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COVID COUNTERMEASURES

Pittsboro enacts town-wide mask mandate

BY D. LARS DOLDER

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro has re-instituted an indoor mask mandate, mirroring similar action from municipalities and counties across North Carolina.

The restriction, which began at 5 p.m. Friday, applies only within town limits. Chatham County and its other municipalities have not introduced mask requirements since the statewide mandate was

dropped in July.

Pittsboro's decision is in response to worsening proliferation of the COVID-19 Delta variant, which has ravaged North Carolina in recent months, according to Mayor Jim Nass.

"The virus is surging through our community and adjoining communities, and it is our responsibility to take appropriate steps to protect public health and safety," he said in a press release Friday announcing the mandate.

"Wearing a mask is a simple step we can all take to protect the health of our loved ones, especially children who are not old enough to receive the vaccine."

Many of Chatham's surrounding communities earlier enacted indoor mask mandates. Orange and Durham counties were the first to require masks last month, with Wake County soon following suit. Several cities and municipalities have added their own mask mandates, including

Chapel Hill, Durham, Raleigh, Cary, Garner and Zebulon.

The requirement is in harmony with federal recommendations, Nass pointed out.

"Pittsboro aligns with CDC guidance, which recommends everyone in areas designated as having substantial spread wear a mask in public indoor settings — even those people who are fully vaccinated," he said. "Masks have proven effective in stopping viral spread, thereby keeping infection rates down."

While the county government has so far refrained from requiring masks, its public health officials advise Chathamites to mask in public settings.

"The data can be overwhelming, but what is important to understand is that there are nearly as many cases of COVID-19 today as there have been at any point in the pandemic," CCPHD Director Mike Zelek said in a press release

See MASK, page A8

IN CHATHAM PARK

Mosaic announces first set of restaurants, retailers to open in coming months

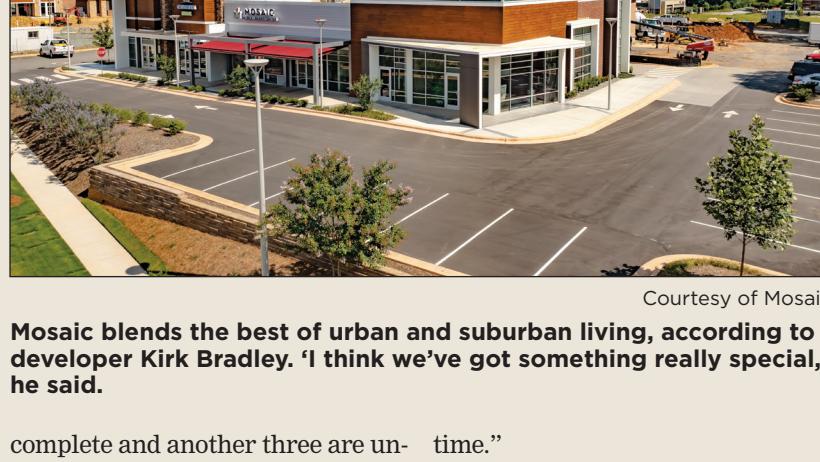
BY D. LARS DOLDER

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Mosaic, a mixed-used development under construction at Chatham Park, has made quiet but steady progress through the pandemic and will reach several landmarks over coming months, according to developer Kirk Bradley.

The 44-acre "entertainment and lifestyle destination" at U.S. Hwy. 501 and Russet Run Road has been in development since 2016 and is projected to cost \$180 million by completion in 2024. It will include more than 200,000 square-feet of retail shops, restaurants and other businesses, including a 121-key Hampton Inn & Suites, 165 apartment units, 50 luxury condominiums and 88,000 square-feet of technical and creative office space.

Already, UNC Urgent Care of Chatham Park and UNC Rheumatology of Chatham Park have opened on site, occupying 7,500 square-feet in one of 19 buildings that will eventually populate the complex. Three buildings are



Courtesy of Mosaic

Mosaic blends the best of urban and suburban living, according to developer Kirk Bradley. 'I think we've got something really special,' he said.

complete and another three are underway, with about 18 new tenants expected to open their doors in coming months.

"There's a lot of really exciting stuff coming up," Bradley told the News + Record. "We're going to have a lot of restaurants and things opening here in the next 30 to 60 days, so it's a very exciting

time."

Restaurants joining the Mosaic community include O'Ya Cantina, a new sister location to Chapel Hill's popular Latin restaurant; Jersey Mike's Subs; and Greek Kouzina. Mosaic will also host David Sadeghi's fourth Town Hall

See MOSAIC, page A6

'VAX UP & MASK UP'

In the topsy-turvy chaos of a pandemic, Zelek's messaging remains consistent

BY BILL HORNER III

News + Record Staff

In Chatham County and across most of North Carolina, COVID-19 case counts are trending down.

On Chatham County's COVID-19 dashboard, one critical number has stayed relatively flat.

And in Pittsboro, a reinstated face-covering mandate has the town asking everyone indoors to mask up.

Such is life in the second autumn of a pandemic.

Pittsboro's mask mandate announcement, made on Friday, was met on Facebook with a few howls of protest, including a meme of North Korea Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un — presumably to compare Pittsboro's municipal administration to a political leader whose crimes against humanity have redefined the genre.

Others praised the move before comments quickly devolved into name-calling.

It's part of why Mike Zelek, the director of the county's Public Health Department, says he and his staff "keep doing what we do."

Because not everyone's listening to the message.

And because, he says, we're not out of the woods yet.

See COVID, page A3

Remembering Karen Heilman, a 'wonderful, giving woman'

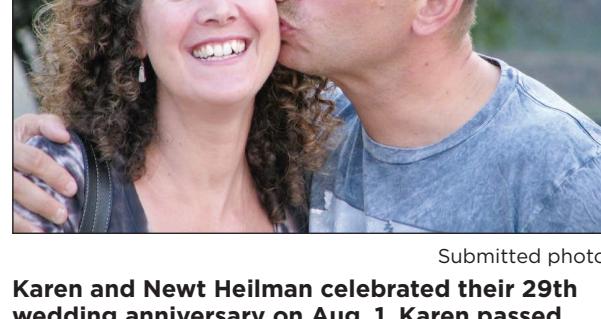
BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN

News + Record Staff

Just one month and a few days after learning she had cancer, longtime Chatham educator Karen Heilman — known for her positivity, love of sports and her great hair — died at age 55 on Sept. 9.

Her husband, Thomas "Newt" Heilman II, confirmed the news later that day on Facebook, in a post which would eventually receive hundreds of comments from people sharing memories of and love for Karen.

"And just like that the greatest person I have ever known, my best friend for 30 years, the love of my life, is gone," Newt wrote. "Remember her big smile, her great hair, her lust for life, and her quest to make the world a better place for others. We were lucky to



Submitted photo

Karen and Newt Heilman celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary on Aug. 1. Karen passed away from an aggressive cancer on Sept. 9.

have her in our lives!"

Karen was — as most people are, but perhaps not as vividly — many things to many people. She was Newt's wife for 29 years, and mother to Becca and Sara Heilman. She was a daughter to Becky Sbrollini and the late Paul Sbrollini and a sister to Lauren Mac-

lusso. She was an aunt, a friend, a coworker, a mentor and an advocate.

She was a teacher at Chatham County Schools for more than 20 years, after moving to Chatham in 1994, where she was a fierce champion for students

See KAREN, page A7

'A SIGN OF THE TIMES'

School staffing shortages require district creativity

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN

News + Record Staff

In Chatham, as is the case across the country, schools are taking what would typically be seen as drastic measures to maintain student services in the face of drastic staffing shortages.

At Chatham County Schools, where the districts says there are about 115 vacancies, those measures take the form of one-time bonuses and the utilization of school principals and teachers as bus drivers and nutrition services workers.

"I think that everyone is experiencing more vacancies this year than they have in the past," CCS Assistant Superintendent for Operations Chris Blice told the News + Record, noting that this year's shortages follow several years of teaching shortages.

"(This year) it's not just teachers — it's teachers, it's classified staff, it's custodians, and bus drivers and school nutrition," Blice said. "I think it's just a sign of the times."

With approximately 1,600 employees,

the number of vacant positions make

up nearly 7% of the CCS's current

workforce. There are 43 certified

teaching vacancies and 42 classified positions open, numbers generated by the district's human resources department earlier this month, including 30 instructional assistant/bus driver openings and nine custodian/bus driver positions. Additionally, the nutrition services department is about 69% staffed — down from 75% at the beginning of the year — in need of about 30 additional employees.

Typically, that department has five or six vacancies, said Director of School Nutrition Services Jennifer Özkurt.

"The numbers, of course, fluctuate daily, based on new hires and resignations," said district public information officer Nancy Wykle. "I'm not sure how we compare to other districts our size, but I suspect they are having a comparable number of openings."

Just last week, Wake County Schools announced that it was "paus-

See SCHOOL, page A6

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Barcode

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

• **Siler City's City Hall** is currently under renovation. The 1st and 2nd floors are closed to the public. The Planning and Community Development Department is located in the basement and can be accessed through the far left door facing E. 3rd St. Parking is available at the 100 block of E. 3rd St.

ON THE AGENDA

• The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will host its regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 4 at the Wren Memorial Library.

OTHER

• **Chatham County Public Libraries** has reinstated its pre-COVID hours of operation at all three branch locations.

• The **Chatham Artists Guild** announces the opening of its 2022 Membership Drive. Artists 18 years of age or older, in all mediums, that reside or work in a studio in Chatham County may apply. The deadline for application is October 31st. The application process has been streamlined to make it as easy as possible for entrants to apply. Applicants can visit www.chathamartists-guild.org/membership to begin their application with a small entry fee paid online.

• **Siler City Parks and Recreation** invites you to start your days off with a few laps at the Indoor Walking Program each weekday morning, from 7 to 9 a.m.,

at the Ernest Ramsey Gymnasium Indoor Walking Track, 512 East 6th St. The program is free and no pre-registration is required. Operations are subject to COVID-19 guidelines and masks are encouraged. For more information, visit www.silercity.org or contact Siler City Parks and Recreation at 919-742-2699 or email recreation@silercity.org.

THURSDAY

• **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** provides a healthy meal at no cost to those who come to us hungry at noon on Thursdays. We provide a place of hospitality and fellowship for everyone. All are welcome, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

OTHER UPCOMING

• A rain garden workshop event has been scheduled for Siler City. Help protect water quality and reduce flooding. Learn how to capture rain in your yard with a rain garden, a bowl-like depressions in the ground that capture rainfall runoff from your rooftop and driveway and allow water to filter into the ground. The plants, mulch and soil in a rain garden combine natural processes to filter pollutants from runoff and break down in the soil over time. The workshop is free to Siler City residents from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 2. (Rain date: Oct. 16.) The location of event will be provided at registration. Sign up to reserve a spot at <https://cvent.me/n9zLZ2>. Translators will be made available at the workshop for any Spanish speakers. Also all education materials are available in Spanish.

- INSCRÍBASE PARA RESERVAR SU LUGAR: <https://cvent.me/0K-GwqD>

• **Chatham County Parks and Recreation** announces the 2nd annual Chatham County Challenge — a virtual walk, run, or bike challenge. From October 1 to 31, bikers are challenged to complete a 100k (62 miles) and runners/walkers are challenged to complete a 50k (31 miles). There is no cost to participate. Participants will be asked to track their miles through a free mobile app called Map My Fitness and must sign up through the app no later than September 30. The top 20 bikers, 20 runners, and 20 walkers with the most distance logged in the Challenge will receive a free T-shirt. The participant with the most miles logged in each category will also receive a \$25 gift card to the local business, New Horizons. A weekly leaderboard and end of challenge winners will be announced on the Parks and Recreation website, Facebook, and Instagram. Further instructions for the Challenge and other information from Chatham County Parks and Recreation can be found at chathamcountync.gov/parks-recreation. Individuals with questions may contact Mallory Peterson at the Parks and Recreation Department at 919-545-8553 or mallory.peterson@chathamcountync.gov.

• **Siler City Parks and Recreation** announces that on Friday, Oct. 22, the movie "Trolls World Tour" will be shown at Bray Park. This is part of a free series on the fourth Friday night of September and October. Grab your blankets, chairs and enjoy the free family friendly movie under the

stars. This will begin at dusk (approximately 7:40 p.m.). Come early for fun activities, free inflatable attractions, music, and activities. Concessions will be available for purchase by Customized Dogs and Catering. The Bray Park Sports Complex is located at 200 Bray Park Complex Dr., Siler City.

• **Chatham County Public Libraries** are extending outdoor story time beyond summer for an additional two months through late October. Outdoor Story Time allows families with young children to enjoy the great outdoors while experiencing the joy of reading. Outdoor Story Time programs will continue through Oct. 28, with the following weekly schedule: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. – Natural Chef Café, seating area on the Central Carolina Community College Pittsboro Campus, adjacent to the Chatham Community Library, 197 N.C. Hwy. 87 N., Pittsboro; Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. – Washington Avenue Park picnic shelter, 1305 Washington Ave., Siler City; Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. – Goldston Public Library lawn, 9235 Pittsboro Goldston Rd., Goldston; and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. – Natural Chef Café seating area on the Central Carolina Community College Pittsboro Campus, adjacent to the Chatham Community Library, 197 N.C. Hwy. 87 N., Pittsboro. Story time is geared toward children who have not yet entered kindergarten (ages 2-5), but anyone is welcome to join in on the fun. Children will hear stories, sing songs, and enjoy more activities. Story times will be offered rain or shine.

• **Central Carolina Community College** - The next 8-week class session begin Oct. 15. To register

for courses, contact your advisor or the Admissions office at 919-718-7300 (Lee Main Campus), 919-545-8025 (Chatham Main Campus), and 910-814-8827 or 910-814-8867 (Harnett Main Campus). You can also connect with an Advisor virtually by visiting www.cccc.edu/admissions/contacts/ or visit us in person at any Main Campus. See www.cccc.edu/12and8/ for a list of classes.

• The **Chatham Historical Museum** is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. We will be following the governor's directive on occupancy, masks, and social distancing. Adult and kid friendly; no admission fee. 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 at chathamhistory.org

• **Second Bloom Thrift Store** is open at the Food Lion Shopping Center. Store hours are Tuesday thru Saturday, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.

• The **Chatham Arts Council** has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort. For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.

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

hashtags #JMACoronaConcert performances and #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.

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

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

Scout News

• **Boy Scout Troop 93** in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit 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.

NEWS BRIEF

Chatham Community Library Presents Virtual Film Screening: The R-Word

PITTSBORO — In recognition of Down Syndrome Awareness Month, Chatham Community Library will host a virtual film screening of the 2020 film,

"The R-Word," Oct. 14-21.

This program is free and open to the public.

"The R-Word" takes a deep look into the long-reaching history and lasting implications of derogatory language used to describe people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through captivating animation sequences, the personal

narrative of four sibling stories and the first-person accounts of self-advocates, viewers get an intimate and nuanced perspective of the challenges and triumphs of people living with an intellectual disability.

Access to the virtual screening will be available beginning Oct. 14 by visiting www.wmm.com/virtual-screening-room/the-r-word-watch-page-chatham-community-library. A password is required at the time of viewing.

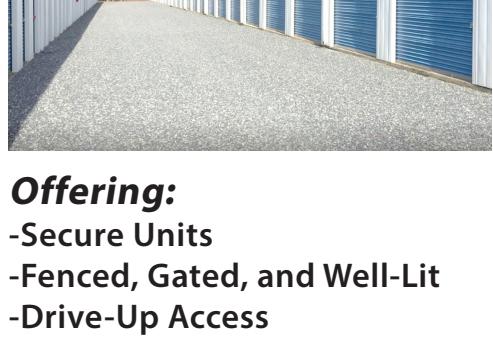
Those who are interested may contact social.library@chathamlibraries.org to request the password or for additional information. The library has purchased a hard copy of the film if residents who wish

to see the film miss the virtual screening window.

Residents may also visit the libraries' website, www.chathamlibraries.org, or contact the Library at 919-545-8084 or rita.vanduinen@chathamlibraries.org for more information on this and other events and programs.

— CN+R staff reports

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Rotary Club of Pittsboro

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With tremendous respect, the annual scholarship awarded by the Rotary Club of Pittsboro will now be known as the Karen Sbrollini Heilman Scholarship Fund. Karen taught high school English in Chatham County for over 20 years. A strong advocate for her students, she received Chatham Central's Teacher of the Year award in 2018. It is our intent to honor her dedication to education, countless contributions to our community, & ensure her legacy by helping Northwood High seniors achieve their collegiate aspirations.

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BOOSTER SHOTS & MORE

Health Department provides update on COVID-19 boosters, more

From the Chatham County Public Health Department

PITTSBORO — As news comes from federal agencies about expanding eligibility for COVID-19 vaccine booster shots, the Chatham County Public Health Department continues to encourage more people to get their first dose as soon as possible.

Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine booster doses

Last Friday, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention recommended that the following people who received their second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at least six months ago should receive a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine:

- Those who are 65 years of age and older, and residents of long-term care facilities like nursing homes; and
- Those who are 50 to 64 years old with certain medical conditions.

In addition, the CDC said the following people may receive a booster dose of the Pfizer vac-

cine, based on their individual benefits and risks:

- Those who are 18 to 49 years old with certain medical conditions; and
- Those 18 to 64 years old who work or live in settings that make them more likely to be exposed to COVID-19.

A few important facts about this announcement:

- Booster shots are only recommended for those who received the Pfizer vaccine. People who got the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines should not get a booster shot at this time.
- The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine was already fully approved by the FDA for all individuals aged 16 and older as a two-dose series.
- The booster dose is the same as the approved vaccine.

"There are three key points to make based on this news," said Chatham County Public Health Director Mike Zelek. "First, all authorized COVID-19 vaccines continue to work very well against COVID-19, particularly in preventing serious illness and death. Second, some who received the

Pfizer vaccine can benefit from a booster dose. This includes those who are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 or are at higher risk of getting exposed to COVID-19 based on where they work or live. Third, and most importantly, our ability to end this pandemic will depend on those who are not yet vaccinated getting their first and second doses."

The Chatham County Public Health Department continues to offer the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at its Siler City clinic, but there are several locations in Chatham County that offer the Pfizer vaccine and are giving the booster, including Siler City Pharmacy, Pittsboro Pharmacy, 501 Pharmacy in Chapel Hill, Walmart in Siler City, CVS Pharmacy in Chapel Hill and Siler City, Harris Teeter in Chapel Hill, Walgreens in Siler City and Pittsboro, StarMed Healthcare in Goldston (Wednesday afternoons at Goldston Town Hall), and Optum Healthcare in Pittsboro (Mondays and Thursdays at the Old Agricultural Building in downtown Pittsboro).

To find more vaccine

locations near you, including addresses, times of operation and appointments available, visit www.vaccines.gov.

Get your first vaccine dose now

To best protect the Chatham County community, all individuals who are eligible should get the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible.

Chatham County is seeing 100 or more new cases per week and 7% of tests done in the county returning positive over the previous week, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). While both case numbers and test percent positivity decreased from the previous seven days, there is still high community transmission of COVID-19 in Chatham, meaning that everyone in the county should continue to wear a mask in public indoor settings. More CDC data can be found here: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/>.

As of this week, 55% of Chatham County residents had received at least one dose of

the COVID-19 vaccine, while 52% were considered fully vaccinated.

"COVID-19 is still a threat in Chatham County. Like communities across the state and country, we have had deaths during the recent surge, a stark reminder that this remains a deadly virus" added Zelek. "Our healthcare workers also continue to carry a heavy load. Let's support them and each other by doing the easy thing and getting a COVID-19 vaccine."

Those who have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine or testing can call the CCPHD COVID-19 Vaccine Infoline at 919-545-8323. More information on COVID-19 boosters will be shared and updated at www.chathamcountync.gov/boosters.

To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine and the CCPHD's vaccination plans, visit www.chathamcountync.gov/coronavirusvaccine. To learn more about the Chatham County Public Health Department, visit www.chathamcountync.gov/publichealth or facebook.com/chathamhealth.

Evidence of community COVID spread in Chatham schools still scant

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Twenty-seven public and private schools in and around the Triangle have active COVID-19 clusters, according to this week's state health department's child care and school settings report, updated every Tuesday.

Last week, Chatham was among them — with one cluster at Northwood High School, which was later deemed to be erroneous and removed, and one cluster at Chatham Central documented by Chatham County Schools on its coronavirus dashboard during the second week of classes.

Northwood was removed from the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services' report last Wednesday, after Chatham County Public Health Director Mike Zelek said the cluster information was mistakenly reported to DHHS.

"It was an error on our part," Zelek told the News + Record on Friday. "We misclassified it in the state system as a cluster and thought we fixed it, but it

ended up being included in the report. We followed up and DHHS updated the report.

"No clusters have been identified this school year at Northwood," he said.

The DHHS report lists five associated cases with the Chatham Central cluster. The News + Record previously reported that the cluster had nine associated cases, due to the formatting of the district's dashboard. While there were nine cases at Chatham Central reported during the second week of classes, only five of those cases were associated with the cluster.

A cluster is defined as five or more cases that are epidemiologically related within a 14-day window, not just five or more cases in the same building.

As cases of COVID-19 among young people rise in the state and county, the low number of clusters — and of associated cases — at CCS suggests the safety mitigation strategies in place at the district are preventing community spread. The county's private schools — Willow Oak Montessori, Woods Charter School and Chatham Charter School

— have not had any clusters listed in the state report, and also have indoor mask mandates. Woods and Chatham Charter also have COVID-19 trackers on their websites.

In Chatham, CCS officials have stressed since before the start of the school year that universal indoor masking — done properly, with the right type of mask covering both a person's mouth and nose — will play a huge role in allowing in-person classes and activities to continue.

"We believe this is prudent, we believe this is defensible, we believe that this makes sense right now for our kids, and could help us have as close to a normal school year as we possibly can," Superintendent Anthony Jackson said of the district's universal mask recommendation on Aug. 5. "... We're confident that we can at least get school started — support our staff, give our teachers a safe place, give our kids as normal a place as possible, with the exception of one thing: they will have to wear a face covering."

The CCS Board of Education again

voted to require universal masking on all its campuses at its Sept. 13 meeting, in accordance with state legislation requiring school boards to vote monthly on face mask requirements.

"Masking is slowing the spread of COVID," Zelek, who has repeatedly supported the district's mask mandate, said at that meeting. "They not only slow the spread of COVID, they keep kids in the classroom."

A total of 187 people at Chatham County Schools have tested positive for COVID-19 since the district's first day of school on Aug. 23, according to the district's dashboard on Tuesday late afternoon.

With more than 10,500 students and staff members, the number of positive cases since the beginning of the school year makes up 1.7% of the district's total population. There are currently 7 active cases, the dashboard says.

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

COVID

Continued from page A1

A total of 263 Chatham residents have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last two weeks, a rate about 15% less compared to the two weeks prior. But Chatham's high community transmission of coronavirus and many residents' stubborn refusal to get vaccinated has Zelek and his staff sharing the same message over and over.

"Education and messaging will remain important to uptake, whether or not a mandate is in place," he told the News + Record this week. "As a public health department, we have been mainly focusing on two key strategies since the emergence of the Delta variant: vax up and mask up. These are our best tools to end the pandemic and avoid as many cases, hospitalizations, and

deaths before we reach that point."

He said that while mask mandates are the purview of elected officials in each jurisdiction, his department's opinion in the matter is clear.

"We as a public health department," Zelek said, "continue to encourage everyone to wear a mask in indoor public spaces given the ongoing high levels of COVID-19 in our community."

And to get vaccinated.

Back on July 7, the county reached a vaccination milestone: on that day, exactly 50% of Chatham's population became at least partially vaccinated. That's the number which has stayed relatively flat: in the 12 weeks since, the percentage of those partially vaccinated has crept up to just 55%. Only 52% of the county's population are now fully vaccinated; across the U.S., just over 55% of the population is, according to the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention.

Zelek quoted statistics from the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services, saying that in North Carolina, "unvaccinated individuals are four and a half times or 451% more likely to get COVID-19 as vaccinated individuals" and "15.43 times or 1,543% more likely to die of COVID-19 as vaccinated individuals."

And while "break-through" cases of COVID-19 — infections among the vaccinated — make up about 15% of the new cases in Chatham, it's the high number of cases among the unvaccinated and the hospitalizations that have Zelek repeating the mantra he — and most health experts — have been repeating for months: vaccines remain "incredibly effective" in the fight against COVID-19.

It's falling, at least in part, on deaf ears.

The most recent data from the NCDHHS show that among those 18 years old and older in Chatham County, 65% are partially vaccinated and 62% are fully vaccinated. Still, nearly 6,500 Chatham residents have contracted COVID-19. Ninety-one have died. But for the qualifying adults and children 12 and over among the more than 30,000 county residents who've not yet gotten vaccinated, Zelek cites other statistics: across North

Carolina's health care systems, on a consistent basis, about 95% percent of COVID patients hospitalized in intensive care units are unvaccinated. Among those on ventilators — the most serious of the ill — that number is even higher.

"I hope that is convincing to some who remain unvaccinated," he said of the serious illnesses among the unvaccinated. "To us, each person who gets vaccinated is one more who will likely not end up in the hospital, or worse."

North Carolina's new coronavirus infections numbers dropped this week to the lowest number since early August. And Chatham's case rate — 353 per 100,000 population — is among the lowest rates in the state, Zelek says. But masking and vaccinations remain important because of the threat of the Delta variant. And because in states and regions where vaccination rates are low, hospitals — and even funeral homes — are running out of space.

CNN reported this week that COVID-19 is killing so many people in Idaho that some funeral homes are running out of space to store the bodies. "We are working nonstop," Ada County Coroner Dotti Owens was quoted as saying. "We're exhausted. Funeral homes are out of storage. Our hospitals are out of

storage."

Both the CDC and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration have recommended COVID-19 booster shots (see story from Chatham County Public Health Department on this page.)

But for those refusing the vaccine, it makes little difference — that's according to Chatham Hospital's chief operating officer and chief nursing officer, Eric Wolak.

"This is a monumental moment for us during our lifetime," Wolak told the News + Record for a story last week. "This hasn't happened in over 100 years. As a nurse I see what this is doing, with over 650,000 dead in the United States so far — a number I think is underestimated, I'm sure. I'm shocked that this is still a topic of conversation. The science and the data are so clear that the vaccine works, that it saves lives. Nursing is a science. And I would think as scientists we should all be able to see that and recognize it — and to understand that we need to get vaccinated for not only ourselves, but for our family and for our patients."

