

# Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | MAY 13-19, 2021 | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | \$1

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

# Chatham governing bodies to receive more than \$30 million in federal stimulus funds

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN & D. LARS DOLDER  
News + Record Staff

Chatham County's slice of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan stimulus package amounts to more than \$30 million, and the county and its municipalities are figuring out ways to spend it.

In response to ongoing economic crisis amid the

pandemic, President Joe Biden signed the package back in March. The sweeping subsidies included another round of individual stimulus payments, an extension of unemployment benefits and \$350 billion dollars in emergency funding for state, local, territorial and Tribal governments to be dispensed.

Considered by many pundits and politicians a progressive and expansive relief package,

the legislation will shore up governments and organizations across the country, including four in Chatham. Here's a breakdown of how each plans to use the funds.

### Chatham County

The State and Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds legislation, part of the American Rescue Plan, includes \$65.1 billion in flexible aid to

be distributed across all U.S. counties.

Chatham County is estimated to receive \$14.4 million in direct funding, according to the National Association of Counties (NACo).

Kara Dudley, Chatham County government's public information officer, confirmed this amount, though she said "there are countless funds created to be directed in many

different directions."

"Chatham County staff is reviewing the presently available details concerning the American Rescue Plan funding allocation," Dudley told the News + Record. "We have been told that additional formal guidance is forthcoming, which will help us structure a plan around this funding."

See **STIMULUS**, page A7

# Zero-profit clinic serves Chatham's Hispanic community with free, bilingual services

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The typical doctor's office treats patients Monday through Friday, eight hours a day, and has long since closed when Saturday morning arrives.

At Siler City's Vidas de Esperanza, however, that's when they're just getting started.

Inside a squat brick building on 401 N. Ivey Ave. for at least two Saturdays a month, UNC physicians and students as well as community members devote a full work day to seeing, treating and helping patients — about 95% of whom are Latino.

And they do it all for free.

"Everybody's 100% volunteer," said Vidas founder and president, Ascary Arias, 47. "I don't pay anybody. I don't pay myself. ... If I don't pay anybody, all that money that I don't pay people goes to the commu-



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**Ascary Arias stands in front of the entrance to Vidas de Esperanza, a medical and dental clinic he has operated since 2012 in Siler City. About 95% of the clinic's clientele is Hispanic.**

nity. That's the way I look at it."

Founded in Siler City about nine years ago, Vidas de Esperanza is a nonprofit

organization that offers free medical and dental services to the community.

See **CLINIC**, page A3

## PITTSBORO'S \$2.48M PROJECT



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**The \$2.48 million enhancement of Pittsboro's traffic circle has impacted businesses downtown, as well as traffic flow. Officials expect it to open by June 1.**

# Work has slowed, but traffic circle should open by June

BY D. LARS DOLDER  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Downtown's historic traffic circle is expected to open for regular traffic by month's end, permitting full access to beleaguered businesses which have contended with the N.C. Dept. of Transportation's \$2.48 million project for almost five

months.

The construction — designed to give the traffic circle and downtown a functional and aesthetic overhaul — will transition into "phase three," during which road access should be uninhibited through business hours.

"Phase three is really the

See **TRAFFIC**, page A12

## TRIANGLE INNOVATION POINT

# 20,000 new jobs expected at TIP megasite

BY D. LARS DOLDER  
News + Record Staff

MONCURE — Chatham County's largest megasite is "re-branding" its image and purpose to attract a host of new businesses, which promise to introduce as many as 20,000 new jobs in coming years.

Moncure's 2,150-acre Triangle Innovation Point (TIP) — formerly known as the Moncure megasite — has been in development for more than a decade. For most of that time, its owners hoped to attract a single major industrial company to inhabit the space.

"The idea with the Moncure megasite was to primarily develop the property and work with Chatham County to help land a major auto manufacturer," said Jason Kaplan, the managing member of Moncure Holdings LLC, which oversees TIP's development. "... The word of the day was auto manufacturing because of all the additional jobs that one manufacturer would create."

When Kaplan joined the project in about 2012, the megasite was still in its foundational stages of development.

Over the next several years, he worked with the county and state to secure the critical infrastructure required to support a major industrial factory. Water, sewer and other utilities were installed and railroad laid down.

"I joked that we were hunting for a whale," Kaplan said. "You know, we were looking for a 4 to 7 million square-foot auto manufacturer that would create just a ton of jobs."

But those kinds of companies "just don't come around very often," he added.

Kaplan and his teamed struggled to attract a single user with the capacity demands to inhabit the gargantuan space. Eventually, they had a revelation.

"Meeting with economic developers, the county and site selectors — this was maybe about two to three years ago — it really seemed like the area was completely poised for life science and biotech," Kaplan said. "It seemed like out of 20 potential projects that would come through, a majority of them seemed to be life science and

See **MEGASITE**, page A12

## \$149.9M FOR 2021-22

# A closer look at Chatham's proposed county budget

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN  
News + Record Staff

Chatham County Manager Dan LaMontagne's recommended \$149.9 million 2021-22 budget for county operations represents a 10.4% increase in expenditures from the current budget — funded in part by expected additional tax revenue, including an increase in property taxes, permitting, excise and sales tax collections.

The county property tax rate set in the proposed budget is 66.5 cents per \$100 in assessed property value, a half-cent below the current tax rate but higher than the revenue-neutral rate of 62.29 cents per \$100, calculated after the revaluation. That new rate, if approved — and combined with the recent county-wide property revaluation — would raise property taxes for residents, generating an estimated 12% increase in property tax

**Q&A: Insights into Chatham's spending plan with County Manager Dan LaMontagne.**  
PAGE A6

See **BUDGET**, page A7



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**The county manager's recommended 2021-22 budget proposes total expenditures of \$149.9 million — up 10.4% from last year.**

## IN THE KNOW

Knights get 19-run inning against NCLA, remain undefeated. **PAGE B1**

2 Chatham Sheriff's deputies charged after off-duty shooting. **PAGE B6**

Arts Council's grants giving relief, nurturing the creative. **PAGE B7**

Boys & Girls Club to organize PBO's recreational programs. **PAGE B8**





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**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: friends-cl.org.

**Chatham County Council on Aging:** Both centers are closed at this time until July. 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 Chatham Soil & Water Board meeting** will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 13. If you wish to attend this meeting, please reach out to Brandy Oldham at 919-545-8440 for more details. In-person seating is limited due to COVID-19 safety guidelines. We will also have a teleconference number for attendees who wish to attend remotely.

**The Chatham County Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 17, at the Chatham County Agricultural and Conference Center in Pittsboro for a public hearing on the county's proposed budget.

**The Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 17, at town hall in Siler City.

**Siler City Parks and**

**Recreation** invites you to start your days off right with a few laps at the Indoor Walking Program each weekday morning, Monday thru Friday, from 7 to 9 a.m., at the Ernest Ramsey Gymnasium Indoor Walking Track, 512 East 6th Street. The program is free and no pre-registration is required. Operations are subject to COVID-19 guidelines and mask requirement indoors. For more information, visit [www.silercity.org](http://www.silercity.org) or contact Siler City Parks and Recreation at 919-742-2699 or email [recreation@silercity.org](mailto:recreation@silercity.org).

## THURSDAY

**The Chatham Soil & Water Board Meeting** will take place on Thursday, May 13, at 7 p.m. If you wish to attend, reach out to Brandy Oldham at (919) 545-8440 for more details. In-person seating is limited due to COVID-19 safety guidelines. We will also have a teleconference number for attendees who wish to attend remotely.

**Pittsboro Farmers Market** is open with seasonable items year-round from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays, 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 hospitality and fellowship for everyone. All are welcome, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

## FRIDAY

### OTHER UPCOMING:

**Pittsboro's Carolina Brewery** is helping the Chatham Animal Rescue and Education (CARE)

organization by offering Dine & Donate, every third Monday of the month, this month being Monday, May 17. Five percent of the day's sales, including dining in or take out, will go to CARE to help dogs and cats in Chatham County get the veterinarian care, food and supplies they need while looking for their forever homes.

**The C.C.C.C. Financial Aid office** will host a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at the CCCC Academic Assistance Center (in Marchant Hall), Lee Main Campus, 1105 Kelly Drive, Sanford. The event is free and open to the public. Participants should use 2019 tax information to fill out the 2021-2022 FAFSA. Social distancing and masks are required. Applicant plus one guest may attend. For appointments, email [finaid@cccc.edu](mailto:finaid@cccc.edu). Appointments, not required, but available upon request. For more information, call (919) 718-7229, email [finaid@cccc.edu](mailto:finaid@cccc.edu), or visit [www.cccc.edu/financialaid/contact](http://www.cccc.edu/financialaid/contact).

**Chatham Resource Hub**, an initiative of the **Chatham Health Alliance Membership**, will host an event at Washington Avenue Park in Siler City with free meals from the Interfaith Food Shuttle on Tuesday, May 18 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. COVID-19 vaccine resources will be available, with free masks for adults and kids, and safe medication storage and disposal information, with free medication lock boxes to help protect prescription medication. Other resources will be available.

**Chatham Community**

**Library** is offering free online classes on Microsoft Word and Online Privacy & Security in May. Class descriptions and a registration link can be found at [www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses](http://www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses). Microsoft Word Basics, Part 2: May 24, Monday, 3 p.m. -- Online Privacy & Security: May 26, Wednesday, 3 p.m.

**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 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](http://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 Princess 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). Frozen Jr. and Frozen Kids: See website for details, COVID-19 Precautions, full details and accommodations - PYT Marketing Team, [pytmktg@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://ChathamArtsCouncil.org).

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

**Foster and/or adoptive information:** Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/

or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 to learn more.

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

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

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

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

**Scout News**  
• Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit [www.bstroop93.org](http://www.bstroop93.org) for more information.

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

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

## Chatham County Council on Aging

# WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT!

Q: What year did the Western Railroad open?

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

## CORRECTIONS

In the "Enterprising Chatham" column in the May 6-12 edition of the News + Record Carolina Wood Enterprises owner Van Culberson was incorrectly identified as Van Culverson.

The News + Record regrets the error. In the story entitled "Chatham HS students collect over \$14,000 worth of donated hygiene products" in the same edition, it was

incorrectly stated that the group's water bottle kits were given to Chatham Middle School. They were actually given to the West Chatham Food Pantry.



Photo courtesy of the Chatham County Historical Association

## CHATHAM 250: A look back.

No clock in the cupola... Did you know that the Chatham County Courthouse had no clock in the cupola for more than 100 years after the courthouse was built? Mrs. Lucy Worth Jackson led the effort to raise funds to purchase the clocks, but before the goal for the clock was reached, she was asked by county leaders to donate the amount for schools. The clocks finally were added to the cupola in 2000 when Jim Johnson donated the funds. Those clocks were destroyed in the 2010 fire and replaced with the 2013 restoration. According to the 13 Sep 1883 Chatham Record, the cupola once contained a bell.

Worth knowing. Worth reading.

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**5:30 PM UNTIL 7:30 PM**

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Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

This painting greets patients and volunteers as they enter the Vidas de Esperanza, a medical and dental clinic in Siler City. 'Vidas de Esperanza' means 'lives of hope' in English.

# CLINIC

Continued from page A1

In just under a decade, they've assembled a roster of about 1,400 medical patients, plus around 600 dental patients.

Every last Saturday of the month, Vidas holds simultaneous medical and dental clinics staffed with volunteer UNC physicians and students. They're all overseen by Vidas' head doctor and vice president, Steve Kizer, who's also Arias' father-in-law. On the first or second Saturday of the month, the nonprofit also offers an extra dental clinic, which students and faculty from UNC's School of Dentistry lead.

They don't do the "major things yet," Arias said, but they can perform blood work and offer subsidized medications through deals with local pharmacies. Vidas also recently held its first ophthalmology clinic — or eye exams — on April 24, a clinic for which Arias previously told the News + Record about 400 patients had already signed up.

And they do it all on a budget of about \$30,000. Beside volunteer labor, the clinic receives most of its medical equipment as donations. Arias himself also takes care of most of the clinic's repair work.

"For me, it's just amazing how this small nonprofit with not a lot of resources — because definitely Vidas doesn't have the resources, the money — is doing so

much for that community and giving so many services," said Carolina Torres, the assistant director of Vidas' medical and dental clinics. "We have the medical clinic. We have the little pharmacy, lab. We have a dental clinic, eye clinic, OB/GYN."

On average, Arias estimated, clinics used to receive between 40 and 60 patients a day. "That was right before COVID, and it was rising like crazy," he said, "so if I think if COVID would not have hit, I don't know what we would be doing right now. We were seeing a ton of patients."

"We'll figure something out" Vidas de Esperanza didn't start as a medical and dental clinic in Siler City. Rather, it all started as an initiative to help communities in Mexico. The idea to create Vidas first came from a trip to Arias' hometown in Mexico — and a startling reminder of what life had once been like.

Originally from Ixmiquilpan, Hidalgo, in Mexico, Arias left for the U.S. when he was 17 years old to join his parents in Fuquay-Varina in Wake County. His goal at the time, he'd thought, was to find work in the tobacco fields. But after learning English and undertaking various jobs, he set his sights a little higher. He decided to go to school.

"I didn't finish school in Mexico," he said. "So basically, I stopped going to school when I was maybe 14. I didn't really have any formal education whatsoever." In the early 2000s, he attended GTCC for a semester in Greensboro, where he and his wife had been living. At age 25, he transferred to Greensboro College,

where he ultimately graduated with double majors in Spanish and sociology and double minors in art and international studies. During his junior year in 2004, Arias returned to Ixmiquilpan with his wife and a few friends,

nine years after he'd left Mexico. He visited his old house, which he remembered as a small brick house with an asbestos roof. "Although," he said, "the last couple of years I lived there, it didn't have any roof."

But turning the corner, he didn't find an old house. He found a pile of bricks. The door frame, he remembered, still stood, and as he went in, a young boy came out from behind the rubble. He was barefoot.

"While I never walked the streets in my hometown without shoes, I did walk the streets very hungry because my parents left when I was 14 for the last time," he said, adding, "My younger brother and I were left by ourselves. So we spent a lot of time being hungry because we didn't have any food or anything. That boy reminded me of that."

The sight lit a fire under him — and when he returned to Greensboro, he decided to start Vidas de Esperanza, which is Spanish for "lives of hope." And why did he name the nonprofit "lives of hope?" "When you are 15 and you're running around with your brother and you're stealing food and beer from places at night, and the next day, you have to go into the mountains to hunt so you can eat, you don't really have a whole lot of hope," he said, adding, "I thought about myself and my friends and people I've seen, a kid I saw die, and it's like, 'There's not a whole lot of hope, so



Chatham News + Record



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

A cork board in the back of Vidas de Esperanza's building displays past and present UNC dental aides who volunteered at Vidas. The clinic works with the UNC School of Dentistry, an association that allows students to treat Vidas' patients and get first-hand experience.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Vidas de Esperanza's standard yearly operational budget is roughly \$30,000, according to founder and president Ascary Arias. This typically covers medical equipment and can even cover things like building or flooring repairs.

maybe we can be that place that gives some hope, that gives this life some hope."

Within six months, he had registered Vidas as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. By the time he graduated college, Arias had already made numerous trips down south, taking 12 to 15 students and Greensboro College faculty with him three times a year to do relief work.

At first, Arias said, Vidas' work primarily revolved around his hometown. He and volunteers would help rebuild schools as well as distribute school supplies and food. Slowly, however, Vidas evolved to offer communities vital medical services.

While working in Mexico, a community approached him and asked for help building a medical clinic. Arias obliged, helping construct a 500 square meter building to hold medical clinics in Ixmiquilpan and surrounding communities. With Kizer's help, he brought in two or three doctors and would see about 300 medical patients in a week.

After several years, though, Arias said they were forced to stop when local governments began sending medical brigades to co-opt their clinics.

"We were making them look bad, basically," he said, adding, "Me being there doing so much work for the communities, it's one of those things where they were afraid that people would start saying, 'How come this guy comes all the way from North Carolina and the United States to do all this work, and our government is not doing anything?'"

Vidas stopped operating down there regularly about six years ago, Arias said, and shifted its attention to serving the local Hispanic community in Chatham County and surrounding areas — areas they'd been serving since 2012.

"It's not that the need is not there (in Mexico), because it is and it's great," he said. "But then it is great here, too. And it's a lot more

## Vidas de Esperanza and UNC will be holding a first- and second-dose vaccination clinic in Siler City on May 15.

**WHERE:** 401 N Ivey Ave., Siler City 27344.

**WHEN:** 8:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 15.

**WHAT:** About 70 second doses of the Moderna vaccine, plus around 30 first doses of both the Moderna and J&J vaccines. Residents looking for first-dose vaccinations can choose their vaccine.

**WHO:** For any residents 18 years and older.

**HOW:** To make an appointment, call Carolina Torres at 919-930-5916. Walk-ins are welcome.

accessible for me. I have my own building. Then everybody comes. I don't have to go anywhere, and everybody comes here."

In 2012, Arias and his family moved to Pittsboro, and once he heard about several "socio-economic issues" hurting Siler City's Latino community, he decided to look into it. One of the biggest needs he saw was little access to critical medical help.

"Back at that time — I don't even know if it was a law — but it was understood that the police could stop any Latinos driving or anybody," he said. "And they were doing those things where they would have checkpoints, and people were being deported immediately or taken away from their families. So people stopped driving."

Many couldn't afford to see doctors because they didn't have health insurance. But many, too, were undocumented and told Arias they just didn't want to risk driving in case they were caught and deported.

"When it came down to it, I said, 'You know what? If they had a local place where they didn't have to drive too far at all, or maybe not even drive, would be great for them,'" he said. "Some people still walk over here to the clinic."

Many, too, were "skitish," he added, about sharing their information with organizations since they were in the U.S. illegally or might have been in trouble.

And that's why Vidas doesn't ask for any more information than required.

"I just say, 'Give us your phone number and your address,' and that is only because we do blood work," he said. "If we have the medicine, we don't ask them if they can buy it. We give it to them. If we don't have the medicine, and it's super expensive, we ask them, can you buy it? And they will tell us. If they can, great. If they cannot, we'll figure something out."

Despite COVID-19's impact — both financially and in patient turnout — the clinic has continued to expand services, Arias said. Thanks to UNC connections, it partnered with pharmaceutical company Novavax to enroll several willing patients into vaccine trials. Arias has also partnered with UNC to hold two vaccination clinics, one in April and another this Saturday.

And besides adding an eye clinic to their list of services, he's got a plan to add two new dental operator rooms.

"It's tough to get seen (in the dental clinic) because the list is so long," he said. "That's why having those two new operator rooms will be great. Because right now I have three. If I have five, that's two extra every time because the staff is there."

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

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# VIEWPOINTS

## Disruption as default

On the frequent mornings I'm up and out on the back porch before sunrise, I'm treated to the melodic warbling of a songbird who lives in the woods behind our

house. The preciseness of the onset of his singing — at 6:30 a.m. on the nose, almost without fail — is magical. I'm there with laptop and a cup of coffee and, with that natural soundtrack to accompany my work, some soothing inspiration.

Then at 7:30, like clockwork, comes an unwanted and not-so-cheery-disruption:

the thwunk-thwunk of heavy construction vehicles hitting the dip in the road near the entrance of our subdivision. Soon afterward: the hammering and the saws and the raised voices of workers competing to communicate over the din of machinery. Nail guns popping. The piercing beep-beep-beep of a truck in reverse. The occasional crash of something falling.

We have two dozen or so homes in our wooded neighborhood. Since we moved here a year ago, two more have been built. In the last few months, a total of 10 lots have been cleared; seven new houses are now under construction and plenty more on the way.

It's good that the housing industry is in top gear, but it's still disruptive for someone

who loves peace and quiet and craves the solitude of porch time. We live at the end of a cul de sac; our home and those of our three neighbors are still somewhat isolated. So many thinned-out lots means noise comes from everywhere, however.

And on my daily two-mile walks on the roads here (there's room for 70 homes in Phase 1 and another 30-plus in Phase 2) there are reminders of disruption: cast-off mud and clay from construction vehicles discolors the roads; undeveloped lots are littered with the wind-blown cups and food wrappers from the construction workers' fast-food forays. Then there are the reflective fiberglass markers some residents place in their yards in a futile attempt to keep construc-

tion traffic from encroaching onto their property, and the mushroom-like proliferation of porta-potties (count 'em, 10) along the two streets where most of the houses are being built.

I find myself easily annoyed at the interruption, the intrusion.

But none of us is entitled to a life without unwanted disruption. On a recent walk, I pondered the more serious interruptions so many members of my family and friends are facing. Death. Disease. Divorce. And in my mom's case, severe dementia, which results in her daily struggle with her own brain.

Those, of course, are just the D's. The world is an alphabet soup of worries.

Disruption is a default condi-

tion in life. On that same walk, as I listened to an audiobook about meditation, it occurred to me: one way to turn a disruption on its head is by disrupting it with an intentional act. Disrupt the disruptions. Anticipate them, then meet them head-on.

We're inundated with them why not attack them with some semblance of positivity instead of giving the annoyance a place to roost?

Easier said than done, but I'm going to take a page out of our backyard bird's hymnal. He hears the rumbling trucks and the hammers, yet still greets each morning, without fail, with a song.

Bill Horner III can be reached at [bhorner3@chathamnr.com](mailto:bhorner3@chathamnr.com), and on Twitter @billthethird.

## Don't ever be afraid to ask the hard questions

Life is full of questions — of all degrees. Some are profound, such as “Why do bad things happen to good people?” That's not a new one; it's been going on since the invention of people. The book of Job is all about that.

Others are somewhat less intense but still important to those asking them. I know a fellow who is a “few-years-ago” transplant to Chatham County who wasn't born here but got here as quickly as he could. Rather than move his college basketball devotion to the “Tobacco Road” trio of Duke, N.C. State and UNC, he continues an allegiance to his alma mater, a Midwestern university that has had some athletic success through the years. When I was in the habit of seeing him fairly often, he would ask the question about his school every March: “Will they ever win the national basketball championship again?” It's the same one I pose about my Tar Heels.

There are, of course, a host of others — why does my dollar not go as far as it once did; why does a gallon of gas require a loan from the bank; will Congress ever stop with the double standard of nailing the working class while they and so many others go for a walk in the park. And while we're on the subject of Congress there's the question of why don't — and why can't — the members get along and serve the folks they're supposed to? The list, it seems, can be endless.

This brings me to another realization, namely that in the realm of questions there are two kinds: those we can answer and do something about, and those we can't.

Take the one about Congress, for instance. I believe the odds are that I could walk down the sidewalk and take the first 535 average Americans I meet and put 100 in the Senate and the other 435 in the House and they'd do a better job than today's crowd. Obviously, the answer to the question why don't I is that I don't elect the Senator from Maine or Nevada or the House member from Illinois. So, the real answer to that question is, “I'll try to get along the best I can while I'm still here.”

On the other hand, when I'm sitting at the corner table at my favorite Greasy Spoon and the waiter asks, “What will you have?” at that moment I'm in charge and can easily answer, “Bring me one of everything.”

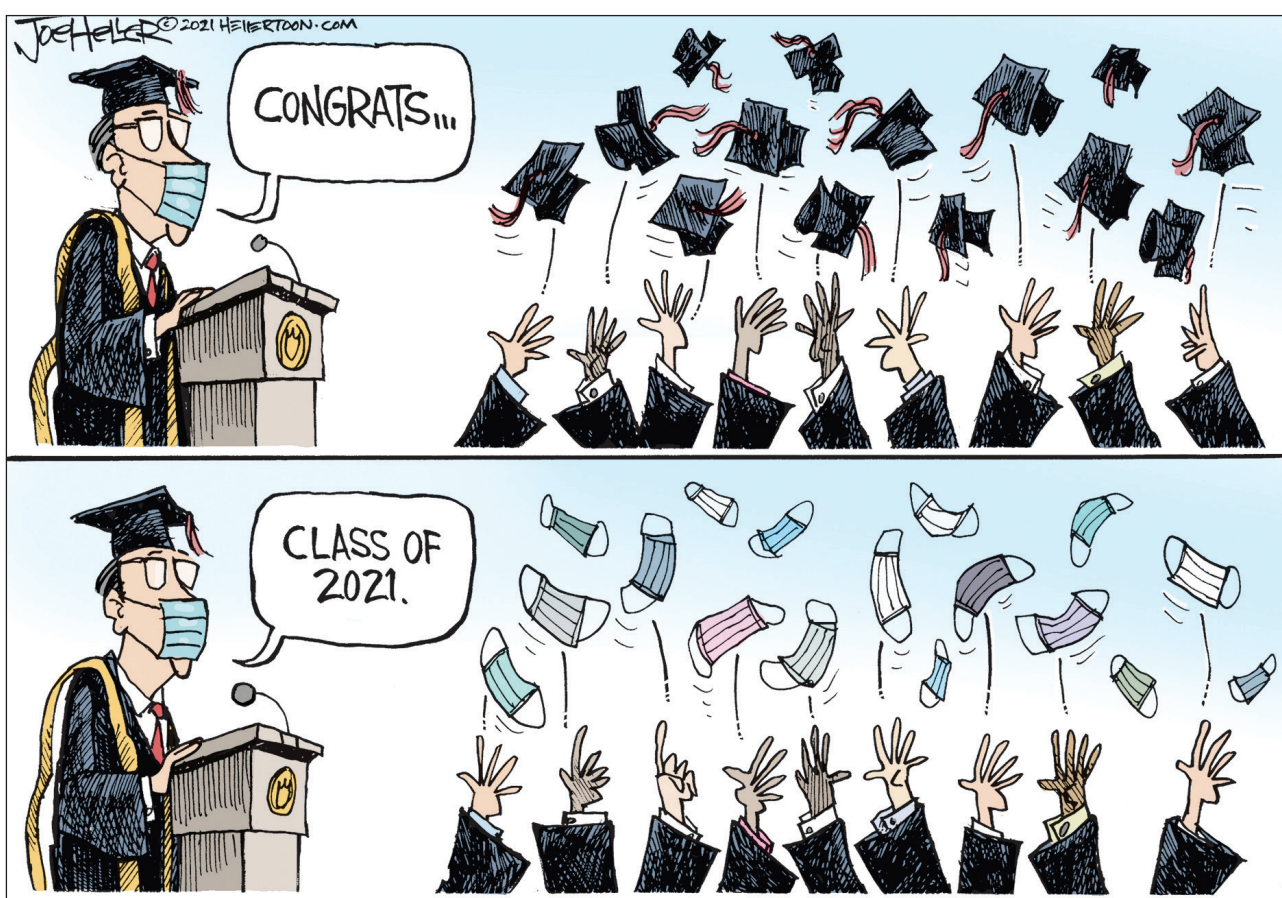
Questions are made up of words — that's a no-brainer, isn't it — and ideas. And it takes both to make a good question. Sometimes the two don't work together so well, however. I'm thinking, for instance, of “Why do we drive on the parkway and park on the driveway?” Or, “Where do we go when we go to sleep?”

