom to protect life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness — the events that led to Jan. 6 make it harder to feel patriotic, or be open about her faith. Though months have gone by, it’s still something she struggles with.

“I’ve always had a difficult time telling people that I’m a Christian, I don’t have a difficult time telling people I’m an Episcopalian,” she said. “I’m worried about being pulled into that same group with people that were storming the Capitol. I’ve tried to work recently on being OK with saying, I’m Christian, claiming that identity fully.”

“But this makes it harder. And I think even more importantly, it makes the church seem less and less like what it should be.”

Kramer acknowledged this type of white Christian nationalism, adding there are many white Christians who are not nationalists. But in America, he said, the white nationalist Christian narrative argues that America was founded as a Christian country, or that the essence of national identity is Christian identity.

“For many decades, for centuries even, this white, Christian Protestant identity has been concerned, been angry by the arrival of people who are not part of that identity and are therefore seen as not really American,” he said.

“The group that sees the nation defined primarily by religion, and also by race, can see that things are not going their way if we follow the majority rule,” Kramer added. “So there is a willingness to overturn elections, to protect something that’s more important than democracy. That’s why January 6 is not just a blip — it is part of a much broader struggle about the meaning of the American nation.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at [hannah@chathamnr.com](mailto:hannah@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter at [@HannerMcClellan](https://twitter.com/HannerMcClellan).

# RECOVERY

Continued from page A1

sector has been affected in the same way,” he said. “We’ve probably seen more differences and impacts among sectors in this recession than any recession I’ve watched during my 43 years as a professional economist.”

Across the national economy, unemployment hit record highs last spring. North Carolina tallied its most severe unemployment rate — about 14% — since the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics began tracking the figure in 1976. But in most areas — construction, manufacturing, information, finance, education and more — fewer than 10% of jobs were lost, and most have recovered by now.

It’s a different story for the leisure, hospitality and services industries, though, where nearly half of all jobs were slashed in 2020. As restrictions have eased in recent weeks, retail and restaurants have expanded operations. But the industries support only about 70% of the jobs that existed in 2019.

“A big question is whether those sectors will return to their pre-pandemic levels,” Walden said.

And, he fears that “real unemployment” is worse than numbers represent.

“There’s a joke — line up 10 economists, you’ll get 10 different opinions,” Walden said. “But this is an area where most economists are in unison in that we think and we believe that the unemployment numbers right now are understating what I’m going to call ‘true unemployment.’”

It is common belief, Walden says, that unemployment figures are derived from the percentage of a population filing unemployment claims. If that was true, a low unemployment rate would directly correspond to low dependence on state and federal assistance.

“But that is absolutely not the case,” Walden said. To measure unemployment, “the federal government runs a separate survey, which they conduct nationally, and they have data for each state. They survey about 100,000 workers nationwide.”

The survey asks three questions: if recipients have jobs; if they don’t have jobs, but would like to work; and if they don’t have jobs, but have looked for employment in the last month. Respondents may not be working, but if they have no desire to work, or have not recently sought work, the government will exclude them from its unemployment tally.

“These have been the rules forever,” Walden said, but “... the concern right now, since the pandemic has been with us, is there are many people who are without a job — they may have lost their job and they want a job — but they are not out looking for it because they are afraid of getting COVID.” They might also fear exposing high risk

family members to the disease, Walden added, or they may have been home supervising children and were therefore unable to actively pursue new employment.

“What I’m getting at with all this,” Walden said, “is that most economists think what I’m going to term the ‘true unemployment rate’ ... would probably add about one and a half or two percentage points” to the federal unemployment rate. “So we have improved, but we’re not quite as good as these numbers would indicate.”

The unemployment rate is not the only misleading economic indicator, though. Much of the economy’s quick bounce-back is attributable to federal bailout programs such as 2020’s CARES Act and this year’s American Rescue Plan which artificially infused the economy with trillions of borrowed dollars. The spending has prevented immediate catastrophe, but will reap future consequences — though not the ones some suspect, Walden says.

“A lot of people contact me and say, ‘Walden, didn’t we borrow this from the Chinese? Aren’t they going to want it back sooner rather than later?’ Or they say, ‘How can we pay this, adding all this to the (national) debt?’ Well, those are not the two problems.”

It’s not true that most of the trillions in borrowed funds used to shore up the U.S. economy came from foreign governments such as China. About two-thirds of it was borrowed from the Federal Reserve.

To supply such gargantuan sums, however, the Fed created new money — and that is problematic.

“Historically, when a central bank prints money at rapid rates, you have a rise in inflation in the future,” Walden said.

He was quick to qualify his warning, however.

“I’m not talking about hyperinflation,” he said, “but I do think that should be something on your radar screen. And if you’re a businessperson, plan for your costs going up a little faster.”

A succession of other concerns might follow from the government’s recent spending patterns.

“I think — and many economists think — the big cost to this is we have borrowed money from the future and used it now, which means that money is not going to be available in the future for spending and investment.”

By some estimates, Walden said, the country’s future economy will grow about 10% slower than it would have had the pandemic not imposed such tremendous setbacks.

“So we had a trade-off here,” he said. “The question was, do we borrow from the future? Do we have somewhat slower growth in the future in order to save a big part of the economy today? In (my) personal view, that was the trade-off I would recommend making.”

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at [dldolder@chathamnr.com](mailto:dldolder@chathamnr.com) and on Twitter @dldolder.

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**EDUCATION BRIEFS**

**CCS summer programming planning**

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Schools administrators want input about summer opportunities for academic enrichment, so a survey has been created to collect community responses.

“As we move into the last quarter of the school year, we typically begin planning both for the summer and for the upcoming school year,” reads the beginning of the survey, found on the district’s website. “Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey to provide feedback related to your interest in summer programming for your child, as well as feedback for instructional programs for next year. We appreciate your assistance in planning opportunities for our students.”

Besides collecting information about a student’s school and grade level, the survey also asks for interest in different types of academic support/enrichment programs, dates for a summer learning period and options for flexible learning opportunities for the 2021-22 school year (standard schedule, fully virtual, half-day and hybrid options).

“We are gathering information to make a determination regarding the following options,” says the question regarding “flexible learning opportunities.”

Legislation passed by the state House last month requires N.C. schools districts to create a summer school program to help students who have fallen behind during COVID-19. That bill requires districts to offer at least 150 hours of summer in-person instruction, along with enrichment activities. While geared toward students particularly negatively impacted by remote learning, the summer programs are voluntary and open to any student, space permitting.

The survey can be found at [rb.gy/ogbouu](http://rb.gy/ogbouu).

**Cooper’s proposed N.C. budget includes teacher raises**

Gov. Roy Cooper’s proposed state budget, presented last week, would give teachers an average 10% pay raises over two years — \$485 million in teacher and administrator pay, along with restoring master’s degree pay, which was eliminated in 2013.

The proposal also included a 7.5% raise for school district central office staff and noncertified public school employees, \$15 an hour minimum wage for noncertified public school employees (such as cafeteria workers and bus drivers) and \$2,000 bonuses for many education employees this fiscal year, plus another \$1,000 bonus next year. Those bonuses would go to teachers, principals, noncertified public school employees as well as university and community college employees. The proposal also includes \$52 million for educator recruitment, retention and training, along with \$80 million for more school nurses, counselors, social workers and psychologists.

The budget includes just over \$16 billion in 2021-22 and almost \$16.8 billion in 2022-23 just for education.

In 2020, teachers did not receive any across-the-board raises. Now that Democratic Gov. Cooper presented his plan, the Republican-controlled Senate and the House must come up with budget plans of their own, taking Cooper’s suggestions into account.

**CCS now with 74 national board certified educators**

PITTSBORO — North Carolina leads the nation with 23,090 teachers having earned certification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, and Chatham County Schools bolstered that number.

The district’s educators most recently earning national board certification are:

- Chatham Middle School educator Kevin Bishop, who earned certification in social studies and history for middle and high school students
- Dr. Salita Callicutt, an itinerant teacher, who earned certification as an exceptional needs specialist for students in elementary through high school
- Horton Middle School educator Charity Clark, who earned certification in mathematics for early adolescents

That makes 74 Chatham County Schools educators with national board certification.

North Carolina teachers with national board certification receive a 12% supplement to their salary, as well as eight credits for continuing education. The certification — the highest credential in the teaching profession — requires candidates to build a portfolio that includes work samples from students and a thorough analysis of their classroom teaching.

Chatham County Schools teachers who earned national board certification during the 2019-20 school year are:

- Catherine Oldham, who teaches at Moncure School and Pittsboro Elementary School; she earned certification in literacy for reading and language arts for elementary and middle grades
  - Michelle Scott, an educator at Silk Hope School; she earned certification in school counseling for students in elementary through high school
  - Sydney Sportelli, an educator at North Chatham Elementary School; she earned certification as an early childhood generalist
- In addition:
- Pittsboro Elementary School educator Karen Jeremiah renewed her certification in library media for students in elementary school through high school.
  - Chatham Middle School educator Theresa Joyner renewed her certification in social studies and history for early adolescents.
  - Chatham Grove Elementary School educator Emily Richardson renewed her certification as an elementary school generalist.

- CN+R Staff report

# CCS middle, high schoolers can return under Plan A on April 19, BOE votes Thursday

**BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN**

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Students in 6th-12th grades will have the option to attend in-person learning under Plan A on April 19, the Chatham County Schools Board of Education decided in a 4-0 vote at a special meeting last Thursday.

Earlier in the week, the board voted 3-0 to bring 4th-5th graders back a week earlier than planned on April 12 to comply with state school reopening law Senate Bill 220. The law requires N.C. public school systems to offer in-person learning under Plan A to elementary students and hybrid or daily in-person learning to middle and high schoolers. All grade levels at CCS will maintain a mid-week cleaning day under Plan A, meaning students will attend school in-person four times a week and virtually Wednesdays. EC and 504 students in K-5 returned under Plan A on March 16.

The district presented several options to the board during Thursday’s meeting, including keeping 6th-12th grades or 9th-12th grades in Plan B. Other options included beginning middle schoolers with K-5 on April 12, beginning high schoolers April 19 or beginning 6th-12th graders April 19. In the end, the board voted for the latter option, reasoning that phasing in the return could be logistically beneficial.

“I just want to make sure we do it right,” Board chairperson Gary Leonard said.

Board member Melissa Hlavac missed the meeting because of a work conflict, but Leonard said she’d conveyed to him her desire that 6th-12th graders return.

The state’s districts must comply with the school reopening law, passed March 11, by April 1, which is 21 days after Senate Bill 220 was signed into law. While districts could immediately implement the change, the bill says systems can comply no later than the first instructional day after the 21-day period. At last Monday’s meeting, the board voted on the district’s recommendation to make April 1 a work day instead of an early release. CCS is on its spring break the first week of April, so April 12 is now the first instructional day after the bill’s April 1 compliance deadline.

“We didn’t think it was a real good idea to bring

all of our K-5 kids in for an early release day and then send them on spring break the following week,” Interim Superintendent Randy Bridges told the board at its March 22 meeting. “So we’re asking that you change that April 1 early release day to a work day and that way we will cover everything I’ve just described in terms of complying with Senate Bill 220.”

During the district’s presentation to the board last Thursday, Amanda Hartness, CCS’s assistant superintendent of academic services & instructional support division, said high school students’ return would require the most change from current practices, as the district will have to offer all students — including those currently on a completely virtual track — the offer of returning to in-person classes.

“We hope that we could get as many students to stay on their NCVPS or CCCC courses, where possible, because many of our students take those online courses in a normal school year,” Hartness said. “It might not be as big of an impact as we think, but we won’t know that until we communicate that to families. So there is going to be a little bit of prep at 9-12 that we just don’t have at K-8.”

The district also discussed Plan A implications and considerations, emphasizing that the transportation and lunch physical distancing requirements were both lessened under the plan. Plan A does not require 6 feet of distancing for any grade level; the CDC and state now recommend at least 3 feet of distance. Under Plan A, buses have no seating restrictions, but Chief Operations Officer Chris Blice said the district will still aim to not seat three students to any seat.

The StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit also no longer requires 6 feet of distancing during meals, and Blice said that while maximizing distance is the goal, the Chatham County Health Department approved eating with 4 feet of distance with maintenance of current mealtime procedures — unmasking as a group, no talking or movement from place to place while unmasked and remasking before any talking or movement is allowed.

Previously, the administration said it could only

guarantee 4 feet of physical distancing at its schools under Plan A, though many classrooms would allow for 6. The district purchased new furniture — which would help schools to maximize physical distancing — for elementary schools, and Blice said the district had already ordered furniture for older students in anticipation of their return to Plan A.

Board member David Hamm asked Chatham Health Director Mike Zelek, who gave brief remarks at the meeting, about his 4-foot recommendation when the CDC and the state have said 3 feet is O.K.

“What I say is, you maximize the space you have, right. And so the four feet is not a steadfast rule,” Zelek said. “If you can get 6 feet, get 6 feet, if you can get 7 feet, get 7 feet, right? It’s a continuum, it’s not so much an either-or.”

Following a brief discussion, Hamm made the motion to bring 6th-12th graders back April 19 under Plan A.

Before voting, the board reviewed last month’s staff survey results, which indicated a strong preference for the 6-foot requirement to remain in place, along with keeping a mid-week cleaning day if the district were to move to Plan A. At the board’s last two meetings, Hartness has recommended maintaining that day to support teachers by providing extra planning time. Senate Bill 220 allows a mid-week cleaning day.

“What we’re asking teachers to do right now is more under either plan,” Hartness said at the board’s March 8 meeting.

In Chatham County Schools, elementary students began returning for in-person hybrid learning under Plan B on Oct. 19, with middle school students returning Dec. 7 and high schoolers on Feb. 1. Under the hybrid plan, students who opt for in-person learning, rather than the district’s virtual academy option, attend school twice a week.

After more than a year of school with more virtual than in-person learning, in-person learning will increase to four days a week for all students who choose the plan by the end of April.

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# PLAN A

Continued from page A1

Bridget Coates, who has four children at CCS, said virtual learning is not working for her students.

“I don’t understand how students at the high school level are always the last group to receive consideration,” she said.

Her children fear what their college careers will look like with dropping grade point averages, few community service options and difficulty participating in extracurriculars.

“These are all valid concerns and fears. They cause anxiety,” Coates said. “It causes my kids to stay on their laptops for 10-plus hours, obsessing over school. And they are still not making good grades. They need real, quality instruction.”

Katie Henry, parent to three CCS students, was pleased with the decision, but wished it had come sooner.

“(I’m) so excited for K-5 students but my 8th, 10th and 11th graders need school just as much,” Henry told the

News + Record following the board’s March 8 decision to phase in Plan A for Pre-K to 5th graders.

Henry also criticized the board’s decision to not comply with the new school reopening law sooner, saying April 12 was the absolute latest the district could comply. Senate Bill 220 requires districts to offer Plan A for elementary students by April 1 — 21 days after the bill was signed into law — but technically allows compliance no later than the first instructional day after the 21-day period. At its March 22 meeting, the BOE approved the district’s recommendation to make April 1 a work day instead of a half day, making April 12 the first day after the 21-day deadline.

“The lack of urgency from our board is disappointing,” Henry said.

Her kids are excited to double their in-person time, where they’ll now see friends they haven’t seen at school all year. The virtual learning days have been challenging for

her kids, so Henry said they’re all happy about a closer sense of normalcy.

“Again, the whole delay, just waiting on it is

the only downside,” she said, adding she hopes to see five days of in-person learning, and the resumption of activities like proms and graduations, soon — particularly when sports have resumed.

“But you know, we just have to take it day by day right now,” Henry said. “So a battle won, but the war is still is still ongoing, for sure.”

**Some teacher concerns**

The school reopening law also requires districts to offer Plan A or Plan B to middle and high school students. Previously, Plan A was not an option for these age groups due to the required 6 feet of social distancing.

Several teachers told the News + Record that the shift from 6 to 3 feet of distancing concerned them; school staff largely conveyed in a February district survey they wanted to see the 6-foot requirement remain in place.

The district’s current online guidance for Plan A says its schools will “enforce social distancing to the greatest extent

possible.” At previous board meetings, the district said it could only universally guarantee 4 feet of distance, though many classrooms could provide 6 feet under Plan A. CCS also purchased new furniture for all grade levels in school to maximize distancing.

One CCS teacher, who spoke to the News + Record on the condition of anonymity, said the current Plan A decisions don’t take into consideration how old some of the school buildings are. For instance, she said, in some schools windows don’t open and the air conditioning doesn’t work well.

“We are a bit perplexed by the decision because we all feel nothing has been planned,” the teacher said. “Science says Plan A, but how (are) 20 students going to eat together in a trailer? Transitions will be longer, we will be wasting so much time. We feel it is really easy to make a decision when you are not the one in the classroom.”

This teacher had not received specific guidance for how Plan A would work by the beginning of the week, she added, including how lunch,

mask breaks and hallways transitions will work. Still, she doesn’t fault administration, who she says are “breaking their backs trying to figure things out.”

Amanda Hartness, CCS’ assistant superintendent of Academic Services & Instructional Support, told the News + Record Tuesday morning that principals received new guidance on Monday, but “not that much is different.”

She said school staff should’ve heard about the new guidance by the end of Tuesday.

Some teachers expressed concerns that they will have new classes following the transition to Plan A, since school districts are required by Senate Bill 220 to allow current Virtual Academy students to switch to the in-person learning option. The district previously required a semester-long commitment to the fully remote track, particularly for high schoolers.

The district’s FAQ page for Plan A says K-8 students may return to in-person learning, but encourages 9th-12th graders to remain in the Virtual Academy for a full semester, which is through the

end of the school year.

“However, if a family wishes to return students to in-person instruction they may do so,” the website says. “At the high school level this could require a teacher and/or course change, depending on the availability of the in person courses.”

The deadline to move from Virtual Academy is April 9 so the district “can review schedules and make any necessary adjustments” before the April 12 and 19 moves to Plan A.

With new legislation, an updated StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit and changed CDC guidelines, school districts have had to make many adjustments in the last month especially — after an entire year of COVID-19 adaptations.

The CCS teacher said these changes are stressful for school staff.

“How can you, in the middle of a pandemic, when you are dealing with so many people, have ‘changes’ by the day?”

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# OBITUARIES

## GENIE LUCILLE RUSSELL COBLE



Mrs. Genie Lucille Russell Coble passed away on Sunday, March 28, 2021, at UNC Hospice House in Pittsboro.