Chatham County's average daily hospitalizations rate — currently at 5 per 100,000 people — is lower than neighboring Lee (22), Wake (23), Alamance (28), Orange (57), Durham (35), Randolph (13), Moore (98), Harnett (31) and Guilford (30) counties. Still, as Chatham Hospital Chief Medical Officer Dr. Andy Hannapel told the News + Record last week, he and other physicians have experienced the frustration of having unvaccinated patients express regret over not getting vaccinated.

"... the majority of the unvaccinated patients we bring into the hospital will admit, 'You know, I should have gotten (the vaccine), I should have gotten it, and I want it now,'" Hannapel told the News + Record two weeks ago. "Which is a pretty hard thing to see. And they're saying this in between gasping for breaths. So it's not an exaggeration. There are people who are suffering who have great suffering. And that could have been avoided."

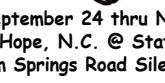
In making the announcement reinstating its mask mandate, Pittsboro Mayor Jim Nass said part of its purpose was "to educate the community about the benefits of wearing masks, support employers and others in creating an expectation that masks be worn and raise awareness about the need to slow the spread of COVID-19."

Zelek hopes those who haven't been listening will finally hear.

Bill Horner III can be reached at bhorner3@chathamnr.com or @billthethird.

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VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | JAIME DETZI, CHATHAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION

How North Carolina's budget impacts education here in Chatham County



JAIME DETZI

When you hear about the state budget negotiations happening in Raleigh, it is hard to discern exactly how that budget impacts

you and your family here in Chatham County. Specifically, how does the education budget impact you, your local schools, your property value, your local taxes, and the students and teachers here in Chatham?

The state of N.C. has a budget surplus of approximately \$6.5 billion. There are a number of ways in which these funds could either be used to support our communities or saved for a rainy day fund. Considering the state lost a lawsuit for not meeting its constitutional obligation for a sound and basic education, spending additional funds for public education is a no-brainer. In fact, a clear plan for how to implement a system of impactful changes is detailed in The Comprehensive Leandro Remediation Plan.

Here are a few ways the budget decisions at the state level impact us here in Chatham:

Availability of school support staff

Teachers are at times asked to be nurses, counselors, social workers and psychologists because N.C. is falling way behind recommended staffing levels. If recurring funding is put in place, as suggested by the Governor's budget recommendation, our Chatham

teachers can focus more on instruction, and less on filling the gap where the state falls short. These support personnel positions are needed more than ever due to the pandemic and the social and emotional stress to children during these times.

Research suggests effective school counselors can impact student success including high school graduation rates and college attendance. In order to maintain effective counselors, districts must sustain professional development with coaching to improve outcomes for our Chatham students. (Chatham has a student-to-counselor ratio of 400:1, the American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250:1.)

Teacher retention and recruitment

Recruiting and retaining high quality teachers in N.C. is a challenge for each and every school district considering North Carolina is ranked 33rd nationally for teacher pay. If N.C. increases state allotments for teacher pay considerably, as is recommended by the Governor's budget, Chatham County could better retain teachers both leaving the profession or leaving N.C. to teach in other states. This is also important because failure to adequately fund at the state level puts pressure on local taxes as counties must cover additional supplements that bring pay to even a minimally acceptable level. This system creates great inequities across the state which impacts us in many ways: for example work-

ers cross county lines.

In addition, a few years back North Carolina removed an increase in pay for teachers with master's degrees. Restoring master's pay will also support the state's effort to keep our teachers here in N.C. and Chatham, while increasing teacher quality. (RAND Education and Labor states, "Teachers are estimated to have two to three times the effect of any other school factor, including services, facilities, and even leadership" on student academic performance.)

Early childhood education

Research shows that 90% of a child's brain development occurs before the age of 5, therefore early learning experiences are of utmost importance for our kids. When the state financially supports quality preschools, our kids benefit from the increased teacher pay and effectiveness, by increasing their readiness for kindergarten. Did you know that school readiness is one driving factor to students reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade? Kids who read proficiently by the end of 3rd grade are four times more likely to graduate from high school on time.

In addition to the benefits early learning gives our kids, from an economics perspective, it is also wise for our state to invest in early childhood programs. A study by Dr. James Heckman shows that for every dollar invested in high quality early childhood education taxpayers can expect a 13% return on their investment. What does this mean for your tax dollars? The impacts on tax

dollars are both short and long term including fewer needs for special education in K-12, lower incarceration rates, less need for welfare, and an increased future income and thereby increased tax base.

The state budget should include recurring revenue to support expanding the NC PreK programs as well as Smart Start and other programs that support low and middle income families.

Property values

The National Bureau of Economic Research shows a correlation between school expenditures and home values. Specifically, for every dollar spent on public education, home values increase by \$20. So residents in Chatham, even without children, benefit from a strong, well funded school system for years to come.

Your taxes

As mentioned, the state has a \$6.5 billion surplus. As the state pulls away from its responsibility to support public schools, pressure is put on Chatham's local tax base to fill the gap. As our commissioners work to keep our local tax rate low, it is imperative that we require N.C. to pay its full share of public education dollars. Legally, the state government is required to pay for instructional expenses, including personnel for our schools and the local districts are required to pay for capital expenses (building and maintenance). If the state continues to forgo its responsibilities, more public school expenses will be pushed to Chatham County and there

will be no way to keep our tax rates low. Every Child N.C. has a great tool online to see how funding for each school district will look when Leandro is resolved.

Broadband access

Broadband.com reports only 80% of Chatham County residents have access to quality broadband. Compared to surrounding districts, this is very low (Wake County = 99.9%, Orange County = 94.3%, Lee County = 95.5%). This impacts not only our adults, but our students completing homework and has had great impacts in the past year when virtual learning was the only option. All three proposed state budgets include some form of broadband infrastructure funding, much needed here in Chatham and many other rural areas in N.C.

As we move forward it is important to note that as N.C. continues to fail to meet its constitutional obligations for public school funding for instructional expenses, more and more of the burden is pushed to our counties, including Chatham. Imagine a world where the state of North Carolina was fully funding its obligation to our public schools and local education funding was spent entirely on innovation in our schools, not filling needs unmet by our state. If we support public education advocates in our legislature, we can make this happen for North Carolina.

Jaime Detzi is the executive director of the Chatham Education Foundation.

Being cool a good thing



BOB WACHS

Movin' Around

Some years ago, a television commercial — it was for a brand of margarine — featured a lovely lady playing the character of Mother Nature.

The spot opened up with Mother Nature walking peacefully among the forest creatures, singing with

the chirping birds and playing with the

cute little bunnies as she glided along in

her gown with flowers in her hair. All

the while with soft music played in the

background. Then somehow a slice of

bread with what she took to be butter

was handed to her and as she bit into the

bread, she commented on how sweet the

butter tasted.

From somewhere off camera a voice

told her it wasn't butter but was, instead,

the afore-mentioned margarine. After a

few back-and-forths of "No, it isn't" and

"Yes, it is," Mother Nature frowns and

screams her fingers. Immediately the soft

music and peaceful scene disappears and

is replaced with a violent storm. We see

the commercial end with a close-up of

Mother Nature's face with a wry smile

that says, "It's not nice to fool Mother

Nature!"

Through the years I have remembered

that commercial (obviously) and have

also adapted it a bit in my world to come

to say, "It's not nice to fool with Mother

Nature."

I've always been impressed with her

— with what she can do and often how

quickly she can do it. From childhood

snows that kept us out of school for days

to fits and bursts of wind and rain that

turn hard dry pasture ground into quag-

mires of mud, she's an impressive lady.

And for me, her all-time noteworthy per-

formances have to be hurricanes — from

Hazel when I was a boy (I still remember

the pounding rain and the bending of the

massive oak trees) to the awful night I stayed up listening to the symphony she and Fran played in '96.

Mother Nature is a grand lady, to be sure, but sometimes she shows us her softer side. And that's when I not only marvel at her majesty and power but really appreciate her kinder gentler nature.

We are in one of those now.

And I really like it.

The last few days and nights have been really good. There are still a few warm days here and there. And as far as I'm concerned, more rain would be nice. But the highlight has to be on the thermometer, especially the nighttime one.

We've turned off the AC, thrown up the windows and pulled up the sheet. I love cover. Sometimes in summer I crank down the air conditioner just so I can pull up the sheet. A psychiatrist or therapist might say that's because I'm insecure and maybe so. We all are in some way or another. But I prefer to think it's just because I like the feel of the sheet and the bedsheet as I snuggle down for the night.

I also know this fit of joy won't last forever. Pretty soon Mother Nature will really crank down the temp and it'll be time for Shirley to bring in the firewood. But until then, I'm planning to keep enjoying those simple pleasures of autumn.

If, however, the dog doesn't soon stop with the Midnight serenade throughout the neighborhood, just outside the window, I'm going to be in the market for some duct tape.

For him.

Not for me.

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.

Angela Merkel's Christian leadership



ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

The first female chancellor of Germany has stepped down after serving her country since 2005. To put Angela Merkel's longevity into perspective, America has had presidents Bush, Obama, Trump and Biden in the same time frame. For further reflection on her legacy, think of the global economic, refugee and public health crises in the past years. I want to reflect on her responses through the lens of Merkel's Christian faith.

Merkel served as the leader of Germany's Christian Democratic Union, one of a dozen political parties in the nation. She built a coalition of political leaders which included the more liberal Social Democratic Party. For Merkel, "compromise" was not a dirty word or sign of weakness.

While she did not speak often in public about her Christian faith, Merkel summoned her religious beliefs in times of crisis. In the aftermath of the bloody civil war in Syria, Merkel opened the borders of Germany to more than half a million refugees fleeing the terror of President Bashar al-Assad. By comparison, the U.S. welcomed fewer than 10,000 people.

Though opening Germany's borders to refugees was popular among many of her fellow citizens, Merkel justified the decision through her Christian faith. Specifically, the words of Jesus: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

Germany also aided European Union nations like Greece and Spain after the worldwide financial crisis of 2008. More recently, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Merkel advocated for bonds backed by the European Union as a whole which allowed millions of Europeans to weather the economic crisis.

And speaking of weather, Merkel has repeatedly called for action on

climate change. As Germany's environment minister, Merkel presided over the first United Nations climate conference in Berlin that led to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol negotiations, the first international climate-protection treaty. As chancellor, she persuaded heads of the leading industrial nations in 2007 to pledge to cut global carbon emissions in half by 2050.

The daughter of a Lutheran pastor, Merkel initially pursued a career in science, earning a doctorate in quantum chemistry. She is no intellectual slouch. Unlike many politicians, she did not need convincing of the truth that humans were dangerously warming the planet. Neither did Merkel falsely claim science is intrinsically pitted against faith.

It is true that Merkel could have done more to put the world on the path to neutral carbon emissions. She called for a bolder vision this past July after the horrendous floods in Germany. Critics say this was too little, too late.

It is true that Merkel will be remembered for her restraint. She has chosen her words judiciously and her political agendas even more carefully. I see a fundamental Christian tenant behind Merkel's approach to governance.

"Fahren auf Sicht" — literally "driving on sight" — was Merkel's characteristic terse formulation to describe her leadership. The saying is akin to taking it one step at a time. I also hear an echo of scripture: "Walk by faith, not sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7).

No one knows the future. We can not see far down the road.

Yet, the most faithful among us lead with all of our God-given intellect and abilities and make decisions for the moral good, even if unpopular.

Auf Wiedersehen, Angela Merkel. Gott sei mit Dir.

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

What's on your mind?

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

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

Each letter must contain the writer's full name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

Letters should be no more than 400 words in length. Letter-writers are limited to two published letters per month. Letters selected for publication may be edited and all letters become property of the Chatham

News + Record.

To submit a letter: Mail it to the News + Record at P.O. Box 290, Siler City, N.C. 27344; or email to

bworner3@chathamnr.com; or drop by our office at 303 West Raleigh Street in Siler City.

VIEWPOINTS

How transferring to UNC as a Nicaraguan-American student has shaped my journalism



HEIDI PÉREZ-MORENO

Latino Voices

Growing up in Miami, Florida, I was raised in a predominantly Latino community that blended a wide variety of ethnic and racial identities into a single area.

I'd often visit Central American bakeries on Sundays, see storefronts in Spanish and walk into establishments where people predominantly spoke Spanish throughout the area. On a typical family restaurant outing, we would stop by my favorite Nicaraguan restaurant, Guayacan, and afterward, we'd pick up picos and cajetas (fudge) from the

Being Hispanic has shaped my identity as a person and reporter in ways I didn't realize — until now.

Growing up in Miami, Florida, I was raised in a predominantly Latino community that blended a wide variety of ethnic and racial identities into a single area.

Little changed once I began as a freshman at a local community college in the area, Miami Dade College. With more than 160 countries and 63 languages represented among students, Miami Dade was a conglomerate of different racial and ethnic identities.

My experiences certainly changed once I transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, during my

Central American bakeries by our house. I instinctively knew to kiss relatives and family friends on the cheek rather than shake hands or hug when we saw each other.

I was used to asking those around me, especially classmates and people I met, where they or their families were from. They'd ask me, too, and I'd say that I was Nicaraguan-American. That sort of curiosity was almost second nature to me and the people around me.

It's made me rethink how my background has shaped my identity and role as a journalist. It's helped me embrace my own culture, and inadvertently helped me better understand and contextualize stories that relate to marginalized communities. For example, I worked on a story at UNC about how a prestigious faculty governance committee has had no woman or person of color since its inception 192 years ago.

When I served as editor-in-chief of MDC's student newspaper, The Reporter, it was typical for our stories to feature those from underrepresented backgrounds. But upon moving to a different school, I realized how that's not the case in many student and professional newsrooms alike.

I wanted to use my experiences to cover the non-English speaking community across the Triangle as I felt it was a group that wasn't being given enough media attention.

With COVID-19 cases surging at the time and vaccination distribution just getting started soon afterward, there were a great deal of stories to be told within these communities, such as the prevalence of vaccine hesitancy among immigrants and refugees, as well as how non-English speaking families were adjusting to in-person and virtual school.

Many cultural practices have also been impacted by the pandemic, such as quinceañeras — and how have Latino-owned businesses fared?

Being able to speak Spanish has helped me connect with other Hispanic individuals across the Triangle with stories to tell. I've been able to hold interviews in Spanish and speak to Latino immigrants about their experience emigrating to North Carolina.

It's helped my storytelling abilities. I've learned to dig deeper and truly understand the nuances and context of coming from an unrepresented community. I'll take that with me as I cover other marginalized communities outside of Latinos.

Heidi Pérez-Moreno, a senior at the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media, is a part of the News + Record's "La Voz de Chatham" reporting team.

Labor force shouldn't be shrinking



JOHN HOOD

John Locke Foundation

North Carolina's economy has enjoyed a substantial recovery from the depths of the Great Depression — that is, from the COVID-19 downturn of 2020. Most businesses are back up and operating. So are schools and universities. More employees than ever before are working from home. That's had positive consequences for worker satisfaction and traffic congestion (although the consequences for productivity are admittedly unclear). State government is flush with revenue. North Carolina's headline unemployment rate was just 4.3% in August.

Lurking beneath these positive trends are some trouble signs, however. Perhaps the most obvious is what the headline unemployment rate, called the U-3 rate, doesn't measure.

The U-3 rate is a fraction for which the numerator is the number of people who tell the Bureau of Labor Statistics they are unemployed and actively looking for a job. The denominator is the number of people working plus the number of people who are jobless but actively looking.

Notice that if you aren't working and you aren't actively looking for a job — because you've given up in frustration, at least temporarily, or you're in the middle of a life change such as relocation or taking care of an elderly relative — you aren't counted as "unemployed" in the headline rate. Furthermore, if you're working part-time but would rather be working full-time, you aren't employed to your full potential or preference. You're underemployed. For the purposes of U-3, however, you are simply counted as "employed."

All states have sizable shares of disaffected, transitional, and involuntarily part-time workers. While the U-3 rate doesn't measure those shares, the federal government captures that information in other ways.

North Carolinians would be well-advised to look beyond the headline unemployment rate that draws the most media attention each month, and supplement their understanding of North Carolina's labor market by looking at other measures.

For example, the government computes a statistic called labor-force participation. What share of potential workers are either employed or actively looking? In August, that rate for North

Carolina was 59.2%. Unfortunately, our labor-force participation is down from 60.1% at the beginning of 2021. That's larger than the drop so far this year in Virginia (.3%). In Tennessee, there's been no net change. In Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina, participation in the labor force has gone up during 2021, not down. This is a case where North Carolina sticks out like a very sore thumb.

Here's another trouble sign: the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes broader unemployment measures, consisting of 12-month rolling averages updated every quarter. These broader measures include the unemployed and underemployed workers the U-3 rate leaves out. As of June, that broadest measure for North Carolina, the U-6 rate, was 10.3%. That's higher than the U-6 rates in most Southeastern states (although Florida, at 12%, has the highest U-6 rate of all, reflecting its particular vulnerability to sectoral downturns in tourism and recreation).

As you've been reading this column so far, your mind may well have jumped ahead to consider policy implications. I don't blame you — I'm especially prone to this temptation, given how long I spent as the leader of a public policy think tank, the John Locke Foundation.

To observe that these labor-market signals are troubling is, however, not necessarily to establish partisan blame or advance someone's talking points. Democratic activists think Republicans should have started spending the state's revenue surplus more quickly, and massively. Republican activists think Gov. Roy Cooper's COVID-19 restrictions were overly restrictive and continue to have lingering effects. The two sides disagree about the role of expanded unemployment-insurance payments in keeping workers on the sidelines of the labor market, and on many other potential explanations.

I have my own views about these matters, but the first step to staging an effective debate about remedies is to agree on the basic scope of the problem. Our headline unemployment doesn't portray it adequately, given that some of its recent decline is the result of workers giving up, not workers finding jobs.

John Hood is a John Locke Foundation board member and author of the new novel "Mountain Folk," a historical fantasy set during the American Revolution ([MountainFolkBook.com](#)).

Comments from the clip file



TOM CAMPBELL

N.C. Spin

Every columnist keeps a "clip file" — articles, stories or ideas from which to write future pieces. Sometimes that file becomes so full it's hard to choose just

one topic on which to write. I decided that this week I would combine several from the file into one column. Let me know how you like it.

Filled up, burned out and lonely

In early June it looked as if COVID-19 was waning. We were so tired of being sequestered and restricted that we joyfully stomped on the gas to speed our return to normal. We know how that worked out. Delta slammed us. Unfortunately, we also stopped showing appreciation for our frontline workers, especially our healthcare heroes, the doctors and nurses in hospital emergency and ICU units. They never got to fully relax and recover. Some were burned out and left the profession, adding to our nursing shortage. Hospitals are once again filled and healthcare professionals are as overworked as last February, only now they aren't getting the appreciation we showed earlier.

We can't do their healing work, but we can show how much we value them. How about taking or sending a meal to the hospital ER or ICU? Better still, call and ask what they need. Our healthcare heroes are as important as ever. Let's show them some love.

Chickens come home to roost

A three-judge panel of Superior Court judges once again

struck down North Carolina's Voter ID law. They ruled that the Legislature's Republican majority "target[ed] voters who, based on race, were unlikely to vote for the majority party. Even if done for partisan ends, that constitute[s] racial discrimination."

In 2018 North Carolinians approved an amendment to our Constitution for voters to identify themselves at the polls. A total of 35 other states have the requirement, so we know it can be done, but our lawmakers have repeatedly attempted to stay in power by passing laws that discriminate against minority voters. Their laws have been struck down by state and federal courts and the chickens have come home to roost. We've lost confidence legislators can pass an impartial voter ID law. These repeated lawsuits are costing taxpayers millions of dollars and we still don't have voter ID. It's time lawmakers call together all affected parties and negotiate a fair law that won't be challenged in court.

Showdown at the Leandro corral

Burley Mitchell was Chief Justice of our state Supreme Court in 1997 when the Leandro verdict was released. Originated by low-wealth school districts, the suit maintained poorer districts didn't have the money wealthier counties had and couldn't offer comparable educations. The plaintiffs wanted the state to put them on equal footing. The court ruled that every child must have "access" to a sound basic education. We've been debating and arguing how to accomplish this ever since.

In June, Judge David Lee approved a plan negotiated with the plaintiffs, support groups, the State Board of Education and Gov. Roy Cooper's administration. Among other things, it called for \$5.6 billion in addition-

al K-12 education funding and he ordered the legislature to comply with the ruling. Legislative leaders objected, saying that Lee had no authority to dictate what they would or would not appropriate for education. One legislator said that if Lee wanted to pass laws he should run for the legislature. Frustrated with the lack of response, Judge Lee recently told lawmakers to comply with the negotiated plan by Oct. 15 or face the consequences.

I asked Justice Mitchell, long retired from the bench, if Judge Lee could compel the General Assembly to spend the money. "Absolutely," was Mitchell's response. In a matter of weeks, we're going to see a showdown. Who is your money on?

The horse has left the starting gate

While on the subject, gambling has become a topic of discussion with our lawmakers. They are considering whether to authorize sports gambling. Truth is it's already taking place on a large scale. Either our legislators don't know or want to admit that the horse has already left the starting gate. Whether they approve of gambling or not, it's time we stopped dragging our feet and pass legislation to set up a gaming commission to effectively regulate games of chance and hopefully keep underworld types out. It should include parimutuel betting. Horse racing could stimulate our economy through breeding, raising and caring for horses, as well as racing. You can bet on the bobtail. I'll take the bay.

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

LETTERS

A move to district voting would end the 'absurdity'

TO THE EDITOR:

I agree with the assessment of Phillip Johnson, in his letter to the News + Record last week ("Decision to close collection centers looks political," Sept. 23-29). Most of the collection centers shutting down are in the west end of the county. It is one of the end results of at-large commissioner voting.

Because the two representatives of the west end, Jim

Crawford in the 4th District and Franklin Gomez Flores in the 5th, are voted on by everyone in Chatham, they owe their elections to the larger number of voters in the northern part of the county. This is how two commissioners who support county-wide zoning could exist in an area where it still is one of the bitterest issues the rural population has to put up with in Chatham. Mr. Crawford's attitude can be summed up with a statement I heard made to a west end audience a few years ago: If you don't like people from Chapel Hill, don't let them move here.

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Staff Photographers

If it isn't bad enough that conservatives have no representation in Chatham, the system forces the rural areas to have representatives that either disdain or don't care what they want, as the collection center closings seem to show.

We need to move to district voting to put an end to this absurdity.

Bill Crawford

Pittsboro

Editor's note: Chatham County officials tell the News + Record each collection center will be open at least one day a week as soon as possible

MOSAIC

Continued from page A1

Burger + Beer and second People's Coffee locations. Hops and Berry, a self-serve tap house and restaurant, has committed to Mosaic but will not open until late 2022.

"Restaurants are, of course, what a lot of people look forward to most," said Bradley, who is also part-owner of Chatham Media Group, the News + Record's parent company. "I think we've got a diverse selection of really good-quality options that folks will enjoy."

New service providers will include a 2,500-square-foot Lux Nail Salon; Harris & Co. Insurance and CMG Financial Mortgage. Those interested in future residential options can visit the 1,400-square foot Mosaic Sales & Leasing Center to learn about for-sale homes at Tessa at Mosaic, a 50-unit luxury condominium collection, and The Guild, which will comprise 165 apartments.

Refuel — a gas and convenience station — and Hampton Inn & Suites have each purchased outparcel sites. Refuel was scheduled to open in mid-September and Hampton Inn plans to start construction in late October. Several office tenants will also move into a two-story office-over-retail building next month, including CE Group, Finley Design, Lee-Moore Capital Company, Sanford Contractors, Inc. and Mosaic's property management office staffed by KANE Realty Corporation. An event lawn, called Mosaic Family Commons, is almost



Courtesy of Mosaic

Upon completion, Mosaic will host 200,000 square-feet of retail shops, restaurants and other businesses.

complete and will host its first event in early October (see sidebar story).

In total, 96% of currently available retail space and 45% of the office, technical and creative spaces have been leased.

"We're kind of going zero to 100 here," Bradley said. "And the nice thing is we're opening — rather than one or two sort of isolated buildings — a real critical mass with several things that people can come and see and do in October."

The announcements follow a challenging year in which spiking commodity prices and labor shortages strained the construction industry. Mosaic is about a year behind schedule, Bradley estimates, but the pandemic has yielded some positives.

"I think people have really had the chance to think about how they want to live and work as a result of the pandemic," Bradley said, "and that has mostly worked out to our benefit. People are looking and saying, 'Hey, we can live in a place like Chatham Park because they're going to have something like Mosaic

that sort of brings things together."

Bradley calls it an "urban-burb" model — melding the conveniences of city living with the privacy and comfort of the suburbs.

"It has a sense of urbanity," he said. "People, Millennials especially, might be looking to raise families and so they may be looking at single family homes. But they want to find homes that are adjacent to an area that has the sort of activities they enjoy."

Compared to 18-hour cities such as Raleigh and Durham, Mosaic will strive for a "sweet spot activation" of about 16 hours per day. "So hopefully that will meet and balance everybody's desires," Bradley said.

Mosaic's partial opening marks the first major, non-residential milestone of the larger Chatham Park development. Upon completion, the 7,000-acre community will host more than 60,000 residents between about 22,000 homes. It will include 22 million square-feet of office, research, retail and educational space. Within a 25-minute drive of Chatham Park, "the population is expected to grow by more than 13% to 228,100 with an average household income \$137,000 by 2025," according to a Mosaic press release.

"I'm excited about where we are and where it's going," Bradley said. "I think we've got some real momentum, and I hope we're representative and inclusive of all of current and future Pittsboro and Chatham County. It's not easy to do these sort of projects, but I think we've got something really special."

To learn more about Mosaic, visit www.MosaicatChathamPark.com.

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

For more information on the fair and how children can apply to participate, visit www.chilrensbusinessfair.org/pittsboro-nc.

The lawn opens at 4 p.m. on Fridays and concerts begin at 5 p.m.; Saturday concerts begin at 1 p.m. and makers markets will

run until 5 p.m. Event operators recommend attendees bring a lawn chair or blanket.

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KAREN

Continued from page A1

and received Chatham Central High School's 2018 Teacher of the Year award. In 2019, she was promoted to district high school instructional program facilitator, where she was, essentially, a teacher of teachers.

Karen is now also the namesake of the Rotary Club of Pittsboro's annual scholarship.

She was a positive force to be reckoned with, coworkers said of her, though "not a mush," her mother emphasized.

"If you knew her well," Becky said, "Well, you knew."

