

Chatham News + Record

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'WE'RE GETTING THERE'

A road map to optional masking for Chatham's schools

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Four months after the Chatham County Schools Board of Education first approved universal indoor masking on its campuses this school year, Superintendent Anthony Jackson asked the school community at the board's Nov. 8 meeting to "stay the course for just a little while longer" before moving to optional masking.

"We're getting there, I wish that we could just stop tonight, but my heart of hearts tells me that we can't," Jackson said at

that meeting. "I would just ask that we just stay the course for just a little while longer, give those who want the vaccine time to get the vaccine, those who take advantage of those mitigation strategies, time to do that. And then, if we can't make them take the vaccine, we don't want to — we've never pushed any one thing other than trying to keep kids in school."

Since September, the board has taken a vote regarding its masking policy each month, in accordance with state law. Jackson asked the board to

reaffirm the district's universal masking policy to keep students in the classroom. The Nov. 8 vote marked the first that was not unanimous, with board member David Hamm dissenting.

During the public comments portion of the meeting, parents at the meeting almost exclusively asked that the district remove its masking policy. Throughout the meeting, Hamm raised a few questions about masking, primarily regarding the low transmis-

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Staff photo by Kim Hawks

1st grade students at Pittsboro Elementary School Tuesday morning.

KELLY REITER: FROM HERE TO HOLLYWOOD

Chatham native makes it to the big screen

She appears with Bruce Willis in 'Deadlock,' opening this week

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff



Courtesy of Daniel Shippey Photography

Chatham County's Kelly Reiter and film actor Bruce Willis pose on the set of 'Deadlock.' The movie — Reiter's first major role — which opens Friday, is about a gang of mercenaries, led by Willis' character, holding a nuclear power plant hostage.

movie at the time," Reiter said.

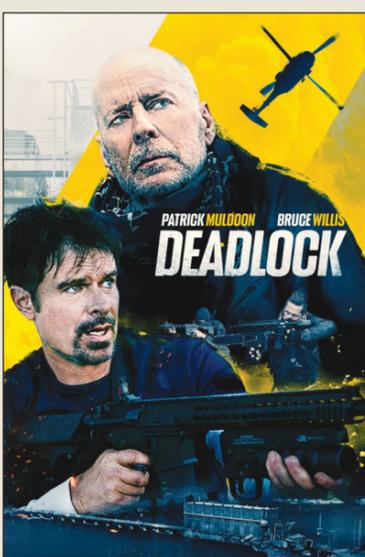
The film, which turned out to be "Deadlock," features Willis as the antagonist — very different from roles he has taken previously, including his wisecracking action hero turns in the "Die Hard" film series, comedies like "Look Who's Talking" and the gripping thriller "The Sixth Sense."

In "Deadlock," a crew of mercenaries — led by Willis' character, Ron Whitlock — hold nuclear power plant workers hostage, and it's up to some of the hostages to try to save the day.

Reiter reached out to Cohn to ask if there were any roles for her in the film, whether as an extra or a lead.

"I said to Jared to please keep me in mind — if there is anywhere I fit, if there is anything I can do,

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Courtesy of Saban Films

The movie poster for 'Deadlock,' which premieres on Dec. 3.

FORMER COMMISSIONER WOULD FACE REIVES

Petty announces he'll seek N.C. House 54 seat in '22

BY BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Business interests and a busy schedule led Walter Petty to resign as a

Chatham County commissioner in 2019. A higher call to be a political problem-solver has brought him back, this time seeking a higher office: the N.C. House Dist. 54 seat in the state's general assembly.

Petty, a Republican and lifelong resident of Siler City who'd served as commissioner since 2010, made the announcement last week, saying he intends to file for the seat held since 2014 by Rep. Robert Reives II.

Barring a May primary, Petty and Reives will face each other in the general election next November.

"Serving as a county commissioner provided me the opportunity to see that many of the challenges facing us can only be solved at the state level," Petty, 63, told the News + Record. "My intentions are to leverage the relationships I've built with House members and leadership to accomplish the goals I've had for the district since first getting elected in 2010."

Those goals, he said, include bringing more jobs to the district, aiding parents and students within the education system, and supporting law enforcement personnel.

Petty stepped down from his post as a Chatham County Commissioner in the middle of a four-year term back on April 15, 2019, citing the pressing time demands of his business — Atlantic Power Solutions, which sells and services generators for agricultural and industrial use, which was undergoing a period of rapid growth.

At the time, serving in the Dist. 5 seat since 2010, he was the lone Republican on the five-member board. Petty's appointed replacement, Andy Wilkie, was defeated in the November 2020 election by Franklin Gomez Flores. In the process, Gomez Flores — who won by just 322 votes over Wilkie — became Chatham's first Latino commissioner.

Since his resignation — which caught his fellow commissioners, and the rest of Chatham County, by surprise — Petty says he and his team have streamlined Atlantic Power Solu-

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1,4-Dioxane levels in Haw River have decreased

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Town staff continues to be encouraged by the most recent results from water samples taken from the Haw River following the Nov. 3 1,4-Dioxane discharge from Greensboro.

Lab results from before Thanksgiving showed concentrations of 1,4-Dioxane decreasing from the Nov. 17 spike of over 80 parts per billion, which was more than double the EPA recommend-

ed threshold. Raw water samples from Nov. 18 and Nov. 19 showed 50.5 parts per billion and 34.1 parts per billion, respectively. Treated water at Pittsboro's treatment plant, however, were above the EPA recommended threshold, with numbers showing 46.3 parts per billion and 49.8 parts per billion on Nov. 18 and Nov. 19.

And late Monday, Pittsboro Town Manager Chris Kennedy announced lab results from water samples drawn from the Haw River on Nov. 24 indicated levels as low as 6.58 parts per billion.

Kennedy said, however, elements of 1,4-Dioxane have still been able to trickle into the town's water system and storage tanks, indicated by the still elevated numbers in those water samples. 1,4-Dioxane levels in the water storage tanks had decreased, he said, but were still elevated compared to the numbers in the Haw River.

Kennedy said it would take time for the 1,4-Dioxane to filter out.

"The improvements in the raw water quality will eventually result in improved concentration levels in the

finished water circulated in our distribution system," he said.

While town staff is hesitant to say Pittsboro has been cleared of more contamination from the Nov. 3 discharge, Kennedy said in an email that town staff are optimistic about the numbers. "Staff is not considering us 'out of the woods' just yet, but we are relieved to see diminishing concentration levels," he said.

Town staff will continue to test the

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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 **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** will have a special session at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday via Zoom.
 • The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 6, at Wren Memorial Library in Siler City.

OTHER

• The Silk Hope Ruritan Club presents the **2nd annual Ruritan Country Christmas**, scheduled for 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 4, at Farm Heritage Park. Come on out and join club members for lots of family fun, music, sweets, and a visit from a special guest.
 • The **Siler City Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee** has rescheduled its December meeting due to staff availability. The Recreation Advisory Committee will meet Monday, Dec. 13, at 5:30 p.m. at the Earl B. Fitts Community Center for their regular meeting.
 • The **C.C.C.C. Foundation** is sponsoring a special holiday season drive-thru event on Thursday, Dec. 2, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center parking lot. The "Cougar Express" drive-thru event is geared toward small children will include cookies and candy canes, elves, a snow-woman — and, Santa Claus. Appropriate COVID-19 measures will be observed.
 • **Chatham CARES Community Pharmacy** will host its annual

Celebration of Lights drive-through fundraiser on Saturday, Dec. 4, at St. Julia Catholic Church in Siler City, from 6 to 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 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.

• The **C.C.C.C. Healthcare Job Fair** will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center in Sanford. Explore career and job possibilities with local healthcare employers. We invite nurses, phlebotomists, allied health, medical assistants, patient care technicians, CNAs, and medical office administration to attend and explore employment opportunities. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/306DrD3>.
 • A **Village Christmas Street Fair in Moncure** will be held around the loop in Haywood on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. featuring a Santa Claus greeting and Horse-Drawn sleigh rides, vendor's market, 7 Springs Vineyard, food trucks, kids' zone, and much more, with entry across from Liberty Chapel Church.

• **Holiday Wreath & Swap Auction Fundraiser** will be held Saturday, Dec. 4, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Charles Wesley Samuels Annex, 1915 Old U.S. 1, Moncure. Proceeds benefit Cancer Society and 2022 Moncure Christmas Parade Fund.
 • Tickets are now available online for **Pittsboro Youth Theater's** four performances of "Seussical" the musical Saturday, Dec. 4, and Sunday, Dec. 5. This local live on-stage musical is for and by local children ages 8 through 13. More information and tickets are available at www.PittsboroYouthTheater.com.

• 'Tis the season to celebrate with the **Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department** for Holiday in the Park, taking place on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Northwest District Park, at 2413 Woody Store Road, Siler City. This free event will include pictures with Santa, holiday-themed crafts and games, a scavenger hunt around the park, letters to Santa station, warm drinks and cookies, and more holiday fun. The event will end with the tree lighting on the pond at 5:30 p.m. Families can enjoy most of the event outside; however, if anyone would like to go inside the buildings located at Northwest District Park, they will be required to wear a face covering. In addition, there will be a COVID-19 vaccine clinic onsite at the event. That clinic will take place from 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Northwest District Park. Pediatric and adult Pfizer vaccines will be available. Pre-registration is encouraged at <https://myoptumserve.com/covid19> or by calling 877-505-6723; however, walk-ins are still welcome. - Chatham County Parks and Recreation will be following all COVID-19 guidelines from public health officials. Event details could be altered due to any changes with COVID-19. For more information, individuals may contact Mallory Peterson at the Parks and Recreation Department at 919-545-8553 or mallory.peterson@chathamcountync.gov.

• **Chatham Community Library** Presents a Virtual Film Screening: **Daring to Resist: Three Women Who Faced the Holocaust**, begins Thursday, Dec. 9, and continues through Thursday, Dec. 16. This program is free and open to the public. Access to the virtual screening will be available beginning Dec. 9, by visiting: <https://www.wmm.com/virtual-screening-room/daring-to-resist-watch-page-chatham-community-library>. A password is required at the time of viewing. Those who are interested may contact social.library@chathamlibraries.org to request the password or for additional information. The library has purchased a hard copy of the film if residents who wish to see the film miss the virtual screening window. Residents may also visit the libraries' website www.chathamlibraries.org, or contact the Library at (919) 545-8084 or rita.vanduinen@chathamlibraries.org for more information.

• **Paperbacks Plus!** located at 208 E. Raleigh St. in Siler City is again accepting donations for the annual **Christmas for the Animals**. All donations of food, toys, blankets, cleaning supplies, gift cards or cash will be accepted and distributed to the Chatham County Animal Shelter and to C.A.R.E. Help support these organizations and the animals in need of homes. We are open: Wed. 9-1, Thurs. and Fri. 12 to 5:30 and Sat., 10:30 to 5.