The daughter of the late Jim Russell and Lula Bell (Hill) Russell, she was born October 15, 1946, in Randolph County (New Hope community). She graduated from Farmer High School and High Point Business College. At an early age, she professed her faith in Jesus Christ. During her childhood, along with

her younger sister Doris, she traveled to several churches to sing and Praise Our Lord Jesus. She was an active member of Pleasant Grove Christian Church and served faithfully in the church choir. Her Christian life was as beautiful as the flowers that she loved so well.

She was united in marriage to Grady Ray Coble in April of 1966. During their marriage, they worked together, side by side, farming and starting a successful business, Coble Furniture Manufacturing. She was well known for working hard until things were accomplished. This union was also blessed with two children and five grandchildren.

Genie was definitely blessed with a green thumb. She loved gardening, sowing her own seeds, raising all kinds of vegetables, planting flowers to watch them bloom, and working outside in her yard. Throughout her life, she always gave precious time every day to her children and grandchildren. Because of her loving, nurturing spirit and personality, she was loved by so many, her influence will forever remain in the lives of all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Grady Ray Coble; daughter, Annette C. Willett (husband, Ryan Willett) of Bear Creek and son, Steven Coble (fiancé, Lisa Ferrell) of Bear Creek; sisters, Ruth Buie of Denton, Pallie Russell of Denton, Callie Callicutt of Troy, Doris Russell of Denton; brother, David Russell of Asheboro; and grandchildren, Hayden, Carter, Aaron, Nicholas and Emory.

Mrs. Coble laid in state at Smith and Buckner Funeral Home on Wednesday, March 30, 2021. The family will receive friends Thursday, April 1, 2021, from 12 to 2 p.m. at Pleasant Grove Christian Church, 5946 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Bennett with graveside service to follow at 2 p.m. in the church cemetery with the Rev. Don Edwards and Rev. Frank Taylor officiating. At other times, family and friends will be received at the home of Annette and Ryan Willett.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Pleasant Grove Christian Cemetery Fund, 5946 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Bennett, N.C. 27208.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

## VIVIAN 'ANN' MANESS DUNN



Vivian "Ann" Maness Dunn, age 80, of Siler City died Tuesday, March 30, 2021, surrounded by family at her home in Siler City.

Mrs. Dunn was born September 21, 1940, the daughter of Luchain Marvin and Mary Lillian Dunn Maness. Ann was a member of Faith Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday School for many years. She loved her Bible. She spent her working years as a seamstress for Selig Furniture Manufacturing. Vivian was a very

patient and kind person, and always took the time to listen to others. She enjoyed spending time with her great grandchild and putting together puzzles in her free time. Vivian was an amazing gardener and would spend every year canning what she grew.

In addition to her parents, Vivian was preceded in death by her husband, Clifton Riley Dunn; grandson, Joshua Riley Dunn; brothers, Jack Maness and Dean Maness; and sister, Laura Taylor.

She is survived by her daughter, Jackie Renee Dunn of Siler City; son, Phillip Berry Dunn of Siler City; sisters, Rosamay Beal of Wilmington, Pearl Hargrove of Siler City, Betty Frye of Pittsboro, and Joan Thomas of Broadnax, Virginia; brothers, Marvin Maness of Siler City and Russell Maness of Austin, Texas; granddaughter, Nicole Mabry of Goldston; and great-granddaughter, Aubrey Ryan Shoemaker.

The family will receive friends Thursday, April 1, 2021, from 2 to 3 p.m. at Faith Baptist Church, 303 Hillbrook Blvd., Siler City, N.C. The funeral will follow on Thursday, April 1, 2021, at 3 p.m. at Faith Baptist Church with Pastor Bobby Shutt officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Randolph, 416 Vision Dr., Asheboro, N.C. 27203, [www.hospiceofrandolph.org](http://www.hospiceofrandolph.org) or Community Home Care & Hospice, 108 Village Lake Road, Siler City, N.C. 27344.

Smith & Buckner is assisting the Dunn family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

## JOYCE OLIVIA EDWARDS



Joyce Olivia Edwards Oldham, 71, of Siler City died Friday, March 26, 2021, at her home surrounded by her family.

Ms. Oldham was born August 12, 1949, in Guilford County, the daughter of Charles Luther and Virginia Bedwell Edwards.

Joyce was employed by The Pantry as a cashier clerk. She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers; Tommy, Johnny and Charles Edwards; sister; Rebecca (Becky) Clark, and granddaughter, Autumn Olivia Dibble. Joyce enjoyed working for the public for over 20 plus. Every customer she encountered loved her and enjoyed her smile.

She is survived by daughters, Suzanne P. Forshey and husband Gene of Goldston and Toni Olivia Oldham of Raleigh; grandchildren, Kasey Marie Hash and husband Chris, Cody Wolfe and wife Holly, and Tariq Siler, great-grandson, Ash Vann Wolfe; and great-grand-baby, Hash; and her beloved canine companions, Diamond and Roxie.

No services are planned at this time.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Oldham family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

## JULIA TURPIN STOKES ELSEE

May 6, 1924 - March 26, 2021

Julia Turpin Stokes Elsee died peacefully at her home on Friday morning, March 26, 2021, following a brief period of declining health. She left this Earth with a smile on her face, and the satisfaction of a long, happy life well-lived.

Julia was born in Winston-Salem to Henry Straughan Stokes and Julia Eloise Brown Stokes. She graduated from R.J. Reynolds High School and Hollins University. Thereafter, she earned her Master's Degree of Social Work from the University of Denver. She put her education to use by going to work for what was then called the Wake County Welfare Department, handling adoptions.

In 1957, Julia married Walter Brand Elsee, who was employed by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and together they settled in Smithfield to raise their three children: Margaret, Allison, and Jeff. Motherhood extra-curriculars like being a PTA parent and leading Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops were all second nature for Julia, and she embraced her role as the "cool parent" among her children's friends. She instilled in her kids a love of nature and a responsibility to preserve the environment — a true and lifelong conservationist. Julia and Walter enjoyed over 31 years of marriage until his death in 1989.

Although raised as a Baptist, Julia joined St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Smithfield following her marriage to Walter, and she remained an active member there for the rest of her life, teaching Sunday School, serving twice as President of the Episcopal Churchwomen, and serving as a Delegate to the Annual Diocesan Convention. Julia was the first woman ever elected to the Vestry at St. Paul's. At the State level, she served on the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry Board, Christian Social Ministries, the Diocesan Council, and the N.C. Episcopal Churchwomen Board, as well as the Executive Board of the N.C. Council of Churches.

Julia lived out her Christian faith in her daily life and always treated everyone she met with dignity, as prescribed in the Golden Rule. Consequently, she vehemently opposed capital punishment and torture and she had no qualms about actively protesting those inhumane practices. Many times, Julia could be found at candlelight vigils outside Central Prison when an execution was taking place, remaining true to her core values of social justice, human rights, and peace.

After the Bosnian War broke out in 1992, Julia met a refugee named Edin Forto, who had escaped the siege of Sarajevo. With Julia's help, among others, Edin graduated from UNC-CH and earned a graduate degree from Columbia University before returning to his native Bosnia to help rebuild his war-torn country. Still, Julia and Edin maintained their connection through phone calls and emails until her death.

Julia dedicated herself to bettering her community, and through her time and philanthropy, she championed causes including mental health, education, and the arts. She served as a member and officer of numerous boards, including the United Way of Johnston County, Mental Health Association of Johnston County (Past-President), N.C. Mental Health Association (Past-President), Contact Teleministry Board, and the Chowan College Advisory Committee. In 2003, the Johnston Community College Foundation Board named Julia its Distinguished Citizen of the Year. Julia traveled extensively with the N.C. Museum of Art and delighted in experiencing private collections and various cultures through her association with the museum's Humber Society and Collector's Cabinet. She was also a tremendous fan of the North Carolina Symphony, attending many concerts each season until the coronavirus pandemic curtailed such wonderful live performances.

In 2003, Gov. Mike Easley named Julia to The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, one of state's highest civilian honors, bestowed on North Carolinians who have a proven record of extraordinary service to the state.

Julia loved a party, and it was said that she never declined an invitation. She adored her legion of friends in Smithfield and was an animated fixture on the social circuit there. Likewise, she hosted many a party at the home on Holts Lake that she and Walter built in 1970, and where she continued to reside until her death. Julia was a member of the Trial and Error Garden Club, and its subset, the Intrepid Travelers. An avid bridge player, Julia participated in many bridge clubs over the years.

In her later life, Julia benefited from exercise in the therapy pool at Healthquest as a participant in senior water aerobics classes. She cherished her friendships with her fellow swimmers and the instructors at Healthquest.

Julia was predeceased by her parents and her beloved husband Walter, as well as her brothers, Colin Stokes and his wife, Mary Louise Siewers Stokes, and Henry Brown Stokes and his wife Etta Violet Stokes.

Julia is survived by her children: Margaret Brand Elsee of Bear Creek, N.C., Allison Sedgwick Elsee of New Orleans, Louisiana, and Walter Jeffords Elsee of Isle of Palms, S.C. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews, as well as the children and grandchildren of those nieces and nephews.

Julia's family is grateful for the loyal and loving care she received at the end of her life from Faye Caudill, Jane Pierce Evans, and the team from Johnston Health Home Care and Hospice.

A private family graveside service was held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, officiated by The Rev. Jill Beimdiek. Attendees observed all social distancing guidelines, including mask wearing. And when the pandemic is less threatening, the family anticipates celebrating Julia's life with a more robust gathering.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributing to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 218 South Second Street, Smithfield, N.C. 27577 or to Johnston Community College, P.O. Box 2350, Smithfield, N.C., 27577, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

## LENA CRAVEN JONES

Lena Craven Jones, 88, of Bennett, passed away on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at Moore Regional Hospital.

The funeral service was held at Bennett Baptist Church at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 27, 2021, with Rev. Tim Strider, Rev. Dr. Jason Whitehurst, John Phillips and Chase Jones presiding.

Lena was born in Randolph County on April 16, 1932, to Claudie and Callie Saunders Craven. She was a member of Bennett Baptist Church, and worked at the John Plant Company for several years. Her favorite job was keeping children

in her home. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Eldon Jones; daughter, Renee Jones May and one grandson.

Lena is survived by her sons, Rick Jones of Wilmington, Jeff Jones of Sanford, Buddy Jones of Thomasville; three grandchildren, three step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren, and five step-great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Bennett Baptist Church, P.O. Box 91, Bennett, N.C. 27208.

Condolences may be offered online at [www.joycebrady-chapel.com](http://www.joycebrady-chapel.com).

## HENRY ALLEN LANGLEY

Henry Allen Langley, 89, of Pittsboro, died Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at Cambridge Hills Assisted Living.

A graveside service with military honors will be held Saturday, March 27, 2021, at 1 p.m. with Rev. Bob Wachs presiding at Hanks Chapel Church Cemetery.

Allen was born in Chatham County on May 27, 1931, to the late John and Iola Langley. He was also preceded in death by his wife Frances Langley. Allen worked at Allied Chemical until he retired. He also helped his wife manage the "Shady Rest Motel."

Surviving relatives include sons, Ron Langley of Knightdale, Greg Langley and Timmy Langley, both of Pittsboro; a daughter; Sandy Green of Pittsboro; and three grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in Alan's memory to Hanks Chapel Church Cemetery Fund, P.O. Box 366, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312.

Condolences may be made at [www.donaldsonfunerals.com](http://www.donaldsonfunerals.com).

## ROY MCMILLIAN HERRING

Roy McMillian Herring, 88, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at Westfield Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 28, 2021, at Lee Memory Gardens with Donald Flynn officiating.

He was born in Bladen County on September 25, 1932, to the late Tede and Elizabeth Byrd Herring. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Thomas Herring and sister, Rachel Rhodes. Roy worked for many years at Lee Builder Mart as credit manager. He served his country in the United States Army.

Mr. Herring is survived by his wife, Nancy Berryman Herring; and a sister, Alice Plenge.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com).

## MARTHA RAY OAKLEY SHEPHERD

Martha Ray Oakley Shepherd, 83, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, March 27, 2021.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. at Shallow Well Cemetery on Friday, April 2, 2021, with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

She was born in Harnett County on August 8, 1937, to the late Robert Madison Oakley and Mary Elizabeth Angel Oakley. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Beulah Mae Dickens. Martha retired from Sears where she worked for many years in customer service.

Mrs. Shepherd is survived by her husband of 60 years, O'Neil Shepherd; a son, Terence Shepherd of Sanford; sisters, Ruth Oakley Cox and Alma Jeanette Oakley, both of Sanford.

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com).

## VENDELL GASAWAY BROOKS

Vendell Gasaway Brooks, 76, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, at the Hospice and Palliative Care of Burlington.

Funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 27, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home with burial following in Lee Memory Garden.

## EARL MARSH

Earl Marsh, 69 of Goldston, passed away Thursday, March 25, 2021, at Sandford Health and Rehabilitation Center.

The funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford. Burial will follow at Roberts Chapel Church.

## LALE SAOLE-LEE HANNER

Lale Saole-Lee Hanner, 23, of Siler City, passed away Friday, March 26, 2021.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Siler City.



# OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

## FRANCES BOWMAN HINSHAW

Frances Bowman Hinshaw, 76, of Siler City passed away on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, surrounded by loved ones at her home in Siler City.

Mrs. Hinshaw was born in Alamance County on July 30, 1944, the daughter of Charles Wayne and Mary Wicker Bowman. Frances was a member of Hickory Grove United Methodist Church. After graduating from Liberty High School in 1962, she spent her working years in the accounting department of Stewart Bowman. In her younger years, Frances loved riding motorcycles, and she was also a fan of going to George Strait concerts. She enjoyed spending time outside, mowing her yard and working in her flower garden. The beach was a part of Frances, from walking in the sand to shagging to the beach music. She loved her family, especially getting to spoil her grandchildren and they loved her cooking.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband of 14 years, Clifford A. Hinshaw; sons, Bryan Carter and wife Karen of Brown Summit, and Kenny Carter and wife Amber of Ormond Beach, Florida; stepson, Brian Hinshaw and wife Patty of Durham; brothers, Jerry Bowman and wife Wanda of Asheboro, Kenneth Bowman of Staley; grandchildren, Cotton and August Carter and Matthew and Andrew Carter; and step grandchildren, Madison and Nathan Hinshaw.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Lori Branson, Amy Black and JaAnna Winslow.

The celebration of life was held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at Rocky River Friends Meeting Church, 1795 Staley-Snow Camp Rd., Siler City, with David Hobson, Jimmy Hill and Willie Pickard officiating.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Randolph, 416 Vision Dr., Asheboro, N.C. 27203, [www.hospiceofrandolph.org](http://www.hospiceofrandolph.org) or Carolina Boxer Rescue, PO Box 87, Hampstead N.C. 28443, [www.carolinaboxerrescue.org](http://www.carolinaboxerrescue.org)

Smith & Buckner is assisting the Hinshaw family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

## RAY PERRY CAMPBELL

Ray Perry Campbell, 56, of Sanford, died Friday, March 26, 2021.

Memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 2, 2021, at the Smith Funeral Home Chapel in Broadway with Leonard Logan officiating.

He was born in Lee County on June 7, 1964, son of Reid Perry Campbell and the late Flora Aleane Stewart Campbell. He was preceded in death by his mother.

Surviving is his father, Reid Perry Campbell of the home; daughter, Megan B. Campbell of Sanford; step-daughter, Tiffany Moore of Sanford; sisters, Natalie Lutz of Sanford, Angela Norton of Lillington; one grandson, four step-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Online condolences can be made at [www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com](http://www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com)

Arrangements are by the Smith Funeral Home of Broadway.

## LARRY THEOPHELUS EVANS

Larry Theopheous Evans, 72, of Pittsboro passed away on Monday, March 22, 2021, at his residence.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Otis B. Evans and Odessa Sellars; siblings, Travis, Debra, and Wayne.

Survivors include his wife, Madeline McCrimmon Evans; children, Tracey Evans, Larry Evans Jr., Geoffrey Evans; siblings, Patricia, Vida, Otis Jr., William, Charles; and 15 grandchildren.

Knotts Funeral Home is serving the Evans family.

## GLORIA ELIZABETH DEAL

Gloria Elizabeth Sanchez Deal, 57, of Sanford, died Saturday, March 27, 2021, at the Jim and Betsy Bryan SECU Hospice Home in Pittsboro.

Memorial service was held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at the Eastside Pentecostal Church with Pastor Ernest Hinson officiating.

She was born on July 9, 1963, daughter of Raul Ramos and the late Naomi Doncel Ramos. She was preceded in death by her mother.

Surviving is her husband, Ronald A. Deal of the home; daughters, Nicole Annette Guerrero of San Diego, California, and Sarah Rose Cruz of Fayetteville; sister Naomi Alicea of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Deborah Ramos of Sanford; brother, John Ramos of Lexington; and two grandchildren.

Online condolences can be made at [www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com](http://www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com).

## TERRY GRIFFIN

Terry Griffin, 58, of Broadway, passed away on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, at his residence.

Graveside service was held at 1 p.m. Monday, March 29 at Lee Memory Garden in Sanford.

## ANNIE MAE (WILLIAMS) DOUGLAS

Mrs. Annie Mae Williams Douglas, 89, passed away, Saturday, March 27, 2021, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

## MARGARET MABLE (MCLEAN) COTTON

Margaret Mable McLean Cotton, 77, passed away Saturday, March 27, 2021, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home of Sanford.

## ERNEST MICHAEL MCLEOD

Ernest Michael McLeod, 62, of Sanford, died Monday, March 29, 2021, at Central Harnett Hospital in Lillington.

Graveside funeral services will be held on Thursday at 2 p.m. at Lee Memory Gardens with Pastor James Derick Howard officiating. Due to COVID-19 mask are requested for the services. Friends may visit Smith Funeral Home on Thursday between the hours of 12 and 1:30 p.m. to sign the register and pay their respects.

He was born in Lee County, son of the late Ernest McLeod and Beatrice McLeod Hicks. He was preceded in death by his parents. Surviving are his sisters, Diane Daniel of Warrenton, Ruth Misklow of Fountain Inn, S.C., and Sarah Batts of Sanford; brothers, Dewey McLeod of Sanford, Terry Eddie Hicks and Frank Allen Hicks both of Sanford; and step-father, Ed Hicks of Sanford.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorials be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 7023, Merrifield, Virginia, 22116-7023.