Karen was a birthday rememberer, family Disney trip coordinator and "once-a-weeker" phone caller. She gave good gifts, often made her own cards and was "school mom" to many students she met over the years. During the pandemic, she started yoga classes for high school staff on Wednesday mornings to help alleviate heightened stress. And on the way to the emergency room at the end of July, she dropped off files for

the AVID program at Chatham Central, said longtime coworker and friend DeLisa Cohen.

That's just the kind of person Karen was.

Her aggressive cancer diagnosis was a shock to everyone, including Karen. Doctors never figured out exactly what type of cancer she had, but the official cause of death on her death certificate was "Signet Cell carcinoma of the Ovary." Though in hindsight Karen thought she'd had symptoms for a few months, it wasn't until the summer she felt worried enough to start really looking into it. A decreased appetite coupled with increased fatigue, cramping and ascites — swelling of the stomach — made her think her symptoms were more than just due to pre-menopause.

Karen went to the emergency room on July 26 at her doctor's recommendation, where lab tests used to diagnose blood clots suggested she likely had cancer — confirmed by a diagnosis on Aug. 6. She checked into the hospital on Aug. 9 — where she'd stay until she left for hospice.

"And she was gone by

Sept. 9," Newt said. "I mean, it was fast.

A lifelong athlete, the vivacious Karen played basketball for Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. She played adult basketball, softball and volleyball; coached basketball, softball and soccer; taught fitness classes and was an avid cyclist.

Karen and Newt were still riding bikes together when she learned of her diagnosis, biking 15 to 20 miles every ride. They celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary on Aug. 1, while on a final family beach trip — though they didn't know it at the time. From the hospital, she checked in on work — not because she had to, but because she wanted to — and made sure the people in her life were taken care of.

Becky said her daughter was a lifeline for her during the pandemic — taking her to appointments during Becky's second bout of cancer in 2020, getting her groceries and "never leaving her out of anything" even when they didn't physically see each other much. Becky moved to Pittsboro in 2015 with her husband, Paul, to the retirement community

Galloway Ridge at Fearrington. One year later, Paul unexpectedly died from a blood clot following complications with hip replacement surgery. It was devastating to Becky, but she had her girls — granddaughters Becca, Sara and Abigail and daughters Lauren and Karen.

"She was very caring of me, which I never really knew how much until COVID," Becky said. "I'm going to miss it."

Karen's sister, Lauren, who was two grades younger than Karen, has fond memories growing up together: playing sports, wearing matching outfits when they were younger, and having their first children 10 days apart — without knowing beforehand that either one was trying to get pregnant.

Lauren lives in New York, so she didn't see Karen super often. But every year — including this one — they spent at least one trip together, often at Emerald Isle.

"Even though we didn't constantly see each other, we always knew we had each other's backs and love for our kids," she said. "It was really nice to always have that person who you knew, we always put each other and our family first. ...And that's something I feel extremely proud of, to have grown up with that and experienced that with her throughout our lives."

For Randa Branson, a junior at UNC-Greensboro, Karen was the person she went to for everything. They met in Randa's first year of high school, when she needed help with an English paper.

"We hit it off," Randa said. "She stayed with me from then until my junior year of college."

As a first-generation college student, the college application process was daunting. Karen got Randa involved in AVID, pushed her to apply and helped her with applications. After she graduated, Karen traveled with Randa the summer of 2019 to give a speech to more than 3,000 educators in Tampa, Florida, about the impact of AVID on her life.

A picture from that trip is now Randa's phone lockscreen.

Karen also helped move Randa into college her first two years. Since she was in the hospital this year, Karen couldn't help with move in; still, she reached out to other educators to make sure someone would be there with Randa.

"She was the rock that I sort of built everything around for seven years," Randa said.

Nearly everyone who knew Karen has a "Karen story." For Newt, reading hundreds of such tributes from people is bringing him comfort. He was reading a letter to Karen from her college friend and holding her hand right before she died.

"There was a lot of that at the end," he said. "So many people had so many fond memories of

Remembering a friend

Karen and I worked side by side for eight years at Chatham Central—she was my mentor at school but really she was so much more than that. I feel like I owe her everything—she molded me into the teacher I am today and the person I am. If you knew Karen, you loved Karen; it was impossible not to. She created a legacy at CCHS and touched all of our lives and the lives of our students in several ways. She has been my work mom, my ride or die, my Carolina Brewery partner, and so much more. I will miss hearing her optimistic spin and perspective on any given situation and her zest for life. I'll never forget the sound of her giggle and those bouncing curls.

- Brooklyn Davis, coworker and friend

I cannot think of a time I didn't see Karen smile. I just can't think of one. And, you know, I'm sure there were things that frustrated her somewhere. And even here, but her smile... I can still see it. It was just so bright and so infectious and so uplifting. ... I will remember her positive energy. I will remember her kindness. And I'll remember her smile.

- Karla Eanes, principal of Chatham Central High School

I worked with Karen at Chatham Central and was fortunate to have her as a department head since the foreign languages teacher and librarian were both folded into the English department. I leaned on her wisdom and learned so much from her. She was a school mom to countless students and teachers alike. If I needed a pep talk or advice, she was there to take care of me. All of the positivity in the world radiated from her at all times.

One of my favorite things about Karen was that she could talk you into doing anything. She'd come in all excited and talk to you about it and you'd feel the inexorable pull toward excitement. ... If she said that she thought you could do it, it was because she had perfect confidence in your abilities. Karen didn't do empty flattery and her tremendous belief in us drove us to accomplish more than we would have dared to attempt alone. I'm afraid that I won't push myself hard enough without Karen being here to talk me into it.

- Danielle Reynolds Brooks, coworker and friend

She had such an infectious can-do attitude. But I also really marveled it, how practical she was. And that, I think, was to the benefit of supporting teachers and supporting students. In working with her, I was able to see the transition to a real teacher advocate that she was, and she cared so much about all her professional colleagues, particularly during the year of remote learning that we just experienced and the service to others she was promoting during that last year. That's something that I'll definitely always remember.

- Kelly Batten, coworker and supervisor

She and I were both Alpha Delta Pi sorority sisters. We always introduce ourselves as sisters. People thought we were really related. We had similar features; dark curl hair and blue eyes. When my kids were little they would at times get us confused. She felt like my real sister.

She was just amazing. She would listen and she just had that ability to make people feel good about being around her.

- DeLisa Cohen, coworker and friend

Karen."

He finds himself often looking at pictures of them together — remembering and seeing how happy she was, how happy they were. And of course, remembering her beautiful smile.

For Becky, hearing all the kind words others offer about Karen has reinforced that others also knew the daughter she knew and loved so much. It's also shown her that Karen "lived a whole other life" apart from her; as it should be.

For example, after Karen died, Becky and Newt found her dad's license in her wallet, five years after he died. Becky hadn't known Karen had the license until then.

"Another thing, we were not a religious family, far from it," Becky said. "But she said, 'Well maybe now I'll see dad, he can use me and he needs me.' Which wow, we all just ... wow."

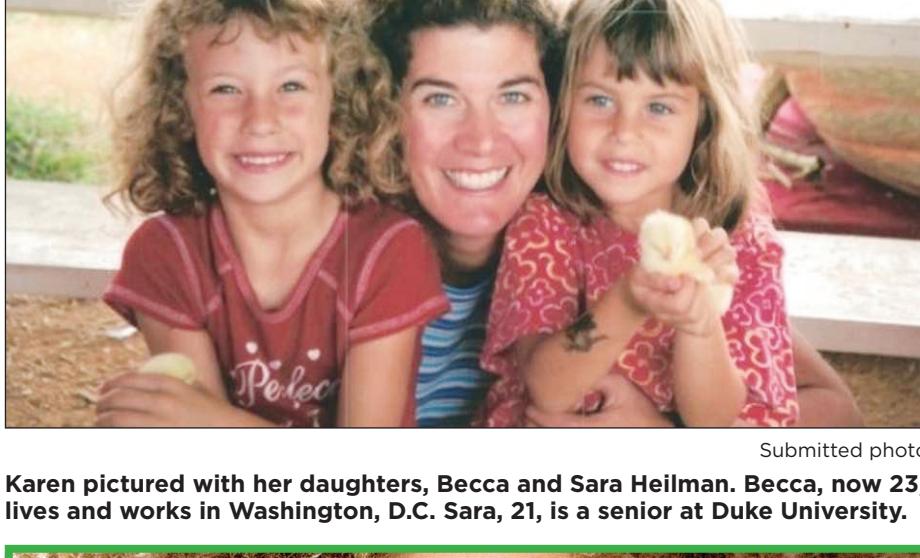
So Karen was many things to many people. But to all the people she knew, Karen was someone they loved, depended on and admired. Now she's someone they'll miss, and someone they'll remember — for her love, her laugh, her smile.

For Becky, there are countless memories with the daughter she knew and loved for 55 years, but the way she wants her to be remembered is simple.

"Like I do," she said. "As a wonderful, giving woman."

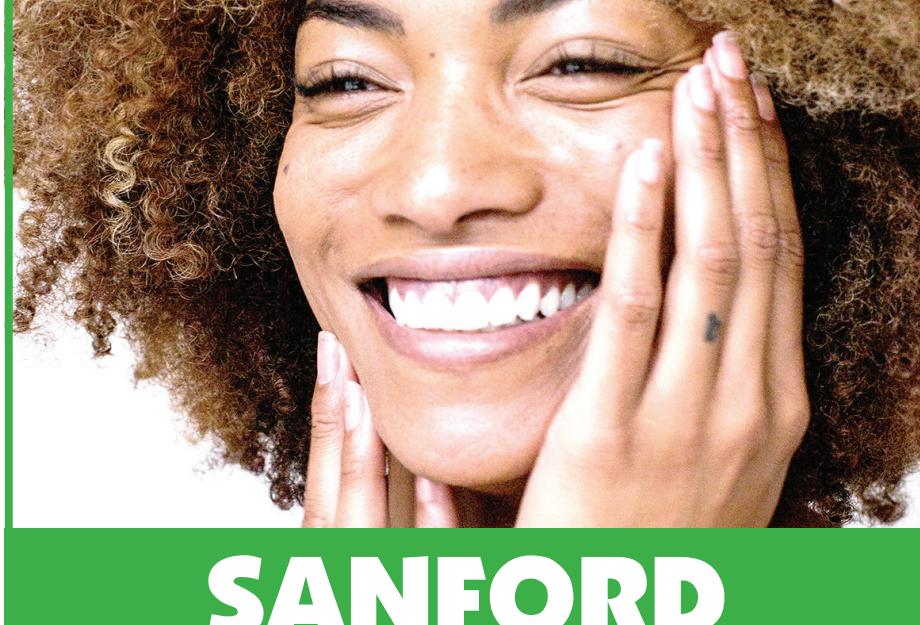
A celebration of Karen's life will take place at a later date, tentatively in spring 2022, to coincide with her birthday on March 30. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to a cancer research or education charity.

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



Submitted photo

Karen pictured with her daughters, Becca and Sara Heilman. Becca, now 23, lives and works in Washington, D.C. Sara, 21, is a senior at Duke University.



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Submitted photo

A recent Heilman family photo: Karen, Sara, Becca, Newt and Karen's beloved dog, Trevor.

Five key demographic takeaways from Chatham County's 2020 U.S. Census findings

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON

News + Record Staff

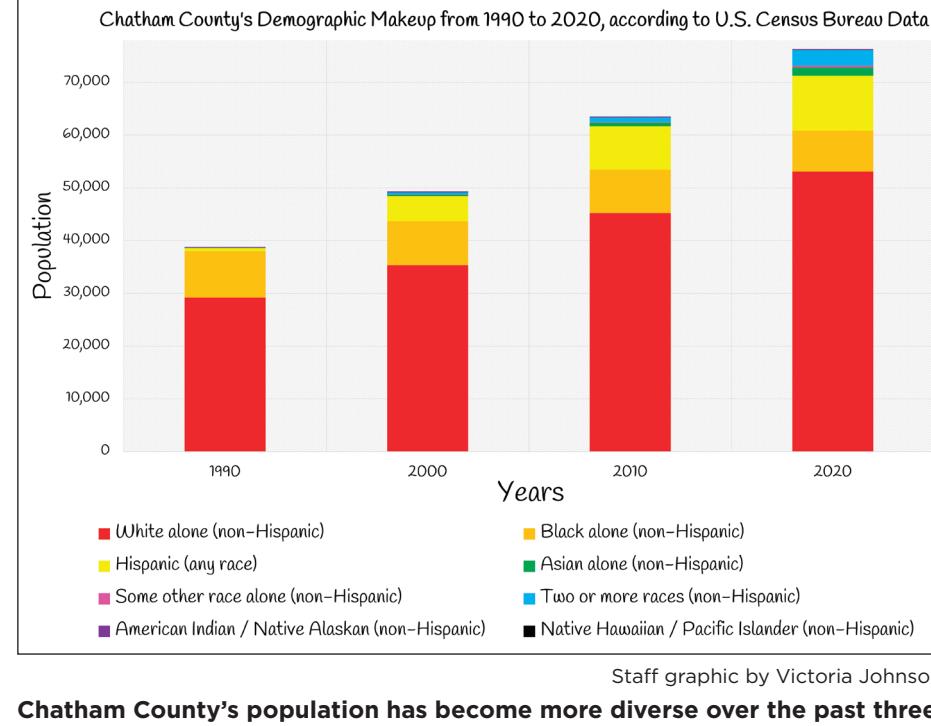
Chatham County's population increased by about 20% from 2010 to 2020, according to 2020 U.S. Census data — and much like the majority of the U.S., most of that growth came from Chatham's minority populations.

The U.S. Census Bureau first began to release in-depth demographic statistics in mid-August; by mid-September, most of that data had become more easily accessible on the bureau's website, data.census.gov. Using that data, plus data from past censuses dating back to 1990, the News + Record compiled five key takeaways about Chatham County's 2020 demographic trends:

Chatham is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse.

In 1990, Chatham County's population was about 75.3% white, 22.7% Black and 1.4% Hispanic (any race). Other races made up less than 1% of the county's population. The 1990 census didn't identify individuals of two or more races.

In 2020, however, Chatham's population was 49.6% white, 10.2% Black,



Chatham County's population has become more diverse over the past three decades, as shown in the graph, which pulls together demographic data from the 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2020 U.S. Decennial Censuses.

13.6% Hispanic (any race), 2.1% Asian and 3.9% multiracial. Collectively, other races — American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, plus "some other race" — make up less than 1% of the county's population.

Chatham's white population isn't shrinking, but its share of the county's population is.

For the first time

on record, America's non-Hispanic white population shrank in 2020, dropping from 196 million in 2010 to 191 million last year. Its overall share of America's population decreased, too, from 63.7% in 2010 to 57.8% in 2020.

In Chatham, however, things look a bit different. The county's non-Hispanic white population grew by about 17%, though its share of Chatham's population dropped from 71.2% to 69.6% in the last decade.

Across North Carolina,

the non-Hispanic white population grew by about 1.4%. In 2020, about 60% of the state's population identified as white.

Chatham's Hispanic population grew by a quarter from 2010 to 2020. Now it's the county's largest minority population.

Chatham County's Hispanic population grew by about 26% from 2010

to 2020, according to 2020 U.S. Census data, surpassing Chatham's Black population as the county's largest minority group.

In 2010, the U.S. decennial census found that 8,228 Chatham residents, or 13%, identified as Hispanic/Latino — a 73.5% population increase from 2000, when the county's overall Hispanic population had numbered just over 4,700.

In 2020, the census counted 10,372 Hispanic residents in Chatham County out of 76,285 people, or about 13.6% of the county's population. In Siler City, nearly 51% of residents identified as Hispanic/Latino, while about 10.7% of Pittsboro's residents are Hispanic.

Chatham's growth rate falls well short of the state's Hispanic population growth rate (40%). Today, nearly 11%, or 1.1 million, of North Carolina's residents identify as Hispanic, according to 2020 census data.

Chatham's non-Hispanic Black population has been incrementally decreasing for the past 30 years.

For 30 years, the U.S. decennial census found that Chatham's non-Hispanic

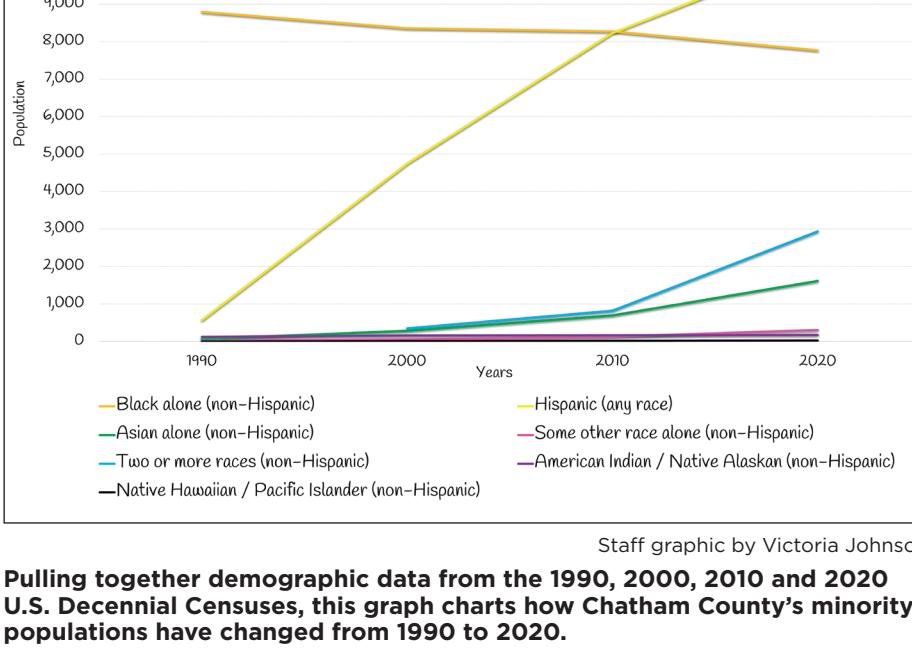
Black population has been falling, although only slightly. In 1990, the census counted 8,794 non-Hispanic Black residents. In 2000, that number dropped by a few hundred to 8,355 — and then another hundred in 2010 to 8,272.

In 2020, Chatham's non-Hispanic Black population numbered 7,768 people — a 7% decrease in overall population from 2010 to 2020. In contrast, North Carolina's non-Hispanic Black population increased by nearly 88,000 people (4.3%) between 2010 and 2020.

Chatham's multiracial population had the highest growth rate between 2010 and 2020.

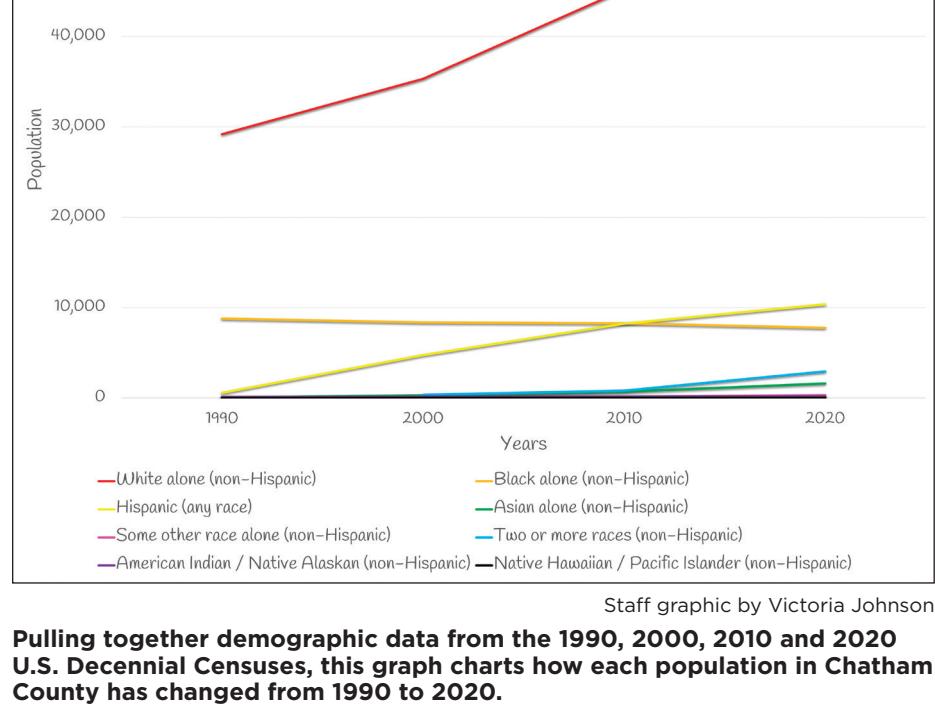
In 2010, the U.S. Census identified 819 non-Hispanic multiracial Chatham residents. In 2020, the number climbed to 2,937 residents — a 258.6% increase. From 2000 to 2020, that growth rate is even higher at 741.5%. Many multiracial residents also identified as Hispanic/Latino; combined, 5,462 Chatham residents — Hispanic and non-Hispanic — identified as multiracial.

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



Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

Pulling together demographic data from the 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2020 U.S. Decennial Censuses, this graph charts how Chatham County's minority populations have changed from 1990 to 2020.



Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

Pulling together demographic data from the 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2020 U.S. Decennial Censuses, this graph charts how each population in Chatham County has changed from 1990 to 2020.

MASK

Continued from page A1

last month. "Hospitals are filling up, mainly with those who are not vaccinated. Cases are not contained to any setting or neighborhood, but 90% are among the unvaccinated. The answer to this problem is clear: Vax up and mask up."

Whether to require masking in Pittsboro first came up in a board of commissioners meeting almost three weeks ago. Mayor Pro Tem Pamela Baldwin — presiding over the board in Nass' absence — indicated she and the mayor favored reintroduction of a mask mandate.

Under the terms of North Carolina's ongoing state of emergency, mayors hold executive power to impose mask mandates. Most of Pittsboro's commissioners, however, said they favored a softer approach.

"I'm not in favor of this," Commissioner Jay Farrell said. "I think the citizens of Pittsboro can make their own decisions. If they want to wear a mask, that's fine. If they don't, if they're vaccinated or not vaccinated, I feel like that's putting too much pressure or too much mandate on our citizens. That's pretty much all I have to say about that, but I'm not in favor of it."

Commissioner Michael Fiocco likewise

"stop(ped) short of supporting a mandate."

"But I would like to encourage everyone to do the right thing for yourself and for your fellow Pittsborian," he said.

Besides Baldwin, only Commissioner John Bonitz explicitly supported the idea of a mask mandate.

"I also favor the idea of a rule for requiring masks indoors at retail establishments in Pittsboro," he said. "... It is clear that the Delta variant is more contagious or virulent and the evidence for that is pretty clear."

The town's mask mandate will remain in effect without expiry, but Nass said he hopes circumstances allow him to loosen the restriction soon.

"We hope to be able to rescind this mandatory mask order as soon as possible," he said, "and ask that all of our citizens join together to keep our children and most at risk citizens safe."

As of Tuesday, at least 1,385,700 people in North Carolina had tested positive for the coronavirus, and at least 16,285 had died since March 2020, according to state health officials. On Tuesday, the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services reported 3,469 new COVID-19 cases and 50 coronavirus-related deaths.

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

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Johnson, Stallings attend Ruritan conference

CN+R Staff Report

DUBLIN, Virginia — Johnny Johnson and Norman Stallings attended the Ruritan National Summer Leadership Conference held in Roanoke, Virginia, in August.

At the conference, held at The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, they learned about new programs to improve America's communities and revitalize the organization. The conference was sponsored by Ruritan

National as part of the organization's ongoing training program for volunteer leaders.

Johnson is the 2021 Rocky Mount-Durham District Lt. Governor and is a member of the Silk Hope Ruritan Club. Stallings is the 2021 District Governor and a member of Bethesda Ruritan



Johnny Johnson

Club in Durham.



Norman Stallings

Attendees included leaders from all levels of Ruritan, including club, zone and district officers as well as a host of volunteer speakers and seminar leaders. Discussions with national volunteer leaders and Ruritan staff members revolved around issues that affect

Ruritan clubs and members in their districts and areas, including growth and development, leadership training, and legal issues.

More than 20,000 Ruritan members in 38 Ruritan Districts and Areas from the Tidewater area of Virginia to the Corn Belt of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska were represented. Since 1928, Ruritan Clubs have been working to improve communities through fellowship, goodwill and community service.

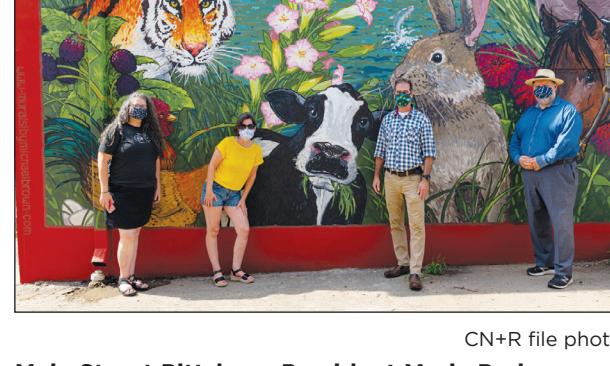
CHATHAM CHAT | LESLEY LANDIS, MAIN STREET PITTSBORO

Pittsboro's 'Main Street' crowd keeps working to build businesses, vibrancy downtown

Pittsboro is a busy place these days, particularly with construction and the Chatham Park expansion. But downtown, a group of business leaders and volunteers — Main Street Pittsboro — are working hard to ensure the area's environment stays vibrant. This week, we speak with Lesley L. Landis, a graphic designer and founding board member and a co-chairperson of the Promotions and Marketing Committee of Main Street Pittsboro, about the organization's efforts.

Landis also serves as a board member of the Chatham Arts Council and a co-founder of Wake up Wednesday and Pittsboro Eats! She says she's grateful for her life, and loves her husband Randolph, lilies, and the sight of a waning crescent moon on a clear night.

Can you give us an overview of Main Street Pittsboro, and talk about the focus of your work?



CN+R file photo

Main Street Pittsboro President Maria Parker-Lewis (yellow) poses with fellow board members (left to right) Lesley Landis, Pittsboro Commissioner Micheal Fiocco and former Pittsboro Mayor Randy Voller.

Main Street Pittsboro ("MSPBO") is a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve the built environment of the Main Street district in downtown Pittsboro, support local businesses, and attract people to Pittsboro's unique and historic downtown. Main Street Pittsboro achieves these goals via the Design Committee, Promotions and Marketing Committee, and Economic

Vitality Committee. MSPBO works under a MOU agreement with the Town of Pittsboro to operate the town's Main Street Program. This arrangement is how a majority of Main Street programs in North Carolina operate.