• The **Community Remembrance Coalition - Chatham & the Chatham County NAACP Branches 5377 and 5378** presents **The Unifying Power of Music: A Youth Celebration for the Holidays**, December 16, 2021 at 7 pm. RSVP to Zoom <https://www.crc-c.org/> with musical performances by Chatham Central High School, Jordan-Matthews High School, and Woods Charter School.

• **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.

• 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** has begun winter hours, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. We are located at 630 E. Street, Pittsboro, in the Food Lion Shopping Center. We are accepting donations of gently used men's and women's clothing and accessories. Credit cards are accepted. All 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.

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- Hosting events about to raise concerns about disability issues that our communities face
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 www.triangledac.org
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A Community of Girls Who Love to Sing

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'Best of' Triangle Theater is in Pittsboro



Sweet Bee Theater



'Tis the season' to attend Musicals Live On Stage



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL



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WOULD IMPACT PITTSBORO'S WATER SOURCE

Greensboro agrees to curb industrial discharges of likely carcinogen into Haw River

BY ADAM WAGNER
Raleigh News & Observer

The City of Greensboro will have lower limits on the discharge of a likely human carcinogen and will investigate local industries whose wastewater could be contributing to contamination of the Haw River, under the terms of a revised legal consent agreement.

The agreement revolves around a chemical called 1,4-Dioxane, which the Environmental Protection Agency classifies as a likely carcinogen. In Greensboro, industrial users discharge 1,4-Dioxane into their wastewater streams where it passes through the T.Z. Osborne Wastewater Treatment Plant and into a tributary of the Haw River. From there, the chemical is carried into Jordan Lake and the Cape Fear River. The contamination has been happening since at least 2014, but the most recent incident was Nov. 3, when Greensboro reported a discharge of 823 parts per billion, well above the 45 ppb limit established under a consent order reached with the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality earlier this year.

The Fayetteville Public Works Commission and the Haw River Assembly challenged that agreement, claiming that it did not limit discharge levels strictly enough and could actually result in more pollution.

That challenge led to last week's revised agreement, which limits discharges of 1,4-Dioxane to 35 parts per billion. It increases fines for chemical releases that triple that level, with fines even higher for releases of 500 parts per billion or more. Advocates said the

agreement's requirement for increased sampling and pollution control plans at Greensboro's industrial dischargers will likely help curb future contamination.

"I wish that we could go in and clean up the Haw River tomorrow," said Geoff Gisler, a Southern Environmental Law Center senior attorney who represented the Haw River Assembly in the matter. "Given that we can't do that, I think what you see in this agreement is a structure that will make the water as safe as possible as soon as possible."

1,4-Dioxane risks

Pittsboro, which draws its drinking water from the Haw below Greensboro, has struggled with the contamination. Earlier this year, the town voted to spend \$1.2 million to start installing granular activated carbon filters at its water plant in an effort to keep PFAS out of drinking water, but the system likely won't be able to capture 1,4-Dioxane.

Companies use 1,4-Dioxane as a solvent and in some textile processes, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The chemical is also found in paint strippers, varnishes and waxes.

The EPA has not set any enforceable limits for 1,4-Dioxane in drinking water, but does have a 35 parts per billion health advisory level. North Carolina has set a health advisory level of 0.35 parts per billion of 1,4-Dioxane.

Under the previous consent order, Greensboro was limited to 45 parts per billion in the first year of the agreement, declining to 33 ppb in the second year. The revised agreement has a limit of 35 ppb in the first year, followed by

31.5 and 23 ppb in the second and third years.

Emily Sutton, the Haw River Assembly's Haw riverkeeper, said she is somewhat disappointed that the discharge limits are above the state's 0.35 ppb, a level that is expected to cause one cancer case in a million people. But, Sutton said, the increased sampling and fines required under the new order will likely help decrease 1,4-Dioxane levels.

"If there's no discharges occurring, then those levels will be below 0.35 anyway, so we're really focused on removing the problem at hand. We don't want any of this toxin to be discharged into the Haw," Sutton said.

Greensboro's ongoing efforts

Elijah Williams, Greensboro's water reclamation manager, said in an email that all sampling data gathered to this point will be posted to the city's website by Dec. 3. After that, all reports will be posted within a week of being sent to DEQ, as the revised agreement requires.

"The City of Greensboro continues to be committed to the reduction of 1,4-Dioxane in the Haw River and Cape Fear River Basins," Williams wrote. "We worked with all parties during mediation to settle the challenge of the (consent order) and will comply with all of the additional requirements listed in the settlement agreement and the modified (consent order)." Under the new agreement, Greensboro will need to require pollution control plans for industrial sites that send 100 parts per billion of 1,4-Dioxane to the treatment facility this year, 31.5 ppb next year and

23 in the third year. In its investigation of the Nov. 3 discharge, Greensboro has homed in on a portion of its wastewater collection system called the Patton Trunkline. The city required each of the seven industries that discharge wastewater to that line to collect daily samples from Nov. 13 to 19 and have them tested. Those companies are also required to collect weekly composite samples until further notice, as well as daily samples that they must retain until Greensboro receives the lab results from its own wastewater to see if there's a spike in 1,4-Dioxane.

"We expect the city to find the industry that's responsible," Sutton said of the Nov. 3 investigation. Sutton pointed to the original consent order as a key reason for Greensboro's quicker progress in 1,4-Dioxane investigations. The discharge permit for Greensboro's wastewater treatment plant expired in 2019, but has not yet been reviewed by DEQ. When it is, Gisler said, that could provide a chance for state regulators to apply the much lower 0.35 ppb goal to the facility's discharge. "That's where we think this all needs to lead back to," Gisler said. "Getting Greensboro, getting their discharge of 1,4-Dioxane into the regular permitting process where DEQ requires them to come into compliance."

This story was produced with financial support from 1Earth Fund, in partnership with Journalism Funding Partners, as part of an independent journalism fellowship program. The N&O maintains full editorial control of the work.

WATER

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water from the Haw River and storage tanks until staff are certain the contamination has

passed, according to Kennedy.

The City of Greensboro recently agreed to new conditions on the agreement regarding the threshold allowed for 1,4-Dioxane discharges.

(See accompanying story in

this edition.) The new conditions have lowered the threshold allowed for Greensboro to discharge from 45 parts per billion to 35 parts per billion.

The new agreement also increase fines on discharges that

exceed the 35 parts per billion limit.

Town staff received a copy of new agreement on Monday morning, but by press time on Tuesday Kennedy hadn't commented about it.

This developing story will be updated online at www.chathamnewsrecord.com.

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

MASKS

Continued from page A1

sion rate of COVID-19 at CCS. He also seemed to question the safety of vaccines, though CCS administration has never indicated any sort of vaccine mandate.

"In short, it's time to move on!!!" Hamm told the News + Record in an email regarding the district's mask mandate. He mentioned the districts in the state that have recently moved to make masks optional. At least 39 of North Carolina's 115 school districts have voted to make mask-wearing optional, according to a database by the N.C. School Boards Association.

"From day one there have been so many conflicting stories, facts, and downright lies that it is hard to see through the smoke and mirrors of what (has) really been going on for two years," Hamm said. "Yes, time to move on. Some may want to wear their masks the rest of their lives, that's their choice. For those who don't, that too should be their choice."

CCS administration has long cited masking as the most important tool to keeping students in the classroom by keep-

ing case transmission within school buildings low. There have been 293 cases among students and staff since the first day of school, and just two clusters, according to the district's COVID dashboard on Tuesday. The district's positive case rate has lingered under 1% the entire school year, which is lower than the transmission rate in Chatham as a whole.

So, when should the district transition to optional masking? The News + Record spoke with Mike Zelek, director of the Chatham County Public Health Department, to find out.

Schools should continue requiring universal masking in counties where there are higher levels of community transmission, per the state health department's recommendation.

County spread is calculated in two ways, Zelek said, referencing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's definition: its total new cases per 100,000 people and percentage of positive COVID-19 tests in the last seven days. According to recommendations from the state and CDC, counties with substantial and high transmission should require masking in schools; counties

with low and moderate transmission can opt for optional.

In Chatham, the county's three charter schools also still have indoor mask mandates.

With 61.77 cases per 100,000 people and 5% positivity rate, according to CDC county data, Chatham is an area of substantial transmission. Here is the breakdown for how county transmission levels are determined:

- Low transmission: 0-9.99 cases per 100K, 0-4.99% tests positive
- Moderate transmission: 10-49.99 cases, 5-7.99% positive
- Substantial transmission: 50-99.99 cases, 8-9.9% positive
- High transmission: more than 100 cases, greater than 10%

"When community transmission levels decline in your county to moderate or low levels for at least 7 consecutive days, school leaders can consider making face coverings optional for vaccinated individuals," the state's StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit says. "Face coverings should continue to be required for all unvaccinated individuals until community transmission is at low levels, when masks could be optional for everyone. NCDHHS will continue to reevaluate this guidance as all school-aged children become eligible for and get vaccinated."

Children ages 5-11 are now able to get vaccinated, following a Nov. 2 recommendation by the CDC. If children were vaccinated the first weekend they were eligible, they won't be fully vaccinated until Dec. 18 — six weeks after their first doses.

The winter months coupled with the emergence of the Omicron variant could quickly increase spread.

Zelek said the health department is "keeping a close eye" on the Omicron variant. Last week, scientists in South Africa and Botswana detected a

new strain of COVID-19, one with about 50 mutations across its genome, compared to Delta's less than 20 mutations.

Health officials have detected Omicron in more than a dozen countries across at least five continents since Nov. 24, when it was first reported to the World Health Organization. The variant poses a "very high" risk, the WHO said on Monday.

"While Omicron has some characteristics that are concerning, it is too soon to know what impact it will have globally or locally," Zelek told the News + Record. "We continue to recommend getting vaccinated and wearing a mask when around others indoors, especially in crowded spaces."

Health experts believe that existing COVID vaccines will continue to provide protection against the new strain, but it will be one to two weeks before scientists gain more precise data on Omicron based on the tracking current cases.

In Chatham, Zelek said the health department is keeping an eye on COVID spread as we enter the winter months and holiday season, when respiratory viruses tend to spread more. The department is also working to increase vaccination rates, particularly among newly eligible children.

"The more successful we are at reducing the spread of COVID and increasing the rate of vaccinations, the better off we all are and the sooner we can relax certain measures," Zelek said.

At CCS, the district has phased in free weekly COVID-19 tests to students and staff using rapid results tests administered by Raleigh-based Mako Medical as an additional mitigation strategy. 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.

The district is also requiring high school athletic testing, which some parents raised concern over during public comments. CCS Chief Operations Officer Chris Blice said the program is meant to help athletic seasons proceed as normally as possible.

