

Chatham News + Record

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Pittsboro's new Welcome Center opens arms to visitors

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro's new Welcome Center is officially open to the public, and its representatives are eager to help newcomers and longtime residents alike find new and exciting things to do in Chatham County.

"We can't wait to tell people about all the local restaurants, local shops and opportunities for recreation," said Lesley

Landis, one of many Chathamites who collaborated on the Welcome Center's evolution from concept to completion.

"And we want to expand people's impressions of all of Chatham, beyond even Pittsboro as the county seat. We're here to talk about Siler City, and Moncure, and Gulf, and Goldston, and Bonlee and Bennett."

Landis is a board member of Main Street Pittsboro — one of several non-profits under

the N.C. Dept. of Commerce's North Carolina Main Street program — which operates the Welcome Center. The 10-person team includes County Commissioner Mike Dasher, Pittsboro Commissioner Michael Fiocco and Pittsboro Town Manager Chris Kennedy, along with several local business owners such as Landis. The Main Street program is "to help historic downtowns rebound from the

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Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Lesley Landis of Main Street Pittsboro and Welcome Center staffer Paul Sacca discuss the center's operation. The newly-opened center has welcomed visitors from more than two dozen states.

'THE FIRST IS STILL BEHIND YOUR NAME'

CCS' Hubert West reflects on legacy as UNC's first Black head coach

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Earlier this month, Hubert Davis replaced Roy Williams as the head coach for UNC-Chapel Hill's men's basketball team, becoming the program's first Black head coach and fourth overall in any program at the school.

But it was another Hubert — Hubert West Jr. — who made history as the first Black head coach at UNC, for the school's track and field program in 1981-83. The next Black head coach at UNC wasn't named until 2011.

Today, West, 70, is a teacher at Chatham County Schools, but track and field is still "a very prominent part" of his life. Hearing about Davis' historic hiring brought all his UNC memories back — where he was not only the first head coach of his race, but also the first Black student to receive a track scholarship when he attended in the early 1970s.

"Yeah, it's very exciting," West said, "because it brings back memories of the groundbreaking in being the first African American to sign a track scholarship and then

the first African American coach at UNC. ... Regardless of what goes on, that first is still behind your name."

West started teaching in Chatham after working multiple years as the athletic director and physical education teacher at Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill. His wife, Beverly — they've been married for 41 years — started substituting first and then encouraged him to apply. A little over a decade ago, West became a teaching assistant at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, where colleagues know him for his kindness and dedication to his students. Of course, many also know him for his track and field laurels, though it's not necessarily something he brags about.

"The thing I appreciate about Mr. West is his humility," said John McCann, CCS public relations coordinator. "Here's this pioneering guy who didn't come running after me to brag about his place in UNC's coaching history. That's admirable."

"We're dealing with two humble Huberts," he added.

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Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Hubert West, shown here at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, was the first Black head coach at UNC-Chapel Hill. Now a teaching assistant, West led UNC's track and field program from 1981-83.

IS IT A SCAM?

Con artists intensify their efforts in pandemic

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Telephone scams have proliferated since the pandemic began, with overseas fraudsters targeting senior citizens.

At least one Chathamite has had enough.

Tom DeWitt is waging a personal vendetta against the remote con artists, and plans to lobby the General Assembly to make legislative changes that will more effectively deter the distant swindlers.

"I'm making this my priority in my life now, at least for the near future," said DeWitt, of Siler City. "I know it will take a while to get anything done, but I'm going to try."

DeWitt, 84, has no background in politics and policy. He moved to North Carolina from his native Washington, D.C., in 1972 to marry a Chatham girl. He made his career as a buyer for a chain of jewelry stores. But in the last year, it has become his

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Nearly a quarter of Chatham's Hispanic population has been partially vaccinated

Hispanic vaccination rates trail most other ethnic, racial groups in Chatham

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

Nearly four months into Chatham's COVID-19 vaccine rollout, just under a quarter of

Chatham's Hispanic population has been partially vaccinated — a rate over 10 percentage points below the county's overall average.

"We have made progress over the past four months, but there is

still work to do," Chatham's Public Health Director, Mike Zelek, told the News + Record Monday.

According to the state vaccinations dashboard, 24.4% of Chatham's Hispanic population has received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine while 13.2% is fully vaccinated, as of

See VACCINE, page A6



Carolina Torres, assistant director of Vidas de Esperanza, and longtime Vidas volunteer Caroline Murrell check people in for their vaccination appointments last Saturday in Siler City. The vaccine clinic — organized by Vidas and UNC — vaccinated more than 60 people.

Staff photo by Kim Hawks

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

Board approves summer plan to combat COVID challenges

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Schools Board of Education approved a new state-mandated summer learning plan, meant to help students recover from COVID-19 learning loss, as presented by the district at its Monday night meeting.

As the Chatham BOE meeting took place, the state board of education adopted guidance including more specifics for how N.C. districts will run the program. The motion, approved 4-0 by board members, also included a provision for CCS administration to make adjustments to the plan to meet any necessary

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'IT'LL BE REALLY FUN'

Day of the Books celebration to return as a drive-thru event May 1

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Last year, COVID-19 restrictions turned the Chatham County Partnership for Children's interactive, walk-through Day of the Books celebration into a no-contact drive-in.

This year, the pandemic has once again forced organizers to get creative.

"We partnered with the health department this year to try to plan an event that was really safe for the community," said Elizabeth Anderson, the Partnership's program director, "and what we came up with was this drive-thru, which we're seeing a lot of, so that parents and families can still

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IN THE KNOW

Siler City nonprofit hosts 'smooth' vaccine clinic — but turnout is low. PAGE A6

Chatham Chat: The lowdown on Chatham 250's 'Passport Experience.' PAGE B7

'Moonshiners': Chatham author's first-hand tales from days as ATF agent. PAGE B9



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 1, 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 Pittsboro Board of Commissioners will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 26, at Pittsboro Town Hall.

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

tality and fellowship for everyone. All are welcome, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

FRIDAY
The C.C.C.C. Financial Aid Office will host a virtual FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 23. The event is free and virtually open to the public. Participants should use 2019 tax information to fill out the FAFSA. To schedule an appointment, visit https://tinyurl.com/spfafsaday. For more information, call (919) 718-7229, email finaid@cccc.edu, or visit www.cccc.edu/financialaid/contact.

OTHER UPCOMING:
CLYDEFEST in the Wild Details: Saturday, April 24, at The Park at Briar Chapel, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Families and kids will have the opportunity to schedule outdoor time at our mobile Critterville to paint and embellish one of those beloved critter cut-outs. Tuesday, April 27, 4-6:30 p.m.: Chatham Artists-in-Schools artist Diali Cissokho and ClydeFEST roving performers will travel through the neighborhoods of Briar Chapel and Nature Trail Community sharing their arts magic. Saturday, May 1, at Bray Park, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. - Pick up Critter Kits (a critter cut-out, plus paint and glue) at Chatham County Partnership for Children's drive-through

Day of the Book/Dia de los Libros celebration. Families can grab a kit here and adorn them at home. - Sunday, May 2, at Southwest District Park, 1-5 p.m., A ClydeFEST in the Wild celebration in southwestern Chatham! Families and kids, sign up now to schedule outdoor critter-paintin' time and enjoy the music. The event is free, but participants need to sign-up in advance to reserve a spot for critter painting/glittering/adornin' in small groups. Sign up at https://www.chathamartscouncil.org/clydefest-in-the-wild-2021/ **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. The Library is also offering free online classes on Microsoft PowerPoint, also in April. Class descriptions and a registration link can be found at www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses. Microsoft PowerPoint Basics, Part 2: April 27, Tuesday, at 3 p.m.

The League of Women Voters, Orange, Durham and Chatham, invites the community to a lecture series on "The State of Our Democracy." Join us as six scholars from local universities explore the roots of our government, and the resiliency of our democracy. Register for one or more, they are free, open to the public from

6:30 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, April 27: The State of Our News Media; and Tuesday, May 4, America's Struggle Over Voting Rights: Lessons from North Carolina. **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 open** at the Food Lion Shopping Center. Store hours are from Tuesday until Saturday, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Masks are required and hand sanitizer is also available. Proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County. **Pittsboro Youth Theater** (pittsboroyouththeater.com) is offering in-person theater camps this summer! All campers will learn a comprehensive variety of theater skills, rehearse and perform a live play at Sweet Bee Theater. Camps will be led by experienced Pittsboro Youth Theater Director(s) and Assistant(s). Camp themes include Prin-

cess Camp, Fairy Camp, Jungle Camp, and Alien Camp. There will also be a 3-week musical intensive one resulting in performances of Frozen Jr., as well as a 2-week intensive for younger campers resulting in performances of Frozen Kids. Enrollment is open now on a first-come, first-served basis. Ages: 6-12; 3 weeks for ages 10-18. Dates: Weekly camps, 2-week summer intensive, and 3-week summer intensive, June 14 - August 13, 9 am to 5 pm, (early drop-off and late pick-up for an additional fee). Price: Weekly camps: \$265. Frozen Jr. and Frozen Kids: See website for details, COVID-19 Precautions, full details and accommodations - PYT Marketing Team, pytmktg@gmail.com - 18A E. Salisbury St., Pittsboro; 919-533-6997. **The Chatham Arts Council** has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: **Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort**. For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org. **JMArts** hosted a **JMA-CoronaConcert** 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 chil-

dren a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 to learn more. **Alcoholics Anonymous** — North Carolina District 33, call the Help Line at 866-640-0180 for the meeting schedule for this area. **Motorcycle Association** — The Motorcycle Association for Chatham, Western Wake, Lee, Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com. **Narcotics Anonymous** — For drug problems in the family, Narcotics Anonymous helps. Call 1-800-721-8225 for listing of local meetings. **Al-Anon Meeting** — Pittsboro Serenity Seekers Al-Anon Family Group meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Chatham Community Church, in the lower level of Chatham Mill, Pittsboro. **Scout News** • Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstroop93.org for more information. **Pack 924** of Siler City First U.M.C. meets on 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.

Chatham Business Professional Women offers scholarships to local women

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Monthly meetings:

Board meetings • 1st Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.
Drive-In meetings • 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12-1:00 p.m.
General club meetings • 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Halloran said. "Any woman who lives in Chatham and wants to take her business to the next level, whether through taking a class, buying a piece of equipment or attending a workshop should apply."

The group plans to offer scholarships of up to \$500 each to three or four women, and will announce the recipients at their June meeting, following the May 31 deadline to apply. Submissions are accepted online only, Bryan said; potential applicants can receive more information and an application form by contacting former organization president Jean MacDonald at jeanconnects@gmail.com.

"We're constantly raising money for the scholarship fund, and cognizant of the fact that it's not to pay for tuition to an expensive school or something," Bryan said, "but it is these kinds of little boosts that

can help ... to get higher designations or to increase sheer knowledge."

Promotion of the scholarship began in March and applications are coming in. Fundraising events and efforts between now and the application deadline will continue to enhance the group's scholarship fund, Bryan said.

While applicants don't have to be members of Professional Business Women, Bryan said the group offers additional assistance to women through its meetings and network support. The organization meets twice monthly, offering a variety of meeting formats online and in-person to adapt to the pandemic and members' varying comfort levels.

"It's not a networking group like some of the other groups are, but it's more of a sisterhood," she said. "What we have seen is that the variety of services and businesses that are represented among our members has really created a wonderful networking opportunity, because we just love each other and we want to help each other out."

Throughout the pandemic, the group had to get creative in order to make the most of Zoom meetings. Bryan said one meeting featured pointers on learning to "go on vacation in your mind," a strategy she learned as a caregiver for her mother, who was suffering from Alzheimer's. As part of the meeting, Bryan displayed pictures

of Hawaii over PowerPoint while the group exchanged pointers on making the most of small windows for self-care and quiet.

They've also held classes teaching CPR, hearing updates on COVID-19 from local health officials and partnered with local nonprofits like CORA Food Pantry.

"We know all businesses have had to adapt and so many found that we've had to really retreat and become more focused on working out of our homes," Bryan said. "We really miss that camaraderie. ... Our board of di-

rectors, we talk about this a lot, and that it was really important for us to continue reaching out — and so we became very creative in what we were doing."

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.

Chatham County Council on Aging WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT!

Q: On what date was the first celebration of "George Moses Horton Day"?

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



Siler City Fire Department's ANNUAL Barbecue PLATES
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
\$8.00/Plate (with drink)
APRIL 21ST
TAKE OUT AT: The Fire Dept.

Chatham News + Record

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DeWitt: Beware these 7 common scams

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

Tom DeWitt, 84, of Siler City, has fielded hundreds of scam calls in the last year. He often follows scammers' instructions to identify what they're after before hanging up without having shared his personal information. In an effort to assist Chatham's elderly population — the most susceptible demographic to telephone scams — DeWitt compiled a list of the seven most frequently attempted cons. If you hear any of these from a caller you don't know, hang up.

- 1. Your excellent payment**

history has made you eligible for a 0% interest rate. Press one to complete the process.

"This one wants your name, address and credit card number," DeWitt says. "They sell it to someone who goes on a shopping spree and you have a hassle."

- 2. Fraudulent activity has been detected on your social security number and your number has been suspended. Press one to speak to an agent.**

"They sell your information to someone who will divert your checks or deposits," DeWitt says. "A big hassle."

- 3. This is Publishers Clearing House. You have won \$20 million and a new Mercedes.**

"They want you to buy a \$1,500 money card to pay shipping on your new car," says DeWitt.

- 4. Hello, this is Medicare calling. Your coverage is about to be canceled.**

After obtaining your information, the scammers have several options. They can sell it, use it to file false claims or purchase pharmaceutical drugs under your name to sell on the black market.

- 5. Final expense insurance at a low, low price.**

"They want your credit card number to sign you up," DeWitt says.

- 6. Fraudulent activity on your bank account has been detected. An arrest warrant has been is-**

sued for you. Press one to speak an officer.

"They want your bank information to drain your account."

- 7. "There has been a charge to your Amazon account for (fill in the amount of money). If you do not accept this charge, press one."**

The objective is to obtain your Amazon account information. DeWitt's list is similar to compilations of common scams published by the Federal Trade Commission and law enforcement agencies. Additional cons targeting the elderly include the "grandparents scam," where callers impersonate your grandchildren

in need of financial assistance; tech support scams, where callers ask you for remote control of your computer to fix a problem they've identified; and pandemic-related scams, where callers impersonate medical staff offering to help you get the COVID-19 vaccine. For a comprehensive list of telephone scams, and to learn what you can do if you've already paid a scammer, visit www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0208-phone-scams.

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

SCAMMERS

Continued from page A1
mission to protect the elderly from rapacious

scammers. "It's been much worse going on now for probably at least a year," he said, "about since the pandemic's start."

DeWitt himself has never fallen for a telephone scam, though not for lack of scammers' efforts. "So far today I've only had five or six calls," DeWitt said, laughing. "On a heavy day, 10 or 12."

But he's witnessed catastrophe among his peers when they unwittingly hand over sensitive personal information or send money directly to scammers posing as trustworthy government or company representatives. "I have a good friend, he's in his 90s," DeWitt said. "And he lost his life savings, at least \$50,000." The scam that got him was a time-tested favorite of telephone con artists: "This is Publishers Clearing House, you have won \$20 million and a new Mercedes." "But they ask you to send money to cover shipping for the new car," DeWitt said. "I think something like \$1,500. (My friend) kept sending them the money — over and over he would send them money to ship it. 'All you have to do is go to Walmart and get a money card,' they

say, and then when they call you, you give them the serial number on that card and they can go cash it." The Publishers Clearing House ruse is one of seven most commonly used ploys that DeWitt has identified from the many hundreds of scam calls he's picked up (see sidebar). He likes to "play with the scammers," DeWitt says, stringing them along — sometimes for half an hour or longer — before eventually revealing that he knows their ploy. "When they realize I was toying with them they get mad," he said. "They use all kinds of foul language."

'99.9% of the time it's a scam'

Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner has fielded dozens of calls in his career from seniors reporting telephone fraud. "But it's definitely been more prevalent in the last year," he said. And calls to the police department likely represent a minority of scam victims. "A lot of times people don't report to the police because they feel humiliated," Wagner said, "and they don't want to share with others that they became a victim."

But having been fooled by a scammer should not embarrass senior citizens, he added. Scammers are professional criminals; they're trained to capitalize on what frightens the elderly. "They're very, very good, and detailed in their approach," Wagner said. "They make you believe what you're doing is a good idea." In the most common con Wagner has seen, scammers impersonate an elderly person's grandchild under duress. "They say something like they've been arrested on drug charges," he said, "and in order to post bail, you have to go to Best Buy or some big box store and buy thousands of dollars worth of gift cards."

Other frequent scams include the Publishers Clearing House sweepstakes, which recently fooled one Siler City resident into handing over \$11,000, Wagner said. There are also IRS impersonation scams, promises to perform house work after being paid upfront and fake alerts from law enforcement agencies. "Which is a lie," Wagner says. "No law enforcement identity does business over the phone like that." When unknown callers offer "things too good to be true," or threaten legal retribution, Wagner's advice is to call the police right away. "We like to get ahead of this," he said. "The best thing to do is to call us first and we will help vet whoever is calling you. I would say 99.9% of the time it's a scam."

'They're having success, or else they wouldn't keep doing it'

DeWitt has compiled his top-seven scammer scripts into a pamphlet, which he shares with the area's senior citizens, and

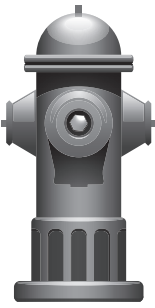
which he is distributing through a regional network of churches. The scams are easy to detect, DeWitt says. Almost always, the caller has a heavy accent and might speak broken English — indication they are likely in another country. "I mean, I can hear that they're in like a boiler room," he said, "I hear all these different conversations going on." And invariably scammers will ask for sensitive personal information that legitimate companies and services never request out of the blue. "They ask for my credit card information to pay some urgent, overdue bill," DeWitt said. "Or they'll say they're from the IRS and they need my social security number or else my social security payments might stop, stuff like that." Almost everyone with a phone number has encountered the same schemes, but scammers seek out senior citizens who are often more easily deceived. "So many elderly people have dementia, or the first beginning symptoms of dementia," DeWitt said. "And elderly people tend to trust too much anyway. And then if they have dementia, they don't even realize that they're being ripped off."

Many Chathamites match the victim profile that scam artists seek. One-third of all residents are aged 60 or above, according to 2018 data from the North Carolina Dept. of Health and Human Services, and the county's populace is trending older. Under the Population and Income Information section of the county's website, a demographics breakdown reports: "Like many counties, Chatham County is becoming 'grayer,' but doing so at a faster rate than surrounding counties." But the increased frequency of telephone scams is a problem of national consequence, and DeWitt is not alone in searching for retribution. "It's not just here," he said. "It's happening all over the country, and they're having success, or else they wouldn't keep doing it." Several reports in the last year corroborate DeWitt's point. The Federal Communications Commission warns on its website that "the COVID-19 pandemic has provided a new hook for robocall and text scammers, many specifically targeting older Americans' concerns about health and finances."

In an investigation at the end of last year, The New York Times found that many hundreds of thousands had been defrauded by telephone scammers using pandemic fear as leverage. "I'm not shocked that scams have been on the rise," Lucy Baker, a consumer defense associate at the United States Public Interest Research Group, said in the report. "Scammers love natural disasters, especially in this environment where everyone is vulnerable." In February, the Federal Trade Commission re-

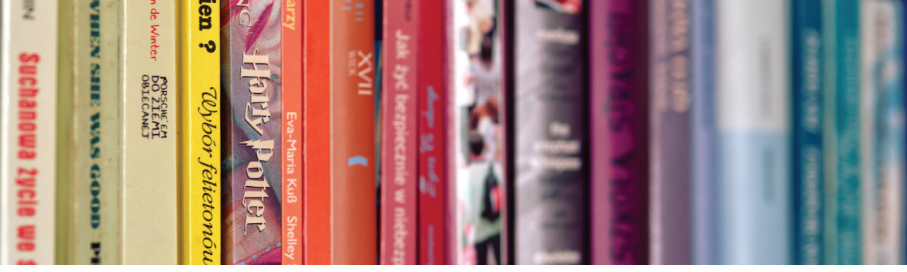
leased a report tallying material losses due to fraud in 2020. More than \$3.3 billion was reported stolen across a variety of scams. That represents an 83% uptick from 2019, when \$1.8 billion was lost nationwide. Besides increasing the frequency of their calls, scammers seem also to have improved their success ratios. More than one-third of those reporting fraud in 2020 had lost money, the FTC said, compared to 23% the year before. The numbers are staggering, but they don't surprise DeWitt. "It's everyday I'm getting these calls and I know people are falling for them," he said. "... I know another fellow out here in the country that was scammed — they drained his bank account. There are lots of these stories and they have to stop." Distributing his pamphlet and educating senior citizens is an important first step, DeWitt says, but it's only a temporary solution. "The obvious answer is if we just had a law that prohibited these calls from coming into the country," he said. "If they were calling from within the United States it would be pretty easy to prosecute them. But if they're in India or Pakistan, they're out of reach." The same obstacles that make it challenging to identify scammer locations of origin, though, make it difficult to intercept their calls, according to representatives from the N.C. General Assembly. "We presently have state laws in place protecting against robocalls," N.C. House Minority Leader Robert Reives II told the News + Record. "The problem seems to be the ability to enforce those laws." Still, he and other legislators are interested in protecting the state's elderly residents who are most vulnerable to these attacks, Reives said. "I am very happy to support and further strengthen our ability to identify fraud of the type that has been targeting seniors recently," he said, "and I want to continue to investigate options to protect senior citizens who are being targeted at an ever increasing rate during this pandemic." Following the News + Record's request for comment, Reives tasked a General Assembly staffer with researching options to strengthen state laws prohibiting scam calls, he said, and reached out to the Attorney General's Office for a "formalized opinion" on the state's legal options, though a response was not available by press time. "There's no downside to them getting something passed, some kind of regulation," DeWitt said. "... We need to protect our older people from this kind of thing. We need to stop this rotten crime."

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



TOWN OF SILER CITY Public Works and Utilities

Starting May 3rd, we will begin our annual hydrant testing and flushing. The Siler City Fire Department will begin on Harold Andrews Road and come back towards town on Snow Camp Road, then to Pearly Man Teague Road and work their way East around the hospital and out highway 64. May the 10th the Fire Department hopes to be in Love's Creek MHP and Hampton Village and will work their way back into the Southeast Side of the city and work towards Jordan Matthews. The weeks of the 17th and the 24th they hope to have the Northeast side of town completed.



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This project was supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

VIEWPOINTS

Recalling a deadly tornado, 10 years later

We know Mother Nature to be fickle. But fecklessly, spitefully cruel? Here, in central North Carolina?

Yes, and nightmarishly so. The Sanford tornado 10 years ago this week proved it.

I grew up along Tornado Alley. My mother and sister and I moved from Sanford to the treeless, rolling hills of northeast Kansas when I was in 4th grade, in the fall of 1972. In Kansas, 10 o'clock TV news-casts lead with the weather first. It doesn't take long to develop the oddly ironic, paradoxical attitude most in the Midwest have about the weather: first, the jaded mindset that we've seen it all. A running joke: what did tornadoes sound like before freight trains were invented? And second, the healthy, but still unnerving, respect for that which weather can wreak. If we didn't have a

tornado story, we knew plenty of people who did. When I was growing up, too many towns in the Sunflower State solemnly commemorated anniversaries of killer twisters.

I was in the vicinity of three tornadoes during the dozen or so years I lived there, but never saw one. We were living in a single-wide mobile home, but thankfully away from town on a camping trip, the afternoon one struck our town. One side of our home was peeled away like the top of a sardine can. My baseball cards and my favorite book on baseball star Roberto Clemente were soaked, but all in all damage was relatively minimal.

An inveterate storm-watcher and lover of weather-themed documentaries, I always thought I'd love to see a tornado in person. But in North Carolina?

A decade ago, we experienced it. My wife Lee Ann and I thought that April 16, 2011, storm spared us, but when television reports said the St. Andrews area of Sanford had been hit, our brief relief turned to panic. I immedi-

ately called the home of my then-longest-tenured co-worker at The Sanford Herald, R. V. Hight, hoping to hear good news. I knew from the tone of his wife's "hello" that things would be bad.

"Bill, our house is gone," she said.

They were OK, but their home was nearly totally destroyed. They survived by crouching inside a walk-in closet, which was just about all that was left standing.

A small army of us from the newspaper ventured into the St. Andrews neighborhood, working our way through gnarled traffic and, in some cases, talking our way past emergency crews.

We greeted each other with tears and embraces. The shock was palpable, and understandable. At homes in St. Andrews, there were gaping holes, collapsed sections of roofs. At R.V.'s, a splintered piece of wood was driven cleanly into and through the bumper of one of the family's cars. The remnants of a 2x4 — also splintered, its origins unknown — was driven into the home's siding, as if it

were nailed by a giant hammer. Most of the home's walls had collapsed, yet a bookcase inside one room wasn't disturbed, the shelves' books unmovable.

Everywhere along the path of devastation, we all said the same thing: never seen anything like it.

Me? Not even in Kansas.

Then news of the destruction of the Lowe's Home Improvement, and of Tractor Supply Co., and of scores of injuries and possible deaths across Lee County, came. We worked, we picked up, we tried to help. We tried to comfort.

Why it happened will be as hard to figure as why one house along the path is destroyed, while another within a stone's throw is untouched. At one home, all that's necessary is a hard cleanup. At another, reconstruction.

But it happened, so we faced the prospect of reacting.

An hour before sunset that day, a few of us struggled with one load of the family's luggage and suitcases. We planned to transport it to a co-worker's car parked at Hunt Springs Church a few hundred yards

away; while doing so, a group of teenagers cruised by the home on a golf cart. One member of the party shot video of us with his cell phone as they passed.

We stopped them and asked if they could help us take a load.