Two favorites in that area lately pop up more and more often with the talking heads on television news. The news is full of stories about people who “got in an accident” or “went missing.” How do you get in an accident? Are you strolling down the road and see one in the ditch and go get into it? And how do you “go” (or went) missing?

Of times I like to ponder such ramblings of the mind. Some folks tell me I have too much free time on my hands, but I do find it interesting. Maybe it's mental exercise. The other day a friend mentioned a new one to which I'm giving some thought and I'm about to conclude it's in the unanswerable category.

She said she had heard it from someone else and she wasn't able to come up with an answer, which at that point made me ask why she thought I would know. Anyway, the question centered on her observation that the local population was increasing in part because many folks from north of the Mason-Dixon Line “retire to the South.” She then wanted to know, “Where do Southerners go when they retire?” After all, do you know anyone who has retired to New Jersey? If you know the answer to that one, let me know.

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.



### Briar Chapel needs a bike lane

#### TO THE EDITOR:

New York, Houston, Chicago, even Chapel Hill: what do they have in common? The answer: a bike lane.

Bikes help reduce carbon footprint, are cheap, and rarely cost anything for maintenance. Bike lanes encourage individuals to go out and exercise, and separate bikers from pedestrians on the sidewalk. But this isn't just about the benefits of bikes and bike lanes. Some suburban places with lots of activities within the community, like Briar Chapel or the Governors Club community, could benefit from the implementation of bike lanes. They make fast, easy transportation safer than before, and encourage citizens of the community to go out and engage in these activities more often.

Briar Chapel especially could benefit from a bike lane, especially one linking to their community pool, or to their community playground. A bike lane can remove traffic from the sidewalks, so bikes or pedestrians aren't pressured to push themselves off the sidewalk in order to pass one another. Though New York and Chicago aren't all suburbs, the suburban communities can learn from these large urban centers to control traffic, and make it safer for pedestrians, and bikers.

Ethan Galiger  
Chapel Hill

### Community colleges: a key to our recovery

#### TO THE EDITOR:

As North Carolina faces an economic crisis amidst a pandemic, our community colleges will be key to recovery efforts.

North Carolina will undoubtedly turn to its 58 community colleges to train and retrain our state's workforce to meet the increasing demands of a recovering economy and changing business world. To do that, our colleges need to be able to retain and recruit the best faculty and staff

who can provide the training our students and businesses need to be successful.

Central Carolina Community College is committed to its mission of fostering individual, community, and economic development through transformative lifelong learning while serving the citizens of Chatham, Harnett, and Lee counties. Our vision for the college is “Exceptional learning for all.”

CCCC offers a wide variety of more than 50 career and university transfer programs, as students can earn associate degrees or college transfer credits, diplomas, or certificates. CCCC also offers instruction in such areas as short-term job training, college & career readiness, personal interests, business & industry, and emergency services training.

The CCCC commitment led to two national recognitions in 2020. CCCC was nationally ranked as No. 25 in The Best Community Colleges & Trade Schools of 2020 by Best Colleges. In addition, CCCC was ranked among the Top 50 community colleges in the nation by College Consensus, a unique college ratings website that aggregates publisher rankings and student reviews.

Yet, CCCC has its challenges — like other community colleges. We have been fortunate to have outstanding faculty and staff who have greatly contributed to our mission. We would like to continue to retain and recruit quality employees who are dedicated to continuing our successful mission of service.

Many businesses face the challenge of recruiting qualified, in-demand employees and then keeping those employees from leaving to go to another employer. North Carolina's community colleges are no different. Attracting and keeping highly qualified professionals to prepare North Carolina's future workforce continues to be a significant challenge — especially in high-demand, high-skilled areas such as healthcare, technology, and trades. Although North Carolina has the third largest

community college system in the nation, community college faculty salaries, as a whole, consistently rank near the bottom in national comparisons.

As lawmakers consider many important issues to our state during this legislative session, our North Carolina Community Colleges are supporting legislation asking for a 7 percent salary increase for faculty and staff. If community college faculty and staff were to receive this salary increase, it would be a significant step toward ensuring that North Carolina has the professionals in place to train the 700,000 students who enroll annually and to help business and industry emerge from the pandemic and rebuild the economy.

H. Julian Philpott Jr.  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Central Carolina Community College

### Thankful for the help from the people at Lowe's

#### TO THE EDITOR:

On April 23, my husband and I went to Lowe's in Pittsboro. We were shopping for lights. A young woman, Pam, came to help us.

Suddenly, my husband crumpled. Pam grabbed him first and we saved him from falling on the concrete floor. Suddenly, four men surrounded us and someone called the Rescue Squad and they were there really fast. They picked my husband up and rushed him to UNC, Chapel Hill.

Pam and Anthony, another employee, took me to the hospital and Anthony gave me his phone number to call him when we were ready to return.

After three or four hours, I called Anthony, who came and got us both and brought us back to the store.

I have never in my 86 years experienced such kindness and consideration from anyone as I received from these people at Lowe's!

We are eternally thankful.  
Johnny & Margaret Sharpe  
Lawing  
Goldston



# VIEWPOINTS

## The politics of Mother's Day

I have continued to reflect upon the speech that Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., gave after President Joseph Biden's address to Congress. In light of Mother's Day last Sunday, it's fitting to note how Scott spoke of his mother — a woman who “prayed me through some really tough times.” I imagine that description of love and strength rings true for many people.

Yet, it is also true that people have painful experiences with their mothers and that some mothers know only heartache from their children.

For some, Mother's Day is a celebration of the living. For

others, a reminder of the dead. The same day might call to mind great joy or terrible tragedy. The fulfillment of dreams or shattered hopes. A special bond or a chasm of mistrust. Many people likely fall somewhere in between these polar ends of experience, but we can agree that motherhood is complicated.

I say the same about my mother country America.

In his speech, Scott declared, “Hear me clearly: America is not a racist country.” But the truth about racism in America is more complicated than any sound bite. Racism is complicated because people are complicated — to borrow a phrase from Martin Luther, the same person is both “saint and sinner.” And so, the institutions that we create and nations where we live are both beautiful and brutal — “brutiful,” to quote

the author and mother Glennon Doyle.

We seek common ground and unity by acknowledging that brutiful complexity, not by ignoring it or protesting otherwise.

In his response to the president, Scott offered a similar populist appeal that has characterized many of Biden's speeches: “Black, Hispanic, white and Asian. Republican and Democrat. Brave police officers and Black neighbors. We are not adversaries. We are family. We are all in this together.”

But as soon as Scott wished his fellow Americans a good night, both liberal and conservative pundits and politicians began twisting his words to bludgeon the opposing side.

Scott himself decried the hypocrisy (and rudeness) of progressives who branded him with derogatory remarks like

“Uncle Tim.”

Yet, conservative commentators either glossed over or outright ignored how Scott illustrated racism still exists. He explicitly stated how police had stopped his car for no reason and followed him in stores while he was innocently shopping. The brutal examples of violence make the headlines, but those are clear examples of the indignities and injustices that people of color experience every day.

Like Scott, I believe Americans are a family. That is also a call to accountability. At some point, all families must have hard talks about negative behaviors and their consequences. Skeletons in the closet do not show themselves the door. The truth must be told about our complicated, brutal and beautiful nation.

Our national history in-

cludes both bright moments in human history and ghastly moral failures. Humans being humans, how could it be otherwise? Just as there is no perfect mother, there is no perfect country. All of us remain both sinners and saints. Even with our progress, there remains tension between the ideals of America and the lived experience of people of color. We have the work of truth and reconciliation to do together.

It seems fitting to close with a lesson in wisdom and humility from my own mom: “Remember everyone is a work in progress — including you.”

*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.”*



**ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN**  
Hope Matters

## There is no teacher-pay penalty

Are nurse anesthetists overpaid by 74%? Are telemarketers underpaid by 25%? If you accept the standard statistical model used to defend huge and sweeping pay raises for public schoolteachers, then you pretty much have to accept these conclusions, too. They derive from the same set of data.

If you follow education-policy debates, you've no doubt heard of the “teacher-pay penalty.” A 2020 study from a union-backed think tank estimated teachers make about 19% less, on average, than do other workers with similar levels of education.

This finding is true as far as it goes — but it doesn't really go very far, as American Enterprise Institute scholars Andrew Biggs and Jason Richwine demonstrate in a recent study. After all, using variables such as years of education or possession of a bachelor's degree to adjust salary data is like using an adjustable wrench with a broken thumbscrew. It will turn some big nuts. But if it can't be tightened, there are tasks it simply cannot accomplish.

Evaluating pay differentials is one of them. The labor market is about specifics, not broad categories. Employers don't pay “college graduates.” They pay accountants, or musicians, or nurses, or telemarketers. And employers don't offer standardized wage premiums for “graduate degrees.” Doctors and lawyers get paid more than historians and sociologists.

Even these rules are valid only for comparing averages across broad categories. Within most professions (teaching is a familiar exception) there is often a great deal of pay variation based on scale, specialization, and performance. Some attorneys make vastly more than others despite having spent the same three years in law school. And, indeed, a few superstar musicians and bestselling historians make much more than the average attorney.

“Standard control variables, such as years of education and experience, are simply insufficient to account for important differences across occupations,” Biggs and Richwine observe. In a previous study, the authors looked not at the quantity of education received but at the performance of college graduates on standard tests of knowledge and skills. Adjusting for test scores eliminated the supposed teacher-pay gap.

For their new paper, the authors explored a different set of data: average earnings adjusted for the specific college or university attended and the specific degree received. The disadvantage of this analysis is that a college graduate could end up working in a field not clearly related to her major, such as someone with a fine-arts degree working as a financial analyst. Still, there's a big advantage to this model, too: it allows for more granular analysis. You can, in fact, turn the thumbscrew on the wrench. And, after all, most graduates do end up in jobs related to what they study in college.

Using this approach, the authors found that the real pay differential isn't between those with education degrees and those without them. It's between those with degrees in a science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) discipline and without them.

Among non-STEM graduates, education majors earn about as much as other degree-holders, both at one year out of school and at 10 years out of school. Yes, education majors make less than STEM graduates — but so do most other non-STEM graduates.

To accept this more-sophisticated analysis of the issue is not necessarily to conclude that teachers shouldn't be paid more. In fact, I think an across-the-board raise is appropriate for North Carolina teachers this year, after a couple of years of pay stagnation (caused by Gov. Roy Cooper vetoing state budgets with teacher-pay raises on the grounds that they should have been larger).

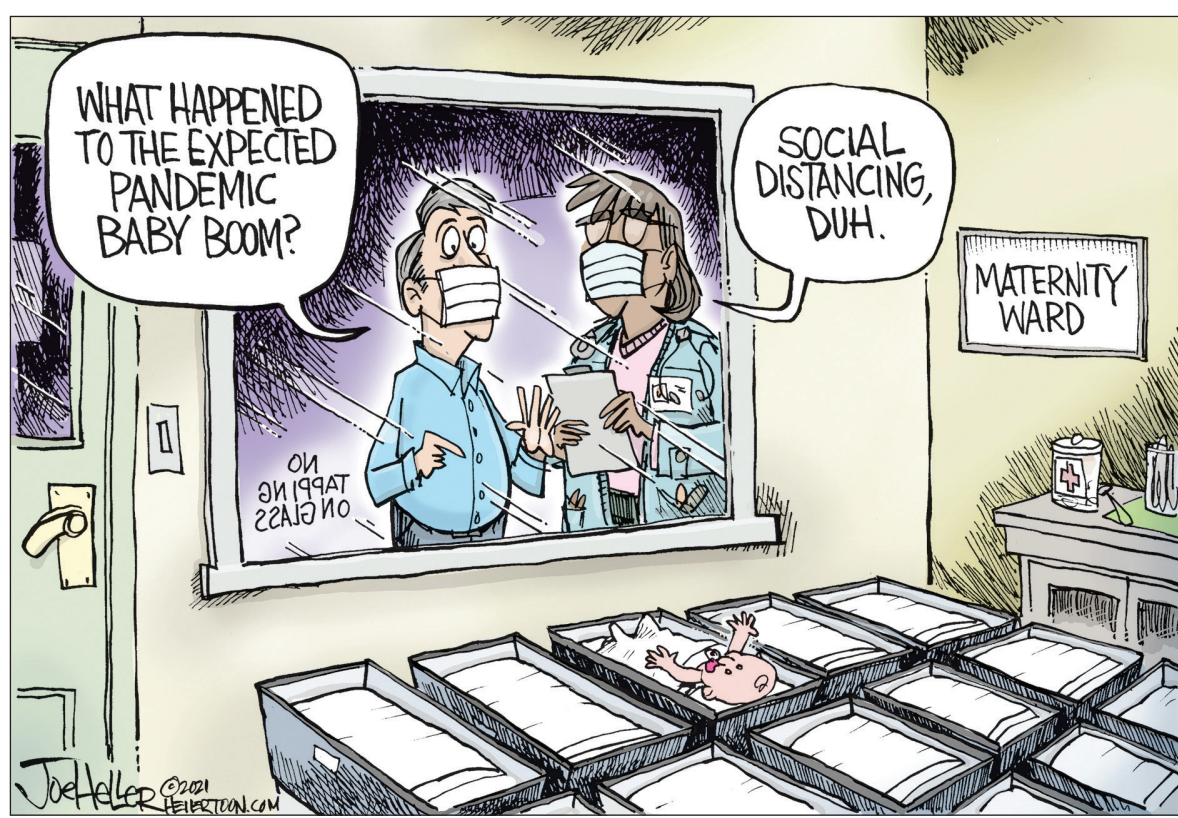
But if we stop talking in misleading generalities and get down to specifics, I think the long-term policy implications are clear. North Carolina should differentiate teacher pay more than we do. We should pay a lot more for hard-to-staff positions — math and science teachers in high schools, for example — as well as for teachers in hard-to-staff schools.

As for nurse anesthetists, I think most earn every penny they get, and then some.



**JOHN HOOD**  
John Locke Foundation

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



## Can you pass this North Carolina history test?

Here is a test for you. Look at our state flag. There are a couple of dates. One of them is May 20, 1775. Why is it there?



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

A few years ago I wrote a column about Charlotte lawyer Scott Syfert's book, “The First American Declaration of Independence? The Disputed History of the Mecklenburg Declaration of May 20, 1775.”

If you don't know, or even if you do, keep reading and learn why folks in Charlotte are busy preparing to celebrate the 246th anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence (“Meck Dec”).

The text of this declaration includes the following language: “Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people; that we are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing people under the power of God and the General Congress; to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes and our most sacred honor.”

The Meck Dec itself has a long history. Not much was said or written about it until 1819 when a Raleigh newspaper and then newspapers throughout the country published the story, launching a nationwide firestorm of interest and argument about the Mecklenburg Declaration. Former President John Adams wrote former President Thomas Jefferson suggesting that the Mecklenburg Declaration had been the

source for Jefferson's words in the American Declaration. Jefferson responded that the Mecklenburg version was “spurious.”

Finally, after 50 years, on May 20, 1825, Charlotte held its first celebration of the anniversary of the event.

When Jefferson's letters were published in 1829, his “spurious” description prompted loyal North Carolinians to stand up for the validity of their state's early version of a declaration of independence.

In 1831, the state legislature established a special committee to settle what had become known as the Mecklenburg Controversy. The committee, after an investigation that included interviews with 13 eyewitnesses to the events of May 1775, concluded that the Meck Dec was genuine and that it was incumbent “to usher to the world the Mecklenburg Declaration, accompanied with such testimonials of its genuineness, as shall silence incredulity ... [and] forever secure it from being forgotten.”

The committee's report did not end the controversy, but its sanction gave credibility and cover to the state's official embrace of the Meck Dec and 150 years of bragging about our “First in Freedom” status.

Syfert observed that after years of big celebrations that attracted American presidents, interest had waned.

Why was so little known and reported about the Mecklenburg Declaration before 1819? And why, after more than 150 years of attention, did interest in the Meck Dec wane?

Syfert dealt with these two questions. He also lays out the facts, pro and con, so readers

**When Jefferson's letters were published in 1829, his “spurious” description prompted loyal North Carolinians to stand up for the validity of their state's early version of a declaration of independence.**

can form their own conclusions about the Meck Dec. Syfert says he began his research a believer, but became a skeptic as he reviewed the many challenges to its authenticity. Finally, however, all the evidence convinced him that the story of its adoption was true.

Thanks in part to Syfert's book, Charlotte is celebrating the declaration again, in a big way. At noon on May 20 on Tryon Street in the center of Charlotte, military and colonial reenactors, horses, military parades, and cannon firings will accompany patriotic speeches. A big dinner with special beverages from Olde Mecklenburg Brewery is already sold out. On Sunday May 23, a massive bike ride to various historic locations in Charlotte will commemorate Captain James Jack's 450-mile horseback ride to deliver the Mecklenburg Declaration to Congress.

Next time you notice that May 20, 1775 date on our flag, you can think, “Now I know the rest of the story.”

*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.*



# Insights into Chatham's \$149.9 million spending plan

*Proposed budget is 10.4% higher than current year's; lowers tax rate slightly*

The Chatham County Manager's Office unveiled a proposed 2021-22 fiscal year budget of \$149.9 million last week.

The expenditure proposal is not quite final: the board will host a public hearing on the budget next Monday, with board work sessions to follow on May 20, 21 and (if needed) 25. The budget is set to be finalized June 21 to meet the state-required June 30 budget adoption date; the county's fiscal year begins July 1. County Manager Dan LaMontagne discusses particulars of the budget in this email exchange with the News + Record.

## What's statutorily required in and of the county's budget?

North Carolina local government must comply with numerous statutory requirements when developing its annual operating budget. Following are several of these requirements.

- The annual operating budget must provide funding for all debt obligations.
- The total projected revenue and the total proposed expense must balance. Revenues and expenditures must balance within each fund as well as the larger operating budget comprising all funds.

- The manager's recommended budget for the coming fiscal year must be presented to the governing body of that unit of government no later than June 1.

- A public hearing must be held prior to the adoption of the annual operating budget.

- The annual operating budget for the next fiscal year must be adopted no later than June 30.

With respect to units of county government, the annual operating budget must sufficiently fund operating and/or capital expenses associated with certain county-level agencies that are not under the direct authority of the county. Among others, these include:

- Board of Elections
- Sheriff's Office
- Schools
- Department of Health
- Register of Deeds
- Department of Social Services

## In the budget message, it was stated that "rapid growth and expansion" is happening now in Chatham County. Can you outline a few important ways this budget properly prepares the county for that growth?

Anywhere from reviewing development applications, enforcing environmental and health regulations, ensuring public safety, and attending to the health, social and educational needs throughout the jurisdiction's population, a local government offers a range of public services. As the population grows within the local government's community, the local government must amend and/or augment its operations to meet the growing, and sometimes changing, needs of the expanding population. This holds true in the case of Chatham County.

The recommended FY21-22 budget offers several measures across the organization and various other agencies funded by

the county to account for the present and forecast growth of Chatham County. These include the recommendation of:

- Enhancing technology to promote the continuity of service and capture greater operational efficiencies. Software upgrades in several departments, cloud-based software application solutions, and off-site network backup storage are examples of these technology enhancements.

- Implementing staffing plans throughout various departments and agencies to maintain expected levels of service throughout the community, meet certain statutory or regulatory mandates, as well as provide for proper limits on span of control within various operation.

- Implementing pay and classification plan that ensures market competitiveness for the recruitment and retention of employees necessary to provide expected levels and types of public services as the county continues to grow.

- Providing funding for current and future capital needs that will support the building of education and other facilities necessitated by a growing population.

## Thinking about growth: looking at the trendlines you consider in your planning process, do you foresee a time where that growth will generate enough additional tax revenues that would provide an opportunity for a significant drop in the county's tax rate?

The county's goal is always to maintain a tax rate that responsibly meets the community's needed and desired levels and types of services. As the county grows, so too will the cost of providing these services. Ideally, the revenue generated from this growth will at least match the corresponding costs for supplying public services.

Some expenses, however, are realized earlier on in the growth of a community — for instance, providing educational facilities. This reality is one reason the county has adopted a capital funding process that plans for and funds large future capital investments. This planning, which is driven by the county's debt model, enables the tax rate to remain relatively stable and as low as possible over a longer period.

It should be noted that the type of development that will be experienced in Chatham County will have an impact on future tax rates. Historically, residential property does not pay for itself in terms of taxes received and services provided. Generally, residential growth places a greater burden on public services as compared to commercial or industrial growth. At the same time, commercial and industrial properties create greater tax revenue generation as compared to residential development.

## Looking back on this current fiscal year, particularly on the question of revenues for the county...what's surprised you, given that the entire fiscal year has taken place during a pandemic?

This time last year, our projected revenue out-

look was not optimistic. With the pandemic came uncertainty — particularly with respect to locally collected sales and use tax revenues. What might such a universally experienced crisis do to consumer behavior? The fortunate surprise, however, is that consumer spending did not slow, it merely shifted to more local and online activity.

## Regarding the \$2.4 million to support the opening of Seaforth High School — can you clarify, for those who don't follow the intricacies of capital and operating costs for schools in N.C., what kinds of things make up that large expenditure?

The \$2.4 million to support the opening of Seaforth High School covers many different areas within the school. For example, the school system will be opening a new building while not closing any of their existing buildings; this will increase their total square footage and will necessitate the need for additional maintenance and janitorial staff. Additionally, the new school will need personnel to fill roles that exist at other schools — for example: school office/support staff, guidance counselors, teacher assistants, and technology support. In addition to those staff positions, there are 10 core teachers and a curriculum coach that are being funded with local funds. Finally, there are costs that are district-wide, but which will see an increase with the opening of a new school — these includes: additional supply costs (school and athletic supplies), additional transportation costs, increases to insurance, contractual increases (such as garbage collection), and increased utility costs due to operating an additional building.

## The \$180,000 addition to the existing teacher supplement: where does that put the level of Chatham's supplement, and how does that compare to the supplements offered by our surrounding (and sometimes competitive) counties?

This area of the state is the most competitive region when it comes to average supplements contributed to teachers' pay. Six of the top 10 highest average teacher supplement school districts are in this region. Chatham is the seventh-highest district in the state. The county's goal for the teacher supplement is to maintain Chatham's standing as fifth in our region and 10th in the state. This year Chatham was surpassed in our region only by the much larger Wake, Chapel Hill, Durham and Orange school districts. Chatham's average teacher supplement in FY 20 was \$6,481. At the same time, Orange County's average (4th in the region) was \$6,552 and Alamance County — sixth in our region and tenth in the state — was \$4,812.

## The proposed operating budget also funds 31 new positions. How many positions were requested during the budget process, and how did you determine which requests to fulfill?

In total, 43 positions were requested during the FY2021-22.

All requests for expanding personnel undergo an expansion review process. As part of this review process, several factors are considered. First, alternatives to the request are identified. Alternatives

for personnel expansions may often be the reorganization of work functions and restructuring of existing personnel, interdepartmental or interagency collaboration, relevant application of technology, or outsourcing work functions where appropriate.

In other instances, no alternatives are available, or the available alternatives have already been exercised and the need to expand remains. Next, the expansion request is measured against other factors such as:

- Justification of need
  - Is there a statutory/regulatory mandate for the request or will a mandate not be met without the request being filled?
  - Immediacy of need
  - Prospective outcomes if the request is filled
  - Prospective outcomes if the request is not filled
  - Alignment with organizational and/or operational goals and/or values
  - Availability of funding and long-term sustainability of the request
- Personnel expansions are ultimately recommended in consideration of these and other factors.

## How does the budget address lessons learned from last year's cyberattack?

Following the cyber event, the county took action to make numerous improvements to the county's technology systems to enhance redundancies, fortify access control, mitigate security vulnerabilities, and reduce user interface security threats. Many of these measures have been addressed in the current fiscal year, while others are slated for funding in the recommended FY 21-22 budget. Several of these improvements for the coming fiscal year include upgrades to various software application and the migration of certain departmental applications to a cloud-based software solution as well as implementing offsite data backup.

## How does the county's fee structure compare general to our surrounding counties?

The proposed fees and fee changes for the FY21-22 budget are intended to maintain the county's cost recovery model. Like in many other jurisdictions, these fees seek to cover the cost of providing certain services to the end user, which helps alleviate the burden to all other taxpayers in these instances. While bench-

marking the county's fees against surrounding jurisdictions is an appropriate practice for awareness purposes, the county does not use benchmarking to dictate the decision-making process. In most cases, we can anticipate seeing some instances where the county's fees are somewhat higher and others where our fees are somewhat lower than other counties in our region.

## In the budget, \$5.2 million is earmarked for debt service related to Seaforth. Can you explain debt service and address the county's overall debt level, and what within the budget addresses debt?

Debt Service is the amount of funds allocated in the annual operating budget to cover repayment of interest and principal on all active debt incurred by the county.

Chatham County continually evaluates the appropriate method to financing capital needs, including the incurrence of debt. Debt funded projects are modeled prior to approval. Once approved, funds to cover the payment of future debt are set aside through the county's debt reserve. The county's debt model factors in several assumptions when determining the solvency of the county in issuing new/additional debt.

Most jurisdictions have a "CIP," or a Capital Improvement Plan/Program. What some call a "CIP" is actually a wish list. A true CIP has two primary components or legs.

- First Leg, "The Plan": A CIP must consist of a prioritized itemization of capital purchases and improvements that follow a timeline of phased activity from planning to completion and the costs associated with all steps along the way.

- Second Leg, "The Funding Strategy": A CIP must have a dedicated funding source or mechanism to financially support the Plan.

The distinguishing characteristic of the Chatham County CIP is that its CIP is stabilized by three legs, not just two.

- Third Leg, "The Model": The Chatham County CIP is informed by the county's debt model. Debt funded projects are modeled prior to approval. Once approved, funds to cover the payment of future debt are set aside through the county's debt reserve. The county's debt model factors in several assumptions when

determining the solvency of the county in issuing new/additional debt.