"Our goal is to do COVID testing to protect our student athletes and minimize having to quarantine large groups, and or forfeit games and matches," he previously said. "Because winter sports are generally played indoors, have large followings from inside and outside of our county, and varying levels of masking, it is especially important to do this."

What's next?

The CCS Board of Education meets next Dec. 13, where it will again vote on universal masking. Apart from Hamm, board members seem to want to follow the recommendation of the administration and health department.

"I would ask that the board please allow us to continue with masking at this point to give our families time to take advantage of additional mitigation strategies," Jackson said in November. "And then we can revisit this again in December and hopefully things have improved to the point where we can begin to move forward — we're getting there. We're getting there."

Jackson declined to comment further on the administration's upcoming recommendation, but has previously mentioned the importance of working with the local and state health departments to make decisions. Under those metrics, the administration recommending anything other than universal masking while Chatham is still categorized as a "substantial transmission" zone would represent a large departure.

Board Chairperson Gary Leonard told the News + Record the board

has been fortunate to receive such clear guidance from the local health department and Duke University's ABC Science Collaborative. Leonard suggested he would aim to follow the recommendation of administration when it comes to the mask mandate.

"I think as a board member, that's what I would always say that I would try to do," he said. "Now when I say that, I think as much as anything, I think the administration is going to try to do what our public health officials are recommending that we do. As a board member, I would think that I would try my best to listen to our public health officials."

He stressed he is one of five board members.

"We've got them in school five days a week," he said. "We have tried to do it as safely as possible. I'm hoping that we can continue moving forward to help us get rid of any restrictions that we would need, as long as we could do that safely. But I don't know when that will be."

Technically, a county could move back and forth from moderate to substantial transmission. Acknowledging that, some N.C. school districts are making masking decisions on a weekly basis.

Zelek said Chatham remains at a substantial level of transmission as we approach colder months and increased travel for the holidays.

"I recognize that the COVID mitigation strategies that have been in place cannot and should not go on forever," he said. "The key question is how to evolve our approaches in a thoughtful, scientific way. We have done this throughout the pandemic, and it will continue to be important moving forward."

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



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VIEWPOINTS

A teacher, a death, a lasting impact

I never met Mike Williams, the Jordan-Matthews teacher who was killed in a car accident just before Thanksgiving. We learned about his death from Nancy

BILL HORNER III
Publisher + Editor

Wykle, the public information officer for Chatham County Schools, who told us on Monday he was an outstanding teacher, truly and genuinely beloved by students and staff.

For me, reading about Mike and his impact at J-M brought back memories of the tragic accidental death of another educator, one I knew — Mrs. Watson, my 2nd-grade teacher at what was then St. Clair Elementary School in Sanford.

Some of the details of the day she died have been lost to the fog of my 58 years, but other things are crystal clear: the morning bell ringing that day

with my classmates and me sitting there in her cheery classroom, wondering where Mrs. Watson was. The anxiousness we felt, looking at each other and wondering what to do as the minutes slowly ticked by. Three of us boys finally deciding to leave the room (a brazen move for me, then a 7-year-old) to search for her, without success. Her white Volkswagen Beetle — why I knew what she drove, I can't fathom — not being among the cars in the school's small parking lot. Our principal corralling me, as I wandered in the hallways, back into class. Being told that we'd have a substitute that day because Mrs. Watson was sick.

I recall the rest of the day as a confusing one. There seemed to be a pall over things — the other kids, the school; the cafeteria was especially quiet that day — but I don't remember any particular worry on my part. *Surely*, I remember thinking, *our teacher would feel better and be back tomorrow.*

But at day's end, our princi-

pal came back to tell our class the news that we later learned all the other students already knew: our Mrs. Watson was killed in a car accident on the way to school.

Mike Williams

As a 2nd-grader, death was a distant and ambiguous concept for me. My recollection — and this may not be accurate — was that, at the telling of the horrible news, all the girls in my class cried and none of the boys did. I remember observing that and thinking: what a curious thing. I also remember thinking: until now, I'd never talked to a person, *in person*, who ended up dead.

I also remember feeling sadness: a teacher I'd come to adore was hurt badly enough that she died, and that was so unfair, and that I'd miss her smile and what I liked most about her: the effervescence

and tender nature she possessed that destined her for an elementary classroom.

Many years later, my mother told me she heard Mrs. Watson swerved to miss a dog in the road. That's what led to the accident: an act of compassion.

It's easy to say now, in the kind of idealistic memorialization that follows an untimely death, that Mrs. Watson was my favorite teacher. The reality is we only had her for a couple of months before the accident occurred, and I have vivid recollections of only one brief conversation with her. I didn't know until many years later — when I sought out the story of her death in dusty newspaper archives — that Mrs. Watson was the first teacher of color in our school and one of the first Black elementary school teachers in all of Lee County.

I do know, unequivocally, though, that she was special: sweet-natured, gentle, reassuring, patient. Her eyes would sparkle when we learned something, and she absolutely

beamed when we were engaged together as a class.

I suspect it was probably the same with Mike Williams. My friend Rose Pate, who worked with Mike at Jordan-Matthews, told me he was “one of the most decent human beings I've ever known.” Other colleagues described him as a mentor, eager to volunteer at the school and provide a listening ear, saying “the ripple effects of his efforts will be felt for years to come.”

I can believe it. No, I didn't know Mike. But here's what I also believe: a half century from now, scores of graying J-M graduates will still be talking about him, and they'll be better because he was, for even a short time, their teacher.

A memorial service for Williams will be held at 5:30 p.m. Friday in J-M's auditorium in Siler City.

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

Kyle Rittenhouse needed a mentor. Are you one?

Before the fatal night of Aug. 25, 2020, in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Kyle Rittenhouse was a high school dropout. His job experience was limited to that of a part-time lifeguard.

But Rittenhouse was steeped in another kind of education: the rhetoric of far right-wing militias like the Oath Keepers and Proud Boys, groups which claim violence against certain people, whether because of their religion, politics or the color of their skin, is justified and heroic.

Rittenhouse has been lauded by these right-wing militias and other white supremacist groups. After he was acquitted of murder charges, three prominent Republicans took to social media to offer internships to Rittenhouse.

Though not a national figure, I know I have a measure of influence upon younger generations as a pastor. While certain politicians and hate groups view Rittenhouse's case as a cause for celebration, I see the reality of troubled youth in America as a call to mentor.

The word “mentor” is from the Greek word “to abide with.” A mentor is a positive presence who guides another person along the journey of life. Mentors can be very different based on personal experiences. But I think I know a good mentor when I meet one.

I admire the examples of Black mentors in our community, whether they are politicians like County Commissioner Karen Howard or community leaders like the Rev. Charles Mathews of Union Grove A.M.E. Zion Church. Both Howard and Mathews have articulated the need for racial justice and equity in the pages of the Chatham News + Record. I have done the same in this column.

But have I done enough to mentor troubled individuals?

There are young white men here in Chatham County who, like Rittenhouse, have made poor choices. While all people must be responsible for their own actions, they could also use the support and guidance of elders who meet them where they are and point them in a life-giving direction. They need a mentor.

This is an urgent need — for other people are reaching our youth with the wrong messages and even worse things. Rittenhouse was not only given a violent ideology but a semiautomatic rifle. The weapon he used in Kenosha was purchased for him by his sister's boyfriend, a young man whom Rittenhouse admired.

What are we going to offer the young men in our communities? What can we do to prevent acts of violence? What wisdom can we share? What hope? What love? These questions extend to people of all races.

I also wish to make a specific call for white people to mentor young white men. I learned this from yet another Black mentor. Pastor and community organizer LaShauna Austria led an anti-racism workshop at my church last summer. She gave this charge to our primarily white congregation: “You need to reach out to the young white men. They are most likely to listen to you.”

In order to give hope to others, we must have hope ourselves. We cannot write off or give up on any young person in our community. It boils down to this question: Are you willing to dedicate the time and energy necessary to become a mentor? I hope so ...

There's a young person out there who needs you.

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



Leave leaves leaving trees ... or rake and burn them?

My father had many sayings he imparted to his three sons. Some were original, I think, while others he had heard himself or were a part of the general culture of mankind.

There were the familiar sayings like “You can't have your cake and eat it, too,”

if we were having trouble deciding whether to spend money or to save it. “Keep it between the ditches” was a favorite of his as we slid behind the wheel learning to drive.

Others were specific to the son in question. On more than one occasion he reminded me that, “You'd lose your head if it weren't glued on.” Actually he used another part of the human anatomy when sharing that wisdom with me, but you get the picture; it still applies today.

But there's one saying my oldest brother says he heard often that I can't remember and whose origin is, at least according to the masses, lost somewhere never to be found. The saying in question is, obviously, relevant this time of the year: “If 'ifs' and 'buts' were candy and nuts, we'd all have a Merry Christmas.”

The logic behind that, I think, is that we use those two words — “if” and “but” — too often to be helpful in meeting life head-on. Instead of concentrating on what was or could be we'd be better off to deal with

reality. And it's the reality of this time of year coupled with that little rhyme that has led me to this point: “If leaves were dollar bills, I'd have lots of money.”

Our little corner of heaven is in the Chatham County countryside. I like it. We're close enough to what shopping needs to be done but are free from traffic congestion. At night we see a little of the glow from Siler City or Sanford but can still see the sky and the North Star.

We hear the sounds of nature's night ... the crickets, bullfrogs in the summer, chattering squirrels and even the unwelcome howl of the coyotes across the woods.

And then there are the trees — shady and cool in the summer and stark and impressive in the winter, when the leaves come off. I know you can't have it both ways; you either cut all the trees (ugh!) or you keep the trees and get the leaves. So far this year we're way behind on raking and burning.

My Better Half loves to rake and burn the leaves that abandon their tree homes this time of year. Something about clearing the yard and smelling the smoke. Folks who live in town miss out on much of that, at least the burning part. Rake 'em to the curb and wait for the vacuum truck and hope there's not much wind until.

As a little guy my mama tortured me and engaged in child abuse by having me help rake her leaves. During the process, I tried to leave enough time, space and energy to

jump into the big piles we'd gathered, at least enough to scatter them all again until she threatened to hide the peanut butter if I didn't stop. At that point I did.

As her brood aged and scattered and produced their own flock of little folks, arriving at the home place to help rake her leaves became part of the Thanksgiving proceedings. The key was to arrive late enough to miss out on most of the work but not too late to miss dinner.

My brothers had that perfected — which meant I did most of the work.

In time the Air Quality Police told us we should cease and desist from destroying the atmosphere on Mars as we burned our leaves. After Better Half and I took up residence here, for the longest time we'd rake leaves into a ditch or scatter them into the pasture or dump them in the natural (“ungrassed”) part of our yard to help in the creation of more dirt. And some we even left in piles for the puppy patrol to sleep in.

