

Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | OCTOBER 14-20, 2021 | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | \$1

THE FATALITY AT JOHNSON'S DRIVE-IN

Driver charged after accident kills 1, injures 3

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN & BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Colin Hsieh's lunchtime craving for a cheeseburger took him to Johnson's Drive-In last Friday afternoon.

The 18-year-old initially drove from his family's home in town to stop into a grocery store in Siler City.

"I was going to get some groceries to make my own lunch," he told the News + Record, "but I changed my mind last minute."

Hsieh parked at Johnson's on East Eleventh Street, ordered from the walk-up window and

was sitting against a brick ledge at Johnson's, waiting for his food, when a white SUV sped toward him.

Siler City police say the car, driven by 60-year-old John Salvatore Graviano of Siler City, was traveling west on East Eleventh — U.S. Hwy. 64 — and crossed the center line and collided with a vehicle making a left turn onto East Raleigh Street from East Eleventh. After hitting that vehicle, the report says,

the SUV continued west on Hwy. 64, veered into incoming traffic and continued toward the restaurant, crossing the east-bound traffic lanes before entering the east side of the parking lot of Johnson's.

The car then struck four customers — Hsieh among them — who were gathered around waiting for their orders at Johnson's, then collided with the building.

One of those struck, 64-year-old Mark McKinney, a Pittsboro resident and the pastor of a Morrisville church, died at the scene. Hsieh and two others — Di-

See ACCIDENT, page A3



Staff photo by Bill Horner III

Repairs are under way at Johnson's Drive-In after last Friday's fatal accident, which killed Pittsboro pastor Mark McKinney.

Local education advocates emphasize importance of Pre-K

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Editor's note: In this third of a series of reports, the News + Record examines early childhood education in Chatham, looking specifically at the importance of equitable prekindergarten programs for student success. Future installments in the series will provide a deeper dive into various areas of school equity.

Jaime Detzi first became a staunch prekindergarten advocate three years ago.

As the executive director for Chatham Education Foundation (CEF), she'd be talking with a CEF board member about Chatham County Schools' first Kindergarten readiness camp, which her organization was funding.

"We just started thinking, 'OK, that was a three-week, half-day camp, and it did make an impact,'" Detzi said. "If you looked at students, just even being in school and learning how to do school for three weeks, for kids who had never been in a preschool before, it was huge. And we started thinking that's kind of like a Band-Aid fix to the bigger problem — and that's getting kids into quality Pre-K programs."

CEF originally looked into Pre-K as a part of its campaign for grade-level reading in Chatham, which is all about 3rd grade reading proficiency. One of the main indicators of 3rd grade reading proficiency is "Kindergarten readiness," some studies show, though the term itself is frequently debated in education forums. Some people disagree on which skills should be expected from Kindergartners; others worry the concept puts more responsibility on an individual child to learn, rather than on the school entrusted to teach them.

Still, in Chatham, Pre-K ad-



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Andrea, a 4-year-old Pre-K student, creates a town with signs, animals and people at Bennett School on Monday morning.

vocates, experts and teachers agree: a quality early childhood education is important to student success and should therefore be as accessible as possible.

"If we're going to increase our 3rd grade proficiency, what do we need to do on the front end to help make that happen?" Detzi said.

"And quality, 4-year-old preschool (education) is just one aspect of that."

Some studies also show Pre-K attendance increases graduation rates and lifetime earnings, and can decrease incarceration rates. Pre-K helps with language acquisition, particularly for children from households that do not speak English or where parents or guardians can't read regularly with them. Additionally, preschool helps students develop social and emotional skills which can ease the sometimes difficult transition to kindergarten.

"There's all sorts of reasons why you should do Pre-K," Detzi said.

'We shouldn't have open spots'

There are multiple Pre-K options in Chatham, spanning from private preschool programs to government-supported programs, like N.C. Pre-K and federally supported Head Start.

At Chatham County Schools, the Pre-K program has 11 preschool classrooms across seven elementary schools, with a program that runs from September to June from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Private pay fees for CCS Pre-K include a \$300 application/acceptance fee in addition to a \$615 monthly cost. (At 10 months of tuition, that's a \$6,450 annual cost.)

The program also accepts subsidy vouchers, and has NC Pre-K and Title I slots, which funds tuition for "at risk preschoolers" and students with the greatest academic needs. Chatham Grove is currently the only school which

See PRE-K, page A7

THE 2021 ELECTION

Early voting in Pittsboro, Goldston races set for Oct. 14-30

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

Chatham County's municipal election season is officially starting this week, with Thursday marking the beginning of early voting for seats on the Pittsboro and Goldston town boards, along with one seat on the Goldston Gulf Sanitary District.

Among them, the Nov. 2 election will feature only two contested races, both in Pittsboro — the mayoral race between incumbent Jim Nass and his challenger, former Mayor Cindy Perry, and a race for two board seats between three contenders.

Siler City has moved to postpone its elections until March 8 due to delays in receiving the 2020 Census data.

Pandora Paschal, the director of Chatham County's Board of Elections, said that while the deadline to register to vote has passed, Chatham County residents can do same-day registration during the early voting period, which closes Oct. 30.

"Early voting will take place at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center," she said. "We're only having one spot for early voting these municipal elections."

Early voting starts Thursday. People may vote between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and on two Saturdays — Oct. 23 and 30 — from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On Election Day, Goldston residents will cast ballots at Goldston Town Hall, while Pittsboro voters will vote at the Ag Center.

Absentee voting

Absentee voting has also begun; voters could start requesting mail-in ballots for this year's municipal elections on Oct. 3, with the deadline coming up on Oct. 26. All mail-in ballots must be turned in by 5 p.m. on Election Day or be received within three business days and postmarked by Nov. 2.

Paschal said there's a form voters must fill out on the county's board of elections website to ensure they are able to receive their ballot and turn it in correctly. The form can be accessed at votebymail.ncsbe.gov.

"Voters can actually request a ballot online," Paschal said.

However, if voters cannot request a ballot themselves, they can have a near relative fill out their request for them.

Voters can either mail in their absentee ballots or hand deliver them to the board of elections office; near relatives are also able to mail or hand deliver ballots on behalf of the voter.

Paschal said the elections board has begun to hold weekly meetings to count the absentee ballots brought to her office; those meetings will be live-streamed for the public.

"It's supposed to be an open process," she said. "We did that in 2020 during the general election for the COVID pandemic; we live-streamed more meetings and people could tune in that way."

See ELECTION, page A3

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Health Alliance, CCPHD & Chatham Hospital prep for new study

BY BILL HORNER III

News + Record Staff

Anyone who's taken a deep dive into Chatham's 2018 Community Assessment report knows it as a treasure trove of information about the heart and health of Chatham

County and its people.

Now, organizers of the "CA," as they term it, are readying for a new assessment — and like just about everything else, COVID-19 is leaving its mark.

See HEALTH, page A6



LET'S TALK!

2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

IN THE KNOW

Chatham teachers use 'Indigenous' Day to teach history lesson. PAGE A10

Q&A: 'Love Chatham' effort to create shelters gains momentum. PAGE A11

Bears' Jaylee Williams commits to play softball at App State. PAGE B1

CCS to phase in free COVID-19 testing to students and staff. PAGE B8



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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 **Chatham County Board of Commissioners** will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 18, in the courtroom of the Historic Chatham County Courthouse.
- The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 18, in the Wren Memorial Library.

OTHER

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

- **A blood drive for the Veterans of Chatham County** will be held on Saturday, October 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lowe's Home Improvement in Pittsboro. Come out and support your Veterans. Troops and benefit those that are in need and give thanks to the Navy Veterans, who have supported your freedoms. Go to https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/175556

- The **Chatham Hospital Board of Trustees meeting** will be held virtually at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 19. The public is invited to attend. If interested, please contact Cindy Seawell in advance at 919-799-4014 for the access

information.

- **Chatham Community Library** is offering free online classes on Microsoft Word in October. Class descriptions and a registration link can be found by clicking on class titles below or by visiting www.chathamcountync.gov/ComputerClasses. Microsoft Word Basics, Part 1: October 13, Wednesday, 3:00 pm - Microsoft Word Basics, Part 2: October 20, Wednesday, 3:00 pm and Microsoft Word: Beyond Basics: October 27, Wednesday, 3:00 pm.

- 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.chathamartistsguild.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

- The public is invited to attend the **Ribbon Cutting and Open house for the Pittsboro Boys & Girls Club**, from 10 until 11 a.m. on Monday, October 18. Refreshments will follow. The location is 79 Horton St., Pittsboro. The event is to celebrate the opening of their new location for the Central Carolina Boys & Girls Clubs.

- **Siler City Parks and Recreation** announces the 5th Annual Fall-O-Ween Trunk 'R Treat will be modified to a drive-thru experience and fun for all ages. The event will be held Friday, October 29, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Bray Park Sports Complex. The community is invited to wear your costumes, remain in your vehicle, and trunk 'r treat from your vehicle as you drive through the park.

- **Siler City Parks and Recreation** announces that on Friday, Oct. 22, the movie "Trolls World Tour" will be shown at Bray Park. 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 begins 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.

- **Chatham CARES Community Pharmacy** will host its annual Celebration of Lights drive-through fundraiser on Dec. 4 at St. Julia Catholic Church in Siler City, from 6-7 p.m. Celebrate the season outdoors with a live band playing holiday favorites and a bilingual Christmas message, all from the safety and comfort of your own vehicle. Luminaries will be on display during the

service, guiding vehicles along the drive through holiday experience. The parking lot opens at 6 p.m., and visitors can drive through to look at the luminaries, or stop for the brief message. Admission to the event is free, and luminaries can be purchased for \$10 each. 100% of the sale of luminaries will be used for prescription drug purchases, which are then dispensed to patients through Chatham CARES Community Pharmacy. Purchase your luminaries by calling Patricia at 919-663-0177. If you are purchasing luminaries in memory or in honor of someone and would like the name to be included in the program for the service, please do so by November 30.

- 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 <https://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 www.bstroop93.org for more information.

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

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

Fall for Literacy



Chatham Literacy's 'Fall for Literacy' fundraising lunch raised more than \$19,000 for the organization Saturday. Held at the Agricultural & Conference Center in Pittsboro, the event featured author Cassandra King Conroy, who spoke about her bestselling memoir 'Tell Me a Story,' about her life with her late husband, the celebrated novelist and writer Pat Conroy. Conroy King signed books for attendees after the luncheon.

Staff photo by Bill Horner III

Chatham Literacy board President Lind Naulty said Chatham Literacy tutors and volunteers gave more than 3,900 hours of time to help Chatham residents become readers, develop literacy skills and even apply for U.S. citizenship. On Saturday, tutor Rausie Hobson introduced Chatham Literacy client Elvis Perez-Agrero — shown here with organization director Vicki Newell — who moved to N.C. from Mexico at age 10. He's improved his English reading skills through work with tutors and recently completed his citizenship application.



Staff photo by Bill Horner III

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303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, North Carolina 27344

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The Chatham News + Record (USPS #101-160) is published weekly, 52 weeks a year, by Chatham Media Group LLC, 303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, N.C. 27344. Subscription rates: 1 year print + digital — \$52; monthly — \$5.99. Digital only — \$3.99 monthly. Periodicals postage paid at the U.S. Post Office in Siler City.

N.C. POSTMASTER:

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

ELECTION

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Pittsboro Mayor

In the race for Pittsboro mayor, incumbent Jim Nass is running against the person who held the seat previously, Cindy Perry.

Nass, a native of Denver, Colorado, was elected mayor in 2018. He told the News + Record that being the mayor of Pittsboro is more than just making sure things run smoothly at Town Hall.

"I see the role of Mayor as one of, not only working closely with the Commissioners and Town staff, but also representing the values and ethos of this amazing place we call home," he wrote in a candidate questionnaire.

Perry was the mayor of Pittsboro from 2015 to 2019. She decided to not seek reelection in 2019, saying she wanted to dedicate her time to assisting the local domestic violence agency, Second Bloom. She said that since leaving office, a number of Pittsboro residents have approached her and asked her to run again.

"I realized that I sincerely missed my work as Mayor," she wrote in a questionnaire. "As I am

completing my Board service with Second Bloom, I am ready to return to local government."

Pittsboro Commissioners

Two commissioner seats are up for grabs in the 2021 election. Three candidates are vying for the two posts: incumbents Pamela Baldwin (Pittsboro's Mayor Pro Tem) and Michael Fiocco, plus newcomer James Vose.

Vose owns a business called Vose Natural Stone and has two sons. He said he has been encouraged to seek office by friends and community members.

"After discussing it with my sons, we decided that now was the ideal time to step up and support this community, engage with neighbors, and have a positive influence in the growth that is already under way," he said.

Fiocco has served as a Pittsboro commissioner for 12 years, and said he's more than qualified to continue serving the town he calls home.

"I have the temperament, perspective and work ethic to process the myriad concerns of the Town in a timely manner

in order to promote the public health, safety, welfare and smart growth of the community," he told the News + Record.

Baldwin has served as a commissioner since 2005 and says she wants to see Pittsboro grow and thrive.

She said she wanted complete the work she's been doing on behalf of the town of Pittsboro to make it "a place to thrive and excel for all its citizens." She wants to focus on recruiting jobs, affordable housing and the town's drinking water concerns.

Goldston Mayor

Goldston's mayor election is uncontested. Jonathan Hensley is the only registered candidate aiming to take outgoing Mayor Tim Cunnup's seat this year. Hensley, 37, is a Goldston native and said he wants to focus on bringing economic growth to his home.

"I want to offer something for the community so that if local families want to start up a bakery, or some type of little antique store or something like that, they can," Hensley previously told the News + Record. "I would really like to see more shops in Goldston to bring in more com-

"I want to offer something for the community so that if local families want to start up a bakery, or some type of little antique store or something like that, they can,"

JONATHAN HENSLEY,
*registered candidate for
Goldston Mayor*

merce to benefit everybody."

Goldston Commissioners

The three Goldston commissioner seats on this year's ballot each feature uncontested races. The candidates are Banks Burke (at-large), Wayne Woody (Ward 1) and Lynn Gaines (Ward 3).

Goldston Gulf Sanitary District Board

The Goldston Gulf Sanitary District Board has two seats on this year's ballot and two candidates — Adam Pickett and Hayden Burke.

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnrc.com.

Chatham News + Record

CHATHAM COUNTY

2021 ELECTIONS DATES TO REMEMBER

VOTER REGISTRATION

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 8



The registration deadline was Oct. 8, but you can still register AND vote during the Early Voting period. You must have a valid photo ID to register to vote, but not to vote after you've registered.

EARLY VOTING

OCTOBER 14-30



Early voting in the Pittsboro, Goldston and Goldston Sanitary District elections will be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on two Saturdays, Oct. 23 & 30, at the Chatham County Agricultural & Conference Center, ending Oct. 30.

ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2



Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

ABSENTEE BALLOT

BY 5 P.M., OCTOBER 26



To request ballot or get more information, go to votebymail.ncsbe.gov, or call 919-545-8500.

Follow complete News+ Record coverage at chathamnewsrecord.com

Chatham County Board of Elections:

start at chathamcountync.gov

or call 919-545-8500

ACCIDENT

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anne Perkins, 77, of Burlington, and Shannon Clapp, 39, of Siler City — were injured.

Perkins, who was standing next to Hsieh at the restaurant, was airlifted from the scene to UNC Hospitals, according to reports; Hsieh — who suffered a broken fibula and fractured ankle — and Clapp were taken to UNC as well with minor

injuries.

"I became aware of the car approaching when I simply looked up and there it was, heading toward me," Hsieh remembered on Monday. "In the moment, I was actually in little pain, due to the adrenaline I imagine. However, once the adrenaline rush wore off it was pain like I had never experienced before."

He described the aftermath of the accident as "insane."

"The damage done to the restaurant blew my mind," said Hsieh, who's home-schooled by his parents I-Sah and Lindsay.

Carolyn Routh, Johnson's Drive-In's third-generation manager, was the only person inside of the business to see the car come through the wall.

"It was just an absolute shock," she said. "Who would ever think that a car is going to drive into their restaurant like

that, and then knowing how many people were injured and that somebody lost their life? It's devastating."

McKinney's death was announced on a Facebook post on the page of New Life Church in Morrisville.

"It is with great sadness that we share this news on behalf of the McKinney family and New Life Church, that our Senior Pastor, Pastor Mark, passed away yesterday in a tragic accident that happened in Siler City, NC," the post read. "The life that he lived impacted everyone around him. He was an amazing husband to Pastor Dee, father to Pastor Matt and Cara, and Grandpa to four grandchildren. He was a great friend, teacher, Pastor, and mentor to hundreds of people."

"He finished strong and he never quit. He fought the good fight of faith and stepped over to Heaven with joy. He won the crown that was laid up for him!!"

"As you may know, we are all in shock right now. Please continue to love, support, and care for his wife, Pastor Dee. We are looking to God and reflecting on what Pastor Mark would tell us to do in this situation. Thank you for your love, patience, and understanding during this difficult time."

A celebration of life service for McKinney will be held at New Life Church at 1 p.m. Saturday and live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

According to the church's website, Mark McKinney and his wife are founding pastors.

'As much as we can protect them'

With fairly severe

damage to the front of the building, Routh said she's not sure yet how long permanent repairs will take. On Monday, Johnson's secured a contractor for repairs and started the process of getting building permits in place. After a visit from a structural engineer, it seems Johnson's will be able to open up before permanent repairs are in place — possibly as early as next Tuesday.

The business is working on putting barriers in place to section off an area where customers stand and across the front of the building, in the unlikely event this type of event happens again.

"It hasn't happened in 75 years, but it did happen," Routh said. "And because of that, we don't want people to be afraid to come up here, and we want to make sure our customers and employees are protected as much as we can protect them."

Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner told the News + Record that the case is still under investigation. Other charges may be filed, and the direct cause of crash is still unknown.

Graviano was arrested by the Siler City Police Department on Saturday and charged with misdemeanor death by vehicle. He was placed under a \$1,000 secured bond at the Chatham County Detention Center and also charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and driving left of center.

Siler City Police and Fire Departments, as well as First Health EMS, and members of the N.C. Highway Patrol, responded to the scene on Friday.

Routh said "all those

folks were really great," and helped make everyone on the scene feel safe after such a horrible accident.

"The thing that makes it the worst is knowing that the people injured were our customers or friends ... that they were injured at our restaurant on our property, it's a very helpless feeling," she said. "The comments that we've gotten on Facebook, text messages, phone calls, with people saying that they were praying and offering their support have been very overwhelming. I really appreciate that, and I would ask for continued prayers for the families of the victims, and everybody who was affected."

Hsieh said he used a bystander's phone — his had been shattered by the impact — to call his parents. They immediately called his younger sister Darcy, who was shopping in Siler City and arrived just minutes later.

"In the days since, I've reflected on a lot," Hsieh said. "What I've reflected on mostly is how if I had done just about anything in my day I probably wouldn't be answering these questions. But also how lucky I was to only break my leg and how fortunate I am to even have my leg at all right now."

His father, I-Sah, said Colin told him he'd been sitting on the corner of the brick wall at Johnson's that took the direct impact from the car — a part of the building that's no longer there.

"How he got away with just a broken leg and fractured ankle is nothing short of a miracle," I-Sah Hsieh said, "and we thank truly God for sparing our son."

CHURCH NEWS

NEW BEGINNINGS MINISTRIES

New Beginnings Ministries will have a miscellaneous fall and winter sale items, plus accessory sale items. All items are new and slightly used. Fish and chicken sandwiches will also be available for purchase.

The event will be held Saturday, October 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the corner of MLK Blvd and Hwy. 64, Siler City.

EDWARD HILL FRIENDS MEETING

Revival services will be held on Sunday, October 17, through Wednesday, October 20, at 7 p.m. each evening. The guest speaker will be Rev. Tim Strider.

Special music is scheduled for each service.

The church is located at 92 Ed Leonard Road, just off Edward Hill Church Road.

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

Fall revival services will be held at Emmaus Baptist Church, October 17 through 20, with Pastor Bob Pittman bringing the messages at each service.

The services will be held Sunday at 8:45 and 11 a.m. Evening services will be held Sunday through Wednesday beginning at 7 p.m.