"Uh, we better not," said one of them. "The battery's getting low."

They drove off.

Faith was restored a few minutes later. As one of our party staggered with a top-heavy load, a woman — she said she was a nurse — came to the rescue, shouldering part of the luggage the rest of the way to our destination without hesitation.

That's the spirit, I thought.

An hour or so later, as darkness fell, I delivered that load to the home of Mrs. Apple, R. V.'s wife's mother, where part of his family took respite. We talked about coming together, about picking up the pieces.

"Maybe He just wants us to work together," Mrs. Apple said.

Amen to that. True then, true now.

Focusing on important things one of major keys to life

It's amazing what you can learn these days. I guess that was always the case but technology and the internet make it so much easier now.

In the old days, of course, there was also lots of information available and much to learn. You just had to be willing to take the hard road of research. Often that involved getting lost in the inner workings — typically referred to as "the stacks" — of libraries. I remember as part of orientation in my first freshman year of college (I had three) that we were taken to the library and shown how to use the card catalog to find what we were looking for.

Today, it's just the push of a button that does it for you, provided you can take a break from taking "selfies" or playing games. Obviously, that's much easier and quicker; you just have to decide if what you've found is at least partly true or important.

I say all that to say that recently I ran across a statement that said a frog's field of vision is somewhat like a blackboard (or whiteboard, for you modernists) that has been wiped clean; that the little guy sees only what directly impacts him or is a danger. I'm not sure how biologists know that unless they have interviewed a frog but I do know that now I'm probably equipped to write a paper about frogs and their eyes because checking that out sent me on several chases to learn more information. For instance, did you know that when a frog catches a meal — say, a fly — on its tongue that its eyes come inside of its head and help push the food down its itty-bitty throat?

Neither did I, until undertaking this research. While all that information may be interesting or at least worth a question on "Jeopardy," it's the application of any information that makes it worthwhile. And for me, the notion that a frog sees only what's important brought back a memory and also offered an up-to-date use.

The memory supported that truth about a frog's field of vision. As a youngster, one of the highlights of my existence was when my dad and I, along with one of my brothers or maybe our neighbor Allen Money, would spend a summer night hunting bullfrogs. Lest you think we were simply torturing the little creatures, we were harvesting them for food, much as someone fishes or goes after deer.

We had to wait until about dark-thirty on those evenings so it would be dark enough for the frogs not to see us right away. There was a ladder of participation you had to climb in frog hunting, done either with a "gig" (an instrument like a small pitchfork) or a .22 rifle. We used the gig, as did all purists, because the problem with the rifle was if you shot a frog, he might

still hop away and you lost your food.

Anyway, as a beginner you could only carry — or "tote," as we said — the burlap bag that would hold your night's work. Later on, with experience, you could move up to shooting snakes with that same .22 rifle, an important task since you did not want to inadvertently harvest a water moccasin or have one fall into your boat as you slipped beneath an overhanging tree limb. One night, as I remember, the "Man With No Shoulders" did in fact drop into our boat; one of the occupants bailed out over the side, went under the boat and came up on the other side so quickly the money in his wallet stayed dry.

But of all the tasks associated with frog-harvesting, none were any more important than carrying the big five-cell flashlight we used to blind the frog's vision.

Remembering and thinking about that caused me to consider myself and my human counterparts, especially as we move into the second year of coronavirus and COVID. I'm not going to rehash all we've all been through but I do want to throw out the question of what are we seeing in our field of vision.

These unsettled times of information, misinformation, even lack of information — call it what you will — can lead us to confusion and distraction. We're also pretty good as people at allowing our lives to become cluttered with insignificant or materialistic things that we lose sight of what's significant. We lose our perspective about the things the Bible says are eternal and those which are temporary.

Sometimes it just happens. We may be looking at one thing and realize eventually we've been led from one place to another and to yet another until we're a long way from where we started. But we can also deliberately find ourselves there, too.

It's been a long time since I went frog-harvesting. Both my dad and Mr. Money have crossed the Great Divide and my two brothers and I have creaky joints, no boat and don't swim too well anymore. I have been tempted in the past to order frog legs at those restaurants which have them on the menu but my memories won't let me mingle the taste of those in the wild my mama would fix for breakfast the next morning after a long night out with the flavor of those raised commercially.

But I do hope I can learn the difference between what's important in life and what's not. I hope there are a few more years left to try to get it down a little better.

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.



The Wright judgment

The violent death of a 20-year-old man is tragic. It is also true that Daunte Wright, a Black man, was killed by a white police officer. These are the facts.

The editorial board of The Wall Street Journal was quick to point out that "the rush to judgment doesn't serve justice." Fair enough.

But we still must ask, how could a 26-year veteran police officer mistake her gun for her taser?

There's no question that police officers face highly stressful situations. But Wright was pulled over for a routine traffic violation. It does not seem like a "rush to judgment" to assert that the situation rapidly intensified. The question is why.

It is naïve to believe that race is not part of the answer.

In his novel "Invisible Man," Ralph Ellison described how Black men are perceived as threats just by their mere presence. They are like ghosts: often ignored, but if seen, perceived as haunting, malevolent presences. Ellison published that book in 1952, but I have friends who experience the truth of his claim today. In both explicit and implicit ways, many white people have come to believe that Black men are dangerous.

Black men, especially young adults, will tell you that white people will routinely cross to the other side of the street as they approach. Or white motorists waiting at stop signs will lock their car doors if a Black man happens to be innocently standing there. I have been a part of committees, both in business and religious contexts, in which a Black man expressed his opinion. It didn't matter how softly he spoke — white people wondered why he was so angry and wanted him to calm down.

Each of us brings assumptions and biases to every encounter with another human being. Even seemingly innocuous encounters, therefore, are loaded with the potential for fight-or-flight responses. As with the fate of Wright, the results are often tragic, and needlessly so.

What are we going to do about it? Even those outside the church may have heard the phrase in Matthew 7:1, "Do not judge so that you will not be judged." In the context of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus is not suggesting that a person should not have opinions about right and wrong. Rather, the word "judgment" (*krino* in Greek) was originally used in an agricultural context of separating grain from the chaff. (Examples are found in Homer's epic poem "The Iliad.") You make such a judgment based solely on outward appearance.

That prejudice is what Jesus condemns. Jesus maintains that people should be judged or evaluated by "their fruits" — their actions and motivations, not their appearances (Matthew 7:20).

Of course, very few white people — including police officers — physically harm anyone. But we all must work to overcome our judgments based on the color of skin. The first step is not to become defensive or rush to justify one's complete innocence. Rather, when Black men speak of their experiences with racism, let us be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger (James 1:19). Such reactions would deescalate potentially volatile situations.

We might even bear the fruit of repentance, which is the first step toward reconciliation.

Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church. His forthcoming book is a collection of his columns for the Chatham News + Record titled "Hope Matters: Churchless Sermons."

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VIEWPOINTS

Too many workers are sidelined

The latest federal job report is out — and it shows North Carolina’s employment recovery stalling out a bit during the first quarter of 2021.



JOHN HOOD

John Locke Foundation

That may not be evident at first glance. The state’s headline unemployment rate fell during the first three months of the year, reaching 5.2% in March. That’s way down from the terrifying 13.5% rate of a year ago, as COVID-19 and the ensuing shutdowns swept North Carolinians out of their jobs at an unprecedented speed.

That headline unemployment rate of 5.2% is, however, still higher than the 3.6% unemployment rate North Carolina posted in February 2020, just before the pandemic hit. More importantly, some

workers without jobs aren’t counted in the “headline” rate, the technical name of which is the U-3 rate. These are folks who are too discouraged to look for a job, are otherwise detached from the job market for some reason, or who work part-time but would rather have a full-time job.

A different measure, the U-6 rate, counts all those people, too. I can’t give you the U-6 rate for the first quarter of 2021, because that particular measure lags a bit behind the others. But as of the end of 2020, some 12.4% of working-age North Carolinians were either jobless or involuntary part-timers.

There are good reasons to believe this share hasn’t fallen very much in recent months. For example, North Carolina’s labor-force participation rate — the share of the working-age population that is either employed or actively looking for jobs — fell from 60% in December to 59.5% in March.

That’s not a sign of health in

our labor market. We don’t just want the U-3 rate to drop and job counts to go up a bit. To get back to something approaching normal, we need to see North Carolina’s labor-force participation rate rise back up towards the pre-COVID rate of 61.3%.

Why are so many potential workers still on the sidelines? There are several possible (and not at all contradictory) explanations.

Many economists and Republican politicians blame the expansion in unemployment-insurance benefits. During the early stage of the pandemic, Congress and the former Trump administration both expanded eligibility for UI benefits and tacked on additional money to those benefits.

Back then, when businesses were ordered to shut down or cut back hours, or simply couldn’t attract many risk-averse customers, the effects of expanded UI on work incentives may have been modest.

Indeed, that was the stated purpose of the extra \$600 a week — giving households money to pay their bills because so many workers had little prospect of getting any kind of full-time job.

Now that our state and many others have relaxed restrictions on businesses, and newly vaccinated customers are venturing out to consume goods and services, the wide availability of UI benefits, still supplemented by an extra \$300 a week, is surely keeping some lower-skilled workers on the sidelines. They truly receive more weekly income from government than they would from an employer.

But I doubt that’s the only factor at play here. While state restrictions on our economy have been relaxed, they remain tight in some sectors. Capacity constraints are keeping arts, entertainment, leisure and hospitality businesses from staffing up fully. Those jobs won’t come back until state

restrictions are gone and until more people feel safe enough to go out.

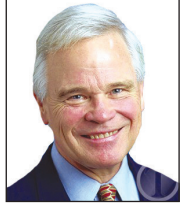
Although the perverse incentives facing sidelined workers are largely of Washington’s making, North Carolina leaders can help our labor market heal more quickly. They can keep promoting and facilitating vaccination. And Gov. Roy Cooper should lift most of the restrictions still in place on our businesses, pointing to the rising share of North Carolinians who are immune either from vaccination or from prior exposure to COVID.

Paying people to stay home from work may make sense as a temporary expedient in the midst of an outbreak of communicable disease. But it’s not the right policy now. Subsidizing idleness is bad for individuals, bad for families, and bad for our economy.

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

Remembering Wilber’s real barbecue and real hospitality

What really makes for a good barbecue restaurant?



D.G. MARTIN

One on One

Barbecue expert John Shelton Reed and I have different ideas.

I spoke with him about the recent death of Wilber Shirley, the legendary founder of Wilber’s, one of North Carolinians’ favorite places to enjoy pit-cooked eastern North Carolina barbecue.

Wilberdean Shirley opened Wilber’s Barbecue in Goldsboro in 1962 and made it into an icon that became a local institution and attracted visitors from all over the state. Before the opening of the Hwy 70 bypass, Wilber’s was a regular stop for Piedmont North Carolinians traveling to and from the beach. The loss of that business along with other factors led to Wilber’s closure two years ago.

Thanks to the efforts of Willis Underwood and other fans of Wilber, the restaurant re-opened last year, just in time for Wilber to see his life’s work back in operation before he died.

Reed and I are happy that Wilber’s restaurant is back in business, but we are happy for different reasons.

Reed is cofounder of the Campaign for Real Barbecue (TrueCue.org), which calls on its members to promise to “patronize purveyors of Real Barbecue, slow-cooked with smoke from wood or wood coals, and I will encourage others to do the same.”

For Reed, what makes a good barbecue restaurant is summed up in the words of tribute from the restaurant’s current owners who wrote, “Wilber helped make famous what we still serve today — Eastern North Carolina, whole hog BBQ cooked over wood.”

Why is wood so important and what is really so special about wood-cooked? When I asked Reed, he referred me to an article by Rick Bragg in The New York Times 25 years ago. Bragg cited Wilber’s as “where the hog cooks all night, and the meat is not considered done until it falls off the bone.”

Writing about another North Carolina barbecue icon, Pete Jones, founder of The Skylight Inn in Ayden, Bragg described the real barbecue that fires Reed’s passions: “They offer slow-cooked pork, chopped and blended with a vinegar-based sauce perked up with red pepper or Texas Pete hot sauce. This barbecue is as different from the tomato, mustard or molasses-basted meat of the lower South as white whiskey is from hot chocolate. It has a zing, a whang and a fo-dee-doe-doe.”

Those results don’t come easy, noted Bragg. He followed Shirley as he “stalks through his long, low cookhouse, through a thick haze of smoke. The dull glow from the dying coals is still hot on his skin. It would seem a little bit like hell, if it didn’t smell so good.”

It takes a bit of hell to make the heavenly ‘cue.

Those results are what fires Reed’s passion.

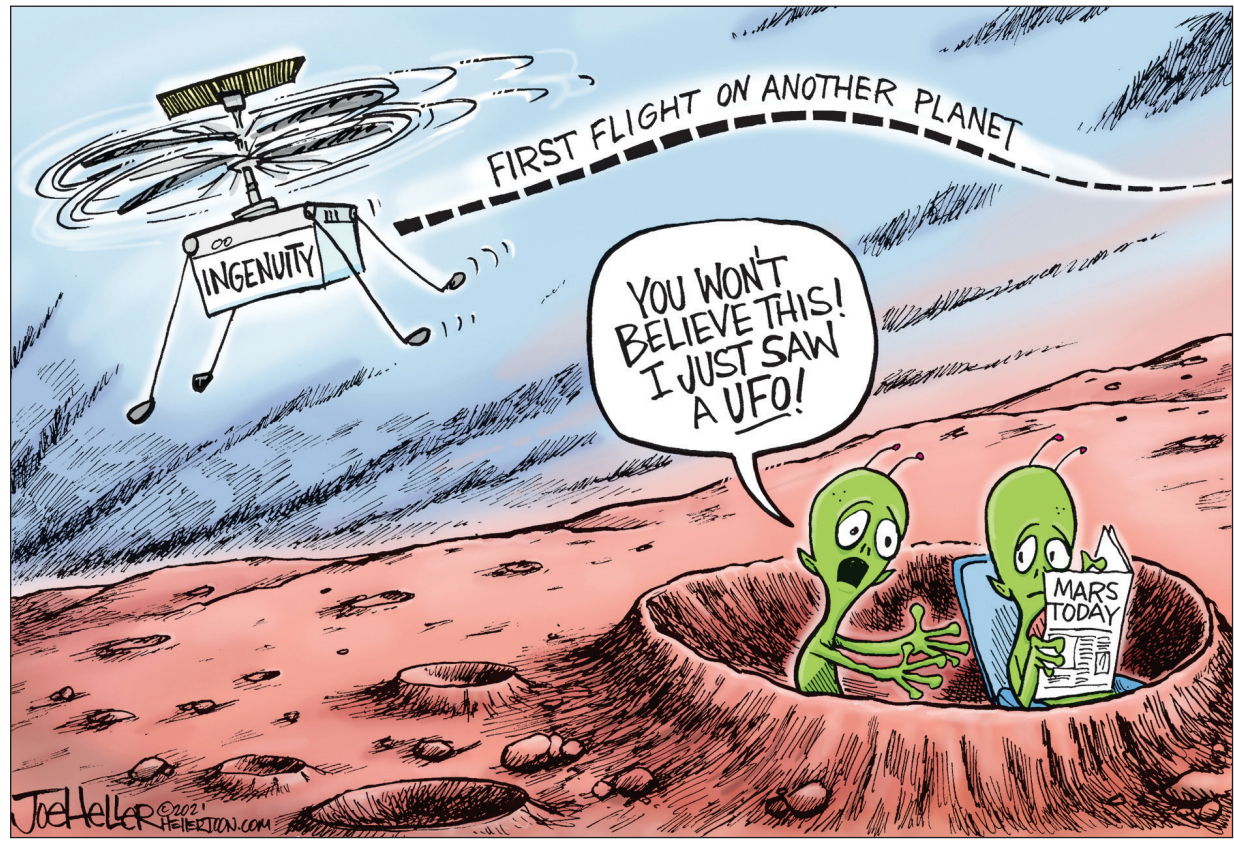
For me, however, it is the ambiance of the good barbecue restaurant, a community gathering place where the owner and staff know your name and make you feel at home.

You could sum it up in one word: hospitality.

It is a hard word to define, but you sure feel it when you are lucky enough to experience it. The New York Times writer, Tejal Rao, gave it a try last week: “Unlike service, which is technical and easy to describe, hospitality is abstract, harder to define. It can’t be summed up in a checklist. It can’t be bought. Hospitality is both invisible and formidable — it surrounds you. You can find it at a rest stop on the highway, and miss it at the host stand of a fine-dining restaurant. You feel its presence, or you don’t.”

It is at Wilber’s and other community-based restaurants that I feel hospitality’s presence. That is why I join John Shelton Reed in giving thanks for Wilber Shirley and others like him who provide the joyful experience of real hospitality and real barbecue.

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.



Banning the death penalty

Virginia just became the first state in the South to abolish the death penalty, significant because Virginia was the first colony to execute someone in 1608 and second only to Texas in the total number of executions.

Here are good reasons North Carolina should do the same.

1. We have unofficially already done away with capital punishment. Our state has the fourth-largest number on death row: 137 men and two women, although no one has been executed since 2006 and only four have

been sentenced to death since 2014. All executions have been on hold since 2013 due to court challenges that the “cocktail” of drugs used for lethal injections amounts to cruel and unusual punishment. The likelihood of future executions is small.

2. The death penalty is clearly not a deterrent. Between 2018 and 2019 homicides in our state rose 9 percent and rapes increased by 22 percent. Some believe 2020 may have been the most violent in modern history.

3. There is too much unequal justice. Our flawed justice system doesn’t always get it right, especially regarding race. A comprehensive study found that African-Americans are more than twice as likely as whites to be denied the right to serve on capital juries. African Americans make up more than half of our state’s death row prisoners, but fewer than 25 percent of our population. A person’s chance of being sentenced to death increases significantly if the victim is white. In far too many cases those accused in capital cases are poor, mentally ill or people of color, often with court-appointed attorneys and with juries that are not diverse. Since passage of the Racial Justice Act and The Actual Innocence Commission, 10 sentenced to death have been exonerated and more than 100 people currently on death row have presented

evidence of significant racial bias and have claims currently pending.

4. There are better and less expensive alternatives. For too many years we would sentence someone to life in prison only to have them paroled, but now juries can sentence someone to life without parole. A 1993 Duke University study found that if carried through to execution, capital cases cost an average of \$2.2 million more than non-capital ones. A death penalty trial is four times more expensive than a trial where the maximum punishment could be life without parole. A 2009 study estimated that North Carolina could save at least \$11 million per year by abolishing the death penalty.

5. Moral reasons. Those in favor of capital punishment often quote Biblical scripture calling for “an eye for an eye,” but that passage is often incorrectly interpreted. What scripture is advocating is the assurance that punishment will be neither too lenient nor too severe. We prefer the moral imperative, “Thou shalt not kill.” Substituting the life of one by taking another is not justice. Many families of victims say the lengthy trials actually make healing more difficult. It is interesting that the loudest advocates for capital punishment are the same ones most opposed to abortion, a contradictory stance on the value of a life.

There are now 23 states that have abolished the death penalty and three more have moratoriums. Popular opinion is changing. In the mid-1990s Gallup reported 80% of those surveyed favored capital punishment for one convicted of murder. Last year the number had dropped to 55% in favor and 60% favored life without parole.

The evidence is convicting. It is time North Carolina formally called an end to capital punishment.

Tom Campbell is a former assistant N.C. State Treasurer and was the creator/host of N.C. SPIN, a weekly statewide television discussion of N.C. issues that aired on UNC-TV until 2020. Contact him at tom-camp@carolinabroadcasting.com.

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'A LOT OF HESITATION'

Siler City nonprofit hosts 'smooth' vaccination clinic — but with low turnout

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Inside Vidas de Esperanza Clinic last Saturday, Siler City resident María Blanca E. López López sat on the examination chair, waiting to receive her first Moderna shot. Her jacket was halfway off, and she had her left sleeve rolled up and ready.

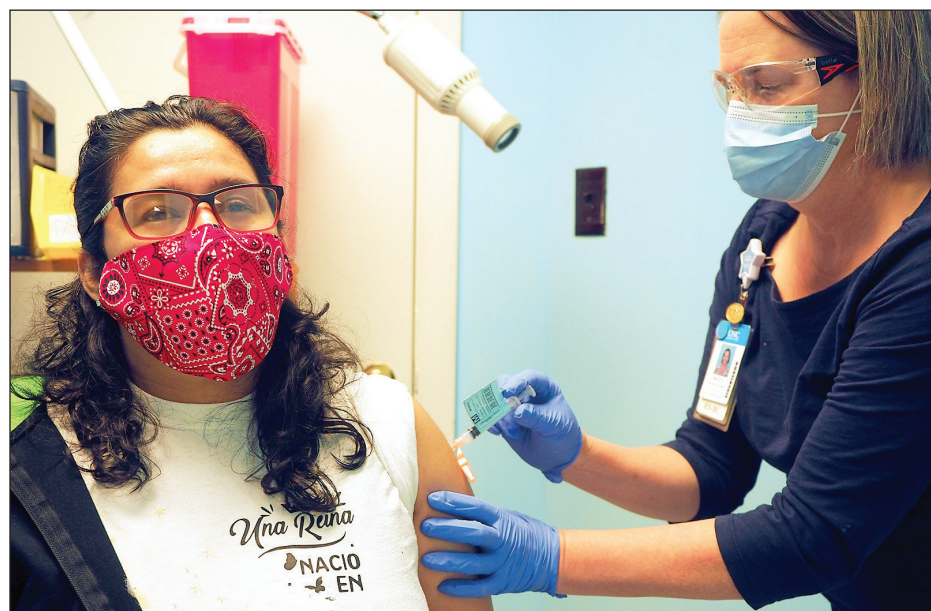
And right before the nurse administered the shot, she thought of her family.

"It's a form of protection for me and for my family," López López told the News + Record in Spanish about the vaccine. She added: "We're in an opportunity to take it right now. I don't know what will happen after."

López López was one among dozens of people, mostly Hispanic, to get vaccinated against COVID-19 last Saturday at Vidas de Esperanza's first vaccine clinic, an event organized and carried out in partnership with UNC. The clinic drew people of various ages and ethnicities from Siler City and beyond — including an entire family from High Point and Asheboro.

Yet, turnout wasn't quite as high as organizers had originally hoped.

"When you're serving the community, you always want to provide services for as many people as possible, and we were aiming at serving 150 vaccines," said Ascary Arias, founder and president of Vidas de Esperanza Clinic. "... Somewhere between 60



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

UNC nurse Kelly Revels administers a Moderna shot to Siler City resident María Blanca E. López López inside Vidas de Esperanza's clinic last Saturday. López López was one among dozens to get vaccinated with Vidas de Esperanza and UNC.

and 70 were vaccinated, so we're happy that we were able to vaccinate that many people, but we were hoping we could vaccinate 150, of course."

Located on 401 N. Ivey Ave., Vidas de Esperanza (Spanish for "Lives of Hope") is a Siler City medical and dental clinic that offers free services to those who can't otherwise afford health care — primarily to residents in Chatham County, though the clinic treats people from surrounding counties as well. Vidas works with the UNC School of Dentistry and School of Medicine.

"They actually provide me with physicians and with dentists to do all the work that we do for free for the Chatham community," Arias told the News + Record last Wednesday, adding, "As a result of all the work that we've been doing with UNC, UNC

saw it fit that we start doing vaccinations in our clinic."

Originally, the clinic had planned to administer 150 doses of the single-shot Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, Arias said, based on the Latino community's response. About 95% of the clinic's patients are Hispanic. On April 13, however, the North Carolina Dept. of Health and Human Services suspended administration of the J&J shot — following CDC and FDA guidance — after several people developed rare blood clot disorders.

And once that news came out, the clinic switched to 150 doses of Moderna instead with UNC's help.

"They're aware of the impact that we have in the community and specifically the Chatham

community," Arias said of UNC last week. "... We couldn't just leave them (the people who'd signed up) hanging, so they decided, you know, we promised you 150 vaccines or however many. We're going to give you 150 vaccines of Moderna instead."

Staff quickly communicated the switch to patients and others who'd signed up, Arias said, but quite a few still canceled their appointments thanks to the state's decision. At first, about 100 people had signed up for their clinic, but by last Thursday, they had closer to 90 people signed up — about 80% of which were Latino, Arias estimated.

"The majority are Latinos because we started with our list of patients when we started calling people," he said, "but you know, we will call 20 and

five of them will say, 'OK, I want it.'"

Yet, 90 appointments out of 150 hadn't been too far off the mark: the clinic also welcomed walk-in appointments, and according to Vidas Assistant Director Carolina Torres, they'd set aside a certain amount of doses for just that.

"The doctors don't want to turn away anyone without getting vaccines," Torres told the News + Record last Wednesday. "We will probably have 50 more vaccines for people who don't have appointments, but getting an appointment makes the process faster and better."

As it turned out, though, the clinic didn't receive many walk-ins Saturday — perhaps only one or two, Arias said. Some people who'd originally canceled arrived after the clinic finished, he added, but it wasn't enough to open another bottle of vaccine. The remaining doses returned with UNC.

"You could get 10 out of each bottle, and once you open it, that's it," he said. "You either use it all or throw away the rest."

And why the low turnout? Mostly likely vaccine hesitancy and misinformation, Arias guessed.

"People are scared," he said, adding, "There's so much going on and ... culturally not being pro-vaccinations, a lot of people just don't want to get it. They're like, 'Well, you know, I just don't think I can. Maybe later.' They don't give out a specific answer. It's just a lot of hesitation."

Though a bit disappointed with the turnout, Arias said the clinic ran "very, very smoothly." He also said he hopes the next vaccine clinic will be a lot more successful — at least, if Vidas hosts another one.

Last week, Arias told the News + Record that he hoped Saturday's clinic wouldn't be Vidas' last. But the decision to continue the vaccine clinics lies with UNC, he added, and the surefire way to guarantee more clinics — show that supply doesn't meet demand — didn't play out as he'd hoped.