But in time the lure of the smoke was too strong so out came the rakes and the matches and once again there's a haze over our place ... except that, as noted, we're way behind. The good news of that is, I guess, that there's still plenty of smoke still to be smelled and enjoyed.

But as I celebrate more birthdays and realize all over again that I'm not going to outlast Mother Nature, and that she can dump more leaves than I can get up, I'm becoming more inclined to leave the leaves and to take another of my dad's proverbs to heart: “Don't wish your time away. Pace yourself.”

Thanks, Dad.

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 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

Infrastructure bill did us no favors



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

The \$1 trillion infrastructure bill President Joe Biden signed into law on Nov. 15 attracted the votes of both Republican and Democratic lawmakers in Washington and has attracted praise from many North Carolina leaders, as well — once more illustrating the fact that bad ideas can also be popular ideas.

The bill is bad because it's misleading (only about half of the total, \$550 billion, represents truly new spending). It's bad because it's unconstitutional (the federal government was never supposed to be so heavily involved in purely local and regional infrastructure). And it's bad because it's wasteful (all the federal strings attached to the funds, including union-scale wage require-

ments, will make the investment far less efficient than if states and localities funded the projects themselves).

As with other government services, it is a mistake to equate dollars spent with value added. For example, the bill includes \$110 billion for roads and bridges and \$105 billion for rail and transit. The relative proportions are absurd. Dollars spent on highways are far more productive than dollars spent on transit or Amtrak.

Even within the highway category, some states are going to spend the dollars prudently and others poorly. North Carolina, as it happens, will likely perform comparatively well. Although our Department of Transportation has recently struggled to produce accurate forecasts of future projects, changes in the state's funding formulas and procedures have significantly boosted the productivity of our highway investments over the past decade.

A California-based think tank, the Reason Foundation,

conducts an annual study of the cost-effectiveness of state highway systems. As recently as 2016, North Carolina ranked 17th in the study (which the think tank I used to head, the John Locke Foundation, published for a number of years before Reason took the baton). The latest edition, which draws on 2019 data, ranks North Carolina 5th in the nation.

Reason's ranking system incorporates both cost and value measures. North Carolina keeps its per-mile administrative expenses modest (11th lowest) while the condition of our pavement is rather good (8th best for rural roads and 10th for interstates and urban roads). Our fatality rates are close to the national average, as is traffic congestion in our urban areas (which actually constitutes an improvement from years ago). North Carolina's worst performance (39th) is for the share of bridges that are structurally deficient.

Care to take a guess at which states get the least bang for

their highway bucks? Yep, for the most part it's the usual suspects: California (45th), New York (46th), and New Jersey (50th), plus the hard-to-build-in states of Hawaii (47th) and Alaska (48th). Florida (41st), as it happens, fares poorly in this area, too, while Texas (16th) is significantly above average.

That states vary so widely in the cost-effectiveness of their highway spending is a major reason for Washington to butt out of it — and, for the most part, out of infrastructure funding more broadly.

Back when presidents and congresses cared about such constitutional niceties, more than half a century ago, they justified the federal interstate highway system as a defense measure to ensure that troops and materiel could be moved rapidly across the country in case of attack. There remains a similar justification for some federal spending on infrastructure, to be sure — to make sure we have secure lines for transmitting information and

energy during wartime, for example.

But the vast majority of the benefits of roads, bridges, transit, broadband networks, and water systems will accrue to those who live near and make use of those systems on a regular basis. They ought to pay for them, with some combination of user charges and taxes, and their elected local and state representatives should be the ones making decisions about infrastructure needs, investments, and operations.

Removing these responsibilities to Washington doesn't turn the resulting projects into free gifts. It merely socializes cost and reduces efficiency. North Carolinians would be better off if the federal infrastructure bill had never passed.

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 (MountainFolk-Book.com).

Over the river and speeding

After last year's lockdown, it's great to once again gather with family for the holidays. Some will be traveling "over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house." During the holidays our already crowded and inadequately maintained roads will be strained, especially since speeding has surged in our state.

Burt Reynolds' stunt driving in the movie "Smokey and the Bandit" doesn't hold a candle to some of the drivers we've encountered. Picture Interstate 40 on a Friday afternoon in what has to be described as heavy traffic. I'm driving my usual "9 and under" on the 70 mph road when I suddenly see, in my rearview mirror, not one, but two cars bobbing and weaving, racing to pass everyone. There's more space between a burger and the bun on a Big Mac than when these cars recklessly wedge themselves between cars. Liken it to parallel parking at 85 miles an hour.

Either these guys (and I suspect they were male drivers) had a death wish or there was a pot of gold waiting them if they arrived at a prescribed destination by a certain time in one piece. But they were scaring the bejesus out of the rest of us. And this was not an isolated experience, as I'm sure you probably know.

We live in an age of rage and I suspect that's about as good an explanation as you can find for some of the outrageous conduct we encounter on our roads. The North Carolina Highway Patrol reports they've already arrested more extreme speeders through the end of October — 47,368 — than in the whole year 2020. (Extreme speeding is defined as driving 25 or more miles per hour over the posted speed limit.)

The Charlotte Observer recently released an investigative study showing that speeding enforcement over the past decade actually declined, despite the fact that our state gained more than 100,000 residents during the period.

Part of the decline is due to a shortage of as many as 200 troopers in the number of State Highway Patrol officers. We have about 1,400 sworn officers to cover 10.6 million citizens in the 53,821 square miles of our state. Some of the shortage can be explained by retirements, but pay is also a factor. Starting pay is \$37,300 and the average trooper salary is \$50,686 for a job that has exacting standards, long hours and is increasingly dangerous. All law enforcement agencies in our state are having increased difficulty getting men and women to wear the uniform. We need to pay more for those protecting us from harm's way.

Another reason for increased speeding is that speeders get off too easy. It begins with overcrowded district court dockets and overworked district attorneys. It is too easy to get a charge reduced or dismissed outright. Even repeat offenders can pay a lawyer as little as \$99 and get the violation, and the resultant increased insurance premiums, reduced to an "improper equipment" dismissal or Prayer for Judgment, which is unique to our state. Bottom line: this experience, which should teach you not to disobey speed laws, actually becomes a de facto permission slip for doing it again.

It's obvious we need to make our roads safer, and the best way to accomplish this is for stricter penalties. Let's change driving laws to greatly increase fines for first offenders and automatic loss of license for repeated offenders. Maybe having to Uber to work will be incentive enough to drive more prudently. Of the 1,400 road deaths this year, about 1 in 4 is the result of speeding.

As Sergeant Chris Knox, spokesman for the Highway Patrol, said, "By stopping that person [a speeder], we know we may have just saved that person's life. And we may also have saved the life of someone down the road."

The message we hear every holiday is, "Drive to arrive alive." It's worth heeding.

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

North Carolinian wins coveted National Book Award

What's the biggest news in our state's literary circles?



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

On Nov. 17, Jason Mott won the National Book Award for Fiction. No North Carolinian had won that coveted award since Charles Frazier was recognized for "Cold Mountain" in 1997.

Mott won this year for his fourth novel, "Hell of a Book."

He grew up in Bolton, a small town in Columbus County in southeastern North Carolina, near Lake Waccamaw, the son of hard-working Black parents. He graduated from UNC-Wilmington and earned a master's degree there.

Here is how award judges described the book:

"With audacity and invention, Jason Mott's 'Hell of a Book' weaves together three narrative strands — an unnamed author, a boy named Soot, and a figure known as The Kid — into a masterful novel. In a structurally and conceptually daring examination of art, fame, family and being Black in America, Mott somehow manages the impossible trick of being playful, insightful, and deeply moving, all at the same time. A highly original, inspired work that breaks new ground."

The book's early pages introduce one of the main characters, Soot, a nickname he gained from

his dark black skin. We read about him as a 10-year-old being harassed and teased, causing Soot to wish that he were invisible. Before the book ends, the reader learns how Soot has experienced horrible effects of racism, including losing his father to unprovoked police gun fire.

In a separate plotline, we learn from the author-narrator that he is on a book tour for a new book, also titled "Hell of a Book." He catches our attention when we first meet him running naked through the halls of a hotel at 3:30 in the morning, being chased by the husband of a woman with whom he had been making love. He also meets someone who could be a serious love interest. The book tour part of the book, Mott says, started out as a separate book.

We also meet The Kid, an imaginary figure who appears in the narrator's mind on a regular basis. The Kid's formidable presence is evidence that the narrator has some severe mental-health challenges.

Through Soot's experiences, Mott forces readers to confront the continuing horrors of racism in our society. This description of racial injustice could have been a stand-alone book, separate from the narrator's book tour experiences. Readers can judge whether they prefer the book divided or, as it is, in a single volume.

Mott's frontal attack on racism surprised me because his early writing avoided racial topics.

In 2013 when I read "The Returned," his debut novel set in a place like Columbus County about dead people returning to life, I was surprised that race and racism played no part in his book.

He told me and others that he did not want to be known as a Black writer or one who tackled racism head on. He wanted to write good stories, not descriptions of racial prejudice.

I thought this was a positive and wrote about his characters, "To put it bluntly, you cannot tell the whites from the blacks. It [the book] is race neutral. Mott's fictional characters then are judged by the content of their character, just the way Martin Luther King dreamed."

But "Hell of a Book" is a turnaround. It confronts racism and all its violent horrors.

Why the change? Mott says he has become impatient as he tries to understand what it means to be Black in America today. He is tired of being neutral. He decided, after avoiding the topic in his first three books to "turn the lens around and head on into it."

However you feel about Mott's turn, you have to celebrate the national attention for a fine North Carolina author.

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.

LETTERS

Bill Crawford misses the mark on story criticism

TO THE EDITOR:

I appreciate the opinion and input of local Republican leader and former candidate Bill Crawford ("Election story was missing a few pieces," letters, Nov. 18-24).

Respectfully, I think he misses the mark as to why the Chatham News + Record covered the work product of a local PAC that was pointedly negative against Commissioner Michael Fiocco during the last week of the municipal campaign — even going so far as to put a picture of me with Fiocco on its front cover as proof of Fiocco being friendly with developers.

A point so ridiculous given the volume of photos of me with local, state, and national leaders.

This was part of a broader campaign focused on personal online and whisper attacks as opposed to a campaign focused on accomplishing positive public policy for the citizens of Pittsboro.

The point of the article by the

News + Record ("Negative flyer, online attacks haunt candidates in Pittsboro race," Nov. 11-17 edition) that investigated the negative smear flyer against Commissioner Fiocco was related to the content of the flyer, who created it, why it was created, and its implications during the election and moving forward.

I applaud the young journalist for her work and attention to detail.