In 2011, the Town of Pittsboro authorized an official request to the state of N.C. and Main Street Pittsboro as an organizational idea was approved

and formed under the auspices of the N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Main Street Program and The National Main Street Center, which is an established program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

In 1980 the National Trust for Historic Preservation developed the Main Street program to help historic downtowns and business districts rebound from the loss of businesses migrating to outlying shopping centers, suburbs, and large shopping malls. Coincidentally, many towns were losing businesses to increased competition from big-box retailers. As small, family-owned businesses shuttered, downtowns lost variety, local flavor, and their unique cultures. Main Street's goal was and remains: "Economic development within the context of historic preservation."

Tangible examples of Main Street Pittsboro's work include opening the Welcome Center and the

renovation of the building at 37 Hillsboro Street, the creative handrails on either side of Hillsboro Street that help shoppers navigate stairs while celebrating the town's designation as a bird sanctuary; completion of the rain gardens near Pittsboro Toys with stone caps and stone facings; the murals at Circle City Books, the Welcome Center, and most recently Yoga Garden Pittsboro, and improved building facades at Deep River Mercantile, Screaming for Vintage & Oakmoss Attic, and Perch Coworking, just to name a few.

Who's involved in MSPBO?

A volunteer board of directors composed of local business owners, property owners, and skilled local residents lead the Main Street Pittsboro non-profit. Maria Parker-Lewis is the chairperson, Michael Whitman is the treasurer. Other board members are Ashlie Campbell, Sera

Cuni, Chatham Commissioner Mike Dasher, Betsey Elbogen, Pittsboro Commissioner Michael Fiocco, Greg Lewis, Pittsboro Town Manager Chris Kennedy, Kevin Maley, former Pittsboro Mayor Randolph Voller and myself.

The original board when Main Street Pittsboro was formed as a nonprofit included Fiocco, Doug Emmons (who was the chairperson of the CCEDC), Jim Nass (now the mayor of Pittsboro), Maria Parker-Lewis and her husband Greg (who operated 39 West Catering and the Roadhouse in the district and are now current owners of The Sycamore), Kitty Meacham (owner of Liquidambar and the building it's in) and my husband Randy Voller and me. I'm a longtime board member of the Chatham Arts Council. Randy and Michael Fiocco were the driving forces behind Pittsboro being named a Small

See **MAIN**, page A14

THE CHATHAM COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

honors

Hispanic Heritage Month

189-B Thompson Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312
www.chathamncgop.com

iFeliz Mes de la Herencia Hispana!

The Hispanic community has enriched so much of the state of North Carolina. This month, we recognize the achievements and contributions of the community as we celebrate alongside them.

La comunidad hispana ha enriquecido mucho el estado de Carolina del Norte. Es por eso que en este mes queremos reconocer esos logros y celebrar con ellos tan importante contribución.

OBITUARIES

LOUISE ANDREWS SHROPSHIRE



PITTSBORO — Louise Andrews Shropshire, 94, was called home to Jesus on Monday, September 27, 2021, after battling Alzheimer's.

Louise was born to Maudie and Tawney Andrews on March 17, 1927. She was married to B.F. Shropshire for 53 years until his passing in 1999. Louise was a homemaker while her girls were young but then worked in local fabric shops and Chatham Mills. She loved to sew, garden, and tend to her home. She was a lifelong

member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church and served in the Nursery for 40 years. She also participated in WMU and other church activities.

In her later years Louise began to make quilts and enjoyed many hours with her quilting buddies. She taught her children to love Jesus. That is her best life accomplishment. Louise loved her family, especially her grandson and great-grandsons. Sunday lunch with family was very important to her and for many years "family" included people who would come to Granny's for lunch. There was always a chair, a plate and food. Louise was preceded in death by her parents, her husband B.F., her oldest daughter, Bonita R. Cumbie (2005), and her sister Muriel Mann (Glenn).

Louise is survived by her youngest daughter Denise Dixon (Craig), grandson Chad Ray (Linda), great-grandsons Jordan and Grant Ray, a niece Glennette Vaughn (Ronnie) and many cousins.

The family received friends Wednesday, September 29, 2021, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory Griffin Chapel. A graveside service to honor her life will be held Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Mt. Olive Baptist Church with Dr. Josh Peeler presiding. The family will receive friends after the service inside the church fellowship building.

The family respectfully asks that masks be worn inside.

To the staff of Phoenix Assisted Care and Amedisys Hospice, thank you for taking care of Louise, especially in her last days.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in Louise's memory to Mt. Olive Baptist Church Building Fund, 5043 Mt. Olive Church Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com

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

JAMES LA ROCHE GODWIN

James La Roche Godwin, 78, of Pittsboro, died September 13, 2021, of heart failure.

Jim Godwin was born on February 4, 1943, in Jamaica, N.Y., to the late Owen Godwin and Isabel Symons Godwin. Raised in Great Neck, New York, he earned his B.A. at the University of Pennsylvania, and held graduate degrees from Indiana University and the University of Chicago. In 1970, he was recruited by the Library of Congress, and moved his family there to begin a distinguished career of government service that spanned over three decades. Under his vision and leadership, the first on-line cataloging and information retrieval system at the LOC was developed, programmed, and implemented. He went on to become the Chief of the Automated Systems Office at the Library.

Jim moved to Pittsboro upon his retirement in 2005. In addition to his bibliophilic tendencies, he was a great lover of nature, an avid researcher of family history, and a zealous gardener. He is survived by his brother Will Godwin, his sister Mary Volz Peacock (Ron Peacock); daughters, Laura Jaya Godwin and Melissa La Roche Godwin; four grandchildren, three nieces, two nephews, and their families.

The family will hold a private service at a later date.

Condolences can be made at CremationSocietyNC.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the JC Raulston Arboretum (jcra.ncsc.edu).

JUDITH VIANNE HOLLOWAY AKRIDGE

CHAPEL HILL — Judith Vianne Holloway Akridge, 82, of Chapel Hill died on September 25, 2021.

She was born September 24, 1939, to the late Thomas Herschel (TH) Holloway and Elizabeth Fairfield (Nichols) and was raised by Edward Willis Fairfield in Durham, N.C.

She graduated from high school in Greensboro, N.C. and graduated from Louisburg College. She worked as a medical accountant for Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Chapel Hill Pediatrics, and retired from the American Board of Pediatrics.

Visitation will be held Thurs-

day, September 30, from noon

-1 p.m. followed by a celebra-

tion of life service from 1-1:30 p.m. at Donaldson Funeral Home in Pittsboro, N.C. A graveside

service will be held at 2 p.m. in the Carrboro Cemetery.

She is survived by her

husband of 58 years, Billy C.

Akridge; three sisters; sons,

Thomas E. Akridge ("T",

Michael C. Akridge (Cynthia);

and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to

Chatham Animal Rescue and

Education (CARE) at <http://chathamanimalrescue.org>

MAXIMA (JUAREZ) URIZAR

SANFORD — Maxima Urizar, 68, of 213 Cross Street, Sanford, died on September 22, 2021, at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center.

Funeral service was held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at Iglesia Cristiana La-Roca in Sanford.

BETTY MCKELVIE MCNEILL

SANFORD — Betty McKelvie McNeill, 94, of Sanford, died September 26, 2021, at her home.

She was born on February 13, 1927, daughter of the late George McKelvie and Erma Clark McKelvie. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Eugene McNeill Sr., and her daughter, Carolyn Campbell.

Graveside funeral service was conducted at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Holly Springs Baptist Church Cemetery with Mike Oldham, Daniel McNeill and Rev. Scott Yow officiating.

Surviving are her son, Gene McNeill Jr. of Broadway, N.C.; daughters, Patricia "Pat" Buchanan and husband Charles of Sanford, Kay Thomas and husband Ronnie of Broadway, and Cheryl Oldham and husband Mike of Sanford; sister Evelyn Willets of Dallas, Georgia; 14 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends at the home of Gene McNeill. Online condolences can be made at [www.smithfuneralhomebroadway.com](http://smithfuneralhomebroadway.com).

CONSTANCE PATRICIA (DARK) CRAVEN

PITTSBORO — Constance Patricia Craven, 80 of Pittsboro, died on September 21, 2021, at her residence.

Funeral service was held on

September 26, at Pittsboro

Fairgrounds. Burial followed at Pittsboro Community Cemetery.

PATSY WANN HINSON



Patsy Wann Hinson, 90, of Siler City passed away peacefully in her sleep on Friday, September 24, 2021, at SECU Jim & Betsy Brian Hospice Home of UNC Healthcare, Pittsboro.

She will be deeply missed, but her memory will be cherished and live on in her two sons, her four grandchildren, and her nine great-grandchildren (who she spoiled every chance she had).

Patsy (lovingly nicknamed "PJ") by her beloved late husband, Harold

T. Hinson Sr.) was born in Danville, Virginia, on March 23, 1931, the daughter of David and Martha Wann. Throughout her life, she remained incredibly close to her family, including her eight brothers and sisters. She was preceded in death by brothers Cline, David and Hersel Wann, and sisters, Betty "Boots" Chandler and Florence Hackler. She is survived by her sisters Jean Stamper, Diane Jones, and Sheron Lipford of Danville, Virginia, who often visited and were a light in Patsy's life.

Patsy was a member of West End United Methodist Church, spent her working years as a supervisor at A.J. Schneierison & Company, and spent every moment she could with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. If you ask anyone in her family, they will tell you that Patsy was the best cook in Siler City. For most of her adult life, she cooked a full Southern lunch, from fried chicken to brown sugar pie, every Sunday afternoon. Anyone was invited to sit at her table, and no one ever left hungry. For as long as she was able, she also loved to shop and to take yearly trips to the beach with her sisters.

Patsy is survived by her sons, Charles L. Hinson of Roanoke, Virginia, and Harold T. Hinson, Jr. of Siler City; grandchildren, Christie H. Norris and husband David, Benjamin M. Hinson and wife Regan, Matthew T. Hinson and wife Helen, Jonathan A. Hinson and wife Elizabeth; and great-grandchildren, Makyle (13), Boden (8), Elijah (6), Amelia (4), Henry (3), Beau (2), James (1), and Alivia (8 months).

A small celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Chatham County Council on Aging, P O Box 715, Pittsboro, NC 27312 (Meals on Wheels).

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Hinson family.

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

JAMES WINFRED COOPER

SILER CITY — James Winfred Cooper, 85, of Siler City, died on September 24, 2021, surrounded by his family at his home.

James was born in Wake County on October 20, 1935, the son of James Atlas Cooper and Porter Stone Cooper Hale.

James was a member of Center United Methodist Church and served as a greeter. He spent his working years as a truck driver. James loved to spend time outside fishing, watching western movies and playing pool with his friends. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wives; Mildred Ruth Cooper Johnson, Anna O'Neal Cooper, and Mary Woodruff Riggs Cooper and; and grandson, Ray Riggs.

He is survived by his daughter; Sherry Foust and husband Charles of Julian; son, Gary Cooper of Jonesville; stepchildren, Steve Riggs, David Riggs and wife Jennifer of Climax, Thomas Riggs of Liberty, Carolyn R. Myers of Greensboro, and Susan R. Kitterman of Randleman; brothers, Robert "Bob" L. Cooper and wife Sandra of Snow Camp, and Donald Garrett Hale and wife Brenda of Kernersville; 14 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren on the way.

The family received friends

on September 27, 2021, at Center United Methodist Church in Snow Camp. The funeral service followed at 2 p.m. with Rev. Wendy Bishop officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Liberty Home Care and Hospice, 401 East Third Street, Siler City, N.C. 27344.

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

REYNOLD EDWARD MCLEOD

SANFORD — Reynold Edward McLeod, 89 of Sanford, died on September 20, 2021, in Sanford.

Funeral was held on September 26, 2021, at 1st Calvary Baptist Church in Sanford. Burial followed at Lee Memory Gardens in Sanford.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

HAROLD WILFRED LASSITER JR.

CAMERON — Harold Wilfred Lassiter Jr., 66, of Cameron, died September 25, 2021, at his home.

Mr. Lassiter was born in Moore County, on March 9, 1955, to Sharon Solomon Lassiter and the late Wilfred Lassiter. He was a retired Installer Repairman of Century Link Telephone Company.

Surviving relatives include his mother Sharon Solomon Lassiter and wife Peggy Lemons Lassiter of Cameron; sons, Michael Chad Lassiter of Cameron and Brian Alton Lassiter and Kristel of St. Petersburg, Florida; a brother Bruce Lassiter and Shannon of Whispering Pines; a sister, Denise Cameron and Tim of Carthage.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Cameron Baptist Church with Pastor Jared McNeill and Pastor Wayne Greene presiding. The family received friends one hour prior to the service in the church.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Arc of Moore County, P.O. Box 773, Southern Pines, N.C. 28388.

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

RICKY WESLEY PERRY

DURHAM — Rickey Wesley Perry, 65 of Durham, died September 26, 2021, at Brian Center Southpoint, Durham.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

SAMUEL BERNARD BURCH JR.

CAMERON — Samuel "Sammy" Bernard Burch Jr., 34, of Cameron, died on September 13, 2021.

Funeral service was held on September 25, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home. Burial followed at Lee Memory Gardens in Sanford.

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

SWANNIE MAE ROUSE DUNLAP

EAGLE SPRINGS — Swannie Mae Rouse Dunlap, 87, of Eagle Springs, died on September 24, 2021, at her home.

She was born in Moore County on April 1, 1934, to Stella Rouse. She was a member of Rock Hill Friends Church and worked at Southern Garment/Ithaca for over 30 years. She also did seamstress work for the community and Scott's Cleaners. Swannie enjoyed working in her yard, canning, gardening and preparing meals for her family, whom she cherished. She loved her birds and animals.

In addition to her mother, she was preceded in death by her son, Harold Junior Rouse.

She is survived by her daughters, Carolyn Southard, of West End, Teresa Stewart, of Eagle Springs and Sharon Davis, of Robbins; son, Darrell Rouse (Angie), of Eagle Springs; sister, Esther Hundley, of Robbins; brothers, Wendell Dunlap and Ray Dunlap, both of Robbins; seven grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

The graveside service was held on September 26, 2021, at the Rouse Family Cemetery in Eagle Springs, N.C.

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

HOWARD GENE PARSON

SANFORD — Howard Gene Parson, age 81, of Sanford, died on September 24, 2021, at his home.

He was born in Lee County on September 17, 1940, to the late Phil Howard Parson and Flora Spivey Parson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Ann Parson Looper. He served his country in the US Army. He worked as a licensed plumber for many years.

Howard is survived by his loving wife Connie Stafford Parson; two daughters Amy Spivey and husband John of Sanford and Carrie Flynn and husband Don of Broadway and one grandson Landon Cheatham.

The family received friends on September 27, 2021, at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home. The funeral service followed in the chapel with Pastor Donald Flynn officiating. Burial followed in Spivey Family Cemetery.

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

JOHN S. COLLINS

BROADWAY — John S. Collins, 92 of Broadway, died September 22, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.

He was born on April 11, 1929, son of the late James Sidney Collins and Ethel Evelyn Buchanan Collins. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife of 64 years, Alberta Parker Collins and his siblings, Thomas Collins, Donald Ray Collins, Clayton Scott Collins, Halford Collins, Samuel Collins, Royce Collins and Ida Helen Brown.

Funeral services were conducted September 26 at Broadway Baptist Church with Rev. Dr. Larry Pittman officiating. Burial followed in the Broadway Town Cemetery.

Surviving are his daughter, Vivian Denise Clark and husband Gerald of Broadway; son, James Cleveland Collins and wife Linda of Broadway; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

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

See **OBITUARIES**, page A14

SHOP LOCAL

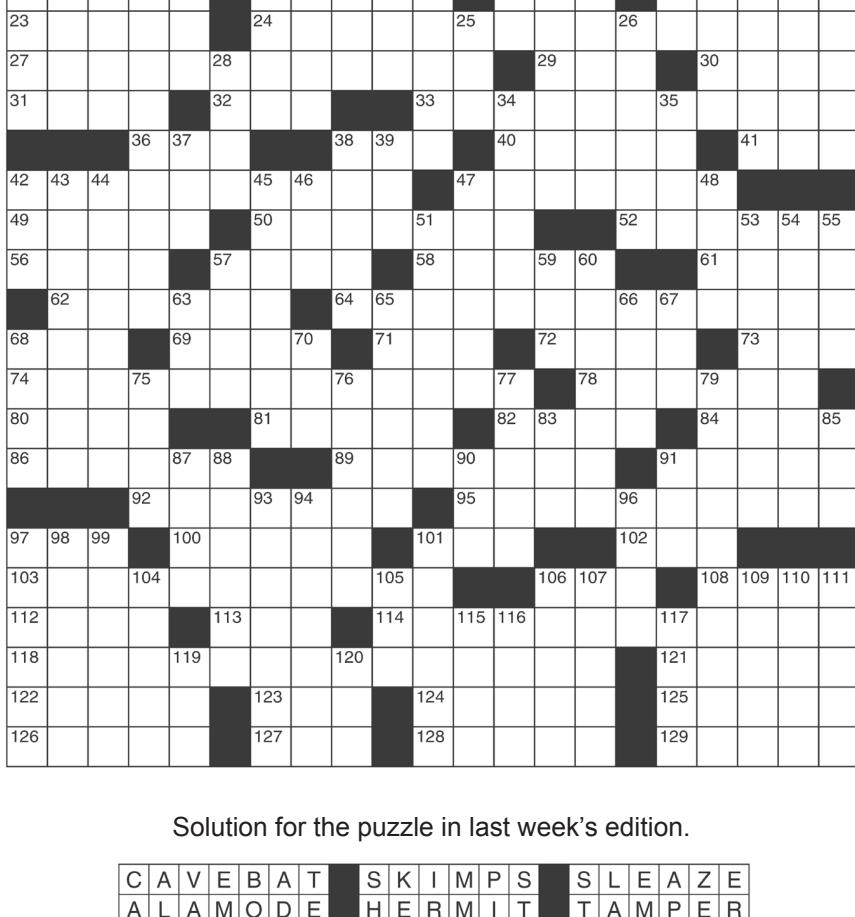
PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ACROSS

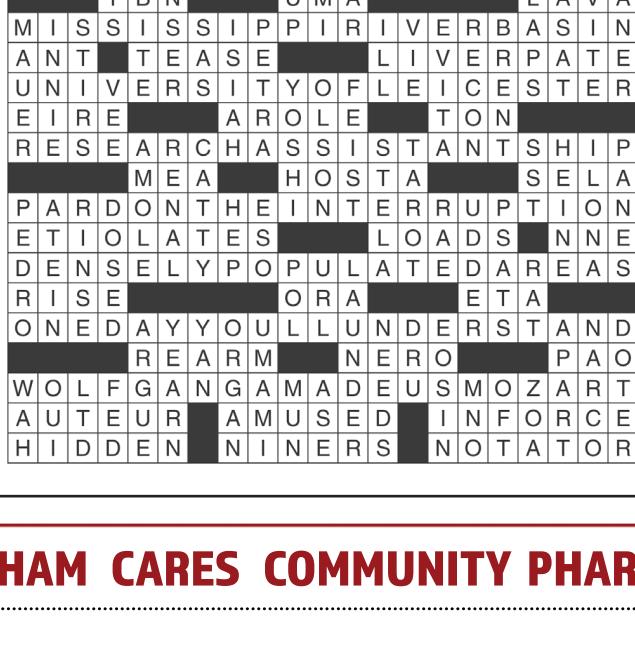
- Alabama city
- Change to fit
- Kind of port on a PC
- Seizes the attention
- Follow behind
- First half of an album
- Salada drink
- Roll back to 0
- "Hitchin'" — (1970 hit)
- U.S. version of a cue sport
- Argonauts' quest
- Screening airport gp.
- Lead-in for Rooter or tiller
- Israel's main airline
- Motorist's 180, slangily
- Common seabird with black wingtips
- Dog wielding a penlight
- Chou En — 40 — la vista"
- Aviv
- Chess piece four squares from the king at the start of the game
- Alternatives to inns

DOWN

- Wife's father, e.g.
- Left on the dinner table
- Arid African expanse
- Small drinks
- Keep — profile
- Egypt's Anwar
- Experts
- Mooing herd
- Cars move up and down in it
- Fleur-de- —
- "Yes, yes!" in Spain
- Land in the ocean, to Yvette
- Iraq's locale
- Group of two
- Certain injury from an arachnid
- Gives 10% to the church
- See 96-Down
- Dragster fuel
- Guesses at JFK or SFO
- Iowa city
- Printed notice with no pictures
- Newly capped tire
- Makes a sock, say
- Old buddies
- Inmate who's broken out
- African cobra
- 100 Staples Center, e.g.
- 101 "Aw, shucks!"
- Pantry pest
- Baby who doesn't need a pacifier, perhaps
- Actor Mineo
- Spoken
- Cars of "Mimic"
- I love, to Livia
- It connects to a car engine's water pump
- People who do what's at the ends of nine answers in this puzzle
- Barbara's collaborator in cartoons
- See 96-Down
- Borden's "spokescow"
- Actor Romero
- Common bellybutton
- Rear — (car accident)
- Banana oil or benzene
- Secret U.S. govt. group
- Big name in insurance
- Deck out
- Rocket part
- Flynn of old Hollywood
- Boxer Ali
- Iraq's locale
- Sheltered from the wind
- "Have — trip"
- How faint memories are recalled
- "Zip — Doo-Dah"
- Father, in French
- Chinese calisthenics system
- Thespian great Hagen
- Popular Nissans
- Certain guitar player
- Miracle —
- Corporate shake-up, for short
- Invite on a date
- Scarab, e.g.
- Leisurely walk
- 2.0 grade
- French edict city of old
- Granola bits
- "Help Me, —" (1965 hit)
- Fancy party
- Boise-to-Spokane dir.
- Lerner's collaborator in musicals
- Wanted-poster abbr.
- Grafton's " — for Quarry"
- Single-wheeled circus prop
- U.S.-Mex. border city
- Gives a judgment about
- "Dogtown" singer Yoko
- Paradise
- Persian king
- "The Hollow Men" poet
- Scholastic
- Simply won't
- Apropos of Et — (and others)
- Week — -glance
- Mexican dish
- Baking qty.
- Petrol quantities
- Jacob of social reform
- Rooted
- Exam for future attys.
- Here Comes the Hotstepper" singer —
- Kamoze
- Campus mil. group
- Hair highlight
- Gaggle birds
- Like direct combat
- Sea — Airport
- IRS form info
- Iraqi, for one
- Back fish fin
- Singer Des —
- Jeong of "The Hangover"
- Liselotte of the LPGA
- Revenues
- With 80-Across, Silicon Valley city
- PIN money?
- Hucksters' helpers
- Stickler
- The "g" of e.g.
- Ike's wife
- Screw up
- Glossy fabric
- Bewildered
- Concerto part
- Actor Ed
- Get versed in Sup stylishly
- Lacks being
- Em relative
- Slangy suffix with "two"
- Gp. for tooth drillers



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.



CHATHAM CARES COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Chatham County's only non-profit pharmacy has been serving the community since 2005. Free prescriptions are available if you meet our Federal Poverty Criteria.

Need assistance? Want to make a donation?

Contact us: 919-663-0177 or ChathamCares@embarqmail.com

ChathamCares.com



Martin Allen (Marty) Loflin

October 3, 1975 -

January 19, 2010

Missing you on

your 46th Birthday.

SON

Remembering you today and always!

We love you,

Daddy, Mama and Matt

Ennis and Becky Loflin

TAKEN IN

The family of Earlene W. Joyce wants to thank everyone for the many acts of kindness, love and support during our time of bereavement. Thank you all, The Williams Family

CARD OF THANKS

JOHNSONS CELEBRATE 60TH ANNIVERSARY



Calvin and Joanne Johnson celebrated their 60th anniversary on Sept. 15 with Joanne at Chick-fil-A and Calvin at 'the shop.' Calvin is the neighborhood handyman, mechanic and gardner — she is just the 'house and baby sitter.' They have 'meals on wheels' from their girls, Beverly, Robin, and Megan. 'With God's will, this marriage is a "Miracle in Time!,"' Joanne said.

Pittsboro Pub Crawl to host 1st Pittsboro Oktoberfest

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — The inaugural Pittsboro Oktoberfest is set for 6 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, Oct. 2, and will feature Oktoberfest-themed drink specials from each of the eight locally-owned participating businesses.

"Downtown Pittsboro has a number of fantastic locally owned bars and restaurants," said Greg Stafford, event organizer and owner of the SoCo Pittsboro development in downtown Pittsboro. "We encourage Pittsboro residents and people from the outlying areas to come see everything we have to offer in our historic downtown."

Participating businesses include 580 Craft Beer, The Beagle, bmc brewing, Fair Game Beverage Co., The Mod, Red Moose Brewing Company, Sycamore at Chatham Mills and Starlight Mead.

As a glimpse of what's in store at Oktoberfest, bmc brewing will have its entire selection of German-style beers on special for \$5/pint. This includes the Mendal's Dominant Recessive Kolsch, Hopper's German Wheat and their Oktoberfest 285 Lager.

Pittsboro Oktoberfest highlights the unique collection of bars, pubs, bottle shops, distilleries, restaurants and craft breweries the downtown Pittsboro area has to offer. Oktoberfest is the first in a series of events from the Pittsboro Pub Crawl.

This is a non-ticketed event, participants are invited to download the Oktoberfest map and visit any and all venues.

For details and more information on Pittsboro Oktoberfest and Pittsboro Pub Crawl, visit pittsborooktoberfest.com.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month recognized by commissioners

CN+R Staff Report

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution on Sept. 20 recognizing October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month and commemorating its 76th anniversary.

The resolution was presented to Chatham Trades' Executive Director Shawn Poe.

"Since 1980, Chatham Trades has been providing employment and training for Chatham County residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities," Poe said. "We have created an environment that treats each person with respect and equality."

The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

It provides an opportunity to raise awareness about disability employment issues and celebrate the workers with disabilities and their accomplishments.

"It is a time to encourage employers and others to recognize the value and talent that people with disabilities add to America and to Chatham County's workplaces and economy," Poe said.

This year's theme, "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion," reflects the importance of ensuring that people with disabilities have full access to employment and community involvement during the national recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our national recovery from the pandemic cannot be completed without the inclusion of all Americans, in particular people with disabilities," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh.

"Their contributions have historically been vital to our nation's success and are more important today than ever. We must build an economy that fully includes the talent



Submitted photo

Chatham County Commissioners' Vice Chairperson Diana Hales presents the resolution recognizing and commemorating the 76th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month to Chatham Trades Executive Director Shawn Poe during the commissioners meeting on Sept. 20.

and drive of those with disabilities."