"We were wondering what another clinic would be like," he said. "Will it be the same? Will it be a bit worse? We feel like people that really want to get vaccinated are the ones that are getting vaccinated right now. Everybody else, it's one of those situations where you have to sort of, like, drag them to the vaccination site."

They'll know soon, though, he added, since Vidas needs time to spread the word and call patients to schedule vaccinations. They'll hold a follow-up vaccine clinic on May 15 to give those vaccinated Saturday their second Moderna doses.

"That would be the perfect time to start another round of vaccines," Arias said. "It remains to be seen what they (UNC) will decide to do. I, of course, would be open to it. Even if we only give out 10 vaccines, I'd be open to it."

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

VACCINE

Continued from page A1

April 19. Comparatively, just over 42% of Chatham's overall population has been partially vaccinated while 31.2% is fully vaccinated.

Hispanic vaccination rates also trail those of most other ethnic and racial groups in Chatham. Over 38% of both the Asian/Pacific Islander and white populations have been partially vaccinated while 31% of the Black community has received at least one dose. At 10.2% partially vaccinated, only the American Indian community trails Chatham's Hispanic community in vaccination rates, according to the state's dashboard.

"When only groups 1 and 2 were eligible, around 3% of vaccinations were among the Hispanic/Latinx population," Zelek said. "That has more than doubled, but Hispanic/Latinx residents are still underrepresented in COVID vaccinations, as are Black/African American residents, though the disparity is not as large."

Per the state dashboard, 7.0% of all first doses administered to Chatham residents from mid-December to April 19 have gone to Hispanic residents across all providers. The county's Hispanic residents account for 12.1% of the overall population.

"It's not a surprise," said Will Mendoza, the Hispanic Liaison's new COVID-19 Project Manager. "The numbers have been, I think, consistent since the vaccination process started. What it confirms for us is the systemic challenge that our community faces — mainly technology driven."

Vaccination campaigns, he said, depend heavily on internet access and online registration forms — something to which many communities of color have traditionally had limited access. Other obstacles arise, he added, when the vaccination registration processes aren't intuitive and may not be in someone's native language.

"The (registration) information doesn't translate quickly into action," Mendoza said, "and that is a gap that El Viculo is trying to fill by constant

work with partners, talking to health officials about the challenges that the community is having, so they can update their procedures and improve the accessibility."

Why is there the gap?

The technological divide and accessibility issues have presented obstacles to vaccination for some Latino residents, but those aren't the only challenges in play, as many among the community have told the News + Record. Many Hispanic residents simply weren't eligible to receive the vaccine during the early months of the county's vaccine rollout, Zelek said.

For the first two months, only frontline medical workers as well as adults 65 years and older had been eligible to get vaccinated. In Chatham, only about 2.4% of all adults 65 and older are Hispanic.

"This affected rates early in the vaccination roll-out (while not discounting these other structural issues)," Zelek said. "Most of the 18 and under population cannot yet get vaccinated (other than 16-17 year olds), and Hispanic/Latinx residents account for about a quarter of Chatham residents under 18."

Of all three vaccines approved in the U.S. for Emergency Use Authorization, only the Pfizer vaccine may be administered to 16- and 17-year-olds. Most Chatham-based vaccine providers only offer the Moderna vaccine, which can only be administered to adults 18 years and older.

Vaccine hesitancy and misinformation may have depressed vaccination rates among the Hispanic community, too. Father Julio Martinez of St. Julia Catholic Church told the News + Record several weeks ago that he had seen a lot of vaccine mis- and disinformation circulating around the web and among his congregation.

"That has created fear and

reservation in many people's minds," he said. "I have ... tried to quell that fear by telling our people that we need to listen to the medical experts and not these crazies that are putting out all kinds of misinformation and filling people's minds with fear. And I continue to do that because we need to do this for the common good."

The Liaison's Hannia Benitez, who previously worked as the organization's interim COVID-19 Project Manager, also told the News + Record that she'd been working to fight similar vaccine myths and fears.

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

What's next?

The Liaison has been conducting a months-long vaccine education campaign. Together with county health departments and local vaccine providers, staff have hosted several "well-received" Facebook Live events in Spanish to debunk vaccine myths and tell viewers how to get vaccinated in both Chatham and Alamance counties. That's why Mendoza said he thinks systemic issues — like the technological divide and lack of access — are driving low Hispanic vaccination rates in Chatham more so than vaccine misinformation or hesitancy.

As such, he said the Liaison has been working most recently with vaccine providers to help Hispanic residents sign up for vaccinations and overcome systemic barriers to vaccination access.

"I think that is the direction that we're trending," he said, "but from information to



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Ascary Arias, founder and president of Vidas de Esperanza, volunteers at Vidas' joint COVID-19 vaccination clinic with UNC in Siler City last Saturday. Vidas de Esperanza is a medical and dental clinic that serves predominantly Hispanic patients.

execution, you know, it takes a little bit of time."

In March, staff helped coordinate a vaccination clinic at St. Julia's, where the health department vaccinated 280 Hispanic residents. This coming Saturday, they'll be at St. Julia's again with the health department ensuring that residents receive their second Moderna shots. The clinic will also administer about 100 first doses, Mendoza said.

"We're promoting it on social media, and we're trying to get the attention of more people to get vaccinated," he said. "Based on the response, if we have a large waiting list, we'll try to have another clinic to serve whatever people don't get the vaccine this Saturday."

Likewise, Chatham's health department has made "intentional efforts" to reach out to Hispanic residents, Zelek said, and will continue doing so. As of Tuesday morning, 14.4% of the health department's first doses have gone to Latino residents, a rate nearly double the county's combined average.

As part of its "intentional efforts," the CCPHD has worked with predominantly Hispanic churches — including St. Julia and Roca Fuerte in Pittsboro — to organize mass vaccination clinics. They've sent doses to Mountaire Farms to help the company vaccinate its predominantly Hispanic workforce, and they've also gone directly into Spanish-speaking neighborhoods, like Love's Creek, to sign up residents and even carry out a few vaccinations. Moving forward, Zelek said the CCPHD will continue working with community partners to share information and increase vaccination access.

But ultimately, he added, it'll take more than a single provider to close the Hispanic vaccination gap in Chatham.

"As a provider, we have shown that these intentional efforts can help to overcome these structural issues," Zelek said. "Collectively, we have work left to do to narrow this gap."

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



Chatham News + Record

CHATHAM HOSPITAL
UNC HEALTH CARE

BOOKS

Continued from page A1

come and see the arts performances.”

The Partnership will host the free drive-thru Day of the Books celebration on Saturday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to noon at Bray Park on Alston Bridge Road. The event — created primarily for young children up to 5th grade, plus their families — will offer free books, live arts performances and other take-home goodies.

Begun in 2008, the Partnership’s Day of the Books event is “a celebration of literacy and multiculturalism, bilingualism and the arts,” according to Anderson. It’s modeled after a traditional Latin American holiday, Children’s Day (el Día de los Niños), held annually to honor children and families.

“One of our goals at the Chatham County Partnership for Children is to promote literacy in young children in our county,” she said, “and Day of the Books is one way that we can get books out to kids and families so that they can practice reading together and promote literacy.”

Normally, the festival hosts local artists and performances, organizes interactive activities



CN+R file photo

Belarmino Vicente and his family go through the registration table for The Day of the Books at Siler City Elementary School back in 2019. Each child receives a free bilingual book here before going into the building for more books and fun.

for children and hands out free bilingual books. Children would participate in arts and crafts, and volunteers would read aloud books to crowds of children and their families in both English and Spanish. They’d also have music and — of course — piñatas.

“So it’s really celebrating bilingualism and encouraging kids to be proud of being able to speak multiple languages,” Anderson said. “... We have a very diverse community with a growing Hispanic population, and one of the things that we really seek to do through Day of the Books is celebrate that diversity in our community and the multicultural na-

ture of our community.”

And while this year’s celebration won’t quite invoke that same interactive “festival spirit,” she added, it’ll still have many of the event’s traditional hallmarks — including book giveaways and artist performances.

“The artists will be kind of in the center of the circle that the cars are driving around, so they (families) can enjoy the arts performances from our local artists here in Chatham County, but from the safety of their cars,” she said. “... It’ll be really fun.”

Once families arrive, Chatham Partnership staff and volunteers will sign them in and give tote bags

to each child to store the event’s giveaways. Families will then drive on and make short stops at several resource stations manned by community and event partners — including the Chatham Education Foundation, Communities In Schools and the Hispanic Liaison, among others. Participating organizations will offer goodies to children and parents.

“Everyone’s just going to put their own little idea for the children and the families,” Anderson said, adding, “We wanted it to be both a celebration and an opportunity for parents to get access to information and resources that maybe they haven’t necessarily had access to during the pandemic, because a lot of our organizations have been more closed off to the public.”

Thanks to funding from the Chatham Arts Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, the celebration will host five local artists. Cross-cultural percussionist Beverly Botsford will play the drums, Katja Noelani Wise will perform hula hoop tricks and Katie Rebich will be the event’s stilt walker.

“Of course, these are all going to just be performances; normally, children would be able to interact with the artists,”

said Maricela Morales Torres, the Partnership’s Family Outreach Coordinator. “If it was the drums, she (Botsford) would be able to do, like, a session for them. These are all just performances this time.”

Visual artist JR Butler will also be there live painting to and with the event’s music “to demonstrate the interconnectedness of those things,” according to Anderson. Takiri Folclor Latino dancers will perform traditional Latin dances.

All performances and giveaways will follow an “animal masquerade” theme, Torres said, based on a children’s book of the same name.

“It’s where animals create their own masks of different animals, so a cow would be a chicken,” she said. “It’s just a silly children’s book, but our theme is animal masquerade, and so the artists will also kind of be going along that theme.”

Per the theme, families will also receive kits to make their own animal masks at home, among other arts and crafts activities.

At the end, each child will receive a brand new bilingual and age-appropriate book. Organizers will also provide picnic lunches from Angelina’s Kitchen in partnership with Chatham

County Schools. According to Anderson, the Partnership ordered about 200 new bilingual books for the celebration, and they will be handing out an additional 50 gently used bilingual books.

The Chatham Education Foundation will also be there handing out another 300 gently used bilingual books.

“So every child will get one new book, and then there will be lots and lots of more books that they can take away,” Anderson said. “We have some for kids of all ages from babies and infants and toddlers all the way up through elementary school.”

Even though the Partnership can’t host an in-person event this year as they’d hoped, Anderson and Torres said they still hope to see a big crowd. They’ve prepared for about 150 children.

“We were hoping that this year it would be able to be back in-person, but actually since we started planning the drive-thru, I’ve gotten kind of excited about it,” Anderson said. “I think there’s gonna be some fun opportunities, and a lot of our community in Chatham is turning out for this.”

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

WEST

Continued from page A1

West coached at UNC from 1973 to 1988, starting and ending as an assistant track coach for the track and field program.

It all started with his coach at Davie High School, in Mocksville, asking him if he’d ever thought about running track during his junior year. At the time in the late 1960s, his school

system was recently fully integrated, which meant he could play sports at Davie. After basketball season was over, the new track coach approached him about running — which led to him being a part of the winning conference, regional and state team his senior year. He was recruited by various college and university track programs.

At one track meet his senior year — it was a Friday, West still remembers

— one of his guidance counselors struck up a conversation with a UNC alumnus in the stands.

“As I walked up through the stands, he said, ‘Hubert, I hear you’re interested in Carolina,’” West said. “I said, ‘Yes, I like the school.’ And then he said, ‘I’ll see what I can do.’”

Not long after, West got a call from the late Coach Joe Hilton, who led the program from 1963-81. Four or five weeks later,

West signed a scholarship with UNC. Less than two years after his high school coach first asked him to join the track team, West made history as the first African American athlete to sign a track scholarship.

“It all goes back to that, because I never thought about running track and field and never had opportunity,” West said, “But then it came to pass, and then of course the rest is history.”

During his time at UNC, West was all-conference nine times and was the Atlantic Coast Conference outdoors long-jump champion. In the spring of 1972, West would begin to pave the way toward another feat, though he didn’t know it at the time. It was his junior year, and West remembers performing poorly at a meet at N.C. State University. Afterwards, Coach Hilton asked West to ride back with him.

“I thought I was getting ready to get reamed out for a poor performance,” West said, “so I was sitting in the car holding my breath.”

Instead, Hilton asked him to be an assistant coach when he graduated the following year. West became a full-time assistant in April of 1974, another first at UNC. And soon after Hilton retired in 1981, West became the head coach, which meant, West said, that he was “the first African American head coach at Carolina, as well as the Atlantic Coast Conference at that particu-

lar point in time.”

In 2011, Everett Withers became the second Black head coach when he served as the interim football head coach after Butch Davis was fired. The third Black head coach, and second full-time, was Harlis Meaders, who was the track and field coach from 2012-19. The fourth coach, of course, is the recently named Davis.

Today, as a teaching assistant with the EC department at Pollard, West still keeps up with collegiate track and field — a topic he talks about at length with Principal Tristen Perlberg, who ran at Central Michigan University. He offers coaching advice where he can, looks for schedules and follows track results.

“I do keep up with it very consistently,” West said, “because track and field allowed me the opportunity to go all over this country to experience some experiences that probably without track and field I may not have had the opportunity to do.”

West said these opportunities extended to his sons, Brenton and Aaron, while they were growing up, even if they ultimately opted for soccer athletic careers over track ones.

At Pollard, an article written about West is framed and displayed in the school’s trophy case, titled, “The Anonymous Pioneer.” Perlberg said West is celebrated every year during Black History

Month at school, so he’s known by most school members as the first Black coach in the ACC.

“I’ve always thought the world of Coach West,” Perlberg said. “No matter what it is that he’s done, he’s always done it with class and dignity. And he’s always put kids first — that’s something that definitely sticks out to me about Coach.”

With all his firsts, and athletic and academic feats — he was inducted into the Davie County High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006 and named Chatham County Schools Instructional Assistant of the Year three times — West doesn’t jump to brag about his accomplishments, though he’s happy to share should someone ask.

All these years after first coaching, he’s focused on the same thing: helping students recognize their potential and achieve their goals. He wants to be to others who his coaches were for him all those years ago.

“That is one of the main things that I thoroughly enjoy now,” he said. “With this COVID it hasn’t been as easy, but still being able to give back to the young people, and try to let them see that there is a higher achieving goal that they can set their sights on.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.

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OBITUARIES

JOHN E. TEAGUE



June 3, 1931 – April 13, 2021
John Edgar "Johnny" Teague passed away on April 13, 2021, in Greensboro, N.C., where he lived for 90 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Oscar B. Teague and Mossie Stone Teague, and by his brother, O. B. Teague Jr. He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Tommy & Nancy Teague, sister-in-law, Ann Teague, seven nieces and nephews, many grand-nieces and grand-nephews, and beloved

friends.

He lived a long, happy, and productive life. He graduated from Wake Forest College in 1953, after which he was stationed in Austria with the U.S. Army. His military service in Austria began a lifelong love of travel in Europe. He would regularly visit Switzerland, Austria, and Germany, especially to visit his college roommate in Zurich. He particularly enjoyed visiting Salzburg, Austria, to visit the setting of his favorite movie, The Sound of Music.

Friends and family remember him as generous and kind. He was a devoted son and loved having children around him, allowing them to make pillow forts, play his piano, and explore German puzzles from his travels. He was a member of Friendly Avenue Baptist Church where he served on various committees and enjoyed many years in the church choir, getting great joy especially from the Singing Christmas Tree. He and his brother Tommy operated Teague Auto Supply, a fixture in downtown Greensboro for many years. Along with his brothers, he founded the Oscar & Mossie Teague Foundation Inc., through which they funded a variety of philanthropic causes.

John will be greatly missed by the many friends and family who loved him.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Friendly Avenue Baptist Church, 4800 West Friendly Avenue, Greensboro, N.C. 27410.

A memorial gathering will be held at a later date.

Forbis and Dick, North Elm Street Chapel is honored to be serving the Teague family.

THE REV. DEA. SUSAN MANSFIELD BARTLETT



Susan Mansfield Bartlett, 75, passed away Saturday morning, April 10, 2021, from cancer, at her residence in Pittsboro, North Carolina.

Susan was born in Lexington, Kentucky, on November 21, 1945. She graduated from University High School in Lexington and the University of Kentucky, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

After starting her work in Speech Pathology in Asheville, North Carolina, Susan accepted a position in St. Louis, Missouri, where she married Hugh Bartlett. They moved to San Diego, California, to fulfill Hugh's Naval service, then they settled in Rolla, Missouri, where their children Cabot and Rachel were born.

Susan broadened her Speech Pathology work, coordinating the early childhood program Parents as Teachers (PAT) in the Rolla Public Schools, later serving as a Missouri state trainer as well as coordinator for the PAT national center.

At 14, Susan was confirmed in the Episcopal Church. In her adult life, Susan filled numerous service and leadership roles in the church, and in 2002, she entered the Episcopal School for Ministry in the Diocese of Missouri. In 2006, Susan was ordained to the Diaconate.

Widely known was Susan's Franciscan love of animals. She was owner to many dogs and staff to many cats, any which could guarantee her temporary refuge just by appearing lost in the road. Susan's animal rescues made her known by name at the local Humane Society, found numerous abandoned animals homes, and narrowly avoided making her a class D felon.

Whether throwing a party or helping an individual feel welcome in her home, another of Susan's hallmarks was her hospitality. This was always served with an ounce of wisdom on topics ranging from how to wear a bathing suit, how to set expectations on a date, how to properly season a dish, and financial independence. In 2019, Susan moved her home to Pittsboro to be closer to her immediate family (mostly her grandson).

Susan is survived by her son, Hugh Cabot (Alexia) Bartlett Jr., of Williamsburg, Virginia; her daughter, Rachel Moulton Bartlett of Durham, North Carolina; her sister, Carolyn Mansfield (Ernest) Clarke of Pittsboro, North Carolina; the father of her children, Hugh Cabot (Jane) Bartlett of Rolla, Missouri; and grandson, Hugh Cabot Bartlett III of Williamsburg, Virginia. Susan was preceded in death by her brother, Paul Houston (Janet) Mansfield Jr.

In August there will be a private memorial for family and close friends only at Susan's favorite vacation site, Pawleys Island, South Carolina.

All memorials are listed by Donaldson Funeral Home in Pittsboro. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Susan's honor to the Humane Society of the United States, the Episcopal Church, Parents as Teachers, or Trinity Episcopal Church (St. James, Missouri).

JUANITA LOCIE HILLIARD LUCAS



Juanita Locie Hilliard Lucas, 91, of Newport, N.C., formerly of Siler City, passed away on Saturday, April 17, 2021, at her daughter's home in Newport.

Mrs. Lucas was born in Chatham County on December 2, 1929, the daughter of Robert Worth and Sallie Phillips Hilliard. Juanita was a member of Hickory Grove Baptist Church. She loved her Lord and her church. Juanita enjoyed spending time with her family. In addition to

her parents, Juanita is preceded in death by her husband, Tracy Gene Lucas; brothers, Archie, Robert, Roy, and Harold Hilliard; and sister, Geneva Beck.

She is survived by her daughters, Deborah Lucas Williams of Newport, Sally Lucas Wood Winter and husband Jimmy of Holden Beach; son, Robert W. Lucas and wife Pam of Simpsonville, S.C.; sisters, Ezzie Smith and Lenora Lucas, both of Bear Creek; grandchildren, Tracy Dawn and husband Chase, Robert, Lindsay and husband Eric, Gary, and Angel and husband Don; great grandchildren, Gavin, Shelby, Robert, Carrie, Austin, Evan, Haley, Aubree and Peyton.

The family will receive friends Thursday, April 22, 2021, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Hickory Grove Baptist Church, 17721 N.C. Hwy 902, Bear Creek. The funeral will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at Hickory Grove Baptist Church with Rev. Darrell Garner officiating.

Burial will follow in the Hilliard Family Cemetery, Goldston.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hickory Grove Baptist Church, 17721 N.C. Hwy 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Lucas family.

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

JOANN ELIZABETH UNDERWOOD TIDWELL

Joann Elizabeth Underwood Tidwell, 81, of Siler City, passed away April 11, 2021, at UNC Hospitals.

A graveside funeral service was held Monday, April 12, 2021, at Bethlehem Wesleyan Church Cemetery with Pastor Don Southern officiating.

Joann was preceded by her son, John Q. Tidwell Jr., and parents, Joseph Clyde and Mary Louise Underwood.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, John Q. Tidwell; daughter, Donna Bristow (Tony); granddaughter, Erin Spear (Justin); grandson, Jed Bristow (Abby); and great granddaughter, Kaylee Spear.

In lieu of flowers please make a memorial contribution to Bethlehem Wesleyan Church, P.O. Box 683, Snow Camp, N.C. 27349.

Please share your thoughts and memories with the family at www.loflinfh.com.

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

SHEVA LUANN FOXX

Sheva LuAnn Foxx, 57 of Siler City, passed away Saturday, April 17, 2021, at Chatham Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

ROY EARL BRIM

Roy Earl Brim, 60, of Siler City, passed away Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at Chatham Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

MARY ELIZABETH EDWARDS WILLIAMS

Mary Elizabeth Edwards Williams, 90, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, April 12, 2021.

A graveside service was held on Friday, April 16, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Buffalo Cemetery with Dr. Billy Jarrett officiating.

She was born in Wake County on July 1, 1930, to Hezzikiah Carlton Edwards and Nancy Jane Hallmon Edwards. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, James Fulton Williams and 12 siblings.

Mrs. Williams is survived by sons, Ronnie Williams of Asheboro, Kenneth Williams of Fayetteville, Stephen Williams of Sanford; four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; one step-grandchild and two step-great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

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

JUDY CAROLYN INMAN ANDERSON

Judy Carolyn Inman Anderson, 73, of Bennett passed away on April 14, 2021, at her home.

The graveside service was held at Cornerstone Baptist Church, where she was a member, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 18, 2021, with Rev. Jim Petty presiding.

Judy was born in Surry County on September 24, 1947, to Jesse Elbert Inman and Mary Ruby McLawhorn Inman. She worked with her husband operating a trucking business. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, John Inman and Bob Inman.

Judy is survived by her husband of 55 years, James H. Anderson of the home; children, James "Michael" Anderson of Ramseur, Barbara Ann Cole of Saint Pauls, Brenda Carol Anderson of Bennett and Bonnie Kay Fincher of Bear Creek; brothers, Paul Inman of Bear Creek, Roy Lee Inman of Deep River; nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Flowers were accepted or donations may be made to Cornerstone Baptist Church General Fund, 396 N.C. Hwy 42, Goldston N.C. 27252 or Liberty Home Care and Hospice, 1005 Carthage St., Suite C, Sanford, N.C. 27331.

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

Joyce-Brady Chapel of Bennett is honored to serve the Anderson family.

CLARENCE LEE HOWARD

Clarence Lee Howard, 70, of Cameron, passed away on Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

HOMER RAY BRADY

Homer Ray Brady, 87, of Robbins passed away Sunday morning, April 18, 2021.

A graveside service was planned for Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at Fall Creek Baptist Church, at 2 p.m. with Rev. John Williamson and Rev. Jamie Sink presiding.

Homer, born April 5, 1934, to Clina and Madie Lambert Brady, was a retired grow-out manager for Showell Poultry.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Velna Cheek Brady of the home; a son, Gary Brady of Carthage; daughters, Teresa Thomas of Robbins, Melinda Andrews of Carthage; a step-son, Randy Nichols of Robbins; step-daughters, Cathy Kellam of Biscoe, Joanne Scott of Robbins; six grandchildren, five step-grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and six step-great-grandchildren.

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

WILLIS JAMES COGGIN

Willis James "Jimmie" Coggin, 86, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, April 19, 2021, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

The family will receive friends Thursday, April 22, 2021, at Cool Springs Baptist Church from 1 to 2 p.m. The service will follow at 2 p.m. with Rev. Matt Martin and Lee Logwood officiating.

He was born in Lee County on August 4, 1934, to the late Wilbur James Coggin and Rilla Beatrice Gaines Coggin. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a grandson, brothers, Coy Wilbur Coggin and John William "Buster" Coggin. A graduate of Greenwood High School, he served in the U.S. Army. After the military, he went to work for the Post Office, beginning as a city carrier, later becoming the Postmaster in Moncure. He was a member of Grace Chapel Church where he taught and served as superintendent of the Sunday School, served on the deacon board, and as church treasurer. He later attended Cool Springs Baptist Church. Jimmie was a Gideon since 1983.

Survivors include his wife, Peggy McLendon Coggin; son, Gregory J. Coggin of Florida; daughters, Ramona C. Willett of Sanford, Marsha C. Farrell of Brevard; brother, Thomas Coggin of Sanford; sisters, Jewell Stone, Sylvia Adcock and Mollie Slate, all of Sanford; 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to Gideons International, P.O. Box 1032, Sanford, N.C. 27331-1032.

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

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

LADONNA MICHELLE (SAVOY) MOTON

LaDonna Michelle Moton, 58, of Sanford, passed away Saturday, April 10, 2021, at UNC Hospital, Chapel Hill.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 15, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home. Burial was Monday, April 19, at Our Mother of Mercy Church Cemetery in Church Point, Louisiana.

OARN KYE DORSETT

Oarn K. Dorsett, 80, of Queens Village, N.Y., passed away on Friday, April 9, 2021, at Northshore Franklin Hospital in Valley Stream, N.Y.

Funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 17, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford. Burial followed at

See **OBITUARIES**, page A9

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OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

Dorsett-McLean Cemetery.

SHIRLEY RIPLEY

Mrs. Shirley Ripley, 86, passed away Tuesday morning, April 20, 2021, at her home in Pittsboro.

A native of Durham County, Shirley Marie Gooch was born August 7, 1934, to the late Clyde and Carrie Oakley Gooch. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Andrew Louis Ripley III and her brother, Paul Gooch.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Andrew Louis Ripley Jr.; sons, Thomas R. Hayes of Winston Salem, Ector "Pat" Hayes of Pittsboro and Dana Ripley of Durham; seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Donaldson Funeral Home and Crematory is honored to serve the Ripley family.