The church is located at 2430 Silk Hope-Gum Springs Road, Pittsboro.

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VIEWPOINTS

My mom thought she was lost. Now I'm the one in a different place.

I'd see her name pop up on the screen of my ringing cell phone and before even answering, I knew exactly how the call would start.

"Bill, this is your mother, Shirley Horner," she'd say. "I'm lost. Do you know where I am?" I did.

She usually didn't — dementia was clouding my dear 85-year-old mom's mind and her memory. I'd tell her where she was, remind her, reassure her. I'd help fill in the gaps, try to assuage her fears, ease her anxiety.

Sometimes it helped. Sometimes it didn't.

After the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted my visits to her at Cambridge Hills in Pittsboro, I spoke to my mom nearly every day. Most days, we'd talk three or four times. Then there were the difficult days when she'd call 10, 15, 20 times or more, confused and frustrated, and angry about the confusion and frustration. There would be back-to-back-to-back calls when she'd lash out at me, hang up on me, call back, hang

up again, then call once more to say: "I just wanted to let you know that I've decided to return from whence I came." "OK, mom," I'd say. "So ... where exactly are you going?"

"I can't remember if I was in Kansas or Nebraska," she'd say. "But I'm going back there."

There were many good calls, too, playful give-and-take conversations full of laughter and joy. She'd be confused, but in a good place, reminding me of the mother whom I'd been so close to for so long — and not this lovely woman devastated by age and a horrible brain condition.

There were funny moments: in the last two years, nearly every call included her asking me (usually multiple times) about my father. My parents divorced in 1972; dad died of cancer in 2005, by which time they'd learned to become friends again.

"Where's your daddy?" she'd ask.

"He's dead, mom," I'd say. "He's been dead for 16 years."

"I didn't kill him, did I?" she'd ask, serious as she could be.

Now she's gone, too.

Dementia and her other health problems ended my mom's life last Thursday. She'd declined steadily since

complications from an atrial valve replacement in Nebraska in the fall of 2018 led to three months of hospital and rehab stays. A bad fall shortly after she came home in Hastings, Nebraska, quickly resulted in a plan to move her here, closer to my sister (who lives in Myrtle Beach) and me. We gradually began to notice signs of the dementia in mom's second month back in N.C.; within a year it had grown alarmingly worse.

She took a bad turn a week ago Friday. Saturday was a good day. Sunday wasn't. She mostly lost consciousness Monday. On Wednesday morning, her wonderful hospice nurse Stephanie called to say mom was in her final hours.

Stubborn 'til the end, mom lived until noon Thursday. In the six days since that first Friday call, each of my children, her three grandkids, were able to visit with her one last time. Each, blessedly, saw mom during lucid moments. My older sister Belinda said her goodbyes while mom was still "alert and oriented," as mom liked to say, on Friday. My wife Lee Ann and I got precious time with her, too, during a long Saturday visit.

A few days later, on Wednesday, the day before she died, I held her hand and talked to her and prayed for her, listening to

the "death rattle" in her chest that portended her passing. I was on my way to see her again Thursday when Stephanie called to say she was gone.

Of all the testaments I can make about mom, one of the best is that so many of my friends and my sister's friends considered her as their "second mom." Our house in Kansas was a popular gathering place while we were in high school and college — and long after Belinda and I moved back to North Carolina, many of our friends continued to stop by and see mom, and then remain in touch with her when she moved to North Carolina more than 25 years ago (before a move back to Nebraska seven years ago).

"She was always a good mother to all of us," a high school friend told me this week.

Mom grew up in Kansas but moved away from home at age 17 after a difficult childhood — going across the country to live with a cherished aunt and uncle in Arizona who supported her budding nursing career. She graduated from Mercy School of Nursing in San Diego, joined the Navy and met our dad in Portsmouth, Virginia, where they were both stationed. They married, left the Navy and lived in Sanford

before their divorce took us to Kansas — where mom, Belinda and I started over, living in a small single-wide mobile home in a tiny farm community.

Mom got back into nursing, working third shift at a hospital 45 minutes away to support us. She was always a helper and a healer, an overcomer with high standards and low tolerance for middling behavior or achievement. She loved unconditionally and boasted about us loudly, despite being burdened internally by the hurts and dysfunction from her childhood that helped define her own life.

She taught me life's greatest lesson: everything happens for a reason — you just have to figure out what that reason is, and what you can learn from it.

Now, it's a strange place I inhabit.

Where am I?

For the first time in 58 years, I'm living in a world without a surviving parent.

My phone's not ringing. Mom's not calling to ask me where she is.

But I know, even still.

Rejoicing, singing praises in heaven. And in my heart, of course. Always.

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

LETTER

County should fund Haw River Trail

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you for the article in last week's News + Record about the Haw River Trail ("Friends of Lower Haw ask county to invest in Haw River Trail now," Oct. 7-13 edition). This is a multi-county agreement to develop land trails and paddle access points along the length of the river from its headwaters to Jordan Lake. Chatham County signed on when it was first proposed in 2006, and again in 2011 our commissioners signed a Memorandum of Agreement signaling their support of the idea.

Alamance County has been actively working on their portion of the trail and Alamance now boasts 14 county-supported paddle launches (often with pocket parks and short trails) and 20 miles of land trails along different parts of the river. Many of these trail portions have been developed through voluntary conservation easements, which benefit the landowners as well as the public. Alamance's Haw River Trail is one of the county's top tourism draws, and studies indicate it brings many visitors into the county where their dollars support local nature-based and hospitality businesses. This is a model that I hope Chatham will adopt.

Year after year different boards of commissioners have paid lip service to this idea but have never allocated funds or a position to help manage such a project. However, the \$14 million in American Rescue Plan funding now available to our county offers a one-time opportunity to invest in riverside infrastructure that offers many benefits. Protecting land and developing public recreation sites along the river can boost our tourism economy, and contribute to public health by providing places where residents of all ages can go to walk and enjoy the benefits of being out in nature. In addition, protecting land along the Haw River will contribute to improved water quality, storm-water control and wildlife habitat protection.

I hope that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners will actively dedicate some funds to realize this project. It is ironic that people are flocking to Chatham because of its natural beauty. However, all this development is destroying the very attributes that both old and new Chatham residents value. The Haw is one of our county's most outstanding natural assets. I agree that the time is NOW to provide funding to develop Chatham's portion of the Haw River Trail.

Anne Geer

Pittsboro

Chatham News + Record

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Some parts of history worth the repeating

There wasn't any mail on Monday. I knew there wouldn't be but I walked to the box out of habit anyway.

It was Columbus Day. Well, not really, since Monday was Oct. 11 and Columbus Day traditionally was observed on Oct. 12, the day ol' Chris noted in his ship's log that he had sighted

land, an island in the Bahamas he named San Salvador, meaning "Holy Savior."

It was in 1971 that Uncle Sam changed Columbus Day from Oct. 12 to the second Monday in October for two reasons — so that federal employees could have a long weekend and so there would be no mail.

In some parts of our country, the day is celebrated with lots of Italian-American events and food, even though the voyage was made on behalf of Spain; while in other places the day is referred to as "Indigenous Peoples Day," to point out there were already people and civilizations from the Atlantic to the Pacific when ol' Chris "discovered" America.

There's nothing wrong with telling the entire story, but if that's what someone intends to do, then they should do what they say they intend to do. Picking and choosing history reminds me of a Winston Churchill quote: "A nation without a past has no future." History isn't put here for us to enjoy; it's put here for us to learn from so maybe we can do better in the future.

Well, all that started me thinking. I'm not against a holiday or two or even three. And I'm certainly not against the whole story, provided it gets told. And it's not all that bad missing the mail for a day or so, especially when most of what comes is envelopes with picture windows in them or letters that begin, "Dear Sir, did you forget to mail your payment?"

What I was thinking about, instead, was what I perceive to be a change in how young folks in school are exposed to history, world and national and otherwise. Up front, let me admit it has been a year or two since I was in school myself, but I think my understanding isn't all that far off since two career teachers are a part of my family and I hear from them from time to time about

how things have changed over the years.

Among the things I hear are that school isn't what it used to be. And, if you'll permit, let me climb up on my soapbox and rant and rave and vent for a minute and say that's not the fault of the teachers or the students. Instead, for one, there's so much emphasis put on passing an end-of-course test that pretty much only measures how well you take a test that there's no time to encourage learning or — heaven forbid — to have fun in school. It seems the philosophy once put forward which said you could have fun and learn something along the way isn't to be allowed. And if you throw in a year or two of COVID and all that did to society, you have a recipe for disaster.

How that relates to ol' Chris is that I suspect there's little time to devote to him or much else that isn't tied to "the test." I know that the 8th-grade regimen I went through of a year of North Carolina history that culminated with a year-long project of a North Carolina scrapbook has been condensed to about eight minutes in the 5th or 6th grade.

That may explain why, for instance, the "man-on-the-street" segments on late night talk television — when the host asks passers-by such questions as "What year was the War of 1812?" or "Who fought in the American Civil War?" he gets such answers as "1945" or "1776" or "1927" for the first and "Japan" and "Canada" or "England" for the second and "Duh" or "I don't know" for both.

To this day — and maybe this is either a curse or the sign of an undeveloped mind — I can still remember the little poem I learned for a 5th-grade play about explorers, a first-rate production produced on the old stage of my now defunct school. There I was, resplendent in my starched black trousers, stiff white shirt buttoned all the way to the top, white socks outside my pants to look like leggings and a pair of highly polished black shoes.

On cue, I intoned those immortal lines: "Holland (that was my country and I know it's not where Chris was from) is a tiny land and hasn't much room to expand. Its dikes protect it from the sea and there is peace and industry. But there are always men, you know, who long to see the world and go across the ocean deep and wide in other countries to abide."

The point of my little part was to

On behalf of dedicated and hardworking teachers and administrators and other staff members, I invite anyone who thinks the problem is in the classroom to spend a month or a week or even a day on the front lines and see what kind of song they sing afterwards.

declare that among the reasons for early explorers coming to America was the promise of new lands and riches and the itch some folks have to scratch such.

Watching television the other night, I saw a number of college students who didn't know anything about Chris but knew who Justin Bieber (or however you spell it) is and who's currently playing "footsie" with him.

I remember school as plays and pep rallies and clubs along with the classes as a place I wanted to go to. There was no specialized this and that and committees ad nauseum. Am I to believe that the systems that produced members of my generation and those before and a few after were so totally inefficient and ineffective that they only produced generations of idiots so inept that a radical overhaul is the only thing that will help?

Or is it that politics and special interest groups and the like have come to rule the day?

On behalf of dedicated and hard-working teachers and administrators and other staff members, I invite anyone who thinks the problem is in the classroom to spend a month or a week or even a day on the front lines and see what kind of song they sing afterwards.

If the governors and the judges and the lawmakers had to live with what they create they might be a bit more careful what they create and expect others to implement. Maybe they'd find the funds to fund teacher assistants and other helpers on an "as-needed" basis rather than as a political pawn every time it's time to craft a budget.

Thanks, Chris ... it's not your fault.

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.

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 the 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 bhorner3@chathamnr.com; or drop by our office at 303 West Raleigh Street in Siler City.

VIEWPOINTS

If we think mental health is important, it's time to start acting like it

Content warning: This article contains mention of suicide and suicide ideation.

This past weekend, the UNC-Chapel Hill community



HANNAH MCCLELLAN
Elevating Voices

was devastated by news of a suicide and attempted suicide on campus, following two other reported suicides in UNC police logs in September.

As a May 2020 graduate, my mind was admittedly not very focused on this tragedy over the weekend; I was celebrating my class's long-overdue commencement, some 75 weeks after actually graduating from UNC.

But as someone who has lost a loved one to suicide and contemplated it before myself, of course the news was yet devastating. In the middle of festivities and celebration, the loss of life and tremendous pain signified by any suicide was disorienting. Over the weekend, though for the most part I tried to stay off of Twitter, I saw several helpful posts reminding people that it's OK to disengage from triggering news and to grieve privately.

I agree.

Still, I find myself thinking of all the things I wish I'd heard or read when I was in high school, wrecked by mental health struggles I thought I couldn't talk about and would never find relief from, but eventually did. I think about the disproportionate number of LGBTQ and Black and brown youth attempting or thinking about suicide, and the ways in which mental health is still nowhere near as prioritized as physical health, even as suicide is the second leading cause of death for teens aged 15 to 19, according to 2019 mortality data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

So as we encourage those struggling to take breaks from this news, we must talk more

Resources for help in Chatham

N.C. Crisis Services, an initiative of the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services: <http://crisisolutionsnc.org/>

- Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Solutions Access Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Customer Service Specialists will assist you to find a crisis provider that is well-matched with your needs at 800-939-5911
- Mobile Crisis Teams are available 24 hours a day in all counties. Professional counselors will speak with you and your family during a visit, with average response time of two hours. Call Therapeutic Alternatives at 877-626-1772 for assistance.
- Walk-in appointments for crisis assessment and referrals to additional services available at Center For Behavioral Health in Siler City.

Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1105 E Cardinal St. Siler City. Call 919-663-3050 with questions.

Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741-741 (open 24/7)

Daymark Recovery

Daymark Recovery serves as the primary provider of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in the Chatham, according to county government. They provide a full-service clinic located at 1105 E Cardinal Street, Siler City and can be reached at 919-663-2955

El Futuro Inc.

El Futuro Inc. is a bilingual mental health clinic and can be reached at 919-688-7101 ext. 600.

More Chatham resources and therapy providers can be found at: <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/services/public-health/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-resources>.

openly overall about suicide and suicide prevention while also making tangible strides to fund mental health resources. Because such efforts work and help save lives.

In 2018, the Chatham Health Alliance deemed "access to comprehensive health services," which included mental and physical health, as the No. 1 issue affecting Chatham County's overall public health in its Chatham County Community Assessment, the News + Record previously reported.

"Many of the same barriers impede access to physical and mental health care, including services not being covered by insurance, lack of insurance, prohibitive costs, transportation, scheduling, and stigma,"

the CCCA stated at the time. "Healthcare, including access, cost, and quality, was listed as the number one issue affecting community health and seventh leading issue affecting quality of life for Chatham residents in the 2018 CCCS."

Data from the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicate 34% of Chatham students surveyed reported feeling "sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks;" 11% reported attempting suicide in the last 12 months. Those numbers, concerning on their own, also reflected a large disparity between Hispanic/Latinx and white students. Thirty seven percent of Hispanic students reported feeling sad or hopeless compared to 32% of white

students (despite comprising less of the total student population), and 16% of Hispanic students reported having attempted suicide compared to 8% of white students.

In the last several years, Chatham County Schools has consistently stated its commitment to expanding its mental health services. This year, the district increased its mental health services for in-school therapy with Renaissance Wellness Services — a Pittsboro clinic it's partnered with since 2017 and which currently serves about 150 CCS students (about 2% of its enrollment). The district also hired two additional counselors and three social workers, supported by federal COVID-19 relief funding.

In my reporting, local therapists and mental health advocates have told me this is a good start. Still, it's difficult to overcome many decades of insufficient services with just one change or increase in services.

In October 2018, the Kennedy-Hatcher Center for Mental Health Equity gave North Carolina an "F" grade on whether or not its state statutes treat mental health and physical health the same, even though North Carolinian adults and youth have mental illnesses at higher rates than the national average: 1 in 5 for adults, 1 in 10 for youth compared to 1 in 6 and 1 in 12, respectively, in the United States.

That's why it can't be enough to just talk more about mental health and suicide prevention. Treatment must also be more accessible — through programs such as in-school therapy, which is funded by the school and removes transportation barriers to therapy; expanded Medicaid coverage, which N.C. Republicans might be considering for the first time in years, due to a potential \$1.7 billion in federal funds for the state; and therapy options which meaningfully address a person's culture, race and

sexuality.

Mental health professionals and educators alike have also said they're worried about the impact of the pandemic on the well-being of Chatham youth.

During my reporting on CCS's expanded mental health services, Renaissance owner and Clinical Director Karen Barbee told me that the services offered at CCS have increased every year since forming a partnership in 2017. In light of the pandemic, she doesn't expect that to change this year.

"One of the big things that we're preparing for currently is just an uptick in referrals," Barbee told me recently. "I do believe that we are going to be inundated with referrals. And it's not a bad thing — I think that it could really be an amazing thing. Because as a whole, we need to be utilizing mental health services more."

In light of the tragic and unnecessary events that took place at UNC this weekend — and 130 times daily in the U.S., according to data from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention — it's time we talk more about mental health and suicide prevention. For the sake of people like me, who for a long time didn't know that feeling empty and hopeless wasn't normal and *that it does get better*, we must treat a person's mental health as equally important as their physical health.

Not only that, but we must then create accessible options for people to receive the care they need for as long as they need it. Lives quite literally depend on it.

If you or someone you know is contemplating suicide, you can receive confidential and free services 24/7 by calling the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. You can find more local resources in the accompanying breakout box.

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

Yes, government can be shrunk

I've been spending a lot of time recently in conversation with right-leaning leaders, policy experts, donors, and activists. My purpose is to assess the health and trajectory of American conservatism at this critical moment.

A common refrain from disgruntled conservatives is that for all the talk of reducing the size and scope of government, their movement has made little progress. Federal deficits are massive. There's been no substantial reforms of the entitlements that now account for most of the federal budget — of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid — and past administrations of both parties have mostly added rather than subtracted to the government's powers and expenses.

I share their disdain for the utter lack of fiscal responsibility in Washington. It's a bipartisan problem. But the federal government isn't the whole story. Here in North Carolina, conservative governance has actually reduced the size of state government and significantly improved its fiscal condition.

Left-leaning politicians and organizations agree with my observation here — although they don't, of course, consider it to be good news. According to the latest calculation by the North Carolina Justice Center, the budget deal that leaders of the state house and senate have struck will set General Fund spending for the 2021-22 fiscal year at just over 4.5% of North Carolina's gross domestic product.

As a share of the economy, state spending has averaged about 5.8% over the past 45 years. It was well over 6% as recently as 2009. Since fiscally conservative Republicans won control of the General Assembly in 2010, however, budgets have gone up every year in dollar terms but have gone down almost every year when expressed as a share of GDP.

That's because legislative leaders have stuck to their commitment to keep annual spending growth at or below the combined rates of inflation and population growth. Since GDP usually grows faster than that, the result has been to shrink the size and scope of state government.

That has, in turn, allowed legislators to rebuild the state's savings reserves, pay

off state debt, and finance several rounds of growth-enhancing tax cuts.

There's no "voodoo economics" here. Our tax cuts have likely boosted economic growth, to be sure, but not fast enough to produce a net revenue gain. The reason the state budget remains in surplus is that lawmakers have maintained spending discipline. There is every reason to believe they'll continue to do so.

When the General Assembly changed hands in 2010, the state had accumulated state debts totaling about \$8,000 per North Carolinian, according to a watchdog organization called Truth in Accounting. Some of that debt was on-the-books debt, the result of past bond issuances or of borrowing from Washington to fund unemployment-insurance benefits. And some of that debt represented an unfunded liability for state benefits owed to public employees upon retirement.

By 2020, North Carolina's debt burden had tumbled to \$1,400 per person — a dramatic improvement. While we still need to shore up the health plan for state employees and retirees, our state now ranks 14th on Truth in Accounting's fiscal health index. If present trends continue, we'll soon reach the top 10.

Are conservatives in state government more principled and committed than their counterparts in Congress and the executive branch? Quite possibly, but I don't think that's the main reason Raleigh (and some other state capitals) have gotten it right and Washington has gotten it so very wrong.

The divergence reflects the critical importance of rules and institutions. In North Carolina and nearly all other states, legislators and governors are required by their constitutions to enact balanced budgets. While borrowing for capital needs is permissible and sometimes prudent, states generally aren't allowed to finance operating expenses with debt. The federal government, of course, has no such rule.

It ought to. In all future elections for Congress or the White House, I plan to vote only for candidates who pledge to support a balanced-budget amendment to the United States Constitution. Will you join me?

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).



JOHN HOOD
John Locke
Foundation

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Can Shakespeare's Macbeth help us deal with President Biden's decision to pull all American troops out of Afghanistan and do it quickly?

Too quick, his critics and some others say.

Macbeth, agonizing about a horrible decision he was facing, said, "If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly."