Reflecting this year's theme, Chatham Trades will continue to educate the public on disability employment issues and its commitment to an inclusive work culture. These efforts include a video promoting Chatham Trades' services which is available on the homepage of its website at www.chathamtrades.com.

"Chatham Trades is proud to be a part of this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month," Poe said. "We want to spread the important message that we value all perspectives, including those of individuals with disabilities."

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by visiting www.dol.gov/NDEAM.

Barbecue Plate Benefit

hosted by Moons Chapel Baptist Church

Friday October 1st, 2021

Lunch Delivery to local businesses, carry out from the church 11am to 7pm

\$10 a plate (BBQ, Baked Beans, Slaw, Roll, Dessert, and Drink)

All proceeds go to Community Mission Work!



OCTOBER 2ND-3RD | OCTOBER 8TH-10TH | OCTOBER 15TH-17TH | FROM 12PM TO 5PM

PARADE OF HOMES KICK-OFF EVENT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 12-5PM

HOMES ON TOUR | BIG MIKES BBQ | BRUSTER'S ICE CREAM
CARICATURIST | SCAVENGER HUNT & PRIZES

Come explore the Vineyards at Chatham Park to see the area's most innovative new homes in one of The Triangle's newest communities!



WHERE: VINEYARDS INFORMATION CENTER

235 Cottage Way, Pittsboro, NC 27312 | (919) 278-7687

ChathamPark.com | VineyardsatCP.com



Scan QR code for directions to event



MOSAIC

Comes Alive!

In conjunction with Parade of Homes,
visit Pittsboro's newest community for
free live music, food, fun + first looks!

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OCT 1	Liquid Pleasure
OCT 2	Yankee South Makers market sponsored by The MAKRS Society
OCT 8	Beggars Banquet
OCT 9	Counterclockwise String Band Makers market sponsored by Pop-Up Raleigh Chatham Chamber Children's Business Fair
OCT 15	Chatham Rabbits with special guests Bluegrass Experience + Shay Martin Lovette Dedication of Tommy Edwards stage
OCT 16	Carolina Bluegrass Band Makers market sponsored by MOSAIC

Event lawn opens

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1pm for Saturday concert + makers market (1-5pm)

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Food and beverage available for purchase
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51 Mosaic Blvd, Pittsboro, NC 27312



MAIN

Continued from page A9

Town Main Street Community in 2011. Additionally there are many volunteers who support the program and serve on the advisory committees. Both previous Pittsboro mayors, Bill Terry and Cindy Perry, also supported the Main Street Program.

MSPBO has a number of events coming up. Can you share details?

First Sunday is hosted by the Pittsboro Business Association, but Main Street Pittsboro happily promotes any uplifting event that brings people downtown. First Sunday is always noon to 4 p.m. and typically features artisans selling jewelry, textiles, woodwork, soaps, and pottery on both sides of Hillsboro Street. The Welcome Center at 37 Hillsboro Street is always open during First Sunday and Mapleville To-Go sells ice cream from a nearby parking lot.

Oktoberfest

SoCo is hosting the Pittsboro Oktoberfest on this Saturday from 6 p.m. to midnight. Eight participating bars will offer drink specials and adults are invited to roam the streets of Pittsboro and enjoy a beverage. Visit 580 Craft Beer, The Beagle Bar, bmc brewing, Fair Game Beverage Co., Modern Life Deli & Drinks, Red Moose Brewing Company, Sycamore at Chatham Mills, and Starrlight Mead.

Arts in the Park

Main Street Pittsboro will present the next Arts in the Park from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, October 21, in the Page Vernon Pocket Park at 110 Hillsboro Street. The musical guest will be Sarah Perry.

Having taught a generation of people how to play the ukulele at Clapping Hands Farm, Perry is



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

This new mural at Yoga Garden in Pittsboro was done by artist Loren Pease.

known for her prowess on the ukulele and her clear, sweet voice on songs that celebrate nature and community. Singalongs may break out! The event is free, open to the public, and sponsored by Perch Coworking. Carolina Cravings and bmc brewing will be onsite selling bakery items and beer, respectively. Attendees are encouraged to buy snacks or dinner from local businesses and enjoy them during the concert. Several downtown restaurants are within easy walking distance to the park and are open for dinner and drinks after the concert.

Page Vernon Park

The Page Vernon Park is an environmentally friendly, 3,000-square-foot urban pocket park that opened in the fall of 2015. Named for Page Vernon, a child welfare advocate, mentor, guardian ad litem, lawyer and judge, she practiced law next door in the historic Hall-London House. Following Judge Vernon's death in 2013, the Vernon family donated the land where she often enjoyed her lunch in the shade of a pecan tree. The park was built with town funds and support from the Trust of James Milton Johnson and Laura Blair Johnson, the Chatham County ABC Board, and many other supporters.

"Our intent is to attract folks to downtown to enjoy some time outdoors in one of downtown Pittsboro's beautiful amenities," said Main Street Pittsboro's

board chairperson, Maria Parker-Lewis.

Pittsboro Street Fair

The Pittsboro Street Fair will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 30, at 50 West Salisbury Street. The Town of Pittsboro is the host for this perennial favorite downtown event that attracts great food and craft vendors, as well as nonprofit information booths that all coalesce to provide a fabulous day of fun and merriment for the community. The Rotary Club is working with the town on the event this year and Main Street Pittsboro supports the event.

The Welcome Center has been open since March. How are things going?

The Welcome Center at 37 Hillsboro Street is in the very heart of Pittsboro, Chatham's county seat, and in the shadow of the iconic courthouse on the traffic circle. The Welcome Center serves as a locus of information for visitors and residents alike as well as the office of Main Street Pittsboro.

Since the Welcome Center opened on March 24, more than 1,100 visitors from dozens of states and a handful of countries have stopped in to learn more about what's happening in and around Pittsboro and Chatham County. In the Welcome Center visitors find maps, brochures, and periodicals on Chatham County, rest tired feet in the

lounge and watch videos developed by Main Street Pittsboro for the curious traveler or day tripper, check email on the free wi-fi or use the only modern and ADA-compliant restroom in downtown Pittsboro. We regularly answer questions such as the best places to eat, have a picnic, go for a short hike, or buy an antique.

The newest feature of the Welcome Center is The Courtyard, an outdoor seating area where guests are encouraged to enjoy street views under the mural by Michael Brown while they wait for tiny dancers at Dance 7 or a table at The Beagle or Virlies Grill.

The intention of Main Street Pittsboro is to utilize the Welcome Center as a place to organize for future downtown events when the COVID-19 pandemic is over. For example, the highly anticipated second Local on Main dinner will make great use of the Welcome Center.

With the tremendous growth this area is experiencing, the information available at the Welcome Center has been much needed and appreciated. Current hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and occasional Sundays.

Anyone traveling through Pittsboro has seen plenty of construction — from work to enhance the traffic circle to the creation of SoCo. What's the rundown on that from MSPBO's point of view?

It is important to note that the Downtown Vision Plan — from which the traffic circle project sprang — was passed unanimously 5-0 by the town of Pittsboro on June 16, 2014. The Downtown Vision Plan is a map and an accompanying 48-page document that can be viewed on the website of the town of Pittsboro.

The intent of the Downtown Vision Plan is to develop a high level, community-based vision for the downtown core as a starting point toward enhancing the aesthetics, functionality, and economic sustainability of a vibrant downtown Pittsboro. Furthermore the plan identified priority projects and implementation budgets to secure funding commitments from the State of North Carolina to implement selected projects such as the traffic circle project.

Current Town Commissioners Pamela Baldwin, Jay Farrell and Michael Fiocco were on the town board in 2014 and voted to support the plan.

As an organization tasked with advocating for a safer and more walkable downtown, Main Street Pittsboro was an early supporter of the NCDOT work on the Pittsboro traffic circle. The traffic circle has been tightened from the outside by 4 feet, overhead utilities have been buried, and crosswalks and handi-capped ramps have been defined with stamped and/or slip-resistant materials. The handicapped ramp on the east side of Hillsboro Street has made access to the circle safer. These changes and the previous pavers on the Northeast and Northwest corners of the circle have all improved downtown's appearance and will make traversing Pittsboro safer for bicycles, pedestrians,

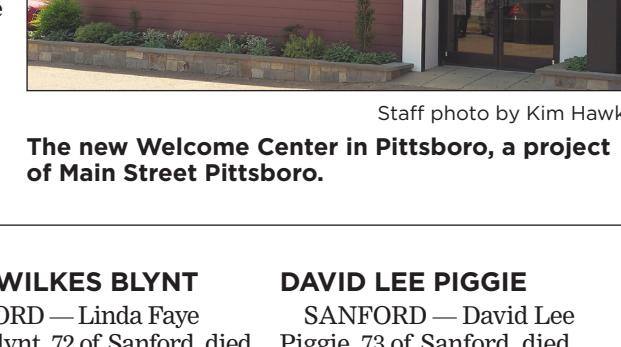
and people with mobility challenges — all positive qualities for a vibrant downtown.

SOCO — "South of the Courthouse" — is an exciting development happening on the southeast corner of the traffic circle and is significant for any town, both for the scope of this private investment and the optimism it suggests about the future of downtown Pittsboro. Main Street Pittsboro has worked with the owner to support his vision for redevelopment in this critical area of the town.

According to its website, SoCo will have 30,000 square feet, spanning an entire city block; 8,000 square feet of outdoor dining on three patios and rooftop bar; a mix of restaurants, bars, a brewery/distillery; both casual and fine dining; plentiful parking, both owned by SoCo and available public spaces.

Main Street Pittsboro welcomes the vision of the owner and developer and looks forward to the promise of greater downtown vitality that the development may bring to downtown. We appreciate and heartily support that historic properties are being renovated and that the new construction will honor the past.

For leasing opportunities or questions about SoCo Pittsboro, please contact: Eric Andrews at Realty World/Carolina Properties at 919-548-1014, or by email at eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

The new Welcome Center in Pittsboro, a project of Main Street Pittsboro.

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A10

ROY 'WILLIAM' ATKINS

SANFORD — Roy "William" Atkins died on September 19, 2021, losing his battle with COVID pneumonia at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford. His wife, son and daughter were with him in his final days and hours.

A visitation was held at Crossroads Ministries on September 24, 2021, with funeral following. He was laid to rest beside his son John at Asbury United Methodist Church cemetery.

William was born in Sanford to Roy Cleveland Atkins and Ruth Hall Atkins on August 23, 1951. He retired from building homes in 2012. He joined the Army National Guard for six years and was a sergeant, serving in the 2nd Battalion of the 252nd Armored Division in Sanford.

He is survived by his wife, Carlis Johnson Atkins; daughter, April Atkins Mashburn and husband Adam (grandsons James "Dylan" White and Jaxen "Cove" Mashburn, granddaughter, Addison Ruth Mashburn), son, William "Bryan" Atkins (granddaughter Annalissa Nichole Atkins), sister Faye Atkins McKinney and husband Marvin, and a host of other family, friends and loved ones. He was preceded in death by his parents and teenage son, John Christopher Atkins.

Online condolences may be made at www.rogerspickard.com

VALERIE CELESTE BELLINGER

SANFORD — Valerie Celeste Bellinger, 48, of Killeen, Texas, died on September 24, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

FITZGERALD LINDSEY PATTERSON

Fitzgerald Lindsey Patterson, 57, died on September 23, 2021.

JOHNSIE LEE THOMAS BAKER

SANFORD — Johnsie Lee Thomas Baker, 91, of Sanford died on September 26, 2021.

She was a woman of God and faithful member of Sanford Freewill Holiness Church and a devoted, loving wife and mother.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leroy Baker.

Johnsie was born in Lee County on May 10, 1930, to the late Jones Henry Thomas and Nola Elena Holt Thomas. She is survived by children, Michael Lee Baker (Pat) of Broadway, Brenda Stone David (Mickey) of Sanford, Randy Harrison Baker of Sanford; four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

Johnsie was preceded in death by her sisters, Elsie Griffin, Lena Smith, Mary Morgan; her brothers, Rufus Thomas, Jim Thomas, J. W. Thomas, Jack Thomas, and Waylon Wayne Thomas; and a grandson, John Christopher Stone.

In lieu of flowers donations are requested to Sanford Freewill Holiness Church, PO Box 2601, Sanford, NC 27331, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 50, Memphis, Tennessee 38101-9929 and/or Liberty Homecare and Hospice, 1005 Carthage St., Sanford, N.C. 27330.

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

TOMMY WILKERSON

SANFORD — Tommy Wilkerson, 61 of Sanford, died on September 24, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

CHANDLER TYREE COTTON

SANFORD — Chandler Tyree Cotton, 19 of Sanford, died on September 23, 2021.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

REYNOLD EDWARD MCLEOD

SANFORD — Reynold Edward McLeod, 89, of Sanford, died on September 20, 2021, in Sanford.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

SHAWN WILLIAM WILLIAMS

SANFORD — Shawn William Williams, 38, of Sanford, died on September 17, 2021.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

SELEEMIAH STARSHEANNA PATTERSON

Seleemiah Starsheanna Patterson, 34, died on September 23, 2021.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

EUGENE ALLEN WILLIAMS

SANFORD — Eugene Williams, 83 of Sanford, died on September 23, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

EDNA JEAN MARTIN

Edna Jean Martin, 79, of Brooklyn, N.Y., formerly of Sanford, N.C., died on August 17, 2021, at her residence.

Memorial service was held on September 25, 2021, at Macedonia AME Zion Church in Gulf, N.C.

CONSTANCE PATRICIA (DARK) CRAVEN

PITTSBORO — Constance Patricia Craven, 80, of Pittsboro, died on September 21, 2021, at her residence.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

THELMA JESSIE LEE BAKER

SANFORD — Thelma Jessie Lee Baker, 64, of Sanford, died on September 21, 2021, at her brother's residence.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

REYNOLD EDWARD MCLEOD

SANFORD — Reynold Edward McLeod, 89, of Sanford, died on September 20, 2021, in Sanford.

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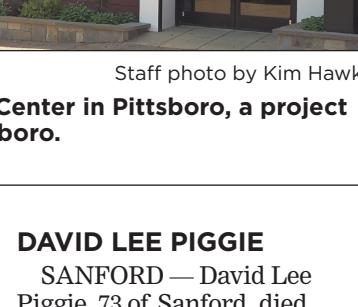
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For leasing opportunities or questions about SoCo Pittsboro, please contact: Eric Andrews at Realty World/Carolina Properties at 919-548-1014, or by email at eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

The new Welcome Center in Pittsboro, a project of Main Street Pittsboro.

DAVID LEE PIGGIE

SANFORD — David Lee Piggie, 73 of Sanford, died on September 21, 2021, at his residence.

The family received visitors starting September 25, 2021, at 602 W. Makepeace Street in Sanford until the day of the service.

MICHAEL LEE ROWE

SANFORD — Michael Lee Rowe, 65, of Sanford, died on September 20, 2021.

He was born in Mecklenburg County on November 27, 1955, to the late Robert Rowe and Mary Lee Glover Rowe. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Deborah Eubanks Rowe, and sister Gail Smith.

Michael served in the U.S. Army for 23 years, retiring in 1993 as a Sergeant First Class. He was awarded National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Sharpshooter Badge. After retiring, he worked for Sanford Contractors for 20 years. He enjoyed NASCAR and Sprint car races.

He is survived by his daughter Kimberly Bond of Sanford; brother Roy Rowe and wife Meta of Charlotte; sister Virginia Putnam and husband Alfred of Denver and four grandchildren.

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

GERALD WAYNE MICKLE

SANFORD — Gerald Wayne Mickle, 56, of Sanford, died on September 27, 2021 at his residence.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.



Chatham News + Record

SPORTS NEWS & CLASSIFIEDS

SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 6, 2021 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

WOODS CHARTER 3, TRIANGLE MATH AND SCIENCE 0

Wolves continue to roll, rout Tigers for 11th-straight win

BY MITCHELL NORTHAM
News + Record Correspondent

CHAPEL HILL — By the seventh serve of the first set, it was apparent that the volleyball team from Woods Charter School was deeper, faster and more talented than its opposition from Triangle Math and Science Academy.

It was that moment when Lexi Smollen began to take aim at the visiting Tigers with her service. The sophomore outside hitter for the Wolves served ball after ball that was unreturnable, rattling off 12 straight aces to give her team a commanding lead. The Wolves of Woods Charter won that set handily, and captured the next

two with ease as well, taking a convincing and dominant 3-0 win over Triangle Math and Science last Thursday.

"Everybody played well," said Wolves Head Coach Scott Green. "Very pleased with our effort. We have some tough matches coming up next week, so I wanted to make sure we were clicking on all of our plays and everything."

After Smollen's run of aces gave the Wolves (11-1) a 15-3 lead, they outscored the Tigers 10-3 the rest of the way. Smollen only played in the first set, but her presence was felt. In addition to her superb service, she also tallied two kills and two assists.

Smollen has quickly become one of the best volleyball

players in the Central Tar Heel 1A league this season, totaling more than 230 kills and more than 50 aces on the year. She ranks among conference leaders in both stats.

"(Smollen) has really performed very well, especially against our conference opponents," Green said. "She's come in much improved from last year. She's more confident. She doesn't get shaken up if she makes a mistake; she just turns right around and comes at you again."

Knowing that the Tigers (2-9) couldn't match the skill of his starting unit, Green dug into his bench in the second and third sets, giving playing time

See VOLLEYBALL, page B2



Staff photo by Mitchell Northam
Woods Charter players Celine Keles (6), Jana Thompson (center) and Ada Green (11) celebrate a kill during a game in the Wolves' 3-0 sweep of Triangle Math and Science last Thursday. The victory extended the Wolves' winning streak to 11 games, with their last loss coming on Aug. 17.

'WE WERE LUCKY' Chatham Soccer League praises protocols entering 4th mid-pandemic season

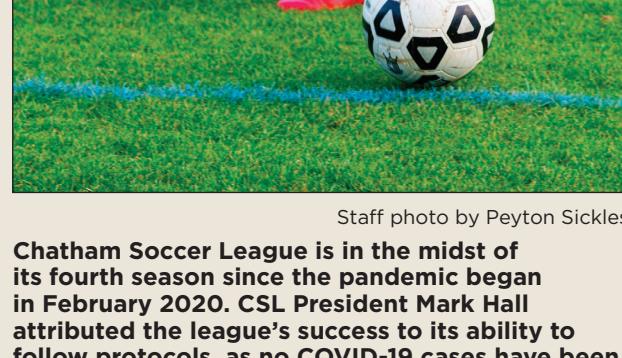
BY ATTICUS CROTHERS
News + Record Correspondent

PITTSBORO — The last three seasons for Chatham Soccer League have been abnormal, to say the least.

The league's spring 2020 campaign was essentially wiped out by COVID-19, while its fall season last year began in August with plenty of question marks and new protocols.

Since then, however, CSL has successfully continued to operate despite the ongoing pandemic, and as the league — which primarily offers recreational soccer to children in Chatham County — begins its fall 2021 season, its procedures are beginning to shift back toward normalcy.

"Fall of 2020 actually went well, we had higher participation levels than we expected for still being underneath a lot of restrictions," Mark Hall, CSL President and Central Carolina Community College's Chatham Provost, told the News + Record last weekend. "We did a really great job of ensuring everyone's safety and health, following



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Chatham Soccer League is in the midst of its fourth season since the pandemic began in February 2020. CSL President Mark Hall attributed the league's success to its ability to follow protocols, as no COVID-19 cases have been attributed to CSL-related activities.

all the guidelines we had at the time."

Those guidelines were significant.

The league implemented new procedures like requiring masks for all players and referees, playing some younger-age-group games with smaller teams and no goalkeepers, limiting attendance to two spectators per player and increasing the time between scheduled games in order to clear the fields between matches to prevent possible virus transmission between those leaving the fields and those arriving.

Thanks to those protocols, Hall says the league has had zero COVID-19

cases connected with soccer programming.

"We were lucky last year that we implemented the protocols we were supposed to and people complied," said Hall, who explained that CSL has followed the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association throughout the pandemic.

"I think if those parents and those players had not gone along with the guidelines that we were implementing based on the information we had from the state, it might not have worked. Because our group stayed in compliance with those

rules or regulations, the schools allowed us to continue to use their fields for practice and for games."

As spring came, the league's situation continued to improve.

"We had more (participants in the spring 2021 season) than we did in the fall (of 2020), which is always a good sign, it means that our program was growing again," Hall said. "The spring of 2020 was pretty bad on everyone in youth sports, so it was nice to see that come back up."

While some protocols began to relax (the league's mask requirement was lifted late in the spring season), Chatham Soccer League teams still no longer shake hands with each other after matches, instead standing in a line across from the opposing team and clapping. Hall believes this could be one of the few lasting effects of the pandemic on CSL.

"I imagine that there might be a new culture around shaking hands," Hall said. "I don't know how many people are going to shake hands after games anymore. It's a great sportsmanship

See SOCCER, page B2

Legacy cemented: Justin Tucker is the GOAT

If you look around at the four major professional sports in the United States — baseball, basketball, football and hockey — there isn't a position unit more unappreciated than football's special teams.

Most notably, the core three positions: kicker, long snapper and punter.

Think about it.

When someone doesn't have the build or skillset of your typical football player, most people's first thought is, "Uh, maybe he could be a kicker."

For many people, kickers only matter when they're hitting a clutch, game-winning field goal — when the fans love them — or when they're missing chip shots — when fans hate them.

For punters, their names are almost never mentioned, since it's typically a negative thing if they're on the field in the first place as it signifies your offense's inability to move the ball.

And for long snappers, their names just ... aren't really known at all.

If you're able to tell me your favorite college or NFL team's starting long snapper without Google's help, then you're likely a superfan or a former long snapper yourself. There's no in-between.

But for this column, I'd like to focus on kickers — or, really, one specific kicker. (I'll demand respect for punters and long snappers another day.)

Over the weekend, we witnessed history.

With time expiring in Detroit as the Lions led, 17-16, over the visiting Baltimore Ravens, Justin Tucker — the Ravens' six-time All-Pro kicker for the last decade — took the field to attempt the game-winner.

See LEGACY, page B5

It's time we start recognizing the WNBA as leaders in sports

In the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd in the summer of 2020, sports became a vehicle for social justice movements around the country.

The Milwaukee Bucks refused to take the court in a playoff game against the Orlando Magic, MLB players sat out games and the NHL decided to put their postseason on pause to protest the shooting of Jacob Blake.

These were the main headlines and the organizations that received much of the credit.

But at the same time, WNBA players were making a stand, just like they had been years before.

In 2016, the Minnesota Lynx wore "Black Lives Matter" on their T-shirts with the names of Philando Castile and Alton Sterling, two Black men who were victims of police brutality.

WNBA star Maya Moore left basketball in the middle of her prime to pursue justice for Jonathan Irons, a man serving a 50-year sentence for burglary and assault. His conviction was later overturned in 2020 after serving 22 years.

Washington Mystics guard Natasha Cloud was one of a group of WNBA players who chose to opt out of the 2020 season to focus on racial justice. Prior to the beginning

of that season, the players formed a Social Justice Council and partnered with the Say Her Name campaign to dedicate the season to Breonna Taylor, another victim of police violence. The New York Liberty and Seattle Storm held a 26-second moment of silence to honor Taylor at the start of the season. Many donned uniforms with Taylor's name on the back as well.

These players also made a difference in the ballot box.

At the time, Atlanta Dream co-owner Kelly Loeffler served as a U.S. Senator from Georgia. A Republican, Loeffler called the move to support Black Lives Matter "divisive" and soon after, players wore shirts in support of Raphael Warnock, her political opponent.

After helping to force Loeffler out from her seat, the players went further and advocated for her removal from league ownership.

While many athletes across sports have advocated for issues, it was fairly unprecedented for a sports organization to take a position on a Congressional election.

On Monday, NBA teams began their media days and much of the attention shifted to COVID-19 vaccines. Washington Wizards star Bradley Beal noted that he was not vaccinated and Nets guard Kyrie Irving declined to comment on his status. Many cited it as a personal decision.

While reports have noted that 90% of the league is vaccinated — a number much

higher than some professional sports leagues — the 10% got the attention on Monday.

And while getting the vaccine is a personal choice, that personal choice has consequences for the rest of society. These players have a platform and their words matter.

On the other hand, the WNBA said that 99% of its players are vaccinated. The league has not had a positive COVID-19 test since the season began, according to ESPN.

Does this surprise anyone?

Probably only if you haven't been paying attention.

CN+R Intern Max Baker can be reached at max@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Maxbaker_15.

MAX BAKER
CN+R Intern

take the court in a playoff game against the Orlando Magic, MLB players sat out games and the NHL decided to put their postseason on pause to protest the shooting of Jacob Blake.

These were the main headlines and the organizations that received much of the credit.

CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

This week's schedule and last week's results**BY VICTOR HENSLEY**

News + Record Staff

Last week, local sports felt the effects of the rainy weather, with all of the outdoor matchups scheduled for Sept. 22 and 23 being canceled due to unfavorable playing conditions. Luckily, this week is much better, with sunshine back in the forecast, which should allow sports like cross country, soccer and tennis to resume play without any issues. We've still got plenty of events across the sports landscape coming your way this week, so make sure to support your local Chatham athletes by showing up to games or watching online. Here are this week's schedules and last week's results.

THIS WEEK**Wednesday, September 29**

Tennis: Chatham Charter women vs. Southern Wake Academy, 4 p.m.

Tennis: Northwood women vs. Person, 4 p.m.

Tennis: Chatham Central women at Bartlett Yancey, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Seaforth women vs. North Moore, 4:30 p.m.

Soccer: Woods Charter men vs. Chatham Charter, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Jordan-Matthews women at Cummings, 6 p.m.

Soccer: Northwood men vs. Western Alamance, 6:45 p.m.

Soccer: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Southwestern Randolph, 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 30

Tennis: Chatham Charter women at Research Triangle, 4 p.m.

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

Volleyball: Seaforth women at Southern Wake Academy, 5 p.m.

Volleyball: Chatham Central women vs. Bartlett Yancey, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Chatham Charter

women vs. Woods Charter, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Northwood women vs. Person, 6 p.m.

Friday, October 1

Football: Northwood at Person, 7 p.m.

Football: Chatham Central at Bear Grass, 7:30 p.m.

Football: Jordan-Matthews at North Moore, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 2

Cross Country: Woods Charter at Dorothea Dix Park Invitational (Dorothea Dix Park in Raleigh), 8 a.m.

Cross Country: Northwood at Great American Cross Country Festival (at WakeMed Soccer Park), 9 a.m.