RANDY MCKOY

Randy McCoy, 64, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, April 13,

2021, at Duke Hospital in Raleigh.

Funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home.

XAVIER LAMONT SMITH

Xavier Lamont Smith, 43, of Pittsboro passed away on Sunday, April 11, 2021, at Rex Hospital in Raleigh.

Funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 17, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home.

LOUIS LEE DAVIS

Louis Lee Davis, 71, of Fayetteville, passed away on April 11, 2021, at Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 16, 2021, at Love Grove AME Zion Church, with burial following in the church cemetery.

ANDER THOMAS NELSON JR.

Mr. Ander "Andy" Thomas Nelson Jr., 45, of Bahama, passed away on Saturday, April

10, 2021, at Duke University Hospital in Durham.

Graveside service was held at 1 p.m. Monday, April 19, 2021, at Macedonia AME Zion Church in Gulf.

DENNIS RAY JOHNSON SR.

Dennis Ray Johnson Sr., 58, of Sanford, passed away Saturday, April 10, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 17, 2021,

Air travel isn't dead. It's different.

Of all industries to suffer from pandemic



D. LARS DOLDER

Enterprising Chatham

slow-downs, few were as roundly decimated as air travel. At the pandemic's worst, airlines lost about 95% of their revenue when travel ground to a halt following federally-imposed moratoriums. The country's four largest carriers — American, Delta, United and Southwest — lost more than \$31 billion in 2020, according to Airlines for America, an industry association, and first reported by The New York Times. As recently as February, the major airlines were still hemorrhaging \$150 million per day.

Smaller carriers and regional airports, too, were leveled by pandemic lockdowns.

"At the start, we saw a

huge decrease in sales," Richard McCraw, the manager of the Siler City Municipal Airport, told me. "Revenue was way, way down."

For Siler City's single-runway operation and the world's largest international airports alike, the biggest hit came from the same loss — corporate travel. Tourists and leisure travelers populate the most seats on planes, but they represent a disproportionately small percentage of airlines' revenue.

"Business traffic is kind of why the airport is here," McCraw said. "Economically, the jet traffic in there for businesspeople is really important."

Pre-pandemic, businesspeople on corporate trips accounted for just 30% of total travelers, but made up as much as 50% of passenger revenue, according to Airlines for America. And by some experts' estimations, those travelers are never coming back.

"My prediction would

be that over 50% of business travel ... will go away," Bill Gates said in an interview with Andrew Ross Sorkin during The New York Times' Dealbook conference.

Scott Gillespie, founder of the business travel advisory firm, tClara, offered similarly grim prospects in an opinion article for the business news, analysis and research group, Business Travel News.

"There is no joy in recognizing that business travel has peaked and that our industry will never return to its pre-COVID level," he wrote. "... Getting a global green light on the health and safety front will unleash demand for business travel. Unfortunately, that demand will be sharply and permanently diminished."

His reasoning, shared by Gates and other business leaders, is that companies are keen to preserve their new virtual modi operandi. Much of the world was forced to work from home through

the better part of 2020, and yet businesses went on. Why would they go back to funding trips?

Representatives of the world's largest airlines fear the pundits are right. In an interview with CNBC, Southwest Airlines CEO Greg Kelly predicted corporate travel will take 10 years to recover. Delta CEO Ed Bastian told the Associated Press that pared down business travel might never achieve more than 80% or 90% of what it used to be.

But they're wrong — or at least they're missing the bigger picture. Commercial airlines may never again see their corporate revenue achieve pre-pandemic levels, but that money and patronage is already going to private charter airlines.

"Instead of a company putting their employees on, say, American Airlines, or Delta or something like that, and flying them into Raleigh," McCraw said, "to keep them safer they put them on a business jet and fly them private now. So I think now that businesses see that as an option and have used it, and have gotten used to it, they may keep doing that."

There's no virtual substitute for conducting business face-to-face. A Harvard study published last summer argued that social cues and unspoken communication are indispensable in business interactions, but obfuscated across virtual media. Businesspeople will travel again, but commercial airlines have lost their ascendancy.

"Companies have realized their employees can get off an airplane in Siler City and drive five minutes into town, do their work, come back and jump right back on the plane to be home for dinner," McCraw said, "versus driving to an international airport and flying into Raleigh and driving an hour out here and having to stay overnight."

Last spring, Siler City's airport invested almost \$300,000 to give its small airstrip a facelift. In the last few months, workers cleared a patch of land by the runway's threshold to permit night landings. Pending FAA certification, McCaw said, the Siler City Municipal Airport should be ready to accept more planes just in time to welcome corporate visitors to Siler City's budding industrial enterprise.

"And with all the growth that's going on between Pittsboro and everything we're looking at here," McCaw said, "I think everything's looking up really well."

Other business news

• After months of record high unemployment, North Carolina is finally approaching pre-pandemic norms.

On Friday, the N.C. Dept. of Commerce reported a 5.2% unemployment rate — the lowest level since March 2020. At the pandemic's worst, unemployment reached almost 14%, the highest rate in N.C. since the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics began tracking the figure in 1976.

But economists warn this month's ostensibly low unemployment rate could misrepresent the jobless population.

At an economics forum I attended last month, Dr. Mike Walden — a William Neal Reynolds distinguished professor and extension economist at North Carolina State University — suggested that real unemployment is a couple of percentage points higher than what's reflected in government tallies.

"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,'" he said.

Unemployment rates are not derived from unemployment claims to the N.C. Division of Employment Security as many suspect. Instead,

it comes from government surveys. Respondents who say they are without work but not actively seeking a job are disqualified from the government's definition of unemployment.

"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," Walden said, "but they are not out looking for it because they are afraid of getting COVID."

In his latest News + Record column, John Hood, chairman of the John Locke Foundation, estimates the real unemployment rate is closer the 12% than 5%. For a complete explanation of his reasoning, read Hood's column in this week's edition.

• Siler City Financial Advisor Laura Clapp of the financial services firm Edward Jones was recently authorized by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards to use the certification mark CFP.

Clapp successfully completed the CFP Board's initial certification requirements, which include completion of financial planning coursework and passing a comprehensive examination.

Individuals with CFP certification must agree to meet ongoing continuing education requirements and uphold the CFP Board's Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility and Financial Planning Practice Standards.

Study topics include the financial planning process, risk management, investments, tax planning and management, retirement and employee benefits and estate planning.

Clapp can be reached at 919-663-1051 or at www.edwardjones.com/laura-clapp.

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

Be Conscious Of Your Investment Environment

On April 22, we observe Earth Day, an occasion that has inspired millions of people over the decades to take steps to clean up our world. Of course, your physical surroundings are important, but you also operate in other "ecosystems" — social, cultural and political. And you'll need to consider your investment environment, too. How can you improve it?

Here are a few suggestions:

• Avoid "toxic" investment strategies.

The dangers of pollution helped drive the creation of Earth Day. As an investor, you also need to watch out for "toxins" — particularly in the form of unhealthy investment techniques. For example, chasing after "hot" stocks can burn you. In the first place, by the time you've heard of them, they may already be cooling off. Second, and probably more important, these hot stocks just may be wrong for the investment mix that's appropriate for your needs. Another toxic investment strategy: trying to "time" the market by "buying low and selling high." No one can really predict when market highs and lows will occur, and if you're always jumping in and out of the investment world, you'll likely waste time and effort — not to mention money. Instead of looking for today's hottest stocks or guessing where the market is heading, try to create and follow a long-term investment strategy based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

• **Reduce waste.** From an environmental standpoint, the less waste and garbage we produce, the better it is for our planet. As an investor, can you find "wasteful" elements in your portfolio? It's possible that you own some investments that may be redundant — that is, they are virtually indistinguishable from others you may have. Also, some investments, due to their

risk profile or performance, no longer may be suitable for your needs. In either case — redundancy or unsuitability — you might be better off selling the investments and using the proceeds to purchase others that can be more helpful.

• **Recycle wisely.** Recycling is a major part of the environmental movement. At first, though, you might not think the concept of recycling could apply to investing. But consider this: If you own stocks or mutual funds, you may receive dividends, and, like many people, you may choose to automatically reinvest those dividends back into the stocks or funds. So, in a sense, you are indeed "recycling" your dividend payments to boost your ownership stakes — without expending additional resources. And, in fact, this can be quite an effective and efficient way to increase your wealth over time.

• **Plant some "trees."** Planting trees has always been a key activity among boosters of the environment — with the recognition that their efforts will take years, or even decades, to reach fruition. When you invest, you must sometimes start small. By purchasing a limited amount of an investment and nurturing it over the years by adding more shares, you may one day have achieved significant growth. (Keep in mind, though, that there are no guarantees — variable investments such as stocks can lose principal.)

By making these and other moves, you can create a healthy investment environment — one that can help you achieve your long-term goals.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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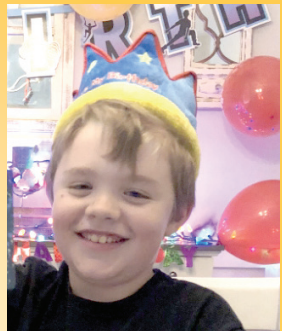
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• HAPPY •
birthday

Our lives became bigger & brighter when you entered the world thirteen years ago! We are so very proud of you & the young man you've become. It fills our hearts with joy & excitement when we imagine your future. We love you to the moon & back...keep reaching for those stars!



*Happy 13th Birthday, Austen!
Love you more,
Mom, Dad, and Emmett*

CHURCH NEWS

OAKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Oakley Baptist Church Youth will sponsor a blood drive from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28. Because of COVID, you must have an appointment in advance to donate.

Sign up to donate blood at redcross-blood.org. Enter the zip code 27344, choose Oakley, and select your appointment time. The church is located at 2300 Siler City-Glendon Road, Siler City.

ROMEL RECOGNIZED AS LVC STUDENT ATHLETE

Tyler Romel of Pittsboro is one of seven Lebanon Valley College ice hockey players to earn Middle Atlantic All-Conference awards for the 2020-21 season. Romel earned the All-Middle Atlantic Conference Second Team. He

finished with three points as a defenseman that included a goal and a pair of assists. Romel, a graduate of Northwood High School, is pursuing a bachelor of science in accounting at The Valley.

PHI KAPPA PHI INDUCTEES

The following people were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines:

- Leslie Burwell of Pittsboro at East Carolina University
- Riley Shaner of Moncure at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Samuel Arnold of Snow Camp at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

State, Chatham charter schools increase diversity with weighted lotteries

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

In recent years, more North Carolina charter schools have set aside seats for “educationally disadvantaged” students in their often competitive admission lotteries.

The trend is true in Chatham, too.

In Chatham, three charter schools are open to students: Chatham Charter School, Woods Charter School and Willow Oak Montessori, with School of the Arts for Boys Academy (SABA) opening to students next fall. Of those schools, Chatham Charter is the only without a “weighted” lottery for educationally disadvantaged students.

Typically, many standard charter school lottery systems give extra priority to applicants with siblings already accepted to the school, or parents who work there. A weighted lottery, as dictated by the state Dept. of Public Instruction's Office of Charter Schools, gives students with various education disadvantages extra weight, or consideration, for acceptance. Such students could include economically disadvantaged students, migrant and immigrant students, students with disabilities, English learners and students experiencing homelessness.

All weighted lotteries must be approved by the State Board of Education.

Woods Charter implemented its weighted lottery for the first time in February, after being approved in October. Principal Cotton Bryan said the school began looking into the weighted lottery system to diversify the school,

after seeking guidance from schools with such lotteries already in place. Legally, charter schools cannot admit students based on race or ethnicity, but weighted lotteries can provide preference for economically and educationally disadvantaged students, as defined above.

When the school began its process looking at weighted lotteries, 8.4% of Woods Charter families qualified for free and reduced lunch, based on a financial needs survey with 83% respondent rate. On average, the average free and reduced percentages from the five geographically closest traditional public schools

for 2019-20 was 25.54% — with Pittsboro Elementary at the highest with 34.55% of students and Perry Harrison the lowest at 17.22%.

“Over time, we will look like a regular public school for this area in our demographic makeup,” Bryan said. “It’s a stretch goal for us. It’ll happen over time, we’ll have to be patient.”

Central Park School for Children, a self-described progressive charter school in Durham, was the first N.C. charter school to set aside seats for low-income students in 2013. Four years later, the state allowed other charter schools to do the same. Around that time, only five schools had a weighted lottery; this time last year, DPI told Bryan there were 24. Ashley Baquero, DPI’s education planning and development consultant, told the News + Record 42 charter schools are currently approved to use weighted lotteries.

The state’s office of charter schools is currently implementing the North Carolina Advancing Charter Collaboration and Excellence for Student Success (NC ACCESS) Program through a nearly \$37 million federal grant. The creation of weighted lotteries is one part of that program.

Historically, charter schools have been criticized by some as being more segregated than traditional public schools, though education experts say that’s hard to definitively say, as many charter and traditional schools alike reflect the areas they’re located in, if not the county’s overall demographics.

Take Woods Charter for example. Bryan said while students come from eight different districts, many of the school’s students live in the Briar Chapel housing development, located a little over a mile from Woods Charter. Saving seats for economically disadvantaged students will help the school reflect the larger Chatham area over time, Bryan said.

“We are a public school. And we’re not trying to be any version of a semi-private or white-flight school,” he said. “We believe that diversity is richness.”

Woods Charter has a relatively incremental approach, setting aside 25% of its available

slots after accounting for sibling and faculty applicants. This year, that meant four slots in Kindergarten and one in 9th grade. Every year the lottery will also include 3rd and 5th grades, marking the grades in which school class sizes increase.

Willow Oak Montessori has a slightly more aggressive approach, prioritizing economically disadvantaged students based on free and reduced lunch status at up to 40% of the available spots in a grade level — after other priorities are met (children of employees, siblings of students and students enrolled in the previous two years but left, under specific circumstances).

SABA, which is set to open in August with 116 boys in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade, focuses on using the arts and culturally responsive teaching to close the achievement gap and empower Black and brown boys. The school will reserve 60% of its lottery enrollment each year to students who are educationally disadvantaged. This includes students who qualify for free and reduced lunch or receive benefits through SNAP, TANF, WIC, FD-PIR, as well as migrant students, students in foster care, students enrolled in HeadStart, or those experiencing homelessness.

“SABA has set a goal of enrolling approximately 60% educationally disadvantaged students each year,” a document on the school’s website says.

Weighted lotteries are good not just because they increase diversity, Bryan said, but because diversity contributes to excellence.

“There’s a lot of reasons you should diversify your school,” he said. “But one place to start is actually thinking about the students who are here — to me are at a deficit, like they’re not getting an excellent education, if it’s not more diverse than it is.

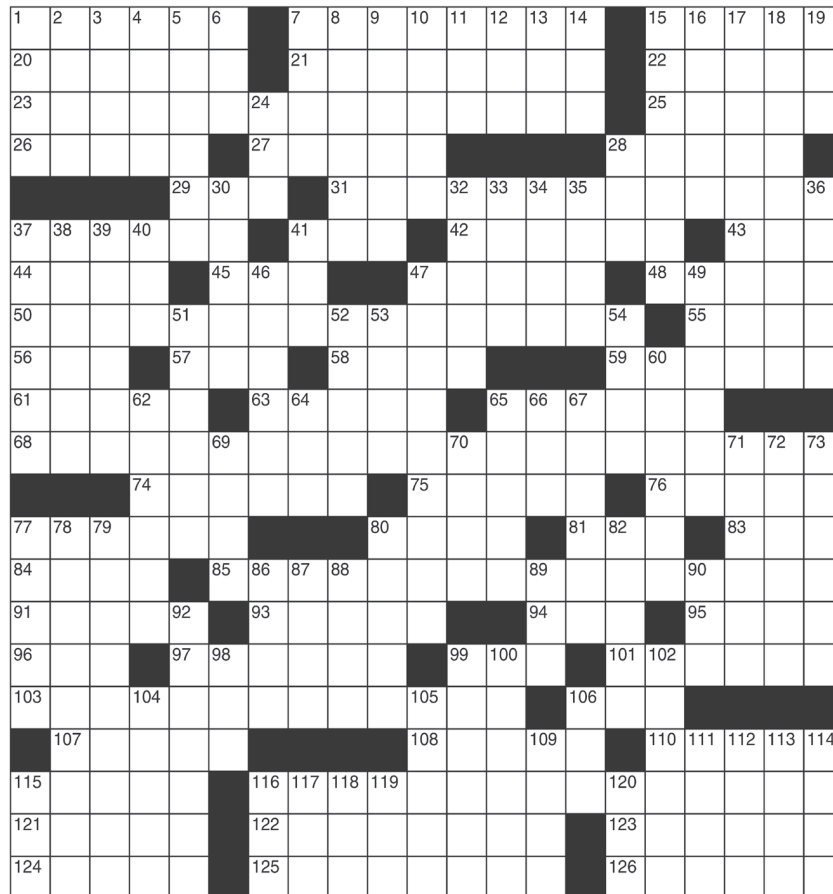
“Part of preparing you for this world is that you’re always interacting with, bumping up against, playing with, hanging out with, debating with people with lots of backgrounds, lots of experiences.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

BITE PREVENTION

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| ACROSS | 56 Altar vow | 96 Noshed | 8 Line down a pant leg | 40 Guess at JFK or LGA | 86 Had way too much, for short |
| 1 Bases for hair plugs | 57 Hoover product, in brief | 97 Puts in office | 9 Steps loudly | 41 Una locale | 87 End of Caesar's boast |
| 7 Makes out incorrectly, as text | 58 Second-largest city in Algeria | 101 Ones running 5,280 feet | 11 Suffix with acetyl | 47 Big annual event | 88 Strep-studying docs |
| 15 Acronym for a PC character set | 59 Wears a grin | 103 End of the riddle | 12 Year, in Lisbon | 49 Novelist Achebe | 89 Ending with Harlem |
| 20 Without breaking a sweat | 61 Lawn pests | 106 Party for Biden: Abbr. | 13 Actor Aykroyd | 51 Sitcom, e.g. | 90 Grease |
| 21 Radio-signal rods | 63 Automated PC program that may generate pop-ups | 107 Arab bigwigs | 14 Atlanta-to-Tampa dir. | 52 New Orleans sub | 92 North American plant that's a dye source |
| 22 Flowerless office plants | 65 Aviating guy, informally | 108 Maine university city | 15 Many ski chalets | 53 Quick pace | 98 Fleur-de — |
| 23 Start of a riddle | 68 Riddle, part 4 | 110 Texas river to the Rio Grande | 16 Rival of Serta | 54 Title girl in a Salinger story | 99 Poland is part of it |
| 25 Police actions | 74 Equine, to kids | 115 Shorthand whiz | 17 Protested about an injustice | 60 — opus (great work) | 100 Russell — (chocolatier) |
| 26 Serpent | 75 Piccolo, e.g. | 116 Riddle's answer | 18 What spinning bikes are intended for | 64 "Dr." of hip-hop | 102 Ascribe |
| 27 Foam at the top of an espresso | 76 Comaneci of gymnastics | 121 Group dialect | 19 Mag. edition | 65 Attacked like a wasp | 104 Bit of color |
| 28 Low-carb kind of diet | 77 Neighbor of Tanzania | 122 Outperformed | 24 Killer serve | 66 Model-building set | 105 Gusto |
| 29 Highway with a no. | 80 James who played Brian Piccolo | 123 Online brokerage | 28 Third deg., often | 67 Mimieux of "The Reward" | 109 Forem and Beauty |
| 31 Riddle, part 2 | 81 Letter before upsilon | 125 People feeling hate | 30 Letter before iota | 69 Children's author Carle | 111 Poet Pound |
| 37 In a new way | 83 Two, in Peru | 126 Got closer to | 32 Boca — | 70 Family group paper notice | 112 Peter the Great, e.g. |
| 41 Mornings, for short | 84 As neat as — | DOWN | 33 Somber | 71 Bring forward as evidence | 113 Aged, quaintly |
| 42 Rub away | 85 Riddle, part 5 | 1 Constructs clothes | 34 Territory | 72 Violent insurgent | 114 Bird feeder tidbit |
| 43 To and — | 91 Rattan artisan | 2 "All the Way" lyricist | 35 Wine barrel | 73 Fast races | 115 — mo |
| 44 Boorish sort | 93 Iraqi money | 3 On a cruise | 36 Invaders of ancient Rome | 77 Big parrot | 116 100 cents: Abbr. |
| 45 Be incorrect | 94 "—War" (William Shatner novel) | 4 Connection | 37 Actor Marc of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" | 78 Uninterested | 117 Yoko of music and art |
| 47 Pigs' places | 95 Big name in frozen drinks | 5 Common toolbox item | 38 Sweet on | 79 Distinctive facial contour | 118 Three R's gp. |
| 48 Merit badge earner | | 6 DOS part: Abbr. | 39 Nureyev of ballet | 80 Smash-up facial contour | 119 "Tsk!" |
| 50 Riddle, part 3 | | 7 Bryn — | | 82 Help desk message | 120 Guys |
| 55 "Silence!" | | | | | |



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

D	O	D	G	E	A	R	I	E	S		I	N	O	N	E	S	H	E	A	D
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CHATHAM'S FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

COVID-19 notwithstanding, there's a full slate of outdoor events in Chatham

A revamped ClydeFEST kicks off this week. Here's a rundown of the "new" ClydeFEST schedule and a sampling of other local upcoming festivals and events in Chatham County.

APRIL

In various Chatham County locations: ClydeFEST

Saturday, April 24 at The Park at Briar Chapel, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.: Families and kids will have the opportunity to schedule outdoor time at the mobile Critterville to paint and embellish one of those well-known and beloved critter cut-outs, while jamming to some family-friendly live music from ClydeFEST performers.

Tuesday, April 27, 4-6:30 p.m.: Cissokho and ClydeFEST roving performers will travel through the Briar Chapel and Nature Trail Community neighborhoods in eastern Chatham sharing their arts magic.

Saturday, May 1, at Bray Park, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Critter Kits (a critter cut-out, plus paint and glue) will be handed out at Chatham County Partnership for Children's drive-through Day of the Books/Dia de los Libros. Families can grab a kit and adorn their critter cut-out at home.

Sunday, May 2 at Southwest District Park, 1-5 p.m.: One more ClydeFEST in the Wild celebration takes place in southwestern Chatham. Families and kids can schedule outdoor critter-paintin' time and hear some ClydeFEST tunes during this Sunday afternoon event.

APRIL - JUNE

Shakori Hills, Pittsboro: GrassRoots Live!

GrassRoots Live! is a pod-based, socially-distanced, limited capacity series of one-night concerts on the Meadow Stage that began on April 17 with Keller Williams and end June 11 & 12 with Donna The Buffalo.

JUNE

Pittsboro: Think Again: Soil

In June, Abundance NC will bring back its "Think Again" series. This year's focus: Soil. Think Again: Soil will take place June 5th at The Plant. All speakers will revolve around the outdoor main stage. The



Photo courtesy of Shakori Grassroots Festival

The annual Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival celebrates music, art, and dance in Chatham County. Like many of Chatham's popular outdoor events, its organizers are pivoting during the pandemic and incorporating changes into 2021 plans.



CN+R file photo

Pittsboro's First Sunday events typically include a kidspace area, set up and run by local churches. In this photo from a 2019 First Sunday event, Mari Kearns and Liz Bliss, with Imagine Circus, stood high above the crowd of children attending the festival on Hillsboro Avenue.

workshops: clay pinch pot, seed bombs, natural dyeing will all be held outdoors. The event will end with a soil-themed Fashion Show.

The tickets will start at the basic price of \$20 and depending on which workshops you'd like to participate in, you will add those fees to your price.

Abundance NC is offering a new ticket free of charge for an attendee who has never been to one of its events and the friend of family member (who has purchased a ticket) has convinced them to come along to enjoy a new experience and possibly learn something new by coming to the event.

AUGUST - OCTOBER

Siler City: Friday Night Flicks

Siler City offers a movie in the park series each year on the 4th Fridays during August, September and October. Families bring their lawn chairs and blankets to Bray Park for a

free movie under the stars on the big screen. The anticipated 2021 Friday Night Flicks schedule is August 27, September 24, and October 22. These events are free to the public through generous sponsors and movies begin at dusk. Typically, fun activities and music begins prior to the movie premier. While future COVID-19 guidelines are unknown, the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department will continue to monitor guidelines and will reevaluate operations as the event series approaches.

SEPTEMBER

Silk Hope: Old Fashion Farmers Day

This annual exhibit of "old-timey" farm equipment and much more is held Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4-5, at the Farm Heritage Theme Park in Silk Hope.

Pittsboro: PepperFest Abundance NC pioneered last year in hosting a COVID-friendly

PepperFest event. Instead of hosting a 3,000 attendee event, like the 2019 event held in the streets of Pittsboro, the organization created a much smaller event at The Plant, bringing it back home.

The 2021 event is scheduled for Sept. 19 and will be designed similar to last year's event. Then, organizers marked circles around the campus to keep people in their pods/parties and masks were required unless actively eating or drinking.

The event was designed as a picnic-styled farmers market in which attendees who purchased a ticket would receive a basket with the pepper-themed samples in mason jars rather than having the chefs on site giving out samples. These baskets included goodies from some of Pepperfest's sponsors, a magazine that had the recipes of the chef creations and a mask made from previous PepperFest t-shirts.

The keynote speaker's talk was amplified



CN+R file photo

The Bulltown Strutters Parade is a Shakori Grassroots Festival tradition. Musicians play New Orleans music and stomp through the festival on the way to a full performance at the Dance Tent. This year's spring festival has been postponed to the fall.



CN+R file photo

Doug Jones, pepper farmer, gives David DelVecchio a brief tour of his produce available at the 2019 edition of Pepperfest.

throughout the campus so whoever didn't feel comfortable sitting inside a building with others could sit back outside in their circle, looking at the sky or eating while listening to the talk. About 10 different farmers, of diverse backgrounds, participated in a farmers' market.