Even though things did not work out so well for Macbeth, our acting quickly might have been the best course of action in pulling out of Afghanistan. The best in a set of terrible options. Better to have gotten it done than pushing it down the road for another time that would neither have been sustainable nor in the best interest of our country.

The situation brings back memories of the withdrawal from Vietnam when we left untold numbers of loyal Vietnamese to face the North Vietnamese. Some of us still feel guilty even though it was best not to continue a war we could not win.

Just why we were in Afghanistan is not an easy question to answer. Writing in the Oct. 3rd issue of the Southern Pines Pilot, Jason Criss Howk, a retired army major and South Asia Foreign Area Officer who lives in Pinehurst, gives some insights about the situation that not widely known.

He believes that we were duped by Pakistan and its "iron brother," China.

"China is smiling at the idea that it funded Pakistan so Pakistan could support the Taliban in defeating NATO."

Mr. Howk explains, "America never understood what we faced in Afghanistan. The public line was that we were fighting terrorists. Many were led to believe there was some kind of civil war going on between the Afghan forward-looking population and the Taliban's repressive militia or if there were some Tajik versus Pashtun battle that we would never solve. Some believe it was a series of tribal grudge matches we would never understand."

"The truth was there all along and not one president was willing to face it. Pakistan our sometimes ally — and

most of the time enemy — created the Taliban in the 1990s to divide the Afghan people and gain control of the country, to allow Pakistan to keep India out of its backyard, and to train terrorists to fight India mainly in the Kashmir region. Pakistan is heavily invested in creating religious zealots who use violence to advance its foreign policy. Afghanistan was just one more battleground for Pakistan and we would not accept that fact.

"The truth that no American leader wanted to accept was obvious. Afghans told us from 2001 onward that no amount of effort in Afghanistan would bring stability if we didn't address the Pakistan policy of interference.

"Pakistan lied to us for 20 years, pretending it was a friend in our fight against terrorists. Yet it provided safe haven, military training, religious brainwashing, recruiting, weapons and explosives to our enemies. The current terrorists sitting in Kabul, with the full support of Pakistan, are the same ones who haunted and killed and maimed our sons and daughters and tens of thousands of our Afghan friends."

He continues, "So how did Americans get fooled by Pakistan? Or were we, in fact, fooled or did we just choose not to see the issue? If American policymakers knew that Pakistan was our enemy and that Afghans would never be safe without our presence, then are those leaders guilty of sending our service members to die in a war in the wrong country for two decades?"

Although Mr. Howk shows me why the speedy exit was the best course, he is critical of President Biden's "abandonment" of Afghan fighters at the end.

But If Macbeth does not convince Mr. Howk and you that the exit from Afghanistan "was best done quickly," remember the law of holes.

If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.

We were in a hole in Afghanistan, and it was best for us to stop digging.

D.G. Martin hosts "North Carolina Bookwatch," at 11 a.m. Sundays and 5 p.m. Tuesdays on UNC-TV. The program also airs on the North Carolina Channel at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and other times.



D.G. MARTIN

One on One

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"China is smiling at the idea that it funded Pakistan so Pakistan could support the Taliban in defeating NATO."

Mr. Howk explains, "America never understood what we faced in Afghanistan. The public line was that we were fighting terrorists. Many were led to believe there was some kind of civil war going on between the Afghan forward-looking population and the Taliban's repressive militia or if there were some Tajik versus Pashtun battle that we would never solve. Some believe it was a series of tribal grudge matches we would never understand."

"The truth was there all along and not one president was willing to face it. Pakistan our sometimes ally — and

SNAPSHOT: CHATHAM'S COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

The lowdown on the 2021 project

What is it?

The Community Health Assessment (CA) is a comprehensive, collaborative process that gathers information about the health and well-being of residents in order to understand the needs, challenges, strengths, and opportunities that exist in the Chatham community.

It allows the Chatham Health Alliance and other organizations to monitor changes over time, identify and address disparities within the community, and develop and implement appropriate interventions to address community needs.

Why do the assessment?

Community Health Assessments are a state requirement for Public Health Department accreditation and for nonprofit hospitals. The Chatham Health Alliance expanded on the survey and reporting process starting in 2018 by creating a

fully collaborative CA with CCPHD and Chatham Hospital, done every three years.

What does it provide?

The CA is a reflection of the county's health and well-being. In addition to helping secure funding for the Chatham County Public Health Department and Chatham Hospital, the CA guides the work of the Chatham Health Alliance and helps the organization focus and prioritize its efforts.

What is the Chatham Health Alliance?

It's a collaborative of local professionals and community members working together to improve health and well-being in Chatham County. The Alliance brings together both traditional and nontraditional partners to work on issues affecting

health in Chatham County, with a focus on the health priorities identified in the Community Health Assessment.

How is the Health Assessment used?

The surveys, interviews and research done during the CA lead to the selection of three health impact priorities, which the Health Alliance uses to shape its work for the next three years. In 2018, the Health Alliance chose Access to Comprehensive Health Services, Poverty and Healthy Eating, and Active Living as its priorities.

Data from the CA and subsequent surveys will also be used to track progress on existing efforts.

The Community Assessment is also snapshot of the county and its residents — what is needed, what challenges are faced, what strengths and

opportunities exist in the community, and what can be done together to make life better.

In addition, a comprehensive written report is generated for the community. The 2018 Community Health Assessment report — which can be found at <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/44346/636955189204700000> — is 266 pages long.

How is data collected?

Organizers work with the N.C. Institute for Public Health to design the survey methodology and conduct the representative cohort survey, the cornerstone of the assessment. Collecting data for the community assessment includes the representative cohort survey, a supplemental short-form survey open to all residents, and qualitative projects, including Story Circles and the Chatham Snapshots photo

project, in addition to compiling local secondary data that has already been collected by others.

The Community Survey asks questions on a wide variety of topics related to health and well-being, from nuts and bolts questions on fruit and vegetable consumption to questions aimed at understanding social drivers of health, social connectedness, and barriers to reaching optimal health. This is a unique opportunity to ask those questions that we can't find out anywhere else.

For more information

chathamhealthalliancenc.org/community-assessment

The 2018 CHA Report

<https://www.chathamcountync.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/44346/636955189204700000>

"This expansion seeks to account for reduced rate of participation without door-to-door surveying in order to reach our minimum number of responses needed for robust and reliable data analysis while maintaining the integrity of our established protocol."

MAIA FULTON-BLACK, the Chatham County Public Health Department's population health data scientist

es are collected via door-to-door surveying, where volunteers go out in teams and knock on doors in person," Fulton-Black said. "Unfortunately, due to the rise in cases caused by the Delta variant, we are not able to undertake that this year."

The state Institute of Public Health worked

with the Alliance to expand data collection methods through other means, she said, including by mail, telephone and email.

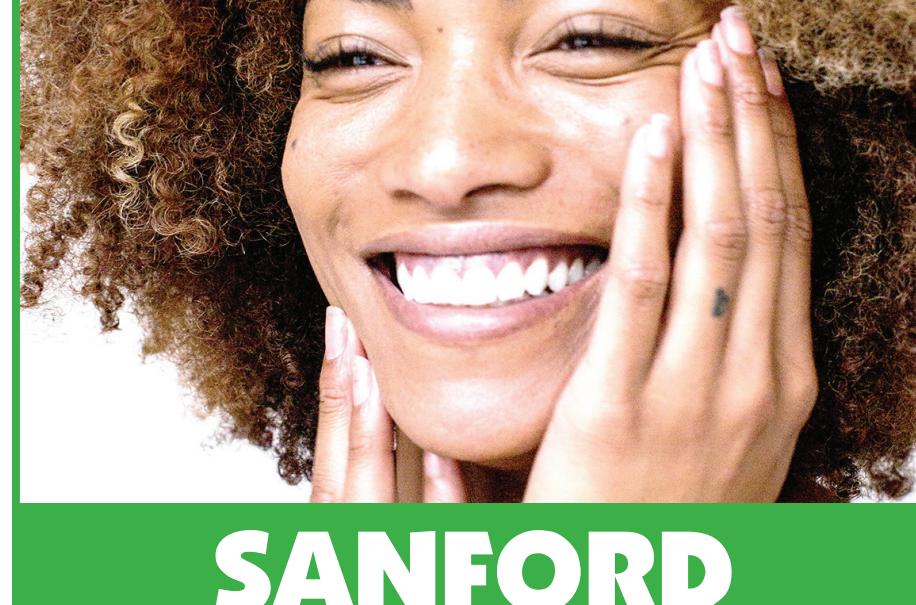
"That will mean approximately 1,300 additional households from the previously selected census blocks will be added to the sample this year," she said.

"This expansion seeks to account for reduced rate of participation without door-to-door surveying in order to reach our minimum number of responses needed for robust and reliable data analysis while maintaining the integrity of our established protocol."

On the bright side, Fulton-Black said, that will potentially provide the opportunity for more people to participate and will give data collection teams more information to inform our methodology in future assessments.

It's important work, Wilkerson says.

"It helps us understand the experiences of our neighbors," she said.



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HEALTH

Continued from page A1

"We know that the pandemic has had enormous and far-reaching impacts on the lives of community members," says Julie Wilkerson, the executive director of the Chatham Health Alliance, which collaborates with the Chatham County Public Health Department and Chatham Hospital on the project. "That's why it is especially important for us to do this assessment now to have a better understanding of the impact the last three years have had on community well-being."

It's been three years since that last community health assessment survey and report, required for public health department accreditation and for all nonprofit hospitals in North Carolina.

That previous Community Assessment — a 266-page document with more than 100 pages of findings, supplemented by another 140 pages of references, appendices and colorful charts and infographics — was created from information collected in Chatham County during the spring of 2018. The data, drawn from specially created local surveys and research, was analyzed that summer and the report drafted over the winter months. After final refining by the Health Alliance and the county's board of health, the final product was delivered to the N.C. Dept. of Public Health in March 2019 and to the community shortly thereafter.

Data and findings in the CA report examined life expectancy and the leading causes of death in Chatham County. The report looked at the state of "bare necessities" here — such as affordable housing, homelessness and food insecurity — and issues related to behavioral health, including ACEs (adverse childhood experiences), chronic disease, community cohesion, economic growth, the environment, health care and personal development. It wraps up with sections on safety, sexual health and substance abuse, addressing topics such as elder welfare, emergency preparedness, violent crime, prenatal care and tobacco use.

A warehouse of information

In addition to being a portable warehouse of important information about Chatham and its people, the CA is used to address the top issues

identified as adversely affecting the health of county residents, plus to develop a prioritized list of issues that need to be addressed to improve the quality of life here.

In 2018, those "top health impact priorities" in Chatham County were access to comprehensive health services, poverty and obesity and physical inactivity.

"It's a comprehensive, collaborative process that gathers information about health and well-being of residents in order to understand the needs, challenges, strengths and opportunities that exist in the Chatham community," said Maia Fulton-Black, the Chatham County Public Health Department's population health data scientist. "It allows us to monitor changes over time, identify and address disparities within the community, and develop and implement appropriate interventions to address community needs."

Wilkerson said her organization and other community members use the CA data to prioritize the focus areas and work of the Alliance, and to apply for funding that can be used for responses to community needs.

While Chatham Hospital and the CCPHD may be more well known, the Health Alliance describes itself as a "collaborative of local professionals and community members" working together to improve health and well-being in Chatham County.

Wilkerson and her staff define the vision of the CA as "the core resource of high-quality data for improved understanding of the needs, perceptions and experiences of Chatham residents, enabling focused, collective efforts toward improving community health and well-being."

And Fulton-Black called the CA "an iterative process," allowing for continuous evaluation and improvement — meaning that, among other things, an already-established group of survey participants could provide information about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic as it unfolded.

Its main purpose, though, are the report's "takeaways" — outcomes identified as prioritized areas of need in the county. In addition to access to health services, obesity and poverty, other top areas of need listed in the 2018 CA were healthy eating and water quality. The main hindrances to quality of life were listed as low income/

poverty, recreational programs for youth, pollution, illicit drug use and lack of transportation.

'Nuts and bolts questions'

The 2021 Community Assessment will be the first chance to look at what, if anything, has changed since 2018.

"The survey will ask questions on a wide variety of topics related to health and well-being, from nuts and bolts questions on fruit and vegetable consumption to questions aimed at understanding social drivers of health, social connectedness, and barriers to reaching optimal health," Fulton-Black said. "This is a unique opportunity to ask those questions that we can't find out anywhere else."

She said households asked to participate in the survey are randomly selected by census block, resulting in a cohort of survey respondents that are statistically representative of Chatham County.

"This time around," she said, "we are seeking to increase representation from marginalized communities by adding new members to the cohort so that we can disaggregate the data in order to better identify and understand disparities in the county."

Over the last three years, Wilkerson said the Alliance subcommittees — action teams made up of Alliance members, agency and community members — have worked on identified strategies for key takeaways.

"Some notable successes are the building of a trail at a school in Siler City, working with the Pittsboro Farmer's market on bringing SNAP/EBT (federal assistance programs that provide food-purchasing assistance for low- and no-income people) to the market, and developing and implementing the mobile co-location of resources — the Community Resource Hub — which has held over 30 events in 2021 all over the county," she said.

The pandemic caused some strategies developed from the 2018 report to be paused or amended. For example, the goal of developing a living wage policy for Chatham changed to helping employers navigate COVID protocols and employee benefits over the pandemic.

And COVID will also impact the data gathering process for the 2021 report, set to kick off soon.

"Usually, a large portion of the respons-

PRE-K

Continued from page A1
only accepts private funding; it's a new school and in the process of applying for funding.

According to a report by the Carolina Demography, 26,780 children — approximately 48% of North Carolina's 4-year-olds from lower-income families — were enrolled in the N.C. Pre-K program during the 2018-19 school year. Fifty-two percent were not.

This year, CCS Pre-K has about 175 students, Pre-K Instructional Program Facilitator Cindy King told the News + Record, down from its typical 200. She said the program doesn't currently keep reports to track the numbers and demographics of children at each school.

Genevieve Megginson, executive director of Chatham County Partnership for Children, said North Carolina is a "national leader in addressing the need for quality early education." Megginson specifically cited N.C. Pre-K, a state-funded program "designed to provide high-quality educational experiences to enhance school readiness for eligible 4-year-old children," according to the program's website.

N.C. Pre-K was launched in 2001, in part due to research which showed disadvantaged students entering Kindergarten "behind," and in part due to pressures from the 1997 Leandro v. State case, which upheld the state constitution's right to a sound basic education.

Universal Pre-K has garnered more attention this year, namely due to President Joe Biden's proposal for universal preschool in his April American Families Plan.



The Pre-K class at Bennett School out the playground with Lead Teacher Mandy Harrelson (left), Instructional Assistant Kristen Garner (middle) and Principal Carla Neal (right).

In that plan, he also proposed ensuring that no household spends more than 7% of its income on childcare.

Last week, Gov. Roy Cooper announced the start of state Child Care Stabilization Grants, with money originating from the American Rescue Plan Act. The money — \$805 million — is meant to help with recruitment and retention within early childhood centers following prolonged pandemic challenges,

and generally low pay for Pre-K teachers and employees.

Licensed child care programs eligible for the grants include nonprofit community-based and private child care programs, family child care homes and faith-based programs.

"Now there's this national conversation about universal Pre-K," Megginson said. "But I actually think that the first three years needs much more attention,

and in North Carolina, that's where we are because we've already developed the 4-year-old program."

While North Carolina's preschool program is more robust than in many other states, disparities still exist.

For example, Detzi said, the number subsidized spots in a county are limited by how much funding it can provide in addition to what the state covers for each child.

For middle income families, affording often expensive preschool programs is another challenge, Detzi said. A family might not qualify for extra subsidies, but still be unable to afford the program.

And for families who do receive funding, there are other barriers to entry. Most programs don't provide transportation, and many are four-day programs that end before the end of a traditional work day.

"That does inhibit families who are working multiple jobs or can't get out of work until 5 p.m., or need summer care, so I think that's a huge barrier," Detzi said.

CEF is working to conduct a study to figure out how many open spots there are for N.C. Pre-K programs in Chatham, plus the entry barriers many families face. Detzi said she expects the process to take around five months once they receive funding to get started.

"We know we have kids that aren't going to preschool that are entering our schools," she said. "We shouldn't have open spots ... I just don't think we've had the funding to do the research to figure out why these families aren't able to access the resources that we actually have."

According to CCS's Month 1 enrollment report, there are 636 kindergarten students this year. On a normal year, CCS Pre-K serves about 200 students; the Partnership for Children serves around 280. Even with other programs



4-year-old Benji reads by pointing to each word and sounding it out.

such as Chatham County Head Start, and additional private programs, that still likely leaves a gap of students.

Megginson emphasized that expanded Pre-K helps all students, not just those served through additional funding.

"If your child goes to school and they're in a classroom where more than half the children are behind, then your child who may not be behind is going to have a harder time, right?" she said,

"It's a basic understanding. So the work that's done to help the children who are most disadvantaged in those early years, really helps all of the children."

'One big piece of the puzzle'

Amy Seitz, Pre-K teacher at Siler City Elementary, has been an educator for 30 years and taught preschool for 15. She knows the benefits of preschool firsthand, both as a teacher and a parent.

"There's so many reasons why preschool is important for kids," Seitz said. "Really, preschool is the start of their schooling careers — we are building a strong foundation for these kids for their social, pre-academic needs, and just for life skills, it's going to give them a leg up at school and beyond."

In her classroom, with 4- and 5-year-olds, Seitz teaches her students many things: to sit on the carpet, raise their hands, make friends, self-regulate and resolve conflict.

Students also learn "pre-literacy skills," through reading lots of books with teachers, singing songs and learning letters.

A lot of her students come to the program only speaking Spanish, Seitz said. Siler City's population is 51% Hispanic based on 2020 Census data; Siler City Elementary School's student population (not including Pre-K) is 66.2% Hispanic, based on the district's Month 1 Ethnic Enrollment Report. Some of those students don't speak English with their families at home, so Pre-K can play a big role in English skills and confidence before entering kindergarten.

Building such student confidence is most important to Seitz.

"The main thing that I want to teach the kids — I just want for them to know that they can do anything," Seitz said. "That they're special, our differences make us special, and that they're loved and respected. And I think that they feel that way."

King said CCS Pre-K focuses on five main learning domains, in compliance with North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development guidance: play and learning, emotional and social development, health and physical development, cognitive development and language development and communication.

"We teach the whole child," she said.

As important as Pre-K is, numbers have been down during the pandemic. Last year, many families took their children out of programs when they were remote — at some points only having a third of a normal number of students enrolled. This year, while numbers have risen, enrollment is still behind.

"The future plan is to have growth, to be able to offer more spots if families do come to us," King said. "But like I said, we haven't had a waiting list now in a couple of years. ... At some point, we will hopefully grow again, and be able to add additional classes, but we would also have to have additional funding."

Detzi said expanding funding and removing barriers will be an important part of increasing quality preschool for more Chatham children.

"It's important that both the state of North Carolina considers the economic benefits of funding early learning, and also that Chatham County considers that when they're thinking about educating a child that technically it really starts at birth," she said. "That includes Pre-K. That's one big piece of the puzzle."

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

Financial Moves for Women Business Owners

If you're a woman who owns a business, you may have some challenges not shared by your male peers — but you also have several opportunities to help improve your financial future.

You may already be taking some or all the right steps, but here are some ideas to be sure you're considering and revisiting as your business grows:

• **Refresh your network.** Are you involved in networking with other women business owners? Many of them may have insights into the issues women face in the business world, as well as suggestions about lending programs and business-friendly banks. You may also enjoy passing along your lessons learned to others.

• **Review your business structure.** If you go into business as a sole proprietor, you'll have to report your business income on your personal income tax return. If you incorporate or form a limited liability company (LLC), you can protect your personal assets — such as your house and your investments — from creditors because these assets will be separated from your business assets and debts. You might also consider other, more complex entities, known as C and S corporations. There's no single "correct" business structure and the most appropriate one for you may change over time, so, in choosing one that's right for your needs, you'll want to consult with your tax and legal advisors.