LAST WEEK**Monday, September 20**

Golf: The Seaforth women (227) took first place in a conference match against the Chatham Central Bears (second, 235) and North Moore Mustangs (third, 250).

Golf: The Woods Charter women (138) won a conference match against Central Tar Heel Conference opponents Chatham Charter, Southern Wake and River Mill at Southwick Country Club.

Golf: The Northwood women (151) won a match against Central 3A conference opponents Eastern Alamance (second, 153), Western Alamance (third, 159), Orange (168) and Person (184) in Burlington.

Soccer: The Chatham Charter men lost a lopsided game to the Clover Garden Grizzlies, 7-2, to remain winless on the season.

Soccer: The Woods Charter men won a shutout game over the River Mill Jaguars, 1-0, for their first win of the season.

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women swept the Southern Wake Academy Lions, 9-0. Winning their singles matches for the Knights were sophomore Elphie Spillman (6-0, 6-0), senior Emery Eldridge (6-2, 6-0),

senior Ashlyn Hart (6-0, 6-0), senior Lorelei Byrd (6-0, 6-0), junior Rebecca Brookshire (6-0, 6-1) and senior Emily Stecher (6-0, 6-0), while the duos of junior Lillie Jones & senior Dana Szpunar (8-0), junior Julia Moore & junior Calley Suits (8-1) and freshman Lauren Jones & freshman Jordyn Garner (8-0) won their doubles matches.

Tennis: The Northwood women defeated the Western Alamance Warriors, 8-1. Tennis: The Chatham Central women defeated the Jordan-Matthews Jets, 8-1. Winning their singles matches for the Bears were junior Olivia Brooks (6-6 (7-1), 6-3), junior Ellie Phillips (6-1, 6-0), junior Jaylee Williams (6-2, 6-1), sophomore Samantha Scott (5-7, 6-4, 0-0 (10-6)) and sophomore Lauren Caviness (6-1, 6-2), while the duos of Brooks & Phillips (8-3), Scott & Caviness (8-2) and Williams & sophomore Hallie Williams (8-6) won their doubles matches.

Senior Destinee Ledwell (6-3, 6-0) was the lone Jet to win her singles match. Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews men defeated the North Moore Mustangs, 6-1, to stay unbeaten on the season at 8-0-1. Soccer: The Seaforth men were shut out by the Southern Alamance Patriots, 8-0, to remain winless on the year. Volleyball: The Northwood women swept the Chatham Central Bears, 3-0.

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women swept the Cummings Cavaliers, 3-0.

Soccer: The Northwood men were shut out by the Chapel Hill Tigers, 2-0, at home.

Tuesday, September 21

Volleyball: The Chatham Charter women won a five-set match over the Clover Garden Grizzlies, 3-2.

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women were swept by the Bartlett Yancey Buccaneers, 3-0.

Volleyball: The Northwood women swept the Western Alamance Warriors, 3-0. Lead-

ing the Chargers on the night were sophomore Asia Thigpen (15 kills, 62.5 kill %, 6 digs, 2 blocks) and senior Hannah Forbes (10 kills, 47.6 kill %, 16 digs).

Volleyball: The Seaforth women swept the Graham Red Devils, 3-0.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women swept the River Mill Jaguars, 3-0.

Wednesday, September 22

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women fell to the Williams Bulldogs, 3-1. Leading the Bears on the night were senior Taylor Poe (8 kills, 61.5 kill %) and freshman Karaleigh Dodson (6 kills, 18.8 kill %, 1 dig).

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women dropped a road game to the North Moore Mustangs, 3-1.

Thursday, September 23

Tennis: The Northwood women earned a 6-3 win over the Williams Bulldogs, staying unbeaten in conference play this season.

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews men shut out the Providence Grove Patriots, 9-0, to remain undefeated on the season at 9-0-1.

Volleyball: The Chatham Charter women swept the Southern Wake Academy Lions, 3-0.

Soccer: The Seaforth men lost in a lopsided shut out to the Cummings Cavaliers, 9-0, to remain winless on the season at 0-8.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women earned a narrow win over the North Moore Mustangs, 3-2. Leading the Bears on the night were freshman Karaleigh Dodson (16 kills, 51.6 kill %, 2 blocks) and senior Ivey Tillman (10 kills, 37.0 kill %, 1 block).

Volleyball: The Northwood women swept the Williams Bulldogs, 3-0, to improve to 13-3 on the season (6-1 in the Central 3A conference).

Volleyball: The Seaforth women lost a road match against the Bartlett Yancey Buccaneers, 3-1.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women swept the Triangle Math & Science Tigers, 3-0, extending the Wolves' winning streak to 11 games. See match report in this week's edition.

J.V. Football: The Seaforth Chargers defeated the Northwood Chargers, 21-7.

Friday, September 24

Volleyball: The Chatham Charter women defeated the Leadership Academy Falcons, 3-2, in a five-set home match.

Football: Northwood snapped its two-game losing streak with a 34-14 win over the Hobbton Wildcats to improve to 2-3 on the season. Chargers senior running back Dashawn Vines-McSwain led the team with 17 carries for 142 yards and 3 TDs, while sophomore quarterback Carson Fortunes went 4-for-7 for 47 yards and an interception.

Senior running back Ryan Hilliard also added a first-quarter 27-yard TD run, while senior defensive back Christian Poteat extended his team's lead with a 62-yard pick-six in the third quarter.

Football: Chatham Central downed the conference rival Jordan-Matthews Jets, 21-7, for its first win of the season (1-4-1). All three of the Bears' TDs came on the ground, with senior Malachi Moore (10 carries, 158 yards, 1 TD), senior Trey Clay (17 carries, 98 yards, 1 TD) and senior Collin Lagenor all getting into the end zone. The Bears also racked up four interceptions on defense, including 2 from Lagenor and one each from sophomore Joaquin Gordon and junior Travis Crissman. With the loss, the Jets fell to 0-5 on the year.

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

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from page B1

to key reserves and experimenting with players in different positions.

Senior Jana Thompson is typically the libero for the Wolves, but played outside hitter against the Tigers. She

excelled, too, racking up seven kills in addition to a trio of digs. Five of Thompson's kills came in the second set, helping the Wolves win, 25-21.

Each of Thompson's kills were assisted by senior setter Celine Keles as they formed a formidable duo at the net. In all, Keles notched 11 assists and two digs.



Woods Charter sophomore Emma Cope (foreground) prepares for a serve from her opponent during the Wolves' 3-0 sweep of the Triangle Math and Science Tigers last Thursday.

"I wanted to give Jana that opportunity, but Celine did a good job setting too," Green said. "Those two seniors, I just enjoy giving them the opportunity to go out and perform."

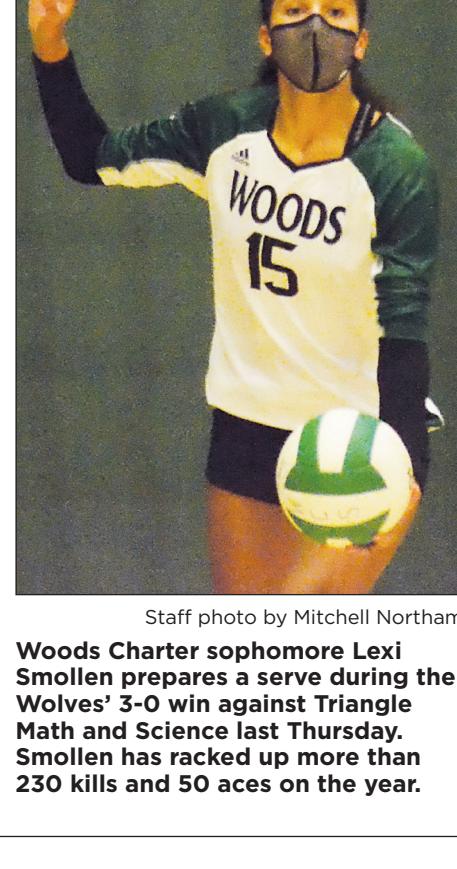
And even without Smollen on the court, Woods Charter continued to get solid service from sophomore Chloe Haswell and senior Ada Green. Haswell — filling in for Thompson at libero — notched six aces across the match, while Green had three in the final set, helping the Wolves take a decisive 25-6 victory. Green also chipped in three kills, a block and an assist.

Sophomore Emma Cope also appeared across the stat sheet, tallying three kills, two digs and two aces. Senior Emma Hobbs had two blocks, two assists and a kill.

Woods Charter is now 7-0 and in first place in the Central Tar Heel 1A league. On Thursday, they travel to Chatham Charter (10-4), where Green expects they'll face tougher competition.

"We need to make sure we get our serves in. And we always spend time working on serve-receive," Green said.

"Because, top to bottom in our conference, there's good servers on every team. So, any team you play in our conference, you're going to get to face some good servers. That's one thing we've concentrated on this year and I think it's helped us a lot."



Woods Charter sophomore Lexi Smollen prepares a serve during the Wolves' 3-0 win against Triangle Math and Science last Thursday. Smollen has racked up more than 230 kills and 50 aces on the year.

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

thing to do. But I think lining up across from each other and clapping and telling each other 'Good game' is pretty sufficient."

Aside from that, however, the league is beginning to return to normalcy.

"The environment at the games is a little more like it was before the pandemic," Hall said. "This season is looking good. We have many more (participants) this fall than we did last fall and so we're not back to where we want to be, where we were pre-pandemic, but we are definitely doing a lot better than we were last fall, so that's very

encouraging."

Given the toll the pandemic took on youth sports as a whole, Hall recognizes that the support of players and families in following the protocols set out by CSL helped the league avoid the disastrous outcomes that have befallen many other youth sports organizations.

"We were very fortunate as an organization that we have survived," Hall said. "In the soccer world, there's a lot of smaller clubs around the state that had to basically just fold, and stop providing soccer for various reasons, but the pandemic has been pretty hard on them. So we've been really fortunate and lucky, in a lot of ways."

Hall also believes it

was important for the community that CSL has played for most of the pandemic.

"Our players got to continue to play and got to continue to develop as soccer players," Hall said. "I think it gave a lot of the players — especially when schools were still in remote learning — a safe place to be with other people their age and to socialize, and also to be active and just enjoy being outside and doing a game that they enjoy. That, I think, probably took away a lot of the stress and pent-up energy they might have had from being inside their houses most of the day behind a screen. I'm glad that our organization, through soccer, was able to give them an

outlet for that."

Now, as the league enters its fourth season since the beginning of the pandemic, Hall is optimistic about the state of Chatham Soccer League and the services it continues to provide to its participants.

"We have a healthy program that's set up to grow more and more

each year," Hall said. "People are really enjoying the increased access

to soccer. It's not normal, but it's not as abnormal as last year."



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CHATHAM 250 HIGHLIGHTS CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

Mobile exhibit shares story of Los Jets with Chatham students

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Chatham 250 will highlight the incredible story of Jordan-Matthews' Los Jets soccer team by presenting a special exhibit to Chatham County Schools students this fall.

The mobile version of the N.C. Museum of History's 2016 exhibit, "Los Jets: Playing for the American Dream," will be presented to eight CCS schools, with five of them located in Siler City, the home of Los Jets.

"We specifically targeted the schools in Siler City because the story of Los Jets is a Siler City story," Hilary Pollan, lead organizer for Chatham 250, wrote in an email to the News + Record. "We were overwhelmed by the interest from the schools, not only in Siler City, but across Chatham County."

Chatham 250 hopes that the powerful story of Los Jets' determination and resiliency will inspire and bring hope to all Chatham residents, particularly the county's Hispanic/Latinx youth.

The exhibit is based on the book, "A Home on the Field: How One Championship Soccer Team Inspires Hope for the Revival of Small Town America," by Los Jets coach Paul Cuadros, who remains the team's head coach 20 years after the program's inception.

Cuadros' book tells the story of the Los Jets soccer team's formation and subsequent victory as the 2004 N.C. State Men's Soccer Class A Champions just three years later. As the first predominantly Latino sports team to win a



Submitted photo

Jordan-Matthews Head Men's Soccer Coach Paul Cuadros is lifted up by his players after winning the 2004 NCHSAA 1A Men's Soccer State Championship, 2-0, over Lejune at SAS Soccer Park in Cary. Cuadros, author of 'A Home on the Field,' has been instrumental in bringing the Chatham 250 mobile exhibit honoring the creation of Los Jets and the 2004 title season to Chatham County Schools this fall.

statewide sports championship in North Carolina, Los Jets left an enduring legacy in the community and across the United States, being featured in museum exhibits and even a documentary series entitled "Los Jets" that aired on NUVOTV in 2014.

"Los Jets is an important story of how Chatham County's Latino/Hispanic community excels and exceeds expectations — kids who came here, made their home here and became champions," Cuadros said. "This story is an example of the potential of Chatham County and its Hispanic/Latino community."

The planning committee overseeing Chatham County's 250th anniversary said that it hopes incorporating the exhibit into the celebration activities brings the team's monumental contribution to the forefront.

"There is no better way to honor Hispanic Heritage Month during Chatham County's 250th anniversary than to tell this iconic story of the 2004 Jordan-Matthews state championship soccer team," Dr. Carl Thompson Sr., Chatham 250 Co-Chair and Senior Pastor at Word of Life Church, said. "This team's determination, grit and perseverance transcend culture, instilling in all of our young people the values of unity, courage and determination."

At the exhibit, students will have an opportunity to explore the bilingual museum materials, which include photos and stories of the Los Jets 2004 state title-winning season and Siler City's Hispanic community in the early 1990s.

Students will then participate in an interactive soccer

The mobile exhibit will be presented at the eight schools during Hispanic Heritage Month. The schedule is as follows:

- Friday, Oct. 1: Chatham Middle School
- Tuesday, Oct. 5: Silk Hope School
- Wednesday, Oct. 6: Chatham Grove Elementary School
- Thursday, Oct. 7 and Friday, Oct. 8: Siler City Elementary School
- Monday, Oct. 11 and Tuesday, Oct. 12: Virginia Cross Elementary School
- Wednesday, Oct. 13 and Thursday, Oct. 14: North Chatham Elementary School
- Friday, Oct. 15: Jordan-Matthews High School

the help of local graphic designer and communications manager for the Hispanic Liaison, Bryant Parroquin, who assisted the group in turning the materials from the museum's exhibit into 3-foot-by-8-foot retractable panels that tells Los Jets' story.

Also leaning a hand to the mobile exhibit was Lara Kehle, the director of KidScope and chair of the Chatham Health Alliance, who "helped us bring a social-emotional learning perspective to the program planning process," Pollan wrote.

The exhibit will host approximately 30 students at a time in a 15- to 30-minute program, depending on the age of the students.

"I look forward to bringing the Los Jets exhibit to Chatham Middle School as a way to honor the historical impact of the Jordan-Matthews' soccer team," Chad Morgan, principal of Chatham Middle School, said. "It is important for students to know the history of their community, and this is a unique opportunity for our students to learn the amazing impact of Los Jets and the pride it built in our community. Hopefully, the exhibit will inspire students to build their own history."

Students also will have access to the introduction of "A Home on the Field" and the documentary series "Los Jets," co-executive produced by Jennifer Lopez and Lynda Lopez for NUVOTV, inspired by Cuadros' book.

Information about events and other ways to celebrate Chatham County's 250th anniversary can be found at www.chatham250.com.

ball activity complemented by a facilitated group conversation about teamwork and creating communities where everyone belongs and is respected, revolving around questions from the N.C. Museum of History's previous exhibit: When did you feel like an outsider? When did you feel like a champion?

"Students will pass a soccer ball around a circle, and at different points in the activity will be limited from using their hands," Pollan wrote. "We hope the activity helps students experience the feeling of being left out and of winning, allowing them to discuss this feeling and ways that together they can help everyone in their community — whether that be a classroom, school, town, city or county — feel like they belong."

Chatham 250 also employed

CCCC cross country team ranked No. 9 in poll

From Central Carolina Community College

the debut edition of the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Women's Cross Country National Coaches' Ranking for the 2021 season, as released by the U.S. Track

& Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA).

The rankings can be found at the following website: <http://www.ustfcca.org/2021/09/rankings-polls/2021-nj>

caa-diii-womens-cross-country-national-coaches-ranking-week-1

Members of Coach Richard Briggs' CCCC team, with previous high school listed, are Angelika Adriano (Pinecrest

H.S.), Emilie Obregon (Triton H.S.), Bersai Perez (Lee County H.S.), Charmaine Robison (Lumberton H.S.) and Kimberly Vasquez (Harnett Central H.S.).

The CCCC team will

next participate in the Hagan Stone Cross Country Classic on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Learn more about the CCCC cross country program at www.cccc.edu/sports/.

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THE CLIPBOARD | KEVIN FORSTER, NORTHWOOD MEN'S SOCCER

Forster credits tough non-conference schedule for Chargers lopsided start, predicts bounce-back during conference play

The Northwood men's soccer team — in the midst of a 6-7 season — is finding its identity.

Having won three of the last four games after snapping a five-game losing skid, the Chargers are scoring more, allowing fewer goals and settling into a conference schedule in which they're 3-1 so far.

While the Chargers are still technically a sub-.500 team, many of their losses can be credited to its tough-as-nails schedule, having played some of the top competition in the 2A and 3A classifications — including both Jordan-Matthews (2A, 10-0-1) and Asheboro (3A, 7-0-1), both of which remain unbeaten this season.

With Northwood's season in full swing, the News + Record sat down with second-year head coach Kevin Forster to discuss his team's roller-coaster season, his time playing varsity as a goalkeeper in Michigan and the standout players on Northwood's team 13 games into the season. The interview has been edited for clarity.

Your first season with the Chargers last school year was a little bit weird with everything going on in the world. Overall, what have been some of the biggest differences between your first and second seasons?

KEVIN FORSTER: This season, we have a lot more games, so you have to think about how you're going to manage your depth and your bench and how you're going to make sure that you're not playing guys too much, I guess, because it's a long season and we want to make a playoff run. So trying to balance that a little bit more than last season, where we were just hoping to play a game. That's been a big difference.

And I would say, shifting our mindset from being

a good team and trying to compete with a lot of great teams, toughening up our schedule. We were in a good conference (the Big Eight 3A) in the past and we're still in a good conference now (the Central 3A). We're trying to compete with some of the best teams in the state. So we definitely gave ourselves a tough schedule this season and are taking some lumps from that, but I think we're learning a lot through it.

What do the teams in the Central 3A look like compared to those in the Big Eight 3A?

It's pretty early to say too much about it, I would say, but anytime you switch out of a conference that has Chapel Hill and East Chapel Hill in it, you have to think that the competition level might go down a little bit because they're two extremely good programs, extremely well-run and the coaches have been there for a really, really long time. But then this new conference, we have teams like Williams and Western Alamance and their coaches have been there for quite a while, too. They have pretty strong programs, so it's give-and-take. You give up some really good teams, but then you also add some really good in a new conference. You never really know quite what you're going to get until the season plays out.

You have a lot of experience both playing goalkeeper and coaching goalkeepers. With it being one of the most stressful positions in all of sports, what qualities does a player need to excel as a goalkeeper?

The biggest one that comes to mind is confidence. You have to have the confidence to know when to come out and when to stay in your goal, to stick with your decision and do it boldly when you do it. And that's, I think,

the hardest thing to teach, but also the most important. And then you have to be a great communicator. You are always the one that needs to be setting up the defense, making sure everyone's marked, making sure your guys are in good positions to provide opportunities. And then also preventing opportunities by your positioning, how you position yourself in the box or in front of your box, trying to prevent through-balls and things like that. I'd say that communication and confidence are really the biggest things and then the shot-stopping and that sort of thing kind of comes along from there, usually athleticism helps a lot with that, but those are kind of the big areas.

You're from Michigan and you played and coached soccer up there. Is there any difference between the way people play soccer in Michigan versus the way they play it in North Carolina?

I would say that I actually have seen differences. I think there's a lot more focus on — at least in the Chapel Hill area, and probably Raleigh too — having a very strong possession-oriented system, especially in this area. Maybe as you move over to the west, more mountainous parts of the state, maybe it's not as much like that, but in this area, I've definitely seen that. That style is pretty pervasive, whereas, where I grew up, it was maybe a little bit more direct, and a little bit more about looking for quick transitions and counter-attacking and finding through-balls.

This season, Northwood started 2-1, then went on a little bit of a skid, but has since bounced back, so at this point in the year, how are you feeling about how your team's performed?

We have the opportunity to have more wins than any Northwood team has had in the last decade, so

that's exciting to me. It's a long season and we've got plenty of games to go. I think we challenged ourselves a lot early and time will tell what the results of that will be. We played, I would argue, six or seven of the top teams in the state in our non-conference schedule. We lost to teams that are in the top five. I mean, Jordan-Matthews is a very, very good team this year, they should have a good run to maybe a 2A state championship. Then the other teams we played are at the 4A level and 3A level kind of in similar situations. We just had a few knicks and knacks that maybe kept us from really competing how we wanted to in some of those games, I think, and we'll come back stronger. I'm looking forward to the rest of the season.

If you were to pick out some of the players that have led your team this season, who would they be?

Walker Johnson has been a really stable rock. He was an all-conference player last year and you can always count on him to give excellent effort, intensity and attitude, and he gives great minutes. Then one that's a newcomer is Logan Wooten. He's really stepped up for us defensively and really shined in every game this season. He's just a great player in the back.

Last season, your team went 4-3 in the pandemic-shortened season and they're 6-7 so far this

Kevin Forster

Role: Head Coach, Men's Soccer

Experience at Northwood: 2nd season

From the coach: "I have the opportunity to help players learn how to become future coaches and that means I have the opportunity to develop young men into men and help them learn what that means, how to respond to adversity, how to come back when things are tough and keep doing one thing at a time, how to develop character. It also means that I get to be a part of a great school and work with outstanding athletes and great students, too."

Notes:

- Forster spent the first 23 years of his life in Michigan and graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2016 with his math teaching degree and a degree in psychology.

- He spent two seasons as an assistant coach under Northwood head coach Martin Slavin before becoming the team's head coach in 2020.

- His specialty is goalkeeping, having played the position for years at both the club and high school varsity levels. Since his playing days, he's started volunteering at and hosting goalkeeper camps through local soccer organizations.

Northwood Chargers

Conference: Central 3A

Record: 6-7 (3-1 in Central 3A)

Upcoming schedule:

- Wednesday, Sept. 29 vs. Western Alamance (conference)

- Monday, Oct. 4 vs. Williams (conference)

- Wednesday, Oct. 6 vs. Cedar Ridge (conference)

season. In what areas have you seen improvement from last year and where do you think your team still needs to improve?

Last season was obviously very shortened. We had an excellent defensive season, I would say. We didn't give up very many goals, but at the same time, we didn't score a ton of goals. We scored just enough to have a solid record and compete well. And then this season, we're really

trying to take a step forward with our goal scoring and that hasn't completely happened yet. We'll have outbursts in certain games, but in the big games, we're looking to find our goal-scoring touch. That's the area I'd say we're growing most right now. Defensively, we're rounding into a very strong team, which is what I expected, but now we're just trying to find our goal-scoring touch in key games.

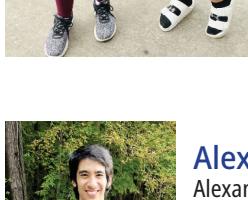


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If you see them in town, please say hello!



Alexander Cook

Alexander is a senior at the Virtual Academy of Chatham County. He is founder and president of Chatham Youth and is looking forward to attending UNC next year to study business and economics. In his free time Alexander likes to hike and truly appreciates being in nature.



Coralee Rogers

Coralee is a senior at Northwood High School. She is the co-president of the Toys for Tots at Northwoods helping organize donations at locations throughout Chatham County. This summer she waited tables at Hwy. 55 in Pittsboro.

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Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Breaking the streaks

Northwood senior Christian Poteat (8) returns an interception 62 yards for a touchdown in the third quarter of the Chargers' 34-14 win over the Hobbton Wildcats. With the win, Northwood improved to 2-3 on the season and snapped its two-game losing streak.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Jordan-Matthews senior quarterback Calvin Schwartz (4) drops back to pass in the Jets' 21-7 loss to the Chatham Central Bears last Friday in Bear Creek. With the loss, the Jets remain winless at 0-5 on the year.



Chatham Central senior running back Malachi Moore (8) makes defenders miss on a carry in the Bears' 21-7 victory over the Jordan-Matthews Jets last Friday in Bear Creek for their first win of the season (1-4-1), snapping their 4-game losing streak. Moore was the team's leading rusher on the night with 10 carries for 158 yards and a touchdown.

Staff photo by David Bradley

LEGACY

Continued from page B1

It was a 66-yard try. Nobody in the recorded history of the NFL had made a field goal of that distance.

Ravens long snapper Nick Moore fed the ball to punter (and holder) Sam Koch on the snap, who placed the ball in position as Tucker whacked away at it, trying for not only the game-sealing field goal, but a field goal that, if good, would set an NFL record for the longest make ever.

The ball sailed through the air, dead center between the uprights, but it just didn't have enough oomph on it and fell short.

At least that's what

I—and so many others watching the game—thought at first.

The ball doinked off of the crossbar and popped into the air ... and then took a lucky bounce forward and fell into the net.

It was good.

The Ravens won, 19-17, on the longest field goal in league history.

Tucker's legacy had been cemented.

Lions fans, many of whom stood up to cheer Tucker's miss, were in disbelief after realizing it had gone through the uprights.

Not only was this yet another heart-wrenching loss to add to the pile of historic, consistent heartbreak endured by Lions fans since the team moved to Detroit in 1934, 87 years ago, but it was

the second time in his career that Tucker left Ford Field stunned.

In 2013, the last time Tucker and the Ravens made the journey to the Motor City, Tucker nailed a 61-yard field goal—the longest of his career until this past Sunday—to beat the Lions at the buzzer, 18-16, on Monday Night Football.

Sunday's game made one thing certain: Justin Tucker is the greatest kicker to ever do it.

Tucker isn't just the most accurate field goal kicker of all time (90.57% FG %), he also has a current active streak of 50 made field goals in the fourth quarter or overtime and he's never missed a kick in the final minute of regulation (16-for-16).

He's hit 71% of his field goals from 50 yards and beyond (44-for-62) and has knocked down 97% of his extra points, along with being a six-time All-Pro, a four-time Pro Bowler and a Super Bowl champion.

And now, he holds the record for the longest field goal ever made.

There are only two "pure" field goal kickers in the Pro Football Hall of Fame—Jan Stenerud (Class of 1991) and Morten Anderson (Class of 2017)—with 24-year NFL veteran Adam Vinatieri sure to be the third.