OCTOBER

Shakori Hills, Pittsboro: GrassRoots Festival

Shakori Hills' signature spring event has been postponed until the fall. The festival is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 7-10. All previously purchased tickets will be honored there or at the next Shakori Hills GrassRoots Music Festival of your choice.

Goldston: Goldston Old Fashion Day

Goldston Old Fashion Day is a one day street festival, featuring local arts, crafts, pottery, jewelry and great music, scheduled for Oct. 9. This event, in its 33rd year, will feature food vendors serving funnel cakes, shaved ice, polish sausage, lemonade, kettle corn, hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken on a stick, ice cream and much more will be available all

during the day. Also featured will be a display of classic cars and tractors, live music (throughout the day), a children's area featuring a clown with balloon art, face painting, inflatables, sand art and pony rides. The event has been a Goldston fall tradition for more than 30 years.

Siler City: Fall-O-Ween Trunk R' Treat Carnival

The annual Fall-O-Ween Trunk R' Treat Carnival will be hosted on the last Friday night before Halloween at Bray Park. Children and families come out to the event for fun games, activities and trunk r' treating. Local businesses, organizations and merchants register to set-up a booth at the event to distribute treats and promotional materials. The 5th Annual Fall-O-Ween Trunk R' Treat Carnival is anticipated for Oct. 29 and is a free event hosted at Bray Park. Operations and activities are subject to change to adhere to COVID-19 guidelines in the Fall.

NOVEMBER

Pittsboro: Death Faire

The location will be announced, but the 2021 Death Faire is scheduled for Nov. 6.

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WELCOME

Continued from page A1

loss of businesses and capitalize on their unique assets to retain existing businesses and attract new ones,” according to the Main Street Pittsboro website.

“So to do that,” Landis said, “we agreed as a board that it was really important to have a physical presence and to capture the traffic, or attempt to capture the traffic that comes through here on a daily basis.”

The Welcome Center is located at 37 Hillsboro St., directly adjacent to the downtown traffic circle. Its building was constructed in 1930 and served as a filling station, an auto repair center, a diner and ice cream shop and finally a Capital Bank before sitting vacant for about a year until 2020.

“And so when this opportunity became available,” Landis said, “we agreed we had to jump on it.”

A year later, the building bears little resemblance to its former self. The interior features a modern rustic aesthetic with wood accents and contemporary furniture, most of which was locally made, Landis said. Outside, the building was stripped of its plank siding and mansard roof to expose the brick beneath, consistent with other downtown buildings.

“We’re really happy with the progress we’ve been able to make during this very trying

‘(W)e agreed as a board that it was really important to have a physical presence and to capture the traffic, or attempt to capture the traffic that comes through here on a daily basis.’

LESLEY LANDIS, Main Street Pittsboro

time,” Fiocco told the News + Record, adding, “We continue to make improvements to the facility and are eager to see ... the improvements it will bring to the adjoining properties.”

But improving downtown’s appearance was an ancillary goal for Main Street Pittsboro. The Welcome Center’s main purpose is to make the town and county more accessible to visitors, and to boost the local economy by promoting local businesses.

“What I hope we’re able to do is answer whatever brought people through that door, and direct people to whatever they’re looking for,” said Paul Sacca, the Welcome Center’s concierge, and Main Street Pittsboro’s only employee. “Surprisingly, a great deal of people are from out of state, and with everything opening up they’re either moving here or are considering moving here, and so they come trying to find out more about the town.”

Since the Welcome Center opened last month on March 24, about 200 people have come, Sacca said. He shares with visitors a list of local restaurants and his recommendations, invites them to explore videos of Chatham on the center’s interactive smart

TV and points them toward recreational opportunities according to their preferences. The variety of travelers surprised Sacca at first, he said, but it’s testament to Chatham County’s growing reputation.

“I mean, just briefly, I’ve seen people from Virginia, Washington state, Ohio, Florida, New Hampshire, Minnesota, Nevada, Maine, Connecticut, California,” he said, “just all over the place.”

“Pittsboro is so ideally located,” Landis added, “it’s a wonder that it lasted this long without just huge amounts of growth. But people are realizing it now.”

Landis and the Main Street Pittsboro board are happy to welcome the transplants who bring with them an infusion of new money for the local economy. Businesses have struggled to survive the pandemic, Landis said, more than some would like to admit.

“We’ve had this conversation at the board level that most businesses don’t want to say, ‘Hey, help us, we’re on the verge of closing,’ because it looks weak,” she said. “But then when a business closes down ... everybody is so shocked and sad, and had they known that (the business) was having trouble, they would have made an extra effort to



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

The Welcome Center is located at 37 Hillsboro St., in the former Capital Bank building.

support them. So there’s a messaging puzzle in there as to how you talk about it, and hopefully Main Street Pittsboro, and with our new building here, can fill in some of the gap.”

With the pandemic ongoing, though, it’s been a challenge for Main Street Pittsboro to promote its new building and expanded services. The Welcome Center is still in its “soft opening,” Landis said, but she and the board have not abandoned the idea of a belated “grand” opening.

“We don’t have a date for our grand opening, I don’t know when it will be able to happen,” she said, “But we’re really excited about it when it does happen and we want to invite all the businesses to be part of it.”

And she hopes Chatham businesses will collaborate with

Main Street Pittsboro to keep reviving a local economy racked by the pandemic recession.

“Main Street Pittsboro, and I think Chatham County in general, thrives when people work together,” she said. “We have a tremendous resource in this building, and we want to share it — to do everything we can to promote the county, businesses, agencies, events, you name it.”

The Pittsboro Welcome Center is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. To learn more about Main Street Pittsboro, or to donate, visit mainstreetpittsboro.org.

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

BOARD

Continued from page A1

changes to the program legislated by House Bill 82, which was unanimously approved by the General Assembly April 1. Board member Jane Allen Wilson was not present at the meeting.

“We bring a similar plan to you every summer of this nature,” Amanda Hartness, CCS assistant superintendent of Academic Services & Instructional Support, told the board Monday. “We’ve always had a tradition of offering summer opportunities for our students, but this year, it comes with many more layers of complexity and requirements.”

That law requires school districts to offer students at least 150 hours or 30 days of summer in-person instruction, along with a minimum of one enrichment activity during each instructional day. While the program is geared toward at-risk students, attendance is voluntary and open to any student if there is space for them.

Other requirements include:

- Meal services for every instructional day
- Physical activity during the instructional day
- Reading, math and science instruction for grades K-8, with science required for grades 3-8
- Read to Achieve Camps
- Instruction for End of Course subjects at the

high school level

- Credit Recovery opportunities for high school
- Transportation services
- Social emotional supports
- Small group instruction

The BOE was required to approve the plan 30 days prior to the last day of the school year, which is June 9. The district’s presentation indicated plans to offer nine different learning opportunities for students and families, including K-8 academic support, career and technical academics, summer enrichment community opportunities and remote learning programs with 24-hour support hotline. For high school students, the plan includes credit recovery and dual enrollment opportunities, along with college ready programming. The plan also includes credit recovery for Occupational Course of Study EC students and an extended school year for extended content standard EC students.

The law doesn’t provide additional funding for new summer learning requirements, but state legislators said local districts could fund the program with existing funds and COVID-related grants and money. On Monday, the state board also approved some funding for a test that will be given to K-8 students who participate in the program.

“We anticipate the summer programs will cost ap-

proximately \$1.5 million,” the district’s online agenda outline says. “There are adequate federal and state funding sources to support these requirements.”

CCS will use the following funds, the district said: remaining CARES PRC 163 funds, Read to Achieve state and local funds, funding sources for EC student supports and ESSR II funds, which are not available until May at the earliest.

Hartness emphasized the district’s partnership with community organizations, and its plan to publish K-12 enrichment opportunities throughout the summer.

“We will be doing a big public relations push on these opportunities for families and will have a video as well as links to these various community partners,” she said. “This has been a really exciting addition to our summer offerings and we hope that our families will be excited about this opportunity.”

Other meeting business

The board also approved the 2021-2022 School Nutrition Budget, which includes a 2.47% increase in expenditures, or \$114,500, compared to the average of the prior three fiscal years. The nutrition department served more than 1 million students to date this school year, the dept. said.

Still, staff acknowledged many unknowns remain in planning for

the next school year, including whether or not waivers for universal meals will be extended.

“It’s never been more challenging than now to put together a budget during a pandemic, said Tony Messer, CCS chief finance officer, during Monday’s presentation.

The board also approved a request from Siler City Futbol Club, an affordable travel soccer league based in Siler City, to create a Memorandum of Agreement with the BOE to use

the soccer field located on the campus of Chatham Middle School. The specifics of that MOU remained to be worked out.

In the final action item of the meeting, the board also approved the proposed 2021-2022 Capital Outlay budget — \$2,300,000, funded by Chatham County.

Capital Outlay projects were submitted by the individual schools and filtered by the Director of Maintenance and Construction, CCS Tech-

nology Department, and Assistant Superintendent for Operations, the district said. The budget included various replacement and repair, technology and vehicle projects. It also included a \$99,852 line item for furniture and equipment replacements as needed at all the district’s schools.

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



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NORTHWOOD 17, WEST CARTERET 0

Chargers shut out West Carteret in first home playoff game in 11 years, advance to second round



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Led by senior quarterback Cam Entrekin (9), the Northwood Chargers run out onto the field ahead of their first-round playoff matchup with the West Carteret Patriots on Friday, April 16. The Chargers won 17-0, scoring all of their points in the first half.

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
 News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — As the West Carteret Patriots pushed forward in the first half, fighting for every inch on a third-down play in Northwood territory, the ball suddenly popped out of the pile of jerseys near the 25-yard-line, emerging from the skirmish and bouncing in the opposite direction.

Northwood senior Will Lake locked onto it and scooped it up, taking it 75 yards to the house — arms outstretched in both celebration and disbelief — on the Chargers' second defensive touchdown in as many weeks.

Those would be the final points of the game for either team, but with Northwood nursing a 17-point lead after Lake's heroics, they didn't need to score again. And with them, the Chargers (6-2) defeated the seventh-seeded West Carteret Patriots (5-3) in the first round of the NCHSAA 3A football playoffs on Friday, advancing to the second round this Friday against the unbeaten Havelock Rams.

Northwood stuck to its game plan, running

the ball down the Patriots' throats and playing suffocating defense throughout the night.

It may start to sound like a broken record, but the Chargers won't change their style for anybody, no matter the situation. And so far, it's worked, bringing them to a Big Eight conference co-title and a first-round playoff victory.

"They play lights out every night and fight until the end and they never ever stop, man," said Northwood Head Coach Cullen Homolka. "It's tooth and nail to the end, so congratulations to them on getting it done. ... Everything we needed to do clicked."

They set the tone from the opening drive.

The Chargers marched 54 yards in 10 plays — all rushes — capping it off with a one-yard touchdown run on a keeper by senior quarterback Cam Entrekin to make it 7-0 with seven minutes left in the first quarter.

While they wouldn't have many possessions like that one again — scoring just one offensive touchdown all night — the ability to gash the Patriots with the run early was massive for a

See **CHARGERS**, page B5

TROY'S JOURNEY

'We've got their backs': GoFundMe for Northwood's Troy Ennis raises over \$58K

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
 News + Record Staff

dealing with lingering ankle injuries earlier this year, holding him out of practice; his pain gradually worsened.

He made a couple of attempts to return to the field, but the pain persisted. Once it got to a certain point, it was suggested that Ennis go to a podiatrist to be evaluated, where a scan revealed a tumor in his left foot. A couple of weeks later, he was diagnosed with cancer.

"I got a text message from my mother telling me that Troy wanted to call me ... so I set up the phone call and he told us it was cancer," Sami Ennis, Troy's older sister, told the News + Record on Friday. "Just from the rarity of it, we didn't expect it."

Once doctors discovered the issue, they quickly went to work on trying to further determine its severity, running x-rays on his lungs and conducting biopsies on his bone marrow, among



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood sported the number 22 on its helmets in the team's first-round playoff game against West Carteret on Friday. The gesture was done in support of sophomore player Troy Ennis, who was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma on April 9. Chargers' head coach Cullen Homolka said Ennis is 'like a son to me.'

other tests, to determine if Ewing's had spread to other parts of the body, common with this form of cancer. The hope for his family

is that the cancer is localized in his ankle, and as of this writing, there have been no real signs of Ewing's metastasizing to his

bones or any other part of his body. While there are "concerning" spots found on his lungs last week that were determined to be can-

cerous cells and millimeter-sized tumors, according to an update Sami posted on his GoFundMe page, his recent chest x-rays have looked clear and he was able to go home on Sunday night. They're still awaiting results of a biopsy on his lung tissue.

"These past couple weeks with diagnosis and everything are hard because it's just a waiting game," Sami said.

Troy had his port put in for chemotherapy last Thursday in a lengthy surgery and will likely be looking at a "fairly aggressive treatment plan" in the near future. Sami wrote in an update on Monday that he "will be doing a one week on, one week off regimen for the next 9 months or so. This is considered the gold standard of treatment for Ewing's with the highest success rate."

The plan is for Troy to

See **ENNIS**, page B3

'SOMETHING SPECIAL HAPPENING HERE'

Bears sweep North Moore to remain unbeaten

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
 News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — There's one sport at Chatham Central that's flying under the radar this year.

And if you're in Bear Creek, you might want to take notice.

The Bears' men's tennis team is quietly having its best season in school history, boasting a 7-0 record after a 9-0 sweep of the North Moore Mustangs last Wednesday.

And there's no sign of them slowing down.

"There's something special happening here at Chatham Central," said Wendy Phillips, assistant coach for the school's men's and women's tennis teams. "This is the deepest we've ever been, from one to six."

The Bears' success is spearheaded by its top two players, Jayden Gilliland and Preston Cox, both of whom are seniors who have yet to lose either a singles or doubles match all season.

Gilliland is dedicated to working on his craft, spending plenty of his downtime practicing tennis, along with watching some of the world's best players — including 20-time Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal — to try and learn from them, said Heather Brooks,



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Chatham Central junior Colby Williamson serves in a singles match against North Moore senior Josue Peralta on Wednesday, April 14. Williamson won the match in two sets, 6-1, 6-0.

the Bears' head coach.

He's Chatham Central's top-ranked player for a reason. Namely, because he

See **BEARS**, page B2

FORSYTH COUNTRY DAY 4, CHATHAM CHARTER 3



Chatham Charter junior Taylor Jones slides into second base in the first inning of her team's 4-3 loss to Forsyth Country Day on Thursday, April 15. Jones was one of four Knights with a hit on the day.

Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Knights give up first run in 22 days, drop road contest to Forsyth Country Day

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
 News + Record Staff

LEWISVILLE — Sometimes, you need a wake-up call to bring you back down to earth.

Just ask the Knights.

The Chatham Charter softball team hopped on a bus last Thursday and traveled to Lewisville to take on the NCISAA's Forsyth Country Day Furies (7-2) having not allowed a run in 22 days.

In that span, the Knights were 3-0, winning by a combined score of 39-0, including 17-0 and 10-0 victories against the Carrboro Jaguars.

The Furies, though, presented a

much tougher challenge, capitalizing on dominant pitching and racking up 11 hits in a 4-3 win, snapping the Knights' four-game winning streak and sending them back on the road with another tally mark in the loss column.

"I just think we have kind of hit that lull where some of the teams we've played, we're just so much stronger than them at the plate and defensively," said Brittany Smith, the Knights' first-year head coach. "Unfortunately, with who we have played lately, we have not seen as much action and I think we're just flat-footed."

Taking advantage of Chatham Charter's

See **KNIGHTS**, page B3

Knights, Bears participate in 2nd annual Grady Lawson Memorial Baseball Tournament

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

RAMSEUR — With high school baseball season just around the corner, fans got an early look at a couple of Chatham teams on Saturday. Chatham Charter and Chatham Central participated in the Grady Lawson Memorial Baseball Tournament in Ramseur, each of them playing in an informal scrimmage that allowed them to work out some kinks, practice in-game scenarios and gauge the talent of their team.

The Knights faced off in the early game against the North Moore Mustangs, while the Bears played the Carlisle Chiefs, who traveled from Martinsville, Virginia, to attend the event.

While neither game technically kept score — the scoreboard at Craven Field remained unplugged — the unofficial scores had Chatham Charter losing to the Mustangs, 10-2, while Chatham Central earned a 10-6 comeback victory over the Chiefs.

This was the second annual baseball “tournament” honoring Eastern Randolph legend Grady Lawson, who died in 2017. All of the proceeds from the event went straight to the Grady Lawson Memorial Scholarship Fund, a scholarship set up by his family that is given to an Eastern Randolph student-athlete each year.

Lawson, a staple in the Ramseur community, is remembered for his dedication to baseball and Eastern Randolph athletics, but even more so for his dedication to helping others, especially student-athletes. He was a man of many

trades, owning a service station, serving on the Randolph County Board of Education for 40 years, helping out with American Legion baseball as the athletic officer for Eastern Randolph Post 81, among other things.

You name it, he was probably involved with it. “He just took care of everything (for Post 81),” said Mike Lawson, Grady’s son. “He didn’t coach, but he did the recruiting and he got all of the players, took care of transportation and meals. His thing was, ‘Nobody’s ever going to pay to play baseball for me. You don’t pay to play a game. If you want to play, you’re going to play. If you need a glove, we’ll get you a glove.’”

He’s won numerous awards, was inducted into both the American Legion and Eastern Randolph Halls of Fame and was beloved everywhere he went.

As one of his granddaughters, Kelly Young, put it, “He was like royalty.”

The tournament consisted of four games between eight high schools at two different venues, Grady Lawson Field at Eastern Randolph and Craven Field in Ramseur. Both Chatham teams played their games at the latter.

For the Knights, their main focus was on the first few innings.

As is customary for pre-season exhibition games, Bill Slaughter, Chatham Charter’s head coach, limited playing time for some of his starters. That included senior starting pitcher Trevor Golden, who threw the ball extremely well in his first game since last spring.

Golden tossed three scoreless innings, allow-

ing zero runs on no hits while striking out five batters and walking one. He often got down early in the count but battled his way back in many instances to force a ground-out or a strikeout.

“I was impressed with Trevor on the mound, which I expect him to be really good for us,” Slaughter said after the scrimmage. “I know North Moore’s going to be a good team, but it also tells me that with Trevor throwing in a playoff-type situation, we can hang right with them.”

North Moore scored two runs in the fourth inning on a sacrifice fly and a sacrifice bunt, taking a 2-0 lead into the fifth.

Chatham Charter struggled to get their bats going for most of the day, waiting until the fifth inning to get their first hit on a single by Golden. Later in the fifth, with freshman shortstop Aidan Allred on the mound, the Mustangs collected six hits and a few walks, scoring eight runs and blowing the game wide open.

The Knights scored a couple of times in the top of the sixth thanks to an error and a passed ball, but once they struck out three times to end the inning, the game was essentially over.

Chatham Charter is a young team with just three seniors on its roster. It has plenty of athletes who haven’t played baseball in years, along with a few who are primarily basketball players, including sophomore Adam Harvey, the Central Tar Heel conference’s 2020-21 men’s basketball player of the year.

Even though some of them jokingly looked like deer in headlights at



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Chatham Central junior Luke Oldham gets up after a slide into third base after a triple in his team’s 10-6 scrimmage win over Carlisle during the Grady Lawson Memorial Baseball Tournament on Saturday.

the plate, Slaughter said getting them in-game scenarios is what’s going to make them better and get them prepared for real competition.

“A lot of this is mental in baseball,” Slaughter said. “With 16 players, I wanted to make sure everyone got the experience of going up there and batting against a live pitcher because everybody looks good when you toss in (batting practice). We’re all Mickey Mantle when we’re in the cage, but all of a sudden when you have someone that’s trying to get you out on purpose, it’s a whole different game.”

While the result might have been different for Chatham Central, the sentiment was the same. It was nice to get a little bit of friendly competition in.

The Bears got themselves in a massive hole early as senior starting pitcher Michael Moore — a week removed from the end of football season, where he’s the team’s all-conference quarterback — struggled to knock the rust off.

Carlisle capitalized off

fourth as they scored four runs of their own, including a two-RBI triple by junior Luke Oldham on a long at-bat where he continuously wore the pitcher down until he gave Oldham a perfect ball to hit.

Chatham Central kept the stove hot for the rest of the scrimmage, culminating in a four-run seventh inning with the game tied to take a 10-6 lead, completing their streak of 10 unanswered runs and solidifying the unofficial win.

“Once they got down the line in their pitching rotation, it being a scrimmage and all, things loosened up a little bit,” Walden said. “Overall, I had a few guys play fall ball, but considering we hadn’t played in 370 days, it’s not terrible. I’m pretty happy with what we did today.”

Per the NCHSAA, baseball teams are allowed just one scrimmage this season due to COVID-19 protocols, so this will be the last we see of the Knights and Bears until they throw their first pitches later this month.

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnc.com or on Twitter at [@Frezeal33](https://twitter.com/Frezeal33).

BEARS

Continued from page B1
rarely loses, even against tough competition.

Since the start of his junior year, Gilliland is a combined 20-0 over his last 20 matches (10-0 singles, 10-0 doubles), all of which were played against his opponents’ top players.

Wednesday was no different.

Playing against North Moore senior Jaleak Horne — just six days removed from rushing for 151 yards and two touchdowns in an April 8 football game against Chatham Central — Gilliland did what he does best: silently dominate.

Using his powerful, yet controlled serve, Gilliland wore Horne down point after point, game after game, set after set. He smiled, didn’t talk a whole lot and won without dropping a game. The sun was beating down on the court, but he never seemed to feel the heat.

“Biggest thing was my serve,” Gilliland said. “Last match, my serve wasn’t all there and really, the serve opens up everything. I like to come to the net a lot, so when my serve’s on, that allows me to come to the net and finish points fast.”

At one point in the first set, as the ball bounced once on Gilliland’s side of the court and sailed out, he sprinted toward the ball, got in front of it and hit it backward, in between his legs. And he put it right where he wanted it, winning the point as Horne hit the net trying to return it.

“With that one, I didn’t have that much time to think about it so I just hit it,” Gilliland said.

“He’s been dying to do that,” added Brooks with a laugh.

Gilliland would go on to win 6-0, 6-0, cruising to his seventh singles victory this season.

Cox, his doubles partner, was right there with him.

Playing against North Moore freshman Owen Williams, Cox didn’t drop a single game en route to a 6-0, 6-0 whitewash. Like Gilliland, Cox is also undefeated since the start of his junior year (17-0) and is just as dominant.

He often puts topspin on the ball to hit it harder and tries to place it in the corners of the court, forcing his opponents to exert more energy throughout the match.

“I really focused on hitting it in the corners because making him run back and forth, it’s easier to get it past him or make him mess up,” Cox said.

In their double matches — in which they’re 7-0 this year after an 8-0 victory on Wednesday — Gilliland and Cox have created chemistry with one another that allows them to thrive and dissect opponents. To communicate, they often don’t even need to use words. They’ve got their own hand signals.

However, as good as those two are, the team’s success this season can be attributed to their depth, which may be the best it’s ever been.

Baseball season starting in late April this year, thanks to the NCHSAA’s alternate 2020-21 schedule, has allowed players to come over from baseball and try tennis. That includes both of the Bears’ third- and fourth-ranked players, junior Colby Williamson and freshman Jacob Gilliland, Jayden’s brother.

Williamson — who learned a lot about tennis from his sister, Courtney Williamson, a 2016 doubles state champion for Chatham Central — comfortably won his singles match on Wednesday, 6-1, 6-0.

Jacob Gilliland won his singles match 6-1, 6-1, and together, the duo of Wil-

liamson and Gilliland won their doubles match, 8-2.

Rounding out the Bears’ lineup against the Mustangs were fifth-ranked senior Caleb Webster (won 6-4, 6-1) and sixth-ranked senior Pacen Dunn (won 6-0, 6-2); together they captured Chatham Central’s third doubles win of the day, 8-3.

“It’s just taken a lot to encourage everybody because our sophomore year — and last year, but it got cut short — we would lose every match like 3-6,” Jayden Gilliland said. “(Me and Cox) would win our matches, and then everybody else would lose. So it was really just getting them to come out and play and get better, which they really have. Practice used to be boring for us because all we did was hit with each other, but now, it’s actually pretty fun.”

While the Bears’ recent success is cause for excitement around the men’s tennis program, it’s clouded by the cancellation of this year’s NCHSAA Dual Team Championships.

In September, the NCHSAA released details for its 2020-21 modified sports regulations, which included news about tennis and wrestling, stating that both sports will only host individual (or duo) championships this year, removing the team aspect entirely.

In a year where Chatham Central could have made noise in the playoffs as a team, they won’t even get a shot.

“It’s sad because I think we probably could have gone as far as the girls’ team did last year, which was to the regionals,” Brooks said. “The problem is, we’re in a (classification) with a lot of charter schools and private schools that have players who have played tennis all their lives. They’re tennis factories.”

Even without a team

competition this year, the Bears have a chance to have multiple individuals and doubles teams go far in this year’s playoffs, starting with Jayden Gilliland and Cox.

Their playoff journey begins on April 28, when Chatham Central hosts the Yadkin Valley 1A conference tournament; then it’ll be on to 1A West regionals in Elkin.

“I feel like we can definitely make it to states if we’re playing good,” Jayden Gilliland said. “We should win the conference tournament. I think the top four from regionals go, so as long as we’re the top four in regionals, we should. And from what I’ve seen, I think three of the people that went to states from the last regionals graduated, so I think we’ve got a pretty good shot.”

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnc.com or on Twitter at [@Frezeal33](https://twitter.com/Frezeal33).



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APRIL 21ST



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ENNIS

Continued from page B1

start chemo on Thursday at UNC Children's Hospital.