• **Do an insurance checkup.** To protect yourself and your business, you may want to review your insurance to make sure you have the right kinds and amount of coverage. General liability insurance can be appropriate for sole proprietors, if you've established an LLC or you've incorporated your business. If you provide some type of professional service (i.e., legal, accounting, engineering and so on), you might need professional liability insurance. And no matter what business you own, you might want to add

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OBITUARIES

FANNIE WRIGHT MARTIN



Fannie Wright Martin, 85, of Siler City, passed away on Sunday, October 10, 2021, surrounded by her family at her home.

Mrs. Martin was born in Orange County on February 7, 1936, the daughter of George and Lillian McPherson Wright. Fannie previously attended Mebane Chapel UHC, was under watch care and participated in the Spiritual Echoes Choir at Gees Grove AME Zion Church, and until her passing, she was a member of Emmanuel Fellowship Church of God in Christ.

In addition to her parents, Fannie is preceded in death by her brothers, George Wright Jr., Earl, Gert and Curtis Wright; sisters, Annie Bell Clark, Pauline Brooks, Margaret Whitted, Betty Whitted, Janie Johnson; and granddaughter, Victoria Martin.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Lennis Martin; daughter, Jackie Headen and husband Arnold of Siler City; son, Darius Martin and wife Robin of Siler City; sisters, Marinda Wade and Lillian (Carlo) Wright; brothers, Thomas and Otis Wright; grandchildren, Jacqueline and Dwight Headen, Alexis and Jeremiah Martin; great-grandchildren, Layla Adams and Landon Martin; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Martin laid in repose on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 N. Second Ave., Siler City. The family will receive friends prior to the service from 12 to 1 p.m., on Thursday, October 14, 2021, with the funeral service following at 1 p.m. at Gees Grove AME Zion Church, 245 Gees Grove Road, Siler City, with Pastor Victor R. Womack officiating and Pastor Myron Miller, Eulogist. Burial will follow at Chatham Memorial Park, Siler City. Masks will be required during all services.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Martin family.

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

SHIRLEY YVONNE PENDERGAST HORNER



PITTSBORO — Shirley Yvonne Pendergast Horner, 85, a retired nurse, cherished mother and grandmother, died Thursday, October 7, 2021, at Cambridge Hills Assisted Living after a period of declining health.

She is survived by her daughter, Shirley Belinda Horner Cooper (and husband Billy) of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., and son Bill Horner III (and wife Lee Ann) of Sanford, N.C., and three grandchildren — Zachary Horner (and wife Sarah) of Sanford, Addison Horner (and wife Charis) of Orlando, Florida, and Karis Horner of Holly Springs, N.C.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Blue Rapids, Kansas.

Shirley was born October 13, 1935, in Hanover, Kansas, to Naomi Roland Smith Pendergast and Howard Ackley Pendergast. She was preceded in death by her parents and by her siblings: Dorothy Smith Eckstein Lintz, Kenneth Lyle Smith, Opal Elaine Smith Gellinger, Ramona Smith King Flower, Bonnie Rae Smith Schilling and Jere Jerome Pendergast. She is survived by special nieces Janie Heinrichs and Karla Sue Adler of Nebraska, Verna Foley of Kansas and Karel Snell of Arizona, and special nephews Francis Flower of Kansas and Bobby Schilling of Nebraska.

Shirley was also preceded in death by her special friend Leon M. "Bud" Roach. Shirley and Bud — a Naval commander — dated while in the Navy and then reunited four decades later following his retirement in Las Vegas; they traveled together until his death in 2016.

After graduating from Marysville High School in 1953, at age 17, Shirley moved from Kansas to Tombstone, Arizona, to live with her beloved aunt and uncle — Jane and the Rev. George H. Pendergast. They moved shortly thereafter to La Jolla and then San Diego, California, where Shirley graduated as a Registered Nurse from Mercy College of Nursing in San Diego in 1957.

She served in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps from 1957-1961 as an officer, meeting her future husband, William (Bill) E. Horner Jr., when both were stationed in Portsmouth, Virginia. Bill Horner Jr. was chief disbursement officer on the U.S.S. Forrestal, an aircraft carrier.

They married in 1961 and moved to Bill's hometown of Sanford and lived there until their divorce in 1972. As a child, Shirley worked briefly for The Marysville Advocate; after her marriage, she supported her husband and father-in-law Bill Horner Sr.'s work at The Sanford Herald, and her son's career in newspapering. Bill III is the publisher and editor of the Chatham News + Record.

Shirley was a skilled nurse and worked in hospitals in Hanover and Marysville in Kansas and in Wilmington, N.C. She loved the adrenaline and excitement of the emergency department and played a role in the re-design of the emergency rooms at the hospitals in Marysville and Wilmington. She loved being a redhead and being "in charge," as she would say, and even as dementia robbed her of some memories, she could diagnose an illness (and prescribe a fix) to just about any problem — medical or otherwise.

She was extremely popular among daughter Belinda and son Bill's high school and college friends — many of whom, up until her death, remained in contact with her and had fond recollections of the parties Belinda and Bill (and Shirley) hosted at their home in Blue Rapids, Kansas.

Shirley loved to laugh and made friends easily; as a consequence, her passing is a huge loss for those who loved her — but those she's left behind possess wonderful memories and stories from time spent in her presence.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to Community Hospice, 108 Village Lake Rd Bldg. 1, Siler City, N.C. 27344.

ANNA VIRGINIA (FRIEDELINE) LACKOS

Ms. Anna Virginia Lackos, age 97, transitioned into eternal rest Friday, October 1, 2021, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro.

DELCEANIA NEELON

Delcenia Neelon, 73, of Sanford passed away on Monday, October 4, 2021, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

ISABELL MAZETTA GREENE

Ms. Isabell Mazetta Greene, 95, of Pinehurst, passed away on Monday, October 11, 2021, at FirstHealth Hospice and Palliative Care in West End.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to FirstHealth Hospice and Palliative Care.

RICHARD 'RICK' JUSTICE SCOTT



Richard "Rick" Justice Scott, 31, of Pittsboro, died Wednesday, October 6, 2021.

Rick was born in Durham County, North Carolina, on May 26, 1990, to Jeff Scott and Anna Justice Scott.

He is also survived by his wife, Sarah Stumbo Scott; one sister, Ashton Scott Singer and husband Peter of Hillsborough; niece Millie Singer; Sarah's parents Kevin and Naomi Stumbo of Siler City; sister-in-law, Maria Stumbo; three nephews, Erik, Lucas, and Henry; and many cousins and friends.

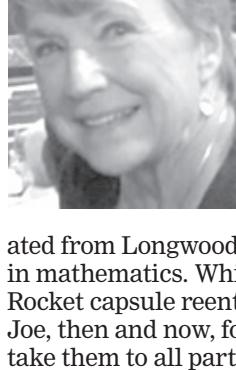
A memorial service was held Saturday, October 9, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Pittsboro Baptist Church with Rev. Bob Wachs presiding. The family received friends following the memorial service in the fellowship hall at Pittsboro Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in Rick's memory to the SPCA, 200 Petfinder Lane, Raleigh, N.C. 27603.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

TAE WAMSLEY GLASSON



Tae Wamsley Glasson, 82, of Chapel Hill, passed away peacefully in comfort at Seasons at Southpoint, Durham, a memory care community, on Saturday, October 2, 2021.

Tae was a devoted and loving wife for 60 years, incredible mother of two, gracious and kind grandmother, faithful sister and a loyal and supportive friend to many.

She was born in Staunton, Virginia on June 9, 1939, to Richard and LaMira Quick Wamsley. She graduated from Longwood College (now University) with a degree in mathematics. While working at NASA on the Saturn Rocket capsule reentry path, Tae met her future husband, Joe, then and now, forever in love. The next 60 years would take them to all parts of the country, from California to Connecticut and many in between. They moved to Governors Club in North Carolina in 2000.

She is survived by her husband, Joe H. Glasson Jr.; daughter, Kristin Glasson-Kolle and husband Mike Kolle; son Grey, who preceded her; brother Stuart Wamsley and grandchildren, Logan, Payton and Landen Kolle. Tae loved gardening, was an avid Carolina Hurricanes fan, and enjoyed organizing and bringing small groups together, be it theater, Red Hats, bridge or shopping. She especially was fond of swimming, with her normal routine a daily mile swim.

A private service has been planned for Wednesday, October 20, at Apex Funeral Home.

RODNEY MARK MCKINNEY



Rodney Mark McKinney, Pastor of New Life Church and resident of Pittsboro, went to his Heavenly home on Friday, October 8, 2021, at the age of 64.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Deanna Young McKinney; daughter, Cara McKinney and husband Shaun Green of Atlanta, Georgia; son, Matthew McKinney and wife Jennifer of Cary; mother, Maxine Mustard of Stillwater, Oklahoma; siblings, David Cash of Pawhuska, Oklahoma, Debbie Tiger of Stillwater, Oklahoma, Kevin McKinney of Gore, Oklahoma and Kathy McKinney of Gore, Oklahoma; grandchildren, Sophia and Kaytlen McKinney and Isaiah and Boyd Green.

Mark McKinney was born on September 30, 1957, in Pryor, Oklahoma, to J.T. McKinney and Maxine Mustard. He was a 1980 graduate of Oklahoma State University and loved OSU Cowboys Football. Mark attended Rhema Bible Training College in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, graduating in 1989 where he studied to become a minister. He served on pastoral staff at Tree of Life Church (Fellowship) in New Braunfels, Texas, and he later founded New Life Church (Fellowship) in 1998 with his wife, Dee, and was the Senior Pastor for 23 years.

Mark was passionate about teaching people the Word of God and helping them grow deeper in their personal relationship with the Lord. He would often teach at Bible schools all around the world as it was his passion to spread the message of Jesus to the ends of the earth. He was a great friend, teacher, pastor, and mentor to hundreds of people. When he was not at the church, you would find him in his overalls spending time in his garden, or working hard on something around the house.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 1 o'clock in the afternoon on Saturday, October 16, 2021, at New Life Church, 10260 Chapel Hill Rd., Morrisville, N.C. The family will receive friends following the service.

Memorials may be made to the New Life Church Building Fund. Checks may be mailed to 10260 Chapel Hill Rd., Morrisville, N.C. 27560 or donations can be given online by visiting www.newlifenc.org/give and selecting "Pastor Mark Memorial."

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the McKinney family.

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

NELSON LEE LEACH

Mr. Nelson Lee Leach, 45, of Johnsonville, passed away on Monday, October 4, 2021, at Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville.

Funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Saturday, October 9, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home.

TAMARES MONTRESE EUBANKS

Tamares Montrese Eubanks, 40, of Chapel Hill, passed away on Monday, October 4, 2021, in Chapel Hill.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

SHELIA DEGRAFFENREIDT

Shelia Degraffenreidt, 53, of Chapel Hill, passed away Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at her home.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro.

TOMMY EUGENE WHITAKER

Tommy Eugene Whitaker, 61, of Sanford, passed away Monday, October 4, 2021, at his home.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, October 9, 2021 at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Post #382.

He was born in Lee County on February 13, 1960, to the late Paul David and Mary Thompson Whitaker. Tommy worked as an installer at Davis Glass for many years before going to work for Sanford Contractors.

Tommy is survived by his daughters, Paula Gail Holler of Edenton and Tonya Renee Varner; siblings, Frances Tyner, Horace Whitaker, George Whitaker, all of Sanford and Jerome Whitaker of Olivia; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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

EDWIN DALE HALL

Edwin Dale Hall, 74, of Cameron, passed away on Sunday, October 10, 2021, at his home.

A graveside memorial service will be held Saturday, October 16, 2021, 11 a.m. at White Hill Presbyterian Church cemetery with Pastor Kent Miller and Pastor Thearon Willis officiating. The family will receive friends on Saturday, after the service.

He was born in Lee County on January 15, 1947, to the late Ray Alton and Pearl Ballenger Hall. He was preceded in death by his daughters, Tammie Renee Hall, Kellie Rae Hall and a sister, Darley Rae Hall. Dale was a master carpenter and cabinet maker.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Linda McCann Hall of the home; sons, Edwin Scott Hall of Washington and Travis Lynn Hall of St. Paul's; sisters, Gail Baker, Linda Lankford, Delores Womack, Karen Hall, and Jamie Reid, all of Sanford; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Arrangements are by Bridgescameron Funeral Home.

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

ERNEST RAY CLEMENS

Ernest Ray Clemens, 80, of Sanford, died Monday, October 4, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford.

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

He was born on December 10, 1940, son of the late Franklin and Elverda Freed Clemens. He was preceded in death by his parents and nine siblings. Ernest was active in Crossroads Ministries in Broadway.

Surviving is his wife of 39 years, Sharon S. Clemens of Sanford; daughters, Crista Reid and Kimberly Clemens, both of Gibsonville; son, Chris Hipszer of Sanford; sisters, Miriam Brummetter of Pennsylvania and Susie Derstine of Florida; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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

Arrangements are by the Smith Funeral Home of Broadway.

O'NEILL SHEPHERD

O'Neil Shepherd, 85, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at his home.

A graveside service will be held at Shallow Well Church Cemetery on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, October 16, 2021, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bridgescameron Funeral Home.

Mr. Shepherd was born in Dillon, S.C., on November 18, 1935, to the late Luther and Fannie Lou Price Shepherd. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Martha Ray Oakley Shepherd. Mr. Shepherd was retired after a 30-year career with Kelly-Springfield.

He is survived by his son, Terence Shepherd of Sanford and a sister, Katie Lee Moody of South Carolina.

Arrangements are by Bridgescameron Funeral Home.

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

See **OBITUARIES**, page A10

Shop Chatham





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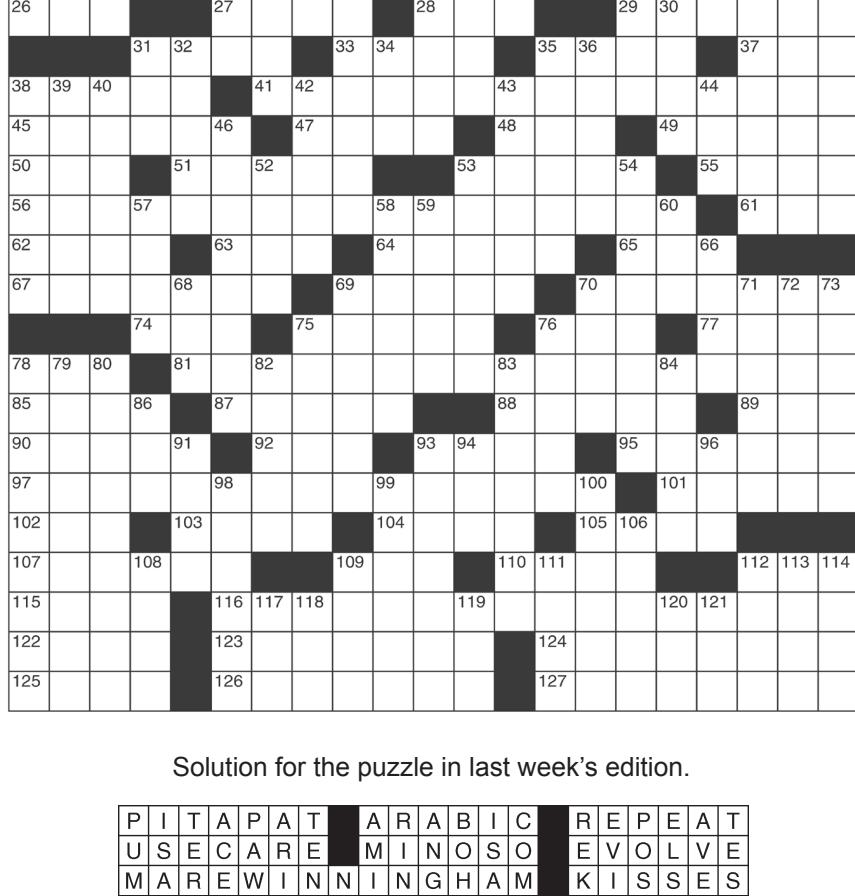
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PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

MILK-AND-HONEY
POOCHEES

ACROSS	49 Was the father of	93 Canadian gas brand	4 Suffix with absorb	36 Bamboozle	78 Old sweeties
1 Web page directories	50 —Lady of Guadalupe	95 Ancient Greek lyric poet	5 Bucko	38 Had grub	79 Whichever the two
9 Espresso's, e.g.	51 Eager kids' question	97 End of the riddle	6 In re	39 Thelma's film sidekick	80 Alternative magazine to House Beautiful
16 Basic lessons	53 Not even one	101 Campus complexes	7 Put a stopper in	40 Of a major blood vessel	82 Rival
20 Open to suggestion	55 Not even one	102 Commanded	8 Vend	42 Astronomer Hubble	83 "Sounds right to me"
21 Solar or lunar phenomenon	56 Riddle, part 3	103 Mawr College	9 Ron of the 1970s Dodgers	44 Musical set in Oz, with "The"	84 Back of a 45 record
22 U.S. island territory	61 Aykroyd of film	104 — a one (zilch)	10 First female Supreme Court justice	46 "Ver-r-r-y funny"	86 "Darn tootin'!"
23 Start of a riddle	62 Favorite son of Isaac	105 Rival of Lyft	11 Viral cause of a winter woe, informally	52 Salamander	91 Poetic eyes
25 Paree "to be"	63 Beard on grain	107 Threat ender	12 It funds Soc. Security	53 V8 vegetable	93 "Roots"
26 Tar's "Help?"	64 Eyes lewdly	109 Windows 10 runners, e.g.	13 Pollution-control gp.	54 Charley horse, e.g.	94 Emmy winner
27 Wrinkly tangelo variety	65 Fissure	110 A few	14 U.S. immigrants' class	55 French for "eight"	95 35mm camera lens
28 Cavaliers' org.	67 Great joy	112 Ewe noise	15 Gomez of "Getaway"	58 Areas on a golf course	96 Fish-fowl linkup
29 Stuff expelled from a volcano	69 Remedies	115 Viva —	16 Old Time film critic James	59 Be in accord	98 Coal mine vehicle
31 West Aleutian island	70 Cross the mind of	116 Riddle's answer	17 Totally bungled	60 Bodily pouch	99 Put in a crate
33 Brand of contact lens solution	74 — T (exactly)	122 Slaughter of baseball	18 The late 1970s, politically	66 Pooch with a corded coat	100 Burden with one's problems
35 Outbreak of zits	75 Boring carpentry tool	123 Racked up	19 Applied, as finger paint	68 Pai — poker (casino game)	106 Pintos, e.g.
37 Reply to "Which girl?"	76 Otology subject	124 Anticlimactic happening	24 Makes soiled 30 787s, e.g.	69 Adorable kids	108 For fear that
38 Mom on "The Cosby Show"	77 Bert who played a lion	125 Muralist José María —	31 Lung filler	70 Waikiki's island	109 Bygone
41 Riddle, part 2	78 Spike on a film set	126 Rodent-catching cats	32 Pamphlet	71 Like many gory movies	111 Bygone Dodge
45 Old-style "Yay!"	81 Riddle, part 4	127 With two-channel sound	34 Old name for Tokyo	72 Constellation Aries	112 Dutch South African
47 Voguish Christian	85 Grease-laden	128 Slaughter of baseball	35 Classic game consoles	73 Mandates	113 Novelist Rice
48 — kwon do	87 Diarist Nin	129 Racked up	36 Scandalous corporation of 2001	75 Skywalker of "Star Wars"	114 In re
	88 Snare, e.g.	130 Anticlimactic happening		76 Scandalous corporation of 2001	117 Doc's org.
	89 Previous to, in verse	131 Muralist José María —		77 Tennis barrier	118 Rebel Turner
	90 Canonized fifth-cen. pope	132 Slaughter of baseball		120 Tennis barrier	119 Jewel box inserts
	92 Barely manage, with "out"	133 Racked up		121 "Now — seen it all!"	121 "Now — seen it all!"
DOWN	1 Plank cutters	2 Modest "I think," online	3 Alternatives to 9-Across		



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Coffee with a Cop Day

Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner (rear, in uniform) and other members of the Siler City Police observed National Coffee with a Cop Day at The Chatham Rabbit, a specialty coffee shop in downtown Siler City. Fellow customers joined in the observance.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Siler City Town Manager Roy Lynch (from left), and Siler City police officers Lieutenant A.G. 'Drew' Freeman & Sergeant M.A. Gonzalez pose during Coffee with a Cop Day, observed at Chatham Rabbit in downtown Siler City.