But with the resume he's amassed for himself in just 10 seasons, Tucker will certainly be joining them with a gold jacket. And he'll possibly make it as a first-ballot selection.

As a Ravens fan, I can admit that I've taken Tucker for granted over the years.

He's been so automatic since coming into the league in 2012 that I rarely bat an eye when the Ravens are tasked with a 50-plus-yard field goal.

I just expect Tucker to make it, the Ravens to get three more points and everybody move on to the next possession.

But Tucker is an outlier. He's a player to be celebrated, cherished and recognized for his accomplishments.

Not all kickers are created equal, as seen again on Sunday when Cardinals kicker Matt Prater—who, interestingly enough, had his 64-yard FG record, set in 2013, broken by Tucker's 66-yarder—attempted a 68-yard field goal just before the half, which came up short and allowed Jaguars receiver/defensive back Jamal Agnew to return it 109 yards for a touchdown.

Or as seen by Chargers kicker Tristan Vizcaino, who muffed two extra points in his team's narrow win over the Chiefs in Week 3.

Throughout history, there have been kickers who have missed easy ones, doinked it off the crossbar on potential game-winners and lost regular season games, playoff games and even Super Bowls with mistakes in big moments.

So when a kicker like Tucker or Vinatieri or Chiefs' Harrison Butker comes around, it's best you be thankful for them every time they step on the field.

Because somewhere else in the world, someone's wishing they had that same luxury.

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

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Chatham COA Events & Announcements

September 30th through October

Thursday, September 30th

- Body Conditioning w/Jackie at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills)
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) at 1:00 PM

Friday, October 1st

- Body Conditioning w/Jackie at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills)
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program w/Jackie at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom)
- Friday Night Dance at 7:00 PM (on site at WCSC - Siler City)

Monday, October 4th

- Chair Yoga w/Liz at 10:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center (Pittsboro) and on Zoom)

Tuesday, October 5th

- Body Conditioning w/Jackie at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills)
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class w/Jackie at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom)
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers at 3:00 PM (at WCSC)

Wednesday, October 6th

- Body Conditioning w/Jackie at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills)
- Chair Yoga w/Liz at 10:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center (Pittsboro) and on Zoom)

For more information or to register for these and other programs, visit our website: chathamcouncilonaging.org/activities/calendars/

In-person - Pre-registration Required

Programming Hosted On Zoom

Fee Required for Participation

The Chatham COA is Here for You!

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

Eastern Chatham Senior Center (ECSC)

365 NC-87 N

Pittsboro, NC 27312

919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center (WCSC)

112 Village Lake Road

Siler City, NC 27344

919-742-3975

'Grand Trees of Chatham' calendar now available

CN+R Staff Report

The 7th "Grand Trees of Chatham" calendar, for the year 2022, is now for sale, with all proceeds benefiting GTOC's ongoing educational and tree recognition programs throughout Chatham County.

The calendar can be obtained for a \$20 donation at Chatham Marketplace, Fair Game Beverage Company, Liquidambar Gallery & Gifts, and New Horizons West.

The full-sized calendar features images of Chatham County. The goal of the project is to promote appreciation and respect for Chatham County's

natural wonders and unique personality, while raising funds to support the mission of GTOC.

Sharon Garbutt, the organization's board chairman, says the calendar represents a real community effort — all photographs are donated by local photographer Gary Simpson, the calendar is professionally printed by Jones Printing of Sanford, local shops carry the calendars, and each year local businesses, non-profits and Chatham citizens step-up as calendar sponsors.

The Grand Trees of Chatham is an all-volunteer non-profit organization,

founded in 2009 by a group of Chatham citizens. The mission of GTOC is to increase public understanding and appreciation of Chatham County's valuable and irreplaceable trees. It accomplishes this mission through an awards program that recognizes outstanding trees in Chatham County and through an educational program that seeks to educate Chatham citizens on the value and care of trees through workshops, community outreach and public events.

To obtain a calendar, visit one of the participating retail vendors or contact Garbutt at sharongarbutt@earthlink.net.



The cover of the 2022 'Naturally Chatham' calendar.

Visit NC Farms App connects farmers with consumers

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — The Visit NC Farms App, courtesy of the N.C. Dept. of Agriculture, is a handy tool for cell phones and other mobile devices to help people discover what is grown, raised, caught, made and is ripe for experiences across the state.

Residents can discover the farms, fisheries, farmers markets, farm-to-table restaurants, farm lodging and other destinations for local food and fun closest to them. Fall is coming, so from collards to pumpkins, consumers can learn what is in season and where to get it.

The Visit NC Farms App is a great way to support farmers and also enjoy local food and outdoor experiences, especially during these unusual times. A new, unique feature spotlights "Suggested Itineraries" and is gaining traction with app users. App users can also build their own trips using the My Trips feature to plan their adventures, from day trips to overnight visits on farms. Jordan Lake Christmas Tree Farm, in Chatham County, offers overnight farm stays so that people can gain real life experiences while visiting the farm.

The Visit NC Farms App have eight categories that folks can click on to find exactly what they are searching for. They include:

Farms and Fisheries

• Discover NC farms and fisheries and what is offered, complete with push buttons to learn more and most importantly get driving directions. (The list of destinations can also be viewed on the map.)

• Push the colorful buttons to discover what is in season and where to get produce, protein and more.

• Click the magnifier in the top right corner to filter regionally, by product, services offered by farm ownership and purchasing options too.

• Search by specific farm or product too.

Pick Your Own

• What's ripe in the fields now? Learn

where to pick and when farms are open to visitors.

- Get a list of destinations and view them on a map.
- Push the colorful buttons to discover what's in season.

Farmers Markets

No matter if close to home or while traveling across the state, there is a farmers market for everyone. One touch and look at all the farmers markets nearby. Learn when markets are open, be it mid-week or just Saturdays and discover the products that farms, and craft vendors offer.

Local Food and Drink

Local tastes better! Farms provide a broad range of produce and protein to restaurants. Look for the farms on the menu or ask the staff. Farms grow grapes and all sorts of fruit that is made into North Carolina wine, craft brews and spirits. Choose to support local farm-to-table destinations by clicking this tile.

Shop Local

Choose small businesses where products made from NC agriculture are offered. Jams, jellies, honey, fiber and bedding plants, for example. Shop a local butcher for meat and a locally owned bakery or ice cream shop, and ask them which farms they are getting their menu items and ingredients from.

Farm Stays and Lodging

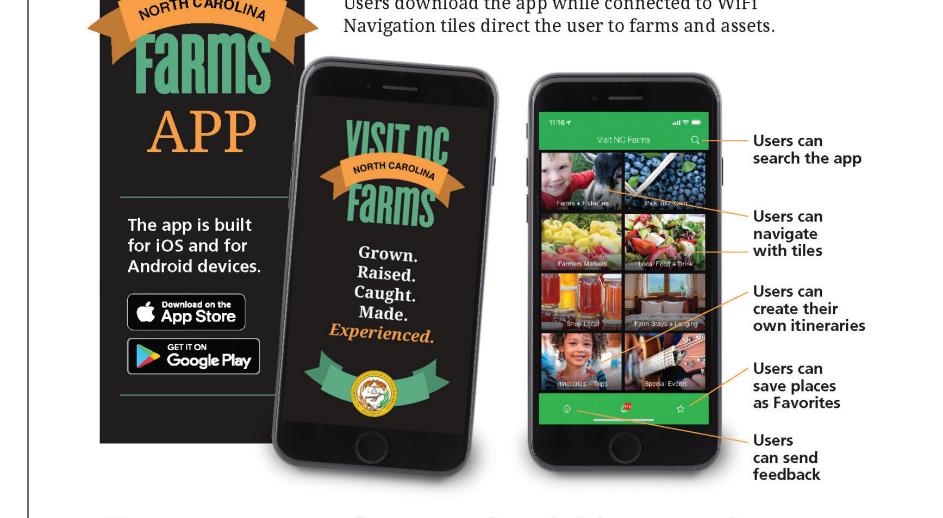
Staying on a farm is the top trend worldwide. Click here to discover camping, glamping, farm cabin rentals and Bed & Breakfast destinations.

Itineraries and Trips

Plan a day trip or overnight trip by using the Itineraries feature. Travelers also can let someone else plan the itinerary, by checking out the current itineraries that are being offered throughout North Carolina.

Special Events

With fall here, there is a chance to add a drive-through haunt farm experience to outings. How about a hayride



How it works:

Users download the app while connected to WiFi. Navigation tiles direct the user to farms and assets.

The app is a great marketing tool for your farm or agribusiness!

Users connect to farms and activities near them.

The app is based on the user's location.

Push notifications are targeted to users based on their location and preferences for content.

Questions?

Tiffany Hancock
Visit NC Farms App
Administrator for
Chatham County
twhancock@ncsu.edu
919-545-8304



Follow us! @visitnfcards www.visitNCFarmsToday.com

The N.C. Farms App is a great tool to connect to farms and activities near you.

or pumpkin patch experience with the family? There are grape stumps since it's Muscadine season too, North Carolina's native grape. Filter by distance, regionally and based on interests to discover just the experience of a lifetime.

If there is one place to look on this app, click the bell-shaped center button on the home screen to discover real-time special offers, tours and fun

experiences. Again, filter by products offered.

Learn more at www.visitnfcards.com

Those who own a Chatham County farm or agribusiness can join other farms and agribusinesses on the Visit NC Farms App. For more details, contact Tiffany Hancock at twhancock@ncsu.edu or by phone at 919-545-8304.

Pollard intern named statewide 'Student Teacher of the Year'

Honor comes from N.C. Association for Colleges of Teacher Educators

From Chatham County Schools

PITTSBORO — James Michael Sapp, a UNC-Chapel Hill 2021 Master of Arts in Teaching graduate who spent the past year interning at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, has been named the North Carolina Association for Colleges of Teacher Educators' statewide Student Teacher of the Year.

Sapp also received the UNC School of Education's Student Teacher of the Year for 2021 award based on his student teaching and dedication to his students.

Sapp taught 7th grade at Pollard.

"Mr. Sapp had a tremendous impact on the students he taught," said Principal Tristen Perlberg. "He made his

students think and was unafraid to guide them in conversations on difficult subject matter. His students were so engaged, and he encouraged them to be thoughtful in the conclusions they reached."

Michael Charles, Sapp's mentor at Pollard, praised his mentee's teaching abilities in a nomination letter.

"I would like to take a moment to specifically praise Mr. Sapp for his dutiful adherence to the accommodations provided for all of the special-needs students he taught. Mr. Sapp differentiated everything he produced as a student teacher. He collaborated directly with our school's seventh-grade [exceptional children] teacher in order to ensure these students' needs were

provided for. To my mind, that thoroughness is indicative of a teacher well into their teaching career, let alone one just starting out on the career path."

Michael Charles, Sapp's mentor at Pollard, praised his mentee's teaching abilities in a nomination letter.

"I would like to take a moment to specifically praise Mr. Sapp for his dutiful adherence to the accommodations provided for all of the special-needs students he taught. Mr. Sapp differentiated everything he produced as a student teacher. He collaborated directly with our school's seventh-grade [exceptional children] teacher in order to ensure these students' needs were

Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson also praised Sapp's work in Chatham County and the effect he had on his students.

"Mr. Sapp is an amaz-

ing educator," Jackson said. "It's inspiring when you see educators like him who are just beginning their careers create a culture of learning and

motivation in their classrooms."

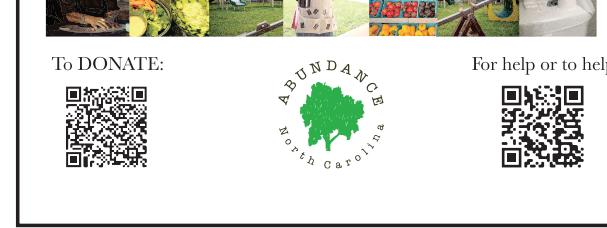
Sapp is leading his first classroom this fall in his hometown in Western North Carolina.

CHURCH NEWS

BRUSH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Brush Creek Baptist Church will have a fall revival October 3-6. Pastor Mike Satterfield from Arlington, Texas, will be the speaker, along with special music.

Services will be Sunday at 11a.m. and then Sunday through Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. All services will be held across the road from the church at the Brush Creek recreation area. Everyone is welcome!



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:

- 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!!

Harris Teeter launches campaign to support United Way, Salvation Army

Shoppers invited to round up transaction to nearest whole dollar

CN+R Staff Report

Now through Nov. 2, Harris Teeter shoppers are invited to round up their transactions to the nearest whole dollar at checkout, with 100% of funds raised to be distributed evenly between the United Way of Chatham County and Salvation Army's Chatham County Service Unit.

"Harris Teeter is proud

to continue its support of United Way and The Salvation Army," said Danna Robinson, communication manager for Harris Teeter. "COVID-19 continues to impact many programs which fund critical programs for nonprofits like The Salvation Army's Red Kettle program. By offering a convenient way for our valued associates and loyal shoppers to give back, we can help ensure

our communities continue to have access to the critical resources they need."

Focusing on education, health, financial stability and basic needs, United Way works to create an environment of opportunity where thousands of families in our communities can have a chance for a better life.

"We are very grateful for the support that United

Way receives from Harris Teeter," said Katie Childs, the United Way of Chatham County's executive director. "The United Way serves one in three people in Chatham, and Harris Teeter employees and customers are strengthening our community by simply rounding up their check-out totals. When you round up, you are helping United Way give basic needs like housing,



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THE SALVATION ARMY

families-in-need by providing food for the hungry, emergency relief for disaster survivors, rehabilitation services and clothing and shelter for those facing homelessness.

utility assistance, health care, childcare and many other services to those in need, and those who continue to struggle during the pandemic."

The Salvation Army assists individuals and

Chatham, Durham Arts Councils partner to offer emerging artists grants

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

Chatham County artists looking for the means to advance their careers can apply to the Emerging Artists Program for grants of up to \$1,500 by Oct. 31.

Managed by the Durham Arts Council, the Emerging Artists Program (EAP) has been offering emerging and established artists financial support critical to reaching the next stages in their chosen professions since 1985. Primarily funded by the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, the EAP supports artists throughout five North Carolina counties — Durham, Granville, Orange, Person and Chatham.

This year, like every year since 1991, the Chatham County Arts Council has partnered with the Durham Arts Council to bring the opportunity to Chatham artists.

"Funding opportunities for individual artists are rare —

particularly in the performing arts — so this is pretty special," the Chatham Arts Council wrote in its September news release about the program.

To apply, artists can visit the Durham Art Council's website at durhamarts.org/eap/ and choose the application that matches their art forms. Any type of artist — be it a writer, painter or musician — can apply. Applicants can ask for funds up to and including \$1,500.

Eligible Chatham artists have lived in the county at least one year prior to the application deadline. Only individual artists 18 years or older may apply for the program. The EAP won't consider grant applications from groups, ensembles or artists enrolled in degree or certificate programs in their chosen art forms on Oct. 31.

"The program defines 'emerging' as any artist who is moving from one point

to another, so they are not necessarily at the beginning of their careers, but they are attempting something new," the Durham Arts Council's director of artist services, Margaret DeMott, told the News + Record. "It can be a change in their work or in how they conduct their business."

According to DeMott, the grant applications ask artists to propose projects that help their professional development.

"The main items they are asked to provide are a narrative, a budget, a resume and work samples as well as basic contact information," she said.

The application period closes on Oct. 31 at midnight. Afterward, a group of local professional artists will review the grant applications of those who match their own art forms. They will then share their recommendations with the EAP committee, who makes the final decisions.

"The number of grants

awarded varies from year to year depending on how much funding we can raise," DeMott said. "This current cycle we will probably award 13 to 14 awards. We receive between 75 to 100 applications each year."

According to the EAG's website, successful applicants will make clear how their proposed projects will catapult their careers forward. Judges will also award grants based on these additional criteria: quality of an applicant's artwork, an applicant's professional commitment to his or her art form and the proposed project's feasibility.

In the past, grant recipients have used the funds for self-promotion, travel expenses related to workshops or artistic research, equipment or facility services, supplies, and training, among other purposes.

According to DeMott, these small grants have helped some past recipients achieve big

acclaim — and even on a local level, she's seen most recipients walk away with a "sense of affirmation ... from being recognized by their local arts community."

"It can also be an important item on a resume and helps an artist get other awards — again, the funder sees that they have received an award locally and sometimes that makes a difference," she said. "Of course, the cash is useful ... we have had artists attract national talent to get involved in their work as a result of being able to make a recording funded by the grant."

For more information about the grant program or application, interested artists can attend two Zoom information sessions at 6 p.m. on Sept. 30 and Oct. 13. To register for a session, email DeMott at mde-mott@durhamarts.org.

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

Prepare yourself financially for illness-just in case.

All of us hope to live long, healthy lives, so we do what we can to take care of ourselves through proper diet, exercise and avoiding unhealthy activities. However, none of us can predict our future, so it pays to be prepared for anything — including a serious physical illness or the onset of some type of mental incapacity, such as Alzheimer's disease.

Of course, you may never face these infirmities, but you should be aware that they could upset your long-term financial strategy and place considerable stress on your loved ones. What steps can you take to head off these threats?

First, make sure you know what your health insurance covers and how much you might have to pay out of pocket for treatment of illnesses such as cancer or kidney ailments. If you're on Medicare (supplemented with Medigap) or Medicare Advantage (Medicare Part C), you'll want to know all about deductibles, copayments and coinsurance. However, if Alzheimer's or another type of dementia is involved, Medicare may not cover the costs that could be incurred in an assisted living facility, so you may want to consult with a financial advisor, who can suggest ways of protecting yourself from long-term care costs, which can be quite high.

Your next move is to make sure you have adequate liquidity. It's hard to predict how many out-of-pocket costs you could incur when coping with a serious illness, but it's a good idea to have enough cash readily available, rather than dipping into your 401(k) or other retirement accounts. So, if you're retired, you might want to keep up to a year's worth of living expenses in a liquid, low-risk account.

Here's another important step: Update your estate plan. Hopefully, if you have a serious illness, you'll be able to recover. But it's still a good idea to review your estate plan to ensure everything is in order, such as your will and

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Sharon A Dickens, AAMS®
50101 Governors Dr Suite 118
919-967-9968

Pittsboro
Lee Shanklin, AAMS®
120 Lowes Drive Suite 107
919-545-0125

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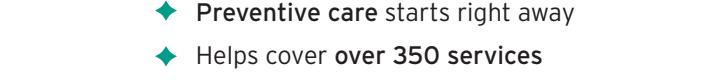
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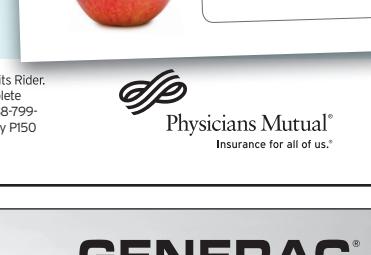


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POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On September 16, Cody Lynn Saunders, 30, of 4960 Piney Grove Church Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Shannon Parker for two counts of failure to appear. He was held on a secured bond in the amount of \$75,000 for the first count and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County Superior Court on October 11. He was held on a secured bond for the second count in the amount of \$2,500 and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on October 11.

On September 16, Zelda Jean Cordova, 36, of 1306 Quartet Run, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy David Nixon for assault and battery. She was released on a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 28.

On September 16, Daniel Noel Barber, 23, of 874 Jack Bennett Road, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy David Nixon for violation of a domestic

violence protection order. He was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 6.

On September 18, Wesley J Roy Stacey, 42, of 17394 US 64 West, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington, for possession of stolen goods/property. He was released on a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 4.

On September 19, Michael Zane Holland, 26, homeless, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for obtaining property under false pretense, financial card theft and identity theft. He was held on a secure bond of \$35,000 and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 4. On September 19, Michael Zane Holland, 26, homeless, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for breaking and/or entering, larceny after breaking and entering and felony conspiracy. He was held on a secure bond of \$30,000 and is due to appear in Durham County Dis-

trict Court in Durham on October 13.

On September 19, Peyton Douglas Constantine, 30, of 1608 Charlie Brooks Road, Moncure, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for misdemeanor larceny. He was held on a secure bond of \$500 and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 13.

On September 19, Peyton Douglas Constantine, 30, of 1608 Charlie Brooks Road, Moncure, was arrested by Deputy Cale Cassady for assault on a female and assault inflicting serious injury. He was held on a secure bond of \$1,000 and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 6.

On September 19, Jerome Lamar Tyson, 42, of 5499 Old US 421 S, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Johnny Griffin for failure to appear. He was held on a secure bond of \$500 and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 5.

On September 19, Elvis Junior Moser, 52, of 191 Graham Moore Road, Staley,

was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. He was held on a secure bond of \$350 and is due to appear in Alamance County District Court in Graham on October 8.

On September 19, Marlon Wayne Barnes, 52, of 105 One Oak Lane, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for assault and battery. He was released on a written promise and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 6.

On September 20, Anijah Tiya Johnson, 19, of 408 Cory Road, High Point, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. She was released on a secure bond of \$500 and is scheduled to appear in Cumberland County District Court in Fayetteville on September 22.

On September 21, Misty Dale Andrews, 40, of 1002 N 2nd Avenue, Rm. 125, Siler City was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. She was issued a \$2,000 secure bond and is due to appear in Randolph District Court in Asheboro on September 27.

PITTSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Pittsboro approves 741-acre rezoning for possible 55+ development

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Pittsboro board of commissioners approved a rezoning request Monday for more than 700 acres, which will likely be developed as a new age-restricted neighborhood.

Jamie Schwedler, a partner at Raleigh's Parker Poe Attorneys & Counselors at Law, filed the petition as a representative of PulteGroup Inc. and other vested parties who plan to develop a 55+ community off U.S. Hwy. 15-501, south of Moncure Pittsboro Road. The future Chatham Park Way would bisect the neighborhood, which would also encompass part of Sanford Road.

The land — about 741 acres — was previously zoned for heavy industrial and residential-agricultural uses; it is now low-density residential. PulteGroup hopes to build a planned-unit development including no more than 2,223 one-family detached residences and townhomes, club houses

and other amenity buildings.

The rezoning request evoked considerable debate in recent weeks. At a public hearing on Aug. 9, a member of the public spoke against the rezoning request citing inconsistencies "with Pittsboro's Land Use Plan" and claiming "the rezoning area is too large," according to meeting minutes. Members of the board expressed similar concerns with rezoning such a substantial stretch of land.

On Sept. 8, the town planning board took a harder stance, recommending with a 5-1 vote that Pittsboro deny Schwedler's request.

Despite some opposition, though, most commissioners supported the proposal and voted Monday to rezone the property. It passed 3-1, with Commissioner John Bonitz opposing and Commissioner Jay Farrell abstained from voting.

"I am generally against general rezonings," Commissioner Kyle Shipp said, "and try to look at them in a way that separates rezoning from

any intended use. That's been pretty difficult in this case, with how the applicant has presented things. But at its core the rezoning, I think, is an overall positive, which is a change for me."

Bonitz felt otherwise.

"The fact that the planning board has recommended against it is meaningful to me," he said, "and the conversation at the planning board meeting was very much about how it's inconsistent with our future land use plan. They found that the rezoning request is not reasonable and will have an unreasonable impact on the surrounding community."

In previous meetings of the board, PulteGroup representatives argued the town has much to gain from a new, dedicated 55+ community.

"In Pittsboro, there's a significant aging population," Chris Raughley, the company's vice president of land entitlements and development, said in a public hearing. "And persons 55 and older are expected to continue to move to the area."

According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, which Raughley shared in his presentation, the median age in Pittsboro is 42.8 — 10% higher than elsewhere across the greater Triangle area and North Carolina as a whole. About 14% of Pittsboro residents are between 60 and 69 years old, and 10% are 80 years old and older, "more than double the rate for Durham/Chapel Hill, and more than double the rate for North Carolina as a whole," Raughley said.

"So based on the trends and our experience in anticipating demand in the active adult housing market," he added, "the project will meet the growing need for active adult housing in Pittsboro by providing multiple housing types in a location convenient to downtown Pittsboro."

Other news

- Renovations to the downtown traffic circle have finally completed, Town Manager Chris Kennedy announced in the board's meeting.

"Today is the final day of the DOT downtown traffic circle project," he said. "I think we're excited to see that project come to fruition and completion, both at the same time."

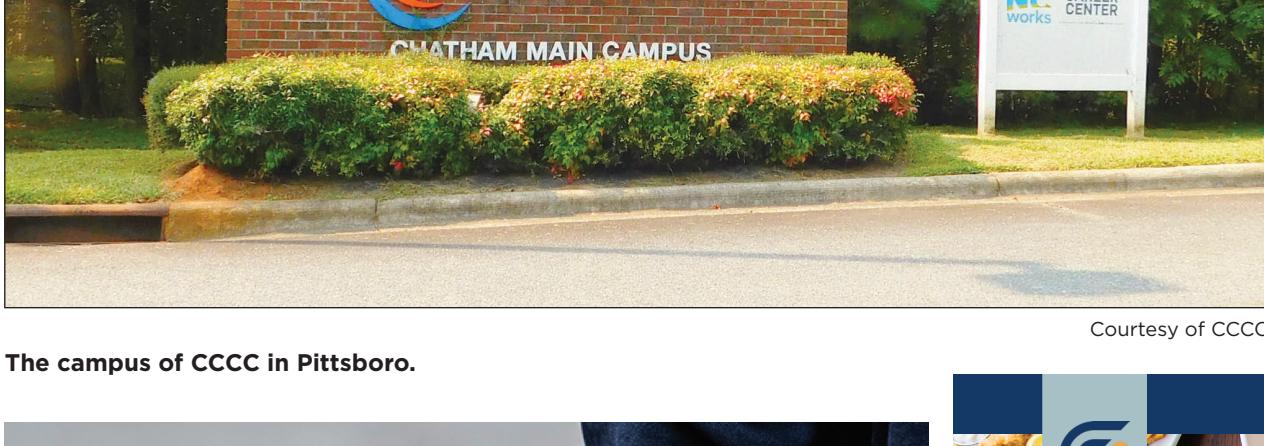
Residents and passersby may still see some workers, but heavy machinery has left the area.

"I would note that we will see a little bit of work after the fact," Kennedy said. "The completion is for the road project — we still have the lighting project outstanding. So we will see some of the lighting fixtures around the circle be swapped out. But DOT wanted their contractors basically to demobilize."

- The board voted to deny a rezoning request from David Mang to change a .78-acre parcel at 879 and 881 Hillsboro Street from high density residential to office and institutional.

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at ddolder@chamnrc.com and on Twitter @ddolder.

NEWS BRIEF



Courtesy of CCCC

The campus of CCCC in Pittsboro.