Online condolences can be made at [www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com](http://www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com).

Arrangements are by the Smith Funeral Home of Broadway.

## SHIRLEY ANN PARKER

Shirley Ann Parker, 66, of Sanford passed away on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at UNC Hospice Home in Pittsboro.

Funeral service was held at 12 p.m. Thursday, March 25, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home with burial following in Minter Cemetery.

## RAEKWON DEVANTE' QUICK

Raekwon Devante' Quick, 25, of Sanford, passed away, Friday, March 19, 2021.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

## JAMES LAMAR PAGE

James Lamar Page, 66, passed away on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at UN.C. Hos-

pice Home in Pittsboro.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home of Sanford.

## EARL MARSH

Earl Marsh, 69, of Goldston, passed away Thursday, March 25, 2021, at Sanford Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

## BY LAURA LEE

Carolina Public Press

All adults ages 16 and older in North Carolina will be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine beginning April 7, Gov. Roy Cooper announced last Thursday. Remaining Group 4 individuals, including non-frontline essential workers and individuals in congregate settings such as student dormitories, will be eligible for vaccination on March 31 under the new state guidelines.

The acceleration of the

priority groups comes as nearly one-third of adult North Carolinians are at least partially vaccinated, Cooper said.

Group 4 essential workers include individuals in retail, banking, hospitality and infrastructure, Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mandy Cohen said. A complete list is available from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

Front-line essential workers became eligible for vaccination on March 24.

Several North Carolina counties are already open to all eligible adults, including Craven, Davidson, Greene, Rockingham and Stokes counties.

Although all adults become eligible on April 7, the age requirement differs by vaccine. Pfizer is the only vaccine authorized for those 16 and 17 years old. The Moderna vaccine and Johnson & Johnson vaccine are authorized only for use by individuals 18 and older.

State officials also announced Healthier Together, a new public-private

partnership with the N.C. Counts Coalition to increase access for historically marginalized populations. The program will encourage vaccination through education efforts, scheduling assistance and translation services.

Black North Carolinians represent about 23% of the total population and about 17% of the total population vaccinated, while Latinx individuals make up 9.8% of the total population but only 4.5% of the total population vaccinated, according to DHHS data.

“Over the next couple of months, N.C. Counts Coalition will be building a team and expanding our grant program to support our work with the state and community-based organizations to increase the number of historically marginalized populations receiving vaccinations,” Stacey Carless, executive director of the coalition, said.

As the vaccination rollout accelerates, Cooper said hesitancy or resistance will need to be addressed at the individual level.

“We’re going to depend on doctors and ministers and family members and friends to push and cajole those who may be hesitant about getting the vaccine,” he said.

The nation reached 100 million vaccinations administered last week. President Joe Biden announced a new goal of 200 million vaccinations in his first 100 days in office, doubling the earlier goal.

Biden said he will direct states to make all adults eligible for vaccines starting May 1. Many states already announced plans to move their eligibility timelines ahead of the president’s schedule.

In Florida, everyone 40 and older can receive the COVID-19 vaccine beginning March 29, with everyone in the state 18 and older eligible on April 5, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced Thursday.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom announced an expansion of the state’s vaccine eligibility to everyone 16 and older beginning April 15.

South Carolina remains in phase 1b, vaccination of those 55 or older, front-line essential workers and individuals with one or more high-risk medical condition. The state is scheduled to move to individuals 45 and older in mid-April.

In North Carolina, vaccine doses are available through local and national pharmacies, county health departments and hospitals. People are fully immunized two weeks following their second dose of the two-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine, according to health officials.

# Vaccine eligibility opens to all North Carolina adults on April 7

State officials announced another acceleration of the priority group timeline, moving remaining essential workers to March 31 and all adults to April 7

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**CHURCH NEWS**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SILER CITY**

Easter Week services will be held at the First Baptist Church, Siler City. Join us Friday, April 2, at 7 p.m. for the Tenebrae service, a time of reflection on what Christ has done for us. Sunday, April 4, at 9:45 a.m. a children's Easter Celebration will begin. Adult Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Easter worship service will begin in the sanctuary at 11 a.m. with Pastor, Rev. Jason Brogan. We will celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with special music, flowering of the Cross and Communion.

The church is located at 314 North Second Ave.

**HICKORY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH**

An Easter Fest will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 3, at Hickory Mountain Baptist Church for children and adults. There will be Easter festivities plus a cake walk, games, food, face painting, story time and music.

Please join this event. The church is located at 1094 Mt. Vernon-Hickory

Mountain Rd., Siler City.

**SANDY BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH**

You are invited to join us for Easter Services at Sandy Branch Baptist Church. For services, you may stay in your vehicles and tune your radio to 100.5 FM or you may come in the sanctuary. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask inside the church. You can also watch the service on Facebook live.

A Maundy Thursday service will be held April 1 at 7 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, we will have a Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. Breakfast will be served in the activities building at 8 (masks are required). Sunday School will follow at 9.

We are located at 715 Sandy Branch Church Road, Bear Creek.

**FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, PITTSBORO**

Services will take place at 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 4, at the First Missionary Baptist Church, Pittsboro. Pastor Ned Thorpe will deliver the morning message. Come be a part of this service. The church is located at 688 Thompson St.

**LEWIS FREEMAN | 1773-1847**

# More than 200 years later, a freed Pittsboro man's legacy lives on

**BY LAURA BRUMMETT**  
UNC Media Hub

PITTSBORO — Built in 1811 by a free Black man, the Lewis Freeman House was one of the first buildings in the town of Pittsboro.

Still standing today, it witnessed the horrors of the Civil War, during the Great Depression in the 1930s, its brick fireplace kept its occupants warm. In the 1960s, the original wood door opened as the Civil Rights Movement spread across the country.

Now, thanks to renovation and preservation work done by current owner, architect Grimsley Hobbs, the house — at 56 Rectory Street — has witnessed the global COVID-19 pandemic.

It is one of only four remaining dwellings from Pittsboro's initial settlement in the early 19th century and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The man behind it all, Lewis Freeman, was not only memorable because he was a free Black man in a society where slavery was the law, but also because he was a prominent figure in the area and owned a significant amount of land.

Freeman's exact trade is unknown, but he had money. He bought his wife and children's freedom, built his house and owned at least 20 acres of land.

Mary Nettles, president of the Chatham County community branch of the NAACP, has been researching Freeman's past and ties to Chatham County.

Although there were some free Black men living in the area at the time, she said, it would have been rare for a Black man to own that much land and real estate.

According to ancestry.com, in 1840, just seven years before Freeman's death, about 8.5% of North Carolina's total Black population was free.

Hobbs has a passion for historic architecture and restoration, and he bought the Freeman house the same day it went up for sale.

He knew that the woman who had owned it, Jane Pyle, had restored part of the house herself. Hobbs finished the job and moved his architectural firm into the house in 2016. His company was also able to get tax credits for the historic preservation work that they did. Pyle's estate donated at least one lot of Freeman's original parcel to the town to be made into a park in Freeman's honor, Hobbs said. The pandemic has slowed those plans down, but they are still under way.

For Hobbs, the house was small for his architectural firm, so he brought in a log cabin built in 1867 converted into a conference room. He likes to be able to share the house with the community, allowing people to hold meetings there for free.

"It's just our turn to look after the house," he said.

Preserving Freeman's house has allowed his legacy to inspire others, Nettles said.

"It made me feel that we, as Black people, if

you put your mind to it, you can do almost anything," she said. "It's history showing how small actions can have big impacts for years to come."

Nettles' ancestors arrived in America with other enslaved people.

"Our history has never really been told," she said. "Black history is not in the history books. You know, it was told pretty much only in the neighborhoods we lived in."

Although much of Freeman's story is still unknown, Hobbs is still impressed by what is known.

"He must have been a really remarkable man," he said. "Living in a time where slavery was the law, and he was a free man. It's a great Chatham County story, it's a great American story, how he managed to survive in what must have been a hostile place."

Beyond the house, Freeman's legacy lives on.

His grandson, Robert Tanner Freeman, was in Harvard's first ever dental class, and was the first black person to graduate from dental school in the United States.

His great-great-grandson, Robert C. Weaver, was the first Black Cabinet member, appointed Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966.

And his great-great-great-grandson, Harold P. Freeman, is an Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Columbia University in New York. He has also served as National President of the American Cancer Society in 1988.



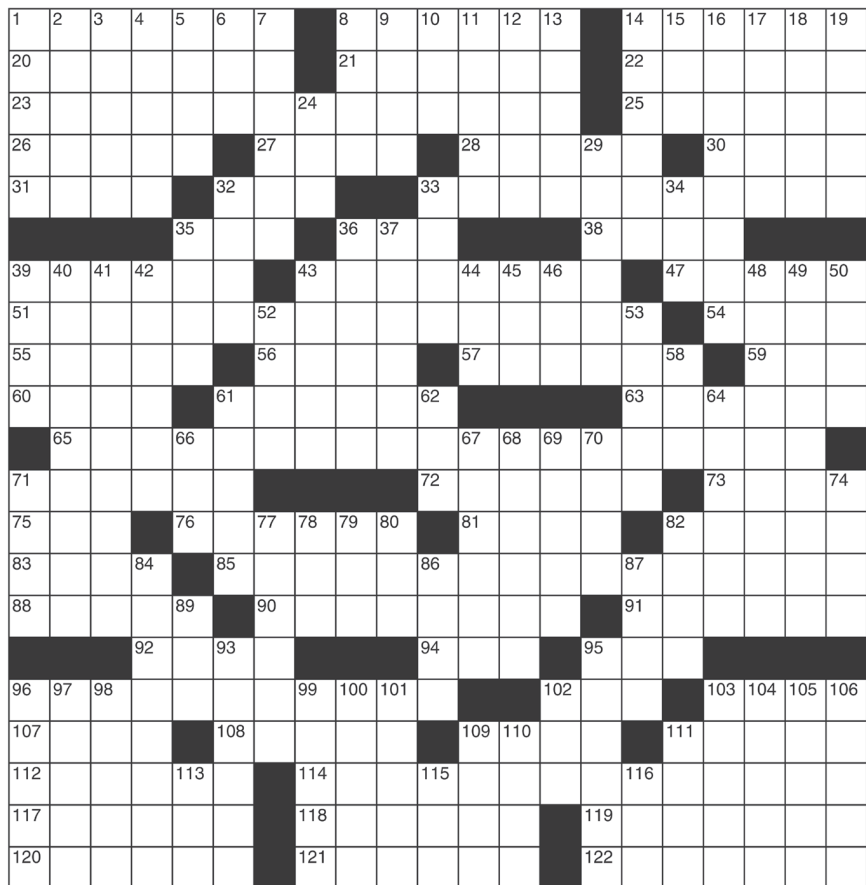
Photo courtesy of Grimsley Hobbs

The Lewis Freeman House was built in 1811 and was one of the first buildings in Pittsboro.

**PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo**

**STUDY OF GENESIS**

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| 30 Stitch's cartoon friend                 | 67 Candy in collectible dispensers  | 112 Stick together                                    | 18 Singer/rapper Green               | 62 — Moines                                   | 100 Kidney-related            |
| 31 Bleating females                        | 68 "Mice" or "lice," but not "rice" | 114 Bible's first words (apt for this puzzle's theme) | 19 Attach                            | 64 Minis, midis and maxis                     | 101 "Neon" fish               |
| 32 Speedy plane                            | 71 Keyless, musically               | 117 Actress McNichol or Swanson                       | 24 Purring pet                       | 66 GPS display                                | 102 Schooner fill             |
| 33 It turns a computer on                  | 72 Many a                           | 118 Quarterback great Dan                             | 29 "Remington —"                     | 67 Tetley competitor                          | 103 One of the Bush twins     |
| 35 Always, to bards                        | 73 — Dinka                          | 119 Flow out  | 32 Bach's "—, Joy of Man's Desiring" | 68 Bridal gown features                       | 104 Around a line of symmetry |
| 36 Vintage auto                            | 75 "Mice" or "lice," but not "rice" | 120 Smallish sofa                                     | 33 Mediocre                          | 69 Grain towers                               | 105 AI — (a bit firm)         |
| 38 Active Sicilian volcano                 | 76 "Mice" or "lice," but not "rice" | 121 Slip away   | 34 108-card game                     | 70 Hammer's striking end                      | 106 Knife features            |
| 39 Holders of emergency supplies           | 77 Blowout, e.g.                    | 122 City in Arizona or Mexico                         | 35 Frozen waffle brand               | 71 Since Hector was —                         | 109 Birds sitting on clutches |
| 43 Women with babies on the way            | 82 Look for prey, as a lion         | <b>DOWN</b>   | 36 Move in circles                   | 74 Everybody, in Essen                        | 110 Conical-bore woodwind     |
|  | 83 Cyber-addresses                  | 1 Inclined land                                       | 37 "Lose Yourself" rapper            | 77 Starts to remove a jacket, say             | 111 Hosiery flaw              |
|  | 85 Membership ceremony              | 2 "Bam!"  | 39 Natural ability                   | 78 — de Janeiro                               | 113 GPS display: Abbr.        |
|  | 88 Phony: Prefix                    | 3 Singer Cara   | 40 Many short plays                  | 79 — -Z (total)                               | 115 Trendy                    |
|  |                                     |   | 41 Hoodwink                          |   | 116 "It seems to me," online  |



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

**Arthritis Foundation**  
**Arthritis Exercise Classes (Virtual)**

ZOOM thru Chatham Council on Aging  
 10 am  
 Mondays & Thursdays  
 April 5—June 3 (no class on 5/31)

For best results, attend at least 13 of the 16 sessions

Register at: [ChathamCOA.Org/COA-Virtual-Activities/](https://ChathamCOA.Org/COA-Virtual-Activities/)  
 OR  
<https://tinyurl.com/COA-Arthritis>

For more information:  
 Jackie.Green@ChathamCOA.Org or 919-542-4512, ext. 227



NEWS BRIEFS

**Tiana Brooks selected to exhibit work at 2021 Emerging Artists Invitational**

SILER CITY — Tiana Brooks, a senior at Jordan-Matthews High School and JMArts Scholar, was one of 35 high school artists statewide chosen to exhibit work at The 2021 Emerging Artists Invitational, an annual exhibition for high

school artists sponsored by the Sechrest Gallery of Art and the High Point University School of Art and Design.

Her mixed media work, "Say Their Names," is appearing now in the exhibition being held online this spring due to the pandemic. In past years, the event has taken place in the art gallery and has culminated with a daylong special program for students featuring workshops, tours of High Point art facilities and a special reception to honor the works on exhibition.

This year's virtual exhibition runs through April 19. It can be viewed at [highpoint.edu/artdesign/2021/03/11/emerging\\_artists\\_2021/](http://highpoint.edu/artdesign/2021/03/11/emerging_artists_2021/) by scrolling through the slide show and clicking on any image for a larger view of the work. During the exhibition, the Sechrest Gallery will announce special prizes and feature each work on its Instagram feed.

"This piece was created for the sole purpose of remembering the Black women who lost their lives in the hands of police officers," Brooks said of her work. "We must remember these women and fight for their rights and justice."

Themes of compassion, understanding and justice run through much of Brooks' work, one reason among many that JM art teacher Rahkie Mateen-Mason has developed such respect for the young artist. "We often hear that life imitates art, but art also imitates life," Mateen-Mason said. "In Tiana's piece, 'Say their Names,' Tiana tackled a really tough subject. I think what I admire most about Tiana is that her art is so personal that it often becomes universal."

Brooks received first place in "Path to the Woods," a 2019 juried art show at Jordan-Matthews held in conjunction with the high school's stage production of "Into the Woods." She has exhibited at other shows in the area including the 2019 Chatham Artists Guild Studio Tour Student Show, received her school's 2020 Young Artist Award and was named a 2020 JMArts Scholar, an annual honor awarding scholarships for intensive study over the summer at weeklong, residential workshops offered on university campuses.

More information about JMArts, including a schedule of upcoming arts events and information on membership, is available online at [JMArts.org](http://JMArts.org).

**Lee & Associates to lease Mosaic, mixed-use gateway to Chatham Park**

Lee & Associates Raleigh-Durham, the regional office of the national commercial real estate firm Lee & Associ-

ates, announced it has been appointed to manage all leasing coordination for the new 44-acre mixed-use development, MOSAIC at Chatham Park.

This development serves as the gateway to Chatham Park, a 7,100-acre live-work-play-learn community in the heart of Pittsboro. MOSAIC is the first commercial center of Chatham Park and offers 750,000 square feet of retail, restaurant, office, medical, service and educational space for lease.

"MOSAIC will easily become the standard for mixed-use development throughout North Carolina," said Moss Withers, CEO & President of Lee & Associates Raleigh-Durham. "The development team's vision, master plan and merchandise mix, as well as growing populations in nearby Raleigh and Chapel Hill, position this project for incredible success. New businesses have already committed to 60% of the available space which shows the pent-up demand within the state of North Carolina's third-fastest growing county."

With the first building set to open May, Phase I includes 200,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space and 88,000 square feet of office space, alongside a Hampton Inn & Suites, The Guild apartment homes, Tessera at MOSAIC luxury condos and entertainment venues. Future phases include additional residential homes, office and retail. This project is led by MOSAIC developer, Kirk Bradley, CEO & President, Lee-Moore Capital, along with Chatham Park developers, Bubba Rawl and Tim Smith.

Furthermore, Lee & Associates Raleigh-Durham will manage the land brokerage of Northwood Landing, a 92-acre site that includes a Lowes Foods-anchored shopping center and 312 multi-family units across from the MOSAIC property. Outparcels, ranging in size from 0.85 to 2.0 acres, are available for retail, restaurant, bank and medical.

"We are excited to partner with Lee & Associates," says Bradley. "To have such a reputable firm represent MOSAIC at Chatham Park is certainly a win for our mixed-use community. We are confident the Lee & Associates team will assist in bringing our vision to life with a unique balanced merchandise mix, serving the needs and desires of the local community and beyond."

Hunter Stewart, MBA, Vice President, will lead the leasing team; for all inquiries, please call 919-576-2507. Additional leasing team members include Moss Withers, SIOR, MBA, CEO & Principal, Brian Farmer, Managing Director & Vice President, Jenn Olevitch-Roberson, Vice President, and Christina Coffey, Vice President.