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

FRANCES 'PIG' PHILLIPS DOWD

Frances "Pig" Phillips Dowd, 93, of Siler City passed away on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at SECU Jim & Betsy Brian Hospice Home of UNC HealthCare, Pittsboro.

Mrs. Dowd was born in Chatham County on October 30, 1927, the daughter of Sam R. and Rosa Daughtry Phillips. She was a member of Rives Chapel Baptist Church and its WMU Class. She spent her career as the owner/operator of Marley's Cleaners. Frances loved reading and tending to her lovely flowers. In addition to her parents, Frances was preceded in death by her son, James Alan Dowd; sisters, Sarah P. Tillman, Louise P. Jessup; and half-brother, Bob Phillips.

She is survived by her husband of 73 years, James H. "Jim" Dowd; son, David Dowd and Pamela K. Greene of Siler City; brothers, Earl Phillips and wife Ann of Siler City, and Clarence Phillips and wife Sue of Siler City.

The family received friends Friday, October 8, 2021, from 9 to 12 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home. A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on Friday, October 8, 2021, at Rives Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery with Dr. Tripp Foltz officiating.

Memorials may be made to Rives Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 4338 Rives Chapel Church Road, Siler City, NC. 27344.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home assisted the Dowd family.

Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneralhome.com.

What is Indigenous Peoples' Day?

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

People across the country joined Native Americans Monday in commemorating Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day — including North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper and President Joe Biden, who issued the first-ever White House proclamation designating the day across the U.S.

In Chatham, some educators used the day to teach students about the history of Indigenous people, the first inhabitants of the Americas.

"It's not really about — as with anything — blame or shame, because my students had nothing to do with any of that," Amy King, history teacher at Chatham Central High School history, told the News + Record. "It's about just understanding a cultural awareness and an understanding of our past which should give us respect for those who came before us."

In her American History I course, King taught her class about Christopher Columbus and other explorers earlier in the semester. Using primary source documents, such as diary entries and letters from Columbus, her class talked about some of the atrocities committed against Indigenous peoples by Columbus.

This week, she watched news clips with her class about the debate between "Indigenous Peoples' Day" and "Columbus Day," allowing students to discuss. Native Americans have organized to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day since the 1970s, to squelch the idea that Columbus discovered already-inhabited land and to push back against celebrating a man who committed mass violence against Indigenous peoples.

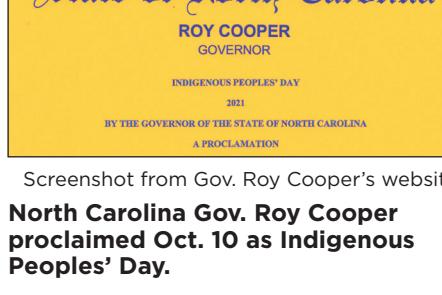
King also showed her class maps which document historical Indigenous territories seized by the United States.

"I show different maps, colonies, whatever," she said, "and I always try to say to them, you remember, always, that this is Indigenous land."

Chatham, which occupies historical Skaruhreh/Tuscarora and Lumbee lands, is about 1.2% Native American, according to 2010 Census estimates, with more than 10,000 American Indians residing in the Triangle. (You can see what Indigenous land you live on by going to native-land.ca, by Indigenous-led, not-for-profit organization Native Land Digital.)

There are eight state-recognized tribes located in North Carolina: the Coharie, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Haliwa-Saponi, the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, the Meherrin, the Sappony, the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation and the Waccamaw Siouan.

Though debate still exists over what to call the second Monday of every October, Native News Online founder, publisher and editor Levi Rickert (Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation) wrote Sunday that this year seemed different than previous ones. Native News Online



Screenshot from Gov. Roy Cooper's website

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper proclaimed Oct. 10 as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

was founded in 2011 to provide news that impacts Native Americans nationwide.

"At the mid-point of this past week, I realized I have spent more time actually talking about Indigenous Peoples' Day this year than about Columbus Day," Rickert wrote in that Native News column. "The idea Indigenous Peoples' Day has taken over my thoughts and conversation is gratifying to me because it demonstrates movement in the way the country thinks about Native people."

Rickert said he was especially grateful for President Biden's declaration, particularly during a year in which American Indians "dealt with the renewed awareness of the Indian boarding school era" following the discovery of the remains of 215 children in a mass grave at the Kamloops Indian Residential School.

For Chatham Central's King, teaching such kinds of hard history is important — as is learning it herself.

Two summers ago, she took a course on Native American history with Dartmouth College's Colin Calloway, professor of history and of Native American studies. King also uses his book, "The Indian World of George Washington," to teach her current students.

"When many of us (teachers) were in school, it was not something that you went into in detail," she said. "I took the course because I really wanted to do better with how I presented Indigenous history in my classroom."

King primarily teaches using primary source documents, a standard practice in historical study, so her students can draw their own conclusions. For many of her students, her lessons are the first time they've heard about the history of Indigenous people — and of American settlers' violence against them.

"One thing I get often from students is that they've never heard these things before," King said. "They're often a bit surprised, and I think when you provide the proof through the primary source document, it speaks for itself. So students are really questioning sometimes, 'Why have we not learned this before now?'"

It's important that you do learn it now, King always tells them.

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

NEWS BRIEF

Chatham CARES 'Celebration of Lights' set for Dec. 4

SILER CITY — The Chatham CARES Community Pharmacy will host its annual Celebration of Lights drive-thru fundraiser on Dec. 4 at St. Julia Catholic Church, located at 210 Harold Hart Rd.

Attendees can celebrate the season outdoors with a band playing holiday favorites and a bilingual Christmas message.

Luminaries will be on display during the service, guiding vehicles along the drive-thru holiday experience.

The parking lot opens at 6 p.m.

Admission to the event is free, and luminaries can be purchased for \$10 each.

All proceeds from the sale of luminaries will be used for prescription drug purchases, which are then dispensed to patients through Chatham CARES Community Pharmacy in downtown Siler City.

To purchase luminaries, call 919-663-

0177. If you are purchasing luminaries in memory or in honor of someone and would like the name to be included in the program for the service, please do so by Nov. 30.

Each year, the Chatham CARES Community Pharmacy serves more than 350 clients with chronic health concerns like high blood pressure, diabetes and mental health disorders. Qualifying low-income clients meet 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and are uninsured or underinsured, and do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid. The pharmacy operates with two paid staff members (a full-time pharmacy tech, and a bilingual receptionist who also serves as a translator), four volunteer pharmacists and a handful of other volunteers.

For more information, go to www.ChathamCares.com or email the pharmacy at chathamcares@embarqmail.com.

— CN+R staff reports

CHATHAM CHAT | BEN SUGGS, 'LOVE CHATHAM'

Effort to create shelters for homeless in Chatham gaining momentum

The "Love Chatham" project — created to develop homeless shelters in Chatham County — is not quite one year old. This week, we speak with Ben Suggs, one of its founders, about the organization's progress and initiatives and the state of homelessness inside Chatham.

Suggs is the pastor of Freedom Family Church, a non-denominational congregation planted in Siler City in 2017 after he'd spent nine years as a youth pastor in Liberty. He also owns Southern Entertainment, a mobile DJ company that has been serving schools and weddings in central N.C. since 2006.

In addition, Suggs has spent time teaching at Chatham Charter School and Central Carolina Community College. He's a member of multiple advisory boards around the Siler City community, where he lives with his wife Jenna and their four children.

Remind us how Love Chatham was formed, and who's involved now ...

Love Chatham (a short-hand for the Chatham County N.C. Homeless Shelters 501c3 organization) had its genesis from two areas:

- seeing the community needs coming from Freedom Family Church's Clothing Closet



and CORA-supplied Food Pantry that has been operating since October of 2020, and

- An inter-church Men's Bible Study that began feeling a desire to provide a homeless solution in Chatham County where there isn't one.

Love Chatham began as an alliance of local pastors and churches but has also been expanding its volunteer base to others in the community with no tie to a faith organization. Leadership and members from Freedom Family Church, Siler City First Wesleyan, Pittsboro Church of the Nazarene, River of Life Church of God of Prophecy, and Plainfield Friends make up the majority of our support/volunteer base currently. We have talked to others from Moon's Chapel Baptist, First Methodist, Fellowship Baptist, Tyson's Creek Baptist, and more who are currently considering how to get involved specifically. We hope to continue to strengthen that alliance of churches that are putting their efforts together to be even more effective as one as we would be on our own.

Your stated goal is to alleviate homelessness and address other needs. You just formed in January ... what's the state of the organization now?

Our biggest goal that we are in the midst of is finding a temporary solution to homelessness for this winter. The two routes we are considering are:

- Finding a facility somewhere in the county to rent for the winter and temporarily housing those with emergency situations; and
- Utilizing existing churches or other buildings in a rotation — a model utilized by Family Promise in Lee County — and bringing supplies and other needed items to each location. We have three churches currently willing to open their doors for a week at a time in that rotation with a few more considering it among their members and leadership.

We recently purchased a mobile bathroom/shower that can be used in that rotation if some of the buildings don't have appropriate facilities. We are also in the process of adding that bathroom to a trailer and adding

a small room for either storage or housing a few people if needed.

In the interim, we have been helping those who reach out by sponsoring short stays in hotels, connecting them with other housing programs, and supplying them with food and clothing from Freedom Family's pantry.

So far through three quarters of 2021 we have helped provide 740 people stays in 319 hotel rooms and provide 944 people in 299 families with either food, clothing, or housing assistance. We expect those numbers to swell during the winter months.

We have also been raising awareness by attending events like the Flatwoods Festival and Goldston Old Fashion Day (before it was canceled) with a booth and starting conversations there.

What kind of interest in your endeavors and support are you getting?

So far, we have seen a lot of excitement and a consensus that Chatham County needs a solution for homelessness. We have been encouraged by and banded together with local organizations like United Way of Chatham County, Salvation Army, Central Piedmont Community Action (CPCA), and more recently we've begun partnering with The Furniture Project in the North Chatham/Galloway Ridge to provide furniture for those leaving homelessness for a stable location. We find we are at our most effective when these organizations team up to cover the needs of each other's clients.

Our biggest support has been in the form of the Issue-Based Grant we were awarded earlier this year from the United Way of Chatham County. They not only gave us the financial resources to begin developing our programs, but they have offered connections and other organizational resources and have even come out to help us with food distribution.

We also have a small group of churches and individuals that give financially each month.

Give us an assessment of that homelessness and the other needs — what's the story with homelessness and housing insecurity in Chatham? Who's impacted? Where?

I don't pretend to have the complete story, but



Submitted photo

In addition to his work with Love Chatham, Ben Suggs is pastor of Freedom Family Church in Siler City.

In my own conversations I have noticed there is a general ignorance and stigma among even generous people in our area about the reason for homelessness. Far too often they would rather write them off as just drug abusers who refuse to work.

BEN SUGGS, Love Chatham

we've found that it's difficult to get an accurate count of the homeless population due to their transient lifestyle and no central place for them to go in the county. We can get a general idea from keeping an eye on certain pockets of woods along U.S. Hwy. 64 and the local hotels to see which among their clients are asking for assistance from our group of organizations.

In my own conversations I have noticed there is a general ignorance and stigma among even generous people in our area about the reason for homelessness. Far too often they would rather write them off as just drug abusers who refuse to work. While that can certainly be the case, we have gathered from our own investigating that the biggest issue is the lack of affordable housing. There is a wide mix of other causes — not only drugs but mental and physical health issues and domestic abuse — that are exacerbated by the fact that most houses or apartments are full or unavailable. We regularly provide food to those who are working full-time but can't find a more permanent place than a hotel to stay in.

Our biggest support has been in the form of the Issue-Based Grant we were awarded earlier this year from the United Way of Chatham County. They not only gave us the financial resources to begin developing our programs, but they have offered connections and other organizational resources and have even come out to help us with food distribution.

We also have a small group of churches and individuals that give financially each month.

What's your ultimate vision, and what will it take to get there?

We realize the temporary sheltering needs are the first step, but we want Love Chatham to be much more than a Band-Aid on an infected wound. We want to be a part of holistic recovery and success by helping

treat the cause and not just the effects of their homelessness.

As we grow our volunteer base, we want to provide case workers that will take on these clients and guide them through or connect them to other areas like addiction recovery, job training, financial planning, and spiritual growth. And again, we're not limited to churches being involved but another goal is to unite the many churches together in our common call to the down and out. A cooperation of churches in this area of ministry will allow even smaller amounts of money and fewer volunteers to have a bigger impact. We don't have to agree about specific theology as long as we agree that Christ commanded His Church to be generous in this way. (See Matthew 25:35-40.)

We want to establish a more permanent emergency shelter that can be the first step out of homelessness and the home base for us to get them involved in our programs. We also are currently working on a plan for transitional housing that would allow them access to affordable mid-term places to stay (say 3-6 months) while they recover and prepare for a more permanent housing.

Those goals will take lots of development, but we are currently in the process of hiring a full-time program director, thanks to funds from both the United Way and Freedom Family Church, who will be tasked with finalizing our temporary shelter plan and building our base of donors and volunteers. We have taken in applications will send out a press release once that decision is made.

How can people get involved?

Financially: Commit to a one time or recurring gift at ChathamHomeless.org. It's tax-deductible and will help us in a big way with supplies and short-term stays along with building up a source for our long-term plans.

Volunteer: While at the website you can send us a message if you're interested in helping with things like our food distributions, promoting to the community, hauling food and other materials to people in need. We also need people willing to answer our help line and connect those people with the right resources.

Attend one of our monthly meetings — which are on the second Monday of the month at a rotation of locations around the county. Our event calendar is also found at ChathamHomeless.org.

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Chatham News + Record

SPORTS NEWS & CLASSIFIEDS

OCTOBER 14-20, 2021 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

NORTHWOOD CROSS COUNTRY

In Kernersville, Chargers get a taste of competition, course ahead of 2021 postseason

BY VICTOR HENSLEY

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — It's an old cliché.

Practice makes perfect.

And while last Saturday's NCRunners XC Elite Invitational was much more than a practice run, for Northwood it was a chance to size up both the competition and the course that stands in its way of a state title.

The Chargers competed in four races — the Boys Championship, the Girls Championship, the Boys Frosh/Soph

race and the Girls Frosh/Soph race — during the event at Ivey M. Redmon Sports Complex in Kernersville, which featured 68 schools and programs from across the state participating in eight races throughout the day.

Out of the four races, Northwood only scored as a team in one of them, the Boys Championship, where it placed 12th (328 points) out of 24 teams.

Heading into the event, the Chargers' men's team had a target on its back, being ranked second (180 points) in the state's 3A classification by Milesplit

NC. (Northwood was previously ranked first, but was recently jumped by the South Central Falcons, who have 175 points).

Going in, one of the goals for Northwood Head Cross Country Coach Cameron Isenhour was to finish ahead of the other top-five 3A teams competing in Kernersville: the North Lincoln Knights (third in the state, 190 points), the Croatan Cougars (fourth, 242 points) and the Orange Panthers (fifth, 244 points).

They almost did just that.

The Chargers' 12th-place finish in the Boys Championship race was better than

both Croatan (13th, 329 points) and North Lincoln (14th, 349 points), but not quite strong enough to overtake Central 3A conference-mate Orange, which finished in ninth place with a score of 284.

"Beating Croatan and North Lincoln was a big thing for us with them being the third and fourth teams (in the state)," Isenhour said when asked about the men's team after the meet. "Orange did surprise us. They beat us pretty bad, by 44 points, so that's kind of my focus now

See CHARGERS, page B2



Staff photo by Victor Hensley

Northwood senior Colin Henry runs near the 1.5-mile mark of the Boys Championship race at the NCRunners Elite XC Invitational last Saturday in Kernersville. Henry was the Chargers' best runner on the day, placing 25th in the race with a time of 16:51.43.

BATTIN' IN BOONE

Bears' Jaylee Williams commits to App for softball

BY VICTOR HENSLEY

News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — Another Bear is set to become a Mountaineer.

On Oct. 1, Chatham Central junior Jaylee Williams, a three-sport athlete in golf, softball and tennis, announced her commitment to play softball at Appalachian State University once her high school career concludes in 2023.

"I'm excited and blessed to announce I have decided to further my academic and softball career at Appalachian State University," Williams tweeted on Oct. 1. "I would like to thank Coach Nate Eaton, my teammates, and family for all the support. #GoApp."

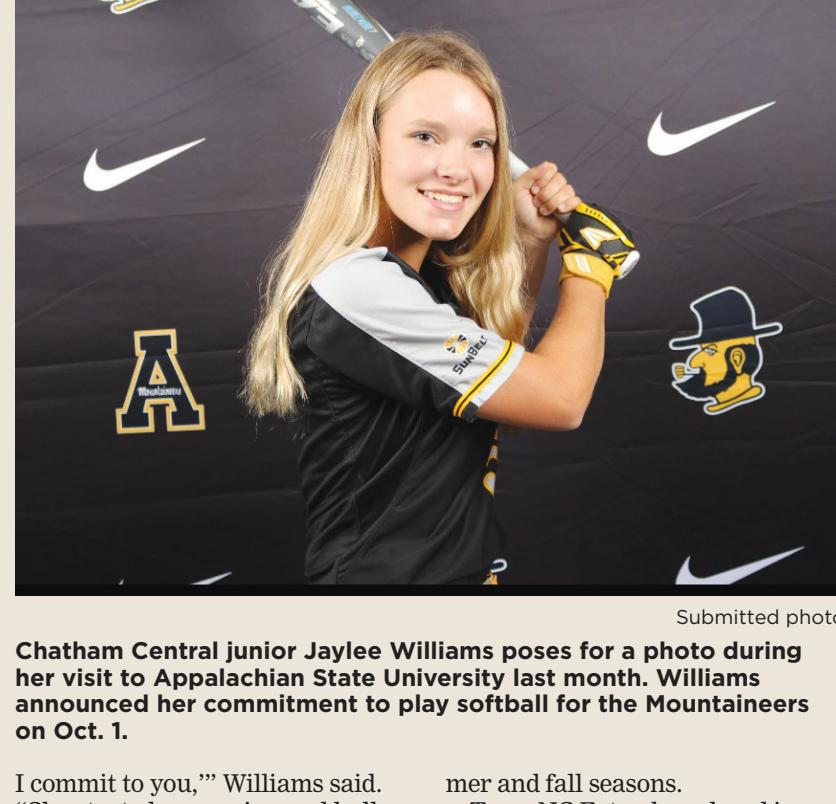
Williams' recruitment period lasted just one month after opening on Sept. 1 and visiting two schools — UNC-Chapel Hill and App State — before making her decision.

She only had a couple of things on her college wishlist and App State checked all of the boxes. There was no need to go anywhere else.

"I wanted a school that was in a four-hour radius (from Bear Creek), which fit both of them, and they both had hospitality and recreation management for my degree," Williams told the News + Record on Monday. "But I wanted a school that was really family-oriented and had a good chemistry and I felt like I'd fit in more at App State than I would at UNC."

Once she officially made her decision, she called Mountaineers Head Coach Shelly Hoerner and subtly snuck in the fact that she was committing to App State.

"I called her back and asked her where my headshots were from when we were taking pictures during my visit and she said, 'I'm sending them to you now,' and I said, 'OK, good, because I'm going to need something to post when



Submitted photo

Chatham Central junior Jaylee Williams poses for a photo during her visit to Appalachian State University last month. Williams announced her commitment to play softball for the Mountaineers on Oct. 1.

I commit to you,'" Williams said. "She started screaming and hollering, she was so excited and so was I. It's just really where I wanted to be."

Williams' commitment has been years in the making.

She first began playing travel softball when she was 8 years old, where she said her passion for the game "took off," slowly growing into the dominant offensive player she's become today.

Perhaps nothing has helped her grow more, however, than joining Team NC Eaton, a Charlotte-based travel softball team under the Team North Carolina umbrella, for which she's played both the last two sum-

mer and fall seasons.

Team NC Eaton has played in a variety of tournaments across the country — averaging around 10 tournaments a year — including those in California, Florida, Colorado, Texas, among others, and faces Division I-level competition week in and week out, a great way to prepare their players for the next level.