Paving project planned at CCCC Chatham Main Campus

From Central Carolina Community College

PITTSBORO — Two parking areas on the Central Carolina Community College Chatham Main Campus will be closed Oct. 9-12 due to a resealing project.

The resealing project includes the front entrance from U.S. 64 Business (West Street) and adjoining parking lot adjacent to Building 41 and the Student Farm, as well as the parking lot adjacent to Building 42.

The parking lot off of the N.C. 87 entrance to the college will remain open throughout the resealing project.

To learn more about Central Carolina Community College and its programs, visit www.cccc.edu.

— CN+R staff reports

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WHO'S IN? WWW.CAROLINABREWERY.COM

Dodgy 'Dear Evan Hansen' misses the mark

From its inadequate opening to its indulgent end, "Dear Evan Hansen" is a parody of teen angst, a film so unmoored from meaning that it hurls itself at the viewer like spaghetti to a wall, just seeing what might stick. Ultimately, what lingers is the stench of a deeply flawed premise,

message, and messenger, overpowering what few worthwhile ideas and performances there are in this moody morass.

The original stage musical "Dear Evan Hansen" won multiple Tony Awards so long ago that Kevin Spacey was the ceremony's host. One of those trophies went to Ben Platt for playing the titular teen. Platt reprises the role for the big screen, although with his hoodies, curly locks, and exaggerated eccentricities, the now-27-year-old Platt looks more like he's playing Mark Zuckerberg in a musical adaptation of "The Social Network."

The adult Platt opens the film as Evan, wandering a high school's crowded hallways and crooning about how lonely he is. In the very next scene, Evan is shooting the breeze with his best friend Jared at a school assembly, gabbing about gossip and Evan being gaga for band geek Zoe Murphy (Kaitlyn Dever). The only person who signs Evan's arm cast is troubled teen Connor (Colton Ryan), who only does so because he feels bad for yelling at Evan earlier. Evans's therapist has suggested that Evan write himself letters about what happened throughout the day. For some reason, Evan prints out the letter at school, where Connor, also Zoe's brother, finds it and reads that Evan is creeping his sister before bolting in a huff.

Unfortunately, that letter is in Connor's pocket later when he commits suicide. Seeing the letter was ostensibly written to Evan, Connor's parents — mom Cynthia (Amy Adams) and stepdad Larry (Danny Pino) — presume that their dead son and Evan were BFFs. That is signif-



Courtesy of Universal Pictures

Colton Ryan (left) and Ben Platt star in 'Dear Evan Hansen.'

icant because apparently Connor didn't like anyone, and no one much liked him, either. When Cynthia and Larry see Connor's name written on Evan's cast, their supposed friendship is sealed. Not wanting to pop his parents' balloon, Evan goes from not correcting their erroneous assumptions about a friendship with Connor to actively concocting an elaborate backstory to support it, including fake e-mails the two exchanged and trips they sometimes took to an apple orchard the family used to visit.

As the lies snowball, and Evan does nothing to slow them down, he parlays frequent invites to the Murphy manse to get closer to Zoe, eventually leading to a burgeoning romance between them. Meanwhile, Connor's death becomes a social cause spearheaded by school do-everything Alana Beck (Amandla Sternberg), who swaps mood-altering prescription lists with Evan. When Evan's lie-filled eulogy of Connor to the student body goes viral, a fundraiser to save the actual apple orchard — and Evan's celebrity — skyrockets.

The abhorrence of Evan's deception is graven and self-apparent, and to the film's credit it doesn't pretend otherwise, besides a risible climactic stab at semi-redemption. Any lingering notion that Evan's web of lies was a consequence of good intentions or something that became bigger than he ever anticipated is belied by the fact that a few early words of explanation could have prevented all that followed.

No, the film's fault lies in the stars,

DEAR EVAN HANSEN

GRADE: C -

DIRECTOR: Stephen Chbosky

STARRING: Ben Platt, Amy Adams, Julianne Moore, Kaitlyn Dever, Amandla Sternberg and Danny Pino

MPAA RATING: PG-13

RUNNING TIME: 2 hr. 17 min.

and its focus. Other than Evan's mom Heidi (played by Julianne Moore, whose solid performance seems like it was meant for another movie), there isn't a likable character in the bunch. Evan and Zoe have zero chemistry together, and Connor's parents are daft and detached. Jared is a jerk, flashbacks portray a cantankerous Connor, and even the high-minded Alana flashes an inner Tracy Glick when she decides to salvage her charity bona fides by shotgunning Evan's letter, shared with her in confidence, onto the Internet. The songs in this musical are treacly and unaffected, and the genre rules here are ill-defined — at times the musical interludes are fantasy sequences, while other scenes, like Evan's school eulogy, imply that the singing might be literal.

There is an interesting movie to be made about the peer pressure that might propel Evan's duplicity, or the social media ethos that would blindly and/or self-righteously promote a movement without any true evaluation of its origins and then instantly devour anyone they deem unworthy of that movement, even the parents of the person they're supposedly commemorating. Alas, any of those passing subplots are lost amid the Evan Hansen Show, the decidedly irksome story of how a young man's life and death, and its impact on his family and community, play second fiddle to a needy, nattering nebbish who parlays the dead boy's memory for some free food, a girl's attention, and perhaps even free money for college. For unwitting audiences, "Dear Evan Hansen" reads more like a ransom note.

NEWS BRIEF

Chatham celebrates cattle's important role

PITTSBORO — In order to celebrate Chatham County's long history with cattle and bring greater attention to its quality beef and dairy products, the Chatham County Agriculture Advisory Board presented the Chatham County Cattle Celebration resolution to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners in August; the Board subsequently adopted the resolution.

The year 2021 is a landmark one for cattle: it's the 500th anniversary of the arrival of cattle in North America. Recorded history places cattle on the continent as early as 1521 when the appointed viceroy of New Spain, Gregorio de Villalobos, decided to take his chances and go against a Spanish law prohibiting cattle trading in Mexico. He acquired six Spanish cows and a bull from what is known today as the Dominican Republic and brought them to Veracruz, Mexico. The opportunity and its potential for growth and profit were too good to pass up. This marked the beginning of cattle cultivation in North America.

Since then, cattle have become an integral part of American agriculture — especially in Chatham County. The county's cattle production, which ranks third in North Carolina's total cattle population, are a major part of Chatham's community and local economy. Around 34,000 head of cattle reside on Chatham County pastures.

In addition to sheer numbers, Chatham ranchers produce high-quality cattle among a diversity of breeds including Brown Swiss, Pineywoods, Texas Longhorn, Belted Galloway, Hereford, Angus, Guernsey, South Poll, and Holstein, to mention a few. This variety of breeds helps preserve a diversity of genetics for future farmers and land managers. Cattle can be raised as an environmentally friendly tool for maintaining pastoral, rural landscapes, while also yielding a local source of nourishing protein. Chatham cattle farmers pride themselves in producing both high quality products that focus on animal welfare and land management.

Public surveys in Chatham County have made evident that preserving rural character is the most important goal among surveyed residents. Continued support of local farms is more important now than ever. Residents can support Chatham County farmers by buying local through the Chatham County Buy Local Guide: <https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms-chathamfarms>.

— CN+R staff reports



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CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - www.learn-aboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

OFFICE SPACE RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

RENTAL APARTMENTS

POWELL SPRINGS APTS. Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for 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

HAY FOR SALE - Round and Square Bales, 919-545-4752. S16,23,30,3tp

YARD SALES

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALES - Clothes, stove, water heater, quilting squares, dressers, furniture, children's items. Lots to choose from, October 2, 7:30 a.m. until... - 339 Sam Lowe Road, Siler City. S30,1tp

YARD SALE AT 17915 US Hwy 64 W, Siler City (Across from WNCA Radio Station) - Saturday, October 2, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Men's clothe/shoes - Women's clothes/shoes - Upholstery items, heaters, furniture pieces and other household items. S30,1tp

Waiting on YARD SALES from Karen

AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS at JHA. One Call...We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.JerryHarrisAuction.com, 919-498-4077, 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, rickyellington-auctions@yahoo.com, My6,tfnc

SERVICES

RAINBOW WATER FILTERED VACUUMS, Alice Cox, Cox's Distributing - Rainbow - Cell: 919-548-4314, Sales, Services, Supplies. Serving public for 35 years. Rada Cutlery also available. Au26,tfnc

AUTO BROKERS RECYCLERS - Cash paid for Junk/Wrecked vehicles. Call 919-545-0194. My13,tfnc

JUNK CARS PICKED UP Free of charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no charge. 919-542-2803. A2,tfnc

I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! J9,tfnc

LETT'S TREE SERVICE - tree removal, stump grinding, lot clearing. Visa & Master Card accepted. Timber. Free estimates. 919-258-3594 N9,tfnc

HELP WANTED

LILES PLUMBING - We are hiring, on the job training. Apply in person, 110 S Chatham Avenue, 919-742-3312. S23,30,O7,3tc

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. Jn24,tfnc

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

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 456

All persons having claims against **TONNY JOE KEITH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 9th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of September, 2021.

Carletta Jo Keith, Executor c/o Steve Lackey, Attorney 410 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Chapel Hill, NC 27514 S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **MARY C. L. PISCITELLO**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons,

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 456

Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **EDITH HAMMOND**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 29th day of August, 2019, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 9th day of December, 2021, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 9th day of September, 2021.

Edith Hammond Holloman, Personal Representative c/o Catherine L. Wilson, Attorney for the Estate McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson, & Hinkle, PLLC, 3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400 Durham, NC 27707 S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 359

All persons having claims against **LEXTON JACKSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 9th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of September, 2021.

Carlos Jackson, Administrator 500 Smith Level Rd, Apt S-6 Carrboro, NC 27510 S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 359

All persons having claims against **VINSON LEON THOMPSON**, aka Vinson L. Thompson [hereinafter "Vinson L. Thompson"] of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 17th day of June, 2021, are notified to present them to Truist Bank, Executor of the Estate of Vinson L. Thompson in c/o David R. Frankstone, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before December 9, 2021. Failure to present a claim in timely

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED AS EXEC

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Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.

400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMGT.com



NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Michael Anatolyevich Gordeev, having qualified as the Executor of the Estate of **VERA M. GORDEEVA**, Deceased, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County on August 31st, 2021, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Marcus Hudson, Attorney at Law, 641 Rock Creek Road, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, on or before the 10th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment.

This 9th day of September, 2021.

WILLIAM M. PISCITELLO,

EXECUTOR

ESTATE OF **MARY C. L. PISCITELLO**

C/O Marcus Hudson, Attorney at Law

641 Rock Creek Road

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

27514

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

All persons having claims against **PATSY H. THOMPSON** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 11th day of May, 2021, are notified to present them to Truist Bank, Executor of the Estate of Patsy H. Thompson in c/o David R. Frankstone, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before December 9, 2021. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Patsy H. Thompson. Those indebted to Patsy H. Thompson are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.

David R. Frankstone

Higgins, Frankstone, Graves &

Morris, P.A.

1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203

Exchange West at Meadow-

mont

Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

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, plus 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.

fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Vinson L. Thompson. Those indebted to Vinson L. Thompson are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.

David R. Frankstone

Higgins, Frankstone, Graves &

Morris, P.A.

1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203

Exchange West at Meadow-

mont

Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Exec

Join the

News + Record's Team

HELP WANTED

Delivery Drivers

The Chatham News + Record is seeking part-time drivers to assist in the delivery of newspapers on Wednesday or Thursday mornings. Ability to lift 25lbs, work in various weather conditions and a valid NC drivers license is required.

Please email resume and references to Jason Justice at jjustice@chathamnr.com

Chatham News + Record

EOE

utrix of the Estate of **JOHN WALTER ETCHISON**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 8th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 3rd day of September, 2021.

Rachel E. Etchison,
Executrix of
The Estate of John
Walter Etchison
60 Mt. Vernon
Hickory Mountain Rd
Siler City, North
Carolina 27344
Moody, Williams, Atwater
& Lee,
Attorneys at Law
PO Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina
27312
(919) 542-5605

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

A municipal general election will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, Chatham County to vote in the following contest: Municipal Offices. Town of Pittsboro: Mayor, Town of Commissioner (2 seats), Town of Goldston: Mayor, Town Commissioner At-Large, and Town Commissioner Ward 1, and Ward 3. and Goldston Gulf Sanitary District Board (2 seats). Photo ID is not required in any election in 2021. Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the day of the election, Tuesday, November 2, 2021. One-stop early voting will be held at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in lieu of the Chatham County Board of Elections Office. One-stop early voting will be open from Thursday, October 14, 2021, and ends Saturday, October 30, 2021. **DAY**

HOURS

THURSDAY October 14, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY October 15, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
MONDAY October 18, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
TUESDAY October 19, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY October 20, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
THURSDAY October 21, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY October 22, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
SATURDAY October 23, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
MONDAY October 25, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
TUESDAY October 26, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY October 27, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

THURSDAY October 28, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

FRIDAY October 29, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY October 30, 2021 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Canvass will be held in the Chatham County Board of Elections office at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 9, 2021. Absentee voting by-mail available on Sunday, October 3, 2021. Requests for an absentee ballot must be made on an absentee request form (available on the State Board of Elections website and at the county board of elections office) and must be received in the Chatham County Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday prior to the date of the election. Absentee voting requires the voter to complete an application on the return envelope that must be witnessed by two qualified persons or a notary public. Completed absentee ballots must be returned to the Chatham County Board of Elections by Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 5:00 p.m. on Election Day (ballots received by mail after this time will be timely if received within three business days and postmarked by Election Day). Voters may receive assistance voting a mail-in absentee ballot from a qualified person of their choice. If the voter lives in a facility such as a nursing home, and the voters near relative or legal guardian is not available, the voter or the facility can arrange to have the county board of elections schedule a visit by a Multipartisan Assistance Team to provide assistance and witnesses.

Voters voting in person are entitled to assistance by an election official, or, if assistance is needed due to disability or illiteracy, by a qualified person of their choice. Voting sites are accessible to all voters. Curbside voting is available for voters who are not able to enter voting sites.

All persons who live in eligible municipal districts and who are registered to vote with the Chatham County Board of Elections may vote in this election. Persons who are not already registered to vote in the county must register by Friday, October 8, 2021 5:00 p.m. to be eligible to vote in this election. Voters who are not registered in the county by that deadline may register and vote during one stop early voting only and will be required to provide documentation of their residence. Voters who wish to change party affiliation or who have changed name or address must do so by the registration deadline. Voters who fail to timely make a change in name or address in the county must update the information when presenting to vote and may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Persons with questions about registration, polling places, early voting, absentee ballots, a Multipartisan Assistance Team visit to a facility, or other election matters may call the

Chatham County Board of Elections Office at 919-545-8500.
Laura Heise, Chairman
Chatham County Board of Elections
S16,S23,S30,07,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 471

All persons having claims against **PATRICIA STAFFEN YELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 16th day of September, 2021.

David Yell, Executor

100 Bill Ash Rd.

Moncure, NC 27559

S16,S23,S30,07,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 462

All persons having claims against **SHIRLEY ANN LUCAS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 16th day of September, 2021.

Joseph Lee Perry, Executor

4107 Bullhead Road

Apex, N.C. 27502

S16,S23,S30,07,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

All persons having claims against **RICKIAN SUBERMAN** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on June 25, 2021, are notified to present them to Karen Suberman, Executor of the Estate of Rickian Suberman, in c/o Michael S. Munson, Attorney for the Estate, at Munson Law Firm, PLLC, P.O. Box 4312, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27515, on or before October 14, 2021. Failure to present a claim in a timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar or recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Rickian Suberman. Those indebted to the deceased are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.

Michael S. Munson
Munson Law Firm, PLLC
P.O. Box 4312
Chapel Hill, NC 27515

S16,S23,S30,07,4tc

NOTICE OF CO-EXECUTORS TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

James H. Bryan, Jr., and William R. Bryan, having qualified as Co-Executors for the Estate of **AUBIN REDFIELD SANDER**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, do 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 December 16, 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 the 16th day of September, 2021.

James H. Bryan, Jr., and William R. Bryan

Co-Executors of the Aubin Redfield Sander Estate

Schell Bray PLLC

P. O. Box 21847

Greensboro, NC 27420

C/O Amy H. Kincaid

SCHELL BRAY PLLC

230 North Elm Street, Suite

1500

Greensboro, NC 27401

S16,S23,S30,07,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 527

All persons having claims against **SHIRLEY E. CARAWAY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 16th day of September, 2021.

MARY O. WOODALL, Administrator

111 Sierra Ct.

Durham, NC 27704

S16,S23,S30,07,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 501

All persons having claims against **MARY E. TOVELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 16th day of September, 2021.

Robin Tovell-Toubal, Executrix

197 Quarter Gate Trace

Chapel Hill, N.C. 27516

or Pierce Law Group

3020 S. Miami Blvd., Suite 201

Durham, NC 27703

S23,S30,07,014,4tp

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Under and by virtue of an

order of the District Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled **COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. JIMMY E. GILBERT, JR. and spouse, ANNIE S. GILBERT**, and all possible heirs and assignees of **JIMMY E. GILBERT, JR. and spouse, ANNIE S. GILBERT**, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al, **17-CVD-346**, the undersigned Commissioner will on the **6th day of October, 2021**, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the **court-house door in Chatham County, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon**, the following described real property, lying and being in Center Township, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows:

All that certain tract or parcel of land situate in Center Township, Chatham County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows:

Adjoining the lands of Henry Gilbert, S.D. Gilmore, Jennie Griffin and others, bounded as follows viz: Lying on the West side of Henry Gilbert's land on the North side of S.D. Gilmore's and Jennie Griffin's lands, on the South by Caroline Womble, containing twenty two acres, more or less.

Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record.

Parcel Identification Number:

006369

The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter.

This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.

This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S.

Failure to present a claim in a timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar or recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Rickian Suberman. Those indebted to the deceased are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.

This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments

failure to pay which will result in a tax sale.

Failure to pay which will result in a tax sale.

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follows:
Being all of Tract No. 3 as shown on the survey entitled "Minor Subdivision for Spencer Dunkley," prepared by Roland Ward, dated July 10, 2008, of record in Plat Slide 2008, Page 289, Chatham County Registry, to which reference is hereby made for a more particular description.

Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record.

Parcel Identification Number:

0087400

The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter. This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.

This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25.

This the 14th day of September, 2021.

Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner

P.O. Box 25

Trenton, NC 28585

S23,S30,2tc

Trustee may, in the Trustee's sole discretion, delay the sale for up to one hour as provided in NCGS §45-21.23.

Should the property be purchased by a third party, that party must pay the excise tax, as well as the court costs of Forty-Five Cents (\$0.45) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by NCGS §7A-308(a)(1).

The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS, WHERE IS." Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust/security agreement, or both, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale, and any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. Also, this property is being sold subject to all taxes, special assessments, and prior liens or prior encumbrances of record and any recorded releases. Said property is also being sold subject to applicable Federal and State laws.

A deposit of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is required and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale.

If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy.

Additional Notice for Residential Property with Less than 15 rental units, including Single-Family Residential Real Property

An order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 45-21.29 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. 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 foreclosure 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 10 days but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in this 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.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SERVICES, INC.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE
c/o Hutchens Law Firm LLP
P.O. Box 1028
4317 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, North Carolina

28311
Phone No: (910) 864-3068
<https://sales.hutchenslawfirm.com>
Case No: 1299487 (FC,FAY)
S23,S30,2tc

CREDITOR'S NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified on the 20th day of August 2021, as Administrator of the Estate of **MELICENT HUNEYCUTT-VERGERE**, 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 23rd day of December, 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 20th day of September, 2021.

W. Woods Doster, Administrator of the

Estate of Melicent Huneycutt-Verger

178 Windstone

Pittsboro, NC 27312

Attorneys:

Law Offices of W. Woods

Doster, P.A.

206 Hawkins Avenue

Sanford, NC 27330

S23,S30,07,014

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

18 E 167
All persons having claims against **KENNETH M. JOHNSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 21st day of September, 2021.

Carolyn Johnson, Administrator

349 Hillside Dairy Rd

Pittsboro, NC 27312

S23,S30,07,014,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

21 E 550
All persons having claims against **EUGENE BRYAN MARLEY, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 21st day of September, 2021.

John McCarty,

Ancillary Administrator CTA

56891 Mark Manor Drive

Elkhart, IN 46516

S23,S30,07,014,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

21 E 512
All persons having claims against **PATRICIA WELCH CAREY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 27th day of September, 2021.

Cathleen C. Roberts, Executrix
c/o Kirschbaum, Nanney, Kenan & Griffin, P.A.

PO Box 19766
Raleigh, NC 27619-9766
919-848-0420
S30,07,014,021,4tp

ADVERTISEMENT - CHATHAM COUNTY

Request for Proposals (RFP) Chatham County Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Plan and Cost of Community Services Study

Chatham County is seeking proposals from qualified consulting firms to update the County's current Farmland Preservation Plan and to conduct a Cost of Community Services study. With a forward-leaning approach on best practices and recommendations, the proposed scope of services will provide a comprehensive overview of the state of agriculture in Chatham County and action-oriented direction for the enhancement and preservation of farmland and open space in Chatham County. This project will include a review of existing data, the collection of current information, and the development of an update of the 2009 Chatham County, North Carolina Farmland Preservation Plan. In

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report information for fiscal year 2019-2020 will be created.

The complete RFP document and details are located on the Chatham County Current Bids and Proposals webpage at: <http://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/current-bid-proposal-opportunities>.

The County is requesting 3 hard copies and one electronic pdf file, included on appropriate media, and included with the paper copies. The submittal package must be marked RFP for Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Plan and Cost of Community Services Study and received by October 28, 2021 at 5:00 PM EST, to one of the following delivery addresses:

Postal Address: Kim Johnson, Chatham County Finance Office, P. O. Box 608, Pittsboro, NC 27312, or Street Address: Kim Johnson, Courthouse Annex, 12 East Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

All inquiries relating to this request must be in writing and submitted by e-mail to Kim Johnson at purchasing@chathamcountync.gov. Late submittals will not be accepted under any circumstance and will not be opened or reviewed. All inquiries must be made no later than 12:00 PM on Thursday, October 21, 2021 to purchasing@chathamcountync.gov or by fax to (919)-542-4261. No RFP inquiries by telephone please.

All addenda will be posted by 5:00pm on Friday, October 22, 2021 and available at <http://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/current-bid-proposal-opportunities>.

Chatham County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability.

S30,1tc

TOWN OF SILER CITY Administrative Hearing Notice

To: All Heirs, Known and Unknown of Olivia Dark, Linda Alston, Susan Alston, George M. Dark, Janice Dark, Jimmie Gilbert Dark, John H. Dark, Zyl-

phia A. Dark, Helen McLaughlin, Gwendolyn Siler, and Sarah Twitty.

Take notice that an administrative hearing will take place in the multipurpose room of Wren Memorial Library at 500 N. 2nd Ave., Siler City, NC at 11:30 am on Oct. 21, 2021 regarding enforcing the Town's Minimum Housing Code against the dwelling located at 1113 Lee St., also identified as Chatham County Tax Parcel Number 16742.

The dwelling located at the property described above has been deemed unsafe and unfit for human habitation due to abandonment, dilapidation, conditions creating a fire hazard or accident, attraction of insects or rodents, and conditions rendering the dwelling detrimental to health, safety, morals and welfare of the residents of the Town. A public necessity exists for the repair or demolition of the subject dwelling. Any person or party wishing to submit a plan for repair or demolition of the structure is invited to the hearing to provide the details of said plan, or to explain why the Town should not enforce its Code against the subject dwelling. If you have any questions, please contact the Town's Ordinance Enforcement Officer Eric Clem of State Code Enforcement Inc. at 336-553-9696 Ext. 404 or eric@statecode-enforcement.com. Due to COVID-19, the meeting room will be set up to meet social distancing guidelines and a face covering will be required to attend the meeting.

O30,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

21 E 515
All persons having claims against **WILLIAM DARRYL LEVO**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 27th day of September, 2021.

BRIAN M. LEVO, Co-Executor

6571 5th Ave NE,

Unit A

Seattle, Wa. 98115

Michelle R. Levo, Co-Executor

17507 Sonora Rd

PO Box 882

Knights Ferry, Ca. 95361

S30,1tc

ing housing discrimination at the local level. If any citizen experiences discrimination in housing because of race, color, sex, religion, handicap, familial status, or national origin, they may contact the Director of Planning and Community Development at (919) 742-2323. Any individual wishing TTY (TeleTYpe) assistance may call 711 and indicate the need for TTY assistance, and the Town will then arrange such assistance. Complaints will be reviewed and forwarded to the North Carolina Human Relations Commission in Raleigh (Phone: 919/431-3036; 866/324-7474; or Relay North Carolina TTY# 800/735-2962) for further review and conciliation. Complaints concerning discriminatory housing practices can also be forwarded directly to the North Carolina Human Relations Commission, 1318 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1318 (mail), or 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, NC 27609 (physical address).

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

S30,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

21 E 515
All persons having claims against **WILLIAM DARRYL LEVO**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 27th day of September, 2021.

BRIAN M. LEVO, Co-Executor

6571 5th Ave NE,

Unit A

Seattle, Wa. 98115

Michelle R. Levo, Co-Executor

17507 Sonora Rd

PO Box 882

Knights Ferry, Ca. 95361

S30,07,014,021,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

16 E 108
All persons having claims against **WAYBELLE C. BALDWIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 27th day of September, 2021.

Tracy B. Rivera, Executrix

2626 Mallard Cove Rd

Sanford, NC 27330

S30,07,014,021,4tc

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACE CHANGE

Voters who are registered to vote in the Pittsboro precinct and live within the municipal boundaries of the Town of Pittsboro will vote at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center at 1192 US-64 Business, Pittsboro, NC 27312 for the November 2, 2021, election, and future elections. Voters living within town boundaries will receive a postcard by mail notifying them of the change around the first week of October 2021.

S30,1tc

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACE CHANGE

In his new role, he's looking to help business owners realize their dreams and provide more jobs for Chatham County residents. Among the most acute concerns he expects to help aspiring and existing small business owners address? Funding and employee retention.

"Well, it's always been funding," he said. "... Most people assume that there are lots of grants, federal programs or free monies for business start-ups. Unfortunately, that's not really the case. Then during COVID, similarly to post-2008 bubble-bursting, commercial lending is not as robust as it used to be, so the funding still remains the biggest issue and of course, COVID happens."



MOUNTAIRE FARMS SUPPORTS FIRST RESPONDERS



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SILER CITY AND CHATHAM COUNTY!**

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