No stranger to scares

The Ennis family is no stranger to medical scares.

When Sami was in middle school, her father had a life-threatening heart attack that required quadruple bypass surgery, keeping him in the hospital for nearly two months while he recovered.

While he's healthy now, it was a time full of emotional and financial stress. But having already dealt with a serious emergency once, it somewhat prepared them for how best to handle Troy's diagnosis — especially when it came to medical expenses.

"They had just finished, this last year, paying off (her father's) medical bills," Sami said. "And so this time around, I was like, 'You know what? I'm going to set up this GoFundMe and I will just see if it helps at all.' I wasn't sure it was really going to do anything."

On the campaign's page, she wrote: "Up until two months ago, Troy was a normal 16 year old. He was a sophomore in high school who towered over all his friends at 6'3", and he was playing football in the spring because of the pandemic. One day at practice, Troy sprained his ankle (or so we thought). After several weeks of taking a break Troy went back, only to be hurt again. My parents took

him into the doctor, who explained that Troy had some torn and strained ligaments and said to give it more rest. After another couple of weeks, Troy went back and participated in football practice, only to call my dad crying because he was in so much pain. Troy was immediately sent to a podiatrist, and scans revealed a tumor in his left foot. Over the last couple of weeks we have been holding our breath as scans and workups have been done to determine what the tumor means. We were told on April 9th that Troy has cancer. At this time recommended treatment includes chemotherapy and possibly radiation. Troy is expected to spend the next 6-9 months (starting this week) in and out of the hospital, and it is going to be the fight of his life."

It didn't take long for Troy's GoFundMe, entitled "Troy's Journey with Ewing's Sarcoma," to spread beyond their immediate family. In hours, it reached friends, other members of the Northwood community and plenty of strangers located outside of Pittsboro.

Eight days after Sami started the campaign, it raised more than \$58,000 of its \$100,000 goal thanks to the generosity of more than 440 unique donors, many of whom have left touching messages of support alongside their donation. They've sent the family prayers, expressed kind sentiments and even told brief stories of their own battles with cancer.

There are even two donors that have contributed \$5,000 each.

"In no way could we have imagined the amount of people that came out of the woodwork," Sami said. "It just

shows you how amazing people can be, especially right now with everything that's going on. People are still willing — with all the trials and tribulations in their own lives — to donate to some poor kid who got a crap deal in life."

The messages from GoFundMe donors have helped Sami see just how many people her family has touched over the years, especially in Pittsboro and the surrounding area. She called it "really humbling."

In addition to monetary donations, support for the family has been shown in other ways, too.

A mom of one of Troy's teammates set up a meal delivery schedule so their family doesn't have to worry about cooking, buying or picking up their next meal and can focus on Troy's treatment. Plenty of his teammates and friends have also stopped by to visit him both at home and the hospital to keep his spirits high.

In Friday's playoff win over West Carteret, the entire Northwood football team wore "22" stickers — Troy's number — on the back of their helmets in a tribute to him. Coaches, staff and fans also wore the stickers on their clothing.

"We're all wearing '22' tonight to show our support and let him know we're thinking about him," said Cameron Vernon, Northwood's co-athletic director on Friday night. "And I know after this game tonight, all of the kids and the coaches, they were out there playing for him because they have Troy on their mind. ... Anything we can do here at Northwood to help him and his

family at this time, we've got their backs."

A love of football

Troy is known for being a big person — he's a growing 6-foot-3 — with an even bigger personality, an enjoyable student to have in class and an exceptional, up-and-coming athlete. Switching from soccer to football once he got to high school, Sami said her brother fell in love with the game as soon as his dad convinced him to give it a shot his freshman year.

Despite going through the toughest moment in his life, Troy and the rest of the Ennis family are hanging in there, trying their best to stay upbeat and cracking jokes to lighten the mood.

"(Troy's) been crazy great," Sami said. "He's been the rock for all of us, actually. He has tried to keep the most positive outlook that you can and at the same time, he has a little bit of humor about it, which is kind of how our family gets through stuff like this. ... I think this is going to take a lot out of him, and it's going to be a lot harder the longer it takes, but at the moment, he's keeping his head up, which is the most we can hope for right now."

To donate to the family's GoFundMe or follow along with Sami's updates on Troy's journey, go to https://www.gofundme.com/f/troys-journey-with-ewing-sarcoma?utm_campaign

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.

KNIGHTS

Continued from page B1

complacency appeared to be the specialty of senior Emily Humphrey, the Furies' starting pitcher, who threw a near-flawless game.

She pitched all seven innings, allowing just four hits and three runs (zero earned runs) while striking out 10 batters. If it weren't for four errors by the Furies, there's a chance the Knights get shut out.

Reaching base — via either hits or walks — hasn't been much of a problem for Chatham Charter this year, but on Thursday, it was a struggle. The same can't be said for the Furies.

"It was just, unfortunately, a game where we beat ourselves," Smith said. "We missed some routine plays, we were a little flat-footed and it got in our heads and we just couldn't make it."

The Knights' inability to make routine plays showed itself early after a triple by Humphrey gave the

Furies' junior third baseman Madison Willard a shot to drive in a run in the bottom of the first. She made contact, sending the ball rolling in between the Knights' first baseman and shortstop — who weren't in a position to stop it — and into the outfield, scoring Humphrey and giving her team a 1-0 lead.

Chatham Charter wouldn't get on the board until the third inning when Willard made a couple of costly errors.

She bobbled the ball on a chopper to third base by Knights junior outfielder Olivia Cheek, putting her on first. Two batters later, Chatham Charter's senior catcher Morgan Lineberry grounded into what should have been a fielder's choice at second base, but Willard sent the ball flying over the second baseman's head, allowing both Cheek and Lineberry to score, clearing the bases and giving them a 2-1 advantage.

The lead wouldn't last long.

Humphrey hit her second-straight triple to lead off the

bottom of the third, followed by a single by Furies' sophomore first baseman Laura Bean to drive her in and tie the game. A couple of batters later, centerfielder Malaya Saliba singled, scoring Bean and retaking the lead.

Knights' senior pitcher Sydney Bowman, despite allowing nine hits and four earned runs in five innings, threw the ball well, collecting six strikeouts and pitching out of bad situations in both the third and fifth innings to prevent an even larger deficit.

Smith said Bowman was also nursing injuries in both her shoulder and leg as the game progressed.

"Sydney's always a machine for us," Smith said. "She always works hard, she works through the shoulder pain, the leg pain. She pushed through when two or three innings sooner she was probably feeling it and ready to come out, but the game was close and she's a super dedicated kid."

After scoring on another error in the sixth, Chatham Charter

sent out sophomore Chelsie Hardister to pitch the bottom of the inning, down 4-3, to try and prevent the Furies from expanding upon their lead before the Knights got a shot to tie it in the seventh.

Hardister struggled some, allowing back-to-back singles and a walk to load the bases with just one out, but dialed in and got the two subsequent batters out — thanks, in part, to a diving catch in the infield by freshman Delana Loflin — to escape a bases-loaded jam unscathed.

"I'm especially proud of the relief pitcher we had come in," Smith said. "We had an injury there. She's not pitched at all this year and you've got to be proud when they step up in that way."

The Knights would be unable to muster a hit in the top of the seventh, dropping the game, 4-3, but never seemed to give up until the final out was recorded.

"At the end, it was a case of too little, too late, but I won't say that they just rolled over and complete-

ly died either," Smith said. "They did make a good effort at the bottom of our lineup and at the end of the day, in a game like this, all you can ask for is that you're putting the ball in play and giving your best effort all seven innings."

Chatham Charter has only lost two games this season, both by just one run. While Smith would have preferred to come away with the win, this might have been the wake-up call they needed after nearly a month of dominance.

"I am so proud of them," Smith said. "They work hard for me at practice, we're winning ball games. You can't be mad about that. And the rest of our season, I think we'll finish strong. I think we look good and I've been really proud of them. They're a great group of kids. I definitely can't be upset, even after this (loss)."

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.

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CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

This week's schedule and last week's results

BY VICTOR HENSLEY News + Record Staff

This week, we've got the conclusion of the regular season for men's tennis, with conference tournaments beginning next week — most notably for the still-unbeaten Chatham Central Bears. The second round of the NCHSAA 3A football playoffs begins on Friday, with Northwood hosting the undefeated Havelock Rams. Golf (men's and women's), softball and women's soccer also continue across the county with plenty of action coming up.

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

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, April 21

Soccer: Jordan-Matthews women vs. Southwestern Randolph, 6 p.m. Soccer: Northwood women at Northern Durham, 6:30 p.m. Softball: Chatham Charter women vs. N.C. Leadership Academy, 5 p.m. Tennis: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Providence Grove, 4:30 p.m. Tennis: Northwood men at Northern Durham, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 22

Golf: Chatham Charter men at Raleigh Charter at Wildwood Green Golf Club in Raleigh, 3:30 p.m. Golf: Jordan-Matthews vs. Chatham Central at Siler City Country Club, 1 p.m. Softball: Chatham Central women at Jordan-Matthews, 6 p.m. Tennis: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Southwestern Randolph, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 23

Football: Northwood men vs. Havelock, 6:30 p.m. (Second round of NCHSAA 3A playoffs) Soccer: Woods Charter women at Southern Alamance, 6 p.m. Softball: Chatham Charter women at Bethany Community, 4:30 p.m. Softball: Northwood women at Northern Durham, 6 p.m. Tennis: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Chatham Central, 4:30 p.m.

LAST WEEK

Monday, April 12

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews women lost a tough road game to the Southwestern Randolph Cougars, 3-1. Scoring in the loss for the Jets was sophomore Maricarmen Landa with 1 goal. Soccer: The Northwood women defeated the Southern Durham Spartans with a clean sheet, 5-0. Tennis: The Chatham Central men earned a clean sweep of the North Stanly Comets, 9-0, to remain undefeated on the

season. Each of the Bears won their singles matches, including senior Jayden Gilliland (6-0, 6-2), senior Preston Cox (6-1, 6-1), junior Colby Williamson (6-1, 6-3), senior Caleb Webster (6-1, 6-1) and senior Pacen Dunn (6-0, 6-1).

Tennis: The Chatham Charter men were swept by the Research Triangle Raptors, 9-0.

Tennis: The Jordan-Matthews men dropped a 6-1 match to the Randleman Tigers. The Jets had one player win a singles match, senior Michael Ortiz (10-7).

Tuesday, April 13

Golf: Jordan-Matthews came in third place in a 9-hole match with PAC 7 conference opponents hosted by the Trinity Bulldogs at Colonial Country Club in Thomasville. The Jets finished with a team score of 185, while the Wheatmore Warriors won the match with a score of 156.

Golf: The Chatham Central women won a match against North Rowan, 164-170, in 9 holes at Corbin Hills Country Club in Salisbury. The Bears' golfers were as follows (in order of best score): Gillian Kitchings (51), Reagan Mize (54), Reagan Murray (59), Tanner Little (63) and Danielle Vaughan (63).

Softball: The Chatham Central women trounced the North Stanly Comets on the road, 17-1.

Softball: The Chatham Charter women earned their third straight shutout victory scoring 10+ runs, this time against the North Carolina Leadership Academy Falcons, 12-0.

Softball: The Jordan-Matthews women fell victim to a mercy-rule loss to the Eastern Randolph Wildcats, 13-0. Wildcats pitchers Savannah Beaver and Addie Flinchum combined for the five-inning no-hitter, striking out 10 batters combined.

Softball: The Northwood women earned two blowout victories in a double-header with the Southern Durham Spartans, 15-2 and 18-0. Leading the Chargers in game one were freshmen Caroline Garner (2-for-4, 3B, 6 RBI) and Jenna Thompson (4-for-4, 3 3B, 4 RBI). Leading Northwood in game two were senior Erika Seils (2-for-3, 2B, 6 RBI) and freshman Caroline Garner (2-for-3, 2B, 6 RBI). Garner also threw a three-inning no-hitter in the Game 2 win with seven strikeouts.

Wednesday, April 14

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews women bounced back from their Monday loss with a 10-1 domination of the winless Randleman Tigers to improve their record to 4-3. Scoring for the Jets in the blowout win were sophomore Maricarmen Landa (hat trick; 5 goals), senior Litzy Mar-

tinez (hat trick; 3 goals) and sophomores Maggie Thornton and Anna Ichel Vicente, each with 1 goal.

Soccer: The Northwood women suffered a clean sheet loss on the road to the unbeaten Chapel Hill Tigers, 4-0, dropping their record to 4-4-1 on the season.

Soccer: The Woods Charter women earned a comfortable 6-2 victory over the Research Triangle Raptors. Leading by just one goal heading into the halftime break, the Wolves fired off four of them in the second half to coast to the win.

Softball: The Chatham Central women earned a 6-2 win over the Southern Lee Cavaliers, increasing their winning streak to three games.

Softball: The Jordan-Matthews women earned a walk-off win over the Wheatmore Warriors, 6-5, to improve their record to slightly below .500 at 4-5. Leading the Jets were junior Auburn Campbell (3-for-4, 2B, 2 RBI) and freshman Hannah Mitchell (2-for-4, RBI). J-M's sophomore starting pitcher Macy Beavers threw 8 strikeouts in the win.

Tennis: The Chatham Central men kept their winning streak alive, earning a clean 9-0 sweep over the North Moore Mustangs to remain unbeaten (7-0) on the season. Each of the Bears won their singles matches, including senior Jayden Gilliland (6-0, 6-0), senior Preston Cox (6-0, 6-0), junior Colby Williamson (6-1, 6-0), freshman Jacob Gilliland (6-1, 6-1), senior Caleb Webster (6-4, 6-1) and senior Pacen Dunn (6-0, 6-2). The Bears also earned three doubles victories by the duos of Jayden Gilliland & Cox (8-0), Williamson & Jacob Gilliland (8-2) and Webster & Dunn (8-3). See match report in this edition.

Tennis: The Chatham Charter men earned their first win of the season against the Southern Wake Academy Lions, 5-4, improving their record to 1-10 on the year. Winning their singles matches were junior Collin Semrad (7-6 (7-4), 6-4), sophomore Cedric Schwartz (4-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-4)), junior Casey Wanless (6-4, 6-3) and sophomore Silas Christenbury (6-4, 6-4). The duo of Semrad & Schwartz also won their doubles match, 8-6, to clinch the victory.

Tennis: The Jordan-Matthews men lost to the Wheatmore Warriors, 8-1, to remain winless on the season at 0-7. The Jets lost each of their singles matches, but the duo of sophomore Buck Thornton & senior Christian Campechano won their doubles match, 9-8 (8-6).

Tennis: The Northwood men were swept by the Chapel Hill Tigers, 9-0, to fall to 3-5 on the season.

Thursday, April 15

Golf: The Chatham Central women defeated the North Moore Mustangs, 173-167, in 9 holes at Beacon Ridge Golf & Country Club in West End. The Bears' golfers included freshman Paige Ritter (48), junior Dian Miranda (62) and senior Amanda Sheffield (63). Chatham Central is now 3-4 on the season.

Softball: The Chatham Charter women lost their first game in nearly a month on the road against the Forsyth Country Day Furies, 4-3, to fall to 5-2 on the season. Furies' senior pitcher Emily Humphrey recorded 10 strikeouts in seven innings pitched, allowing four hits and zero earned runs. She also brought it on the offensive end, going 3-for-3 with two triples. All three of the Knights' runs came on errors by the Furies, and despite a night with very little offensive production, they had a shot to tie it in the bottom of the seventh with a couple of hitters making nice contact with the ball, but couldn't muster a hit. Leading the Knights were sophomore Chelsie Hardister (1-for-2, 3B) and senior pitcher Sydney Bowman (5.0 IP, 9 hits, 3 ER, 6 Ks). See game report in this edition.

Friday, April 16

Football: Northwood used its strong rushing attack and nightmarish defense to earn a shutout first-round playoff win, 17-0, over the No. 7 West Carteret Patriots and advance to the second round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs. In their first home playoff game in 11 years, the Chargers set the tone early with a 10-play scoring drive on their opening possession — ending with a 1-yard

touchdown on a keeper by senior quarterback Cam Entekin — followed by a 48-yard field goal by senior kicker Aidan Laros to take an early 10-0 lead. Later in the half, with the Patriots driving and in Northwood territory, senior linebacker Will Lake scooped up a fumble and returned it 75 yards to the house, making it a 17-0 game and essentially putting the nail in the West Carteret coffin. Leading the Chargers were junior running back Jalen Paige (16 carries, 85 yards) and Lake, who had the fumble return for a touchdown and a crucial interception in the second half. They'll face off against the undefeated, third-seeded Havelock Rams at home at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. See game report in this edition.

Soccer: The Woods Charter women earned a road win over the Clover Garden Grizzlies, 5-1, to improve to 6-1 on the season.

Softball: The Chatham Central women earned their second shutout win of the season against the North Moore Mustangs, 11-0, in five innings to improve to 6-1 on the season. The Bears have won their last four games by a

combined score of 46-3.

Softball: The Northwood women blew out the Chapel Hill Tigers on the road, 18-1, in a five-inning game to improve to 7-3 on the season. The Chargers scored 10 runs in the fifth inning alone, ending any hopes the Tigers had at a comeback. Leading Northwood on the day were sophomore Susanna Lee (2-for-2, 2 2B, 4 RBI), sophomore Abi McLaurin (2-for-5, 3 RBI) and freshman Sarah Warrford (3-for-5, 4 runs, 2 RBI). Freshman pitcher Caroline Garner also threw 8 strikeouts in 5 innings, allowing 4 hits and 1 run.

Sunday, April 18

Soccer: The Siler City FC under-17 boys team was crowned the U17 PUMA CSA First Strike Tournament champion over the weekend, winning three of its four games, including the championship game against Charlotte SA, 4-3. This is Siler City FC's U17 boys' second-ever tournament title.

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.

Eureka! You found the answer! A: June 28, 1978. To enter the COA's monthly drawing for a \$25 Visa Gift Card, call the COA at 919-542-4512, extension 223 and follow the prompts on the voicemail. March's winner will be drawn from eligible entries provided by 5/1/2022. The April winner will be announced in a May issue of the Chatham News + Record. One entry per household, per week. Employees of the COA and their dependents not eligible.

Chatham COA Events & Announcements April 22nd - April 28th. Thursday, April 22nd: Arthritis Foundation Exercise at 10:00 AM, Tech Cafe Training with Conor at 11:15 AM, Matter of Balance at 1:00 PM, Tai Chi for Arthritis at 3:00 PM. Friday, April 23rd: Strong & with Jackie at 9:00 AM, Weekly Call with Director, Dennis Streets at 10:15 AM. Monday, April 26th: Arthritis Foundation Exercise at 10:00 AM, Bingo with Joe at 11:15 AM, Tai Chi for Arthritis at 3:00 PM. Tuesday, April 27th: Strong & Fit with Jackie at 9:00 AM, Bluegrass Music with the Original Haw River Crowdaddies at 11:15 AM, Matter of Balance at 1:00 PM. Wednesday, April 28th: Bible Study with Neriah at 10:00 AM, Chair Yoga with Liz at 10:00 AM, Science with Alan at 11:15 AM, Short Stories with Chris at 12:30 PM. On Zoom, On Conference Line: 727-731-8717. For more information or to register for these programs, visit our website: https://chathamcouncilonaging.org/coa-virtual-activities/

SPORTS BRIEFS

Two CCCC basketball players earn honors

SANFORD — Two Central Carolina Community College basketball players — Derek Gardner and Montell Moore — have been named to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II All-Region Honorable Mention Team for the 2020-2021 season.

Gardner, a 6-foot-2 freshman guard from Hampstead (Topsail High School), averaged 13.8 points per game. "Derek had a really good freshman season. I'm super proud of his accomplishments, and look forward to an even better season in his second year," CCCC Coach Brad McDougald said of Gardner. "Derek has been a blessing to the program, and has done all the right things since arriving." Moore, a 6-foot-2 sophomore guard/forward from Fayetteville (Cape Fear High School), averaged 12.9 points per game. "Montell is a great young man, with a huge heart and passion for the game," McDougald said of Moore. "Montell has been a big part of the program since arriving and made his mark while here.

It has been a blessing to coach him and watch him grow into a better basketball player and even better person."

For more information on Central Carolina Community College — which is dedicated to providing pathways to achievable dreams, visit www.cccc.edu.

Tyler Romel Earns All-Conference Honors

ANNVILLE, Pennsylvania — Tyler Romel of Pittsboro is one of seven Lebanon Valley College ice hockey players to earn Middle Atlantic All-Conference awards for the 2020-21 season. Romel was named All-Middle Atlantic Conference Second Team.

Romel finished with three points as a defenseman that included a goal and a pair of assists.

Romel, a graduate of Northwood High School, is pursuing a bachelor of science in accounting at The Valley. More information about LVC Athletics is available at godutchmen.com.

— CN+R staff reports

The 2021 Oscars: Predicting the winners

The 2021 Academy Awards will be presented this Sunday (8 p.m. on NBC; oscar.go.com). The last Oscars ceremony was 441 days ago, but it seems like a lifetime.

The film industry is among the commercial enterprises hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. Handing out trophies for the best movies over the past year feels less like honoring superlative achievement than survival of the fittest.

Oddly, the most unstable year in film may produce one of the more predictable Oscar ceremonies. Without the usual movie awards campaign season in terms of both quality and quantity, the forecasted winners have coalesced around a seemingly consensus opinion. It all makes for honorees who feel more ordained than superlative.

Regardless, here we are, and so before the Academy Awards are handed out this Sunday evening, here is my annual primer of what/who will and should win each of the six main categories, plus what actor or film was robbed of their rightful Oscar nomination.

Best Picture
Nominees: "The Father"; "Judas and the Black Messiah"; "Mank"; "Minari"; "Nomadland";

Best Director
Nominees: Thomas Vinterberg, "Another Round"; David Fincher, "Mank"; Lee Isaac



Courtesy of Searchlight Pictures
Frances McDormand stars in 'Nomadland,' a favorite at this year's Oscars.

"Promising Young Woman"; "Sound of Metal"; "The Trial of the Chicago 7"

What Will Win: Having won the Producers and Directors Guilds awards, along with a Golden Globe, "Nomadland" is a shoe-in for the big prize of the night.

What Should Win: "Sound of Metal" is terrific and a worthy nominee in any year. But "Minari" is timely, thought-provoking, and the best of this bunch.

What Got Snubbed: "The Invisible Man" possesses far more depth than anyone would have predicted (seriously). But "One Night in Miami" is among the most provocative, well-written films of 2020 and patently deserved an Oscar nom.

Chung, "Minari"; Chloe Zhao, "Nomadland"; Emerald Fennell, "Promising Young Woman"

Who Will Win: Chloe Zhao has already snagged the Directors Guild Award, the most reliable predictor of any Oscar. She will take home the golden trophy.

Who Should Win: Lee Isaac Chung's examination of Asian immigrants in rural America was layered, contemplative, and the best directorial work in this group.

Who Got Snubbed: I have no idea how Darius Marder is not nominated for "Sound of Metal," one of the best and most logistically challenging films of the year.

Best Actor
Nominees: Riz Ahmed, "Sound of Metal"; Chadwick Boseman, "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom"; Anthony Hopkins, "The Father"; Gary Oldman, "Mank"; Steven Yeun,

"Minari"
Who Will Win: Chadwick Boseman's towering performance in "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" is not just a fitting coda for his truncated career. It is among the best film acting performances in recent years, and it will win on Sunday.

Who Should Win: Post-humous Oscar winners often run the risk of being lifetime achievement awards. Not so with Boseman, who towers over an otherwise deserving group of nominees.

Who Got Snubbed: Although misserved by a flawed film, Delroy Lindo was stellar in "Da 5 Bloods" and deserved a nomination.

Best Actress
Nominees: Viola Davis, "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom"; Andra Day, "The United States vs. Billie Holiday"; Vanessa Kirby, "Pieces of a Woman"; Frances McDormand,

"Nomadland"; Carey Mulligan, "Promising Young Woman"

Who Will Win: This is the only intrigue among the big six Oscars. "Nomadland's" awards season momentum has tended to Frances McDormand. Carey Mulligan has the showiest role an aggrieved woman out for vengeance from misogynists. But my money is on Viola Davis to add a Best Actress Oscar to her 2016 supporting win for "Fences."

Who Should Win: A sign of a terrific acting performance is one that leaves you wanting more by film's end. So is the case with Viola Davis as real-life blues icon Ma Rainey.

Who Got Snubbed: There are two notable omissions. Elisabeth Moss's turn in "The Invisible Man" ran the emotional gambit, and Zendaya was a jaw-dropping standout in the otherwise wretched "Malcolm & Marie."

Best Supporting Actor

Nominees: Sacha Baron Cohen, "The Trial of the Chicago 7"; Daniel Kaluuya, "Judas and the Black Messiah"; Leslie Odom Jr., "One Night in Miami"; Paul Raci, "Sound of Metal"; Lakeith Stanfield, "Judas and the Black Messiah"

Who Will Win: Daniel Kaluuya swept most of the pre-Oscar awards for his turn as activist Fred Hampton in "Judas and the Black Messiah," and he will add an Oscar to the list.

Who Should Win: In

an otherwise outstanding film, Leslie Odom Jr. stood out among the rest of the capable cast in "One Night in Miami," portraying singer Sam Cooke. Odom Jr. is also nominated for Best Original Song for the film, and he'll be performing at Sunday's ceremony. But he merits a win for his acting, too.

Who Got Snubbed: Among its crowded cast, Mark Ryland was somehow overlooked for "The Trial of the Chicago 7." But Bill Murray gave one of the most simple and enjoyable performances of the year in "On the Rocks" — the film only comes alive when he is on-screen.

Best Supporting Actress

Nominees: Maria Bakalova, "Borat Subsequent Moviefilm"; Glenn Close, "Hillbilly Elegy"; Olivia Colman, "The Father"; Amanda Seyfried, "Mank"; Youn Yuh-jung, "Minari"

Who Will Win: After Boseman for Best Actor, the lock of the night is Youn Huh-jung winning for "Minari."