This third leg shifts the question from "when can we afford it?" to "when does the public need it?" The debt model provides a greater capacity for informed decision making, enabling the public need to drive funding availability more effectively.

It should be noted that the debt model does not operate outside of and exclusive from the annual operating budget. Annually, the Board of Commissioners affirm that they still see the value that our debt model has for future financial planning and growth considerations when they continue to allocate a portion of the ad valorem property tax to the debt reserve. That allocation is currently at the equivalent of 9.2 cents of the property tax rate and the FY2021-22 budget proposes to increase that amount to 9.7 cents.

The long-term and disciplined adherence to debt model budgeting, along with the continued support for funding the debt model by the County Board of Commissioners, has established a level of financial stability that encourages the confidence of rating agencies, resulting in exceptional bond ratings for the county. Its bond rating allows the county to borrow at lower rates of interest, which further improves the long-term financial health of the county and reduces the amount of local tax dollars required to finance large capital projects.

## What would you invite Chatham residents to do, to read, to consider in advance of the public hearing on the budget set for May 17?

Chatham residents are encouraged to review the budget document in advance of the Monday, May 17, public hearing at 6 p.m. The budget document contains a lot of information and staff understands that it may not be possible for residents to read the entirety of the document. In that case, we would encourage a resident who is interested to read the budget message in detail — that section of the document will provide a thorough overview of what the rest of the document contains and ultimately what the manager is recommending for the next fiscal year. The recommended 2021-2022 County Budget can be found on the Chatham County website: [www.chathamcountync.gov](http://www.chathamcountync.gov).

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# BUDGET

Continued from page A1

revenue for fiscal 2021-22.

In the current budget cycle, the various additional increases in tax revenue was an unexpected perk.

“Our conservative approach to sales tax when we called an audible at this time last year with the pandemic really came to bear,” Assistant County Manager Bryan Thompson said during last week’s budget presentation to county commissioners. “Our performance is stronger than what we could have anticipated.”

The proposed budget also includes an additional \$2.4 million to support the opening of Seaforth High school, funding for 31 new county positions and a 3% pay raise for all county employees.

LaMontagne said the county was in a good position to recover from challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic and last October’s cyber attack, but needed to look ahead to prepare county government for the additional challenges that come with handling population and development growth.

“For several years, we have discussed the need of being properly prepared for growth. As a county, we are now at the point that the rapid growth and development we have long expected is happening,” LaMontagne said in a May 4 news release about the proposed budget. “Throughout this budget, you will see that we are focused on ensuring that the development that is occurring is well monitored and aligns with the long-term vision that Plan Chatham has laid out for Chatham County.”

The budget can be viewed online at <https://bit.ly/3hhxVDv> or at any of the three Chatham County public library branches.

No action was taken on the budget; last week’s meeting kicked off a budget process that will span through the end of June. The board will host a public hearing on the budget Monday at the Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro, and residents also can comment by registering for the GoToWebinar and signing up to speak online through the public input form. Comments also should be submitted in writing to [lindsay.ray@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:lindsay.ray@chathamcountync.gov).

Board work sessions will follow on May 20, 21 and 25. The budget is set to be finalized June 21 to meet the state-required June 30 budget adoption date;

the county’s fiscal year begins July 1.

Here are some highlights from the proposed budget:

## Cyber security

The budget includes \$81,531 to implement off-site backup storage data and a disaster recovery plan for the county network.

“This will allow MIS to have safe and consistent backups to allow for quicker restoration of the county network in the event another network disruption happens in the future,” the budget message says.

This budget change follows the Oct. 28 ransomware attack — where Russian threat actors demanded Bitcoin worth about \$708,000 — that shut down most of the county’s internal network. The attack resulted in the eventual posting of personal information of some local residents and former and current county employees, including data such as Social Security and bank account numbers.

LaMontagne previously told the News + Record the county’s recovery from the attack was nearly complete, but it caused months of challenges for county MIS and email and phone communication and website — although no loss of services to county residents.

## County staff

The 31 budgeted new positions include multiple positions in building inspections, social services, MIS, emergency communications and the Sheriff’s Department. There are also positions recommended in central permitting, register of deeds, watershed protection, facilities, social services, parks and recreation, telecommunications and pre-trial release.

“We can no longer delay responding to the increased demand in service that ac-companies growth,” LaMontagne said.

The budget also recommends a 3% salary increase for county employees, as well as implementing the recently completely pay study.

The 6% overall increase in salary expenditures reflects the recommended salary increase, pay study implementation, as well as the full-year cost of the 31 positions to be added mid-year in FY 2021.

“While many expenses are necessary to continue movement toward our goals, competitive salaries are essential to maintaining and attracting talented, professional staff,” LaMontagne said. “This is a vital investment to handle the coming growth.”

The budget also proposes multiple expansions for the Public Safety

CIT, which includes departments that respond to emergencies, crimes and other safety hazards. The budget recommends the hiring of 11 detention officers to “address improvements needed in cell block monitoring” and return officers currently assigned to the county’s detention center to its Law Enforcement Division — a \$655,688 cost.

If approved, the budget will also add a Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (\$39,697) and various staff positions to respond to emergency communications increased demands.

## Sustainability

A new Sustainability Department would be created if the budget is approved. It would focus on energy efficiency, natural resources and climate change through projects like electric-vehicle charging stations and solar panels for county buildings.

The budget also includes \$28,000 for a revised Farmland Preservation and Open Space Plan, to be conducted by Cooperative Extension and Soil and Water Conservation District. The walking trail at Southwest District Park will be extended to provide an additional half-mile of trail, for \$41,500.

## Chatham County Schools

The proposed budget fully funds Chatham County Schools’ request for an additional \$2.4 million to support the opening of Seaforth High School next fall, which will be Chatham’s fourth public high school and the first built since 1972. The budget includes \$5.2 million to cover borrowing payments for the new high school and an additional \$180,000 for teacher supplements.

The recommended budget “maintains the county’s focus on school priorities and preparations for growth,” the county’s news release said.

As directed by the board of commissioners at an April meeting, expected revenue from the county’s new Article 46 sales tax — estimated at around \$600,000 at that meeting — is allocated to the school budget and to affordable housing, parks and recreation and agricultural preservation.

## Other items

- COVID-19 recovery: \$75,000 for the Chatham Economic Development Corporation to provide financial assistance to small businesses hurt by the pandemic.
- Fee increases: The budget sets

a \$400 minimum fee for inspecting single-family homes and increases the basic permit fee and re-inspection fee each by \$10, to make the fee \$60. It also includes an increase in fees for development-related testing such as fire flow testing (+\$110), meter set (+\$50), standard ¾” tap (+\$400), hydrostatic pressure test (+\$10) and bacteriological sampling on new construction (+\$125).

- Fire district taxes: Of the 11 fire departments in Chatham funded through separate property taxes collected by the county, Bennett, Pittsboro and Silk Hope fire departments have asked for an increase in the tax charged to businesses and residents in those respective districts.

The Bennett department proposed a 2-cent increase, bringing its tax rate to 11 cents, or 4 cents below the maximum 15 cents allowed by General Statute. This increase would be used to add one part-time employee to assist with the department’s upcoming ISO rating inspection and to increase its level of service provided to the citizens of their district, the budget message said.

The Pittsboro department proposed a 0.4-cent increase for the Circle City fire district — bringing its tax rate to 12.65 cents — to be used to fund renovation of all three fire stations, add three full-time shift personnel, one administrative assistant and to cover increased audit and attorney fees.

The Silk Hope department also proposed a 0.4-cent increase, bringing its tax rate to 8.25 cents. This increase would be used for salary increases and the addition of one part-time employee.

The county’s proposed budget focuses on growth and COVID-19 recovery, following a more caution approach to the budget last year, when many questions about the pandemic remained.

“Last year we faced many uncertainties during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we projected our revenue cautiously while making careful choices regarding expenditures,” LaMontagne said. “This year we believe that our careful planning positioned the county well to recover from the economic downturn. ... April marked Chatham County’s 250th anniversary. We are looking back with gratitude, and we are looking ahead with anticipation and confidence.”

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

# STIMULUS

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On May 10, the U.S. Dept. of Treasury released such guidance, as well as a new portal counties must complete to receive the recovery funds. That guidance maintained Chatham’s \$14.4 million allocation for a grand total of \$14,464,924.

According to the Treasury Department web page, the following applications are approved for ARP funds:

- Supporting public health expenditures
- Addressing negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted

industries and the public sector

- Replacing lost public sector revenue
- Providing premium pay for essential workers
- Investing in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure

“Within these overall categories, recipients have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities,” the website says.

Last week, Dudley said the county was working with several organizations, including NACo, the N.C. County Commissioners Association and Triangle J Council of Governments “to ensure that we are well informed of developments as we await additional guidance.”

## Pittsboro

Pittsboro will receive about \$1.28 million from the ARP, according to Town Manager Chris Kennedy. The funds may be used to address water infrastructure issues, which are critical in Pittsboro.

“Knowing that the water is such a big deal, my recommendation to my board was that we take 100% of that money and apply it towards our water quality projects,” Kennedy told the News + Record, “to help us offset some of those costs.”

Pittsboro’s drinking water is notoriously contaminated with PFAS — carcinogenic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances — introduced into the water supply by upstream factories. According to a recent

nationwide study by Consumer Reports, a non-profit consumer advocacy organization, Pittsboro’s PFAS concentrations are the highest in the U.S.

To improve the town’s water quality, Pittsboro’s board of commissioners has approved several reactive projects, some of which should be completed within about a year. At the board’s meeting three weeks ago, Kennedy estimated the first project — installation of a new filtration system at the water plant — might cost almost \$3 million, \$1.2 million of which the town already has in its enterprise fund.

“We’ve got another \$400,000 to finish the engineering and then the remaining dollars are to do the rest of construction of that work, and

so we think that’s it’s going to take about \$1.4 million more to finish the project,” Kennedy said. “So of the \$1.4 million, we intend to use the \$1.28 million towards that, and we’ll only have \$100,000 left to make up the difference if need be.”

## Siler City

Siler City is poised to received about \$2.41 million in ARP funds, according to Town Manager Roy Lynch.

“I have informed the board that we will receive ARP funding,” Lynch told the News + Record. “However, staff continues to wait on additional guidance from the U.S. Treasury prior to having further conversations with the board concerning the appropriations once received.”

The board of commissioners will have its next regular meeting on Monday during which commissioners and town staff are likely to discuss plans for the federal allocation.

## Chatham County Schools

Chatham County Schools expects to receive a total allotment of \$18.8 million as part of North Carolina’s Elementary & Secondary School (K-12) Emergency Relief funds — including a third funding amount of \$12 million through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Twenty percent of that funding, about \$2.4 million, must go toward mitigating learning loss, the district said at the CCS Board of Education’s May 10 meeting. The remaining funds can be used to respond to COVID-19, prevent COVID-19 and reduce the spread of the virus, the district said during its presentation to the board.

“It’s been a quick turnaround,” said Amanda Hartness, CCS assistant superintendent of academic services and instructional support, “(with) many complexities and layers. But we feel really proud of what we’ve put together thus far.”

The school system submitted its application on May 7 for second and third rounds of funding — totaling \$17.4 million to be spent over several years. More about the district’s proposal can be found in coverage of Monday’s school board meeting in this week’s edition.

*Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at [hannah@chathamnr.com](mailto:hannah@chathamnr.com) and on Twitter @HannerMcClellan.*

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

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# OBITUARIES

## DONNA RUTH MORRIS GREEN



Donna Ruth Morris Green was born in High Point, Guilford County, N.C., on February 3, 1940, to the late Ernest Clifford Morris and Clara Louise Brock Morris. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Martha Elaine Green of Dillon, S.C.

She graduated from Hannah High, Anderson, S.C., and as a Registered Nurse from Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland. She pursued advanced courses at Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas as well as

other schools. In 1963 she met John Green of Birmingham, Alabama, at First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. They married in Anderson, S.C., June 27, 1965.

Surviving relatives include her husband, John Green of Pittsboro; two daughters, Dr. Rachael Annette Clemens and husband David Clemens of Chapel Hill, and Dr. Rebecca Green and husband Jim Tietz of Shaver Lake, California, and two grandchildren, Linden Lea Clemens of Chapel Hill, and Emma Chih-Hsun Green of Shaver Lake, California.

Donna Ruth and her younger sister grew up in a devoted Christian home. After serving in the U.S. Navy during WWII, her father worked various jobs to support his family until settling in as manager of several auto parts stores in Anderson and Belton, S.C. Louise, Donna Ruth's mother, worked for many years at Sears and Roebuck until retirement.

Growing up, Donna Ruth was active in the Pope Drive Baptist Church. She also worked part time in the ticket booth of the local movie theater. She excelled in her school academics and graduated with honors from Hannah High. She then pursued a nursing career at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, graduating as a Registered Nurse in 1962.

Donna Ruth and John met at First Baptist Church, Dallas. They were greatly influenced by the Pastor's expository preaching ministry. They were also blessed with many friendships, especially that of FBC staff member Ms. Millie Kohn, and the Bible study classes taught by a layman Mr. Earl Koepf. Consequently, Donna Ruth supported John as he pursued several years of study at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She worked as an R.N. at Dallas hospitals as well as the Buckner Baptist Children's Home medical facility.

Donna Ruth and John enjoyed 55 years of marriage. They raised their family while pursuing engineering and nursing careers. Being bi-vocational, John also served as Pastor of five churches. They have fond memories of their ministry and friends in Texas, Utah, Oregon, Colorado and Virginia.

A treasured highlight of Donna Ruth's life was teaching ESL (English as a Second Language) to university students in Chengdu and Wuhan China during four summer trips.

And yes, her family will forever remember with fondness her incredible skill at cooking delicious yet healthy southern food, her love of a good cup of tea, and the joy she took in singing.

She provided a legacy of one who loved Jesus Christ, read and knew her Bible, and deeply cared for others. She never failed to pray daily for her husband, daughters and family by name. In her walk with Christ, she has left many footprints and precious memories for us to treasure until we join with her at home in heaven.

The family received friends Monday, May 10, 2021, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Donaldson Funeral Home and Crematory, 396 West St., Pittsboro, N.C. The funeral service was held Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 1 p.m. at Mount Olive Baptist Church, with Dr. Joshua Peeler presiding. Burial was in the church cemetery.

The family would like to thank the support staff of Liberty Home and Hospice Care as well as the SECU Jim and Betsy UNC Hospice House, Pittsboro, N.C.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Mount Olive Baptist Church, 5043 Mt. Olive Church Rd., Pittsboro, N.C. 27312; Sequoia Parks Conservancy, 47050 Generals Hwy 10, Three Rivers, CA 93271 <https://www.sequoiaparksconservancy.org>; United Voices of Praise Gospel Choir, c/o United Church of Chapel Hill, 1321 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

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

Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory is honored to serve the Green family.

## JOHN DOOLEY



John Dooley, 81, of Bennett, peacefully passed away in his home on Saturday, May 1, 2021, surrounded by his children. He was born on April 25, 1940, in Richmond, Virginia, to the late James Chesterfield Dooley and Bessie Lee Atkinson Dooley. In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his two brothers, William Dooley and James Dooley.

John is survived by his daughter, Claudia L. Dooley of the home (grand-dogs Axel & Leena); and son, John C. "JC" Dooley (Cecile) of Siler City; grandchildren, Jaycee and Tanner Dooley and Kelsey Morris; nephew, Kenny Dooley and his wife Tamako (children Kenta and Matt) of Haymarket, Virginia. Also surviving are numerous other family and special friends.

John spent his childhood years in Bedford, Virginia, graduating from Bedford High School in 1958. He began working for Kroger Company before enlisting in the United States Army in March, 1963. In January 1964, John found himself serving as gunner and helicopter crew chief with the Army's 145th Aviation Battalion. With headquarters just outside of Saigon, John flew all over South Vietnam in action against the Viet Cong, supporting the Vietnam Army ground forces. Specialist Four John Dooley was awarded the Army Commendation Medal and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, meaning he had earned it five times.

After proudly defending his country, John enjoyed driving charter buses for many years before retiring from Trailways Transportation. He continued driving privately for Daycon before moving his family to Bear Creek in 1991, where he owned and operated a chicken farm as well as a local country store. When John found time, he enjoyed woodworking and horseback riding. After his final retirement, John moved to Bennett, where he enjoyed spending time with his children, grandchildren and grand-dogs.

A graveside service and celebration of John's life was conducted at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 2021, in the Greenwood Cemetery in Bedford, Virginia.

To send condolences online, please visit [tharpfuneral-home.com](http://tharpfuneral-home.com).

Tharp Funeral Home & Crematory, Bedford is assisting the family. Donna Ruth Green

## JAMES 'JIM' BENJAMIN YATES



James "Jim" Benjamin Yates Jr., age 93, of Durham, died Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at Seasons of Southpoint Memory Care Community.

Jim was born in Orange County, N.C., on April 1, 1928, to the late James Benjamin Yates Sr. and Mamie Johnson Yates. He was also preceded in death by his first wife, Jean M. Yates; second wife, Shirley Pickard Yates; one brother; Ervin Yates; and five sisters, Margaret Y. Cox, Doris Y. Dunaway, Sadie Y.

Hester, Louise Y. Truesdale, and Edith Y. Keith.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Barbara Council Talbert Yates; three daughters, Bennie Y. Sparrow and husband Freddy of Leasburg, N.C., Karen I. Griffin of Graham, Jamie Y. Mastin and husband Pete of Chapel Hill; one son, Shannon Talbert of Chapel Hill; one sister, Francis Y. Clark of Hillsborough; eight grandchildren, Shannon Jones of Prospect Hill, N.C., Jordan Griffin of Graham, Jay Griffin of Graham, Savannah Mastin of Chapel Hill, Sam Mastin of Chapel Hill, Megan Talbert of Durham, Kendall Hamm of Pittsboro, Courtney Talbert of Pittsboro, and many great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

The funeral service was Saturday, May 8, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Palmers Grove UMC in Hillsborough with Rev. Anggie Thompson presiding. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made in Jim's memory to Palmers Grove United Methodist Church 1211 Palmers Grove Church Rd., Hillsborough, N.C. 27278.

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

Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory was honored to serve the Yates family.

## HOLLY CORBIN MILES EDWARDS



Holly Corbin Miles Edwards, age 22, of Boone, North Carolina, died Thursday, April 29, 2021.

Corbin was born in Durham County, N.C., on August 7, 1998. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Hubert Miles Edwards, Jr. and Connie Erwin Edwards and maternal grandparents, Christopher Wyly Parsons and Sally Holtz Parsons.

Surviving relatives include his father, Douglas Edwards; mother, Nicole Parsons Edwards and husband Terry Dorsey.

A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 3 p.m. at Chatham Mills, 480 Hillsboro St., Pittsboro, N.C., with Pastor Andrew Mails and Terry Dorsey presiding.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in Corbin's memory to UNCG Wesley Luther Campus Ministry, 500 Stirling St., Greensboro, N.C. 27412 or Northwood Music Department, 310 Northwood Rd., Pittsboro, N.C. 27312.

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

Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory is honored to serve the Edwards family.

## KEITH SMITH



Charles Keith Smith, age 57, of Asheboro died Monday, May 3, 2021.

Mr. Smith was born August 5, 1963, to Charlie Smith and Patrice Rummage, who preceded Keith in death.

Keith was employed with Lazar Industries in Siler City. He attended First Wesleyan Church in Siler City, Fellowship Baptist Church in Asheboro and Vintage Church in Randleman. Keith loved everyone and led many people to Christ.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Evelyn Gongaware, Todd Brady and Chris Knox and so many others too numerous to mention for their loving support during this time.

He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Sandra Lee Smith; son, Josh Smith and wife Stephanie of Siler City; grandchildren, Madysin, Josselin, Judah and Conon; step-son, Christopher Canter of Climax; brother, Chad York of Pleasant Garden; step-father, Larry Rummage of Pleasant Garden; and an aunt, Helen Honbarger of Siler City.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Randolph, 416 Vision Dr., Asheboro, N.C. 27203, [www.hospiceofrandolph.org](http://www.hospiceofrandolph.org). Remembrances and online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneralhome.com](http://www.pughfuneralhome.com).

Pugh Funeral Home in Asheboro is serving the family.

## MAXINE PHILLIPS ALBRIGHT

Maxine Phillips Albright, 100, passed away on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at Universal Health Care.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 8, 2021, at Fall Creek Baptist Church with Rev. George Townsend and Rev. Darrell Williams presiding.

Mrs. Albright was born in Chatham County on February 3, 1921, to Herbert and Nannie Brewer Phillips. She was a member of Fall Creek Baptist Church where she was a member of the Adult Women #2 Sunday School class; and sang in the choir until age 96. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, William Albright; sisters, DeEtte Jones, Evelyn Cheek and brothers,

Clarence Phillips and Robert Phillips.

Maxine is survived by her children, Lloyd Albright of Bennett, Brenda English of Pinehurst, Linda Williams of Robbins and Philip Albright of Asheboro; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Fall Creek Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 1745 Fall Creek Church Rd., Bennett, N.C. 27208.

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

## DEMETRIUS LAMUR SNIPES

Demetrius Lamur Snipes, 29, passed away on Sunday, May 9, 2021 in Sanford.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford.

## WALTER EDWARD 'JABO' HUSSEY

Walter Edward "Jabo" Hussey, 88, of Robbins passed away Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

The graveside service was held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 8, 2021, at Needham's Grove Baptist Church with Rev. Dennis Harry and Rev. Jimmy Hussey presiding.

Jabo was born on October 19, 1932, to William Quincy Hussey and Mary Jane Owen Hussey. He was a Korean War Veteran and a member of Needham's Grove Baptist Church where he had served as a Sunday School teacher and Deacon. He was a retired poultry farmer and carpet installer.

He is survived by his wife, Clara Jean Smith Hussey; daughter, Deborah Hussey; son, Tommy Hussey; sisters, Betty Stone, Dorothy Smith and Lola Kidd; brother, Rev. Jimmy Hussey; five grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Needham's Grove Baptist Church, 359 Needham Grove Rd., Seagrove, N.C. 27341 for the upkeep of the cemetery and Veteran's Memorial.

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

## SAMUEL VERNON MCARTHUR

Mr. Samuel Vernon McArthur, 96, of Broadway, passed away on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at his home.

Graveside services were conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 9, at Mount Pisgah Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Rev. Doug Houston officiating with military honors.

He was born in Harnett County, son of the Alton Norman McArthur and Maggie Vera McNeill McArthur. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, Norman McArthur, Willie Gray McArthur, Ophelia Johnson, Kate Thomas, Edna Kelly, Patricia McArthur, Catherine Starkey, John McArthur, and his wife, Delsie Brown McArthur. Sam was a Veteran of the United States Navy, serving during World War II. He was a graduate of Boone Trail High School, a member of Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church, where he sang in the choir and received the Elder Emeritus award.

Surviving are his sons, James Michael McArthur and Robert Vernon McArthur, both of Broadway; daughter, Phyllis Ann McArthur Pearson of Zebulon; brother, Rexford McArthur of Broadway; six grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

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

## JIMMY DAVIS WILKINS

Jimmy Davis Wilkins, 75, of Sanford, passed away Saturday May 3, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital.

The graveside service was held at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 6, 2021, at Buffalo Cemetery with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

Mr. Wilkins was born in Harnett County to the late Willie Ralph and Annie Stone Wilkins. He was employed by Redman Homes.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Betty Thomas Wilkins of the home; sons, Jimmy Wilkins Jr. and Tim Thomas, both of Sanford; brothers, Roy Wilkins of Lillington and Henry Wilkins of Angier.

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

## JOY DIANNE KEY KELLY

Joy Dianne Key Kelly, 59, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, May 3, 2021, at her home.

There will be no memorial service, due to Covid restrictions.

She was born in Montgomery County on February 21, 1962, to the late Douglas and Dorothy Poole Key. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, David Key.

Joy is survived by her sisters, Betty Patterson of Broadway and Linda Woodard of Mountain City, Tennessee.

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

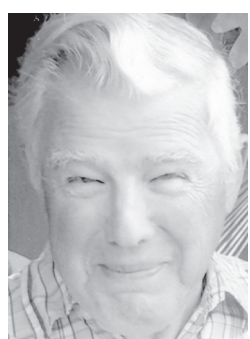
See **OBITUARIES**, page A9



# OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

## WALLACE RAY MOORE



September 14, 1931 - April 25, 2021  
Wallace Ray Moore passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, April 25, 2021, known to all who knew him as "Wally." He was born September 14, 1930, in Framingham, Massachusetts, to the late Harriet Hathaway Moore and Harry Wallace Moore. He spent his early years in Southville, Massachusetts. He attended South Union School until the 6th grade, then went on to Peters High School. He graduated in 1950 and then went

to Worcester College acquiring a degree in electronics. Wallace had many interests in life. He built a crystal radio set when he was 12 years old. He could fix anything electrical or mechanical. He always did all the work on his cars by himself. Wally loved music and could play several instruments, including guitar, violin, piano, and accordion. When he was in high school, he bought a Sears guitar for \$12. He electrified it and because he could not afford an amplifier, he built one himself. He made many other science projects. In school all the kids called Wally "the mad scientist."

Wally had a very strong faith, he studied the Bible all of this adult life. He met and married his wife, Eleanor and they settled in the family homestead in Southville, Massachusetts. He worked as an assistant engineer in Raytheon Labs for several years, then because of his religious beliefs, he quit and went to work at Digital. When he retired, he moved to West Virginia, his wife's home state.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Eleanor Tompert, one brother, Harry Robert Moore, several nieces and nephews.

He is survived by his sister, Pat Moore Harris and her husband Welford of Pittsboro, N.C., one brother, Frank Wendell Moore and wife Suzan of Southboro, Massachusetts.

Wally expressed a desire to be cremated and his ashes be spread among the mountains that he loved.

## BOBBY DOUGLAS BOYD

Bobby Douglas Boyd, 57, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, May 9, 2021, at his home.

No services planned at this time.

He was born in Shelby, Ohio, on April 4, 1964, to Jimmie D. Boyd and the late Brenda Sue Plaster Boyd Perkins. He worked as a mechanic. Bobby graduated from Honaker School in Va. He was preceded in death by both sets of grandparents.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann Huffman Boyd of the home; father, Jimmie D. Boyd and step-mother, Janet F. Boyd of Swords Creek, Virginia; step-sons, Michael Paul Canady of Jackson Springs and Jody Lee Canady of Cameron; a brother, Timothy M. Boyd of Lebanon, Virginia; and one grandchild.