The other PAC cited by Mr. Crawford (Friends of Baldwin Fiocco and Nass) was supported by Mayor Nass, my wife Lesley and others and it focused primarily on communicating who Baldwin, Fiocco and Nass are, why they want to continue serving, why their experience matters, what they will do in office and how and where a citizen can vote.

It did not focus on hand-delivering a hit piece during the last week of the campaign.

Supporting Main Street, better water, the health of our entire community and ensuring that

Chatham Park paid its fair share and finished the Affordable Housing Element of its Additional Elements for the Chatham Park Master Plan seem pretty positive.

And if that is the direction the town will go with its new Mayor Cindy Perry and Commissioner James Vose — that will be positive as well.

And we all want better quality water.

As for attacking my wife for doing design and print work for a local PAC — that is her profession. She is a local business owner who has been a graphic designer for 38 years.

Would Mr. Crawford rather see a non-local firm hired to do the work?

I fail to see what the issue is other than the usual smoke and mirrors and attempts to create a whopping "nothingburger" for the people to swallow.

Hon. Randy Voller
Pittsboro
(The writer is a former mayor of Pittsboro.)

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Pittsboro approves affordable housing element for Chatham Park

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — After almost two hours of discussion, the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners voted 4-1 last Monday to approve the last of Chatham Park's "additional elements" components — requiring 7.5%, or 1,650, of the planned community's 22,000 market-rate housing units — to be affordable housing.

Only Commissioner John Bonitz dissented, saying he was "astonished" the board favored moving ahead with the controversial element without additional discussion.

With the vote, the board approved the affordable housing element with the changes the rest of the board agreed to during Monday's evening.

Bonitz said he didn't feel comfortable voting on it without further discussion on concerns about the elements he's received from the public, as well as changes some board members suggested on Monday night — such as not requiring parks or recreational space among affordable units.

"This is highly inappropriate policy-making to be editing an important document like this that has massive implications for decades to come," Bonitz said. "I am astonished that the board went along with it again — approving an element based on verbal edits not yet put in writing, I'm just astonished. I'm kind of horrified, really."

Affordable housing was the final element of 12 approved for the Chatham Park development after the initial approval, back in 2015, of Chatham Park's master

plan. The additional elements address specific issues related to things such as lighting and tree protection and cover.

Pittsboro's governing body would be allowed to revise the affordable housing element in the future if it were needed, but Town Manager Chris Kennedy encouraged commissioners to make sure all of the edits they wanted were voiced before voting on Monday.

"Elements can be amended over time, but I think it is in everyone's best interest to have them as correct as possible when you adopt them," Kennedy said. "I think we can all agree to that."

Commissioner Michael Fiocco made the motion to approve the affordable housing element, with the amendments Chatham Park presented to the board. Commissioner Pamela Baldwin seconded the motion.

"This meeting is the last one where I will be participating in votes, and this item is one near to my heart," Fiocco said while making the motion last Monday. "I would like to work through it, and I would like to make a decision tonight."

Fiocco's reelection bid failed last month, ending a 12-year run on the board. He finished third in the commission board's Nov. 2 general election race, which saw Baldwin reelected and newcomer James Vose, who will take office Dec. 13, finish second.

In the original proposal in 2016, Chatham Park offered to make 1% of its residential developments affordable housing units. Last Monday's approved plan had Chatham Park agreeing to 7.5% of residential prop-

erties being affordable homes — a major increase. Of those, 90% of the affordable housing units would be multi-family homes, such as duplexes, apartments and more, while the other 10% would be allocated for single-family homes.

The policy will also allow for Chatham Park developers to receive a density bonus for developing affordable units, which can be beneficial if the town were to pursue affordable housing tax credits or applying for funding for public transit.

The amended proposal also allowed for Chatham Park to create affordable housing developments up to half a mile outside its borders. Pittsboro will also create a housing trust — which would operate as a nonprofit — as well as work with the county tax office to ensure 2.5% of town tax revenue paid by the Chatham Park property owners over the next 30 years will go toward affordable housing.

After the meeting, Fiocco said he felt the element's approval was a crucial step for the town of Pittsboro, adding that an affordable housing policy would help to diversify the types of housing Pittsboro has to offer.

"We've heard that one of the things that is really lacking in Pittsboro is apartment-style living," he said. "We've recently had some apartment complexes come in, but those tend to be naturally occurring affordable housing because of the type of product that it is, so this will increase the amount and opportunity for folks to have lower-costing, good housing."

Bonitz supports a mandatory affordable housing requirement for the Chatham Park development, but thinks the policy his board passed won't be enough for Pittsboro.

"The first proposal [back in 2016] offered only 1% of the total as affordable housing, whereas the version last night promises 7.5% affordable," he said last Tuesday. "This is better, but experts said we needed 15%."

Bonitz also didn't like the way the policy was ultimately passed. He said approving a document before seeing verbal edits were provided in writing is not the way a high-impacting policy, such as the affordable housing element, should be approved.

"The edits had not yet been written, they were verbal, the final document had not been published, and I don't think we all truly understood all the complexities and implications," Bonitz told the News + Record. "We received expert input mere hours before the meeting, and with the stress of knowing the vote would be forced left me incapable of voicing all of these detailed and complex issues and problems under those circumstances. Good policy cannot be crafted under duress."

Fiocco, on the other hand, felt the policy wasn't rushed; discussions regarding affordable housing in Chatham Park, he said, have been ongoing for almost 10 years.

"I was involved early on with Chatham Park since 2011, 2012 when they started talking about the master plan," he said last Tuesday. "I knew back in 2012 there was going to be an

affordable housing component to Chatham Park, and it was a matter of working through the details. Here we are, 2021, and the final details for us that were put in place last night."

Even after the vote on Monday night, Bonitz said he felt pushing the vote to Dec. 13 would have ensured what he called "a better policy for all parties." Dec. 13 is also when mayor-elect Cindy Perry and commissioner-elect Vose will be sworn into office — with Fiocco going off the board — and Bonitz said he thought the transition of power would have helped to create a better policy.

"I am confident that the board to be organized on Dec. 13 could have gotten a better policy for all parties, if only because the language would be complete, finalized, published and we could have all understood it better and possibly reached a broadly shared trust," Bonitz said. "Instead, because of a rushed process, this policy will carry the stain of having been negotiated largely behind closed doors, rushed through the public process, and overall been given less effort and attention than the Landscaping Element."

Fiocco said passing the policy before he left the board was of utmost importance to him.

"The town is serious about providing for lower-income housing and working hard to be a caveat for such housing," he said. "I've worked extremely hard on all of the elements, and I was really happy to be able to put a bow on this one."

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

ACTRESS

Continued from page A1

please let me know," she recounted.

Cohn asked the film's producers about casting Reiter in a role, but was told she "wasn't a big enough name" to be cast in the film. The disappointed Reiter understood, but didn't lose hope. She kept in contact with Cohn and in January, after learning he was in Georgia for *Deadlock's* production, reached out to him once more.

"I messaged him that I was in North Carolina with my family in quarantine if he needed me for anything," she said.

Cohn and one of the film's producers called Reiter the next day while she was out for a walk with her mother, Patricia. An actor in the cast had just tested positive for COVID, so they were looking for a replacement — and fast.

"He asked how fast could I be on set," Reiter said.

She was asked to play the role of Rakestraw, the female lead and a welder at the nuclear plant in which the film is set. Rakestraw is the love interest of actor Patrick Muldoon's character, Mack, who portrays the hero in the story. Reiter, as Rakestraw, would be one of the key players in the story; she'd get several scenes with Willis, and in fact is shown with his character in *Deadlock's* official trailer.

Reiter was expected to be on set — which was eight hours away — by the next morning.

She said she accepted the role over the phone, then dropped to her knees and started crying.

"I started hysterically sobbing," Reiter recalled. "We got back to the house, I'm trying to pack, my mom is yelling at my dad (Michael) trying to explain what is going on, my dad is so confused — it was quite the scene."

Reiter made the trek to Georgia, where she spent more than a month in filming. Primary shooting took place in the

middle of the pandemic, in January and February of this year.

Deadlock's set required daily temperature checks and regular COVID testing. Reiter said she was careful to safeguard her health while filming; she knew if she tested positive for COVID, she'd be sent home and might lose the role.

She also knew one way to stay in the production was to be on set long enough to film the scenes she had with Willis.

"I knew that until I got scenes with Bruce, I could still get cut out of the movie," she said. "If I got there, shot some scenes and then tested positive for COVID, they could still send me home — so until I got my scenes with Bruce, I was not leaving my hotel room."

Reiter avoided cast dinner parties and outings until it was time to film her scenes with Willis. When she walked onto the set on that day, she said others in the cast could sense how nervous she was.

"I had never sat across from anyone like Bruce Willis before, so I was stressed out," she said.

But those nerves would soon calm: as she rehearsed and filmed scenes with Willis, she said he helped to make her feel comfortable.



Courtesy of Saban Films

Chatham County native Kelly Reiter films a scene with film veteran Bruce Willis (right) from the motion picture 'Deadlock.' It's Reiter's first major film role.

"He definitely started small talk and helped me ease into it, and we got close enough that, in between takes, he would come over and joke with me and rest his head on my shoulder and just banter back and forth," Reiter said. "He made me feel so much more comfortable. He could tell that I was super nervous and he was very kind."

Since "*Deadlock*" wrapped, Reiter has been offered more major film opportunities, including costarring with country music star Trace Adkins in the upcoming film "*Maneater*" about friends on vacation who are stalked by a large shark. The film — in which Reiter portrays a character named "Brianna" — is

in post-production. She's also traveled around the world for other film roles, including one filmed in Serbia; her IMDB page lists more than 20 films in various forms of production.

"*Deadlock*," though, has been her most memorable experience — and one she hopes will serve as a springboard for her acting career.

"I can always show this movie to my kids, and just to say 'I did that' — it makes everything worth it to me," she said. "I

know that if I never work again, I will always have this movie."

Reiter also has a home to come to in Chatham County, and has recently spent time with family in northern Chatham, enjoying the run-up to the Thanksgiving holiday.

"This is the first time I have gotten to slow down," she told the News + Record. "Being able to sit down, have a cup of tea and look at the fall leaves and spend time with my family is something I've wanted for so long and it's so needed."

While she loves acting, she doesn't want to stay in Los Angeles for the rest of her career. The culture there is too different than the small, tight-knit community Chatham County offered her.

"It's very materialistic, wherever you go," she said. "Whenever I go to a lunch meeting or something like that, people will look at the brand of my purse or what I look like. I've lost roles for things that I cannot control, but people in Los Angeles are used to it ... I

don't want to stay in Los Angeles long enough to where I become used to it."

When in L.A., Reiter says she counts down the days to when she can see her family and friends back home again.