— CN+R staff reports

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW**

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-322 the Chatham County Board of Equalization and Review will meet as required by law.

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**

To hear upon request, any and all taxpayers who own or control taxable property assessed for taxation in Chatham County, with respect to the valuation of such property or the property of others, to schedule hearings, and to fulfill duties and responsibilities required by law.

**TIME OF MEETINGS**

The Board will convene Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be held at 1192 US Hwy 64 West Business, Pittsboro NC (Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center). The Board will be open to receive appeals of value and will adjourn on May 6, 2021 at 5:00 PM. At that time the Board adjourns, no additional appeals can be accepted by the Board of Equalization and Review for tax year 2021.

Those individuals with written requests for hearings received prior to 5:00 PM on May 6, 2021, the advertised date for adjournment of the Board of Equalization and Review, will be notified when and where to appear for their individual hearings.

In the event of earlier or later adjournment, notice to that effect will be published in this newspaper.

The schedule for the hearing of appeals timely filed will be posted at the Office of the Assessor, serving as Clerk to the Board of Equalization and Review.

All requests for hearings should be made in writing to:

**Tax Administrator  
PO Box 908  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
Telephone (919) 545-8404**



The vision for Chatham Park extends far beyond that of just a master-planned community. Every detail, every amenity has been considered to offer a balanced, well-rounded lifestyle for those *In Pursuit of a Life Well Lived* – including of course the types of homes in which residents can choose to live.

**“IN PURSUIT OF A LIFE WELL LIVED,”**

The Chatham Park development team is excited to announce that new home plans in Vineyards at Chatham Park will be introduced by both David Weekley Homes and Garman Homes. While Garman Homes was the first residential builder to partner with Chatham Park and has already built and sold out of The Cottages Collection in Vineyards, they will be introducing new home plans under their debut brand: NONFICTION. David Weekley Homes joins Garman Homes and custom home builder team in the Vineyard at Chatham Park builder group. New home starts are expected to commence immediately to meet pent-up demand.

These additions are the beginning of what will be a high-growth year for the community. Nearly 500 homesites are scheduled to be delivered or in some stage of construction during 2021. This

increased activity will trigger the addition of new home builders, price points, and a variety of home products which will eventually establish the community as one of the largest in the area.



The Careywood B by David Weekley

"It is imperative that the homes in Chatham Park foster the vision of the community as a whole and provide our homeowners with the floor plans, features and lifestyle they desire," said Executive Vice President Vanessa Jenkins of Preston Development. "We know that David Weekley Homes will be a great asset to our builder team and are thrilled our partnership with Garman Homes has expanded."

*Building Dreams, Enhancing Lives*  
**David Weekley Homes**

Founded in 1976 in Texas, David Weekley Homes has grown to become the largest privately-held home builder in

America. They are committed to providing homes that are built with beauty and comfort in mind, combining both form and function. David Weekley Homes plans to bring that same commitment to Chatham Park with single-family floor plans in their Kenan Collection, priced from the mid-\$300s.

"David Weekley Homes is excited to be one of the first builders in Chatham Park," said Raleigh Division President Ryan Wells. "We look forward to bringing our high-quality and innovative home designs to this new master-planned community."



No Little Plans by Garman Homes

Garman Homes began in 2007 and are known for their four Garman Differences – they hire Rock Stars, guarantee a closing date, have the G-Team that ensures a smooth transition from homebuilder to homeowner, and they also give back with a portion of every sale going toward local causes and charities. NONFICTION by Garman Homes boasts single family-homes from their Quotables Collection which includes four floorplans priced from the high-\$300s.

**NONFICTION**  
*by Garman Homes*

"Chatham Park is a one-of-a-kind community, and the promise of what life looks like in that community is tremendous," said Alaina Money-Garman, founder and CEO of Garman Homes. "We want to bring the best of what Garman Homes has to offer to this incredible project."





*You should be so proud of each and every one of them - - - from the Greeter to the the one with the swabs. They made an unenjoyable experience almost fun.*

*Good job - and tell them all to be safe -*

SUSAN STRICKLAND

Smithfield, NC

Join us on **March 30th,**  
**National Doctors' Day,** to honor the heroes on our staff who go the distance to save lives, give comfort and provide unmatched service in our community.





'THIS IS EXTREMELY UNUSUAL'

# Academic ineligibility significantly cuts some Chatham team rosters



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

As student-athletes navigate many different challenges while playing sports during a pandemic and adjusting to virtual learning, one jarring change has been the number of student-athletes deemed academically ineligible this spring. Chatham County Schools, specifically Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central, have been hit hard with ineligibility issues. As J-M's athletic director Josh Harris put it, 'This is extremely unusual.'

*Remote learning and other COVID-19-influenced issues keeping some student-athletes from competing*

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

From working out virtually in the offseason to wearing masks while competing in front of mostly empty bleachers, high school sports across Chatham County — and the rest of the state — have had a much different look and feel this year.

Perhaps the most jarring change, however, is the number of student-athletes who haven't experienced any of that, the ones who never got to put on a uniform because

they failed to meet academic requirements, making them ineligible for sports.

Across the county, many students — from incoming freshmen to seniors — were stripped of their eligibility this season, hitting schools like Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central much harder than usual.

Challenges brought by remote learning could be the culprit.

At Chatham County Schools, high schoolers were under the completely remote Plan C learning option until Feb. 1,

just short of a full year from when Gov. Roy Cooper closed schools last spring as the COVID-19 pandemic took hold. While remote learning wasn't all negative — some students used the time to explore academic interests and hobbies, and many teachers cited extra individualized time with their students as positives — isolation from friends, unreliable broadband connections and the exhaustion of so much screen time led to academic declines for many students.

See **ROSTERS**, page B2

## NORTHWOOD 10, ORANGE 7



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior running back Aidan Laros (33) looks to stave off an Orange defender as he runs to the end zone in his team's 10-7 win over Orange on Friday. Laros scored the lone touchdown for the Chargers in the victory.

# Northwood prevails against Orange in defensive standoff

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chargers aren't pretty.

They aren't shooting for style points when they lace up their cleats and take the field.

They aren't throwing 25 or 30 passes in a typical game.

They don't have a quarterback firing SportsCenter Top 10-type dimes to speedy receivers downfield.

They don't have pass-catchers regularly making physical, Randy Moss-esque catches over defensive backs.

They aren't getting in offensive shootouts every week.

What they do have is a hard-nosed, tough style of football, one that'll carry over no matter the opponent. And that's just the way they like it.

That style shone in Northwood's 10-7 home win over the Orange Panthers on Friday, a defensive dogfight where the Chargers prevailed to earn their first victory against Orange in Pittsboro in eight years.

"It just took our kids to start realizing they can play with anybody they want to," said Northwood's second-year head coach Cullen Homolka. "They're 15-, 16-, 17-, 18-year-olds just like (Orange is). When they can start figuring that out, they're just as tough as those kids and we can beat anybody we play. It's fun."

This was a game carried by

the defensive and special teams units.

No stat or highlight proves that better than the fact the Panthers didn't score a single offensive touchdown — or point — all night.

In the third quarter, with the Chargers trailing 7-3 after a made field goal from Northwood senior Aidan Laros, the Panthers were forced to take the ball at their own 6-yard-line after Laros kicked the ball to the sideline on the ensuing kickoff, which touched an Orange player before landing out of bounds.

What followed was a phenomenal defensive stand that saw Northwood push back three straight Orange rushing plays, including two for losses. By the end of the short-lived Panthers' possession, they were punting from their own 1-yard-line.

As Orange junior kicker/punter Darrius Satterfield came onto the field, it was hard to forget the rough night he'd already had.

In the first half, Satterfield had two of his field goals blocked by the Chargers' special teams brigade, who swarmed the ball in no time on both plays and didn't even give him a chance to take a shot at the uprights.

And in that moment, punting from his own 1-yard-line, Satterfield kicked the ball high up in the air as gravity quickly pulled it back down, it took a

Northwood bounce and rolled out of bounds at Orange's 17-yard-line.

The Chargers' offense, which struggled to move the ball on Friday, finally had excellent starting field position.

Four plays later — after an angry 11-yard run by junior running back Jalen Paige where he broke a few tackles before being pulled down inside the 5-yard-line — Laros ran it in for a one-yard score, then hit the extra point to give Northwood the 10-7 lead it'd keep for the remainder of the contest.

"If you go watch every one of our games, (defense and special teams) is what keeps us in them," said Homolka. "From the beginning of this entire thing, that was the thing I said, 'I want you guys to take whatever you need for those two units and make them the best units you can.'"

Orange had two drives that followed Northwood's first touchdown, but in both cases, the Chargers' defense held steady, forcing a missed 31-yard field goal on the first and a turnover on downs at the Northwood 49-yard-line on the second.

After Orange's senior quarterback Jayce Hodges was shoved out of bounds short of the marker on fourth down, it was all but over.

It may not have been pretty,

See **NORTHWOOD**, page B4

## RANDLEMAN 15, J-M 5 (5 INNINGS)

# Jets run out of fuel early as Randleman's Rice collects 10 strikeouts

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — It was all fun and games until Sarah Rice showed up on the mound.

From there, it was all missed swings, empty bases and mounting deficits.

The Jordan-Matthews Jets softball team ran out of fuel after a successful first inning against the Randleman Tigers at home on Tuesday, falling 15-5 in just five innings in their season-opener.

While it was drizzling for most of the contest, it wasn't the steady downpour of rain that stopped play earlier than seven innings. It was the mercy rule.

When a team is down by 10 runs through five innings — as the Jets were on Tuesday — the umpires call it. Game over.

However, the final score implies a blowout, one where Jordan-Matthews had no chance at earning the win.

In reality, that wasn't the case. The Jets had a shot — at least until Rice took the mound.

Rice, a senior committed to play at Mount Olive University, an NCAA Division II school in Eastern N.C., next season, struck out 10 batters in 4.2 innings, walking just two and allowing zero hits and zero runs.

She single-handedly halted an offense that was hot and appeared to be getting hotter.

In the top of the first inning, Randleman capitalized off of a couple of early walks and errors, including a couple

of wild pitches from sophomore pitcher Macy Beavers, making it 4-0 from the get-go as J-M immediately dug itself into a hole.

However, the Jets hit Randleman's sophomore pitcher Mackenzie Roach just as well.

A half-inning later, the Jets got on the board with relative ease by virtue of a couple of extra-base hits — an RBI triple by freshman Logan Gunter to make it 4-1 and a double by senior Eve Long — which led to timely errors, two of which resulted in two runs to make it 4-3 and, most notably, superb baserunning, something they did well all night.

With runners on the corners and junior Erin Maddox at the plate, junior Auburn Campbell dashed to steal second, forcing Randleman's catcher to try and throw her out. The ball sailed past the second baseman, allowing freshman Ragan Smith to score and Campbell to reach third. Tied ballgame, 4-4.

A wild pitch to start off the next at-bat allowed Campbell to score, giving the Jets a 5-4 lead with one out in the bottom of the first inning.

"I was impressed with the way the girls battled the whole game," said Rick Willoughby, the Jets' head coach. "The girls never gave up."

At that point, it appeared that Jordan-Matthews had all of the momentum, primed to put more runs on the board in what was already an impressive first-inning scoring party.

See **JETS**, page B4



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Jordan-Matthews freshman catcher Ragan Smith (left) tags out a Randleman baserunner as she heads to home in the Jets' season-opening loss to Randleman, 15-5, last Tuesday.



# CCCC volleyball team is NJCAA Division III Region 10 champions

From Central Carolina Community College

SANFORD — Central Carolina Community College Volleyball Coach Bill Carter said at the beginning of the 2021 volleyball season that his team may be the most skilled in his 13 years as coach.

The CCCC Cougars won six of their eight matches — and recently claimed the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III Region 10 regular season and tournament championship.

“From the outset of the season, our goal was to work as hard as possible in order to be prepared to be the best that we could be,” Carter said. “The 2020-2021 Cougar volleyball team is the most skilled and determined group that I have ever coached here at Central Carolina Community College.” Carter praised all of



Submitted photo

**The Central Carolina Community College volleyball team recently won the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III Region 10 regular season and tournament championship. Pictured are, left to right: Coach Bill Carter, Mekenzie Harris, Jalanni Gadist, Grace McAllister, Lily Bonner, Taylor Rosser, Breighanna Hobbs, Pristina Tabon, Coach Will Carter and Coach Marissa Thomas. Not pictured is Kaiyan Padilla.**

the members of his team — including sophomore captains Grace McAllister (Shining Light Christian School, Raleigh) and Taylor Rosser (Western Harnett H.S., Broadway),

who have led the team on and off the court. Mekenzie Harris (Grace Christian School, Sanford) and Breighanna Hobbs (Triton H.S., Coats) were strong on the offensive front, while

Jaloni Gadist (Pine Forest H.S., Fayetteville), Kaiyan Padilla (Northglenn H.S., Denver, Colorado) and Pristina Tabon (Southern Lee H.S., Sanford) locked down the defense and

passing for the Cougars. The catalyst who provided a huge assist to the Cougar volleyball team this season was the setter, Lily Bonner (Southern Lee H.S., Sanford).

In the tournament championship match, CCCC defeated Patrick Henry Community College by scores of 25-9, 25-18 and 25-18. It was CCCC’s third victory over PHCC during the season.

CCCC’s Rosser, McAllister and Bonner were each named to the All-Region First Team, along with Ashley Mesot and Savannah Roberts of PHCC. Rosser was Region 10 Player of the Year and Carter was Region 10 Coach of the Year.

Carter said he was overjoyed that the team accomplished its goals and will leave the legacy of a conference and tournament championship.

“I would like to thank Will Carter, assistant coach, for pushing and challenging the team like only he could, and Marissa Thomas, assistant coach, for providing her expertise in any area that was needed,” Carter said.

## ROSTERS

Continued from page B1

Last semester, the number of Chatham County students who received a grade of D or F in at least one class increased by nearly 74% from the previous year, according to December data released by the district’s central office. The district previously said schools in more rural areas with a higher number of lower socioeconomic students showed a higher rate of these failure/at-risk rates.

It’s no surprise, then, that such schools have also been negatively impacted by statewide student-athlete eligibility standards set by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA). According to its policy, in the semester before the start of their sport’s season, a student must attend at least 85% of mandatory classes and pass “a minimum load of work,” which amounts to three out of four classes in a typical block semester. The student must also pass six of eight classes in a given school year.

A December study released by McKinsey & Company found that, “On average ... students lost the equivalent of three months of learning in mathematics and one and a half months of learning in reading” last semester, meaning that many students are behind normal learning schedules. This is only exacerbated when looking at schools that predominantly serve students of color.

The number of students falling behind notably increased the number of student-athletes declared ineligible to compete when sports started back up across Chatham County this winter, according to data from several district coaches and directors.

### Impact on competition

Tracking the number of ineligible athletes in a given semester is tricky.

While it’s easy to determine the data of how many students were struck off of already-constructed rosters due to ineligibility, it becomes harder when athletic directors try to track the number deemed ineligible before those rosters were created for the season. Often, students who know they don’t meet academic requirements to participate won’t bother trying out in the first place, meaning that a school’s true ineligibility numbers are likely higher than those the institution provides.

For example, it is estimated that Chatham Central had between 16 and 22 student-athletes who didn’t meet eligibility requirements across six sports, based on data provided to the News + Record by Bears’ Athletic Director Bob Pegram and Head Football Coach Sherman Howze. In a typical year, Chatham Central might have a maximum of four student-athletes fail to meet academic standards, Pegram said.

Howze told the News + Record prior to the season that he lost 14 football players alone to ineligibility — 35% of his original roster.

“We stressed to (students) last March, everything in the first semester when we come back to school is going to count, regardless of whether it’s remote or not,” Howze said. “The grades are going to count. I just stressed it and stressed it, but if you don’t have kids in your vision, in your face, a lot of kids struggle with online learning.”

Jordan-Matthews was hit equally hard, if not harder, though specific data for school-wide ineligibility wasn’t tracked by the school.

Sam Spencer, second-year head football coach for the J-M Jets, told the News + Record last week that he lost 22 returning players — many of whom were sophomores — to ineligibility.

Include incoming freshmen, and that number jumps to 30. Freshmen are typically automatically eligible, but many weren’t this year since the football season began in the spring instead of the fall.

Jordan-Matthews has just 27 players on its football roster, meaning that more than 50% of the team’s potential roster of 57 players was deemed ineligible.

Overall, Jordan-Matthews lost at least one player to ineligibility in each sport aside from cross country and volleyball, both of which started last semester and used grades from spring 2020 to determine eligibility.

“This is extremely unusual for that many returning athletes to not cut it academically,” Jordan-Matthews Athletic Director Josh Harris wrote to the News + Record in an email message on Monday. “I can’t speak for other schools but for J-M this has been a major blow to all of the athletic momentum we thought we were gaining last year.” Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central were

both among CCS schools which reported higher failure/at-risk rates last semester. They’re located in Siler City and Bear Creek, respectively, areas where spotty broadband and poor WiFi access create challenges for many families with children in school. These schools also have a larger proportion of lower socioeconomic students, particularly compared to Northwood High School, which did not see much of an impact from eligibility requirements — losing just two athletes to ineligibility across 11 sports, according to Cameron Vernon, the school’s co-athletic director.

“I’m telling you, it hit Jordan-Matthews hard,” Spencer said. “It hit everybody hard, but it hit Jordan-Matthews real hard. ... We’re just trying to make the best of it and trying to be as competitive as we can.”

Obviously, schools whose teams have lost experienced players to ineligibility can find it difficult to compete on the playing field. The Jets, for example, play in the PAC 7, a conference comprised mostly of Randolph County Schools — where students have been in Plan B, or hybrid learning, since the start of the school year.

“They were on Plan B the whole first semester, so they didn’t really lose any guys,” said Spencer. “As a matter of fact, the coach at Providence Grove told me he’s got the most kids he’s ever had.”

So far this football season, Chatham Central has a 1-2 record, while Jordan-Matthews is 0-5.

For the Bears and the Jets, each of whom have fewer than 30 players on their rosters, students are having to play more snaps, forcing them to learn how to play multiple positions on both sides of the ball. These additional snaps, along with a lack of rest, contribute to further wear and tear on players’ bodies, said Spencer, increasing their risk of injury.