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

## CHARLES RODNEY CUTLER

Mr. Charles Rodney Cutler Sr., 94, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, May 8, 2021.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 1 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating. Another memorial service will be held in Lewiston, N.Y., in the near future.

He was born in Porter, N.Y., on March 4, 1927, to the late George John Cutler and Nancibelle Orcutt Cutler. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Elizabeth Chichester and second wife, Bonnie Lester; step-children, Susan Speziale, David Smith; and siblings, George Cutler, Myra Hughes, Ardith Davidson, Betty Smith, Nancy Johnson, Jeanette Smith and Theresa McDonald. He served in the US Navy and was retired from Bell Aerospace Textron in Wheatfield, N.Y.

Mr. Cutler is survived by sons Charles R. Cutler Jr. of Sanford, Clayton J. Cutler of

Lewiston, N.Y.; step-children, Fred Smith of Lewiston, N.Y., Rick Smith of Holiday, Florida, and Sharon Kochan of Lewiston, N.Y.; 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Pl., Memphis, Tennessee, 38105.

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

Arrangements by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

## KENNETH WAYNE LEMONS

Kenneth Wayne Lemons, 73, of Sanford, passed away Thursday, May 6, 2021, at his home.

A memorial service was held at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home Chapel on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 2 p.m. with Henry Grant officiating. The family received friends one hour prior to the service.

He was born in Lee County, on February 23, 1948, to the late Bernice Eugene and Nonnie Gwynn Lemons. In addition to his parents, he was preceded by sisters, Joan Musslewhite and Jean Collins, brothers, Dick Gwynn and Billy Lemons; and one grandchild.

He is survived by daughters, Wanda Thorne of Sanford, Tammy Kelly of Broadway, and Connie Smith of Cameron; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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

## ROBERT WAYNE LOVICK

Robert Wayne Lovick, 86, of Sanford, passed away Thursday May 6, 2021, at Parkview Assisted Living.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 9, 2021, at Buffalo Cemetery with Rev. Bobby Williams officiating.

He was born in Lee County, on September 29, 1934, to William Thomas and Florence Hall Lovick. In addition

to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Margaret Hazel Grogan Lovick; and a brother, Cecil Lovick. Mr. Lovick served his country in the U.S. Air Force. He was a member of the Sanford Church of God, and he retired from Moen.

Robert is survived by his daughter, Lori Ann Lovick Wilkinson of Sanford; and one grandson.

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

## WILLIAM E. MOLDOVAN

William E. Moldovan, 83, of Pittsboro, passed away on Sunday, April 18, 2021, at his residence.

A memorial mass will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at St. Julia Catholic Church in Siler City.

He is survived by his wife, Donna Moldovan; daughters, Cindy Hartzheim and Melissa Labaziewicz.

Online condolences may be made at [walkersfuneralservice.com](http://walkersfuneralservice.com).

## YOLANDA YEVETTE CRUMP

Yolanda Yevette Crump, 52, of Sanford passed away Friday, May 7, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Pittsboro.

## RANDOLPH THOMAS FOX SR.

Randolph Thomas Fox Sr., 66, of Sanford passed away on Friday, May 7, 2021, at Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford.

## MARSHALL STANLEY WHITE

Marshall Stanley White, 63, of Siler City passed away at Hospice and Palliativ Care Center of Alamance-Caswell in Burlington.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Siler City.

## EDITH ELIZABETH LEHMANN CUMMINS

Edith Elizabeth Lehmann Cummins, 90, of Pittsboro, died Sunday, May 2, 2021, at UNC Hospital.

There are no services planned at this time.

Edith was born in Germany on March 23, 1931, to Wily Lehmann and Anne Elizabeth Ella Schultz Lehmann. She was also preceded in death by her husband, John Gaylord Cummins and one grandson, Gabriel Boone Cummins.

Edith worked in medical research at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, and later became a Massage Therapist. She

worked at the 1992 Olympic Track and Field trials. While living in New Orleans later, she was a disco dance instructor with Arthur Murray, and as a batik artist, for which she was recognized by the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.

Surviving relatives include her son, John Cummins of Pittsboro, and one granddaughter.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made in Edith's memory to a charity of your choice.

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

# Some 'firsts' from a pretty good week



**DEBBIE MATTHEWS**  
The Curious Cook

So, this week I experienced a few new things. After one year, one month, and six days, I hugged The Kid. My child has rheumatoid arthritis and is on immunosuppressants. And because of that has been self-isolating. Although I make regular trips to The Kid's house to bring groceries and other necessities, since the shut down last year we have not touched.

There is an actual affliction called "touch starvation."

From the Healthline website: "Why is touch important? Skin-to-skin contact is vital not only for mental and emotional



Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

### Traditional bar food.

health but physical health, too. When you feel snowed under or pressured, the body releases the stress hormone cortisol. ... According to a 2017 study, gentle touch can reduce both pain and feelings of social exclusion."

And while my child may or may not have been starving, there is no doubt The Kid was

deeply hungry to be held by Mom.

That child hugged me so hard, for so long I was left with a limp, a bruised spleen, four dislocated shoulders, and wrinkled karma.

And last weekend, after a very long hiatus, my friend and I were able to meet at a local watering hole to enjoy some



Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

### A fried pork chop, black-eyed peas and potato salad.

munchies, brightly colored expensive cocktails, and girl talk. The tables had been moved outside to a picturesque alley that looked like something out of an Audrey Hepburn movie or the set of a Rogers & Hammerstein musical.

I had something called "100% Beach," with

pineapple juice, yummy, chewy Luxardo cherries, and tequila.

And two pineapple daiquiris.

I wasn't stumbling or wearing a lampshade, but afterward I did go into Whole Foods and spent \$86 on lots of cheese and many, many cookies.

And then there was one

last first.

Based on his love of pork chops, I'm practically married to Homer Simpson. I cook them often, but they are either baked or cooked slowly in a creamy mushroom sauce.

Not this time. I fried them.

Before this, I had neither cooked nor eaten fried pork chops. I was raised on Shake & Bake and this continued (albeit homemade Shake & Bake) at my own house.

This time I decided to try frying them.

Along with them I made (drum roll please) potato salad. We also had black-eyed peas, made from frozen, but flavored from the south.

Hugs from The Kid, spirituous libations with a friend, and pork chops with black eyed peas. It was a darn good week.

Thanks for your time. Contact me at [dm@bullcity.mom](mailto:dm@bullcity.mom).

### Old School Black-Eyed Peas

1-12 ounce bag frozen black-eyed peas	1 yellow onion, chopped	inch strips	2-3 cups chicken stock	sauce to taste
Put into heavy saucepan. Cook on medium until the bacon has rendered some fat. Put in onion, thyme, chile flake or hot sauce, and salt & pepper. Cook until the onion's translucent.	4 slices bacon, cut into 1/2-	1/2 teaspoon dry thyme	Red pepper flake or hot	Salt and pepper
Pour in enough stock to cover beans by an inch.				
Cover and cook on medium-low until the beans are tender, about 25-35 minutes. Uncover and cook 5-10 more minutes until the sauce has reduced to just below the top of the beans.				
Serves 4-5.				

### Fried Pork Chops

4 boneless pork loin chops	in food processor make 2	Parmesan	2 cups buttermilk	Salt and pepper
Enough bread and bread products that when ground	1/2 cups of crumbs	1/2 teaspoon finely chopped rosemary	2 tablespoons Dijon mustard	Oil for frying
	1/4 cup finely grated		1 cup all-purpose flour	Preheat oven to 375°.

Put flour in a zip-top bag. Add salt and pepper, close bag and shake to distribute salt and pepper. Put buttermilk and mustard into a shallow bowl and whisk together. Put ground breadcrumbs and Parmesan cheese into a second shallow dish.

One at a time, coat pork chops in flour, then egg mixture and finally crumbs.

While coating the chops, heat about 1/2-inch oil in heavy or cast iron skillet on medium-low.

Once the meat is coated and the oil is hot but not smoking, cook the chops on medium until golden brown. Flip the pork then put skillet into the oven to finish.

Cook for 10 minutes then check internal temp with probe thermometer. When it reaches 145 degrees, remove skillet from oven and put the chops on a plate for five minutes. Serve.

### \*Bonus Recipe: Classic Pineapple Daiquiri

1 1/2 ounces pineapple rum	1 1/2 ounces pineapple juice	Juice of 1/2 lime
----------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------

Place ingredients and 2 scoops of ice into a cocktail shaker. Shake vigorously for 30 seconds. Strain into a chilled rocks glass. Garnish with a dried pineapple slice.



**CHURCH NEWS**

**OAKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m., Sunday, May 23, at Oakley Baptist Church.

There will be no extended special music prior to the service or meal following, due to COVID precautions.

The church is located at 2300 Siler City-Glendon Rd., Siler City.

**CHATHAM U.M.C.**

A fundraiser will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, at Chatham United Methodist Church. There will be a bake sale, with arts and crafts from various vendors, and a huge yard sale. A hot dog lunch will be

available for purchase.

This will be located at 1826 CUMC Rd., Moncure. Come out for fun, food and fellowship! Proceeds will go to church outreach ministries.

**PRAISE TEMPLE BIBLE MISSION CHURCH**

The 40th ministry anniversary of our Pastor Annie A. Nettles will be celebrated from 2-5 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, at Silk Hope Ruritan Club, 4221 Silk Hope Rd., Siler City.

Due to COVID, this will be a drive-thru event. Come out and show your love and support.

**Pet of the Week: BIANCA**

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Bianca, a gorgeous, 1-year-old feline with a taste for the finer things in life. Bianca still has plenty of kitten energy stored up in her tiny body, so she is very playful and curious about the world. Bianca's favorite activities are playing with her toy mouse on a string and stalking/pouncing on invisible foes. She can spend hours batting her toys around the playroom and seems determined to hone her budding 'hunting' skills. With that in mind, she would be happiest with a human who will indulge such hobbies by laughing and playing along with her as she learns and grows. For more information about how to meet or adopt Bianca or another pet, please contact the Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center at 919-542-7203 to schedule an appointment for a visit at 725 Renaissance Dr., Pittsboro. Our feline adoption special is still in effect, so you can take Bianca home for only \$20!



Courtesy of the Chatham Sheriff's Office



*Thanks*

To all who contributed to our BBQ lunch fund raiser event for the Siler City Lions Club on Saturday, April 24th at First Missionary Baptist Church, your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

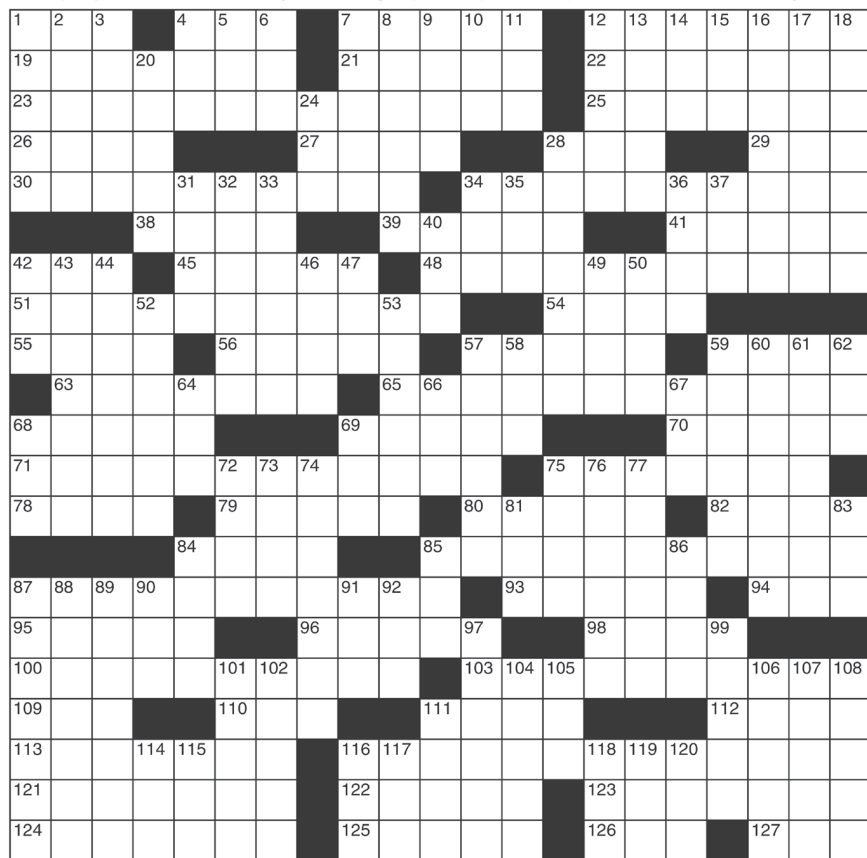
Thank You and God Bless,  
Siler City Lions Club

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

**TWELVE OF DIAMONDS**

**ACROSS**  
 1 "— Sharkey" (70s sitcom)  
 4 Winter bug  
 7 Corn, to Brits  
 12 SoCal daily paper  
 19 Mammal with a black mask  
 21 Cook's wear  
 22 Ant-Man's partner in a 2018 superhero film  
 23 Oakland baseballer's footwear?  
 25 Boarded, as a train  
 26 Langston Hughes poem  
 27 Stuff hitting an umbrella  
 28 Fa-la linkup  
 29 Coop female  
 30 Calamari prepared by a San Francisco baseballer?  
 34 Atlanta baseballer's collection of Kia cars?  
 38 Son of Isaac  
 39 Watch stily  
 41 — Park (home of Edison)  
 42 Atlys.' gp.  
 45 "Scorpio" co-star Delon  
 48 Chicago baseballer moonlighting as a journalist?  
 51 Detroit baseballer's Easter flowers?  
 54 Vaping item  
 55 Designer von Fürstenberg  
 56 Like many tiny headphones  
 57 Put the — (try to coerce)  
 59 Oomph  
 63 Gold lumps  
 65 Money owed by a Washington baseballer?  
 68 Tether again  
 69 Actor Quinn  
 70 OshKosh — (kids' clothing brand)  
 71 What a Minnesota baseballer sleeps on?  
 75 Enormous  
 78 Latin "to be"  
 79 Litigious sorts  
 80 Taunt  
 82 Article in Ulm  
 84 Pioneer  
 85 Cincinnati baseballer's chewy candy?  
 87 Something a St. Louis baseballer confesses?  
 93 "Oh My My" singer Ringo  
 94 Ending with cash  
 95 Kitchen range brand  
 96 Warhol and Roddick  
 98 Pixar's lost swimmer  
 100 Kansas City baseballer's toast topper?  
 103 Pennant won by a Pittsburgh baseballer?  
 109 President pro —  
 110 Right-angled pipe joint  
 111 Sleet, in brief  
 112 1993 Nobelist Morrison  
 113 Some wind players  
 116 Florida baseballer's rod-and-reel activity?  
 121 Web page for aficionados  
 122 Figure skating leaps  
 123 Sideways  
 124 Felt hats  
 125 Dog strap  
 126 Single bill  
 127 "Nuts" actor Wallach

**DOWN**  
 1 Jenny with a diet plan  
 2 Singer LaBelle  
 3 Women's golf star Lorena  
 4 Enemy  
 5 Filming locale  
 6 Bi- minus one  
 7 Member of a Kenyan tribe  
 8 Plant pests  
 9 "Fe" element  
 10 Saldana of "Guess Who"  
 11 Type widths  
 12 No. 2 in a statehouse  
 13 Burn — in one's pocket  
 14 Vietnamese New Year  
 15 — Jima  
 16 Search to find a criminal  
 17 Actress Getty  
 18 Subsidize  
 20 Exact copy  
 24 Grand — (wine type)  
 28 Riviera resort  
 31 Old autocrat  
 32 — Mae (loan offerer)  
 33 Charmingly old-fashioned  
 34 Sch. in Provo  
 35 Puffer from  
 36 Smelly city air  
 37 Atop, in odes  
 40 Old IBM products  
 42 Noshed on  
 43 The top story  
 44 Rabbittike rodents  
 46 Lands in eau  
 47 Actress Vardalos  
 49 MBA subj.  
 50 — colada  
 52 Motor  
 53 Some Muppet dolls  
 57 Just one little bite  
 58 — Tin Tin  
 59 More antsy  
 60 10th-century pope  
 61 Lack  
 62 Final degree  
 64 Sparkly rock  
 66 Spots on TV  
 67 16-oz. units  
 68 Numbered rd.  
 69 Pt. of ETA  
 72 Clumsy — ox  
 73 Skipjack, e.g.  
 74 Reveal everything  
 75 Grain in ale  
 76 South Korean airline  
 77 Confidential  
 81 Koch and Asner  
 83 Always, in odes  
 84 Old TV part  
 85 Letters after Sen. Javits' name  
 86 "It's either you —!"  
 87 Haul away  
 88 One-celled organisms  
 89 Actor Burr  
 90 Genetic stuff  
 91 Skit show since '75  
 92 Mount — (Charley Weaver's home)  
 97 Hexes  
 99 "King — Hill"  
 101 Volkswagen model  
 102 Somebody — problem  
 104 From Erin  
 105 Actor Ely  
 106 French river  
 107 Record of a single year  
 108 2003 Ben Affleck flop  
 111 Field of study  
 114 Propyl lead-in  
 115 Tristan's title  
 116 Bad, to Luc  
 117 Hatchet, e.g.  
 118 "Alice" spinoff  
 119 Holm of film  
 120 Holy Mlle.



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

**CORA SNACK!** MAY 2021 **FOOD DRIVE**

CORA needs your help providing food to children facing hunger in Chatham County. SNACK! provides free groceries to each participating child for ten weeks during the summer when school is not in session.

- HOW TO HELP**
- DONATE FOOD - The following items are needed:
- Canned chicken
  - Individually wrapped snacks- (granola bars, raisins, pretzels, etc.)
  - Soup
  - Canned veggies
- Donations can be dropped off at CORA, Mon. through Fri. between 9 - 3.

**HOST A VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE**

No food drive boxes. No food drive trucks. Just click to select your choice of healthy food items online in our store and check out.

[www.corafoodpantry.org/news-and-events/](http://www.corafoodpantry.org/news-and-events/)

**PARTICIPATE IN OUR DRIVE THROUGH EVENT**

Donate food to children in need.

May 15th from 9 am - 12 pm

CORA, 40 Camp Drive, Pittsboro



**MORE INFORMATION AT CORAFOODPANTRY.ORG**

**READ IT ONLINE**

[WWW.CHATHAMNEWSRECORD.COM](http://WWW.CHATHAMNEWSRECORD.COM)



[www.cccc.edu](http://www.cccc.edu)



# Pittsboro's town budget seeks 43% increase in spending

BY D. LARS DOLDER  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — As aggressive expansion barrels on in Pittsboro, the cost of running the town's government is surging.

To meet rising costs of infrastructure development and broaden the scope of town services, Pittsboro's tentative budget for fiscal year 2021-22 proposes a 43% increase in total municipal spending as compared to the previous year.

The board of commissioners on Monday held its first of two public hearings to elucidate the 70-page budget document, which is available to the public on the town's website, [pittsboronc.gov](http://pittsboronc.gov). Town staff and the commissioners emphasized two primary highlights: property taxes are likely to stay the same next year, but

utility rates will increase substantially.

## General fund

The municipal government expects general fund spending — which covers such expenses as department allocations, town development services and contributed funds to non-profits (such as the new Boys & Girls Club and the Kiwanis Club) — to increase by about \$1.8 million over last year, from \$5.4 million to \$7.2 million.

"This Fiscal Year 2021-2022 General Fund budget presents a 33.4% increase in operating expense, a 28.1% increase in personnel expense and a 94.6% increase (in) capital expense over Fiscal Year 2020-2021," Town Manager Chris Kennedy wrote in the budget's introductory comments.

The general fund is also used to pay employee

salaries, more of which the town will likely create in the next year. The budget proposes eight new jobs:

- A human resources director/risk manager, a public information officer, a purchasing and procurement officer, a grants writer/administrator, a deputy chief of police, a planning department project manager and a planner II. Also, the public utilities/public works director's responsibilities will be divided in two, creating a new position.

Some jobs, those which fall under the town's administration department, will be jointly funded by the town's general fund and enterprise fund.

Despite increasing demands for tax-generated revenue, the budget proposes to maintain the current ad valorem tax rate of \$0.4333 cents per \$100 of property valuation. The

town will still collect a substantial general fund revenue boost, however, following this year's property revaluations. Pittsboro property values increased by almost 40% from 2017, and new residents moving into Chatham Park will add to the pool of tax payers.

## Enterprise fund

Proposed enterprise fund expenditures — primarily construction or modification of utilities infrastructure — will be \$6.2 million in fiscal year 2021-22, compared to almost \$4 million in the current budget. Operating expenses are projected to increase 4.9%, personnel expenses 20.8% and capital expenses are projected to increase 264.8%.

"Improvements to our water quality and quantity as well as sewer quantity and quality are desperately needed," the budget introduction says. "Among other needs, the main projects to be conducted over the next year are aimed at addressing our water quality concerns with PFAS in our raw water intake source, the Haw River, and increasing our sewer capacity ..."

Alarming concentrations of PFAS, a family of carcinogenic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are present in Pittsboro's drinking water. A recent nationwide study by Consumer Reports identified the town as having the highest PFAS

levels of any water supply in the U.S. Besides improving water quality, town staff and the board of commissioners are working to expand infrastructure to support new development before water and sewer allocations are pushed beyond capacity.

To achieve both goals, the commissioners are seeking to increase resident utility rates: if approved, water rates will go up by 45%, and sewer rates by 35%. The average user can expect to pay about \$28 more per month or \$332 more per year.

The rate hike is substantial, Kennedy said in Monday's meeting, but it could have been worse.

"If you recall, at the budget retreat," he said, "those numbers were 53 and 68 respectively."

With some financial finagling — redistributing funds from other sources — town staff were able to improve those figures, Kennedy said. Still, the commissioners and Mayor Jim Nass were dismayed.

"I think it's going to affect quite a few of our citizens here in town, this kind of increase," Commissioner Jay Farrell said. "I'm really struggling with this right now."

Others agreed but pointed out that rates have been constant for many years in advance of this proposed increase.

"I very much share the mayor's and Commis-

sioner Farrell's concerns," Commissioner John Bonitz said. "And yet, I'm also aware that I think it's been since 2015 that we had an increase, and I don't think that's very well known in town ... I think it is just so crucial that the public understand all of the work that has gone into these matters."

## Next steps

Municipalities in North Carolina are only required to host one public hearing before approving annual budgets. Given the dramatic adjustment in this year's proposal, though, the town will host a second hearing on May 24 during the board of commissioners' regular meeting.

"We want people to feel confident in what they get as a service," Kennedy said. "The reason we're here is to serve our community and our public, and we want them to feel like they're getting a good bang for their buck. Most government is accused of not doing such, but we want to be one of those rare birds where people say, 'You now what, I don't like playing taxes any more than the next guy. But I know that if I live in Pittsboro, they're doing the right thing with my money ...'"

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



# Bowen

Insurance Agency, Inc

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and here for you.

Bowen Insurance  
Agency has a  
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Pittsboro



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for all of your insurance needs!  
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Give us a call at 919-444-2499  
[www.boweninsurance.com](http://www.boweninsurance.com)



Erie  
Insurance®



# MEGASITE

Continued from page A1

a majority of them seemed to need between 100,000 and 300,000 square feet.”

Rather than continue development with a view to supporting one occupant, Kaplan and his team pivoted to prepare the megasite to host dozens of individual companies. They contracted O’Brian Atkins Associates, an architectural firm based in Durham, to prepare a conceptual master plan that divides the land into 47 subplots. Each can hold buildings of 30,000 to a million square feet.

“And then you could combine multiple sites to be, say, a million and a half, 2 million square feet, or something like that,” Kaplan said. “So I think it just provides a lot more flexibility.”

In joint venture with Lee-

Moore Capital Company’s Kirk Bradley (who is a part-owner of Chatham Media Group LLC, which owns the Chatham News + Record) and Arthur Samet of Samet Corporation, Moncure Holdings is nearing completion of TIP’s first 400 acres, about 20% of the megasite’s total acreage. If all goes according to plan, the site should have at least its first company operating by the end of 2022.

“We’re moving pretty quickly,” Kaplan said. “... We’re at a much more site-ready place where I think we are moving forward with the plan, and it’ll make for more of a campus kind of setting, more of a park kind of setting, instead of just one large user and factory.”

Kaplan estimates the entire site will be occupied in five to 15 years.

The infusion of new businesses will not only introduce tens of thousands of jobs, he says,

but will supply Chatham with much-needed commercial revenue to offset residential taxes.

“We had always talked about over 20,000 jobs, but I mean that’s really because what I think the county needs is a commercial tax base to help with other projects and things like that,” Kaplan said. “And that’s, I think, why the county and economic developers have been so supportive of this site — to try to do what we can to improve smart industry, and bring good jobs.”

As developers such as Chatham Park Investors barrel toward their goal to build more than 7,000 acres of new housing — to support more than 50,000 new Chatham residents in coming years — fresh commerce at TIP, the Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) site and elsewhere will ensure the county and municipalities can



Courtesy of TIP

**Moncure’s Triangle Innovation Point megasite can host up to 47 life science and biotech companies.**

maintain balanced revenue streams.

“Chatham County is doing things the right way,” Kaplan said. “I think they’re thoughtful, and they’re taking the right approach to keep taxes reasonable and to try to land

high-quality, well-paying jobs for the people of North Carolina.”

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

# TRAFFIC

Continued from page A1

line to move to night work,” Town Manager Chris Kennedy told the News + Record. “But before that we will see a fair bit of progress.”

On Monday, workers from Carolina Sunrock LLC of Raleigh, which was contracted to complete the project, began work to renew water and sewer lines, “as well as move some of the electrical, some handheld boxes for the street lighting and such in that vicinity,” Kennedy said.

“And so barring any delays there, it should only take maybe a couple of weeks to get that put together,” he said, “at which point we should see things open up.”

Night work was expected to have already begun, Kennedy added, but the project “stalled” in recent weeks.

“They are further behind schedule than they were initially — we were making great progress at the beginning,” he said. “And we were several



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Work continues on the \$2.48 million enhancement of Pittsboro’s traffic circle, but officials expect it to open by June 1.**

weeks ahead, but now they’ve lost some of that steam and that momentum.”

Still, the project is on track to complete before the fall deadline NCDOT originally imposed.