This past summer, Williams and Team NC Eaton placed seventh in the 16U Premier Division at the 2021 Premier Girls Fastpitch National Championships in California, one of the most competitive travel tournaments in the country.

See WILLIAMS, page B3

Starving for a title: Yankees, not Jets, are New York's most disappointing franchise

If you look closely, there's something interesting happening in New York.

I know that's an evergreen statement because it's, well, New York.

But I'm specifically talking about the uncharacteristic struggles of sports in New York City, one of the largest sports markets on planet earth.

Let's set the stage.

On Oct. 5, the Yankees lost to the Boston Red Sox in the American League Wild Card Game, 6-2, forcing yet another premature ending to the Yankees' season.

With the defeat, the streak became official: New York has now gone 10 years without a professional sports title, the longest drought since the early 1900s (1905-1921, 16 years).

For some cities, 10 years is nothing.

Think about Cleveland, which went 52 years without a major pro sports title until LeBron James and the Cavaliers won the NBA championship in 2016.

Or Toronto, which went 24 years without a championship until Kawhi Leonard and the Raptors took home the NBA title in 2018.

Or the active streaks of Minneapolis (29 years), San Diego (55 years) or Buffalo (55 years), all of which have gone decades without championship parades gracing their downtowns.

But this is New York we're talking about. Sports are ingrained in the city's culture — so is winning titles.

Madison Square Garden is such an iconic venue that it's referred to as basketball's "Mecca."

Wearing a Yankees hat is seemingly required by law, as every resident — from 98-year-old grandmothers to 2-week-old newborns — rocks a classic navy blue cap.

Sports are so popular in New York that it's one of two cities (Los Angeles) with at least two teams in each of America's four major pro sports.

One team per sport just wasn't enough. So it added more.

In total, the eight active major pro sports teams in New York have won a combined 55

See YANKEES, page B3

The most exciting storylines from Week 6 of the college football season

Week 6 of the college football season was the most exciting

thus far, and it wasn't particularly close.

We saw

Alabama

and Nick

Saban fall to

26-1 when he

faced former

assistants

after a shocking loss on the road to Texas A&M. The Aggies didn't look like a competent football team after losing

quarterback Haynes King to an

injury. But they hung 41 points

against the nation's No. 1 team

and snapped the longest winning streak in college football.

Even before that game, Iowa

and Penn State played a thriller

at Kinnick Stadium. Neither

of those games, despite their

prominence, make this week's

most exciting stories.

Oklahoma-Texas never disappoints

The Red River Showdown might ultimately be the game of the year. Texas jumped out to a 28-7 lead in the first quarter and led 41-23 late in the third against undefeated Oklahoma. It looked like all the Sooners' close wins in previous weeks were finally coming back to bite them.

Enter Caleb Williams. The freshman replaced one-time Heisman candidate Spencer Rattler and sparked OU to a fourth-quarter comeback win. One year after breaking the record for most points in a rivalry game, the 55-48 result topped it. Texas might not be back, but Steve Sarkisian has the team headed in the right direction.

The Mississippi offense is must-watch television

If you don't have Matt Corral

near or atop your Heisman leaderboard, now would be the time to get on board. The Lane Train topped Arkansas in a 52-51 thriller, which was somehow only the second best game in the 11 a.m. time slot. The win, Mississippi's first over a ranked conference opponent since 2017, was secured when the Razorbacks were stopped on a two-point conversion with no time on the clock. They had scored on a 9-yard touchdown as time expired.

One minute earlier, Corral found wide receiver Braylon Sanders for a 68-yard bomb down the sideline to give Mississippi the lead. Corral has yet to throw an interception on the season and has rushed for eight touchdowns along with throwing 12 through the air. Despite the loss against Alabama, the team's only of the season, Corral wasn't to blame. Mississippi averages

the second-most yards per game and are No. 7 in total offensive touchdowns. With a favorable schedule down the stretch, look for Kiffin's squad to post ridiculous offensive numbers in the second half of the season.

Can anyone beat Georgia?

Despite taking a 34-10 thumping by Georgia this week, Auburn did something that only one team had done against the Bulldogs all year. They scored an offensive touchdown. Yes, that's right. Through five games, UGA had only allowed one touchdown, a garbage-time TD to South Carolina with the game out of hand. In back-to-back games, the Bulldogs will face ranked SEC East foes, but finish the regular season with four games against unranked opponents. If all goes right, the Bulldogs will enter the con-

ference championship game unbeaten. It's time to write down Georgia as early National Championship favorites.

Michigan is ... fun again

College football is better when Michigan is good. However that makes you feel, it's true. The Wolverines went 2-4 in a COVID-19-shortened season last year, but are off to a 6-0 start this season. The Maize and Blue haven't defeated any ranked opponents and the latter part of the season will be more telling with games against Michigan State, Penn State and Ohio State. Nonetheless, the team's 32-29 win against Nebraska Saturday night brought a familiar feeling back to college football.

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

MAX BAKER
CN+R Intern

CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

This week's schedule and last week's results

BY VICTOR HENSLEY

News + Record Staff

For women's golf and tennis, we're officially in the postseason, with teams across the county competing for conference championships this week and gearing up for regionals that start next week. Soon, all of the other sports — cross country, football, men's soccer, volleyball — will follow suit, as seeding/bracketing/playoffs aren't far away. The spiciest time of the fall sports season is upon us. Make sure to enjoy it. Here are this week's schedules and last week's results.

THIS WEEK**Wednesday, October 13**

Golf: Jordan-Matthews, Chatham Central, Seaforth women at Mid-Carolina 1A/2A Conference Championship (at Siler City Country Club), 1 p.m.

Tennis: Northwood women at Western Alamance, 4 p.m.

Cross Country: Northwood at Walter M. Williams, 4:30 p.m.

Soccer: Chatham Charter men vs. Clover Garden, 5 p.m.

Soccer: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Graham, 6 p.m.

Soccer: Woods Charter women vs. River Mill, 6 p.m.

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

Volleyball: Woods Charter women at Clover Garden, 6 p.m.

Thursday, October 14

Soccer: Seaforth men vs. Southern Wake, 4:30 p.m.

Volleyball: Seaforth women vs. Graham, 5 p.m.

Soccer: Jordan-Matthews men at Cummings, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Chatham Charter women vs. South Davidson, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Jordan-Matthews women vs. Bartlett Yancey, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Northwood women at Western Alamance, 6 p.m.

Friday, October 15

Football: Northwood vs. Orange, 7 p.m.

Football: Chatham Central vs. Bartlett Yancey, 7:30 p.m.

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

LAST WEEK**Monday, October 4**

Golf: The Northwood women took third place (160) in a match against Central 3A conference opponents Eastern Alamance (first, 151), Western Alamance (second, 157), Person (fourth, 168) and Orange (fifth, 184) at Mill Creek.

Golf: The Woods Charter women (159) won a match against Cornerstone Charter

(200) at The Preserve at Jordan Lake. Top golfers for the Wolves were sophomore Elise Taylor (48, +12), senior Sophie Taylor (49, +13) and junior Shay Phillips (62, +26).

Golf: The Chatham Central and Seaforth women tied for first place (230) in a match against Mid-Carolina 1A/2A conference opponents Jordan-Matthews and North Moore (third, 251) at Siler City Country Club.

Tennis: The Seaforth women defeated the Jordan-Matthews Jets, 7-2. Winning their singles matches for the Hawks were sophomore Evelyn Atkins (4-6, 6-0, 10-4), sophomore Ellie Cook (6-3, 3-6, 10-7), freshman Lillian McFall (6-1, 6-0), freshman Jenna Robinette (7-5, 6-3) and freshman Charlie Ann George (1-6, 6-4, 10-7), while the duos of Atkins & Cook (4-4, Ret.) and Robinette & sophomore MaKenzy Lahew (8-3) won their doubles matches.

Volleyball: The Seaforth women swept the Southern Wake Academy Lions, 3-0. Leading the Hawks on the night were freshman Mia Kellum (9 aces, 2 digs) and freshman Juliet Vanolinda (3 kills, 4 aces).

Soccer: The Seaforth men were shut out by the Graham Red Devils, 2-0, to remain winless on the season.

Soccer: The Northwood men fell in an overtime game to the Williams Bulldogs, 2-1. Scoring for the Chargers was junior Jose Barajas (1 goal), while sophomore Patrick Baquero added an assist.

Tuesday, October 5

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women defeated the Gray Stone Day Knights, 6-3. Winning their singles matches for Chatham Charter were sophomore Elphie Spillman (6-4, 6-4), senior Emery Eldridge (2-6, 7-6 (7-5), 0-0 (10-7)), junior Rebecca Brookshire (6-2, 7-5) and Emily Stecher (6-1, 6-4), while the duos of Spillman & Eldridge (6-0) and senior Ashlyn Hart & senior Lorelei Byrd (6-3).

Cross Country: Chatham Charter competed in a meet against Central Tar Heel 1A conference opponents Clover Garden (host), River Mill, Southern Wake and Triangle Math and Science, where the Knights won the men's race (28 points). Placing in the top 10 of the men's race for the Knights were junior Brandon McKoy (first, 18:34.00), junior Silas Christenbury (fifth, 19:24.00), senior Caleb Kolb (sixth, 19:36.00) and junior Landon Rakes (ninth, 20:49.00). Placing in the top 10 for the Knights in the women's race were sophomore Meredith

Reese (fourth, 25:33.00) and senior MacKenzie Brooks (10th, 34:27.00).

Tennis: The Northwood women lost a narrow match to the Carrboro Jaguars, 5-4. Winning their singles matches for the Chargers were senior Kendall Leberge (7-6 (7-4), 6-4) and senior Evie Dallmann (6-1, 6-2), while the duos of senior Erin Lippers & Dallmann (8-6) and sophomore Kaylee Fisher & Leberge (8-2) won their doubles matches.

Cross Country: Seaforth took first place in both the men's (19 points) and women's (15 points) races at its first home meet of the season against Chatham Central and North Moore. Placing in the top 5 of the men's race were Jack Anstrom (Hawks, first, 17:16.13), Ethan Becker (Hawks, second, 18:55.73), Kolton Phillips (Bears, third, 19:03.49), Will Cuicchi (Hawks, fourth, 19:35.09) and Evan Hepburn (Hawks, fifth, 19:54.82). Placing in the top 5 of the women's race were all Seaforth runners: Claire Morgan (first, 24:23.92), Zuzanna Mikolajec (second, 26:25.02), Caroline Bartee (third, 26:29.29), Juana Jimenez (fourth, 26:30.47) and Lily Cox (fifth, 26:32.45).

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women fell to the Oxford Prep Griffins, 3-1, to earn their second-straight loss for the first time this season. Leading the Wolves on the night were sophomore Lexi Smollen (19 kills, 1 block, 11 digs) and senior Jana Thompson (19 digs).

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women fell to the North Moore Mustangs, 3-1, at home.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women swept the Seaforth Hawks, 3-0, on the road. Leading the Bears on the night were freshman Karaleigh Dodson (12 kills, 2 blocks) and senior Lindsey Johnson (4 kills, 2 aces, 2 digs), while freshman Maris Huneycutt (5 kills, 14 digs, 20 assists) shined for the Hawks.

Wednesday, October 6

Tennis: The Northwood women fell to the Orange Panthers, 5-4, on the road. Winning their singles matches for the Chargers were senior Evelyn Lippers (6-1, 6-1), sophomore Ryan Tinervin (6-3, 7-5) and senior Erin Lippers (7-5, 6-1), while the duo of Evelyn Lippers & senior Julia Earnshaw (8-1) won its doubles match.

Cross Country: Northwood competed in a conference meet against Central 3A conference opponents Cedar Ridge, Eastern Alamance (host), Orange, Person, Western Alamance and Williams. The Chargers placed fifth (110 points) in the

men's race, but won the women's race (54 points). Placing in the top 30 for the Chargers in the men's race were junior Christian Glick (20th, 22:09.97), junior Jackson Adams (21st, 22:10.38), senior Andrew Kimbrel (22nd, 22:10.75), junior Matthew Sullivan (23rd, 22:11.05) and senior Colin Henry (24th, 22:11.33). Placing in the top 20 for Northwood in the women's race were senior Caroline Murrell (first, 21:18.09), senior Emma Serrano (second, 23:49.62), freshman Avery Adams (16th, 29:09.35), senior Ella Hennessey (17th, 29:09.64), senior Emma Iacono (18th, 29:09.92) and sophomore Rokia Sissoko (19th, 29:10.22).

Tennis: The Chatham Central women swept the North Moore Mustangs, 9-0, to cap off an undefeated conference season in the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A (8-0). Winning their singles matches for the Bears were sophomore Rachel Albright (6-0, 6-1), sophomore Samantha Scott (6-0, 6-0), sophomore Lauren Caviness (6-3, 6-1) and sophomore Hallie Webster (6-1, 6-4), while the duos of junior Olivia Brooks & junior Ellie Phillips (8-0) and Albright & junior Jaylee Williams (8-0) won their doubles matches.

Tennis: The Seaforth women swept the Bartlett Yancey Buccaneers, 6-0. Winning their singles matches for the Hawks were sophomore Evelyn Atkins (6-1, 6-1), freshman Bailey Shadoan (6-4, 4-6, 10-7), sophomore Ellie Cook (6-1, 6-1), freshman Kaitlyn Zanga (6-0, 6-0) and freshman Claire Coady (6-0, 6-0).

Soccer: The Chatham Charter men lost a narrow one to the Southern Wake Academy Lions, 3-2, at home, to remain winless on the year at 0-11.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women were swept by the Southern Lee Cavaliers, 3-0, on the road.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women were swept by the Uwharrie Charter Eagles, 3-0, at home.

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women were swept by the South Lee Cavaliers, 3-0, on the road.

Volleyball: The Northwood women swept the Chatham Central Bears, 3-0, at home.

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews men shut out the Thomasville Bulldogs, 9-0, to stay undefeated on the season.

Soccer: The Northwood men lost a close game to the Cedar Ridge Fighting Red Wolves, 2-1, on the road.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women swept the North Moore Mustangs, 3-0, at home.

Thursday, October 7

Golf: The Chatham Central women defeated the Seaforth Hawks, 164-169, in a match at Siler City Country Club. The

top golfers for the Bears were junior Reagan Mize (50, +14), senior Reagan Murray (55, +19) and senior Jaylee Williams (junior, 59, +23).

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women fell to the Raleigh Charter Phoenix, 8-1. The duo of junior Lilli Jones & senior Dana Szpunar (9-8 (7-4)) were the only Knights pair to win their doubles match, while no Knights won their singles matches.

Tennis: The Jordan-Matthews women won a double-header over the North Moore Mustangs by forfeit.

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews men shut out the Providence Grove Patriots, 9-0, to stay unbeaten on the season (13-0-1). The Jets have shut out their last five opponents, outscoring them 40-0 over that span.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women swept the Cummings Cavaliers, 3-0, at home. Leading the Bears on the night were freshman Karaleigh Dodson (7 kills) and senior Taylor Poe (6 kills, 2 aces, 1 block).

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women swept the Graham Red Devils, 3-0, on the road.

Volleyball: The Northwood women defeated the Orange Panthers, 3-2, in a five-set match on the road.

Volleyball: The Seaforth women were swept by the North Moore Mustangs, 3-0, on the road. Leading the Hawks on the night were freshman Maris Huneycutt (1 kill, 8 digs, 13 assists) and sophomore Lili Dulin (4 kills, 3 digs).

Football: Chatham Central lost a lopsided game to the Graham Red Devils, 41-6, on the road to fall to 1-5 on the season.

Friday, October 8

Soccer: The Woods Charter men defeated the Triangle Math and Science Academy Tigers, 2-1, to extend their winning streak to four games after starting 0-7 on the season.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women swept the North Moore Mustangs, 3-0, at home.

Saturday, October 9

Cross Country: Northwood competed at the NCRunners Elite XC Invitational in Kernersville against teams from across the state. The Chargers placed 12th in the Boys Championship (328 points) and their top two runners were senior Colin Henry (25th, 16:51.43) and Christian Glick (55th, 17:20.81). See meet report in this week's edition.

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

CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

is to focus on those orange and white jerseys ahead of the conference, regional and state meets."

Northwood's top runner on Saturday was senior Colin Henry, who placed 25th (16:51.43) in the Boys Championship in a come-from-behind finish during his second race at Ivey M. Redmon this season.

"I did find myself a bit behind coming through the first mile," Henry said after the race. "Usually how I run this course is I pass a ton of people who started out faster than me and I catch back up. Then, at about (the 1.5-mile mark), as we're going alongside the road, I kind of find an actual place to stay in. One thing that helped was just seeing other guys that were getting really tired or guys that were feasible for me to catch, so I went after them."

However, Henry's top-30 finish (out of 215 runners) paled in comparison to his performance at the Great American XC Festival at WakeMed Soccer Complex in Cary on Oct. 2, where the Chargers' senior became the all-time Northwood Men's 5K record-holder

with a time of 16:08.60 — breaking former Charger Eric Williams' record set 10 years ago — en route to a third-place finish in the Boys Red Race.

It wasn't the first time he'd made Northwood history ... sort of. "The thing is, I actually broke it last year, as well, during our 'unofficial season,' since our season didn't start until late October/early November, so I didn't officially break it but I did break it by about five seconds," Henry said with a smile. "When I broke it again last weekend, it was cool because it was official, but the other great thing was that I hadn't run a time like that in so long

... so it was great to see that I could get back to that speed."

Henry is just one member of a Northwood men's team for which Isenhour had set high expectations before the season began in August. In the first meet of the season, on Aug. 27, the Chargers watched as Seaforth freshman Jack Anstrom won the men's race by nearly 68 seconds — besting the Chargers' top-four runners, who rounded out the top five.

Yet, as the regular season winds down, that same men's team has grown into the group that Isenhour has said he believes can win Northwood's first-ever team

state championship.

"We just have to try to get ready mentally," Isenhour said. "We can win the state title, we just have to have five that can put it together on race day. ... We have a lot of work to do and we're not there yet, but we definitely are going to get there before Nov. 6th."

Some of the other top finishers for the Chargers in the Boys Championship last Saturday were junior Christian Glick (55th, 17:20.81), junior Jackson Adams (79th, 17:42.90), senior Andrew Kimbrel (118th, 18:24.19), junior Matthew Sullivan (119th, 18:26.46) and sophomore Noah Nielson (144th, 19:09.73).

"I thought we did OK, we could have done better," Isenhour said, "but Jackson (Adams) really stepped up with a course best, Andrew (Kimbrel) had a course best, Noah (Nielson) (had a personal record) and Mason (Erman) had a breakthrough, so that was big."

In addition to the men's team, Northwood also had runners from its women's team compete in the Girls Championship, along with some of its freshman/sophomore runners in the junior varsity races.

On the women's side,

the Chargers were shorthanded as their top four runners — senior Caroline Murrell, senior Emma Serrano, senior Emma Iacono and senior Ella Hennessey — didn't make the trip to Kernersville, some due to illness and others for school-related activities.

All three of the Chargers' runners in the Girls Championship placed within the top 175, with freshman Avery Adams (148th, 24:39.74) and sophomore Rokia Sissoko (149th, 24:46.05) leading the way and sophomore Marissa Clouse (171st) clocking in a few minutes later at 27:56.20.

"For the women, we were without No. 1 through No. 4, but our girls did the best they could," Isenhour said. "I thought their times were pretty good."

A month from last Saturday, on Nov. 6th, Ivey M. Redmon will again play host to the NCHSAA Cross Country State Championships.