Who Should Win: "Mank" clearly deserves only three of its 10 nominations: cinematography, original score, and Amanda Seyfried for her turn as actress Marion Davies. She deserves the win.

Who Got Snubbed: The Academy largely got this category right. My one addition would be Ciara Bravo as a junkie-with-a-heart in the little-seen "Cherry."

CHARGERS

Continued from page B1
team like Northwood that's built to maintain a lead but struggles to come from behind.

Chargers' senior kicker Aidan Laros (1-for-3 on the night) knocked down a 48-yard field goal on the next possession to give them a 10-0 lead, passing the torch to their defense to keep them ahead.

They didn't disappoint.

This season, West Carteret passed the ball on a little more than 38% of its offensive plays, and after the game against Panther Creek two weeks ago when Northwood was beaten on three touchdown plays of 40-plus yards, it was interesting to see how they'd match up against the Patriots' passing game.

If there were any doubts of whether



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior linebacker Will Lake (42) takes a recovered fumble all the way to the house in his team's 17-0 first-round victory over West Carteret on Friday. Lake's touchdown gave the Chargers a 17-point lead they would never relinquish. He also added an interception later in the game.

Northwood could compete with pass-heavy teams, this game put them to rest.

Patriots' senior quarterback Ethan McLaughlin completed 12 of his 24 passes for just 94 yards, many of which were short screens to his running backs, with

zero touchdowns and one interception.

A major key to disrupting McLaughlin came in the form of senior defensive lineman Kentrell Edwards, who chased him down all night, sacking him and hurrying him whenever he got loose in the backfield.

"Kentrell Edwards is a kid that has come along and his character, his effort, everything is great," Homolka said. "He comes out in practice and he gives me the same effort you see out here. ... I'm proud of that kid."

Edwards was the face of a defense that wreaked havoc on McLaughlin, making him uncomfortable in his throws and forcing him to scramble or throw on the run more as the game progressed. His speed and elusiveness allowed him to sneak out of a couple of potential bad sacks, but when he did, it rarely translated to positive plays.

"If you're going to throw on us, we're going to bring you pressure," Homolka said. "If you watch us, you know that."

West Carteret put together a couple of formidable drives throughout the game, but most

of them ended in turnovers — including Lake's 75-yard fumble recovery touchdown — with the Patriots coming away empty-handed.

One notable drive happened at the start of the third quarter, where McLaughlin hit a couple of chunk passing plays of 15 and 20 yards to get them close to the red zone. Late in the drive, he threw a pass for junior wide receiver J.J. Montford toward the end zone, landing just ahead of him, but Northwood junior defensive back Jack Spatz was called for pass interference.

The penalty would have given West Carteret the ball right at the brink of the goal line, but after the play was over, a Patriot was called for unsportsmanlike conduct, negating the pass interference call and pushing them back even further.

Three plays later, McLaughlin threw a pass that hit his receiver in the hands, but he couldn't reel it in as the ball popped up into the air and Lake — in the right place at the right time once again — intercepted it.

"Honestly, we were just capitalizing on opportunities, man," Lake said after the win. "That's the name of the game."

Northwood's rushing attack, led by junior running back Jalen Paige (16 carries for 85 yards), helped kill the clock throughout the second half, giving the Patriots very few opportunities to mount any sort of comeback.

After the game, it was all smiles for Homolka, who earned his first-ever playoff win as a head coach on Friday in his second year in Pittsboro. It was Northwood's first home playoff game in 11 years.

"I've had two (career playoff games as a head coach), and in the last one, we didn't win it, so this is a big win," Homolka said. "It was great.

The kids played their tails off, man."

In addition to playing for a spot in the second round, the Chargers battled for their teammate, sophomore Troy Ennis, who was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma on April 9. It's a "very rare type of cancerous tumor that grows either in the bones or in the tissue surrounding the bones," according to Ennis' GoFundMe page, which has raised over \$57,000 in just eight days.

Team members wore the number 22 on their helmets — and coaches, staff and fans wore "22" stickers on their t-shirts and jackets — to show their support.

"Troy's been missed," Homolka said. "He's a tough kid, man. I love him to death. He's like a son to me. I hate it for him and I hope he sees brighter days sooner than later."

For Northwood, its playoff fight continues at home on Friday against the third-seeded Havelock Rams (8-0), who have won seven of those games by at least 37 points.

In short, they're a powerhouse on a roll. It won't be an easy task, especially having to defend the senior rushing duo of UNC Tar Heels commit Kamarro Edmonds and Jaylen Budget.

"I haven't seen any film on them yet, but we're going to do what we do," Homolka said. "We'll live and die in what we do and we'll see what happens. We're not changing anything for nobody."

In Homolka's post-game speech to his team, he seemed hopeful about Northwood's chances of going far, even past Havelock. While laughing, he gave them some guidelines on celebrating the win.

"Don't do anything stupid," he said. "We've got a lot of ball left to play."

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnc.com or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.



This Community ROCKS!

Abundance NC is matching folks in need during this Covid-19 period with volunteers and locals that have time and resources. Here is a recap of what **YOU** have accomplished since the pandemic started:



To DONATE:



For help or to help:



- Approximately 100 able + generous community members have bought & delivered groceries and paid utility bills directly for about 100 families in need, sometimes repeatedly. ~\$20,000
- Abundance NC has raised \$16,000 and paid \$11,000 worth of utility bills.
- You have avoided evictions several times by pooling in money to cover unpaid rent due to lack of work or reduced hours due to the pandemic.
- You have avoided disconnection of utilities and helped people get their utilities reinstated for about half a dozen families.
- We have connected approximately 50 families with other community resources available.
- We have been able to cover Abundance NC staff time to run this Neighbor2Neighbor program!!

Thank YOU!

Much LOVE and BLESSINGS from the families YOU help! This is community resilience!!

SILER CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Board evaluates 5-year economy improvement plan

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The town's board of commissioners entertained a presentation on Monday from representatives of the N.C. Main Street & Rural Planning Center — a subset of the N.C. Dept. of Commerce — who have worked for more than a year in partnership with an 11-person steering committee of town leaders to develop a community economic recovery and resilience initiative.

The task force, dubbed the Siler City Economic Development Strategic Five-Year Plan Steering Committee, was commissioned shortly before the pandemic's start. Its members include such local leaders as Siler City Commissioner Lewis Fadely, Chatham Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) megasite owner Tim Booras, Pastor Cecil Wilson and Siler City Realtor Cindy Dameron. After several months in hiatus following 2020's pandemic lockdown, the group adjusted its plans and resumed activity last summer via Zoom.

After more than 10 official meetings, and several subcommittee conferences, the committee finalized its 67-page report at the end of last month. On Monday, MS&RP economic development planners Bruce Naegelen and Ann Bass presented the team's findings and recommendations. "The town of Siler City is in a position to see economic growth," Naegelen said, "and it's going to come. So in order to help you plan and prepare for that growth, we have completed the Siler City economic development strategic five-year plan."

The plan, which includes four strategies, "is really the most important (segment) of the whole presentation," Naegelen added. "... It takes strategies, which are really broad visions, and then narrows each to a specific goal."

Goals are further subdivided into "objectives" and "actions."

The proposed strategies for Siler City are to foster a lively and multi-cultural downtown; establish safe, connected

neighborhoods; cultivate creative business and innovative industry; and promote an inclusive, healthy community.

Naegelen did not step through the entire comprehensive action plan, which is 13 pages long. But the entire report will be available on the Town of Siler City website pending board approval. A draft was available in the agenda packet for Monday's meeting.

"What I'm showing you, what you're reading," Naegelen said, "will take a lot of work for the town and the committee."

Besides the implementation plan covering Siler City's general economic health, MS&RP and the steering committee compiled a downtown Siler City economic assessment and a community economic recovery and resiliency initiative.

The first two reports "were all part of what we talked about doing," Naegelen said, "but the third document came about as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, ... envisioned to be sort of a standalone effort to assist towns and their businesses with coming out of the pandemic, and becoming more resilient to future downturns."

Each document drew from extensive demographic and market analyses of Siler City, much of which the News + Record has previously reported, but Naegelen shared only some highlights in his presentation. Among the most alarming metrics was Siler City's "retail leakage," which MS&RP defines as "gaps in the retail market where demand for retail goods and services in a specific category is not being satisfied by the existing retail businesses in that geography."

In other words, it is the amount of money forfeited by Siler City's economy to other markets that offer unique or superior products and services. In Siler City's "primary trade area," Naegelen said, "a five-mile radius from the center of town, there's approximately \$23 million (leaked). That means that much money is being spent outside of downtown or the town of Siler City that

could be spent in town."

Leakage from the "secondary trade area," a 10-mile radius from the heart of downtown, is nearly \$80 million.

"So there's some money to be captured there," Naegelen said.

The primary industries in which Siler City lacks proportionate supply to meet local demand include car and car parts dealers, electronics and appliance stores, sporting goods/hobby/musical instrument stores, clothing stores and general merchandise stores, among others.

From a survey of 77 Siler City stakeholders, conducted by MS&RP, Naegelen reported that most Siler City residents would like to see a bolstered hospitality industry. In response to the prompt, "When visiting downtown in the future, what would you like to see?" 93% of respondents included restaurants and eating establishments in their answers. About 75% included retail shopping; 71% said night life and entertainment; and 55% included community festivals.

Incentivizing new businesses in such categories to establish their operations in Siler City would enhance community satisfaction, Naegelen said, and swell the town's economy — hopefully to catch up to Pittsboro's.

According to the Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri), a data and analytics supplier, Chatham has a staggering wealth disparity between its western and eastern neighborhoods. The Esri wealth index establishes 100 as the baseline metric to represent average wealth across the entire United States. The database considers both income and net wealth.

"Siler City, unfortunately, has an index of 68," Bass said. "... Just for comparison, North Carolina's index is 84. But look at Chatham County — 140."

The discrepancy quantifies what Chathamites have long known: that affluence in Chatham's eastern parts skews the county's average wealth and veils Siler City's struggling local economy to its detriment.

But Naegelen and Bass are confident

the town can reverse its economic trajectory with implementation of the steering committee's five-year plan.

"This strategic plan is not an ordinance," Naegelen said, "but it's a flexible living plan to help with the growth that is sure to come, sooner rather than later, in Siler City."

The commissioners did not motion for a vote to adopt the proposed implementation plan, although they had the option. Instead they reached consensus to "digest" the formidable report over the next 30 days and discuss it again at a future board meeting.

Other news

The commissioners voted to approve two sets of ordinance amendments and a rezoning request at their regular meeting on Monday.

- The town's unified development ordinance will now permit residential buildings under R-6 zoning, and buildings in B-1 — general business district — zoning, to be 45 feet high. Previously, such buildings were limited to 35 feet.

The definition of vertical height was also amended. Height will be "measured from the mean elevation of the finished grade at the front of the building to the highest point of the building." The UDO previously stipulated a variety of height definitions according to a building's roof style.

- In a separate motion, the board approved extensive revision to Chapter 8, Article VI of the town's UDO to clarify and enhance Siler City's minimum non-residential code. The complete revised ordinance can be found on the Town of Siler City's website, silercity.org.

- The commissioners approved a request from Weaver-Kirkland Housing LLC to rezone four and a half acres of land at the corner of Village Lake Road and Siler Business Drive. The property will host 60 multi-family residential apartments "for the elderly," defined as aged 55 and older.

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

I'm Chopped to pieces

Chopped is a show on Food Network. Four chefs are confronted by three baskets with four mystery food-stuffs in each. With them, they must cook an appetizer course, then main course, and finally dessert.

The time is limited, and the pressure is immense. After each round, one contestant is eliminated, so at the desert cook-off only two remain.

The Kid and I are big fans of the show, and do lots of back-seat cooking. "Really, hash? Out of ideas already?" "Noooo! Not the truffle oil!" "Don't put those greens on the hot food! They'll be completely wilted!"

So finally, to see how hard it really is, I decided to play Chopped with The Kid. Armed with my cash, my child picked up four items at the grocery store. I would be presented with the mystery foods, and cook a (hopefully) edible, and maybe even delicious meal. The rules would be a touch different. The ingredients had to include one protein (meat, or meat-like substitute). Only one course and I'd have no competition or time limit. And no seafood; I never cook it, so it would be an insurmountable curveball.

Finally, my very own



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

The end product from a 'mystery basket' experiment turned out delicious.

mystery basket arrived with the four cryptic components:

1. Bison flank steak. I was kind of impressed with this one, exotic, but not totally out there. But I had a concern. Bison is very, very lean. I would have to tread carefully.

2. Broccolini; an Asian hybrid of broccoli and kai-lan (I don't know what that is either). I've never eaten broccolini, but I'm curious.

3. Chipotle in adobo. This one is hilarious to me. The Kid hates this on principle. My little chef can't abide the product because of its trendiness. It's actually smoked jalapeno peppers in a tomato sauce.

4. Mango. This one is hilarious to my child. I've always hated mango. I think it tastes like baby food.

But my lot in life is to use it, so I shall. My plan was to make a barbecue sauce with the chipotles and mangos. I'd sear the steak in my cast iron,

then paint on the barbecue sauce, and finish it under the broiler. It would be served on a bed of my Anson Mills grits, cooked according to the directions of former Carolina Inn Executive Chef James Clark (good thing there's no time limit; they take at least an hour to cook).

As for the broccolini, I decided to make a slaw. I'd keep it raw, and dress it with an Asian/citrus kind of thing. No mayo, though; I want something light to balance the rich grits and red meat. On the big day I started by poaching some crushed garlic cloves in olive oil. I'd add this to the mango and chipotle.

When I asked The Kid how hot the chilis were, all I got was an evil smile, and "You'll have to taste for yourself." So I did. Yowza! That stuff is hot. An hour after a tiny, tentative sample, my mouth was still burning. Because of this I would only use the adobo; the spicy tomato sauce in which the smoked peppers were packed. With the mango and adobo sauce,

Chef James' Grits

- 1 1/2 Cups Stone Ground Grits
- 3 Cups Milk
- 1 1/2 Cups Water
- 1/4 Pound Butter
- Salt and Pepper

First, soak the grits in cold water and skim away all the corn germ that floats to the top. Stir a few times and get as much of the germ skimmed away. Drain the cold water from the grits and use this water for the grits. In a heavy bottomed pot bring the water and milk to a simmer and slowly mix the grits into the hot liquid with a whisk so there are no lumps. Then let cook slowly for about an hour to an hour and a half stirring often. Once the grits are cooked and soft add in the butter and season with the salt and pepper. If grits become too thick then just add a little milk.

Mango Adobo Barbecue Sauce

- 1 mango, roughed (chopped taste)
 - 2 cups ketchup
 - 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
 - 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
 - 1/4 cup brown sugar
 - 2 tablespoons spicy brown mustard
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons Chinese Five Spice Powder
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- Put all ingredients into a food processor or blender and blend until completely smooth. Put sauce into a saucepan and bring to a boil. Reduce to simmer and cook until thickened into barbecue sauce consistency.

I made a barbecue sauce. I tossed it with a dressing I made with lemon, Dijon mustard, olive oil, honey, a little peanut butter, and a couple drops of toasted sesame oil. I added salt and pepper and a pinch

of five spice like the BBQ sauce.

My mystery basket turned out pretty well. The steak wasn't overcooked, and the sauce wasn't too spicy. The slaw was a nice cool, crunchy

counterpoint. But to be perfectly honest, the tastiest part of the plate was Chef James' awesome Anson Mill grits.

Thanks for your time. Contact debbie at dm@bullcity.mom.

April 24, 2021

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Celebration's 'Passport Experience' is an invitation to explore the county — and get some swag

'Self-guided tour meets scavenger hunt'

With "Founding Day," the official kick-off of the celebration of Chatham County's 250th anniversary now completed, organizers are inviting Chatham residents to explore the county's past and present with the "Passport Experience." This week, we speak with Hilary Pollan, a Community Partners Analyst for Chatham County, who's coordinating the activities for Chatham's sestercentennial. Pollan outlines how the Passport Experience works and why it was included as part of the plan for the 250th anniversary.

Before we talk about the Chatham 250 Passport, let's look back to Founding Day — what's your assessment? How did it go?

Maria Parker-Lewis from Main Street Pittsboro said it so well as we were cleaning up from Founding Day, "What a great day in Pittsboro and a great day for Chatham County!"

We had more than 400 people drive through the event with their party hats on and engaging fully with each of our nine stations — talking with our re-enactors, taking pictures with the Chatham Rabbit, placing their decorated rocks and birthday wishes with 250 Foundations, eating scrumptious cake pops, and kicking off six months of celebrating Chatham County's 250th anniversary.

Founding Day officially kicked off the Passport Experience. What is it, and how was the idea for the Passport generated?

The Chatham 250 Passport Experience is an

invitation to explore Chatham County. Each of the five Chatham 250 Passports — Creative Arts, Growth and Change, Community and Diversity, Agriculture and Natural Environment — offer nearly 20 accessible and fun activities that are also designed for a COVID-19 safe environment. We hope this activity will connect participants with new people, places, and experiences in Chatham County.

I like to describe the Chatham 250 Passport as a "self-guided tour meets scavenger hunt," in the sense that it's flexible and on your own time, but will get folks out in the county doing new and fun things. The idea for the Chatham 250 Passport emerged early on in our planning when there was still a great deal of uncertainty about the pandemic. The passport idea presented a safe way for people to celebrate all the great parts of Chatham. Each activity is designed with flexibility in mind — they can be done individually or in small groups, virtually or outdoors, and/or with low to no contact. It also provides us with the flexibility to respond to the changes with the pandemic as we have more information, maybe

'The passport idea presented a safe way for people to celebrate all the great parts of Chatham.'

HILARY POLLAN, Chatham 250

offering some hybrid in-person/virtual events later this year.

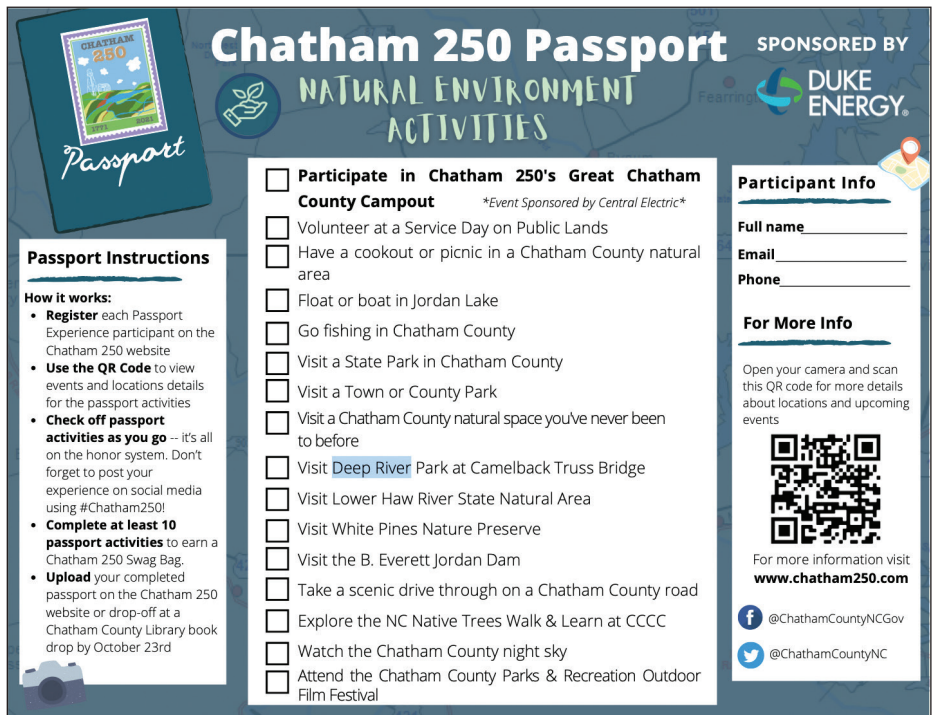
How do the Chatham 250 Celebration Themes work?

All of the Chatham 250 celebrations focus on five key areas, or what we call our "Celebration Themes." These themes

are Creative Arts, Growth and Change, Community and Diversity, Agriculture and Natural Environment. Careful thought went into the

creation of the themes by the Chatham 250 planning committee, which is made up of representatives from across the county who have diverse backgrounds and unique skills — but with one common thread — their passion for Chatham County. All of our event and activity planning, as well as historical research and sponsorships, celebrate these themes.

The Chatham 250 passport is also organized around these five themes, which each passport includes activities connect-



A sample of one of the Chatham 250 Passports.

tion themes. For example, the Natural Environment passport includes multiple activities that explore our public parks and natural areas, while the Creative Arts passport includes activities that engage participants with our vibrant art and artists community.

How do you get started with the passport?

We are encouraging participants to register for the Chatham 250 Passport Experience through the Chatham 250 website: www.chatham250.com. The registration form can be found on the Chatham 250 Home or Passport pages. The registration form is mostly to make sure we have enough "Swag Bags" for participants who complete the passport, and it will help us share updates throughout the Passport Experience.

To begin participating, all folks need to do is get a passport. All five Chatham 250 Passports are available for download on the Chatham 250 website, on the Passport Overview page. Participants can choose to download one passport or all five passports. Printed passports will also be available at key locations across the county, including the Chatham County Welcome Center and Chatham County Public Library branches. Additionally, all Chatham County students will receive one printed passport through their schools.

Talk about the digital experience...QR codes, etc. — it makes taking part easy, right?

We've done our best to make participating in the Chatham 250 Passport Experience an easy and accessible opportunity. The digital aspects of the Chatham 250 Passport will absolutely enhance the overall experience.

Each passport has a QR Code that will take you to the specific passport's page on the Chatham 250 website where participants can also discover event and location details for the passport activities. Each passport has a unique calendar full of events and a detailed list of ongoing events and locations to assist participants with completing

their passport. Most activities are free and open to the public; any activity that requires an entrance fee, ticket or reservation is indicated on the calendar.

The extra easy part is that the Chatham 250 Passport Experience is all based on the honor system. Participants should check off completed activities on their passport as they go. At the same time, we are encouraging participants to post their Chatham 250 Passport Experience on social media using the hashtag #Chatham250. The Chatham 250 website has a social media feed that will feature these posts.

What kinds of Passport activities are there?

Each passport includes a diverse range of activities. The first activity on every passport is the Chatham 250 Celebration Theme event hosted by Chatham 250 — more details on those coming soon.

The rest of the activities feature highlights of favorite annual events and cherished locations and establishments in Chatham County. They are also designed to be flexible, accessible, safe and fun. Let me offer a few activity examples that hopefully will show how we built flexibility into the design of the passport activities.

- The Creative Arts passport includes visiting Clyde's Critters in Bynum — which could be participating in Chatham Arts Council's ClydeFEST in the Wild and visiting Bynum any weekend over the next six months.

- The Agriculture passport includes the activity "Cook a recipe using local and/or seasonal ingredients" which could mean people choose to participate in a virtual cooking class with Tara Gregory, Chatham County's Family & Consumer Sciences Extension Agency, or they can cook a meal on their own time.

- The Community and Diversity passport includes "Volunteer at or donate to a Chatham County nonprofit." We've included information about how to find volunteer opportunities through Chatham Connecting, and we will also be updating the Community and Diver-

sity passport calendar with upcoming volunteer events.

If you complete at least 10, you get a Chatham 250 Swag Bag — what's in it?

Yes, participants who submit and complete 10 activities on a passport will earn an enviable Swag Bag, curated by the Pittsboro-Siler City Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Swag Bags will include fun and useful souvenir items, discount coupons to local businesses, and some exciting prizes. Swag Bag items have already been secured from Carolina Brewery, Starlight Mead and Huckleberry Trail Farm.

What else is on tap between now and the October deadline for the Passport program?

First things first: over the next few weeks we will be dropping off the 10,000 printed passports at locations across the county for people to begin the Chatham 250 Passport Experience. Keep a look out for those at the libraries, schools and post offices.

We are also working hard to fill the passport calendars with local events and additional details to give more options for passport participants to engage and choose their own adventure. If people have an event related to one of the passport activities that they would like us to include in the passport calendar, they can email chatham250thanniversary@gmail.com.

Over the next six months, Chatham 250 will also be organizing five Celebration Theme events. More details will be coming soon, but folks should mark their calendars for the next Chatham 250 event — the Great Chatham County Camp Out on Saturday, June 26th, and for our closing event — the Chatham 250 Parade/Caravana in Siler City on Saturday, October 23rd.

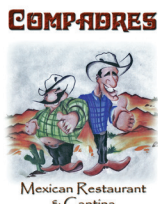
Mostly, we hope people will get started on their Chatham 250 Passport and find joy and fun in the experience!

For more information, go to www.chatham250.com or contact Hilary Pollan at hilary.pollan@chathamcountync.gov.

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READ IT ONLINE

True Value's grand opening



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

The owners and managers of Pittsboro's new True Value hardware store posed at the business' grand opening Saturday. From left: manager Blake Hogg, owners Raj Narayana, Nitin Shetty and Al Lobo, True Value regional manager Steve Young and assistant store manager Sonny Crutchfield. The store is located in the former Piggly Wiggly building on East Street.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Customer Barbara Pugh is checked out by store employee Mady Justice at Pittsboro's new True Value hardware store.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

The new True Value store features products to meet every household need. The store raised \$1,000 for CORA of Pittsboro during the grand opening.

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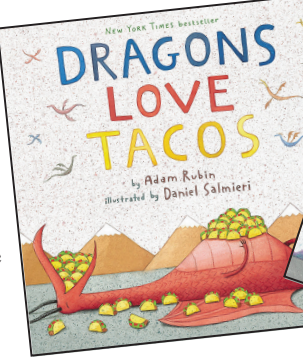
AN INTERVIEW with Adam Rubin

Many students have read the books *Dragons Love Tacos* and *Dragons Love Tacos 2: The Sequel*. Kindergarten students at Strobridge Elementary in Castro Valley, CA put together a whole lot of questions for the author Adam Rubin and they loved these books so much, they went on to read more of Adam's books.