“We’ll probably have the project delivered in advance of the October 30 deadline,” Kennedy said. “But just in the last few weeks, despite some of

the good weather, we’ve gotten to some complicating factors when you start digging stuff up and you find things and need to fix them.”

The project, which began in January, is part of a bigger plan to improve about two miles of U.S. 15-501 in Pittsboro, widening and constructing roadway and streetscape improvements between

south of U.S. 64 Business and Powell Place Lane near the bypass.

In addition to that project, nine miles of U.S. Hwy. 64 that make up the Pittsboro bypass, between Exit 378 and the Haw River bridge, is undergoing enhancement. S.T. Wooten Corporation of Wilson was awarded that contract with the low bid of \$2.74 million and is scheduled to complete its work by June 2022; it will include milling, resurfacing and shoulder grading.

Since the traffic circle project commenced, downtown business owners have decried the imposition. Restricting access to shops and restaurants, they say, has only exacerbated the pandemic’s economic toll. The traffic circle carries U.S. 15-501 and U.S. 64 Business travelers through the heart of Pittsboro, but trucks and through traffic have been detoured — sometimes away from businesses — and pedestrians have had to navigate the precarious construction site.

“The pandemic was already bad,” Manish Patel, who owns

Neal’s Gas and Convenience, previously told the News + Record. “And now we’ve got this.”

Town staff sympathizes with downtown business owners, Kennedy says, and he’s glad to finally announce that “the end of the detours is in sight.”

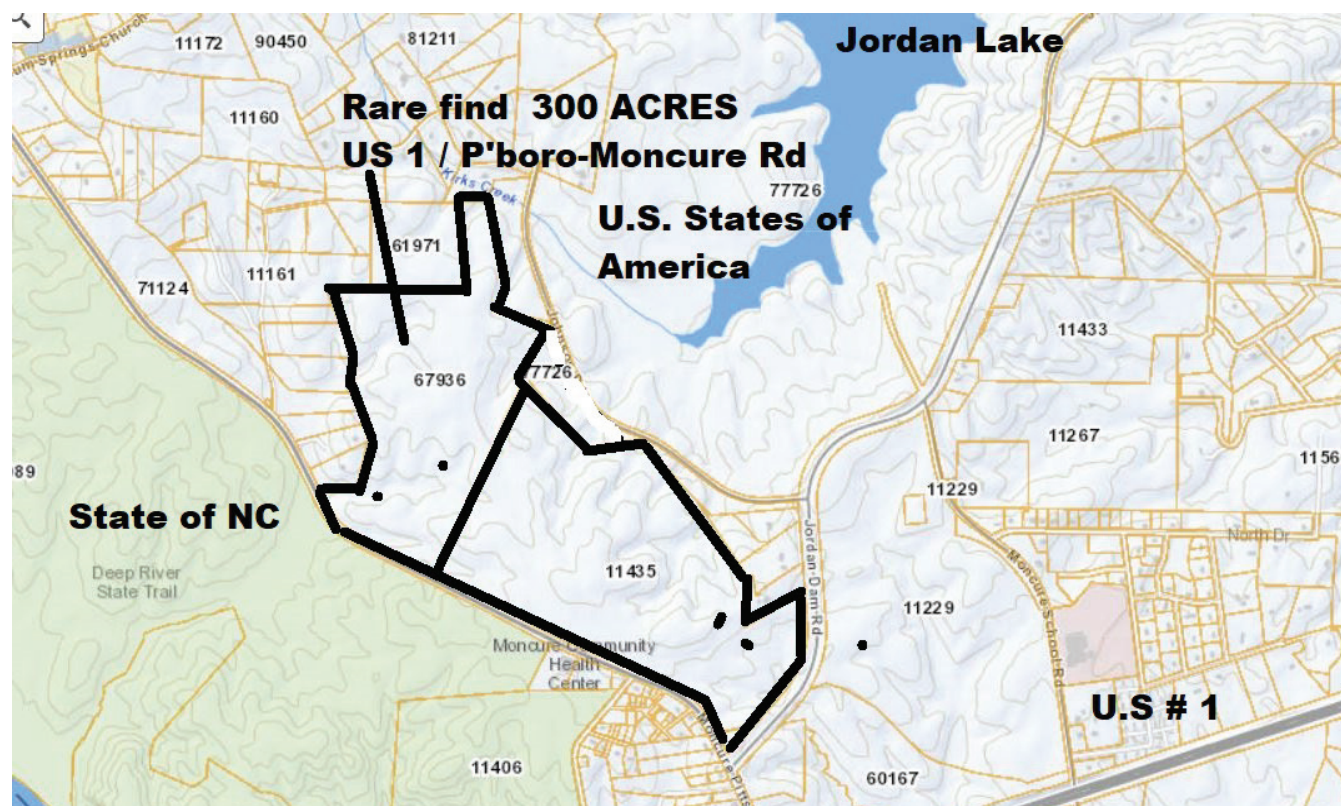
“We’re trying to work with them and keep their shops open as best we can,” he said. “It’s not convenient to have two thirds of your sidewalk torn apart from your business, but we’re doing what we can to try to keep them open and get the project done.”

By start of summer — when Gov. Roy Cooper says he hopes to lift statewide pandemic restrictions — downtown businesses should be poised to welcome customers without construction interference.

“I would say conservatively,” Kennedy said, “when the calendar flips over to June, that will we will be fully into that phase and the travel circle will be back open to traffic.”

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

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## JORDAN-MATTHEWS 11, EASTERN RANDOLPH 1

# 'A little chip on our shoulder': Jets avenge loss, pummel Eastern Randolph in 6 innings

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — With every passing inning last Thursday, hit after hit, Jordan-Matthews continued to put cracks into Eastern Randolph's foundation, one that had been sturdily constructed the day before.

As the damage multiplied and the cracks grew wider, a Wildcats' collapse was imminent.

In the sixth, the inevitable happened: Eastern Randolph went from a well-built structure to a massive pile of rubble as the Jets collected four hits to break the game wide open late in the contest with the Wildcats, taking home an 11-1 mercy-rule win in just six innings.

A day before, J-M suffered its first loss of the year to the Wildcats, 4-3, in a game dampened by rainy weather. It was the only contest so far where the Jets didn't score double-digit runs.

"We had a rough night last night," said John Headen, head coach of the Jets, after Thursday's game. "We had a game where anything and everything that could go wrong did, from rain delays and the breaks in the field and the calls in the field. Everything went in the opposite direction. And tonight, it seemed like a balanced field out there for us to be in."

For Jordan-Matthews — a team which won its first two games of the season against T.W. Andrews by a combined 30 runs — Thursday night gave

them a chance at redemption, a shot at proving those season-opening games weren't flukes. It had no issues there.

Moving into the bottom of the sixth inning nursing a 5-1 lead, the Jets had insurance on their minds, striving to score a run or two to make it more difficult for Eastern Randolph to win or tie with just one half-inning left to bat.

By the time J-M was finished batting, however, there wouldn't be a need for a seventh inning.

Eastern Randolph junior relief pitcher Cameron Moffitt walked two of the first three batters of the inning — freshman Kelton Fuquay and sophomore Sean Wagoner — then a bunt single by senior Huston



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Jordan-Matthews sophomore first baseman Conner Martin (left) attempts to tag out a runner at first in his team's 11-1 win over Eastern Randolph last Thursday. Martin is a member of a freshman/sophomore group that accounts for 11 of the team's 19 players.**

Causey loaded the bases with just one out. Moffitt walked in a run during the next at-bat, making it 6-1 and keeping the bases loaded.

That was just the beginning. When freshman Ian McMillan

got to the plate, he found the pitch he wanted and ripped it toward center field, hitting the bottom of the wall and falling a foot or so short from becoming

See **JETS**, page B2

# Siler City FC shifts plans, will offer travel soccer in 2021

*Tryouts for boys' and girls' teams to begin this month*

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — If you live in West Chatham and are interested in travel club soccer this fall, you won't have to look very far.

After previously planning to offer nothing but recreation leagues in 2021, Siler City Futbol Club — an entirely non-profit youth soccer organization based in Siler City — has announced that it will host tryouts for its boys' and girls' competitive travel soccer teams later this month.

This comes as a major shift for the organization, representatives of which told the News + Record in March that competitive travel soccer teams likely wouldn't be a possibility in 2021 as it tries to slowly build its brand and limit its offerings in its inaugural year.

Now, it's expanding its plans for the fall, allowing a new batch of opportunities

for teens in Siler City to play against tougher competition than recreational soccer provides.

"Recreational soccer is a wonderful thing," said Keith Shea, travel team director and interim vice president of Siler City FC. "But with travel ... it forces you to grow in what you're able to do. We're able to offer teams that have the ability to play competitions to continue to challenge (the players) and allow them to grow."

One of the primary drivers behind the decision to offer travel teams was the success of the only active travel soccer team for Siler City FC this spring, the U17 boys' team, that's dominated its competition in 2021.

The U17 team — a former member of the Chatham Soccer League that was left out of the league's partnership with Triangle United and was eventually scooped up by Siler City FC — has put the SCFC crest on the map in tournaments across the state.

In three tournaments so far this year, the U17 team has taken first place in its division in all three, compiling a 10-1 overall record and earning



Submitted photo via Chip Millard

**Siler City FC's Diego Valdez Plata (17), a member of the U17 boys' team, attempts a spot kick in his team's 3-1 victory over Wake FC to take the Tournament of Champions crown on April 25.**

plenty of medals along the way.

"The success they've had on the field has really been beyond what, certainly, my expectations for them were, having not competed in so long," Shea said. "I think that's created a lot of momentum that we're seeing in the community, a lot of excitement. And we thought the sooner we could build off of that, the better."

It's difficult for Shea or anyone else to predict how many travel teams will take the field for Siler City FC both this fall and next spring without seeing how many players show up to the tryouts that start next week, but optimism remains high.

"For the first go-round, I

See **SOCCER**, page B4



Submitted photo via Chip Millard

**The Siler City FC U17 boys' team poses in a group shot after winning their division in the Wake FC Tournament of Champions on Sunday, April 25. SCFC has competed in three tournaments so far, winning all three with a combined 10-1 record.**

## CHATHAM CHARTER 19, NC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 7

# Knights score 19 in historic first inning, wallop NCLA to stay undefeated

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — If you were in attendance for Chatham Charter's homecoming festivities, you might have caught a glimpse of baseball rarity.

It's on par with the odds of attending an MLB no-hitter or a single player hitting two grand slams in an inning. In fact, the Knights accomplished something in a high school game that's never been done in the 152-year history of Major League Baseball.

They scored 19 runs in an inning.

To put it lightly, Chatham Charter controlled the game on Friday in a four-inning, 19-7 win against the NC Leadership Academy Falcons.

"I've had some really, really good teams, but I've never had a team score 19 runs in an inning," said Bill Slaughter, Chatham Charter's head baseball

coach. "That's unheard of."

It was equal parts ugly and beautiful.

After the Falcons were held scoreless in a 1-2-3 inning by Chatham Charter junior starting pitcher Landon Hussey to open the game, the flood gates opened in the bottom of the first.

Falcons junior pitcher Nicholas Hurst, who struggled to find his control, walked Knights freshman Aidan Allred to lead off the inning, followed by back-to-back singles by senior Jacob Brannon and senior Trevor Golden, the latter of which drove in two runs, giving Chatham Charter a 2-0 lead with no outs.

Compared to the rest of the inning, that was mild.

Hurst would end up walking six batters (and hitting another) — including two bases-loaded walks — along with allowing four singles before being pulled from the game in the first.

When NCLA head coach Phillip Landphair came out of the dugout and pulled Hurst, it was a 9-0 game with the bases loaded and Golden — Chatham Charter's three-hole batter — at the plate for the second time already. The Knights still had zero outs.

"I know part of it was that the kid couldn't throw strikes and some things didn't go right for him, but we made a lot of that happen, too," Slaughter said. "When we had opportunities, we put the ball in play hard."

Falcons sophomore William Kauffman, who pitched the remainder of the inning, also had a tough time with the Knights' batters. He opened by walking Golden, pushing Chatham Charter's lead to 10-0 before the first out was even recorded.

Finally, with runners on the corners

See **KNIGHTS**, page B4



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**The Chatham Charter dugout cheers as a Knight steps up to the plate to bat in their team's 19-7 blowout win over NC Leadership Academy last Friday.**



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

**BY VICTOR HENSLEY**  
News + Record Staff

This week, we've got the state championships for golf and men's tennis, with participants from Chatham in both. In addition to post-season play, baseball, coed track & field, women's tennis and wrestling all continue their regular seasons this week with plenty of outdoor action, giving you a chance to enjoy this week's sunshine with a side of sports. Here are this week's schedules and last week's results.

**THIS WEEK**

**Wednesday, May 12**

Tennis: Chatham Central women at Gray Stone Day, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Jordan-Matthews women vs. Trinity, 4:30 p.m.

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

Baseball: Chatham Charter men vs. Millenium Charter, 6 p.m.

Wrestling: Chatham Central men vs. North Moore and Albemarle, 6 p.m.

**Thursday, May 13**

Tennis: Chatham Central women vs. Chatham Charter, 4 p.m.

Tennis: Jordan-Matthews women vs. Randleman, 4:30 p.m.

Track & Field: Chatham Central at South Stanly, 4:30 p.m.

Track & Field: Northwood vs. Northern and Cedar Ridge, 4:30 p.m.

Wrestling: Jordan-Matthews men at Wheatmore, 6 p.m.

Wrestling: Northwood men vs. Northern Durham and Southern Alamance, 6 p.m.

Baseball: Chatham Central vs. South Stanly, 7 p.m.

Baseball: Jordan-Matthews men at Randleman, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 14**

Track & Field: Jordan-Matthews vs. Eastern Randolph, Chatham Charter and Research Triangle, 4:30 p.m.

Baseball: Chatham Central vs. Gray Stone Day, 6 p.m.

Baseball: Northwood men vs. East Chapel Hill, 6 p.m.

Baseball: Chatham Charter vs. Southern Wake, 7 p.m.

**LAST WEEK**

**Monday, May 3**

Golf: Chatham Central's men's team had two golfers at the 1A Midwest Regionals — seniors Preston Cox (19th place, 81, +9) and Chandler Wilkes (23rd, 83, +11) — neither of whom qualified for states.

Golf: The Chatham Charter men had one golfer at the 2A Mideast Regionals, freshman Seph Trageser, who scored a 109 (+37), tying him for 25th place, not good

enough to qualify him for states.

Golf: The Northwood men saw one of its golfers, junior Jacob Conklin, qualify for the NCHSAA 3A State Championships after a fourth-place finish (par, 72) among individual qualifiers at the 3A Mideast Regionals.

Golf: Both of Jordan-Matthews' individual participants — senior David Miller and sophomore Noah Snyder — also qualified for the NCHSAA 2A Men's Golf State Championships after finishing in the top four among individuals in the 2A Mideast Regionals, with Miller placing third (80, +8) and Snyder placing fourth (82, +10).

Soccer: The Woods Charter women defeated the 5th-seeded Elkin Elks, 4-1, on the road in the first round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.

**Tuesday, May 4**

Baseball: The Chatham Charter men won their second game of the season against Clover Garden. Leading the Knights was senior Trevor Golden (2-for-3, 2B, 2 RBI; 4.0 IP, 1 H, 0 ER, 4 BB, 10 K).

Baseball: The Northwood men earned a close 3-2 victory over the Chapel Hill Tigers. The Chargers scored two runs in the bottom of the 6th inning to take the lead before holding the Tigers scoreless in the 7th. Leading Northwood on the night were sophomore Luke Smith (2-for-3, 2B, 2 RBI) and junior Mason Bae (2-for-2, 2B, BB).

Golf: The Chatham Central women had no qualifiers for the NCHSAA 1A/2A Women's Golf State Championships after their performance at the 1A/2A Central Regionals at Cedarbrook Country Club in Elkin. Senior Gillian Kitchings scored a 107 (+33), good for 30th place.

Golf: The Chatham Charter women saw Mackenzie Crossman — the Central Tar Heel Conference Player of the Year — qualify for the NCHSAA 1A/2A Women's Golf State Championships after a strong showing at the 1A/2A East Regionals at Lane Tree Golf Club in Goldsboro. Crossman scored a 78 (+6), finishing in third place among all golfers.

Golf: Northwood sophomore Lily Jordan qualified for the NCHSAA 3A Women's Golf State Championships after finishing in eighth place among all golfers (92, +20) at the 3A Central Regionals at Greensboro National Golf Club in Greensboro. As a team, Northwood finished eighth, scoring 312 on the day (+96).

Golf: Woods Charter's Teddy Taylor qualified for the NCHSAA 1A/2A State Championships after finishing eighth among individual qualifiers (97, +25) at the 1A/2A East Regionals

at Lane Tree Golf Club in Goldsboro.

Softball: The Chatham Central women earned a shutout victory of the Union Academy Cardinals, 8-0, to advance to the second round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs. See game recap in this week's edition.

Softball: The Chatham Charter women's chances at a playoff run came to an end with a 17-3 loss to the Murphy Bulldogs in the first round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.

Wrestling: The Northwood men earned two victories against Jordan-Matthews and East Chapel Hill, keeping them undefeated on the season.

**Wednesday, May 5**

Baseball: The Jordan-Matthews men suffered their first loss of the season against the Eastern Randolph Wildcats, 4-3. Down 4-0 heading into the 6th inning, the Jets scored three runs in the top of the 6th, but their rally fell just short. Leading J-M on the night were senior Carson Rickman (3-for-4, 3B) and freshman Kelton Fuquay (1-for-1, 2 RBI).

Soccer: The Woods Charter women advanced to the third round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs after a positive COVID-19 test within Polk County's soccer program forced them to forfeit their second-round contest with the Wolves.

Softball: The Chatham Central women saw their season come to an end with a 12-0 loss to the South Stanly Rowdy Rebel Bulls in the second round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.

Tennis: The Chatham Central women lost a close match to the South Stanly Rowdy Rebel Bulls, 5-4.

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women loss their first match of the season against Research Triangle, 5-3, to fall to 0-1. Two Knights won their singles matches — junior Ashlyn Hart (6-2, 6-0) and junior Lorelei Byrd (6-3, 6-6 (7-3)) — and as a duo, Hart and Byrd won their doubles match, 8-1.

Track & Field: Woods Charter had its second track meet of the season against Southwest Guilford and Cornerstone Charter Academy, finishing in third place (34 points) as a team in the men's events and fourth place (15 points) in the women's events. While there were no first-place finishers for the women, the men had a few: senior Kyle Howarth (first place, boys 100-meter dash, 11.66), senior Wilfred Charbonneau (first place, boys 400-meter dash, 55.70) and sophomore William Sikes (first place, boys 1600-meter run, 4:50.83).

**Thursday, May 6**

Baseball: The Chatham Central men were shutout by the Uwharrie Charter

Eagles, 11-0, to fall to 1-2 on the season. The Bears only mustered one hit on the night, which came off the bat of junior Nick Jourdan (1-for-2).

Baseball: The Jordan-Matthews men earned a comfortable 11-1 win over the Eastern Randolph Wildcats, avenging their Wednesday night loss to ER and improving to 3-1 on the season. J-M walked it off during a six-run 6th inning, where the mercy rule kicked in once the Jets went up by 10 runs. Leading the Jets were freshman Ian McMillan (1-for-2, 2B, BB, 4 RBI; 2.2 IP, 2 H, 0 ER, 4 Ks) and sophomore Jackson Headen (2-for-4, 2B, RBI). See game recap in this week's edition.

Track & Field: Chatham Central ran against Yadkin Valley opponents North Stanly, South Davidson and North Moore in a track meet hosted by North Moore. The Bears finished in first place as a team in the women's events (88.5 points), with the following athletes winning their respective events: senior Madison Gaines (first place, girls 100-meter hurdles, 20.4), senior Grace Jones (first place, girls discus throw, 70-06; first place, girls shot put, 26-03), senior Sophie Phillips (first place, girls high jump, 5-00). The Bears also won the girls 4x100 meter relay (57.2), girls 4x400 meter relay (5:39.4) and the girls 4x200 meter relay (2:10.9). Chatham Central finished fourth place in the men's events (22 points) with no first-place finishers.

Track & Field: Jordan-Matthews won both the men's and women's portions of its track meet against Randleman and Eastern Randolph, hosted by Randleman. The women finished in first place with 39 points as the following athletes won their respective events: senior DeMaya Williams (first place, girls 100-meter dash, 14.75), freshman Anna Vicente (first place, girls 200-meter dash, 33.09; first place, girls 400-meter dash, 1:17.00) and sophomore America Cuano (first place, girls 800-meter run, 3:51.00; first place, girls 1600-meter run, 7:11.00). The men finished in first place with 56 points, with the following athletes winning their respective events: senior Carlos Rojas (first place, boys 400-meter dash, 58.59) and senior Shane Conroy (first place, boys 3200-meter run, 12:45.00). The J-M men also won the 4x100 meter relay (46.04), the 4x400 meter relay (5:00.00) and the 4x800 meter relay (10:06.00).

Track & Field: Northwood competed in a meet with Chapel Hill and Northern Durham. The following women won their respective

events for the Chargers: Caroline Murrell (first place, girls 1600-meter run, 5:14.03), Liv Riggsbee (first place, girls discus, 88-3) and Kennedy Poston (first place, girls shot put, 29-5). Northwood didn't have any men place first in their respective events.

Wrestling: The Jordan-Matthews men lost to the Trinity Bulldogs by a perfect score.

Wrestling: The Northwood men split their matches, losing to Chapel Hill, 43-28, but defeating Apex, 56-24.

**Friday, May 7**

Baseball: The Chatham Charter men stomped the N.C. Leadership Academy Falcons, 19-7, to remain unbeaten on the season at 3-0. The Knights scored 19 runs in the first inning, dominating the Falcons from the get-go. Leading Chatham Charter on the night were senior Trevor Golden (2-for-

3, HR, BB, 7 RBI) and junior Landon Hussey (2-for-3, 2 RBI; 2.0 IP, 0 ER, 2 BB, 2 K).

Baseball: The Northwood men fell to the Orange Panthers, 10-1, to drop to 2-2 on the season.

Soccer: The Woods Charter women lost in the third round of the NCHSAA 1A women's soccer playoffs to the top-seeded Christ the King Crusaders, 4-0, eliminating them from the postseason.

**Saturday, May 8**

Tennis: The Chatham Central men competed in the 1A West Regionals in Elkin on Friday and Saturday. The Bears' duo of seniors Jayden Gilliland and Preston Cox finished in 4th place, qualifying them for the 1A State Championships in Cary, starting May 14.

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

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**County Mulch Sale**  
Solid Waste & Recycling Division  
28 County Services Road, Pittsboro  
**FINAL SALE for Spring 2021**  
Saturday, May 15  
7:30 am to 12:00 noon  
\$5 per scoop (~1 cubic yard)  
\$10 per scoop for large trailers and dump trucks (~3 cubic yards)  
We load. You haul. Don't forget a tarp!  
All loads of mulch must be secure.  
Mulch sales will resume in the summer of 2021.  
Details will be posted to the website soon.  
For more information:  
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[www.chathamnc.org/recycle](http://www.chathamnc.org/recycle)

**Household Hazardous Waste Events 2021**  
Saturday, May 15  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
28 County Services Road  
(6 miles west of Pittsboro, off Hwy 64)  
Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as  
• chemicals • cleaners • solvents • paint  
• pesticides • gasoline • antifreeze • electronics  
For a complete list of items visit [www.chathamnc.org/hhw](http://www.chathamnc.org/hhw)  
Future HHW events will be held the third Saturday of each month, through November.  
**No trash or empty containers.**  
**No business waste.**  
**No decal required.**  
**Must show proof of address.**  
Questions? Call (919) 542-5516

**JETS**

Continued from page B1

a grand slam. Instead, the hit held almost as much weight, resulting in a three-RBI double that gave J-M a 9-1 lead. It was all but over.

"I think we had a little chip on our shoulder coming into this game," Causey said after the win. "We had to take care of business and do our thing."

After a single by junior Carson Whitehead that also advanced McMillan to third, a dropped third strike resulted in senior Cody Spohn barely beating out a throw to first, allowing McMillan to sneak in from third to score, making it 10-1.

Then, on a single by sophomore Jackson Headen, an error occurred on the throw in the infield, which let Whitehead score to grab a 10-run lead, walking it off by virtue of the mercy rule. Jets win.

"The only thing this team lacks is the guns that stand up there and throw 90 miles per hour," Headen said. "We feel

like we can hit. ... We feel like we can compete with most of the pitching we're going to see right now."

Aside from J-M's first matchup against the Wildcats, its offense has been on a tear so far this season, scoring 50 runs in only four games. On Thursday, the Jets had a baserunner in every inning, even in those where they didn't get a hit or score a run. They continued to give themselves opportunities.

In the second inning, for example, J-M led off with four straight singles that resulted in an early 3-0 lead, rattling Wildcats' starting pitcher, junior Brody Gardner (3.0 IP, 6 H, 5 ER, 2 BB, 2 K). In total, J-M had 11 hits on the night to go along with five walks and a couple of batters that reached on errors, combining for 18 baserunners and 18 scoring opportunities.

And while the Jets don't have pitchers who throw 90 mile-per-hour fastballs, they do have a couple of young, serviceable arms that keep opponents off the board.

Fuquay (3.1 IP, 4 H, ER, BB) and McMillan (2.2 IP, 2 H, 0 ER, BB, 4 K) worked in tandem to limit the Wildcats offensively.

In the fourth, Fuquay began to struggle as Eastern Randolph collected back-to-back-to-back hits, the final of which resulted in the Wildcats' only run of the game. This is when Headen made a pitching change, allowing McMillan to grab the last two outs without much trouble and stifling the last real chance they had at a multi-run inning.

**Age is just a number**

Jordan-Matthews is an incredibly youthful team, boasting plenty of underclassmen who play crucial roles on both sides of the ball, including 11 freshman and sophomores, six of whom swung a bat for them on Thursday.

Though the roster sports five seniors, after losing nearly an entire season of experience last year — all but five games — due to the pandemic, Headen says it feels like they're still juniors who have been

thrust into the role of being senior leaders.

"For the first time, I have a group of seniors that I haven't had a whole season with," Headen said. "But they're really coming together and they're great teammates that genuinely like each other and that's made this a lot easier."

The Jets (3-1) may have been tested very few times so far during this young season, but they'll face their first true obstacle in a two-game series with unbeaten Randleman on Tuesday and Thursday this week. The Tigers have allowed just four runs this year in as many games.