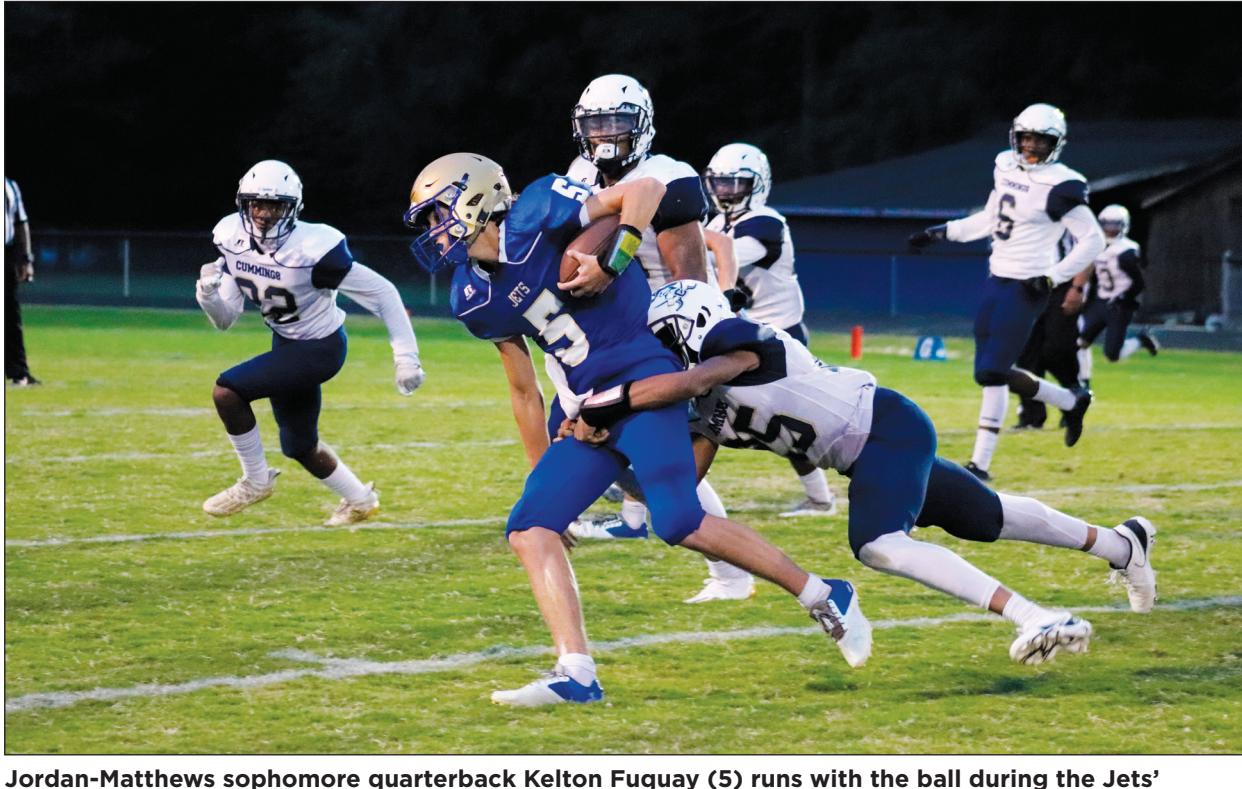
It may not be as rainy and muddy as it was this past weekend — or as cold as it was last January during the 2020 state meet — but the course is the same.

And its one that the Chargers are familiar with, having ran there three times so far this

calendar year.

They'll just have to get there, qualifying by fairing well in both the Central 3A

Homecoming Hoedown



Jordan-Matthews sophomore quarterback Kelton Fuquay (5) runs with the ball during the Jets' homecoming loss to the Cummings Cavaliers, 57-0, in Siler City on Monday. J-M is now 0-7 on the season.



Jordan-Matthews junior Toren Korpela (40) brings down a Cummings defender in the Jets' 57-0 homecoming loss to the Cavaliers on Monday.



Jordan-Matthews senior jack-of-all-trades Calvin Schwartz (4) storms down the field during the Jets' 57-0 loss to the Cummings Cavaliers on Monday.



Cummings senior wide receiver Dylantae James (4) stiff arms Jordan-Matthews sophomore Conner Redding (22) during the Cavaliers' 57-0 win over the Jets on Monday.

Household Hazardous Waste Events 2021

Saturday, October 16



9:00 am to 3:00 pm

28 County Services Road
(6 miles west of Pittsboro, off Hwy 64)

Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as

- chemicals • cleaners • solvents • paint
- pesticides • gasoline • antifreeze • electronics

For a complete list of items visit www.chathamnc.org/hhw

Future HHW events will be held the third Saturday of each month, through November.

No trash or empty containers.
No business waste.
No decal required.
Must show proof of address.

Questions? Call (919) 542-5516

Public Notice TOWN OF SILER CITY LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Siler City loose leaf collection will begin Monday, November 1, 2021. Persons living on the south-side of Raleigh Street will receive a leaf pick-up on Monday through Friday in the first week and persons living on the north-side of Raleigh Street will receive a leaf pick-up starting the next week on Monday, November 8, 2020. We will continue to rotate from south-side of town to north-side of town throughout the loose-leaf collection process.

Loose leaf collection will run until February 11, 2022.

Please Note: Pick up will take place on one side of town for a week, then move to the other side of town for a week.

Leaves should be placed in neat piles at the edge of the street (not in the street) where they will be accessible to the vacuum machine. Foreign objects such as sticks, rocks and trash must be removed from the loose leaves and piled separately for later collection. To avoid damage to the leaf vacuum, leaves containing foreign objects will not be picked up.

Bagged Leaves Will Not Be Picked UP While Loose Leaf Collection Program is in Progress.

Your cooperation will make our leaf collection program a success.

For questions, please call 919-742-4732.

Noticia Pública TOWN OF SILER CITY RECOLECCION DE HOJAS

La recolección de hojas sueltas de Siler City comenzará el Lunes 1 de Noviembre de 2021. Las personas que viven en el lado sur de Raleigh Street recibirán una recogida de hojas de Lunes a Viernes en la primera semana y las personas que viven en el lado norte de Raleigh Street recibirán un recogida de hojas a partir de la próxima semana el lunes 8 de Noviembre de 2021. Continuaremos rotando del lado sur de la ciudad al lado norte de la ciudad durante todo el proceso de recolección de hojas sueltas.

La recolección de hojas sueltas continuara hasta el 11 de Febrero, 2022.

Tenga en cuenta: La recogida se llevará a cabo en un lado de la ciudad durante la semana, luego se trasladará al otro lado de la ciudad durante una semana.

Las hojas deben colocarse en montones al borde de la calle (no en la calle) donde serán accesibles para la máquina de aspiradora de hojas. Los objetos como madera, piedras y basura deben ser retiradas de las hojas para otro dia de recolección. Para evitar daños a la máquina de hojas, no se recogerán las hojas que contengan estos objetos o otro tipo de objetos.

Las hojas embolsadas no serán recogidas mientras el programa de recolección de hojas sueltas esté en proceso.

Su cooperación hará que nuestro programa de recolección de hojas sea un éxito.

Para preguntas por favor llame al 919-742-4732.



Chatham COA Events & Announcements

October 14th through October 20th

Thursday, October 14th

- 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 15th

- 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 18th

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

Tuesday, October 19th

- Body Conditioning w/Jackie at 8:00 AM
(at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills)
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers at 3:00 PM (at WCSC)

Wednesday, October 20th

- 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, contact:

Jackie.Green@ChathamCOA.Org (or at 919.542.4512 ext. 227) or

Liz.Lahti@ChathamCOA.Org (or at 919.542.4512 ext. 228)

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)

Western Chatham Senior Center (WCSC)

365 NC-87 N

Pittsboro, NC 27312

919-542-4512

112 Village Lake Road

Siler City, NC 27344

919-742-3975

THE CLIPBOARD | ABBIE MCGEE, NORTHWOOD TENNIS

'We'll go pretty far': McGee, Chargers on brink of first dual-team playoff spot

The Northwood women's tennis team is in the midst of a 7-2 season in the newly formed Central 3A conference (9-5 overall) and are poised for the conference's No. 1 spot. This Friday, the Chargers will battle it out with the Central 3A in the conference tournament, where its top players — senior Evelyn Lippers (9-1), senior Julia Earnshaw (6-3) and sophomore Ryan Tiner (8-1), among others — are sure to shine. Northwood is searching not only for a deep playoff run in singles and doubles play, but also an elusive dual-team playoff berth, where it'll compete for a team state title.

With Northwood's season in full swing, the News + Record sat down with fifth-year head coach Abbie McGee to discuss her start at Northwood, her team's possible conference-winning season and her players' chemistry with one another that's helping to fuel their success. Conversation has been edited for clarity.

Did you expect to become Northwood's head coach when you offered to help out back in 2017?

ABBIE MCGEE: No, I had no idea what it meant to coach. It's very different running privates and clinics. It's been fun because I just didn't even have an idea that I had a knack for it. It's amazing, too, how I really relate to this age. It's really bizarre because that makes

me think that, as an adult, 'Have I really accomplished much if I'm still relating to them?' But it turns out that all of the other coaches

are really surprised at how close we are. I just encourage a lot of team-building experiences so that the kids get to know each other. They're all very supportive of one another. It's interesting, we never have fights, no one cares what position you are. It's been a wonderful experience.

Your team is having a great season so far, being 7-2 in the conference (and 9-5 overall). What has kind of been the key this season to playing as well as you have?

I would say dedication. These girls don't miss practice and they don't quit. I think what some coaches miss out on is team-building is good for them to get along, but it also encourages them to spend time together and if they're going to spend time together, they're going to play the sport together. It's been a wonderful help for us — the boys come to the girls matches and to the practices. And so what they do is, some of the boys will sign up to be my managers, and that gives the girls people to hit with who have pace, so that has really worked

out well for us. We do that in both seasons. Some of the girls sign up for the boys and the boys sign up for the girls. They travel with us to our away matches, as well. It probably helps make them closer.

Tennis is interesting because it's an individual sport, yet it's also a team sport. It seems like you've been able to create this kind of close-knit, team atmosphere amongst your group. Would you agree?

Yeah, we don't see it as an individual sport at all. You should see the kids when they come off the courts. Even when they're on the courts, they're cheering each other on right next to each other. They initially encouraged me to have no more than 12 players on the team, but I said, 'No, I'm going to do this the way that feels right to me.' So I allow 22 players. Do all of these girls ever even make it to the top six places where they play official matches? No, but ask any one of them who left as seniors, never having played an official match, but only played exhibition matches, and they'll tell you they loved it. I'm just a huge proponent of getting kids off the streets after school and giving them something to do.

Who are some of the players that you've been most impressed with this season?

You know, it's funny

Abbie McGee

ROLE: Head Coach, Men's and Women's Tennis

EXPERIENCE AT NORTHWOOD: 5th season

FROM THE COACH: "My favorite part (about coaching) is honestly being a part of these kids' lives and it's just amazing for me to watch them. They come to me as freshmen and I'm almost in tears every single year losing my seniors because I've become that close to them."

NOTES:

- McGee originally went to Northwood's front office in 2017, once her daughter enrolled at the school in 10th grade, to ask about helping out as an assistant coach for tennis ... and two weeks later, she became the head coach.
- She spent years as a tennis player and clinic instructor prior to arriving at Northwood in 2017.
- She owns her own cat rescue in Apex called McGee Cat Ranch and is a former karate student.

Northwood Chargers

CONFERENCE: Central 3A

RECORD: 9-5 (7-2 in Central 3A)

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

- Wednesday, Oct. 13 vs. Western Alamance (Conference)
- Friday, Oct. 4 at Central 3A conference tournament (in Burlington)

did it because the same approach doesn't work with every kid and it really does help you understand how to approach them and can sometimes help you understand who to play with each other as partners. And the kids loved it. Evelyn is what you

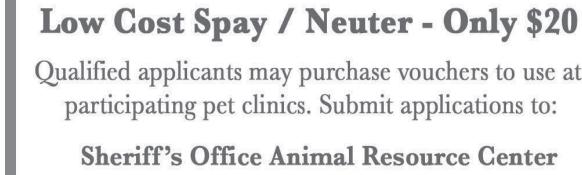
would call a defender. She protects. And she's highly competitive. Julia is a logic person. She only looks at reality and you tend to have to bolster her up. Evelyn has a way of just cheering Julia on in such a way that she gets the best of Julia and when Julia's on top of her game, she could kill everyone. If she ever figured out how

to be consistent, I'd say she could even go pro, she's that good. But it's not her first sport. Her first sport is swimming, she's going to go into Division I swimming in college, so tennis is just something she does on the side. Evelyn has a way of bringing out the best in her, so the two of them together just do really well.

There was this one match, oh my gosh, they were down 7-0 and it was an eight-game pro set. And they won. As a coach, I always say, 'Hey, it ain't over 'til the fat lady sings. If the game is still on, it's because a winner has not been decided. I don't care what the score says. Get out there and do what you can.' We were all just like, 'Holy crud!' I can't remember what match it was, but we were just cheering like mad because we've never seen anything like that.

What are the next few weeks of tennis going to look like for Northwood?

Your guess is as good as mine. This Friday is the conference tournament, next Friday is regionals and the next Friday is states, so we know that we'll be busy for the next three weeks. Coach Earnshaw and I will work very specifically with the top six over the next three weeks, depending on how far we get, and I expect that we'll get far. And then dual-team playoffs has to fit in there somewhere, but we've never gone, so somewhere we'll be assigned to travel pretty far, depending on what team we have to go up against, to compete in those. And if we win then we keep going, so it could be another month of tennis.



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

LONNIE WEST



- BS-State University of NY; MA-Webster University; 2 years post MA-Texas A&M

- Served in the Army for 26 years, retired in 1989 as Sergeant Major and Chief Instructor at the US Army Sergeants Major Academy. Dual status, so also Captain in the US Army Reserves.

- Served in Viet-Nam & spent over 18 years serving in France and Germany as an Army linguist. Wife is from France, married 56 years, one daughter & two granddaughters (both Wolfpack girls).

- After retirement, Lonnie ran a half-way house for convicted felons in El Paso, TX.

- Former Executive Director of Chatham County Council on Aging (7 years).

- As a current Pittsboro resident, broker, auctioneer, & top producer at Chatham Homes Realty, Lonnie also has the distinction of being the Charter President of the local Rotary Club & primary contributor of trivia.

Rotary Club of Pittsboro



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POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On October 1, Chelsea Renee Holland, 27, of 5260 Goldston Glendon Road, Goldston, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Welch for interfering with an electronic monitoring device. She was issued a \$1,000.00 secured bond and was scheduled to appear in Alamance County District Court in Graham on October 5.

On October 1, Holland was also arrested by Deputy Tyler Welch for a true bill of indictment and was issued a \$7,500.00 secured bond. She was due to appear in Alamance County Superior Court in Graham on October 11.

Additionally, on October 1, Holland was arrested by Deputy Tyler Welch for no operator's license, reckless driving to endanger, identity theft, supplying fictitious information to an officer, and resist/delay/obstruct. She was issued a \$2,500.00 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph District Court in Asheboro on November 1.

On October 2, April Elizabeth Siler, 43, of 1614 Moons Chapel Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Olivia Sturdivant for driving while impaired, driving while license revoked, and failure to maintain lane control. She was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 10.

On October 4, Randall James Fesel, 26, of 488 NC 87 N., Pittsboro, was arrested by Sgt. Rischetta White for felony larceny. He was issued a \$1,000.00

secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 4.

On October 4, Vernon Wayne Newby, 64, of 1315 Alston Avenue, Siler City, was arrested by Sgt. Rischetta White for obstructing justice. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 6.

On October 4, Michael

Stephen Cole, 41, of 104 E. Brookwood Avenue, Liberty, was arrested by Deputy Cale Cassady for possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, and maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance. He was issued a \$5,000.00 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 8.

On October 4, Michael

On October 4, Anhelica Maria Mata, 22, of 1448 Goldston Carbonton Road, Goldston, was arrested by Deputy Johnny Griffin for larceny. She was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on October 27.

On October 5, Jason Ele-

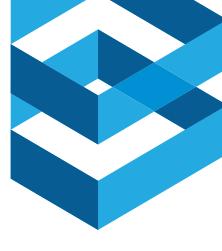
jandro Hernandez Preciado, 18, of 111 Dixie Drive Lot 4, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Yuri Robles for possession

of marijuana. He was issued a written promise and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 8.

On October 7, Joseph Frank Herring, 38, of 480 Herring Path, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for attempted larceny. He was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 8.

On October 7, Easton Hollander, 27, of 2593 White Smith Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Cale Cassady for breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering, felony larceny, obtaining property by false pretense, possession of stolen goods/property, and injury to personal property. He was issued a \$2,500.00 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 8.

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Pittsboro approves Chatham Park development agreement, Duke Energy project

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
& VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — After months of contentious discussion, the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners voted 4-1 Monday night to enter into a 25-year development agreement with Chatham Park Investors for the 7,000-acres of the Chatham Park Planned Development District.

Only Commissioner John Bonitz, who sought a shorter 15-year agreement, voted against the measure.

Commissioners also approved a small area plan and set a public hearing for the affordable housing component of the Chatham Park development for October 25.

A development agreement allows for developers and town staff to form a strategy to take on future development, but one of the main concerns brought by commissioners with the original agreement was its proposed 40-year-long contract.

Mayor Pro Tem Pamela Baldwin said she liked what the rest of the agreement provided, but thought 40 years was too long of a window for a development timeline.

"The 40 years, I could not agree to that," she said. "The other information in the development agreement I'm pretty pleased with that, but basically the time span could be, for me, either 20 or 25 years."

Commissioner Michael Fiocco said 25 years would

allow more time in the event delays were to occur in construction or development of Chatham Park.

"It's a substantial burden, and I think the need for some clarity in what the future holds," he said. "Working underneath this agreement, it is important we extend it to 25."

The reasonable number would be 15, which is the same number that the Sanford forced main agreement between the Town of Pittsboro and the Town of Sanford, and the other agreement between Chatham Park investors and the town hinges on that 15-year period," Bonitz argued. "I think that gives both parties confidence."

Chatham Park attorney Ken Eagle said a 15-year window would not allow

enough time to complete the development.

"That does not give us the confidence that you may think it does," Eagle said. "Quite frankly, that is too short of a time given the vast amount of resources that are committed to this project."

Pittsboro Town Manager Chris Kennedy said a development agreement would help ensure decisions made in the past regarding the development of Chatham Park are upheld.

"So all of your plans that are adopted, amendments to the elements as they are needed in the future, all of those things are future approved in the language we have presented," he said. "All this does is say for whatever term the board agrees upon that the same decisions that have been made to date are carried for that duration."

Fiocco said he believed the town would benefit from Chatham Park's success, so it was in Pittsboro's best interest to make sure the project is seen through to the end.

"We have a vested interest in Chatham Park being successful, and I think the difference between 20 and 25 years could be an important piece of that success," he said. "I can't emphasize enough the uncertainty of land development and the obstacles that present themselves along the way, and they are making an enormous, enormous investment and to give them the ability to succeed I think is worthy of those additional five years."

Duke Energy's report

Commissioners also listened to a presentation

from Duke Energy representatives regarding outage issues in town.

Mark Spivey, the director of area operations in Chatham County for Duke Energy, said the leading cause of outages in Pittsboro was due to vegetation such as trees or vines. In June of last year, Duke Energy targeted more than 20 areas where vegetation was seen as a threat for potential power outages.

"We got the crews to go out and clear those locations we felt would cause an outage," Spivey said.

However, the power demand in Pittsboro requires more than just maintaining the plant growth. Duke Energy is planning to build a new substation for the town to help alleviate some of the strain on the current system in place.

Micah Retzlaff is the lead transmission sightseeing manager for Duke Energy. He presented the plans for the new substation to commissioners. In his presentation, Retzlaff said the new substation would help increase reliability and provide more capacity for future customers as Pittsboro continues to grow.

"There is only one substation serving Pittsboro and most of the areas in eastern Chatham County," Retzlaff said. "We have identified that our existing load there in Pittsboro and surrounding areas is driving the need for a new station."

The new substation would be placed on a 17-acre plot already owned by Duke Energy and would construct a tap line over a mile long to connect the substation to the town. This project is

projected to be completed by the spring of 2023.

Duke Energy is also in the process of rebuilding its current substation in Pittsboro, which has been in the works since this July. Rodney Hutcherson, Duke's vice president of construction and maintenance, said this will also help solve some of the outage problems Pittsboro faces.

"The capacity needed to be increased at the substation, and while we were doing that, we decided to go ahead and rebuild the substation to some more modern standards, with some newer equipment," Hutcherson said.

Duke Energy plans to finish the rebuilding of the substation by December.