“There’s just no depth,” Spencer said. “We’ve got some talented kids and they do the best they can, but when the other teams change possessions and they’ve only got one or two kids that stay on the field and we’ve got just about all 11, after two and a half quarters that’s going to take a toll on you.”

At Jordan-Matthews, men’s soccer was also heavily affected, though it didn’t stop the soccer powerhouse from claiming a PAC 7 conference title and making it to the NCHSAA 2A Sweet 16. “A lot of the players

have eligibility issues,” Jets’ Head Coach Paul Cuadros told the News + Record. “We did not have eligibility issues in the past few years, but pretty obviously, the kids have suffered under the pandemic and not being able to go to school and have access to the internet to be able to do their work.”

### The decision to opt out

Eligibility aside, participation numbers declined in many sports programs because students didn’t feel comfortable trying out or playing in the middle of a pandemic. Such was the case for Daisy Lavariega, a swimmer and cross country runner at Jordan-Matthews who chose to forego her senior season.

“This year, I was going to get back into sports and stuff like that, but I can’t,” Lavariega told the News + Record last November. “(My) parents (are) just scared that I’ll have the virus, or that I will have it and I won’t know and then ... when my family comes over, I’d get them all infected, so they’re just scared.”

Spencer also said some students didn’t try out for football because remote learning made them feel disconnected and less motivated.

“We had a couple of kids that were eligible and being on remote learning the whole time, I think they just didn’t feel connected to the school anymore,” Spencer said. “They were just like, ‘Nah, Coach. I’m not really into it.’ And a couple of those kids, we thought, had a chance to be all-conference-caliber players and they didn’t come out because they just weren’t into it.”

Across the county, district athletic director Chris Blice said CCS has seen a drop in participation on both the high school and middle school levels this year, citing instances where middle schools couldn’t field certain teams they’ve had for years or where rosters have shrunk significantly as less students attend tryouts.

“I don’t have any data that would confirm or deny the idea that COVID online learning, digital learning, has affected eligibility,” said Blice, who is also assistant superintendent for operations at CCS. “I think there’s probably truth to it. But I don’t know how much of it was ... just COVID.”

CCS implemented or continued multiple student support options to combat academic declines, which vary based on a student’s grade level: teacher office hours,

tutoring groups, extensions and credit recovery opportunities, a 24-hour homework support line with Princeton Review in English and Spanish, social-emotional check-ins with teachers, guidance counselors and administrators and more.

Now that CCS high schoolers are moving to Plan A on April 19, coaches appear hopeful they can get their programs back on track as they’ve been working to motivate their players — especially those deemed ineligible this year — to bring their grades up.

While that doesn’t relieve students’ present stresses or the hits taken

by athletic departments, nor restore the final year of seniors’ athletic careers lost to ineligibility, it does bring promise for sports in the fall and beyond.

“We anticipate that we’re going to get a number of those guys back and a couple of juniors, as well,” Spencer said of his program. “We’ll get the ball rolling here in a few weeks. ... getting the momentum going again toward getting these numbers back up and getting this program in the direction we want it to go.”

Reporters Hannah McClellan and Victoria Johnson contributed to this report.



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CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

# This week's schedule and last week's results

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

match. Here are this week's schedules and last week's results.

**THIS WEEK**

**Wednesday, March 31**

Softball: Chatham Central women vs. Gray Stone Day, 4:30 p.m.

Softball: Jordan-Matthews women vs. Wheatmore, 6 p.m.

Tennis: Northwood men at East Chapel Hill, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Chatham

Central, 4:30 p.m.

**Thursday, April 1**

Football: Chatham Central vs. South Davidson, 6:30 p.m.

Football: Jordan-Matthews vs. Wheatmore, 7 p.m.

Football: Northwood vs. Panther Creek, 6:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 2**

Softball: Chatham Charter vs. Southern Wake, 4 p.m.

**LAST WEEK**

**Monday, March 22**

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews women trounced the Randleman Tigers at home, 9-2. Leading the Jets were senior Jennifer Parroquin Vallejo (hat trick; 3 goals) and freshman Janeyra Guerrero (2 goals).

Soccer: The Northwood women lost a close one to the Chapel Hill Tigers, 2-1. Scoring the lone goal for the Chargers was sophomore Sydney Cox.

Soccer: The Woods Charter women won handily over the Research Triangle Raptors on the road, 4-1. Leading the Wolves were freshman Leyla Noronha and senior Eloise Maclean, each with 2 goals.

Softball: The Chatham Central women earned a one-run win over the Chatham Charter Knights, 3-2, in their first regular-season game. With the loss, the Knights fall to 1-1 on the year.

Tennis: The Chatham Central men earned a clean sweep of the Uwharrie Charter Academy Eagles, 9-0, with singles sweeps by senior Jayden Gilliland (6-1, 6-1), senior Preston Cox (6-3, 6-3), junior Colby Williamson

(6-2, 6-0), freshman Jacob Gilliland (6-0, 6-4), senior Caleb Webster (6-2, 6-4) and senior Sidney Cheek (6-0, 6-3), along with three doubles match wins. The Bears are 1-0 on the season.

Tennis: The Chatham Charter men got swept by the Raleigh Charter Phoenix, 9-0. The Knights had just one player win a game in singles play, sophomore Silas Christenberry, who lost 6-1, 6-0.

Tennis: The Jordan-Matthews men lost to the Wheatmore Warriors, 8-1.

Tennis: The Northwood men won their first match of the season against the Orange Panthers, 6-3. Winning their singles matches were senior Scott Gilliam (6-3, 6-1), sophomore Matteus Butler (6-0, 6-0) and freshman Felton Burleigh (6-1, 6-1). The Chargers also swept all three doubles matches (8-6, 8-6, 8-2).

**Tuesday, March 23**

Golf: Jordan-Matthews finished third place (out of seven) in the team's season-opening golf match against PAC 7 opponents at Siler City Country Club with a score of 178 (1 ahead of Randleman at 179). The Wheatmore Warriors (162) won the match.

Softball: The Chatham Central women earned a commanding home win over the Uwharrie Charter Academy Eagles, 8-2, to stay unbeaten on the season (2-0).

Softball: The Jordan-Matthews women lost their season-opener in five innings (mercy rule) to the Randleman Tigers, 15-5. After overcoming an early 4-0 deficit in the top of the first inning by scoring five runs in the bottom of the first, the Tigers brought

in Division II-commit pitcher Sarah Rice, who had her way with the Jets, holding them hitless for the remainder of the contest as her offense continued to thrive.

Softball: The Northwood women dominated the Chapel Hill Tigers, 17-0, at home in just three innings. Leading the Chargers were senior Shakhai Mole (1-for-3, 2B, 5 RBI) and sophomore Zoe Hatzidakis (0-for-3, 3 RBI), while sophomore pitcher Susanna Lee threw three hitless innings.

Tennis: The Jordan-Matthews men were swept on the road by the Union Pines Vikings, 9-0. The Jets are now 0-3 on the season.

**Wednesday, March 24**

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews women earned a shutout win over the Trinity Bulldogs, 7-0, to improve to 2-1 on the year. Leading the Jets were senior Jennifer Parroquin Vallejo (hat trick; 4 goals) and senior Ashley Ruiz, senior Litzzy Martinez and sophomore Maricarmen Landa, each with 1 goal.

Soccer: The Northwood women lost a defensive battle to the Orange Panthers, 1-0, dropping their record to 1-2 on the season. Orange's goalkeeper, sophomore Abby Monteith, had 7 saves on the day to contribute to the clean sheet.

Soccer: The Woods Charter women fell victim to a clean sheet loss against the Raleigh Charter Phoenix, 4-0. This was the Wolves' first loss of the season (3-1).

Tennis: The Chatham Charter men lost handily to the Research Triangle Raptors, 9-0, dropping the

Knights' record to 0-5 on the year.

**Thursday, March 25**

Softball: The Northwood women struggled against the Orange Panthers, losing an 18-0 game on the road for their first loss of the season, dropping their overall record to 2-1.

**Friday, March 26**

Football: The Chatham Central Bears suffered another heavy-handed loss, this time to the South Stanly Rowdy Rebel Bulls, 34-8, on the road. They're now 1-2 on the season.

Football: The Northwood Chargers earned a hard-fought, close victory over the Orange Panthers, 10-7, capturing their first home win against Orange in eight years. After a slow first half that included a pick-6 by the Panthers — their only points of the evening — Northwood came out in the second half and continued to play strong defense and superb special teams. Those two units led to a short field on a drive late in the third quarter that ended with a one-yard rushing touchdown by Northwood senior Aidan Laros, giving the Chargers the 10-7 lead they'd maintain for the rest of the game. After the win, Northwood improved to 3-1 on the season.

**Saturday, March 27**

Football: The Jordan-Matthews Jets lost handily to the Southwestern Randolph Cougars, 43-6, keeping them winless on the season at 0-5. Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at [vhensley@chathamnr.com](mailto:vhensley@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.

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# NORTHWOOD

Continued from page B1

but it was Northwood football. The Chargers' offense left a lot to be desired on Friday, finishing with just 127 total yards, the bulk of which came from Paige, who racked up 70 yards on 14 carries.

Northwood passed the ball just twice — both resulting in interceptions for senior Kirk Haddix, including a 25-yard pick-six by Orange senior linebacker Elliott Woods just before halftime that gave the Panthers a 7-0 lead. Haddix was then benched for senior quarterback Cam Entrekina, who managed the game well despite not throwing a pass.

Even with the pick-six and the lack of offensive production, the Chargers never gave up on themselves and continued to believe in their two strongest units. "I'll be honest, I went in at halftime and I raised hell with them," Homolka said. "(I was most impressed with) how they came out in the second half and still wanted to win. There's some Northwood teams I've been a part of here that sometimes I wasn't sure, but this year, they've wanted to win."

Shining for the Chargers was Laros, a 2021 commit to Florida International University as a kicker/punter. Playing all three phases, he had eight carries

for 30 yards on the ground — including the game-deciding touchdown in the third quarter — along with a 29-yard field goal (1-for-1), a couple of impressive punts and a bone-crushing hit on Orange's final play as time expired.

"Aidan Laros is a beast," Homolka said. "I'm sad he's a senior. ... If he's not the best player in this conference right now, then I think people are overlooking him because he does everything for us on this team and he's an incredible player."

Vance County canceled its game against the Chargers, originally scheduled for Thursday, due to a lack of players needed to field a team (not COVID-19 related).

Northwood (3-1), finding a replacement, will now host the undefeated Panther Creek Catamounts (5-0) on Thursday.

With the way Panther Creek has been blowing teams out as of late, it won't be an easy win.

"They probably throw it 30-plus times a game and they've got some athletes that can go get it," Homolka said of Panther Creek. "So it'll be interesting how we match up. ... We've got a challenge on our hands. We're always ready."

*Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at [vhensley@chathamnr.com](mailto:vhensley@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.*



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Orange senior running back J.J. Torres (23) is engulfed by a wave of Northwood defenders in his team's 10-7 loss to the Chargers last Friday. Torres carried the ball 13 times on the night for just 13 total yards.**

# JETS

Continued from page B1

But Rice came in and popped all of its balloons. She struck out the last two batters to end the inning, foreshadowing how the rest of the game would go for the Jets.

The second inning would see the Tigers tie the game at 5-5 off of a back-to-back double and single, but the Jets allowing one run was relatively minor compared to what was still to come.

Meanwhile, Rice struck out the side in J-M's next trip to the plate. She was doling out seemingly unhittable pitches to Jets batters, who were able to work her in the count a few times, but never able to wear her down.

"They had great pitching. That's probably some of the best pitching we'll see all year," said Willoughby. "I think we're competitive, we've just got to step it up as far as our hitting and get our timing down on that fast of pitching. We haven't seen it."

The third and fourth innings would spell disaster for J-M as the Tigers would tally seven hits and 10 runs in those innings alone, blowing the game wide open.

It all took a turn for the worst when a Jets error in the outfield allowed Rice to score and drive in two other runners on an inside-the-park home run in the third, making it 9-5 in favor of Randleman.

"We had a few unforced errors where we could have kept it closer and

gone the whole seven innings," said Willoughby. "We need to get rid of the unforced errors and the mental mistakes."

The Jets wouldn't score for the remainder of the game, only reaching base twice after the first inning on a hit-by-pitch in the third and a walk in the fifth.

While Jordan-Matthews fell victim to the mercy rule on Tuesday, Willoughby took solace in the fact that the Tigers were forced to bring in Rice in the first inning after the Jets took the lead rather than give her the night off.

"They didn't think we were as good as we are," said Willoughby. "I think that was a little bit of a wake-up call for them that they can't pitch their backup pitcher against us. They're going to have to bring their best if they want to beat us."

As the game went on, the Jets never got down on themselves. The players continued to pump each other up while one of them was at the plate, even when they were down by 10 runs and their chances of a comeback were slim.

By their demeanor, you would have thought they were the ones with a big lead.

This is all by design, something that Willoughby preaches: stay positive, no matter what.

"Always stay upbeat, always stay positive and if you make a bad play, the play's done, let's keep playing," said Willoughby. "The girls know that as long as we get a chance

to bat, we're still in the game."

Then, he added with a laugh, "I'm glad we got to see (Rice) today. I need to turn my pitching machine up a little, get those bats a little faster."

*Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at [vhensley@chathamnr.com](mailto:vhensley@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.*

**Jordan-Matthews sophomore pitcher Macy Beavers winds up a pitch in her team's season-opening loss to Randleman, 15-5, last Tuesday. Beavers registered two strikeouts on the night.**



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

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April 1st - April 7th

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- ["Laughing All the Way" by Cheryl from Therapeutic Alternatives](#) at 11:15 AM

**Friday, April 2nd - Offices Closed for the Holiday**

- [Weekly Call with Director, Dennis Streets](#) at 10:15 AM

**Monday, April 5th**

- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Bingo with Joe](#) at 11:15 AM
- [Tai Chi for Arthritis](#) at 3:00 PM

**Tuesday, April 6th**

- [Strong & Fit with Jackie](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Spill the Beans with Liz](#) at 11:15 AM

**Wednesday, April 7th**

- [Virtual Walk Club](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Chair Yoga with Liz](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Wood Turning with Alan](#) at 11:15 AM
- [Short Stories with Chris](#) at 12:30 PM

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# First Baptist Church Easter Services

Friday, April 2, 2021

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

*(This is a solemn observance of Jesus' passion and death through scripture lessons and song.)*

Sunday, April 4, 2021

9:45 a.m. Children's Easter Celebration (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

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REAPPRAISAL UPDATE

# Notices already mailed; county unveils tool to compare residential sales

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — Chatham County would like to update residents regarding the reappraisal process which has been underway since January 2019. Reappraisal notices were mailed to residents on March 26.

## Reappraisal Process and Key Points

Reappraisal is a process in which all real property (including land and the improvements on it) in the county is appraised at its current market value as of a particular date. State law requires all counties to conduct a reappraisal at least once every eight years. Chatham County elected to do a four-year reappraisal cycle. Reappraisal distributes the overall property tax burden equitably across the county based on current market values.

Market value is the most probable price a property would bring in an open and competitive market. There is evidence that market values around the county have changed in different ways since 2017, the last time that reappraisal occurred in Chatham County. Some areas of the county have seen an increase in market value, while others have experienced a decrease in value. Some areas are staying about the same. For residents who agree with the value, no response is needed. For those who disagree with their value, they may request an appeal after they have taken the opportunity to review and compare other properties using the tools and methods as outlined below.

The amount of the final 2021 tax bill

cannot be determined until the tax rate is set. The tax rate is determined by the Chatham County taxing jurisdictions based on their budget needs.

## Comparable Sales Application available

The Chatham County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department has launched the Comparable Sales application, which is an interactive mapping application that can be used to explore recent property sales data within Chatham County.

Residents may enhance understanding of their property's tax appraisal value by examining sales of properties that are similar to their own. The application provides several tools and accompanying documentation to simplify the task of real estate research within the county.

This application features property sales data from January 1, 2019, to January 1, 2021. It also includes current tax parcel information, reference mapping layers and aerial photography.

"This application is unique in that it features both property sales and tax appraisal data tied to our GIS parcels," said GIS Director Nick Haffele. "This data is exposed to a variety of new, unique tools that we are featuring for the first time in a GIS application. In the past residents could access tabular information on comparable sales through the U.S. Tax Data website, but the data was grouped only by tax neighborhood and contained no mapping component. The new application uses more refined criteria to identify comparable sales and allows residents to easily visualize sales happening in

their surrounding area on a map."

The application is available on the GIS homepage. The GIS and Tax Departments are also collaborating to develop a few additional applications including a GIS Hub Site which will centralize access to tax-related GIS applications. The direct link for the application is <https://gisservices.chathamcountync.gov/propertysales>.

Chatham County GIS has been able to leverage its existing GIS software licensing to create these services at no additional cost to the county. The collaborative effort with the Chatham County Tax Department has resulted in an application that meets the needs of both staff and the general public.

A demo video is available for more information on how the application works. The demonstration video direct link is <https://gisservices.chathamcountync.gov/propertysales/demo>.

## Appealing Assessed Values

Residents who disagree with their reappraisal value may go to the Comparable Sales application and review the information on file for their properties and report any outdated or incorrect information to the Tax Office. Homeowners can compare their property value with the sale prices of similar properties.

If all information is up to date and there is still a disagreement with the assessed value, residents may file an appeal with the Board of Equalization and Review and schedule a hearing. Appeals may be filed at <https://gisservices.chathamcountync.gov/taxrequest>. After the Board of Equalization and Review hears the appeal, the resident will receive written notification of

their property value in the mail.

Residents can support their appeal with the following steps: Comparable sales or comparable sales reports from the property owner, Chatham County's online sales database or a real estate professional. Pictures showing the property's inner and outer features and condition, including any upgrades. A copy of a recent fee appraisal for the property, such as one done in connection with the purchase or refinancing of the property. The deadline to appeal is 5 p.m. on May 6, 2021.

## Tax Relief Programs

There are tax relief programs for the elderly or disabled: the disabled veteran exclusion, circuit breaker property tax deferral and the present use value tax deferral program. Residents may go to [www.chathamcountync.gov/taxrelief](http://www.chathamcountync.gov/taxrelief) and click on the property tax assistance evaluator to check qualifications for a tax relief program.