"We'll just see how it shakes out on Tuesday," Headen said. "We just try to do the same thing (to prepare) every time, that's us. We worry about ourselves, not anyone else outside of our dugout."

"We're excited," added Causey. "We're ready."

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



**FIRST RD: CHATHAM CENTRAL 8, UNION ACADEMY 0  
SECOND RD: CHATHAM CENTRAL 0, SOUTH STANLY 12**

# Bears overcome storm to blank Union Academy, fall to South Stanly in second round

**BY VICTOR HENSLEY**  
News + Record Staff

**BEAR CREEK** — A couple of hours prior to first pitch, the idea that last Tuesday's first-round playoff softball matchup between Chatham Central and Union Academy would send one of them home was the least of each team's worries.

Instead, it was whether or not the game would be played at all.

After having it postponed once on Monday due to inclement weather, it appeared they'd have to throw in the towel once again with dark clouds flooding the sky just before first pitch, forcing Union Academy to make another 96-mile trip on Wednesday to try it all over again.

Even with a downpour ensuing, an unfavorable-looking radar prediction and fans huddling under shelters and umbrellas, though, the lineups were announced and the loudspeakers began playing the national anthem.

It didn't matter if everything was soaked. It was time to play ball.

It would take a lot more than an hour and a half rain delay to slow down the Bears, who defeated Union Academy Cardinals, 8-0, to advance to the second round of the NCHSAA 1A softball playoffs.

"The girls really wanted to play and they kept saying, 'Come on, coach. Come on, coach. Let's play, let's play,'" said Jerry Polston, the Bears' head coach, after the first-round playoff win. "And so we thought, 'You know what, if we can get this thing in, let's get this thing in and go.' We knew our infield was going to be in good shape because of the tarp. It soaked up the rain."

Many of Chatham Central's players were locked in, but nobody more so than sophomore pitcher Mary Gaines, who was an unhittable force for Cardinals batters.

Gaines (6.0 IP, 0 H, 0 ER, BB, 9 K) allowed just one baserunner all night on a walk to lead off the third inning and, instead of wearing down, her control and speed improved as the game progressed, sitting down six of her last nine batters faced on strikes.

Gaines, who was battling an illness

early in the week, paired up with junior Taylor Poe (1.0 IP, 0 H, 0 ER, K) to pitch a no-hitter for the Bears, blanking a Union Academy team that averaged nearly 13 runs per game entering Tuesday night.

It wasn't quite Michael Jordan's legendary "flu" game, but it wasn't far off.

"Mary's been sick and almost didn't play tonight, but she battled it, came back and took care of herself," Polston said. "And it's the control of her pitches, she's learned how to be more than just a power pitcher. She's learned how to move the ball."

The Bears' no-no was in jeopardy on occasion, but thanks to fantastic defensive plays — including a couple of off-balance catches in right field — it stayed intact.

Polston and his team pride themselves on their ability to stifle opponents with their defense.

"The defense played really, really well ... we were error-free," Polston said. "That's kind of been our signature this year, good pitching and good defense."

The Bears took a 1-0 lead in the first inning on a wild pitch that allowed sophomore Jaylee Williams to score from third base, but it was the second inning when they truly began to pile it on.

Mary Gaines (3 BB) walked early in the inning, followed by Bears' junior catcher Lindsey Johnson reaching on an error after the ball got away from the first baseman, putting two runners on with one out. Then, on one of her best offensive nights of the season, Williams came back to the plate and whacked a double to left-center field, driving in two runs and giving her team an even larger lead.

Williams — who scored on a passed ball later in the second to put the Bears up 4-0 — was a triple away from hitting for the cycle (a single, double, triple and home run in the same game). She racked up three hits, scored three times, drove in four runs and reached base on an error, acting as the team's most important offensive player from the lead-off spot.

In the sixth inning, with the Bears ahead by six runs, 6-0, Williams was up



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Chatham Central sophomore starting pitcher Mary Gaines throws a pitch in the rainy weather during her team's 8-0 first-round playoff win over the Union Academy Cardinals on Tuesday, May 4. Gaines combined for a no-hitter with junior Taylor Poe.**

to bat with a pinch-runner on second in place of Gaines — who walked for her third and final time — and knocked a deep ball to left field, driving in a run as she sped around the bases. Polston emphatically waved her home in a risky move as the ball was heading towards home plate, but she narrowly beat the tag to complete the inside-the-park home run.

"She wasn't going to stop, I can tell you that right now," Polston said, laughing. "I had the doggone round-house going and she knew she had to keep rolling, she saw that and lit up. ... She's really smart, she's a really smart ballplayer."

Union Academy sophomore starting pitcher Gracie Hollingsworth, who averaged over nine strikeouts a game this season, struck out 11 batters in her seven innings pitched but struggled to

keep the Bears off base. She allowed eight hits and five walks — not counting the two errors on the Cardinals that resulted in a player reaching base — giving Chatham Central plenty of opportunities to add to its ever-growing lead.

## Falling flat

The Bears' commitment to what they do best is what set them apart from the Cardinals, preparing them for a road rematch with the top-seeded South Stanly Rowdy Rebel Bulls — to whom they lost, 2-1, on March 29, in one of their only two losses of the season — the next day.

"It was just a total team effort, just smart, fundamental softball," Polston said. "We go to South Stanly tomorrow, that's what we wanted to do. We played a 2-1 game over there before, didn't hit the ball particularly well. ... Both teams know they're in for a battle."

In the end, South Stanly — a team that's allowed just 23 runs all season and has accounted for seven double-digit shutout victories in 15 games — got the best of the Bears, who dropped a 12-0 game on the road in Norwood, eliminating them from the playoffs in the second round.

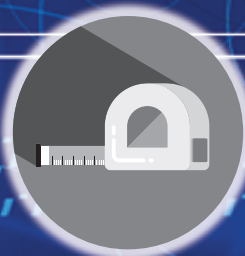
Chatham Central is a team moving forward with plenty of promise. It has just three seniors — Mary Grace Murchison, Lindsay Polston and Katie Sanders — on its roster, while some of its brightest stars, including Gaines and Williams, have a couple of years left to grow and develop with the Bears.

It may not have been the desired result, but after a lost season in 2020, making it to the second round of the playoffs, allowing just 32 runs all year and being one of the most dominant teams in their conference is something to be proud of.

"It's a blessing just to be able to coach and it's a blessing just to be able to play," Polston said after Tuesday's game. "There are several kids who never get the opportunity to play this game and that's who you play for."

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

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# Representing Chatham



Submitted photo

**Woods Charter's Teddy Taylor (far right) competes in the 1A/2A Women's Golf State Championships in Pinehurst on Tuesday. Taylor was one of many athletes from Chatham schools competing in tennis and golf regional/state championships over the last couple of weeks.**



Submitted photo

**Jordan-Matthews senior David Miller (left) putts in the 2A Men's Golf State Championships in Pinehurst. Miller finished in 13th place (79, +7), while his teammate, sophomore Noah Snyder, finished 15th (80, +8).**



Submitted photo

**Chatham Central men's tennis coaches and players (from left: head coach Heather Brooks, junior Colby Williamson, senior Preston Cox, senior Jayden Gilliland, assistant coach Wendy Phillips) pose during 1A West Regionals in Elkin last week. The dynamic doubles duo of Cox and Gilliland advanced to the 1A Men's Tennis State Championships after placing fourth in the regionals, while Williamson was eliminated in the first round, missing out on a shot at competing on the state level.**



Submitted photo

**Northwood's Jacob Conklin poses for photos after tying for first place (even-par 72) in the 3A Mideast Regionals in Buies Creek on May 3. Conklin went on to finish second place in the 3A Men's Golf State Championships in Southern Pines (70, -2) on Monday.**



Submitted photo

**Chatham Central golfers Chandler Wilkes (left, who finished 19th) and Preston Cox (23rd) competed in the 1A Midwest Regionals at Piney Point Golf Club on May 3. Neither of them qualified for the state championship.**

Individuals	
ATTH	90
BORE	80
ONSCHIEIN	98
LELOT	94
ARTIN	82
HOMAS	87
OODLELL	84
AUK	72
DCH	100
LELOT	85
ONKLEIN	72
RANK	91

# SOCCER

Continued from page B1

would consider it very successful if we were able to put out, say, six teams over the course of the year," Shea said. "We know there are families out there who have kids that want more than what rec is going to offer and I think we can provide something here starting sooner rather than later."

While details are still being finalized, Shea said that the hope is for the club's travel teams to play primarily in a U.S. Club Soccer league consisting of two dozen other organizations and teams from North and South Carolina. They'll also register for and compete in outside tournaments.

In order to avoid conflict with the Jordan-Matthews — and other high schools' — soccer seasons, boys aged 14-18 (U15-U19) won't tryout until after the fall soccer season for play next spring, while girls aged 14-18 (U15-U19) will tryout this month for play in fall 2021, but won't play in spring 2022. Tryouts will take

place on the following dates:

- Boys' tryouts: Tuesday, May 18, and Thursday, May 20, 6-7:30 p.m. at Chatham Middle School

- Girls' tryouts: Tuesday, May 25, and Thursday, May 27, 6-7:30 p.m. at Chatham Middle School

Players on the club's travel teams will have the opportunity to represent Siler City across the Carolinas, Shea said, gaining recognition for the city in places that may not be familiar with it, just as the U17 boys' team has done this year.

"In the first tournament (the U17 team) played in, the first time the club had ever put anything on the field, teams were looking around saying, 'Siler City FC? Who's this?'" Shea said. "And by the time they had finished rolling over three pretty good teams in a college showcase tournament, the question was the same but the tone had changed to, 'Who are these guys?'"

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



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# KNIGHTS

Continued from page B1

and the score 12-0, Kauffman struck out senior Carter Phillips — in the team's 15th plate appearance — for the first out of the first inning.

Another quick out followed — a grounder hit by junior Colton Nixon that also drove in a run — but a single and a walk came next, loading the bases again for the Knights. Kauffman followed it up by walking Allred with the bases loaded, scoring a run, and hitting Brannon in the back, scoring another. The bags remained full with two outs. It was 15-0.

That's when Golden (2-for-3, HR, 7 RBI) — a player more revered for his pitching than hitting — slammed the door shut on the reeling Falcons, capping off his career inning with a well-timed blast to right field that landed near the wall and forced an outfielder to chase it down. All four Knights, including Golden, made it home before the ball found its way back into the infield. It was an inside-the-park grand slam that gave Chatham Charter its 19-0 lead.

The crowd was in disbelief, the Knights were in celebration mode and the Falcons appeared lost in a game that had gotten out of hand so quickly, just two-thirds of the way through the first inning.

"I've never seen it balloon like that before, it just seemed like the confidence level grew," Slaughter said. "And then you start thinking the other way because I've been on benches where I've had teams get beat really badly. ... First of all, it's 'don't get anybody hurt,' but let's don't embarrass them, either."

In that 19-run first inning, the Knights had eight hits, nine walks and two hit batters. Three of Chatham Charter's players — Allred,



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**Chatham Charter senior Trevor Golden spins his helmet around while standing at third base in his team's 19-7 win over NC Leadership Academy last Friday. Golden racked up 7 RBIs on two hits and a walk in the first inning alone.**

Brannon and Golden — reached base three times in the first.

From there, the Knights played the second and third innings primarily with players who don't get the opportunity to see the field often. Some of them got at-bats for the first time this season.

"It's just a matter of getting some guys in the ballgame and getting some experience for them," Slaughter said. "I'm so happy for those guys. Yeah, Trevor Golden's been there, Carter Phillips' been there ... but some of these younger guys haven't, so to see them excited like they were in the dugout and pull for each other, that's what it's all about."

NCLA ended up putting seven runs on the board once Allred (2.0 IP, 3 H, 5 ER, 3 BB, 3 K) came in to pitch for Hussey in the third and fourth innings.

While the game could have been over after the third — a rule exists where a game can be called after three innings if a team is up by 15 or more runs — both teams agreed to play the fourth to allow NCLA coach Landphair a shot at letting some of his other hitters get a chance. Then, the Falcons went on a mini scoring tear of their

own, putting up four runs in the fourth.

"(Landphair) got it to 19-7 and I was thinking he might want to keep going," Slaughter said with a laugh. "It might have wound up being 28-24 before it was all said and done."

The Knights' dominant victory keeps them undefeated on the season at 3-0. Having allowed just seven runs on the year — all on Friday — Chatham Charter is sure to be in the running for the top spot in the Central Tar Heel 1A Conference at season's end if everything goes according to Slaughter's plan.

However, there's still plenty of time in between and plenty of obstacles in their way, namely the Cornerstone Charter Academy Cardinals, who are also undefeated (1-0) on the year.

"We have a chance to be very successful in our league," Slaughter said. "Anybody can step up and beat you, but if things pan out like they should and Trevor (Golden) stays healthy and (the Cardinals) kids stay healthy, it should be us and Cornerstone fighting this thing out."

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

## Chatham COA Events & Announcements

May 13th - May 19th

### Thursday, May 13th

- [Body Conditioning with Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (Outside at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center Bocce Court)
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Looking Up When You're Feeling Down with Cheryl of Therapeutic Alternatives](#) at 11:15 AM
- [Matter of Balance](#) at 1:00 PM
- [Tai Chi for Arthritis](#) at 3:00 PM

### Friday, May 14th

- [Strong & Fit with Jackie](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Weekly Call with Director, Dennis Streets](#) at 10:15 AM
- [Virtual Yoga for Senior Athletes](#) at 3:00 PM

### Monday, May 17th

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

### Tuesday, May 18th

- [Body Conditioning with Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (Outside at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center Bocce Court)
- [Strong & Fit with Jackie](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Evidence-Based Preventative Care](#) at 11:15 AM

### Wednesday, May 19th

- [Virtual Walking Club](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Chair Yoga with Liz](#) at 10:00 AM
- [Legal Aid Outreach with Melany](#) 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/>



### Join the Trivia Hunt & Win!

Each week we hide trivia question in the *Chatham News + Record*. Find the correct answer and enter to win a \$25 VISA gift card in the COA's monthly drawing. Look in **Section A** for this week's question.

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919-742-3975



# How CCS plans to spend its \$17.4 million of expected COVID-19 relief allotments

**BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN**  
News + Record Staff

Chatham County Schools submitted its application for its second and third rounds of COVID-19 relief funds — totaling about \$17.4 million — to the state last week, the district said during Monday’s board of education meeting.

Over the course of the pandemic, CCS has received a total allotment of about \$18.8 million as part of North Carolina’s Elementary & Secondary School (K-12) Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER), to be received and spent over the next few years. The school system received nearly \$1.4 million last year as a part of the CARES Act, and most of that funding went toward buying things to implement its COVID-19 safety protocol: cleaning sanitizer, signage, personal protective equipment and more. Any remaining balance is budgeted for salaries, the district said, to be spent by the end of 2022.

“This pot of money is a little bit more flexible,” said Amanda Hartness, CCS assistant superintendent of academic services and instructional support, at Monday’s meeting.

As part of December’s federal relief act (CRRSA), CCS was allotted \$5.4 million, with \$12 million most recently allotted through the American Rescue Plan Act, passed March 11. Both applications were due May 7 and opened during the first two weeks of April.

“It’s been a quick turnaround,” Hartness said, “(with) many complexities and layers, but we feel really proud of what we’ve put together thus far.”

Twenty percent of the ARP funding must go toward mitigating learning loss, the district said, or \$2.4 million. The remaining funding — from rounds two and three of funding — can be used to respond to COVID-19, prevent COVID-19 and reduce the spread of the virus, the district said during its presentation to the board. Some examples

of such allowable uses include facility repairs/improvements to minimize virus transmission, long-term closure activities and mental health services.

“When Dr. Hartness mentioned flexibility, in terms of a federal program, (this is) the most flexible pot of money I think I’ve ever dealt with,” Carrie Little, Executive Director of Federal Programs and School Improvement, told the board. “So we’re very fortunate.”

The second round of funding, ESSER II, must be allocated by Sept. 30, 2023, to be spent by the end of that year, while ESSER III must last until Sept. 30, 2024. School districts are expected to use some of their ESSER II funding for this year’s summer learning costs. Last month, state legislature passed a law requiring 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, with the goal of mitigating learning loss caused by the pandemic.

Following surveying of principles and other administrators, as well as a review of academic data, the district identified the following academic areas of need: achievement and opportunity gaps, English-Language Learner student progress, Math I and middle school and 9th grade ELA. The potential funding areas included extended learning opportunities, investing in human capital, health and safety (such as HVAC systems and PPE) and professional development.

“And then of course, COVID learning losses just across the board will be something we’ll have to focus on,” Hartness said.

The district primarily presented buckets that funding could be used for rather than proposing individual line-item expenses.

“The purpose of this evening was to kind of give you an overview of the process and what kind of the big areas are,” Hartness told the board, “but we

certainly in future meetings can share additional information.”

“It’s a nice problem to have trying to figure out how to spend money,” board Chairperson Gary Leonard said. “I know you’ll work with our schools to put it to the best benefit of our students.”

**Other meeting business**

Prior to last night’s meeting, the last day of the 2020-21 academic year was an early release day on Wednesday, June 9. The board voted to move the last day of the school year to a full day on Tuesday, June 8 so that students learning under Plan A can finish school in-person rather than remotely on the asynchronous Wednesday planning day. June 9 will now be a required teacher workday.

The board heard an update from Forthright Advising, a Raleigh public relations firm that the district began working with earlier this year to “ensure that (CCS) communications with stakeholders are impactful and productive.”

Forthright has so far commissioned a communications audit, looked specifically at COVID-19 communications and surveyed parents about communications. Katie Test Davis, Forthright founder, said 82% of parents who responded said they had a clear understanding of district COVID-19 changes. Board members Melissa Hlavac and Jane Allen Wilson raised questions about who answered the survey and how it was administered, expressing concerns that the survey might not have reached parents without reliable internet access.

Forthright recommended the district send out a “post-COVID” monthly newsletter, emphasize school-based communication and use email, robocalls and social media to “meet parents where they are.”

The board heard a brief update on Chatham Park North, a 7,100-acre mixed-use development expected to add over 20,000 homes to Pittsboro over the

next three decades, with the homeside access across from Northwood High School expected to be complete in 2025. An August vote by the BOE splits Chatham Park students between Northwood and Seaforth High School, the district’s new high school set to open next fall.

The board also approved a \$128,362 request to purchase band instruments to support the middle and high school band programs, a \$150,000 request to invest in E-Book Sora platform along with granting district administration to purchase Chromebooks and network with the E-Rate recovery funds once received.

The meeting concluded with a presentation on proposed county funds spending plan, presented by Superintendent for Operations Chris Blice, which the board approved.

The school system has an estimated \$10 million earmarked from the county, due to a surplus of Chatham county borrowing, to be used on school projects included in the Chatham County Capital Improvements Projects Plan.

Blice presented an attachment showing the funds allocated to be used to address construction needs at Chatham Grove Elementary and Seaforth High schools, anticipated capacity issues at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, athletic lighting needs at Chatham Central, Jordan-Matthews, and Northwood High schools, and paving/LED lighting upgrades at numerous schools across the district. He stressed that the actual amounts listed per project are estimates and will likely be adjusted.

“The proposed spending plan is an opportunity,” Blice said, “and I would quite frankly call it a once in a lifetime kind of thing.”

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

# Global waste offers food for thought

Every year, almost 20% of the world’s food is wasted.

That’s what the United Nations concluded in its 2021 Food Waste Index Report, released in March.

“(T)he true scale of food waste and its impacts have not been well understood until now,” the report says. “... Previous estimates of consumer food waste significantly underestimated its scale.”

From its most recent data, the UN believes more than twice as much food goes uneaten than previously known. We might expect that large food producers and suppliers are most guilty of squandering goods — purging grocery store shelves of expired items and trashing prepared meals that go unsold.

But they’re not. We are.

“This report estimates that around 931 million tonnes of food waste was generated in 2019,” the UN says, “61 percent of

which came from households.”

As LA Times columnist David Lazarus cogently illustrated in a recent article, it’s “enough food, if packed into millions of trucks, to circle the Earth seven times.”

So much food waste accumulates each year that it expels about 10% of the world’s annual greenhouse gas emissions. Even worse, more than enough food is scrapped than necessary to nourish the hundreds of millions who go hungry every year. About 690 million people lacked for food in 2019, the most recent available estimate, according to the World Health Organization.



**D. LARS DOLDER**  
Enterprising Chatham

That was 10 million more than in 2018, and nearly 60 million higher than the previous five-year norm.

“It’s a major problem,” Kristin Bulpitt, a Pittsboro farmer and restaurateur told me. “... By the time food gets to the store, it’s already halfway bad. So much of it ends up in dumpsters, either from people not being able to use it fast enough or when it doesn’t move at the grocery store.”

Bulpitt owns Copeland Springs Farm and Kitchen, part of The Plant complex on Lorax Lane west of downtown Pittsboro. She grows 90% of the food her restaurant serves in a series of fields on The Plant’s campus. Any ingredients she does not produce herself, such as flour and cheese, she sources from other local farms.

She also operates a community supported agriculture program (members pay up front

to get weekly packages of fresh produce), which she runs, in part, to combat prolific food waste.

“My biggest fear is that food goes home and rots in somebody’s fridge,” Bulpitt said. “It just makes me sad to think how much is not utilized.”

Not only is fresh, locally-grown food more nutritious and flavorful than store-bought alternatives, but its shelf-life is longer — much longer than many realize.

“Because it’s so fresh it lasts, and I don’t think people always know that,” Bulpitt said. “Sure, if you just take a head of lettuce and you throw it in your fridge on a shelf, it’s going to wilt and be terrible. But if you wrap it up in a plastic bag or put it in a container to keep in that humidity and keep it cold, lettuce will last for weeks.”

Also, more food can be frozen than some believe.

“Even produce, if you don’t have time to deal with it, chop it up and throw it in the freezer,” Bulpitt said. “Most things can be frozen.”

Now, full disclosure: As I write this, I’ve eaten nothing but Doritos in the past 24 hours (I realize how absurd that is). Lettuce hasn’t graced my fridge in a long time. Still, I can appreciate the exceeding nutritional value of locally grown produce. And I believe Bulpitt when she says working with a CSA motivates buyers to observe responsible food-use practices.

“It’s a very intentional decision that people make when they sign up for a CSA and I think it makes people value it more,” Bulpitt said. “And I hope that through the connection we make, they might see my little face flashing before they dump something in the trash.”

Even when food ripens beyond the traditionally acceptable standard of what’s palatable, Bulpitt has some tips to avoid total waste.

“As a last resort, you can put it in the compost,” she said, “but I would say first, throw it in a pot and make it stock. If it’s kind of too far gone, but it’s still edible, but you don’t know what to do with it, you can always make it into a soup broth.”

Pickling is another option.

“It’s so easy,” Bulpitt said. “Like, here’s a quick pickle method: Say you have too many radishes. Chop them up, throw them in some vinegar with some herbs and throw them in your fridge and those will last for quite a few weeks.”

Bulpitt has other preservative methods up her sleeve, many of which she outlines in a document she shares with all her CSA members. The bottom line: there are few excuses to waste food.

“I think there’s just a bunch of different ways to make good use of what we have,” Bulpitt said.

“We don’t have to waste so much.”

To learn more about Bulpitt’s CSA, visit her website, [www.copeland-springsfarm.com](http://www.copeland-springsfarm.com). Her entry level program starts at \$125 for 10 weeks of produce, but low-income families can pay as little as \$5 a week through a subsidized pay-what-you-can program.

**Other business news**

• The property tax rate in Lee County is likely to decrease under next year’s proposed fiscal budget, according to County Manager John Crumpton.

The rate is expected to lower by 1.5 cents per \$100 of valuation, from 77.5 cents to 76 cents.

“The strength of our local economy coupled with continued growth and economic development wins are driving demand for county programs and services,” Crumpton said in a statement. “The FY22 Recommended Budget manages those demands and emphasizes the priorities of the Board, which included lowering the county tax rate. Better than expected sales tax and property tax revenues over the past year have placed Lee County in a strong position to manage the expectations and needs of our growing community.”

Lee County’s Board of Commissioners will hold budget workshops in May to review the proposed budget. A public hearing is scheduled for June 7 after which the board must adopt a budget no later than June 30, according to North Carolina law.

The budget documents are available for review on the county website at [leecountync.gov](http://leecountync.gov). For additional information or questions, please contact the County Manager’s Office at 919-718-4605.

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

**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! !!

“Even produce, if you don’t have time to deal with it, chop it up and throw it in the freezer,” Bulpitt said. “Most things can be frozen.”

Now, full disclosure: As I write this, I’ve eaten nothing but Doritos in the past 24 hours (I realize how absurd that is). Lettuce hasn’t graced my fridge in a long time. Still, I can appreciate the exceeding nutritional value of locally grown produce. And I believe Bulpitt when she says working with a CSA motivates buyers to observe responsible food-use practices.

“It’s a very intentional decision that people make when they sign up for a CSA and I think it makes people value it more,” Bulpitt said. “And I hope that through the connection we make, they might see my little face flashing before they dump something in the trash.”

Even when food ripens beyond the traditionally acceptable standard of what’s palatable, Bulpitt has some tips to avoid total waste.

“As a last resort, you can put it in the compost,” she said, “but I would say first, throw it in a pot and make it stock. If it’s kind of too far gone, but it’s still edible, but you don’t know what to do with it, you can always make it into a soup broth.”

Pickling is another option.

“It’s so easy,” Bulpitt said. “Like, here’s a quick pickle method: Say you have too many radishes. Chop them up, throw them in some vinegar with some herbs and throw them in your fridge and those will last for quite a few weeks.”

Bulpitt has other preservative methods up her sleeve, many of which she outlines in a document she shares with all her CSA members. The bottom line: there are few excuses to waste food.

“I think there’s just a bunch of different ways to make good use of what we have,” Bulpitt said.



# POLICE REPORTS

## CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On May 2, Michael James Everwine, 39, of 135 Bradford Rogers Lane, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Olivia Sturdivant for failure to appear. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on May 10.

On May 2, Michael James Everwine was also arrested by Deputy Olivia Sturdivant for a separate charge of failure to appear. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 26.

On May 2, Edward Michel Hatcher, 42 of 146 Robert Alston Jr Dr., Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for domestic violence protective order violation. He was held without bond. He is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 12.

On May 3, John Fredrick Tysor, 18, of 223 Pinecrest Dr., Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Justina Knox for failure to appear. He was issued a \$300 cash bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 26.