Other meeting business

The Boys & Girls Club of Pittsboro will officially open Monday. The club will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony, with refreshments, at George Moses Horton Middle School at 10 a.m. that same day, according to Commissioner Kyle Shipp.

Staff will be registering students all this week at the club from 3 to 6 p.m. The registration fee for the entire school year is \$52.

"Anybody that can hear me is invited — and anybody else, too," Shipp said.

• Commissioners voted 3-2 against renewing the Memorandum of Understanding with Main Street Pittsboro for the next fiscal year and decided instead to form a Downtown Advisory Board to manage the program.

• Commissioners approved a resolution permitting town attorney Paul S. Messick Jr. to evaluate the viability of legal claims against PFAS chemical manufacturers and other actors, as well as assess whether the town should move forward with any litigation.

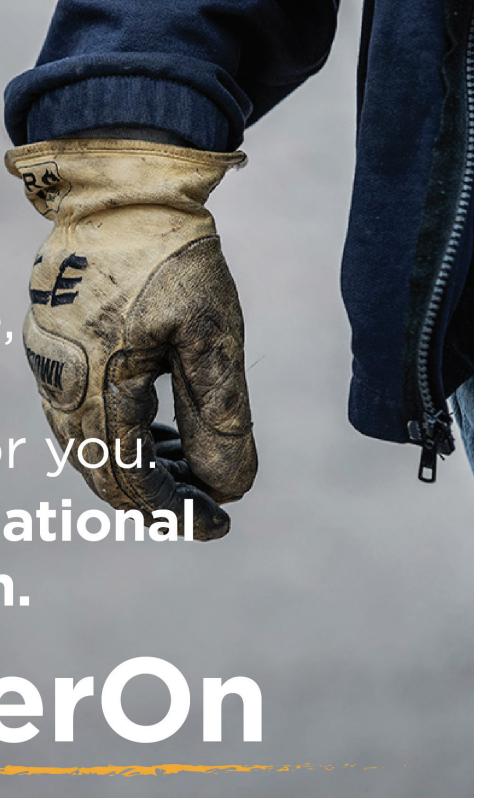
Under the resolution, Messick will also consider and perhaps identify potential law firms to serve as outside counsel on a contingency fee basis should the town decide to move forward with litigation. The attorney must present his recommendations to the board within 90 days of the resolution.

PFAS, a family of chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, can lead to several negative health effects, including elevated risks of thyroid disease and testicular and kidney cancer. Many studies, including a national investigation by Consumer Reports, have identified PFAS concentrations in Pittsboro's water — drawn from the Haw River — as among the highest in the country.

During Monday's meeting, several Pittsboro residents urged the town to continue working toward ensuring the safety of Pittsboro's drinking water. Among them, resident Jessica Merricks expressed cautious support for the resolution — with a caveat.

"It seems to imply that the town attorney needs to assess the viability of such legal claims," she told the board during the meeting's public comment section. "We were under the impression that that viability has already essentially been established, so I'm wondering if there is still doubt or question in terms of whether or not we need to be pursuing litigation. Obviously the folks here in town are in support of folks moving forward."

Reporters Taylor Heeden and Victoria Johnson can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com and victoria@chathamnr.com respectively.



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CCS to phase in free COVID-19 testing to students and staff starting Oct. 25

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Chatham County Schools will begin offering free weekly COVID-19 tests to students and staff this fall, beginning with K-5 students the week of Oct. 25.

The rapid results tests, administered by Raleigh-based Mako Medical, are set to expand to middle schoolers the week of Nov. 1 and to high schoolers the week of Nov. 8. In order to be tested, a parent or guardian must provide a one-time consent for any student under 18, available through the links on the district's website at <https://www.chatham.k12.nc.us>.

"We want to ensure that we are doing everything we can to protect our students," Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson said in a district statement last Friday. "We want to keep our students in school. Testing is another tool at our disposal to help us mitigate the spread of the virus, which will allow us to continue to work toward our goal of an uninterrupted school year."

The cost of the testing program is

completely covered by a grant.

There have been 216 cumulative cases of COVID-19 reported to Chatham County Schools since Aug. 23, according to the district's case dashboard, making up just over 2% of the district's total population. There were no active cases as of Monday afternoon.

CCS has only had one cluster — defined as five or more cases that are epidemiologically related within a 14-day window — at Chatham Central High School, reported during the second week of classes. A second cluster at Northwood was included in the state health department's child care and school settings report three weeks ago, but it was later deemed to be erroneous and removed from the list.

After a few months of rising cases of COVID-19 among young people in the state and county, the low number of clusters and associated cases at CCS during that time suggests the safety mitigation strategies in place at the district are preventing community spread. The CCS Board of Education again vot-

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

"Masking is slowing the spread of COVID," Chatham County Public Health Director Mike Zelek, who has repeatedly supported the district's mask mandate, said at the board's Sept. 13 meeting. "They not only slow the spread of COVID, they keep kids in the classroom."

There haven't been any clusters reported among the county's public charter schools — Willow Oak Montessori, Woods Charter School and Chatham Charter School — in the state report. Each school also has an indoor mask mandate, and Woods and Chatham Charter have COVID-19 trackers on their websites.

Health experts have long encouraged consistent testing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, in addition to universal mask wearing. The district said it hopes providing weekly testing will

help keep students in school, athletics and after-school activities.

Students will be tested as they enter their school building in the morning and all testing information will remain confidential.

CCS Public Information Officer Nancy Wykle told the News + Record the district was waiting to see how many people sign up for the program before implementing a time structure for how and when students will get tested each week.

Mako will onboard students for testing as they sign up, she said.

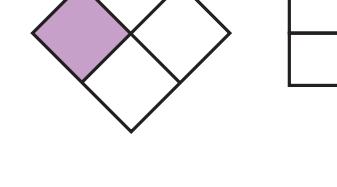
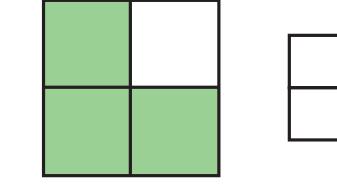
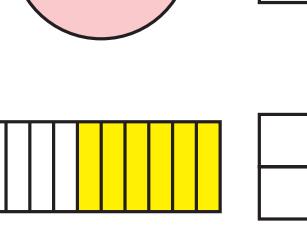
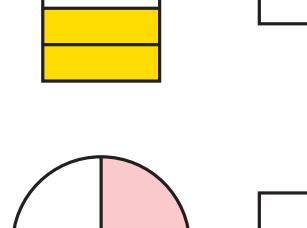
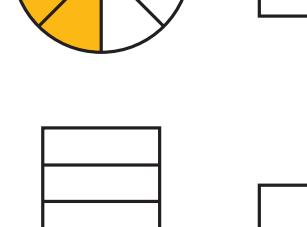
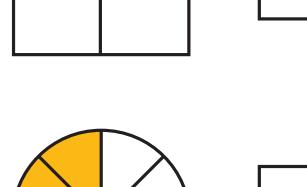
"We encourage our families to take advantage of this free service to help keep our students and staff safe and healthy," Superintendent Jackson said Friday.

You can learn more about the Mako school testing program at: <http://makostongschoolsnc.com/>

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

Fraction Action

Next to each shape, write in the fraction of the shaded area.



Write On!

Kids Care

Tell about a time you helped another person. It could be something you did as an individual or as part of a group.

Double Double Word Search

CARVINGS

TOTEM

POLE

WOLF

MOUTH

MAMMALS

STORY

HUMANS

BEAKS

FROG

FISH

EAGLE

FRACTION

CREATE

RAVEN

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Find the missing words.



Nass River Wolf Legend

Long ago, the people of a village on the Nass River had no _____. All day long they heard a wolf crying in the woods. One _____ man finally went to see why the wolf was crying. He found the wolf in great pain and he offered _____ words and help. The wolf opened his mouth. Inside, the kind man found a _____ stuck in the wolf's throat. He removed it and the wolf ran off.

Later, the man heard the wolf cry again. Once again he went to him. The _____ wolf greeted the man with joy and led him to a deer carcass. This happened every day and soon the village had lots of food.

(Adapted from Totem Poles, Bellerophon Press, Santa Barbara.)

Standards Link: Language Arts/ Literary Analysis: Students comprehend the basic plot of legends.

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CLEARANCE YARD SALE - Carbonton Community Center - 6953 Carbonton Road - Everything 1/2 price with the exception of furniture. Friday, Oct. 15, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. O14,1tp

YARD SALE - Saturday, October 16, 120 East Sixth Street, Siler City, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. - All kinds of goods! O14,1tp

HUGE YARD MULTI-FAMILY SALE - Saturday, Oct. 16, 8 a.m. until, 104 N Tenth Ave, Siler City. Name brand, men, women clothes & shoes, housewares, lots of great stuff! Come and find you a deal. Rain or Shine. O14,1tp

YARD SALE, SAT, OCTOBER 16 - 8 a.m., House at Ore Hill - Old 421 toward Bonlee. Household, bedspreads, decorations, vacuum cleaners. O14,1tp

AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS at JHA. One Call...We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.JerryHarrisAuction.com, 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, rickyelling-tonauctuations@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

LAND SURVEYOR - Entry level position available for land survey field crew member. Outside work. Experience preferred but not necessary. Full time position. Must have a valid N.C. Drivers License and be able to drive company vehicle. Must have good driving record. Might consider part time position. Off early on Friday afternoons. Call 919-812-3592, 919-542-2503 or email finchsurvey2507@gmail.com to discuss salary and benefits. O14,1tc

CNA NEEDED for private duty: COVID Vaccinations Required! Saturday and Sunday Mornings: 9 a.m. until 12 noon; Sunday through Saturday (Seven days a week), 12 noon until 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. until 12 Midnight. Please call: 919-742-2347 or 910-986-0291, O14,21,2tp

CLASS A - CDL DRIVERS, equipment operators and laborers. Local Pittsboro grading and utility company. Call or text 919-624-4638. O14,21,28,N4,4t

JOB DESCRIPTION: WATER PLANT OPERATOR; Hiring

Rates: \$3,371 - \$54,382 Annually; Duties and Responsibilities, See Website for full description. - Job Requirements: Completion of high school or GED required. Prefer candidates with at least a grade (C-SURFACE) certificate in water treatment or be willing/able to obtain within one year of employment. Possession of a driver's license valid in the State of North Carolina required. - Closing date for Applications: October 22nd, 2021 @ 5:00pm. How to Apply: Download an application at www.pittsboronc.gov. Fax or Mail with attention to Cassandra Bullock, Town of Pittsboro, PO Box 759, Pittsboro NC, 27312 - Fax: (919) 542-7109. O14,21,28,3tc

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 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 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 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 TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

21 E 550
Having qualified on the 20th day of August 2021, as Administrator of the Estate of **MELICENT HUNEYCUTT-VERGEER**, 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 21st day of September, 2021.

W. Woods Doster, Administrator of the Estate of Melicent Huneycutt-Vergeer
178 Windstone
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Attorneys:
Law Offices of W. Woods Doster, P.A.
206 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford, NC 27330
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 20th day of September, 2021.

Cathleen C. Roberts, Executrix

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.

c/o Kirschbaum, Nanney, Kenan & Griffin, P.A.
PO Box 19766
Raleigh, NC 27619-9766
919-848-0420
S30,07,014,021,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

All persons having claims against **ELEANOR DE GRANGE HEATH** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 4th day of January, 2021, are notified to present them to Frank Boynton Heath, Executor of the Estate of Eleanor de Grange Heath 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 January 7, 2022.

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 Eleanor de Grange Heath. Those indebted to Eleanor de Grange Heath are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.

David R. Frankstone
Higgins, Frankstone, Graves &

Morris, P.A.
1414 Raleigh Rd, Suite 203
Exchange West at Meadow-

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Line ad deadline

Tuesday — Noon

Display ad deadline

Monday — 5 p.m.

Rates and payment

Minimum charge of \$5 for each classified advertisement of 25 words or less per week. For each additional word, no matter how many insertions, add 20¢ per word. Payable in advance.

Blind ads

No information will be given out by this office to the identity of person placing "keyed" or "blind" ads.

Errors

In advertisements that run more than one week, we are responsible for errors appearing in the first week only. If you find an error in your ad, report it immediately.

mont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
S30,07,014,021,4tp

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility.

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ACCESSIBILITY SOLUTIONS



The AmeriGlide Rave 2 stair lift is the ideal solution for anyone:

- Who struggles with using the stairs
- That is worried about risking a fall
- Who wants to access all of their home

Call now to save on a Rave 2 stair lift!

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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

SILER CITY COUNTRY CLUB
accepting applications for Assistant Superintendent. Starting wage \$13.50 hourly, must have experience.

Career Opportunities Available
Visit www.chathamcountync.gov and click Jobs.

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS
Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.
400 Honeysuckle Dr, Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Email: pittsbوروvillage@ECCMGT.com

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

HIRING CNA's 2ND & 3RD SHIFT
CALL: 919-542-3151
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm for appointment to complete application and interview.
Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC



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YOUR AD can be promoted in multiple markets with one easy and affordable ad placement. Your ad will be published in 114 NC newspapers for only \$375. You reach 1.7 million readers with the North Carolina Statewide Classified Ad Network. Call this newspaper's classified department at 919-663-3232 or visit www.ncpress.com.

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Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF + 2 FREE Months! 866-501-1596

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-649-1190

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 866-985-1738

White-Glove Service from America's Top Movers. Fully insured and bonded. Let us take the stress out of your out of state move. FREE QUOTES! Call: 855-821-2782

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-250-7899. Ask about our specials!

Donate your car, truck or van. Help veterans find jobs or start a business. Call Patriotic Hearts Foundation. Fast, FREE pick-up. Max tax-deduction. Operators are standing by! Call 1-866-955-1516

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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. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 7th day of October, 2021.

Lucille A. Sankey, Executor of the

Estate of Carl G. Sankey c/o Robert A. Mason, Esq.

PO Box 817

Asheboro, NC 27204

07,014,021,028,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

The undersigned, having qualified on the 17th day of September, 2021, as Executrix of the Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

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Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

Barbara Berry, Executrix of The Estate of **Virginia J. Rahdert a/k/a Virginia Josephine Rahdert**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 7th day of October, 2021.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY**

All persons having claims against **RICHARD SPRINGER** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 1st day of August, 2021, are notified to present them to Frederic R. Ammon, Executor of the Estate of Richard Springer 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 January 13, 2022. 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 Richard Springer. Those indebted to Richard Springer 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 Meadowmont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
07,014,021,028,4tp

Attorney for Plaintiff
NC Bar #12852/56782
310 W. Jones St.
P. O. Box 25
Trenton, North Carolina
28585
Telephone: (252) 448-4541
07,014,021,3tc

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27517
07,014,021,028,4tc

2021.
Laura Shel Brahlak, Administrator CTA of the Estate of Rae E. Brahlak aka Rae Eugenie Brahlak

make immediate payment.
This the 14th day of October, 2021.
Harold Thomas Hinson, Jr.,
Executor
506 West 10th St.
Siler City, NC 27344
014,021,028,N4,4tp

919-542-4621, ext. 1104) or Cbullock@pittsboronc.gov and may be downloaded from the Town's website, pittsboronc.gov. **SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AND ADDITIONAL ELEMENT MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

3. Evidentiary Public Hearing: Mellot Planned Unit Development (SUP-2021-03, 15-501 East LLC is requesting a Special Use Permit for a Planned Unit Development located on 2 parcels (Parcel ID 75037, 7146), the total being approximately 43.22 acres, located adjacent to Russet Run and east along the extension of Grant Drive, Pittsboro, and is owned by 15-501 East LLC.

The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is to determine, by presentation of factual evidence, whether the specified use(s) will be allowed on the above referenced property. **SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PERMIT REQUEST MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING IN ITS PROPOSED LOCATION, BUT ONLY THOSE CONDITIONS MUTUALLY APPROVED BY THE TOWN AND THE PETITIONER MAY BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.** The complete records to the proposed actions are available for inspection at the Town of Pittsboro Planning Department located at 480 Hillsboro Street, Suite 400 during regular business hours (8:30am to 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday). Please give reasonable notice to the Pittsboro Planning Department at (919) 533-5480 if accommodations for individuals with disabilities or impairments are required.

The meeting will be held via Zoom, a teleconference software. Instructions on how to join the Zoom Meeting can be found on the Town's website at www.pittsboronc.gov. If you wish to make written comments, please send them to the Town Clerk, Cassie Bullock, PO Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or via email at Cbullock@pittsboronc.gov by 4 p.m. on October 25, 2021.

014,021,2,tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY****21 E 569**

All persons having claims against **KAREN BETH HEILMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 4th day of October, 2021.

Thomas Newton Heilman II

306 Highland Trail

Chapel Hill, NC 27516

07,014,021,028,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY**

All persons having claims against **Catharine W. Pope aka Catharine Louise Pope** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 9th day of January, 2021, are notified to present them to Mariechen Smith Matson, Executrix of the Estate of Catharine W. Pope aka Catharine Louise Pope 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 January 13, 2022. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executrix, and the devisees of Catharine W. Pope aka Catharine Louise Pope. Those indebted to Catharine W. Pope aka Catharine Louise Pope 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 Meadowmont

Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
07,014,021,028,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY**

Estate of **George C. Theologus aka George Charles Theologus** Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of George C. Theologus, aka George Charles Theologus, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 100 Europa Drive, Suite 271, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517, on or before the 8th day of January, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 7th day of October, 2021.

Laura Shel Brahlak, Administrator CTA of the Estate of George C. Theologus aka George Charles Theologus

Dori J. Dixon

Schell Bray PLLC

Attorney for the Estate
100 Europa Drive, Suite 271

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY**

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **MARY CATHERINE JOHNSON HARRIS, AKA MARY K. HARRIS, AKA MARY J. HARRIS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of the deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of January, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate of the deceased will please make immediate payment.

This 7th day of October, 2021.

Larry Wilson Harris, Sr., Administrator of the Estate of Mary Catherine Johnson Harris

724 McLaurin Road
Siler City, NC 27344
Wade H. Paschal, Jr.
Attorney at Law
PO Box 273
Siler City, NC 27344
Attorney for the Estate of Mary Catherine Johnson Harris

07,014,021,028,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY**

Estate of **Rae E. Brahlak aka Rae Eugenie Brahlak** Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **RAE E. BRAHLAK** aka Rae Eugenie Brahlak, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 100 Europa Drive, Suite 271, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517, on or before the 15th day of January, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 14th day of October,

This is the 7th day of October, 2021.

Laura Shel Brahlak, Administrator CTA of the Estate of George C. Theologus aka George Charles Theologus

Dori J. Dixon

Schell Bray PLLC

Attorney for the Estate
100 Europa Drive, Suite 271

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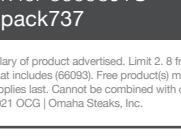
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make immediate payment.
This the 14th day of October, 2021.

Harold Thomas Hinson, Jr.,

Executor

506 West 10th St.

Siler City, NC 27344

014,021,028,N4,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS**NORTH CAROLINA****CHATHAM COUNTY****21 E 581**

All persons having claims against **AGNES CARROLL PAGE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 14th day of January, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 14th day of October, 2021.

Jerry G. Page, Administrator

4169 Old US #1

New Hill, NC 27562

014,021,028,N4,4tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**TOWN OF PITTSBORO**

The Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners will hold Public Hearings on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom to consider the following items:

1. Legislative Public Hearing: To receive public input regarding the proposed Chatham Park Affordable Housing Plan Additional Element.

2. Legislative Public Hearing: Annexation (A-2021-04 Mello). the Town of Pittsboro has received a voluntary contiguous annexation petition for 15-501 East, LLC. Parcel 7146,75037. Current Zoning R-10 acreage: 178.94 acres

The purpose of the legislative public hearings is to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request. Interested persons may review the complete records of the public hearing items including the full text of the proposed Additional Element which can be obtained from the Town Clerk, Cassie Bullock (Phone Number:

014,021,2,tc

Macpage Communications

Bruce McDaniel

102 North 3rd Ave., Siler City, NC

919-227-6698

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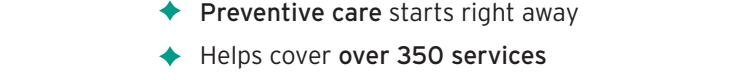
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