## Overview of Key Reappraisal Dates

- Effective date of reappraisal – January 1, 2021
- Reappraisal notices mailed – March 26, 2021
- Board of Equalization and Review – Hearings begin after initial meeting on April 6, 2021
- Deadline to submit real property appeal – 5 p.m. on May 6, 2021
- First tax bills impacted by reappraisal – Summer 2021
- Questions about the reappraisal process may be directed to the Tax Office at 919-542-8211 or [tax.revaluation@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:tax.revaluation@chathamcountync.gov).

# What Egypt's shipping disaster means for Chatham

After almost a week lodged in muck and obstructing the entire Suez Canal, the Ever Given

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made international news last Tuesday when its operators, apparently disoriented by a sand-

storm, crashed into the waterway's bank near its southern entrance. The ignominious crisis made prime fodder for social media goons, but real-world implications aren't as funny as memes would have you believe.

More than 10% of all global trade makes its way through the Suez Canal, including about 7% of the world's oil, according to the Associated Press. About 400 ships were relegated to an aquatic melee awaiting eventual passage after an army of tugboats and excavators could free the Empire-State-Building-sized vessel. Other ships channeled their mid-19th Century predecessors

and rerouted around the Cape of Good Hope at Africa's southern tip, sailing an extra 3,100 miles to reach their destinations.

The result: a tremendous backlog of vital goods that could affect us even here in Chatham, more than 6,000 miles from the scene of disaster.

"Basically anything you see in the stores" could become temporarily scarce, Lars Jensen, an independent container shipping expert based in Denmark told NBC. Affected goods might include such things as "food, furniture, clothes, shoes, exercise equipment, electronics, car parts and carpets," the report said.

That doesn't mean you should go hoard toilet paper as per March 2020's misguided best practices. Most delayed ships were headed for Europe, not the U.S. Still, we're likely to feel the ripple effect.

"The disruptions from the closure of the Canal could last for months," Indian journalist P Manoj wrote in The Hindu Business Line after the ship was already

freed. "... Port congestion, equipment shortages and capacity shortages on ships are set to intensify."

The shipping con-tremps spotlights what the pandemic had already exposed: global infrastructure is fragile. Vital networks of product conveyance can be thrust into chaos by minor hiccups in the system. A sea captain misgauges his clearance and international trade is deadlocked.

"We've gone to this fragile, just-in-time shipping that we saw absolutely break down in the beginning of COVID," Capt. John Konrad, the founder and CEO of the shipping news website [gcaptain.com](http://gcaptain.com), told the AP. "We used to have big, fat warehouses in all the countries where the factories pulled supplies ... Now these floating ships are the warehouse."

Unlike real warehouses — which can be expanded and modified — ships have limited and discrete capacities. Goods are stored in shipping containers, and shipping containers are in short supply.

"They don't have

enough containers and it really slows down import," Mark Stover, owner of Pittsboro's Vortex Roasters, told me back in summer. His company purchases coffee beans from around the world, but many distributors are unable to move their products. Harbor shutdowns and shipping moratoriums during the pandemic's worst months dried up access to shipping containers, and the problem has yet to resolve.

"Before the Suez Canal disruption, we were expecting the container situation to get worse in April because we were already seeing the scarcity of containers," Jon Monroe, maritime trade and logistics consultant with Jon Monroe Consulting, told CNBC. "This Canal closure will not help. You will start to see product piling up on factory floors."

Transportation and shipping companies are scrambling to mitigate ramifications of the Suez Canal incident, but getting back to the way things were isn't good enough. International trade needs significant reform to preempt similar future issues.

Realistically, that might not happen. But business owners and shoppers alike can sidestep the issue.

"I know some manufacturers might be hurt by (the Suez Canal issue) in this country," Ronnie Murphy, CEO of Siler City's Lazar Industries, told me. "But that doesn't happen to be the case for us."

Why?

"We import very little," he said. "Most of the raw materials that we use are made within the United States."

Of course, international trade will remain indispensable. Business owners such as Stover cannot replace their goods with local wares. But those who can should. The Ever Given — and the bigger catastrophe that could have been — should offer enough incentive.

"It just shows the value of doing things local," Murphy said.

## Other business news

Unlike most industries in the last year, real estate has boomed. Home sales hit new peaks amid the pandemic, matching highs last seen in 2006.

One local realtor, Pittsboro's Eric Andrews, has been especially successful. His accomplishments — specializing in land real estate sales — were recognized last month at a special awards ceremony of the Realtors Land Institute. Andrews was inducted into the 2020 APEX Producers Club, which requires members to have at least \$4 million of qualifying dollar volume in closed land sales.

"We are proud of Eric Andrews and all of our members and that were recognized as part of our award programs for their accomplishments in 2020," RLI CEO Aubrie Kobernus said in a press release. "... They really are the cream of the crop when it comes to land real estate professionals."

Andrews facilitated the sales of several land tracts in the last year, many of them exceeding 100 acres and selling for more than \$1 million.

"2020 was a trying year, but strong for real estate sales in general and our best ever for large tracts of land," Andrews said at the ceremony, which was held virtually. "This award reflects a team effort from all of my staff."

Have an idea for what Chatham business topics I should write about? Send me a note at [dldolder@chathamnr.com](mailto:dldolder@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter @dldolder.

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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! !!



# POLICE REPORTS



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**Congressman Ted Budd (R-N.C.), pictured here with Cecilia Grimes and her granddaughter, Sophia, visited Siler City on Thursday to honor the late Mayor John Grimes.**

## Congressman Budd visits Siler City, honors late Mayor Grimes

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Congressman Ted Budd (R-N.C.) visited Siler City last Thursday to present Cecilia Grimes with a Congressional Record honoring her late husband and former Siler City mayor, John Grimes, who died in October.

“I come here for a couple of different reasons,” Budd said, addressing a small audience that included several town commissioners and Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Bray. “One, I come as a friend. Another is because this is part of my congressional district ... And the other part is that I come as family.”

Budd had only met the mayor once before the pandemic began, he said, but already he’d known much about Grimes and his political career.

“I know from his son, J.T., who lives in the Winston-Salem area,” Budd told the News + Record. “I’ve known him for years and go to church with him.”

And through Cecilia Grimes — whose maiden name is Budd — the congressman suspected a distant kinship.

“I had heard about the Budds, Cecilia’s family, that lived in Siler City,” he said. “So, I knew there was another line of my family somewhere, and it was last year when the congressional lines were drawn here that really brought us together.”

Despite having only briefly known the late mayor, Budd was eager to confer him with official recognition for a life of public service. On the day he died, the American flag over the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., was flown in Grimes’ honor. Budd had a part in organizing the tribute, but wanted to do more for a family he holds in high esteem.

“Your family is very special to me,” Budd said in his speech, addressing Cecilia Grimes. “So, I wanted to put into the Congressional Record the significance of Mayor John Grimes, your husband ... Just know that this is permanently on record, and we do these for those that mean a lot to us.”

Grimes died in October after decades in local government and a lifetime dedicated to public service. His foray into politics began in the early 1990s when he served a term with the Chatham County Board of Commissioners. In 1999, Grimes localized his attention and ran successfully for Siler City’s District 4 commissioner seat. He served four terms in that capacity before holding the mayor’s seat another four terms, up until his death.

“It was an honor to be able to remember



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**Cecilia Grimes holds the Congressional Record, which was submitted to Congress on Dec. 7 — the anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.**

somebody like him,” Budd said. “It’s interesting, when you meet some people in life, you have a built-in history. You know a lot of the same people and you share a lot of the same roots, and that’s what it was like when I met Mayor Grimes.”

### Evaluating his district

Budd coupled his visit to see the Grimes family with a brief tour of the surrounding area. It was his first time in Siler City since the town became part of his congressional district in late 2019, he said. He represents parts of 10 N.C. counties in the U.S. House of Representatives; his district border runs through western Chatham, bisecting Siler City.

“I’m very impressed so far,” he said, “especially with the way there’s so much food processing that takes place here for the whole nation. This really is part of the critical infrastructure and I think you all have done a great job.”

Still, he thinks Chatham has been stifled by unreasonable pandemic restrictions. If the Republicans reclaimed the House majority, Budd said, industry town such as Siler City would see more targeted economic relief.

“The main thing for me is getting the majority back,” he said. “And then once we do that, continuing the economic recovery. The best stimulus is not \$2 trillion printed out of thin air. The best stimulus is full reopening.”

Under Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper’s oversight, the state has begun a program of more aggressive resumption of normal activity. But to Budd, the pace is still too slow.

“If you look at states like Florida and Texas, their economy is recovering faster,” he said.

“And that’s what people need. I think people need to go back fully to work. If they need to wear a mask in their particular

situation, I fully support that. But we need to have no requirements right now for that and we need to have full reopening. I think that would be the biggest boost to the North Carolina economy.”

### The Congressional Record

The Congressional Record, as Budd presented it on the Congress floor, reads in part: “Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Siler City Mayor John Franklin Grimes III who passed away on October 20, 2020. John was a stalwart of the Siler City, North Carolina, community where he served as mayor since 2013. He was a servant in the truest sense of the word, always willing to go to the back of the line and take care of the needs of others first. Unsurprisingly, he was one of the select few to be awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest civilian honor, for remarkable service to the state. John’s character of service was ingrained at a young age as his father quickly signed up to join the U.S. Navy after the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. John would say that, ‘Growing up, we presumed to have an obligation to serve the military.’ ... John continuously stressed how seriously he valued the input of his constituents, saying that if they don’t hold politicians accountable, anything can happen. Mr. Speaker, our country needs more public servants like John Franklin Grimes III. The entire Siler City Community is less full today without John, but the impact he made in the lives he touched are a testament to how special a person he was. Please join me in celebrating his life and his legacy.”

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at [dldolder@chathamnr.com](mailto:dldolder@chathamnr.com) and on Twitter @dldolder.

## CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

On March 23, Jimmy Martinez Alvarado, 26, of 332 Midland Avenue, Sanford, was arrested by Cpl. Robert Hussey for failure to appear. He was issued a \$300 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on April 6.

On March 24, William Clyde Clontz, 48, of 2400 Bowers Store Rd., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Olivia Stewart for failure to appear. He was issued a \$300 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 12. Clontz was also arrested by Deputy Rami Amer on March 24 for possession of a controlled substance on jail premises. He was released on a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 3.

On March 25, Sarah Stanton Collins, 60, of 656 Spindlewood, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for failure to appear on charges of larceny of a motor vehicle. She was issued a \$260 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on April 12.

On March 25, Matthew Eugene Jessup, 37, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for simple assault. He is scheduled to appear in Durham County District Court in Durham on April 19.

On March 25, Timothy Cherry, 33, of 319 E. 6th St., Siler City, was arrested

by Deputy Rami Amer for possession of a firearm by a felon. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on April 12.

On March 26, Sheron James Letterlough, 28, of 104 N. Garden Avenue, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy John Beach for attempted first degree arson. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on April 26.

On March 26, Joshua Montgomery Thompson, 21, of 120 Oakwood Drive, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy John Beach for failure to appear on charges of driving a motorboat/vessel while impaired. He was issued a \$200 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 5.

On May 28, Esteban Valencia, 30, of 465 Brittany Ln., Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Alex Lukasewycz for assault on a female, misdemeanor child abuse, and assault inflicting serious injury in the presence of a minor. He was placed on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and was issued no bond. He is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on April 14.

On March 28, Daniel Chadwick Robbins, 28, of 710 Woody Store Road, Siler City, was arrested for failure to appear. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Alamance County District Court in Graham.

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CHATHAM 250

# How the community can celebrate Founding Day

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — In honor of its 250th anniversary, Chatham County will host a series of interactive events for community members throughout the year.

The first event, Founding Day, will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, in downtown Pittsboro. People should follow the balloons from Hanks Street to 204 W. Salisbury St. (St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church) in Pittsboro. This drive-thru event will have nine stations that focus on history and community, with opportunities for individuals and families to share, learn and engage.

At the first drive-thru station, participants will be greeted by the Chatham 250 co-chairpersons — Dr. Carl E. Thompson, Sr., Renee Paschal and Lendy Carias — and will receive the supplies they need to get the event started.

Station two will feature three reenactors of Chatham County's original founders where attendees will be greeted on their way in.

The reenactor station will have three reenactors portraying historic people: William Pitt, John Brooks and Lucy Worth Jackson, according to Pittsboro Business Association Membership Chairperson Cindy Schmidt.

"Chatham County was named for William Pitt, the first Earl of Chatham," she

said. "John Brooks was one of Chatham County's first settlers receiving a 640-acre grant on Tick Creek in 1755. Lastly, Lucy Worth Jackson was the daughter of Jonathan Worth, Reconstruction Governor and War Treasurer of the State, and wife of Joseph John Jackson, an attorney."

Station three will feature a drive-thru museum gallery where participants can learn about the life and legacy of Chatham County resident Lewis Freeman. This station will be hosted at Hobbs Architects, located at 159 W. Salisbury St.

"Lewis Freeman was a most remarkable man to have survived and apparently thrived in Chatham County between 1773 and 1847," said Grim Hobbs, vice president of Hobbs Architects. "As a free black man, he was able to purchase the freedom of his wife and family members and to acquire significant parcels of land near the center of Pittsboro and in Chatham County. While there is more we'd like to know about Lewis Freeman, all we do know makes his life a Chatham County and American story worth celebrating."

Station four will feature a "Found It In Pittsboro" activity where community members will be able to find hidden rabbits around downtown Pittsboro from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Five embellished rabbit statues will be hidden on and near Hillsboro Street. The first

25 visitors to the Main Street Pittsboro Welcome Center (37 Hillsboro St.) who show a photo of themselves with three of the five statues will receive a \$10 voucher to participating downtown businesses. All participants will be entered into a drawing to win one of the statues.

"The rabbit statues refer to a chapter in Chatham County's history when it was the source for the 'Chatham Rabbit,' a delicacy served in the finest hotels and rail cars all along the East Coast," said Main Street Pittsboro Chairperson Maria Parker-Lewis. "With this symbol of spring, we can have fun and support downtown businesses at the same time."

In acknowledgment of Pittsboro's creative culture, the rabbit statues will all be creatively embellished by local artists including Theresa Arico Mosaics, Lani Chaves, Sally Gregoire and Darcy Szeremi — many of whom are exhibiting artists at the Pittsboro Gallery of the Arts.

Station five will feature the 250 Foundation's public art project where Chathamites can participate by placing a rock, adding their piece, sharing their wish and being a founder of this county. Community members will be able to prepare for this station in advance.

"People can either decorate their rock before arriving, adding their name or the name

of someone they might want to honor or a symbol that represents them," said Marcela Slade, executive director for Abundance NC. "Since these rocks will be displayed outside, they should be decorated with something that will last, like acrylic paint or enamel. If people would rather not decorate they can wish upon the rock something they would like to see happen this year ... or give thanks for something that has already happened."

More information on the 250 Foundation's public art project can be found at [www.chatham250.com](http://www.chatham250.com).

Station six will feature an introduction to the Chatham 250 time capsule, where participants will be able to contribute their piece of 2021 history. As part of Founding Day and throughout the Chatham 250 celebration, volunteers will be collecting items for inclusion in the official Chatham 250 time capsule. The time capsule will include items representing current events and the way of life of Chatham County in its 250th year, 2021. The time capsule will be sealed at the conclusion of Chatham 250 in Fall 2021 and it is not to be opened again until Chatham County's 300th year, in the year 2071. Suggested items community members can contribute to the time capsule may be found at [www.chatham250.com](http://www.chatham250.com).

At the final stations, participants can look forward

to a birthday party theme. There will be a goodie bag, piñata raffle and a sweet treat for people to take home. The piñatas, purchased from local tiendas in Siler City, Tienda El Centro and La Guadalupana, will be raffled off for free. Each person to drive through will be allowed to enter their name into one of the two raffles. The piñatas will be filled with Hispanic candies traditionally used for piñatas. As for the sweet treat, there will be chocolate and vanilla cake pops from Pittsboro Bakery and Carolina Cravings for the first 250 people to drive through. The cake pops are donated by Main Street Pittsboro. Lastly, participants can look forward to goodie bags with a coloring page, a miniature American Flag, bubbles and more items inside.

Residents can make an entire day out of the event. The Pittsboro Business Association is encouraging businesses that are open to participate in the festivities. Participating businesses will have a balloon outside. Please note that road construction in downtown Pittsboro will not affect access to Founding Day events or businesses that are open.

Check out the official Facebook event for Founding Day at <https://fb.me/e/1j2IXYzWr>. For more information on Founding Day, and other Chatham 250 activities, visit [www.chatham250.com](http://www.chatham250.com).

# Some Chatham vaccine providers hope to receive J&J doses in April

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON  
News + Record Staff

As vaccine eligibility widens in North Carolina, some Chatham vaccine providers say they hope to receive the single-shot J&J vaccines as soon as April.

Last Friday, the White House COVID-19 task

force announced that Johnson & Johnson was set to ship 11 million COVID-19 vaccine doses this week. The same day, the Raleigh News & Observer reported that the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services expects North Carolina to receive up to 160,000 J&J doses per week in April. So far, the Chatham

County Public Health Department has not been allocated any J&J doses, said Public Health Director Mike Zelek. Previously, the CCPHD announced they wouldn't likely receive any at all in March.

But that could change soon, Zelek told the News + Record. "The state is beginning

to accept requests, so we're still learning how that process unfolds," he said. "I think the allocation is still pretty limited to the state, so not all providers who make requests or who are out there get it. Potentially in April, things could change. We may get some."

A single-dose vaccine has certain advantages, he said, especially for certain groups of people, like inmates or homebound seniors who are immobile or harder to reach.

"We know there is interest in it, as well," he added. "... It could come soon, and depending on how large that allocation is, we would be intentional in terms of how we best utilize it."

Piedmont Health Services' spokesperson, Debra Markley, told the News + Record that PHS hopes to receive doses of the J&J vaccine in April.

"Piedmont Health is working with our patients to get them vaccinated if they are eligible by asking patients to call the health center where

they receive care to get an appointment for vaccination," she said. "Many of our patients are in Group 3 and 4."

UNC Health spokesperson Alan Wolf told the News + Record that UNC's Chatham clinic has not yet received any J&J doses, only Moderna.

"The Chatham vaccine clinic received 200 first doses of Moderna this week, but no J&J yet," he said. "They also have 800 second doses they are giving this week."