"I'm homesick all the time in L.A.," she said. "I love how people are warm and friendly here, and when I go into Harris Teeter to get a coffee in Starbucks, I see half of my high school — and I see the kids that they have now and their new wedding rings."

"Walking around Pittsboro and S&T's Soda Shop, walking around a place with so many memories and so much character with genuinely warm, good hearted people who, if you had a problem, would actually step in and help you — that's what I miss the most," she said. "If I feel there is a point where I can come back to North Carolina, I will in a heartbeat."

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

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Photo by Jason Dowdle

PETTY

Continued from page A1

tions' operations. APS has also completed a move into the old Goldston Sports Arena, on U.S. 421 just outside of Goldston, redesigning it and upfitting it for "better efficiency" as an operations hub and parts center.

"This, plus a great team, has allowed me to structure the business in a way that allows me to properly represent the district," he said.

Even so, Petty says the switch from county commissioner to a state-level office will have the exact same focus: representing the people of the district.

A new Dist. 54

The newly drawn N.C. House Dist. 54 encompasses all of Chatham County and the northeast corner of Republican-leaning Randolph County. The current district to which Reives was elected includes all of Chatham and a small corner of Durham County, in the slice of the county south of I-40.

Petty doesn't believe including a part of Randolph, and excluding Durham, necessarily favors him in a race against Reives, who's considered a rising star in state Democratic politics and was elected to a two-year term as House Democratic Leader in late 2020. All the new maps would give Republicans a sizable advantage in future elections even if the two parties roughly split the statewide vote 50-50, outside political analysis has shown.

"I don't think the newly drawn district changes the numbers too much from what they were before regarding voter registrations," Petty said. "I believe that people,

regardless of party affiliation, will evaluate the policies most likely to benefit the district and make their decisions based on that."

Petty's announcement was made in an email message to a select group of people the day before Thanksgiving. It caught Reives — who was gathering with family members for the holiday, and was told of Petty's announcement by the News + Record — by surprise. The two haven't spoken, each confirmed on Monday, but Petty said his campaign manager, former Chatham Commissioner Brian Bock, did communicate with Reives after the announcement; Petty expects to speak to his likely 2022 opponent soon.

Reives, in response to Petty's announcement, said he looked "forward to serving the people of Chatham and now Randolph for another term."

"The people here know that my focus is on them always and that they have an independent advocate for them in Raleigh," Reives said. "I will continue to be of service."

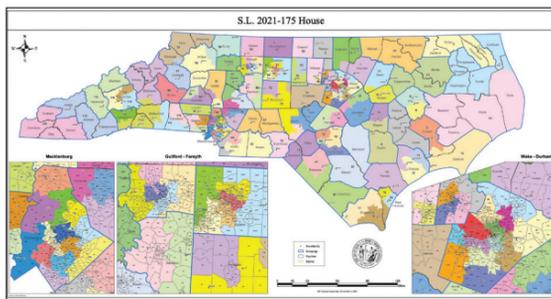
"Over the years I have developed a friendship with Rep. Reives and respect him," Petty said. "I want to make sure people understand I'm running to further policies that I feel will be better for our district, not against Robert as an individual."

And Petty insists he's focusing on just that — policies, not long-term political aspirations.

"I have no longer term goals," he said. "I'm focused on winning this race and serving the people of the district."

He said the primary factor in his effort to defeat Reives will be engaging with voters.

"The key to winning this race is getting more



Courtesy of the N.C. General Assembly

The proposed map for N.C.'s House of Representatives districts. Dist. 54 now includes a portion of Randolph County, as well as all of Chatham.

people engaged so they know they are part of the process and the policies I support and promote will be better for the district," Petty said.

'Looking after taxpayers' dollars'

In his announcement, Petty cited his reputation for listening to all sides of an issue, saying it had earned him "the respect of residents from all political parties" and made him the only Republican in Chatham County's history to be elected to three terms as county commissioner.

When he stepped away from the seat in 2019, Petty said he never thought he'd serve more than one term as commissioner. He said then one of his greatest accomplishments was working to increase the county's budget while maintaining the same property tax rate.

"I've focused on looking after taxpayers' dollars as if they were my own," Petty told commissioners and the audience after announcing his resignation. "I've done my best to stay away from party politics, partisan agendas. I've tried my best to serve all citizens based on the facts as I've understood them."

Petty was well-liked and well-respected among his fellow county commissioners. Board Chairperson Mike Dasher said after Petty resigned that he'd be missed on the board.

"He has served this county well (and) he has been an absolute pleasure to work with," Dasher said. "I've just enjoyed getting to know him over the last couple years. We're going to miss him."

"Walter and I have not always agreed politically," Commissioner Karen Howard said, "and we've had our share of battles, but you have always been a friend."

Petty said at the time that went both ways.

"Even though we had a difference in opinion, we had a mutual respect," he told the News + Record of his fellow commissioners. "In resigning, the remaining board members made what I believe to be heartfelt comments and I am very grateful. Each one of us are an elected official and have an obligation to represent the people that elected us. Sometimes when defending our positions in debate, things were often said out of the way. Then you learn to put it aside and focus where there is common ground to accomplish something everyone can agree on."

Now, as he casts a larger vision for service in a heavily-partisan legislature, Petty says he'll focus on three specific areas for Chatham County:

- Supporting legislation that "ensures students, teachers, administrators, and other school employees respect the dignity of others and acknowledges the right of others to express differing opinions without fear of being marginalized or discomfort."

- Addressing "the disparity" of the N.C. Tier system, which favors less prosperous counties with state economic development grants and projects. Large portions of Chatham County would qualify as Tier 3 — the lowest, and most disadvantaged — in the state, but pockets of wealth in northern Chatham classifies it as Tier 1, one of the most prosperous in the state.

"Our district is considered Tier 1, hurting our economic development," Petty said. "This does

not take into account the economic diversity of the district. The western portion of the district is considerably more distressed than the northern and eastern portion of the district. I will work to have this disparity addressed so we can direct assistance to the areas in the most need."

- Bringing new jobs. Petty wants to use his influence as a legislator to attract a large manufacturing facility to the megasite in Siler City — the Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site, a 1,802-acre development-ready tract which Petty says can provide thousands of needed jobs to the Western portion of the district.

Faces 'natural leader' in Reives

In Reives, he'll face a legislator who's served since being appointed to the seat in 2014 and whose election as House Democratic Leader came as the result of what North Carolina's former Democratic Lt. Gov. describes as Reives' innate abilities to work with others.

"He is a natural leader who I believe, is destined to play a bigger role in North Carolina politics," Dennis A. Wicker of Sanford told the News + Record after Reives was chosen as minority leader.

Reives, 51, who lives in Goldston — his wife Cynthia is a Goldston native — is an attorney with the Sanford law firm Wilson, Reives & Silverman. His father, Robert Reives Sr., is a long-time member of the Lee County Board of Commissioners, and the younger Reives told the News + Record earlier this year his decision to seek public office was a always just a question of timing.

"By the time it was time for me to go into politics," Reives said, "there was no issue in my mind that I've got to give back — no issue in my mind that I should be doing something to benefit the public. The whole issue was working out how."

In 2014, when N.C. House Dist. 54 Representative Deb McManus resigned following her arrest for embezzlement, Reives sought the seat.

"I got four calls on the day Rep. McManus resigned," Reives said. "Two of those were from Republican friends of mine, and two of those were from Democratic friends of mine ... They were saying, 'You know, we really need you to run for this office.'"

State political leaders said Reives' ascension from appointee to party leader was probably historically unprecedented. Wicker, a friend of both Reives men who served two terms under former Gov. Jim Hunt, told the

News + Record it was "no surprise" the younger Reives was elected minority leader.

"He is one of the most respected, well like, articulate and trustworthy legislators in the General Assembly ... a description heard about him from both sides of the aisle," said Wicker, who himself served six terms in the N.C. House. "Robert understands the essence of public service. He knows he is there for the greater good, not for personal gain. He has driven to make the quality of life better for people than when he found it. It's a value that he learned from his parents. The people of Chatham County are fortunate Robert is representing them in the legislature."

Reives won election, then reelection to the seat in 2016, 2018 and 2020 — defeating, among others, in 2014, the same Andy Wilkie who lost to Gomez Flores for county commissioner last year. Reives' focus in office has been on broadband access, healthcare and education.

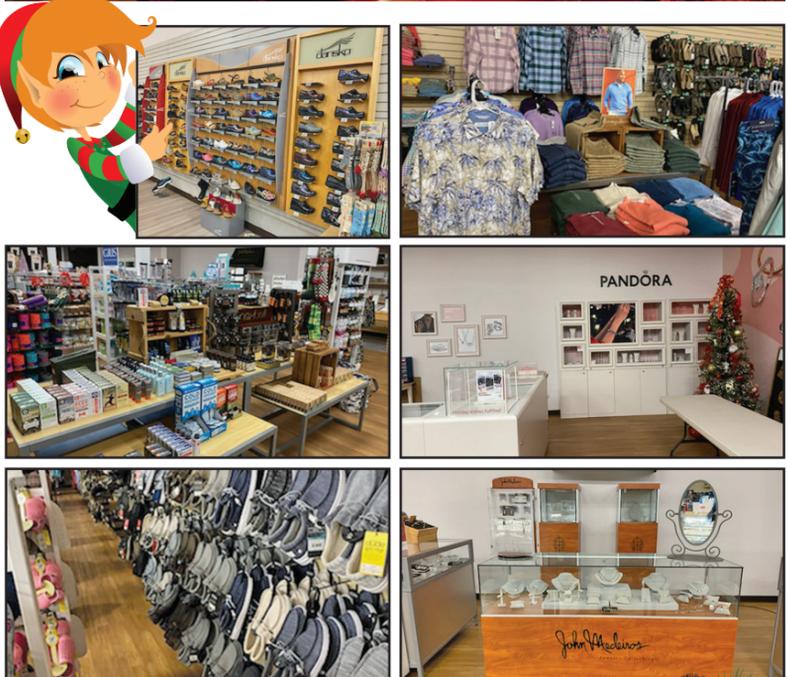
"The past four years Robert Reives and I have worked as a team," said former Rep. Darren, a Wake County Democrat who supported Reives for the leadership post. "Now that Robert is the House Democratic Leader, I am confident he will do a great job in bringing people together ... Robert is highly respected by Republicans and Democrats alike and he understands the needs of rural areas."

Reives told the News + Record that in his new role as House Democratic Leader, he's been a part of landmark legislation involving representative of both parties.

"I have been proud to sit at the negotiating table to ensure that the people in this district receive their fair share and that the state proceeds along a path that makes us a beacon of opportunity for those willing to work to get it," he said. "I have been proud to have been with the Governor, Leader Blue, President Pro Tem Berger and Speaker Moore to negotiate and enact more consensus and historic legislation and joint announcements this year than the entirety of my previous seven years including the successful joint recruitment of Apple to this region and the first budget signed by Governor Cooper in his six years in office. I will continue to make certain that their voices are heard in Raleigh and that their needs are met while at the same time negotiating to make sure that we get things done."