Q: How did you make the book?
A: I get this question a lot and I think some students are under the impression that I actually physically produce the books in my apartment ... I only write the words.

I use Google docs (just like a lot of students I know). After I'm finished writing, Dan draws the pictures and then all the digital files are sent to a factory in China where they print out the copies of the books for people to buy. The front and back cover are hard because there are thick pieces of cardboard hidden under the paper.



Q: How did you think of the idea?
A: When I was a kid, my dad had a little statue on his desk that looked like a dragon eating a taco. It made me think of the phrase "Dragons Love Tacos" which stuck in my head until I was an adult and it sounded like a good title for a picture book. I have the statue on my writing desk now.

Q: Why does smoke come out of the dragon noses?
Dragons are known to breathe fire. The smoke is a warning sign of the impending inferno. Kind of like a burp from Uncle Morris.

Q: Where were you when you wrote the story?
A: I wrote *Dragons Love Tacos* at my kitchen table at night after work while I was working at an advertising agency in Chicago. I had a day job and wrote stories at night for the first seven years that I was an author.

Q: When did you start writing stories?
I always liked writing stories, ever since I was a little kid. When you're a kid, people tell you what to do all the time: what to eat, what to wear, when to go to bed ... But when you write a story, you can do anything you want. You can stay up 'til 4:00 in the morning, you can eat a thousand pizzas, you can fly to the moon on a magical rhinoceros. That's what I love about writing. Anything you can imagine, you can bring it to life in a story.

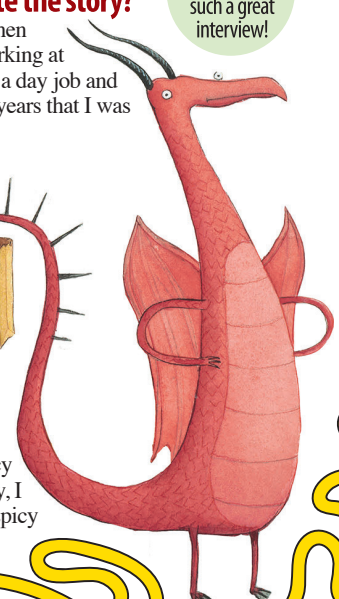
Q: Why do dragons love tacos?
A: Dragons love tacos for the same reasons I love tacos. Tacos are delicious, nutritious, fun to make and easy to eat. There are endless varieties. They are the perfect food!



Q: Why don't dragons like spicy salsa?
Dragons have a special sensitivity to spicy foods, just like my Uncle Morris. Luckily, I have a stronger stomach and love to eat spicy salsa. The spicier the better, in fact.



Thank you to Adam Rubin for such a great interview!



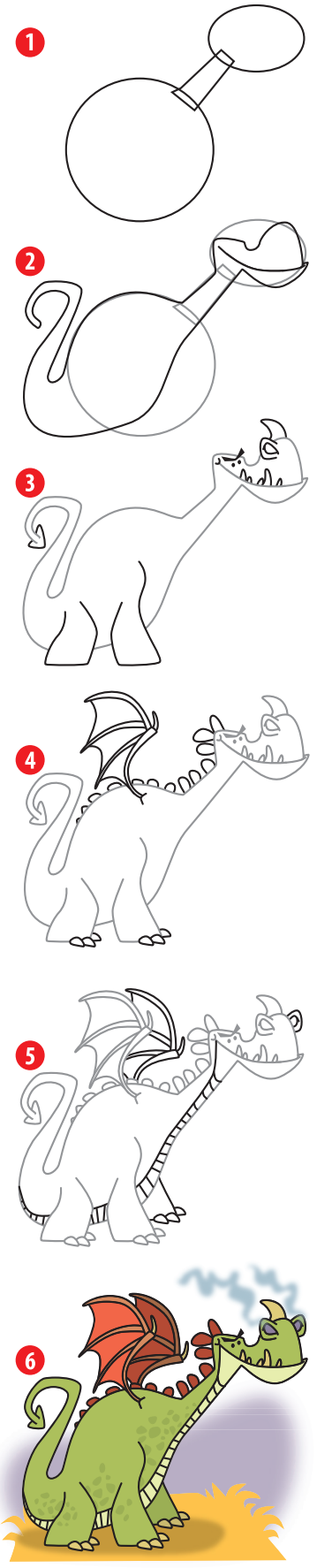
Extra! Extra!

What a Character

Select a character in a comic strip. Write three things that describe how this character looks. Then write three things about the personality of this character.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Students write phrases that describe concepts.

Kid Scoop Together: How to Draw a Dragon



Kid Scoop Puzzler

Two of these dragons are different from all the others. Can you find them?

Double Double Word Search

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

INTERVIEW
VARIETIES
DRAGONS
CHICAGO
INFERNO
AUTHOR
TACOS
STORY
WRITE
SEVEN
SMOKE
LOVE
FIRE
BOOK
FOOD

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

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

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For more information about our literacy non-profit, visit kidscoopnews.org

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- YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL

287 East Street, Suite 412,
Pittsboro, NC 27312
More Info: 919-545-9622

Chatham News + Record

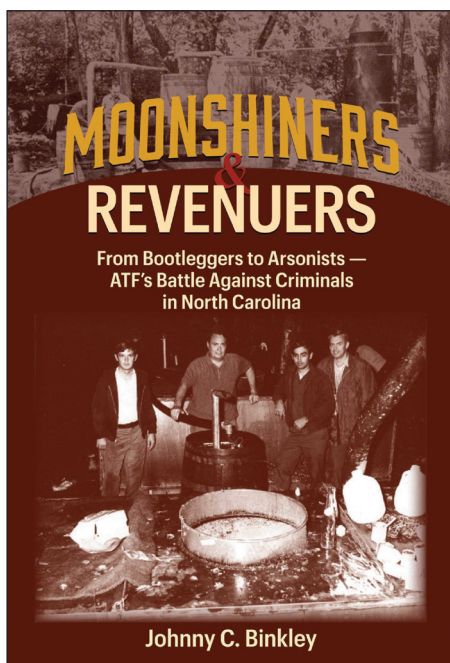
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919-663-3232

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT | JOHNNY BINKLEY

Retired ATF agent's 'Moonshiners and Revenuers' aims to paint more accurate picture of the former 'pillar of southern identity'

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff



your tenure, right?

Absolutely. When I came to work, we were part of the IRS, therefore, revenuers. And all we did was work moonshine liquor — whiskey stills and moonshine stills. But about 1975, 1976, it got to the point where the federal government basically said, "This is not a federal problem anymore." And about that same time, a little earlier, the Gun Control Act regulating firearms and explosives had been passed. And so we kind of shifted gears from alcohol to firearms and explosives. In 1972, ATF became a separate bureau; we were moved out from under the IRS and became a separate bureau within the Treasury Department. So it was a tough transition for a lot of people, as I mention in the book, who had done nothing in their whole career but work liquor.

Despite assuming new responsibilities that directed resources away from catching moonshiners, you say in your book that illegal alcohol production was still a big problem, especially here in the south. We often associate moonshine with prohibition era, but just how prolific were moonshiners even in the late 20th Century, especially around Chatham?

When I was growing up in Chatham County, the closest place you could buy legal liquor was Greensboro, or Raleigh or Durham. And times were hard back then. People didn't have a lot of money back in the '50s and the '60s. So, if you

were a person who consumed alcohol, you could drive to Greensboro for an hour or two and pay \$15 for half a gallon of liquor, or you could drive five minutes to the local bootlegger and pay \$5 for half a gallon. So it was a matter of economics and availability. Most counties in North Carolina, and the whole southeast really, were what they call dry counties — you could not buy legal alcohol. But even when that started to change, the old ways hung around for a bit.

It was just a way of life for a lot of people in the southeast. And a lot of people just think of moonshine in the mountains. But as I point out in the book, the Raleigh area, which included Chatham County, had a lot of bootleggers. We had what we called a major violator list. That would have been the 20 top violators in the state. And they were the ones who we concentrated on. Well, five of the 20 were in the Raleigh area. So there was a lot of liquor made in and around Raleigh up until and through the 70s, and we made a couple of big seizures over in Chatham County in Siler City. One that I remember being involved in, I think we seized about 150 gallons between Siler City and Silk Hope.

The book is full of exciting accounts, detailing some of your biggest adventures on the job. Are there any that stand out in your memory? Let's give readers a teaser of what sort of stories they'll find in your book.

Well there are really a lot, but one that stands out in my mind was actually up in Orange County over on the other side of Chapel Hill. I got information that a particular bootlegger was going to Wilkes County, which was considered the moonshine capital. So he went up there to bring back a load of liquor, and I had an informant who told me about it. We set up on I-85, just the other side of Hillsborough, and right about the time we expected here's the guy come driving down the road. We followed him and pulled up on the side of it, and you could actually see the gallon jugs of liquor in the car. He had 232 gallons of pure white liquor in the car that you could see just looking in.

He knew me and I knew him, so I motioned for him to pull over and he started to pull over. But I told the driver, "You watch this guy, he's crazy." Well, sure enough, he took off down I-85, us chasing behind him. And mind you we're going down with traffic running both ways. And all of a sudden he

turned off the interstate and went down through this little field. He went up an embankment and then went over the embankment, and I thought he must have gone into a lake, or river or whatever. But we were still right behind him and as it turned out, there was a little service road that ran down beside the interstate there on the other side. We did eventually catch him, but that was pretty exciting and interesting. Most of the bootleggers, once you got them, they pretty much give up. But that was an interesting one, chasing him down, weaving through traffic.

You've been retired now for more than 25 years. What moved you to put this book together now exploring the ATF's history and your own experience as an agent?

I'll tell you why I wrote it — it was a different time back then, and I think a special time. And there's a lot of misinformation about the moonshiners and the revenuers, especially from TV programs. I just felt like somebody needed to write something that had a little bit of first hand knowledge about what it was really like.

When I was getting ready to retire, I realized even a lot of our own agents didn't know anything about those days. They would ask me about it, and it really was just an interesting time. Growing up in the South, there was a lot of bad stuff; I won't even try to defend it. But it was a special time, too, and I think somehow we lost a lot of positive things from that era. Now, I'm not saying moonshine itself is a positive thing, but I am saying it was a way of life, for better or for worse. It was a way of life for a lot of people in the southeast United States, and I thought it was worth telling that story.

Where can folks pick up a copy of your book?

Locally, the gift store there in Siler City at that Steakhouse, Haley Bales, they've got it. And the world famous fruitcake place down in Bear Creek, Southern Supreme Fruitcake & More, they have sold several copies for me. And, of course, you can get it from the publisher, from Amazon and Barnes and Noble, or order a copy directly from me at binkleyjc@gmail.com, 919 906-6667.

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

NEWS BRIEFS

Chatham COA offers new volunteer opportunity

The Chatham County Council on Aging is conducting a pilot project to use technology to increase participation in the COA's virtual programming and reduce a sense of loneliness among seniors.

The COA has placed Claris Companion tablets with 11 participants and would like volunteers to connect with a senior one-on-one through the tablets (through video calls and emails). The volunteer can also help the senior choose and access virtual programs at the Council. If you would like to virtually visit with a senior and are able to use a computer or phone app, then you would be a great fit. Please reach out to Allison Andrews at allison.andrews@chathamcouncilonaging.org.

chathamcouncilonaging.org.

New policy will expand internet access across N.C.

RALEIGH — More North Carolinians, especially in rural areas, will be able to access affordable, high-speed internet service, thanks to the new state Dig Once Policy spearheaded by Gov. Roy Cooper.

"The pandemic has highlighted the critical need for high-speed internet in our daily lives," said Cooper. "Making it easier to install broadband will help people from all corners of our state get connected to online health care, education and business services they need."

The Dig Once Policy, which took effect March 1, will help expand broadband access in the state by making

it less expensive and easier to install broadband conduit along state-maintained roads. Cooper issued a 2019 executive order directing the state departments of Information Technology and Transportation to develop the policy.

"Too many North Carolinians cannot access the high-speed internet service they need for school, jobs and other daily necessities," said Jim Weaver, secretary and state chief information officer of the N.C. Dept. of Information Technology. "By making it easier and less costly to install broadband, this policy will provide much needed incentives to expand broadband to unserved or underserved areas of our state."

North Carolina's Dig Once Policy requires internet service providers who are installing or relocating facilities within a

state road project to advertise their project so other internet service providers can install their fiber optic cable when the trench is dug for the conduit.

"We're very excited about putting this policy to work," said state Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette. "It will save people money, reduce the risk of cutting utility lines, protect the environment and require fewer traffic disruptions on state road projects."

One of the most expensive parts of installing broadband comes about when companies dig an open trench to install the fiber. The policy will enable multiple internet service providers to collaborate, disturb the ground just once to install conduit and share the costs for fiber installation.

— CN+R staff reports

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



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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REAL ESTATE

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - www.learn-aboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

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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

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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

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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

YARD SALE

THURSDAY, APRIL 22 and FRIDAY, APRIL 23 ONLY, 2083 South Chatham Avenue (1/2 mile from Country Store on Old 421 South). A22,1tp

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HELP WANTED

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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 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. A8,15,22,29,4tc

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

PUBLIC SALE ACE SELF STORAGE E ("LIEN-OR") 105 WEST FIFTH STREET, SILER CITY, NC, WILL HOLD THIS PUBLIC SALE OF PERSON-

AL 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:
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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, N.C. 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 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 aka KATHRYN WILSON 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 Plan-

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.

ning 201 Commonwealth Court, Suite 100 Cary, NC 27511 A1,A8,A15,A22,4tc

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NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-149

All persons having claims against **BESSIE MCCRAVEY ANDREWS**, 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. Tammy Dickerson
426 Abbott Dr
Sanford, NC 27330
2. Jason Mendenhall
0350 Tom Hudson
PO Box 1606
Pittsboro, NC 27312

A1,A8,A15,A22,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-59

All persons having claims against **JOSEPHINE MILDRED HORTON COSBY**, 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.

Damon Pajaud, Administrator
11475 Mason St
Henderson, Co. 80640

A1,A8,A15,A22,4tp

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 Fadely, 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 and corporations 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 pled 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

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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

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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

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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,A22,4tp

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

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-213 All persons having claims against CHARLIE BALDWIN, JR., deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 8th 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 5th day of April, 2021. Sharon B. Nettles, Co-Executrix 342 Meronies Ch Rd Bear Creek, NC 27207 Loretta Nettles, Co-Executrix 1220 Gees Grove Ch Rd Siler City, NC 27344 A8,A15,A22,A29,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HARRY HUBERT MELVILLE, 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 8th day of July, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 8th day of April, 2021. Robert Lansing Melville, Executor Estate of Harry Hubert Melville Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 A8,A15,A22,A29,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against M. THERESA CLANCY, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 8, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 8th day of April, 2021. Peter J. Clancy, Executor c/o Timothy A. Nordgren, Sands Anderson PC 1005 Slater Rd., Ste 200 Durham, NC 27703 A8,A15,A22,A29,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against DONALD LEWIS JOHNSON, deceased, of Chatham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 16, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 15th day of April, 2021. Laurie A. Kelley, Personal Representative, in c/o Kellie M. Corbett, Attorney, at Carolina Family Estate Planning 201 Commonwealth Court, Suite 100 Cary, NC 27511 A15,A22,A29,My6,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of JOAN MARGARET DIXON, 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 16th day of July, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 8th day of April, 2021. Lesley A. Dixon, Administrator of The Estate of Joan Margaret Dixon 594 Rebecca Lane Siler City, North Carolina 27344 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE ATTORNEYS AT LAW P.O. BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 A15,A22,A29,My6,4tc

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Chatham County, North

Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. DESIREE TOTTEN and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of DESIREE TOTTEN and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, JOHNNY CHARLIE SUTTON and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of JOHNNY CHARLIE SUTTON and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, BRAESH GREEN and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of BRAESH GREEN and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, TYREE GREEN and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, JACKIE GREEN and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of JACKIE GREEN and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, and DIANE GREEN and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of DIANE GREEN and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al. 08-CVD-928, the undersigned Commissioner will on the 28th day of April, 2021, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the courthouse door in Chatham County, North Carolina, Pittsboro, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon, the following described real property, lying and being in Matthews Township, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows: A certain tract or parcel of land in Matthews Township, Chatham County, North Carolina, and described as follows: Being all of Lot 3, containing 5.04 acres, more or less, as described on a Plat entitled "Survey for HAROLD J. PRICE AND WIFE, MARGARET H. PRICE", dated May 8, 1991, prepared by Rufus L. Johnson, RLS, and recorded in Plat Slide 91-200, Chatham County Registry. Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record. Parcel Identification Number: 0067626 The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter. This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds. This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25. This the 5th day of April, 2021. Mark D. Bardill, Signed Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner P.O. Box 25 Trenton, NC 28585 A15,A22,2tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF PITTSBORO The Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners will hold the following Public Hearings on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The Public Hearings will be conducted remotely via Zoom, a teleconference software, for the following items: Legislative Public Hearings: 1. Planning Staff is requesting the adoption of the Town of Pittsboro Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) which consolidates, rewrites, and replaces multiple ordinances into a single document to manage land development including the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, Lighting Ordinance, Stormwater Ordinance, and Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance in an effort to streamline the structure, modernize the review process and standards, and coordinate the development process. The Town of Pittsboro Zoning Map will not change with the adoption of the UDO. 2. Chatham Park Investors, LLC is proposing an amendment to the Chatham Park Planned Development District Master Plan. The amendment is to revise the Table of Permitted Uses for a portion of Section 5.3 of Chatham Park including 3 parcels (PID 94290, 61066, 73236) located on Eubanks Road adjacent to the intersections with US 64 Business East and US Hwy 64 Bypass (not including PID 92655 where the Water Recovery Center is located). The purpose of the legislative public hearings is to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request. SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING: Evidentiary Public Hearing: 3. GBL Property II, LLC, is requesting a Special Use Permit for a Commercial Kennel and accessory pet daycare, grooming, and dog training, to be located on approximately 16.45 acres parcel (PID 0007308) located on Eubanks Road, adjacent to and north of US 64 East Bypass. The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is to determine, by presentation of factual evidence, whether the specified use(s) will be allowed on the above referenced property. SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PERMIT REQUEST MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING IN ITS PROPOSED LOCATION, BUT ONLY THOSE CONDITIONS MUTUALLY APPROVED BY THE TOWN AND THE PETITIONER MAY BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. If you have standing and wish to participate in the evidentiary public hearing you may speak under oath via Zoom video or audio. Please sign up with the Clerk by 4:00 p.m. on April 26, 2021 if you wish to participate. The complete records are on file at the Town Planning Department located at 480 Hillsboro Street, Suite 400, and are available for inspection through e-mail. The meeting will be held via Zoom, a teleconference software. Instructions on how to join the Zoom Meeting can be found on the Town's website under the BOC Agenda, Minutes, and Audio tab (pittsboronc.gov). Please sign up with the Clerk by 4:00 p.m. on April 26, 2021 if you wish to participate. If you wish to make written comments, please send them to the Town Clerk, Cassie Bullock, PO Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or via email at Chullcock@pittsboronc.gov by 4 p.m. on April 26, 2021. The Clerk will receive written comments to

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-183 All persons having claims against MARIE GATTIS, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 15th 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 15th day of April, 2021. Gwen Gattis, Administrator 1617 Willight Ln Chapel Hill, NC 27517 A15,A22,A29,My6,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-200 All persons having claims against FRANCES GEE PETTY, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 15th 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 15th day of April, 2021. Co-Executors 1. William Horace Petty, Jr. 385 Maple Springs Lane Bear Creek, NC 27207 2. Robert Hale Petty 1617 Hwy 15 South Dillon, SC 29536

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-235 All persons having claims against DORIS RICHARDSON THOMPSON, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 15th 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 15th day of April, 2021. Co-Executors 1. Gary R. Griffin 6004 Fordland Dr Raleigh, NC 27606 2. Phillip L. Griffin PO Box 592 14 C NE Court Sq. Graham, NC 27253 A15,A22,A29,My6,4tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF GOLDSTON The Goldston Town Board of Commissioners will hold one (1) Legislative Public Hearing on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall. 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 an amendment to the Watershed Map to add Tax Parcel 9032 which was recently annexed into the Town. 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. The full text of the proposed text amendments will be available on the Chatham County website under the Planning Department page on a tab named Town of Goldston. 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 to Annie Kay King-Gaines, Town Clerk, at Town Hall, 40 Coral Ave, Goldston, NC 27252 or to P.O. Box 527, Goldston, NC 27252, or via email to Annie Kay King-Gaines at akkgaines@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 May 3, 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 A22,A29,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator, of the Estate of MARGARET STELLA HILLIARD PHILLIPS, 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 July 27, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 22nd day of April, 2021. LORRIE WALL, Administratrix of the Estate of Margaret Stella Hilliard Phillips 215 John Deere Lane Bear Creek, North Carolina 27207 (919) 663-2533 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against DAWN CRABTREE JACKSON, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before Thursday, July 22, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This day, Thursday, April 22, 2021. Kendall Jackson, Administrator of the Estate of Dawn Crabtree Jackson 4905 Summit Arbor Drive, Apartment 114 Raleigh, NC 27612 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against JANET BRADY BRIDGES AKA JANET LYNN BRADY BRIDGES, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 22nd 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 22nd day of April, 2021. Brenton S. Begley, Administrator 233 East Graham St PO Box 165 Shelby, NC 28151 C/O McIntyre Elder Law PO Box 165 Shelby, NC 28151 A22,A29,My6,M13,4tc

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against the estate of JOHN C. CUSTER of Chatham County, NC, who died on March 2, 2021, are notified to present them on or before July 22, 2021 to Camilla C. Schupp, Attorney for the Estate, c/o Alexander, Miller, Schupp & Hamilton, P.L.L.C., P. O. Box 3200, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Alexander, Miller, Schupp & Hamilton, P.L.L.C. P. O. Box 3200 Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, Gary Ryan Stutts, having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of CATHERINE V. MOBLEY, 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 23rd 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 22nd day of April, 2021. Gary Ryan Stutts, Administrator CTA 6746 O.H. Staley Road Ramseur, NC 27316 W. Ben Atwater, Jr. Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee P.O. Box 629 Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2850 benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com A22,A29,My6,My13,4tc

of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 22nd 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 22nd day of April, 2021. David Wayne Hildebrand, II Administrator 7055 NC 2425 Dunn, NC 28334 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tc

be included in the minutes for 24 hours after the meeting. A15,A22,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-119 All persons having claims against ROBERT L. PATTERSON, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 15th 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 15th day of April, 2021. Administrator: Hazelean P. Brooks 521 Airport Rd Siler City, NC 27344 A15,A22,A29,My6,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-163 All persons having claims against SAMUEL C. TAYLOR AKA SAMUEL CLARENCE TAYLOR, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 15th 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 15th day of April, 2021. Richard D. Perry, Executor 827 McDade Store Rd Hillsborough, NC 27278 A15,A22,A29,My6,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against LOIS S. MCHENRY, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 22nd 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 22nd day of April, 2021. Co-Executors: William S. McHenry 25 Ann Rd, Guilford, CT 06437 David P. McHenry 4 Musket Ln Westford, MA 01886 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 107 All persons having claims against LOIS S. MCHENRY, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 22nd 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 22nd day of April, 2021. Co-Executors: William S. McHenry 25 Ann Rd, Guilford, CT 06437 David P. McHenry 4 Musket Ln Westford, MA 01886 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against DAWN CRABTREE JACKSON, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before Thursday, July 22, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This day, Thursday, April 22, 2021. Kendall Jackson, Administrator of the Estate of Dawn Crabtree Jackson 4905 Summit Arbor Drive, Apartment 114 Raleigh, NC 27612 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator, of the Estate of MARGARET STELLA HILLIARD PHILLIPS, 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 July 27, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 22nd day of April, 2021. LORRIE WALL, Administratrix of the Estate of Margaret Stella Hilliard Phillips 215 John Deere Lane Bear Creek, North Carolina 27207 (919) 663-2533 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against DAVID WAYNE HILDEBRAND, deceased, late

of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 22nd 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 22nd day of April, 2021. David Wayne Hildebrand, II Administrator 7055 NC 2425 Dunn, NC 28334 A22,A29,My6,My13,4tc

Public Notice CONVEYANCE OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY TO A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION RESOLUTION-Declaring Property Surplus and Conveying Property WHEREAS, the Chatham County Animal Resources has the following items to be declared surplus: 1. 1- 9 bay stainless steel "Ken-Kage" cat kennel; 2. 2- Cat adoption 4 bay kennels; 3. 1- 8 bay stainless steel "Ken-Kage" cat kennel; and 4. 1- cat play pen. The items are being removed from the shelter and are not needed by the Department; and WHEREAS, NC General Statutes 160A-279 authorizes the Board to approve the conveyance of personal property to a non-profit agency with or without consideration; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Chatham: Section 1: The Board declares the above listed items to be surplus property; and Section 2: That the Board approves the conveyance of the identified property to the Chatham Animal & Rescue Education to obtain additional accommodations in their facility. Adopted, this the 19th day of April, 2021. Mike Dasher, Chair Chatham County Board of Commissioners ATTEST: Lindsay K. Ray, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board Chatham County Board of Commissioners A22,1tc

NEWS BRIEFS Mountaire announces \$80,000 in scholarship funds MILLSBORO, Delaware — Mountaire Farms, the country's fourth largest chicken processor, has dozens of \$2,500 scholarships available for the children and grandchildren of employees, poultry growers, and grain producers. The deadline to apply is June 7. "This is another great benefit of working for or with Mountaire Farms," said Phillip Plylar, president of Mountaire Farms. "It's an honor to meet these families and see the commitment these students have to their education. We are blessed to be able to help them succeed." Mountaire Farms has a facility in Siler City. To be eligible, a student's parent or grandparent must be employed by —CN+R staff reports

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