In early March, UNC Health, along with other large-scale medical providers, received several thousand doses of the J&J vaccine. Only certain UNC locations — such as the Friday Center in Chapel Hill — administered J&J shots, however. UNC Health's online vaccine scheduler also has a tab that allows people to sign up specifically for a J&J shot when scheduling their vaccinations.

According to Wolf, UNC Health does not yet know when the Chatham clinic will receive J&J doses.

In North Carolina, medical care workers, adults 65 and older, front-line essential workers and people with high-risk medical conditions are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccines. Other eligible groups include those who live in certain congregate environments, like detention centers. On March 31, eligibility widens to other essential workers who didn't qualify for Group 3, as well as other groups living in congregate settings, including college students. Everyone 16 years and older will be able to receive a shot in North Carolina starting April 7.

As of March 29, more than 35% of North Carolinians 18 years and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. In Chatham, just over 29% of adults have been partially vaccinated, while one-fifth of all Chatham adults have been fully vaccinated.

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at [victoria@chathamnr.com](mailto:victoria@chathamnr.com).

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NEWS BRIEFS

**Chatham health department policy 'backfires'**

A measure Chatham's health department put in place to prevent endless appointment emails and robocalls from bothering vaccinated residents has ended up bothering them anyway.

"Sometimes we hear people who said, 'I just want to let you know I got in your database in January, and I got the vaccine somewhere else and I still haven't heard from you,'" said Mike Zelek, Chatham's public health director. "That was an intentional effort from our staff that they wouldn't be bugged."

Once people register with the department's vaccine database, staff can check to see if residents have been vaccinated elsewhere — and if so, remove

their names.

Logistically, that helps the department track their numbers and see how many residents in a certain group have yet to be vaccinated. That way, Zelek said, they could "tweak" the process by which they open up appointments to other groups. Practically, he added, regularly cleansing the database prevents residents from receiving endless calls and emails from the CCPHD after they'd already gotten vaccinated with other providers.

At least, that was the idea. "It's backfired because I guess it's too-good customer service," he said, laughing. "... It's not that you aren't getting contacted because we don't want you to get vaccinated. It's that we know you got vaccinated, so we figured you don't need our vaccination anymore."

**Chatham Community Library to Host N.C. Poet Laureate Jaki Shelton Green**

PITTSBORO — Chatham Community Library will commemorate National Poetry Month in April with a presentation by NC Poet Laureate, Jaki Shelton Green. The virtual event entitled "An Evening with the North Carolina Poet Laureate," will take place at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 24.

Jaki Shelton Green is the first African American and third woman to be appointed as the North Carolina Poet Laureate. She is a 2019 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow, 2014 N.C. Literary Hall of Fame Inductee, 2009 N.C. Piedmont Laureate appointee, and 2003 recipient of

the North Carolina Award for Literature. Green, a professor of Documentary Poetry at Duke University Center for Documentary Studies, has been named the 2021 Frank B. Hanes Writer in Residence at UNC Chapel Hill.

Her publications include *Dead on Arrival*, *Masks*, *Dead on Arrival and New Poems*, *Conjure Blues*, singing a tree into dance, breath of the song, *Feeding the Light*, and i want to undie you. On Juneteenth 2020, she released her first LP, poetry album, *The River Speaks of Thirst*.

Owner of SistaWRITE, Green provides retreats for women writers in Sedona, Arizona; Martha's Vineyard; Ocracoke, N.C.; Northern Morocco; and Tullamore, Ireland.

National Poetry Month was introduced in 1996 and

was inspired by the success of Black History Month, held each February, and Women's History Month, held in March. In 1995, the Academy of American Poets convened a group of publishers, booksellers, librarians, literary organizations, poets, and teachers to discuss the need and usefulness of a similar monthlong holiday to celebrate poetry.

To register for this event and to receive virtual meeting instructions, individuals may contact Chatham Community Library Branch Manager Rita Van Duinen at [rita.vanduin-en@chathamlibraries.org](mailto:rita.vanduin-en@chathamlibraries.org).

This event is free and open to the public and made possible with the generous support of the Friends of the Chatham Community Library.

— CN+R staff reports

**Kid Scoop** .COM THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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**DRAWING AND DOODLING WITH THE BUNNY BUDDIES**

Grab your crayons and let's have some drawing fun!

**Phone Doodles**

Bart Bunny likes to doodle when he's talking on the phone. See if you can find:

- 3 pizza slices
- 2 rockets
- 5 carrots
- 4 bunnies
- a baseball
- 2 birds

Did Bart doodle more stars or more flowers?

How many eggs can you find on this page?

**Half & Half**

Can you draw the other half of Bixby Bunny?

**Doodling with the Alphabet**

Bebe Bunny loves to start with a letter of the alphabet and see what kind of drawing she can make from it. Here's what she made using the letter B.

This is how Bebe transformed the letter F.

Give it a try! Create pictures using these letters. Remember that you can turn the letters sideways or upside down.

C M U

**Eggs-actly Alike**

Barb Bunny used markers to create colorful Easter eggs. Can you make an exact duplicate of each egg?

**EXTRA! EXTRA! Springtime Search**

Find these things in the newspaper:

- a number greater than a million
- a face with glasses
- something to play with
- a happy word
- a symbol of spring

**STANDARDS LINK:** Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

**BORING BOUQUET:** This flower is a little blah. Use crayons to add a big bunch of beautiful blooms to this bouquet!

**Kid Scoop Together: Out of Line**

Bella Bunny drew some different lines. She made a picture out of the first one. Work with a family member to see what you can make out of the other lines.

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**Kid Scoop Puzzler**

**THE ART OF PATTERNS:** Draw the art supply that should come next in each row to continue the pattern.

**Double Double Word Search**

TRANSFORM ALPHABET  
CRAYONS  
DOODLE  
TURN  
HALF  
BUNNY  
REWRITE  
FUN  
DRAW  
TRY  
PHONE  
FACE  
BLOOMS  
PLAY

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

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

**STANDARDS LINK:** Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

**Write On! Chocolate Question**

Which part of a chocolate bunny do you eat first? Why?

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# Heavy 'Traffic': 'Crisis' is an earnest, if muddled look at opioid epidemic

The aptly named "Crisis" might well describe the public relations effort surrounding the early 2021 release. Shot mostly in 2019, the film has the misfortune of debuting in the wake of a scabrous sex scandal surrounding Armie Hammer, one of the movie's headliners. Without needing to launch into a dissertation about separating art from artist, the truth is "Crisis" is not a great film even absent Hammer's pall, but it is also a worthwhile one despite it.

Writer-director Nicholas Jarecki ("Arbitrage") borrows heavily from the "Traffic" template, updating Steven Soderbergh's Oscar-decorated antecedent about the cocaine trade for the opioid era. "Crisis,"

## CRISIS

**GRADE:** C+

**DIRECTOR:**

Nicholas Jarecki

**STARRING:**

Gary Oldman, Armie Hammer, Evangeline Lilly, Greg Kinnear, Michelle Rodriguez and Guy Nadon

**MPAA RATING:** R

**RUNNING TIME:** 1 hr. 58 min.



Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures

### Armie Hammer stars in 'Crisis.'

(Hammer), who is in the midst of a dangerous, byzantine operation to develop a buy-bust involving Canadian suppliers and Armenian distributors. Kelly also secretly has a close relative (Lily-Rose Depp) who is hooked on drugs (a la Michael Douglas' drug czar/dad in "Traffic"), a subplot that does not really go anywhere.

The Canadian smuggling scheme, overseen by a vicious kingpin nicknamed Mother (Guy Na-

don), intersects with Claire Reimann (Evangeline Lilly), a divorced suburban architect and recovering addict herself. Reimann's son turns up dead because of an apparent overdose that is soon revealed as a homicide, and Reimann embarks on a single-minded mission to uncover the cause of her son's death.

The supply side of "Crisis" is not drug farms but rather Big Pharma, shown through the prism of Dr. Tyrone Brower (Gary Oldman), a university

researcher working with a multinational pharmaceutical company to develop and bring a new (fictitious) "nonaddictive" painkiller to market. Problems emerge when Brower's animal experiments show that the new drug might be both addictive and lethal if taken long-term. Brower tries to sound the alarm, which ranks a multinational company already marketing the impending debut of its lucrative wonder drug, and Brower's university boss, played by Greg Kinnear, who relies on corporate payola to keep the lights on. Brower's whistleblowing odyssey evokes echoes of Michael Mann's "The Insider" — "This is the biggest public health crisis since tobacco!" Brower bellows, rather on the nose. Indeed, a late scene when Kinnear visits Brower after the latter has leaked the coverup to the newspaper closely mimics a similar sequence between Christopher Plummer and Al

Pacino in Mann's saga.

If any of these disparate storylines sound fertile enough to grow their own film, you would be correct. That is one of the problems with "Crisis," which oscillates rapidly between its three fronts without allowing sufficient time for any to marinate or fully develop. A victim of ambition, the result is like a series of snapshots comprising a glossy PSA.

Still, Jarecki's earnestness is undeniable, and the top-shelf, well-chosen cast (yes, even Hammer) is effective when given sufficient space to add layers to their characters. "Crisis" brings to bear the scourge of the opioid epidemic and crystallizes some of its real-world consequences and complexities, particularly the nefarious reach of the corporate leviathan. There are not a lot of compelling thrills in this would-be thriller, but "Crisis" ends up as more than the sum of its parts.

## FILM REVIEW: RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON

# Raya meets Camus: So you think it's just a kids movie, eh?

BY BUCK RYAN & LEI JIAO

Special to the News + Record

*Editor's note: As the worldwide box office for "Raya and the Last Dragon" reached a reported \$90.5 million last week, university English lecturer Lei Jiao watched the film in Wuhan, China, with Ruby, her teenage film critic daughter. Jiao struggles to tell her scholarly partner, Buck Ryan, that "Raya" is just a kids movie, one whose budget exceeded \$100 million. A movie theater ticket in Wuhan goes for \$4.27.*



"Raya is no Mulan, I'll tell you that, Lei."

"Do you mean the 20 percent fewer \$30 purchases on Disney+ for its opening-day box office?"

"No, I mean the symbolism. Mulan never had me re-reading Albert Camus' 1947 classic novel, 'La Peste'. Pardon my French."

"So you think the evil spirits in 'Raya' are really the coronavirus creating a plague?"

"Don't you?"

"And the five tribes that our Asian princess warrior is trying to reunite represent our world trying to come together to defeat COVID-19?"

"Precisely, the existential truth."

"And the moral to Raya might be an antidote to 'Hate is a Virus' and all the anti-Asian sentiments and violence?"

"Maybe."

"Buck, take a nap. This is

just a kids movie."

"What did Ruby think?"

"She loved it! Amazing art design, incredible landscapes, intense action scenes. And so many adorable characters. Tuk Tuk, my fav, reminded me of my childhood friends — those pill bugs I found in the woods near my home."

"Did Ruby take comfort in seeing that good can triumph over evil if we can all stick together?"

"No, Buck, she took comfort in getting a break from schoolwork. 'Raya' may be a great escape from those real-world worries. But it's no cure."

"Exactly what Camus said."

"What?"

"The Plague sweeping the French Algerian town of Oran goes 'slinking back to the obscure lair from which it had stealthily emerged.' There is no cure for the virus. It just goes underground."

"Well, I guess you can say that's true, Buck, whether you're talking about racism or a coronavirus."

"Amen."

"Among the netizens in China, I'm picking up some negative comments about the film's utopian belief that you can end up saving the world if you forgive a traitor twice."

"Not exactly, fool me once, as the saying goes."

"I know, I know. But now can't we just enjoy the film? Nothing like an Asian Disney princess to cheer me up."

"Wait, Lei, what about the film's message? Fighting the plague with belief, unity and cooperation — and putting magic second only to trust to bring people together."

"Yes, Buck, and it's all done in such a subtle, artistic yet moving and relatable fashion."

"Pure genius! But what about Raya's dragon sidekick. It looks like My Little Pony."

"Haha, you mean Sisu! It doesn't look like Mushu, that's for sure."

"Don't remind me, I'm still mad at Disney for snuffing out Mushu in the live-action

version of 'Mulan.'"

"Well now you can enjoy Sisu, Buck."

"It's a girl, right?"

"Yes, that's true. 'Raya' is a Girls Power! movie all the way. A princess in no need of a prince. That's why I loved seeing it with Ruby."

"What about that Vietnamese farmers hat that Raya wears? Is this Disney princess Vietnamese rather than Chinese, like Mulan?"

"Well, Disney creates quite the Asian and Asian-American mashup, so it's hard to say. The actress who plays Raya, Kelly Marie Tran, was born in San Diego, California, after her parents fled Vietnam."

"What's the mashup?"

"Well like you said, there's the Vietnamese bamboo hat, but also Thailand's Watertown; tom yum soup, my favorite Thai dish; Malaysian/Indonesian combat; the all-American high-five, and some clear Chinese influences."

"What part is Chinese?"

"That's a tricky question, Buck, as the Chinese have spread throughout Southeast Asia for centuries — through business certainly in Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. Japan, Korea and Vietnam all used Chinese characters for writing their language; Japan still does."

"Well as you and Ruby watched 'Raya,' what particularly jumped out as being Chinese?"

"There's the Chinese belief about 'energy in the water'

from the theme song lyrics, the Chinese preference for the circular shape to represent reunion and, of course, the Chinese dragon."

"Ah, yes, the dragon! No better way to explain East versus West."

"I know what you mean, Buck. In China the dragon is noble. In America it's nefarious, even fire-breathing. For us the dragon is a symbol of power, especially over typhoons, and it is a symbol of luck for people who are worthy."

"So green like a four-leaf clover, but not blue."

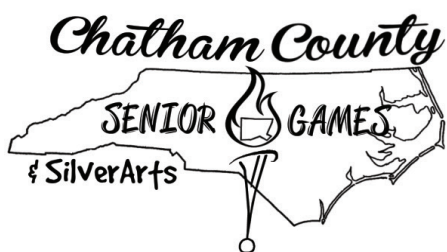
"Oh, Buck, leave those Sisu creators alone! After all this is just a kids movie."

"Not to me! 'Raya' is just the inspiration the world needs right now to fight the pandemic, the evils of hate and all the forces that keep us from unity. Is that too absurdist to think, Lei?"

"Not for you and Camus!"

*About the authors: Buck Ryan, a University of Kentucky journalism professor, and Lei Jiao, an English lecturer at Wuhan University of Technology, Hubei Province, China, collaborate on articles to advance cross-cultural understanding. Ryan, who is doing a "participatory case study" of the News + Record, has been a visiting scholar at three universities in China. You can read their review of "Mulan" here: <https://www.chathamnewsrecord.com/stories/love-conquers-slings-and-arrows-aimed-at-new-version,6690>*

## 2021



**SAVE the DATE**  
**MAY 1—JUNE 4, 2021**

**Early Bird Registration March 22-April 2, 2021**

**Registration Deadline: April 16, 2021**

**Register Online:** <http://torch.ncseniorgames.org>

**For More Information:**  
Liz Lahti, 919-542-4512 ext. 228  
[liz.lahti@chathamcoa.org](mailto:liz.lahti@chathamcoa.org)



### Tentative schedule - contingent on status of Covid-19

- May 1 Cycling
- 3 SilverArts Entry Drop off
- 4 Archery
- 21 Tee shirt and Packet Pick-up
- 22 Track/Field
- 22 Football & Softball Throw
- 22 Fun Walk
- 24 Golf
- 24 Croquet
- 25 Disc Golf
- 25 Swimming
- 25 Tennis—Women's Singles/Men's Doubles
- 26 Men's Bocce
- 26 Tennis—Men's Singles/Women's Doubles
- 27 Horseshoes
- 27 Tennis—Mixed Doubles
- 28 Women's Bocce
- 28 Bowling
- June 1 Basketball Shoot
- 1 Corn Hole
- 2 Pickleball
- 3 Table Tennis
- 4 Awards Ceremony



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# CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE

**LEARN ABOUT LAND** - Chatham Land Experts - [www.learn-aboutland.com](http://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

## MOBILE HOME RENTAL

**2 BEDROOM 1 BATH** mobile home on 5 acres in Siler City, window unit - a/c & heat, no pets, washer/dry connections, county water call (919) 260-1354, A1,8,15,22,4tp

## HOUSE FOR RENT

**POWELL SPRINGS APTS.** Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD # 1-800-735-2962. Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, A2,tfnc

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS** now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, 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

**60" TV Console Table,** Dark Wood - \$100. 60" Long, 18" wide, 30" high - Three middle drawers, Glass door on each side. Excellent condition. Call 980-833-9990. A1,1tp

## YARD SALE

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 2 & 3:** Lots and lots of jewelry plus other items, 136 Melvin Clark Rd., Siler City, A1,1tp

## 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](http://www.JerryHarrisAuction.com), 919-498-4077, S3,tfnc

## SERVICES

**RAINBOW WATER FILTERED VACUUMS,** Alice Cox, Cox's Distributing - Rainbow -- Cell: 919-548-4314, Sales, Services, Supplies. Serving public for 35 years. Rada Cutlery also available. F4-A15,11tp

**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

**TOWN OF PITTSBORO, SENIOR PLANNER**  
HIRING SALARY: \$55,000 - \$65,000 Annually; OPENING DATE: March 11, 2021; CLOSING DATE: Open Until Filled; POSITION TYPE: Full-Time (Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm); DEPARTMENT: Planning SUMMARY: The Senior Planner performs complex, professional level work in the field of community planning, zoning, and development services. - **ESSENTIAL JOB FUNC-**

**TIONS:** Coordinates with and provides technical assistance to developers, engineers, architects, contractors, citizens and elected and appointed officials to interpret Town plans and land use regulations. Prepares and presents staff reports, analyses, and recommendations for a variety of complex zoning land use approvals including rezonings, special use permits, subdivisions, variances, and appeals. Reviews complex, large-scale development proposals for compliance with applicable land use, environmental, zoning, and design regulations, issues correction requests, approves plans, certifies compliance, and conducts follow-up inspections. Prepares ordinances or revisions to ordinances related to land use and development issues in compliance with and to implement the Land Use Plan and other policy direction. Provides guidance to junior staff, serves as liaison to assigned boards and organizations, oversees commercial development review team consisting of various departments and agencies to facilitate and coordinate plan review and adjudicate conflicts between various agency regulations. Assists with complex problems and situations, providing technical expertise in long-range planning, code development, zoning administration, site plan review, or other special projects as assigned. Participates in and oversees public outreach efforts and public information projects related to departmental activities and performs customer service and provides information and answers questions regarding Department activities, projects, proposals, processes, and procedures. Performs other related duties as assigned.