Petty said he doesn't expect primary opposition in March. The filing period for the 2022 state legislative races begins Monday.

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County's robust new website includes new features, functionality

Chatham County government recently launched a redesigned website, and along with a sleek update in appearance, it's designed to make it easier for residents, businesses, and other members of the public to find what they need.

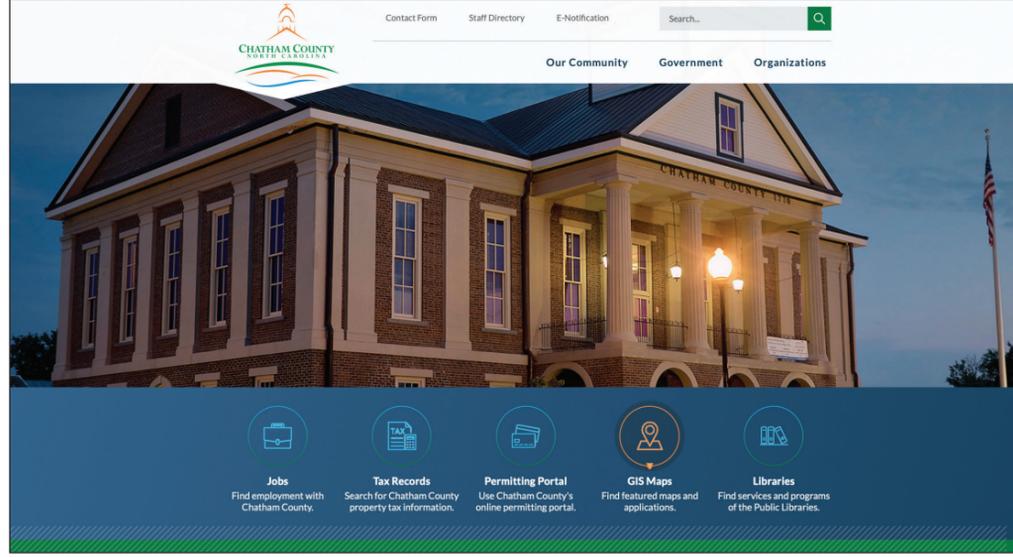
This week, we speak with Chatham County Public Information Officer Kara Lusk Dudley — a member of the team that led the redesign effort — about the changes. The county's website can be accessed at www.chathamcountync.gov.

Why was a redesign of the county's website needed, and what were your goals in the process?

The Chatham County website was last updated more than five years ago. In addition to the website needing to be updated aesthetically, over the last few years the county received feedback from both staff and the public that the website was difficult to navigate and not efficient.

Our goals of the website redesign were to give it a more pleasant and sleek look, and to make it easier for residents, businesses, and other members of the public to find what they need. We always want to provide the best service possible to our community members, and accessibility to information is critical to connecting the people with the programs, services, and leaders of their local government.

One aspect of providing good customer service is offering a variety of options for accessing county services. Where possible,



A screen grab of the county's new website.

departments have created online programs, forms, and processes for a variety of services. Not only does this provide more options for accessing services, it also makes the process of service access more efficient for the user and county staff.

Who are the primary users of the site?

The Chatham County website is accessed by a variety of users including residents, businesses, visitors, other member of the public, and county staff.

What's traffic to the site like? Do you anticipate heavier usage with the redesign?

According to website analytics, from March 2020 to March 2021, the Chatham County website had 609,544 total users with more than 2.3 million unique page views. Visitors accessed our website using a desktop computer 61% of the time, a smartphone 35%, and a tablet 4%. Using the analytics and

other reports, we were able to determine the most visited web pages on the county's website. These pages include jobs, tax records, GIS/Mapping, libraries, and Central Permitting & Inspections. This data was instrumental in how we created features on our new homepage including the call-to-action buttons and Service Finder.

As we inform the public about our redesigned website, and as Chatham County continues to grow, we anticipate more website visitors. We hope they will enjoy their experience and continue utilizing the site as much as possible.

Talk about the "Service Finder" feature of the site ...

A new feature on the Chatham County homepage is the "Service Finder" tool. Through internal and external surveys, difficulty navigating the old website and finding specific programs and services on the site was among some of the more frequent feedback. This

interactive feature makes finding services and information much easier and with fewer clicks. For example, if a resident wants to pay a water bill, the prompts on the dropdown menus take them directly to the webpage to pay.

Is content on the site translated into Spanish?

The website redesign does not include any additional translation programming, as most web browsers already have translation functions that people can use for various languages, including Spanish.

Who was involved in the redesign, and what was the cost?

The Chatham County website redesign project was led by three key staff members — Shannon Culpepper, Recycling & Education Specialist with Solid Waste & Recycling, Courtney Cooper-Lewter, Strategic Initiatives Analyst with the County Manager's

Office, and me. Dozens of other staff members across all county departments, who are also content managers on the website, were heavily involved in the redesign process as well. During the project, we took the opportunity to update content (which includes improving ADA compliance), train staff who post content, and streamline posting processes for content managers.

The cost of the website redesign was \$32,050, which included many tools and services such as custom design, data analytics and heat maps, stakeholder surveys, and user testing. It also included numerous trainings and resources for content users to better manage the website going forward.

And what about browsers and mobile optimization?

Visitors of the Chatham County website will want to make sure they are using an updated browser, such as Chrome, Safari, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, etc. Microsoft Internet Explorer is not supported. While the website name is the same, users who have previously bookmarked pages will likely need to navigate to those pages and update their bookmarks. Frequent website users should also delete the history on their web browser.

The website is configured for most mobile devices. Mobile users should note that content may be located in slightly different places on their mobile device than on a computer or tablet.

Website visitors can tell the county what they think of the new site by providing feedback through the county website: <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/feedback>.



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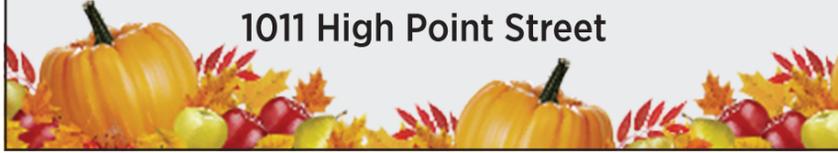


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OBITUARIES

ALBERT BROWN JR.



Albert Brown Jr., of Bennett, passed away on Monday, November 22, 2021, at his home.

He was born in Randolph County on June 13, 1942, to Albert Stacey Brown and Ethel Mae Cox Brown. Junior was a member of Pleasant Grove Christian Church. He was an assistant live haul supervisor for Townsend for 49 years. He raised bird dogs and loved to hunt. He was a member of Price Richardson Hunting Club. He enjoyed playing

golf, but his greatest love was spending time with his family and friends. He especially loved his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, Glenn, Bill and Larry Brown; sisters, Catherine B. Binkley, Velma B. Welch, Ruby B. Branson and granddaughter, McKenna Jessup.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Brenda Ferree Brown; daughters, Penny Brown of Bennett and Gina Sloan (Stephen) of Sanford; son, Todd Brown (Ginger) of Bennett; goddaughter, Bobbie Ritter (Wesley) of Ramseur; sisters, Irene B. McNeill of Coleridge, Brenda B. Albright of Siler City and Linda B. Brown of Coleridge; brother, Ronnie Brown (Patsy) of Bennett; grandchildren, Mandy Griffin, D.J. Allen (Amber), Austin Moon, Justin Batchelor, MacKayla Beal (Casey), Gracie Brown (Aaron Keyes) and Haven Jessup.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at Pleasant Grove Christian Church with Pastor Don Edwards and Brian Bray presiding. The family received friends at the church before the service from 1 to 1:45 p.m. and in the fellowship hall after the committal service. Joyce-Brady Chapel was open on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 from 1 to 5 p.m. for friends to sign the register.

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

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

BARBARA MANESS



Barbara "Bobbie" Saunders Maness, 87, of Robbins passed away on Thursday, November 25, 2021, at Pinehurst Health and Rehabilitation Center.

A Celebration of Life Service was officiated by Dr. Kenneth McNeill at First Baptist Church in Robbins on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 2 p.m. Burial followed at Pine Rest Cemetery in Robbins. The family received friends prior to the service beginning at 1 p.m. at the church

and from 3 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at the home of her daughter, Kim Williams

Barbara was born on March 31, 1934, the daughter of the late Fred Franklin and Sarah Hellams Saunders. She graduated from Asheboro High School and attended a Business College. Barbara was a bookkeeper for many years in garment manufacturing. She was a loving daughter, wife, mother and grandmother. Barbara enjoyed time spent with all her family, especially her grandchildren. Barbara was a member of the Moore County State Champion Womens 3-on-3 senior games. She enjoyed all sports and was a faithful Carolina Tarheel fan. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Howard Maness.

Barbara is survived by daughters Kim Williams (Bruce) and Pam Davis (Steve); grandchildren, Shannon Criscoe (Caleb), Kirk Williams (Gina), Kelly Davis (Sabrina) and Ashley Davis (Hunter); great-grandchildren, Madison and Easton Criscoe and Parker Williams; niece Karen Smith; nephew Gary (Skip) Brown. She is also survived by beloved dog, Gracie. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Robbins First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 400, Robbins, N.C. 27325 or the Moore County Humane Society, 5355 N.C. Hwy 22, Carthage, N.C. 28327.

Kennedy Funeral home is honored to serve the Maness family.

Online condolences may be made at pinesfunerals.com.

GLENN PERRY GODFREY

Glenn Perry Godfrey, 62, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, November 26, 2021, at his home.

The funeral service was held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, November 30, 2021, in the Chapel at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Karen Ashley officiating.

He was born in Forsyth County on August 28, 1959, to Joan Thomas Godfrey and the late Bobby Byron Godfrey. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by one granddaughter and a sister, Donna Sue Godfrey. Glenn worked in construction.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Jerri Jane Freeman Godfrey; his mother, Joan Godfrey; daughter, Lori Geist of Sanford; son, Jonathan Godfrey of Colorado; brother, Tony Godfrey of Alabama; sisters, Tammy Godfrey and Melissa Marsh, both of Sanford; and two grandsons.

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

CLIFFORD 'WAYNE' MANESS SR.

Clifford "Wayne" Maness Sr., 82, of Bear Creek passed away Saturday, November 27, 2021, at Siler City Center.

There will be no services at this time.

Mr. Maness is survived by four sons, two grandsons and several great-grandchildren, all of Bear Creek.

GARY LEE LOUK JR.

Gary Lee Louk Jr., 33, of Bear Creek, passed away on November 28, 2021.