On May 4, Adam Ryan Teague, 24, of 277 Sunset Hills, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Phillip Hanson for a misdemeanor probation violation. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on

May 18.

On May 4, Brandon Chris Kearns, 24, of 12014 Fox Glen Rd., Charlotte, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for assault on a female. He was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 19.

On May 5, Lisa Renee Thomas, 35, of 149 Bonlee Bennett Rd, Bonlee, was arrested by Deputy Grant Carter for conspiracy to sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance, obtaining property by false pretenses, possession of marijuana up to ½ oz, misdemeanor child abuse and an expired operator's license. She was issued a \$2,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 24.

On May 5, Mandi Binkley Corns, 58, of 2700 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Justina Knox for felony possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia, obstructing justice and three charges of failure to appear. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 2.

On May 5, April Lavonne Siler, 42, of 1614 Moons Chapel Rd., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Reggie Griffin on warrant from another jurisdiction. She was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 17.

On May 6, Milagro Gomez Turcios, 31,

of 1314 Newland St., Siler City, was arrested by Corporal Michael Cox for misdemeanor child abuse and assault on a child under 12. She was released on a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 17.

On May 6, Eric Wayne King, 26, of 1742 US Hwy 64 E, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy David Nixon for possession with intent to sell/deliver cocaine, selling/delivering cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was released on a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 17

On May 8, Zane Michael Holland, 26, of 63 Willow Way, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Reggie Griffin for credit card fraud. He was issued a \$15,000 secured band and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 17.

On May 7, Erin Jo Moore, 39, of 800-A Asbury Church Rd., Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Grant Carter for domestic violence protective order violation. She was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 25.

On May 7, Gerald Lee Greene Jr., 48, of 8108 Siler City Glendon Rd., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Johnny Griffin for failure to appear. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 26.

On May 8, Kim Chavis Snipes, 48, of 413

Womble St., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Jonathan Frazier for possession of marijuana up to ½ oz., felony possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 17.

On May 9, Derek Michael Crossman, 28, of 322 Sea Pine Dr., Egg Harbor Township, NJ, was arrested by Deputy Dominique York for assault on a female while intoxicated and disruptive. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 2.

On May 10, Chelsea Renee Holland, 27, of 63 Willow Way, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for possession of firearm by a felon, larceny, larceny of a firearm and possession of a stolen firearm. She was issued a \$25,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Alamance County District Court in Graham on May 24.

On May 10, Chelsea Renee Holland was also arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for resisting a public officer. She was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District in Pittsboro on May 19.

On May 10, Nathan Eric Fox, 21, of 738 Sam Jones Rd., Chapel Hill, was arrested by Cpl. Robert Pelkey for assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, assault with a deadly weapon and assault on a female. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on May 17.

## Two Chatham Sheriff's deputies charged in connection with off-duty shooting

BY D. LARS DOLDER  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Pittsboro Police Department has concluded its investigation into an April 11 incident involving three off-duty law enforcement officers, charging two of them, according to a PPD statement issued last Thursday.

The three officers — two of whom PPD identified as now-former Chatham County Sheriff's Office deputies Alexis Bonilla and Gregory D. Barrett — were found intoxicated in public with several weapons after multiple reports of shots fired.

In the month-long investigation, Pittsboro

police concluded that Bonilla, 24, of Siler City, discharged at least one of several non-department issued weapons found at the scene, a parking lot at 50 West Salisbury St. in Pittsboro.

Bonilla was charged with discharging a firearm inside Pittsboro city limits and carrying a concealed gun after/while consuming alcohol. Barrett, 27, of Robbins, was charged with carrying a concealed gun after/while consuming alcohol.

The third officer, a sergeant with the Siler City Police Department, was not carrying a weapon and was not found to have violated any North Carolina laws. The officer has not been

charged with any crimes, but resigned from the department, according to a statement from Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner. Wagner declined to identify the former officer.

No one was injured as a result of the shots fired, nor was any property damaged.

"Fortunately, no one was hurt," PPD Chief Shorty Johnson previously told the News + Record, "and no damage was reported to any of the buildings or vehicles or anything around."

The officers were not arrested at the time of the incident, but the Pittsboro police department immediately launched its investiga-

tion, Johnson said. The Chatham County Sheriff's Office also launched an internal investigation into Bonilla's and Barrett's conduct. Both were immediately suspended following the incident, according to Sheriff Mike Roberson. Three days later, they were officially dismissed for dishonesty and multiple policy violations.

"As law enforcement, we must be good stewards of public trust," Roberson said in a press release. "Our internal investigation was handled swiftly and professionally, and we feel the final decision was the right one. Dishonesty or criminal behavior will not be tolerated within the ranks of the Sheriff's

Office."

The crime comes at a time of heightened national scrutiny of police officers following Derek Chauvin's Minnesota trial for murdering George Floyd, other high-profile charges against police officers around the country and the killing of Andrew Brown Jr. by law enforcement officers in Elizabeth City. While the police may have a reputation for lenience within their ranks, Johnson said, his department — and all Chatham law enforcement agencies — take seriously their commitment to impartiality.

"We treat everyone the same, whether they're a law enforcement officer not," he previously told

the News + Record. "I know some people say that we take longer to charge law enforcement officers than we do the normal public ... But we just want to make sure that we did a complete investigation, overturned every rock, made sure that we had everything in order, before we took charges out on someone — and that would have been the case even if it wasn't someone with law enforcement."

Bonilla and Barrett are scheduled to appear in court on May 26 in Pittsboro.

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

## Council on Aging to celebrate its 47th anniversary — with hopes of re-opening — in July

From the Council on Aging

On July 8, 1974, the Chatham County Council on Aging was founded as a nonprofit organization to serve seniors and their families. Soon to celebrate its 47th anniversary, the COA continues to assist and engage Chatham residents through its many programs and services.

Since March 16, 2020, when the Council closed its two centers to in-facility programming due to COVID-19, it has pursued alternative ways to continue its mission of helping seniors stay healthy and remain living safely in the community.

The COA has provided meals, supplies and friendly calls to seniors across the county; developed online and phone programming; continued its respite and home care services; loaned assistive equipment; offered Medicare counseling and tax assistance virtually; and much more.

"Still, we know that for many who attended our centers for lunch, exercise and a variety of ac-

tivities, the length of this pandemic has taken a toll," said Dennis Streets, the COA's director. "That is why we are eagerly hoping we can begin our 47th year in July by welcoming back those who are fully vaccinated."

In a recent survey the Council on Aging conducted of participants of its congregate nutrition program, it learned that nearly all (94%) will be fully vaccinated by July. Most respondents also want all in attendance at any indoor COA events to be vaccinated.

After considering this information and the current data on COVID-19, the Council's board of directors approved the goal of reopening the Western Center in Siler City to participants who are "fully vaccinated" early in July. The COA will use the Western Center in Siler City as it is a larger space; the Eastern Center in Pittsboro is planned to undergo some renovations in the summer to enhance its space.

The COA plans to continue following the science and public health experts in offering

programs and services. The board recognizes the importance of proceeding safely in opening the centers to in-person programming.

"In considering the interests and concerns of seniors, staff, and volunteers, we also support the public health campaign encouraging all persons to become vaccinated," said Larry Ross, the president of the board.

In the meantime, the Council is expanding its offering of outdoor programming. On May 4 it began offering outdoor exercise class at its Eastern Center in Pittsboro for those who are fully vaccinated and have registered in advance to attend.

Working with various community partners, the COA has resumed Chatham County Senior Games and SilverArts, with a wide range of sporting events and an arts competition.

Later in May, the Council will begin offering outdoor meetings of its caregiver support group at the Pittsboro Center as well.

"Much more is in the works," Streets said.

"When we open the Western Center, we want to assure it is a very festive, celebratory time. We have all been through so much and it will be wonderful to be reunited.

We also want to move ahead with plans involving our Meals on Wheels program in hopes we can reengage our dedicated volunteers soon and offer more frequent visits to

those who are home-bound."

For questions about the work of the Council on Aging, visit [www.chathamcoa.org](http://www.chathamcoa.org) or call 919-542-4512 or 919-742-3975.

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CHATHAM CHAT | ARTS COUNCIL'S GRANTS PROGRAMS

# CAC: Nurturing creative thinkers, giving relief

*What artists provide is 'not a luxury. It's essential.'*

Throughout the pandemic, the Chatham Arts Council has been working to support local artists and creators in various ways — including through unique and creative grants programs. This week, we speak with Cheryl Chamblee, CAC's executive director, about that work.

Cheryl has been the executive director since 2012 and has worked with nonprofits for more than 20 years. When she's not leading the Chatham Arts Council, she has adventures with her daughter and husband, makes theater, and coaches other creative-leader-mamas. Cheryl's earliest creative memory is of being 3 years old and making a three Wise Men craft with Q-Tips, construction paper, and cardboard with her mother. She still has it.

**Remind us what CAC is and does ...**

The Chatham Arts Council nurtures creative thinkers in Chatham County. We do that by focusing on two things: investing in artists and educating kids through



Submitted photo

**The Bynum Front Porch series of performances is one local arts activity supported by the Chatham Arts Council.**

the arts. This year, we've concentrated our efforts on Service, Solace, and Hope through the arts.

Our educating kids through the arts work is evolving into Arts for Resilient Kids. The arts provide an avenue for processing trauma and a pathway to the resilience that's so vital right now, so that focus is a big deal.

First, through our Chatham Artists-outside-schools initiative with our school and artist partners, we've offered: county-wide virtual artist of the month videos, 37 interactive virtual artist workshops for 5th-grade

classes, and truck-and-trailer arts performances through four Chatham neighborhoods.

Second, we created ClydeFEST in the Wild this spring to give kids some outdoor, COVID-safe time to create together, which was really so much fun.

Finally, we created a new ArtAssist for Kids program, which got basic art supplies to nearly 2,500 kids who needed them during COVID-cautious learning.

But we serve grown-ups in Chatham, too, and during this time, we've been leaning hard into

opportunities to secure relief and recovery funding — and then get that to artists and arts orgs.

**How many grant programs have you already completed? What types of grants do you offer?**

We've done some granting for arts organizations and some granting for individual artists. Both serve artists and audiences (the Chatham community), but in different ways. Both are important to the arts ecosystem in Chatham.

Chatham's arts ecosystem is different from the landscape in other places. The balance of nonprofit organizations, small arts businesses, and individual artists is unique — and we've designed our granting this year to respond to that uniqueness. That's made it more difficult — and we hope more impactful.

We worked hard to apply for dollars available outside the county to support arts work in

Chatham, and thanks to some funders who work hard to understand our arts landscape, we secured or partnered on relief and recovery grants totaling \$204,000 and counting. Specifically, we were proud to offer six different grants over the past year.

**Tell us more about your current grant opportunity ...**

This is one of our grants for arts orgs, but it ends up benefiting individual artists, too. Each year, we partner with the North Carolina Arts Council to award Grassroots Arts Grants to help nonprofits pay artists as part of their arts and human services projects.

We especially love these grants because they help carry the arts into every corner of the county. The award amounts range from \$500-\$2,500, and we prioritize projects that pay artists and actively work toward inclusivity among artists and audiences. Since 2000, we've awarded more than \$200,000 to nonprofits — and we know how critical this grant is this year, with so many organizations struggling through the pandemic.

We hope folks who know and love nonprofits around the county will check out the opportunity. The basic eligibility requirements are:

- You've been in operation for at least one year as a 501(c)(3);
  - You have an arts mission, or you run a program that uses the arts to help accomplish the organization's mission;
  - You're based in Chatham County, or are carrying out this project in Chatham County.
- Applications are

available online at [ChathamArtsCouncil.org](http://ChathamArtsCouncil.org). The deadline is 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 11.

**How has the pandemic affected artists? Are they still limited by the way we are re-opening our county?**

The arts are about creativity and human connection. And that creativity has meant that artists have invented ways to continue making new things and reminding us of human connection through this time. But there's a limit to our capacity for connection when we're separated by screens, when we are so strangely isolated.

So artists have suffered this year — gigs and exhibitions and sales dried up overnight when COVID hit, and it'll be a while before they're back in any way that feels fully recognizable. We launched the Chatham Artists and Arts-workers Relief Effort (CAARE) to provide emergency funding for artists for that reason — to help with things like medical bills, groceries, rent.

But there's hope. We just transitioned our emergency grants into a new phase of artist recovery we're calling Jumpstart, which pays artists to make art and to put art in the public sphere as we re-connect with one another in public spaces. (Those grant applications were due last week.)

Artists have been collecting our stories for many months — and artists will help us make sense of this time as we re-emerge. Artists will help hold our grief, but they'll remind us about joy and love and connection, too. This is not a luxury. It's essential.

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PITTSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Boys & Girls Club to organize town's recreational programs

BY D. LARS DOLDER  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The town's board of commissioners voted at its regular meeting Monday to endow Pittsboro's new Boys & Girls Club with authority over town-funded recreational programs. "As this board knows, there's a lot to be desired in our recreation programming here in Pittsboro," Town Manager Chris Kennedy said, "both in terms of additions of parks and other facilities, as well as programming itself, which we do exactly zero of." The town hopes to eventually sponsor rec-

reational activities for its residents, Kennedy said, but its current staff is not robust enough to launch any programs. Instead, Pittsboro will outsource such duties to the Boys & Girls Club via a performance agreement. "Commissioner (Kyle) Shipp devised this agreement," Kennedy said, "where there's an exchange of dollars ... to basically pay \$30,000 from the town to the Boys & Girls Club in exchange for recreational services they provide until we provide such services ourselves." Pittsboro's Boys & Girls Club has not yet officially opened for business. The

club — to be hosted by Kiwanis at its facility on Credle Street — is tentatively scheduled to begin operations at the start of the next school year. Both Kennedy and Shipp serve on the club's advisory board and said they are looking for ways to familiarize the public with the Boys & Girls Club and its services. "We're looking at ways to engage the Boys & Girls Club and try to get them to fit into the Pittsboro community," Kennedy said. Both Chatham County and the town of Siler City have parks and recreation departments; Pittsboro does not have its own department.

The club's allocation from the town for recreational services will be effective September 1, 2021. **Other news** • Developer Graham Scott Oldham requested the board rezone about 13 acres at 3151 U.S. 15-501 North from residential agricultural to highway commercial conditional. The land currently hosts Poultry Villa Landscaping and Supplies, but Oldham plans to develop a commercial shopping center. The News + Record incorrectly reported in a previous article that the board addressed Oldham's petition in its April 26 meeting. In fact, the

board deferred action until Monday when it voted unanimously to approve Oldham's request. • SDA Bio Inc. requested approval to construct a two-story, 4,904 square-foot biotech research laboratory at 25 Deegan Drive with an accessory office and storage building. The company also requested a sewer allocation of 50 gallons per day. According to the applicant, the laboratory will host only one employee with potential for a second in the future. The location will primarily serve as a transfer hub for biomedical agents, but no hazardous materials will pass through the site

and no products will be manufactured. The board of commissioners voted unanimously to approve SDA Bio's request. Commissioners' meetings can be accessed via Zoom from the town's website, [pittsboronc.gov](http://pittsboronc.gov). Interested residents may also watch the meetings on YouTube live streaming, and most meetings since 2015 have also been uploaded to YouTube. Viewers can find the channel by searching YouTube for "Town of Pittsboro." *Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at [dldolder@chathamnc.com](mailto:dldolder@chathamnc.com) and on Twitter @dldolder.*

**Kid Scoop** .com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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For about as long as folks can remember, cowboys have been telling tall tales about the greatest cowboy ever known ...

## PECOS BILL

How many cactus plants can you find on this page?

**Now, you won't find Pecos Bill in history books ...**

**No, to find out about ol' Bill, you just have to sit around a campfire and listen as someone tells you the tale.**

---

**Baby Bill**

Bill was the youngest of 17 kids. When Bill was just a baby, he fell out of his folks' wagon out on the Texas prairie. And, naturally, he began to cry and howl as the wagon traveled out of sight. His howling attracted a pack of coyotes. They joined in howling with Bill, but after a few hours, their voices were gone. They decided that Bill must be a coyote at heart, and they adopted him into their pack.

**Find the coyote that is different.**

**Bill and the Cyclone**

It was said Bill could ride anything. No horse could throw him. He even rode a mountain lion once. So when the biggest cyclone anyone had ever seen blew into town one day, Pecos Bill jumped right on it, riding it for days and days. The cyclone got frustrated and started crying big, salty tears around Utah. Today that pool of tears is known as the:

**RGTEA TLAS ALKE**

The cyclone mixed up the letters. Unscramble them to reveal the name of this famous body of water.

**Soggy Solution**

During a drought, Pecos Bill needed to get water to his \_\_\_\_\_ . There wasn't a cloud in the sky, so he got himself a big ol' stick and \_\_\_\_\_ it across the Texas desert to the Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_ . And that's how the \_\_\_\_\_ called the Rio Grande was born!

**Replace the missing words.**

**DRAGGED RIVER TERRIBLE MEXICO RANCH**

---

**Widowmaker**

Pecos Bill's horse was named Widowmaker because no cowboy could survive an attempt to ride him. But Pecos Bill could, of course, and Widowmaker and Bill became the best of friends.

**Pecos Bill Invents the Lasso**

Lots of cowboys know how to make a lasso out of a rope. But Pecos Bill invented the first lasso and he did not use a rope. Lasso every other letter to see what he used.

**RDAPTYN LGESBNZATKPE**

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Read a variety of genres including tall tales.

**Create a Tall Tale**

The fun of a tall tale, like Pecos Bill, is that the story gets a little taller and more outrageous with each telling. Find a sports story in the newspaper and start adding silly, strange and larger-than-life details to it to create a new tall tale.

**Standards Link:** Writing Applications: Write stories with a setting, main characters, beginning, middle and end.

**Kid Scoop Together: Funny Filler**

Have a friend give you each type of word to fill in the blanks. Then read the story aloud!

Pecos Bill once traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ to help build an \_\_\_\_\_ . People came from miles around to see this \_\_\_\_\_ cowboy in person.

Bill picked up a huge stack of \_\_\_\_\_ and some \_\_\_\_\_ and got to right to work. Widowmaker carried \_\_\_\_\_ .

At lunchtime, Pecos Bill poured \_\_\_\_\_ and black pepper on his chili. Suddenly, he felt a sneeze coming on, so everyone began to \_\_\_\_\_ !

Pecos Bill sneezed so hard that \_\_\_\_\_ ended up in \_\_\_\_\_ . Houses rolled like tumbleweeds, and a large \_\_\_\_\_ landed in a \_\_\_\_\_ .

It took Pecos Bill more than a year to \_\_\_\_\_ everything back to where it belonged.

**Standards Link:** Grammar: Use nouns, adjectives and verbs correctly in writing; understand the meaning of words from context clues.

**Kid Scoo-doku**

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word PECOS in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

P	E	O		
E		O	C	
C	O	P		
O	C			
S				O

**Write On!**

## All About Mom

Write about a special day or a special experience you had with your mom (or a special lady in your life).

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LA VOZ DE CHATHAM BRIEFS

**Chatham Health Alliance, others to distribute free resources next week in Washington Avenue Park**

SILER CITY — The Chatham Health Alliance will bring its Community Resource Hub to Washington Avenue Park on May 18 to distribute free meals, COVID-19 vaccine information and other resources.

The event will run from noon to 4 p.m. The Inter-Faith Food Shuttle will distribute free hot meals, while several bilingual representatives from the Chatham County Public Health Department plan to offer free COVID-19 vaccine resources and information, including where and how people can get vaccinated.

The Chatham Health Alliance will

also hand out free cloth masks for both adults and children, while Insight Human Services plans to offer free medication lock boxes, plus other items designed to help people both track and protect their prescription medications.

Other event partners and participating organizations include Communities in Schools, Safe Kids, the Chatham County Partnership for Children and KidSCOPE. Alliance Vice Chairperson Sara Martin said more might participate and bring resources, as well.

“The Resource Hub is excited and grateful for the strength of our partnerships to ensure vital resources are making it into the hands of our community members,” added Martin, who also works with Insight Human Services. “It has been refreshing to see so many heads and hands come together so seamlessly and work so diligently

to support our neighborhoods. The success of the Hub is really the success of each of these organizations coming together to directly engage the community, and I am so thankful to be on the ground to watch it all unfold.”

The Chatham Health Alliance is a group of local agencies and community members working together to improve Chatham’s health outcomes. Last spring, the Alliance initiated several projects in response to COVID-19 to connect people and communities with crucial resources. One was the Chatham Community Resource Hub, a mobile effort among various partner agencies to provide free resources to those in need across the county.

“When we were talking through what sort of things we thought the community needed, we were hearing that community agencies were having a hard time getting their resources out safely,” Alliance coordinator Julie Wilkerson told the News + Record in March. “... So that’s where we came up with the idea to drive-thru events and to make these hubs mobile. We’re actually going out into the community where the community lives.”

They began last year by partnering with CORA — the Chatham Outreach Alliance — for monthly mobile markets in Siler City, where they served primarily Spanish-speaking residents. Since then, they’ve expanded to work with other agencies and churches.

In partnership with CIS, the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle and the CCPHD, the Alliance has also brought resources directly into several predominantly Spanish-speaking neighborhoods, including Love’s Creek, where CCPHD staff administered 20 first vaccine doses on April 13.

“It is very rewarding to be able to get information out to families and for them to be so engaged,” CIS’ Maria Soto said after volunteering at one such Hub event in Country Living Estates. “... It is so important for us to build trust and to be able to bring information and services to those communities where they are at.”

According to the Alliance’s website, the Chatham Community Resource Hub has handed out more than 10,000 masks and provided resources for over 1,000 families to date. For more information, visit [chathamhealthalliance.org](http://chathamhealthalliance.org).

**Hispanic Liaison’s 5 de Mayo fundraising raffle collects over \$6,000**

SILER CITY — The Hispanic Liaison’s month-long 5 de Mayo raffle raised \$6,100 in donations and gave away five prizes, including a car in “excellent condition.”

The Liaison held the raffle at 5 p.m. last Wednesday over Facebook Live. With help from volunteers and local businesses, the nonprofit sold 1,000 tickets both in person and online. Tickets ran out just two days before the raffle, according to the Liaison’s Facebook page.

“Thank you for your generosity,” said the event’s bilingual “emcee,” Cesar Merlos, last Wednesday in Spanish. “We are very happy. Money has been raised, good money has been raised, but thanks to all the people who have helped us.”

Beyond fundraising, the raffle also marked the Liaison’s 26th anniversary as an organization dedicated to assisting and advocating for Siler City’s Hispanic community.

“It sounds easy, but it has been hard work,” Merlos added. “There have been ups and downs, but here they are still.”



Submitted photo

**‘Emcee’ Cesar Merlos announces a raffle winner during the Hispanic Liaison’s 5 de Mayo fundraising raffle last Wednesday, held over Facebook Live. The organization raised just over \$6,000.**

Every day, staff help the Hispanic communities they serve, he added, and “are committed to us so that many people can receive help in different ways and that we have a voice with all of our legislators.”

The raffle gave away five prizes. The grand prize was a car — a 2008 Dodge Avenger STX in “excellent condition” donated by Tanya Carter-Reichle. Other prizes included \$100 in cash, a brand new 8-quart Air Fryer PowerXL, a chocoflan cake with 20 servings made by Elena Gonzalez as well as a cloth hammock hand-crafted by Ana Huevo.

The winners were:

- Laura Valerio Perez, who won the car;
- Roberto Vera, who won \$100 in cash;
- Vedeslina Casanova, who won the air fryer;
- Alejandra Tovar, who won the chocoflan cake;
- Celia Hernandez Galindo, who won the hammock.

The Liaison began calling winners last week after the raffle. According to Merlos, winners have two weeks to pick up their prizes, or they’ll be raffled off again.

“I’m very emotional that all the winners were members of our community,” said the Liaison’s executive director, Ilana Dubester, during the raffle. “We are very grateful to all of you for buying tickets. We’ll wait for you here, and we are at your service.”

Most, if not all, winners have picked up their prizes. On Monday, the Liaison posted several photos of grand winner Laura Valerio Perez picking up her new car — a win that Dubester said had a “great story to go along with it.”

A Siler City resident, Valerio Perez is a longtime volunteer at the Liaison.

“We’re so happy that she won!” staff posted on the Liaison’s Facebook page. According to their post, a Hispanic man bought the winning ticket in Valerio Perez’s name after the Liaison’s Elena Gonzalez approached him outside the office to sell tickets. At first, he had planned only to buy two tickets for \$10 each.

“But since we were selling 3 tickets for \$20, Elena asked if she could put the 3rd ticket in the name of a community member who is going through hard times,” staff wrote. “Upon hearing Laura’s story, this gentleman decided to buy 6 tickets in her name! If anyone knows who this generous person is, we would love to meet him.”

In a comment below the post, Valerio Perez also expressed her thanks.

“God is great and he sustains us through the storm we live in,” she wrote in Spanish. “May God bless and multiply the gentleman who donated the tickets in my name. I would also like to give him my thanks in person.”

For more information to watch the video, visit the Hispanic Liaison’s Facebook page.

**First-time Homebuyer? Follow These Steps**

Is homeownership a goal of yours? It does offer some benefits, in addition to meeting your basic need for shelter. The equity you build in your home can be a valuable financial asset, and you may get to deduct your interest payments on your taxes. But if you’re a first-time homebuyer, what steps should you take?

First, make sure the time is right for you in terms of your personal and financial situations. For example, are you fairly confident that your employment is stable and that your earnings won’t decline? Of course, external events can also play a role in your decision. A recent study by Morning Consult and Edward Jones found that 12% of respondents postponed purchasing a house during the COVID-19 pandemic.

But if you’re ready and eager for homeownership, consider the following moves:

- **Save for a down payment.** The more money you put down for a home, the lower your monthly payments, although there’s also a point at which overly large down payments can be financially unwise. However, if you can make a down payment of more than 20% of the purchase price, you can generally avoid having to pay for private mortgage insurance on top of your monthly payments. Also, as a first-time homebuyer, you might qualify for down payment assistance from your local or state housing authority or a nonprofit group.
- **Check your credit score.** A higher credit score gives you a better chance for a lower interest rate. You can request a credit report from [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com), and you might be able to get a credit score for free from your bank. If you need to improve your score, you may want to delay your home purchase.
- **Learn how much you qualify for — and how much you should spend.** Once

you think you’re ready to begin the home-purchasing process, you may want to contact a few lenders to determine the size of the mortgage for which you qualify. Be aware, though, that just because you can get a mortgage of a certain amount, does not necessarily mean that you should. You don’t want to become “house poor” — that is, you don’t want to spend so much on your house payments that you are cash strapped and can’t afford to save for other goals, such as college for your children or a comfortable retirement. You may want to establish a budget for how much you can readily afford to pay for your mortgage each month — and try sticking to it before you buy the house. If you have extra savings, put it toward your down payment.