**- KNOWLEDGE AND QUALIFICATIONS:** Thorough knowledge of principles and practice of urban planning, zoning, and land use. Ability to present the results of research effectively in oral, written, and graphic form. Ability to respond to effectively to the most sensitive inquiries or complaints. Ability to identify problems and review related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions that are in accordance with laws, ordinances, and established principles. Ability to establish and maintain effective, professional working relationships. Ability to act independently in carrying out specific tasks, while at the same time being able to participate in or coordinate team-oriented projects.

**- EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:** Graduation from an accredited school with a Bachelor's Degree in Planning or closely related field and two (2) years of related experience, or Equivalent combination of education and experience, Valid North Carolina driver's license. - **PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT:** Work is performed primarily in a standard office environment and occasionally outdoor. May be required to lift and carry items weighing up to 10 pounds. A qualified applicant or employee with a disability may be afforded reasonable modifications to perform the essential job functions of a position in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. - **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Interested applicants must submit a completed online application to be considered. This is a continuous recruitment; review of applications will begin immediately. Prompt application is highly encouraged. Recruitment will close without notice when a sufficient number of qualified applications are received or all hiring decisions have been made. Successful candidates will be subject to a background check and drug screening. Applications are available on the Town's website at <https://pittsboronc.gov> - Mail applications and resumes to the Town Clerk at P.O. Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or email to [cbullcock@pittsboronc.gov](mailto:cbullcock@pittsboronc.gov)

M25,A1,8,15,22,5tc  
**CHATHAM MONUMENT COMPANY** has an immediate opening for a monument installer. Work involves digging monument foundations, mixing cement and installing monuments. Work is generally Monday

through Friday, 8 to 4:30 p.m. but some weekend work is necessary. Please apply in person to: Chatham Monument Co., Inc., 227 N 2nd Avenue, Siler City, M25,A1,2tc

**PAINTERS NEEDED,** Sanford area, with 3 years experience. Call 919-770-3330, M18,25,A1,8,4tp

## MISCELLANEOUS

**VEGETABLE PLANTS** including German Johnson Tomatoes are ready at Vestals, 969 Poe Road, Closed Saturday and Sundays. Call 919-200-3755. A1,8,15,22,4tc

## LEGALS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **JOHN W. ROBERTS**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before June 11th, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 11th day of March, 2021.  
Brook H. Roberts, Executor  
Estate of John W. Roberts  
c/o Roberson Law Firm  
1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-120**  
All persons having claims against **JOSEPH FIELDS ROBERTSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 11th day of March, 2021.  
William L. Robertson, Executor  
1312 B Louisa Ln.  
Wilmington, NC 2840 3  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-134**  
All persons having claims against **MARY FANNIE BURKE (LOPOSSAY)**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 11th day of March, 2021.  
1. Jeffrey Ray Burke, Co-Administrator  
2. Dawn Marie Burke (Pate), Co-Administrator  
785 Glovers Church Rd  
Siler City, NC 27344  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **TRUDY LETITIA SHAPCOTT**, of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned c/o David P. Nanney, Jr., Esq., P.O. Box 19766, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27619-9766, on or before the 11th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 11th day of March, 2021.  
Robin Goldcott, Executor  
c/o David P. Nanney, Jr.  
Kirschbaum, Nanney, Keenan & Griffin, P.A.  
P. O. Box 19766  
Raleigh, NC 27619-9766  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **WILLIAM A. KOEHLNE**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Marcus Hudson, Attorney at Law, 641 Rock Creek Road, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, on or before the 14th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment. This 11th day of March, 2021.  
Evelyn Koehnline, Executor  
Estate of William A. Koehnline  
Marcus Hudson, Attorney at Law  
641 Rock Creek Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-94**  
All persons having claims against **ROBERTA B. LARSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 11th day of March, 2021.  
Rebecca L. Redman, Executrix  
15232 Shannon Dale Rd  
Purcellville, VA 20132  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 145**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **JERRY WALTER CATES**, 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, 1985 Andrews Store Road, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 11th day of June, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 8th day of March, 2021.  
Lynn Rimmer Cates  
1985 Andrews Store  
Road  
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312  
GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC  
P. O. Box 880  
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **FLORENCE AUTRY MCCACHREN**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Susan Tera McCachren as Administrator of the Estate of Florence Autry McCachren on or before June 11, 2021, c/o Thomas J. Neagle, Attorney at Law, 605 W. Main Street, Suite 104, Carrboro, North Carolina 27510, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the decedent are asked to make immediate

payment to the above-named Administrator. This the 11th day of March, 2021.  
Susan Tera McCachren, Administrator  
c/o Thomas J. Neagle, Attorney  
605 W. Main Street, Suite 104  
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510  
Attorney for Estate: Thomas J. Neagle  
Neagle Law Firm, PC  
605 W. Main Street, Suite 104  
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510  
(919) 368-3536  
M11,M18,M25,A1,4tc

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Chatham County Schools' federal projects under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 are presently being developed. Projects included: Title I (Helping Disadvantaged Children Meet High Standards) Title II Title III (Language Acquisition) Title IV A Student Support and Academic Enrichment McKinney-Vento (Homeless Education) Migrant Education Program Career and Technical Education High school students can enroll, without cost, in college credit classes through the Career and College Promise program. This includes Career and Technical Education pathways of study.

## 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.

IDEA (Students with Disabilities)  
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part

**TAKING APPLICATIONS for Siler City Country Club seasonal golf maintenance position. Applications at clubhouse. 919-742-3721**

**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@ECCMGMT.com](mailto:pittsborovillage@ECCMGMT.com)  
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

**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

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B, Public Law 108.446) Project is presently being amended. The Project describes the special education programs that Chatham County Schools proposes for Federal funding for the 2021-2022 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of April 12-16, 2021 in the office of Melvin Diggs, Executive Director Exceptional Children and Academically and Intellectually Gifted located at Horton Middle School, Central Office-South, Pittsboro, NC.

These projects describe the programs that Chatham County Schools proposes for federal funding for the 2021-2022 school year. Non-profit private schools and interested persons are encouraged to review these federal guidelines for the above listed projects and indicate their interest in participation of the projects if qualified. These projects are being developed during April and May and are due to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction on June 30, 2021. The initial Equitable Services for Private Schools meeting will be held on April 20, 2021, at 2:00 PM via virtual platform. Interested parties are encouraged to contact the office of Carol Little, Executive Director Federal Programs and School Improvement, at Chatham County Board of Education, P.O. Box 128 / 369 West Street, Pittsboro, N.C., prior to April 20, 2021.

M11,M18,M25,A1,A8,A15,6tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-141**

All persons having claims against **CHARLOTTE BARE ALLSUP**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 18th day of March, 2021.

Thurman Allsup, Executor  
1743 Dewitt Smith Rd  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
M18,M25,A1,A8,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator of the Estate of **FRANCES MARSH**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before

June 23, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 18th day of March, 2021.  
Ronald P. Collins, Administrator of  
Frances Marsh Estate  
117 West Raleigh Street  
Siler City, North Carolina 27344  
(919) 663-2533

M18,M25,A1,A8,4tp

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF GOLDSTON**

The Goldston Town Board of Commissioners will hold one (1) Legislative Public Hearing on Monday, April 6 at 7:00 pm. The Public Hearing will be conducted in person and remotely via teleconference software for the following items: A Legislative public hearing request by the Town of Goldston to consider amendments to the Goldston Unified Development Ordinance; specifically, chapters 8.1.3 Exemption to Applicability, 8.1.9 General Definitions, and 8.5.1 Watershed Administrator and Duties Thereof. **SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING.** The purpose of the legislative

public hearing is to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request. Pursuant to Section 2.17.5 of the Town's recently adopted Unified Development Ordinance, the hearing will be held jointly with the Town Planning Board.

If you wish to participate in the legislative public hearing you may speak in person (subject to Covid -19 limits), via Zoom or submit written comments for consideration by the Board. The Comments will not be read but will be provided to the Board and included in the minutes. Written comments may be sent (via email or USPS) to the Town Clerk, Annie King-Gaines at [akkngaines@americansouthgc.com](mailto:akkngaines@americansouthgc.com). The Clerk will receive written comments to be included in the minutes for 24 hours after the meeting. Please sign up with the Clerk by 4:00 p.m. on April 6, 2021 if you wish to participate. Instructions on how to join the Meeting can be found on the Town's page under the County Planning Department website: <https://www.chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/planning/town-of-goldston>

M25,A1,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

All persons having claims against **JUNE ANN FILER aka JUNE A. FILER** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 9th day of November, 2020, are notified to present them to Trust Bank and James G. Filer, Co-Executors of the Estate of June Ann Filer aka June A. Filer in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before July 1, 2021. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Co-Executors, and the devisees of June Ann Filer aka June A. Filer. Those indebted to June Ann Filer aka June A. Filer 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  
M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Suzanne L. Rose, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **CABELL JEFFREY SLAYDON**, 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 25th Day of June, 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 25th day of March, 2021. Suzanne L. Rose, Executor c/o Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee  
PO Box 629  
Siler City, NC 27344  
W. Ben Atwater, Jr.  
Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee  
PO Box 629  
Siler City, NC 27344  
919-663-2850  
[benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com](mailto:benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com)  
M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Judy K. Branch and Janet C. Foxx, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **BETTY L. FOXX**, 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 25th Day of June, 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 25th Day of March, 2021. Judy K. Branch, Co-Executor 3705 Brentwood Road Raleigh, NC 27604  
1-919-877-9754  
Janet C. Foxx, Co-Executor  
7108 W. Friendly Ave, Unit 310 Greensboro, NC 27410  
1-786-374-1296  
Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee  
PO Box 629  
Siler City, NC 27344  
919-663-2850  
[benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com](mailto:benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com)  
M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Gladys W. Mattice, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **RAYMOND EARL MATTICE**, 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 25th Day of June, 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 25th Day of March, 2021. Gladys W. Mattice, Executrix 300 Doc Gaines Road PO Box 138  
Bear Creek, NC 27207  
1-919-548-5331  
W. Ben Atwater, Jr.  
Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee  
PO Box 629  
Siler City, NC 27344  
919-663-2850  
[benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com](mailto:benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com)  
M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-171**  
All persons having claims against **JOYCE POE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of March, 2021. Jeanette G. Teague, Executrix 412 West 8th Street Siler City, NC 27344  
M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 08-CVD-456 COUNTY OF CHATHAM**  
Plaintiff, vs.  
**The HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVI-SEES of CHARLES GLENN HARRIS, et al**  
Defendants



**PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVISEES of CHARLES GLENN HARRIS and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, The HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVISEES of **LUCILLE H. EVANS** and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, and The HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVISEES of **DAVID L. ATWATER** and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder. A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 25, 2021. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 25, 2021, or by May 4, 2021, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 17th day of March, 2021. Zacchaeus Legal Services Mark D. Bardill/Mark B. Bardill Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852/56782 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 Telephone: (252) 448-4541 M25,A1,A8,3tc

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 17-CVD-591 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM** Plaintiff, vs **WILLIE D. ALSTON a/k/a WIL-LIS D. ALSTON, et al** Defendants. **NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: JOSEPH L. RIGGSBEE and spouse, if any, and any HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVISEES of JOSEPH L. RIGGSBEE and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder. A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 25, 2021. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 25, 2021, or by May 4, 2021, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 17th day of March, 2021. Zacchaeus Legal Services Mark D. Bardill/Mark B. Bardill Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852/56782 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 Telephone: (252) 448-4541 M25,A1,A8,3tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **JOSEPH ANTHONY TARESCO**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before June 25, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 25th day of March, 2021. Desiree Collins, Executrix c/o Monroe, Wallace & Morden, P.A. 3225 Blue Ridge Road, Suite 117 Raleigh, NC 27612 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM**  
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 10th day of March, 2021, as Executor of the ESTATE OF **CHERYL ELAINE JUNKMANN**, Deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of June 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, the 25th day of March 2021. Brian Craig Junkmann, Executor Estate of Cheryl Elaine Junkmann c/o E. Jack Walker, Esquire WALKER LAMBE, PLLC PO BOX 51549 Durham, NC 27717-1549 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Joy McPherson, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JOHN RUSSELL MCPHERSON**, 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 25th day of June, 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 the 25th day of March, 2021. Joy McPherson, Administrator C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20-E-587 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Curtis Clark, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **DORIS ELLIS CLARK**, 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 25th day of June, 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 the 25th day of March, 2021. Curtis Clark, Executor C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 21-E-137 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Richard Torbert and Arnold Torbert, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **REBA W. TORBERT**, 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 25th day of June, 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 the 25th day of March, 2021. Richard Torbert and Arnold Torbert, Co-Executors C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 21-E-154 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Laurie Feranec, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **RICHARD H. MARKS**, 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 25th day of June, 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 the 25th day of March, 2021. Laurie Feranec, Executor C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 21-E-153 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Angela Foster, having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **GENEVA MCTILMAN RODGERS**, 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 25th day of June, 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 the 25th day of March, 2021. Angela Foster, Limited Personal Representative C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **KATHERINE LYNNE MOHRFELD**, 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 Executor, in care of Wendy A. Craig, P.A. Attorney-at-Law, 207 East State Street, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711, on or before June 25, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 25th day of March, 2021. Katherine Hamilton Ross, Executor of the Estate of **KATHERINE LYNNE MOHRFELD**,

Deceased c/o Wendy A. Craig, P.A. 207 East State Street Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **MARY KATHRYN CREASON** aka

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **PAUL MILOWSKY**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Andrew S. Bullard, Executor, on or before the 23rd day of June, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor. This 23rd day of March, 2021. Andrew S. Bullard, Executor Smith Debnam PO Box 176010 Raleigh, NC 27619-6010 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tc

**PUBLIC SALE ACE SELF STORAGE ("LIENOR") 105 WEST FIFTH STREET, SILER CITY, NC, WILL HOLD THIS PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ITS STORAGE FACILITY ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021 AT 11:00 A.M. IN SILER CITY, NC. THE FOLLOWING PERSONS AND PROPERTY ARE SUBJECT TO SALE:**  
UNIT B-33-MAMIE ALSTON 1305 NEW HAVEN STREET SILER CITY, N.C. 27344  
UNIT B-35-SANDY ALSTON 618 NORTH SECOND AVE., APT. B SILER CITY, N.C. 27344  
UNIT B-3D-CECIL CHEEK 1305 NEWLAND SILER CITY, NC. 27344  
UNIT B-3E-TARA DOWNING 311 JOE BROWN ROAD SILER CITY, N.C. 27344  
UNIT B-29-AL MENDEZ 120 GREEN MEADOW COURT PITTSBORO, N.C. 27312  
UNIT B-27- JOHN MCNERNY 2951 NORTH OCEAN BLVD. BOCA RATON, FL 33431  
UNIT B-7A-DANIELLE RILEY 3379 WOODY STORE ROAD SILER CITY, N.C. 27344  
UNIT B-23-ERICK UMANA 1525 DUET DRIVE SILER CITY, N.C. 27344  
UNIT B-6-GERALD GREENE 868 SILER CITY GLENDON ROAD SILER CITY N.C. 27344 M25,A1,A8,A15,A22,A29,6tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-148**  
All persons having claims against **LILLIE PORTER BOULDIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of March, 2021. Co-Executrix: Glenda Bouldin Andrews 1841 Hillside Dairy Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 Co-Executrix: Donna Bouldin Moore 1322 E. Meadows Rd Eden, NC 27288 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **CAROL WHARTON PAGE**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 25th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 25th day of March, 2021. Philip Howard Page, Executor Estate of Carol Wharton Page Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 M25,A1,A8,A15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **THEODORE CLAYBORN GARRETT A/K/A THEODORE C. GARRETT** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 23rd day of March, 2021. Steven O'Daniel, Administrator CTA of The Estate of Theodore Clayborn Garrett a/k/a Theodore C. Garrett Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **MARY KATHRYN CREASON**, deceased, of Chatham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 2, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 1st day of April, 2021. John Paul Creason, Personal Representative in c/o Kellie Corbett, Attorney at Carolina Family Estate Planning 201 Commonwealth Court, Suite 100 Cary, NC 27511 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-203**  
All persons having claims against **MYRA TAYLOR DUNN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of June, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of March, 2021. Co-Executors 1. Denise D. Dunn 904 Bear Creek Church Rd Bear Creek, NC 27207 2. Vance Drew Dunn 3607 Splitwood Rd Toano, VA 23168 c/o Lewis R Fadelly, PLLC 119 N Fir Ave Siler City, NC 27344 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-128**  
All persons having claims against **PATRICK MICHAEL REDDINGTON**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same on or before July 15, 2021 to James F. Reddington, Executor of this notice will be plead in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 30th day of March 2021. James F Reddington, Executor 856 Forest Ave. Rye, NY 10580 c/o Krista Debby Reddington 113 N Hassel St Hillsborough, NC 27278 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-135**  
All persons having claims against **MICHAEL RAYMOND MANLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of July, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 26th day of March, 2021. Michele Nadeau Kissel, Administrator 7138 NC Hwy 39 N Kenley, NC 27542 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tp

**CHATHARIDGE SELF STORAGE**  
Chatharidge Self-Storage, Pursuant to N.C. Statue 44A shall conduct a public sale of Storage space #84 located at 222 Old Lystra Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27517, Chatham County. Sale will be conducted at 10:00 a.m. on the 15th day of April, 2021. All successful bidders shall take possession

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM**  
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 15th day of March, 2021, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF **BETTY LOU REES**, Deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of June, 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, the 1st day of April, 2021. JENAE BETHERS, EXECUTRIX ESTATE OF BETTY LOU REES c/o Jennifer Dalman, Attorney Walker Lambe, PLLC Post Office Box 51549 Durham, North Carolina 27717 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Leslie Jean DeSilva, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **SANDRA KAY MARSHALL**, 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 2nd day of July, 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 1st day of April, 2021. Leslie Jean DeSilva c/o Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee 122 South Chatham Avenue Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2850 W. Ben Atwater, Jr. Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee PO Box 629 Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2850 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-194**  
All persons having claims against **RANDY TATE WHITE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of July, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 30th day of March, 2021. Jodie W. Phillips, Executrix 516 Maple Springs Lane Bear Creek, NC 27207 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tp