• **Prepare for unexpected costs.** You can plan for your mortgage, utilities, taxes and insurance — but when you own a home, you’ll always encounter unexpected costs. You may need to get a new furnace, repair your roof or face any number of other maintenance issues. To help prepare for these costs, try to build an emergency fund containing three to six months’ worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. Without such a fund, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments or take on added debt to pay for these unanticipated expenses.

Homeownership can be a rewarding experience — and the rewards will be even greater when you’ve “done the numbers” and prepared yourself financially.

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

*Edward Jones, Member SIPC.*

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**Siler City**  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE

**LEARN ABOUT LAND** - Chatham Land Experts - [www.learn-aboutland.com](http://www.learn-aboutland.com) - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

## OFFICE SPACE RENT

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT**, Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

## RENTAL APARTMENTS

**COMING SOON!! THE RETREAT AT PITTSBORO** - A 48-unit family site with 1 and 2 bedrooms, Washer/dryer hookups, ceiling fans and dishwasher. Community room/exercise room/laundry facility and computer room. All households must meet income restrictions to qualify. Call 919-296-0888 to be added to our call list. \$25 application fee. Credit/criminal check required. This institution is professionally managed by Partnership Property Management, an equal opportunity provider and employer. My6,13,2tc

**POWELL SPRINGS APTS.** Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD # 1-800-735-2962, Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, A2,tfnc

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS** now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. \$486/mo., no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. A2,tfnc

## FOR SALE

**USED FURNITURE SALE** - 117 East Second Street, Downtown Siler City, 9 to 3 p.m., Saturday, May 15. My13,1tp

## YARD SALE

**MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE**, May 15, 7 to 11 a.m., 1111 N 2nd Ave. Siler City. Clothes, jewelry, toys, household items, shoes, purses, and lots more. My13,1tp

**FRIDAY**, 8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, 7 am to 2 pm: 17" tires, Entertainment Center, King Sized comfort set, Household items, tools for men - Clothes and shoes for men and women, lots more. 217 College Street, Siler City. My13,1tp

**YARD SALE, SATURDAY**, May 15, 7a - 12pm. at Stonecrest Apartments, 320 West 11th Street, Siler City. Lots of different items, clothes, shoes, home decor, household items, kids clothes. My13,1tp

**ESTATE YARD SALE**, Saturday, May 15 starting at 7 a.m. until... parking lot of Sadie's Furniture between Old 421N and Piney Grove Church Rd., Many household items, sewing, dishes, furniture, etc. My13,1tp

## AUCTIONEERS

**AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS** at JHA. One Call...We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 [www.JerryHarrisAuction.com](http://www.JerryHarrisAuction.com), 919-498-4077, My6,tfnc

**RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS** - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, My6,tfnc

## SERVICES

**AUTO BROKERS RECYCLERS** - Cash paid for Junk/Wrecked vehicles. Call 919-545-0194. My13,tfnc

**RAINBOW WATER FILTERED VACUUMS**, Alice Cox, Cox's Distributing - Rainbow - Cell: 919-548-4314, Sales, Services, Supplies. Serving public for 35 years. Rada Cutlery also available. A22,29,My6,13,20,27,6tc

**JUNK CARS PICKED UP** Free of charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no

charge. 919-542-2803. A2,tfnc

**I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars** and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! J9,tfnc

**CARPENTRY WORK** - all types, repairs, renovation, installation, windows and doors. Call Robert Clark, 919-742-3194. My25,tfnc

**LETT'S TREE SERVICE** - tree removal, stump grinding, lot clearing. Visa & Master Card accepted. Timber. Free estimates. 919-258-3594 N9,tfnc

## HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF SILER CITY - POLICE SERGEANT** - Performs difficult protective service work; participates with, and supervises, a squad of police officers on an assigned shift or performing a specialized activity in the Police Department; supervises the community-oriented policing program; maintains files and records; prepares reports; serves all members of the public with dignity and respect. - Required Education and Experience Qualifications: Graduation from a community college with an associate degree in criminal justice or related field and considerable experience in law enforcement, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. - Current certification through a Training and Standards program (transfers from other agencies or out-of-state must meet Training and Standards' criteria for a Police Department). Possession of Intermediate Law Enforcement certification or 640 hours of law enforcement training, which must include 40 hours of first line supervision training, upon hire (BLET hours do not count towards these 640 hours). Possession of a valid North Carolina driver's license or ability to obtain. - Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications: Extensive training in the areas of traffic, investigations, and community-oriented law enforcement training upon hire - Possession of Radar, Intoxilyzer, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and DCI I certifications upon hire - Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. -- Additional Employment Requirements: Must obtain and/or maintain Radar, Intoxilyzer, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and DCI I certifications at all times with no lapse during the course of employment - Must complete training in the areas of traffic, investigations, and community-oriented law enforcement within 18 months of hire. - Annual Hiring Salary, \$47,254 (additional pay incentives for bilingual, years of relevant work experience, and education level) - Please refer to our website for full job descriptions. To Apply - These postings are open until filled. A completed Town of Siler City application and current F-3 is required for consideration for all positions. The application may be found on our website at [www.silercity.org](http://www.silercity.org) or picked up at City Hall. The application may be mailed or delivered to City Hall, Attention: Human Resources, 311 N. Second Ave., PO Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 or submitted via email to [dritter@silercity.org](mailto:dritter@silercity.org). Pre-employment drug testing, DMV check, and background checks are required upon job offer. EOE. - The Town of Siler City is an Equal Opportunity

Employer. The Town of Siler City's applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, disability, or other legally protected status. The Town invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. - The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided necessary accommodations. Such arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Nancy Hannah at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or [nhannah@silercity.org](mailto:nhannah@silercity.org) for accommodations for this request. -- Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Nancy Hannah al [nhannah@silercity.org](mailto:nhannah@silercity.org) o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. My13,1tc

**FULL TIME HELP WANTED** - at Pittsboro area flooring mill. Please contact Sam Ortiz at 919-630-5917. My6,13,2tp

**LAND SURVEYOR** - Outside work. Entry level position available for land survey field crew member. Full time work. Part time considered. Experience preferred but now required. No travel involved. Must have valid NC driver's license and have a good driving record. Off on Friday afternoons. No week-end work. E-mail: [finchsurvey2507@gmail.com](mailto:finchsurvey2507@gmail.com) or call 919-542-2503. My13,1tc

**SENIOR CENTER MANAGER** - The Chatham County Council on Aging is hiring full-time Senior Center Manager at Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City. Must be

team-oriented, computer proficient, strong verbal and written communicator, attentive to details, and experienced in supervision. Minimum of a two-year degree in human services field with some administrative emphasis. Conversational Spanish is a plus, as is experience working with older adults. Salary based on qualifications. See job description and complete application online at [www.chathamcoa.org](http://www.chathamcoa.org). Due by Monday, May 24. EOE. My13,1tc

**HOMECARE SEEKING**, Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive weekly pay, CNAs start at \$10.00/hr. & up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call (919) 776-0352 or visit 824 South Horner Blvd, Sanford for more info or to apply. A29,tfnc

**HELP WANTED - EVENINGS & WEEKENDS**, Please inquire in person: Country Mart, 320 W. Raleigh St, Siler City, NC or Desperados, 602 North Second Avenue, Siler City A29,tfnc

**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. My6,tfnc.

## LEGALS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** All persons 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**

## 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.

The undersigned, Gary Ryan Stutts, having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **CATHERINE V. MOBLEY**,

**TAKING APPLICATIONS** for Siler City Country Club seasonal golf maintenance position. Applications at clubhouse. **919-742-3721**

**Live on-Site Auction**   
**Saturday, May 15th - 9:00am** **Rain or Shine**  
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Pittsboro Christian Village  
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

  
**CENTRAL CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

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- Director, Veterans Upward Bound & Military Affiliated Initiatives
- Single Stop Coordinator
- Fire & Rescue Training Coordinator

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*Diversity Policy: Central Carolina Community College believes the college experience is greatly enriched through diversity; therefore, the college encourages diversity of thought within the student body and staff. Furthermore, the college seeks to promote awareness of diversity and the respect for all individuals, and the college pledges to adhere to this mission in its relationship with the community.*

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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 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 Administratrix, 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

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons 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

**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**  
The undersigned, W. Ben Atwater, Jr., having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **JOHN FRANCIS JOHNSON**, 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. W. Ben Atwater, Jr. 122 South Chatham Avenue Siler City, NC 27344 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

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO.: 20 JT 7 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM**  
IN RE: "Z.M." DOB: 04/04/18  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PROCESS OF PUBLICATION**  
TO: Any unknown father of the above male child, born at UNC Hospital, Chapel Hill, NC, USA to Anhelica Mata.  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed to terminate your parental rights to the above-referenced minor children. You have forty days from 4/29/21, the first date of publication of this Notice to respond to said Petition by filing a written answer to the petition with the Chatham Clerk of Court. Your parental rights to the juveniles may and will be terminated upon failure to answer the petitions within the time prescribed. Any attorney appointed previously in an abuse, neglect or dependency proceeding and still representing you shall continue to represent you. If you are indigent and not already represented by an attorney, you are entitled to a court-appointed attorney by contacting the Chatham County Clerk of Court. STEPHENSON & FLEMING, L.L.P. BY: /s/ ANGENETTE STEPHENSON Attorney for Petitioner, CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 109 Conner Dr. Suite 208 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514 Telephone: (919) 869-7795 A29,My6,My13,3tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 268**

All persons having claims against **THELMA MARTHA BINKLEY ESTES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 29th 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 29th day of April, 2021. Tara B. Hussey, Administrator 1795 Oakley Church Road Bear Creek, NC 27207 A29,My6,My13,My20,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **MARIE G. SETTINERI**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 29, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 29th day of April, 2021. Maria C. Mihok, Executrix c/o Monroe, Wallace, Morden & Sherrill, P.A. 3225 Blue Ridge Road, Suite 117 Raleigh, NC 27612 A29,My6,My13,My20,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **HERBERT WOLFF**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before July 29th, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 29th day of April, 2021. Carol Robbins, Executor Estate of Herbert Wolff c/o Roberson Law Firm 1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C Chapel Hill, NC 27514 A29,My6,My13,My20,4tc

**CREDITOR'S NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
Having qualified on the 9th day of April, 2021, as Administrator of the Estate of **GEORGE BRIAN MOORE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 28th day of July, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment. This the 26th day of April, 2021. Janice Moore-Thomas, Administrator of the Estate of George Brian Moore PO BOX 414 Goldston, NC 27252 Attorneys: Law Offices of W. Woods Doster, P.A. 115 Chatham Street, Suite 302 Sanford, NC 27330 A29,My6,My13,My20,4tc

**TOWN OF SILER CITY PUBLIC NOTICE NON-CONTIGUOUS ANNEXATION**  
The Town of Siler City Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Courtroom at City Hall, 311 N. Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina** to consider a request for non-contiguous annexation presented by petition by SICH PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC. The approximate 20.318 acre tract of property is located at 1217 Harold Andrews Road, Siler City, NC 27344. The public is invited to attend the hearing in person or by zoom to express their viewpoints. Persons having questions may contact Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson at 919-742-4731, jjohnson@silercity.org, or come by the City Hall. Anyone wishing to submit written comments may do so by writing to the Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson, P. O. Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 or jjohnson@silercity.org. The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business

concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such as arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Nancy Hannah at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or nhannah@silercity.org for accommodations for this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Nancy Hannah al nhannah@silercity.org o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. My6,My13,2tc

**WILLOW OAK MONTESSORI IDEA - Part B (611) GRANT PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project is presently being amended. The Project describes the special education programs that Willow Oak Montessori proposes for Federal funding for the 2021-2022 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of May 17, 2021 - May 21, 2021 in the office of Melissa Beck, PhD located at 1476 Andrews Store Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312. My6,My13,2tc

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
A public hearing will be held by the **Chatham County Board of Commissioners on Monday, May 17, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** The hearing will be held at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro, North Carolina at 1192 US-64 W BUS. Due to the Governor's restrictions on mass gatherings, public seating at the meeting will be limited. There will also be an option to participate electronically for the legislative requests and for more information about the meeting you can select the meeting date at the following link: <https://www.chathamnc.org/government/commissioner-meetings/calendar-with-agenda-minutes>. Additional information is available at the Chatham County Planning Department office. Speakers are requested to sign up at the meeting prior to the hearing. You may also sign up on the county website prior to the meeting at [www.chathamnc.org](http://www.chathamnc.org) by selecting the heading County Government, then Commissioner Meetings, then Public Input/Hearing Sign Up. The public hearing may be continued to another date at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input, both written and oral, on the issues listed below: Legislative Request: 1. A legislative public hearing for a rezoning request by Scott Pearce dba For Garden Sake to add Parcel 62824 being two acres to the existing Parcel 19644 being approximately 19.25 acres to expand existing services and utilize the decommissioned O'Kelly Chapel Church as part of the expansion. Both parcels to be recombined and rezoned from Conditional Use Business 1 and R-1 Residential to Conditional District Regional Business (CD-RB) for lawn and garden shop, landscape business, and event center limited. Williams Township. Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discussions. Notice to people with special

needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312. My6,My13,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 283**  
All persons having claims against **CHERRY LEE NICKS MUNN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 6th day of May, 2021. Jonathan L. Nicks, Executor 211 Sycamore Lake Drive Siler City, NC 27344 My6,My13,My20,My27,4tp

**NOTICE OF EXECUTOR TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS**  
Wickliffe Winston Shreve, II, having qualified as Executor for the Estate of **BRANDON WICKLIFFE SHREVE**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned, at the address indicated below, on or before August 6, 2021 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said estate should please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 6th day of May, 2021. Wickliffe Winston Shreve, II, Executor of the Estate of Brandon Wickliffe Shreve Estate c/o Schell Bray PLLC P.O. Box 21847 Greensboro, NC 27420 Michael H. Godwin SCHELL BRAY PLLC 230 North Elm Street, Suite 1500 Greensboro, NC 27401 My6,My13,My20,My27,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons having claims against **BRUCE MILES CLEVELAND**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 6th day of May, 2021. Barbara Ruth Cleveland, Executrix c/o Bagwell Holt Smith, P.A. 111 Cloister Ct., STE 200 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 My6,My13,My20,My27,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons having claims against **GEORGE G. (GUSTAV) PAULY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 6th day of May, 2021. Thomas A. Pauly, Executor c/o Mitchell Law Group, PLLC 2530 Meridian Parkway, Suite 100 Durham, NC 27713 My6,My13,My20,My27,4tp

**PUBLIC NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
To all persons claiming an interest in **2018 - 9\*1\* - SEA-DOO-00065JC00SPARK - YDV83460D818**, HBS MOTOR-SPORTS will apply to SCDNR for title or watercraft/outboard motor. If you have any claim to the watercraft/outboard motor, contact SCDNC at (803) 734-3699. Upon thirty days after the date of the last advertisement if no claim of interest is made and the watercraft/outboard motor has not been reported stolen, SCDNR shall issue clear title. Case No: 20200518950368 My6,My13,My20,3tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 20 E 67**  
All persons having claims against **MAGGIE E. BAINES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 6th day of May, 2021. Brenda Kay Blade, Executrix 3054 Diana Circle Burlington, NC 27215 My6,My13,My20,My27,4tp

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the power of sale contained in the captioned deed of trust ("Deed of Trust"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at auction, to the highest bidder for cash, AT THE COURTHOUSE DOOR IN PITTSBORO, CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA ON MAY 26, 2021, AT 11:00 A.M. the real estate and the improvements thereon secured by the Deed of Trust, less and except any of such property released from the lien of the deed of trust prior to the date of this sale, lying and being in Chatham County, North Carolina, commonly known as 117 Elf Way, Pittsboro, NC and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the center of a 60 foot private road, the northeast corner of Riggsbee, and running thence along the center of said private road North, 12 degrees 46 minutes 00 seconds E. 120.36 feet to a point in the line of Bouldin; thence along the line of Bouldin North 21 degrees 20 minutes 00 seconds West 292.74 feet to a point; thence North 49 degrees 58 minutes 55 seconds West 283.06 feet to a point; thence North 29 degrees 11 minutes 30 seconds West, 125.65 feet to a point; thence South 07 degrees 54 minutes 04 seconds West 57.81 feet to a point; thence South 38 degrees 18 minutes 01 seconds W. 45.68 feet to a point; thence South 05 degrees 40 minutes 08 seconds West 252.45 feet to an existing stake; thence South 04 degrees 24 minutes 07 seconds West, 239.02 feet to a point; thence South 77 degrees 14 minutes 00 seconds East 448.59 feet to the point and place of beginning containing 4.233 acres, according to a plat prepared by Gerald M. White, RLS recorded in Plat Slide 88-389, Chatham County Registry, reference to which is hereby made for a more particular description. Tax Map Reference: 0068039 Being that parcel of land conveyed to Antoinette T. Zegal from Tony Michael Boone and wife Penelope Cooper Boone by that deed dated 01/31/2003 and recorded 02/03/2003 in Deed Book 993, at Page 331 of the Chatham County, NC Public Registry. Subject to all easements, rights of way, declarations, restrictions, and agreements of records, including but not limited to the Declaration of Easements recorded in Book 535, Page 294, Chatham County Registry and the Road Maintenance Agreement recorded in Book 604, Page 586, Chatham County Registry. In the Trustee's sole discretion, the sale may be delayed for up to one (1) hour as provided in Section 45-21.23 of the North Carolina General Statutes. The record owner of the real property not more than ten days prior to the date hereof is Antoinette Zegal Thomas and Kiriaki Thomas. A five percent cash deposit, or a cash deposit of \$750.00, whichever is greater, will be required of the last and highest bidder. The balance of the bid purchase price shall be due in full in cash or certified funds at a closing to take place within thirty (30) days of the date of sale. The undersigned Substitute Trustee shall convey title to the property by nonwarranty deed. This sale will be made subject to all prior liens of record, if any, and to all unpaid ad valorem taxes and special assessments, if any, which became a lien subsequent to the recordation of the Deed of Trust. This sale will be further subject to the right, if any, of the United States of America to redeem the above-described property for a period of 120 days following the date when the final upset bid period has run. The purchaser of the property described above shall pay the Clerk's Commissions in the amount of \$.45 per \$100.00 of the purchase price (up to a maximum amount of \$500.00), required by Section 7A308(a) (1) of the North Carolina General Statutes. If the purchaser of the above described property is someone other than the Beneficiary under the Deed of Trust, the purchaser shall also pay, to the extent applicable, the land transfer tax in the amount of one percent (1%) of the purchase price. To the extent this sale involves residential property with less than fifteen (15) rental units, including single family residential real property, you are hereby notified of the following:

a. An order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to Section 45-21.29 of the North Carolina General Statutes in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold; and b. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving the notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least ten (10) days, but no more than ninety (90) days, after the sale date contained in the Notice of Sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination. This 29th day of April, 2021. DEACON SERVICES, LLC, Substitute Trustee James T. Martin, Manager 116 Cobblestone Court Rocky Mount, NC 27804 252-904-6272

My13,My20,2tc  
**REQUEST FOR BIDS**  
Central Piedmont Community Action, Inc (CPCA) is opening its bid for HVAC, Electrical, and Plumbing contractors in Anson, Chatham, Orange, and Richmond counties. Bids will be received May 10th through May 28th, 2021 at 5:30pm. If you are interested in becoming a contractor for Central Piedmont Community Action in any of our counties, please contact Doug Dixon at (919) 742-2277 ext. 105 M-TH 7am to 4:30pm or via email at dougd@cpcanc.org.  
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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 1008.446) Project is presently being amended. The project describes the special education programs that Chatham Charter School proposed for Federal funding for the 2021-2022 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of May 20th through May 27th, 2021, in the office of Debbie Coore, located at 2200 Hamp Stone Rd, Siler City, NC 27344.  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator, CTA of the Estate of **MABEL CRITE JONES**, 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 August 17, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 13th day of May, 2021. RONALD P. COLLINS, Administrator. CTA of the Estate of MABEL CRITE JONES 117 West Raleigh Street Siler City, North Carolina 27344 (919) 663-2533  
My13,My20,My27,Jn3,4tc

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**  
**DISTRICT COURT DIVISION**  
**FILE NO. 15-CVD-726**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
COUNTY OF CHATHAM, Plaintiff, vs  
The HEIRS, ASSIGNS, and DEVISEES of FAYE MCDONALD, et al, Defendants  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS, and DEVISEES of FAYE MCDONALD and spouse, if any, which may include TASHA TEJUANA MCDONALD'S SPOUSE, IF ANY, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder  
A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on May 13, 2021. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after May 13, 2021, or by June 22, 2021, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 5th day of May, 2021. Zacchaeus Legal Services /s/ Mark D. Bardill/Mark B. Bardill Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852/56782 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 Telephone: (252) 448-4541  
My13,My20,My27,3tc

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**  
**DISTRICT COURT DIVISION**  
**FILE NO. 19-CVD-739**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
COUNTY OF CHATHAM, Plaintiff, vs  
The HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVISEES OF MARY E. BIVINS A/K/A MARY E. BIVENS, et al Defendants.  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVISEES OF MARY E. BIVINS A/K/A MARY E. BIVENS and spouse, if any, which may include JOE D. BIVENS, Incompetent, and spouse, if any, and THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND DEVISEES OF WILMA JEAN BIVENS and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder.  
A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on May 13, 2021. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property.  
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**TOWN OF PITTSBORO OFFICIAL NOTICE & PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE 2021-2022 BUDGET**  
Notice is hereby given that the proposed budget for FY 2021-2022, pursuant to the provisions of N.C. General Statute 159-12, has been submitted to the Board of Commissioners and is available for public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and also on the town website http://pittsboronc.gov. There shall be a public hearing on the proposed budget at 7 p.m., Monday, May 24, 2021 at the Board of Commissioners Virtual Meeting. See http://pittsboronc.gov for the link to join this meeting. Written comments on the Budget will be accepted up to 24 hours after the Public Hearing is held. Cassandra Bullock, Town Clerk  
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You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after May 13, 2021, or by June 22, 2021, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 5th day of May, 2021. Zacchaeus Legal Services /s/ Mark D. Bardill/Mark B. Bardill Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852/56782 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 Telephone: (252) 448-4541  
My13,My20,My27,3tc

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**  
**DISTRICT COURT DIVISION**  
**FILE NO. 08-CVD-1217**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
COUNTY OF CHATHAM, Plaintiff, vs  
ROY STOUT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. et al Defendants.  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: ROY STOUT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC. and any ASSIGNS or SUCCESSORS of ROY STOUT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC. or any other person or entity claiming thereunder  
A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on May 13, 2021. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after May 13, 2021, or by June 22, 2021, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 5th day of May, 2021. Zacchaeus Legal Services /s/ Mark D. Bardill/Mark B. Bardill Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852/56782 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 Telephone: (252) 448-4541  
My13,My20,My27,3tc

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF PITTSBORO**  
The Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners will hold the following **Evidentiary Hearing on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 pm.** The Evidentiary Hearing will be conducted remotely via Zoom, a teleconference software, for the following items: Evidentiary Public Hearing: Triple A Homes, Inc. is requesting a Special Use Permit for a 2 unit Townhouse located on at 882 Unit A and 882 Unit B Thompson Street (PID 00092488). 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 May 24, 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 May 24, 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 Cbullock@pittsboronc.gov by 4 p.m. on May 24, 2021. The Clerk will receive written comments to be included in the minutes for 24 hours after the meeting.  
My13,My20,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **JOHN THOMAS MCGEE**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before August 13, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 13th day of May, 2021. Elizabeth McGee Weaver and Katherine Elaine McGee, Co-Executors, c/o Timothy A. Nordgren, Sands Anderson PC 1005 Slater Rd., Ste 200, Durham, NC 27703  
My13,My20,My27,Jn3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **PHYLLIS ELAINE LAMBERT** of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned c/o Charles N. Griffin, III, Esq., P. O. Box 19766, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27619-9766, on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 13th day of May, 2021. Aaron E. Link, Administrator c/o Charles N. Griffin, III Kirschbaum, Nannay, Keenan & Griffin, P.A. P. O. Box 19766 Raleigh, NC 27619-9766  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**21-E-267**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Ivadale Law, having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **HERBERT HOOVER PARKER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 11th day of May, 2021. Ivadale Law Limited Personal Representative C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
The proposed budget for the **Town of Goldston** for 2021/2022 has been presented to the town council and is available for public inspection at the Town Hall Building, 40 Coral Avenue, Goldston, NC, by appointment, after 5:00 pm weekdays. There will be a public hearing held on June 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall Building. Citizens are invited to make oral or written comments. Timothy J. Cunnup Mayor of Goldston  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
Having qualified on the 5th day of May, 2021, as Executrix of the Estate of **LESLIE S. WRUBLE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment. This the 11th day of May, 2021. Karen W. Burdick, Executrix of the Estate of Leslie S. Wruble 5637 East Angela Drive Scottsdale, AZ 85254 Attorneys: Law Offices of W. Woods Doster, P.A. 115 Chatham Street, Suite 302 Sanford, NC 27330  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**21-E-267**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Ivadale Law, having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **HERBERT HOOVER PARKER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 11th day of May, 2021. Ivadale Law Limited Personal Representative C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**21-E-615**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **PHYLLIS ELAINE LAMBERT** of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned c/o Charles N. Griffin, III, Esq., P. O. Box 19766, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27619-9766, on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 13th day of May, 2021. Aaron E. Link, Administrator c/o Charles N. Griffin, III Kirschbaum, Nannay, Keenan & Griffin, P.A. P. O. Box 19766 Raleigh, NC 27619-9766  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
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The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **THOMAS DAVID TOOMER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 11th day of May, 2021. Joette Newkirk Administrator for the Estate C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
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The undersigned, Sonja Kitchings, having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **DWIGHT HICKS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 11th day of May, 2021. Sonja Kitchings Limited Personal Representative C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**21-E-139**  
**NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, Joette Newkirk, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **THOMAS DAVID TOOMER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of August, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 11th day of May, 2021. Joette Newkirk Administrator for the Estate C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
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**DIRECTV** | **SUNDAY TICKET**

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