Lee was born in Chatham County on May 2, 1988, the son of Gary Lee Louk Sr. and Melanee Sirls Moore. Lee worked for PSSI. He had a love of music, and enjoyed playing his drums. He cherished his time with family and friends.

He is survived by his parents, Melanee Sirls Moore and husband Dan of Bear Creek, and Gary Lee Louk Sr. of Fayetteville; maternal grandmother, Isabelle C. Sirls of Bear Creek; and paternal grandparents, Garrett and Glinda Louk of Sanford.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family.

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

DAVID ALLEN BRITT

David Allen Britt, 27, of Cameron, passed away on Friday, November 19, 2021, at his home.

The family received friends on Sunday, November 28, 2021, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home. A memorial service followed in the chapel at 3 p.m. with Rev. Bob Johnson officiating.

Mr. Britt was born in Lee County on November 28, 1993, to Thomas Randolph Britt II of Cameron and Lisa McNeill Britt of Sanford. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother, Racheal Ann Jones and step-grandmother, Robin Dale White.

In addition to his parents, David is survived by daughter Adalynn Hazel Britt of Cameron; sisters, Amber Michell Britt of Lillington, Faith Marie McNeill of Sanford; grandparents, David McNeill of Sanford and Charles Thomas Britt.

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

ROBERT ELVIS PARNELL JR.

Robert Elvis Parnell Jr., 72, of Ramseur passed away Thursday, November 25, 2021 at Parkview Health and Rehab. in Chapel Hill.

The family received friends from 1 to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, followed by the funeral service in the Chapel at 2 p.m. with Rev. Adam Bellamy officiating. Burial followed at Chatham Memorial Park.

Robert was born in Lamar, S.C., on January 13, 1949, the son of Robert Elvis and Doris Huggins Parnell. He was a retired Air Force Veteran. In addition to his parents, Robert is preceded in death by his grandson, Timothy Austin Parnell.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Sandra Gentry Parnell; daughter, Melissa Parnell Adams of Valdosta, Ga.; sons, Robert Chad Parnell of Hillsborough, Timothy Jason Parnell of Asheboro; sisters, Mary Roden of Upland, Calif., Linda Bellamy of Sumter, S.C.; six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

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

CHARLOTTE KAREN WILLIAMS

Charlotte Karen Williams, 58, passed away on Friday, November 19, 2021, at UNC Hospice in Pittsboro.

Funeral service was held Friday, November 20, 2021, at 2 p.m. at St. Mark United Church of God. Burial followed at Lee Memory Garden.

She was born March 18, 1963, daughter of the late Herman and Ethel Bell Williams.

LUCILLE SIMMONS-DAVIS

Mrs. Lucille Simmons-Davis, 88, of Robbins passed away Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at Randolph Hospital in Asheboro.

Graveside service was held Sunday, November 28, 2021, at 2 p.m. at New Zion Cemetery.

Mrs. Simmons-Davis was born September 3, 1933, to George Carl and Julia Walden Simmons. She was educated in the Moore County Schools and was a member of the Church of God of Prophecy. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Samuel I. Davis and a son, Frederick Leon Davis.

Survivors include a daughter, Pamela Thompson of Robbins; sons, Rev. Phillip Davis Sr. of Foxfire Village, Georgia, Donnell Davis of Concord, Michael Davis of Robbins, Willie Davis of Asheboro; brother, Dr. Joe L. Simmons of Jefferson City, Missouri; 17 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Harvest Ministries COGOP Robbins Bldg. Fund, 2384 Plank Road, Robbins, NC 27325 or cash. app/\$HMCOGOP.

JAMES WILLIAMS GORDON

James Williams Gordon, 71, of Sanford, passed away Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at his home.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Hunt Springs Baptist Church with Pastor Wesley Thomas officiating.

Mr. Gordon was born in Chatham County on January 6, 1950, to the late Jim Warwick Gordon and Nannie Mae Williams. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother Doyle Gordon and a sister, Maola Kerr. James worked as a mechanic.

Surviving is his wife Rhonda; a son, Chad Gordon of Sanford; three grandchildren and one step-grandchild; step-daughter, Buffie Sheehan of Virginia; sisters, Martha Lou Bright and Barbara Jean Stanley, both of Sanford.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to Coolwater Cowboy Church, 1557 Saint Andrews Church Rd., Sanford, N.C. 27332 (in care of Pastor Wesley Thomas).

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

KATHERINE MARIE CAMPBELL

Katherine Marie Campbell "Cookie," passed away Sunday, November 14, 2021, at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

The wake was held Saturday, November 27, 2021, from 11 to 1 p.m.

She was born on November 25, 1956, to the late Richard Midgett and Yvonne Forman in Boston.

MARILYN LEE BOWDEN

Marilyn Lee Bowden, 68, of Siler City passed away Saturday, November 20, 2021, at Chatham Hospital.

Funeral service was held Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at Unity Powerhouse Holiness Church, with Pastor Cedric Lee officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Marilyn, born January 20, 1953, was the daughter of James and Josephine Lee. She attended Chatham High School and Jordan-Matthews High School, then studied business administration at Job Corp in Virginia. She worked at Ramseur Interlock, Ramtex, and Sunrise Healthcare. She was a member of Unity Powerhouse Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Pastor Gary Dennis Lee and sister, Shelia G. Lee Burton.

Survivors include a daughter, Sonja Lee of the home; sons, Terry T. Lee and Gary D. Lee, both of Greensboro; brothers, James Lee Jr. of Staley, Norris Lee and Stephanie Lee Sr., both of Siler City, Stanley Lee of Asheboro; sisters, Mary Hemphill of Clemmons, Robin Lee of Siler City, Sylvia Lee of Winston-Salem; and seven grandchildren.

JOHN ROBERT HORNE

John Robert Horne, 85, of Chapel Hill, died Monday, November 22, 2021, at home.

A graveside service was held Saturday, November 27, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Maplewood Cemetery with Pastor Wesley Thomas presiding.

Mr. Horne was born in Orange County, on January 21, 1936, to the late James and Dorsie Brockwell Horne. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Annette Peggy Green Horne; brothers, J.R. Neville, Garland Neville; and two sisters, Mildred Jones and Mable Deese.

Surviving relatives include his son, Doug Horne of Chapel Hill; brother, Jack Neville of Carrboro; and two grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in John's memory to a charity of your choice.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

GUYANNA DEGRAFFENREIDT

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, November 27, 2021, at Mitchell Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church with burial following in the church cemetery.

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Pittsboro asks NCDOT to look for alternative for North Woods

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro's board of commissioners voted unanimously last Tuesday asking Town Manager Chris Kennedy to write a letter to the N.C. Dept. of Transportation seeking an alternative to a proposed road which would divide the North Woods neighborhood.

The vote came after months of discussions regarding NCDOT's plan to build a new road through the North Woods neighborhood north of the Chatham Park development. The current plan has NCDOT building a road — the North Chatham Park Way road — that would divide the historic North Woods neighborhood in Pittsboro. Members of the North Woods community petitioned for NCDOT to come up with a compromise that would not bisect their neighborhood.

Pittsboro commissioners voted to ask NCDOT to seek other alternatives during their Aug. 23 board meeting because they were concerned for the North Woods community and potential dividing a neighborhood which has

been there for decades.

Commissioner Jay Farrell said he wanted to see an option which would be on Chatham Park's property, avoiding the North Woods neighborhood completely.

"I'm really concerned about this," Farrell said at that meeting. "I'm going to really be pushing for the DOT to examine going ... on Chatham Park's property."

The day after that meeting, Kennedy talked to Patrick Norman, a division engineer from NCDOT, about seeking an alternative to the proposed road through North Woods. But Norman told Kennedy the town needed to formally request the study of the alternative in a letter sent to the department.

NCDOT agreed to look at options which would go around the neighborhood, but no action had taken place on the matter up until the meeting last Monday evening, when commissioners asked Kennedy to send a letter to NCDOT urging them again to create another option for the North Chatham Park Way road.

"I think everyone agrees it was clear that the board, with the information at

that time, was requesting Alternative 8," Kennedy said in the Nov. 22 meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Pamela Baldwin said — from her recollection — the board wanted to pursue the study of an alternative road.

"As far as I am concerned, the decision of the board was to look at Alternative 8," she said.

A letter to NCDOT had not been sent during the time between the Aug. 23 meeting and the Nov. 22 meeting, potentially setting the North Chatham Park Way project back.

Commissioner Michael Fiocco said he regrets losing the three months between the two meetings as this could have potentially had a solution before then.

"I think the study would be 60 to 90 days, and I think that could have been done by now," he said.

Fiocco also noted Alternative 6 — the proposed road NCDOT wished to build through North Woods — was definitely an option worth considering given the various obstacles with limiting environmental impact. However, he still believes other options should be provided for consideration.

"It's very surgical in going through the neighborhood, but nonetheless, it goes through the neighborhood," Fiocco said. "I think it is legitimate to request a plan that works that doesn't go through the neighborhood."

Commissioners voted unanimously for Kennedy to draft and send a letter to NCDOT as soon as possible to formally request a study to be conducted to find an alternative route to the proposed North Chatham Park Way road.

This is likely not the last time Pittsboro commissioners will be faced with a difficult proposal regarding road development.

Commissioner Kyle Shipp said there are many chances for conflict down the road, and he doesn't want a delay like the one with North Chatham Park Way.

"There's a lot of these conflicts in our future, and this timeline in the project is far too late to deal with them," he said. "As I have said before, we need to get ahead of these as soon as they're coming up and not let any of these get to this point."

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

'OYE CÓMO VA'

Jordan-Matthews to host a Latin jazz clinic and concert for public, student musicians

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — When JMArts' Rose Pate resolved to bring Jordan-Matthews High School another special arts project, she began looking for something that J-M's instrumental music students — and the community at large — could enjoy.

She found it in jazz — Latin jazz, to be specific.

North Carolina-based jazz group Gregg Gelb and La Fiesta Latin Jazz Sextet will lead the JM Jazz Ensemble and select students from J-M's feeder schools in a half-day afternoon jazz workshop on Jan. 28, followed by a free public concert at 7 p.m. inside the JM Auditorium.

"We wanted to provide a cultural experience for our entire community, for our Latinx immigrant families, to hear some music that is culturally familiar to them, and for all of our families to enjoy this wonderful experience that may be new to them," Pate, JMArts' president, told the News + Record. "In Chatham County, we are working hard on trying to provide what they call culturally responsive teaching, which is to be sensitive to and celebrate our students' cultural experiences ... and we felt like this was a really good opportunity to do that."

Created in 2011, JMArts is a nonprofit which seeks to enhance arts education at J-M. In recent years, the foundation has provided an acting intensive workshop, an artist residency and a dance workshop thanks in part to grant funding from the Chatham Arts Council.

The Council recently awarded JMArts \$1,550 as part of its 2021 Grassroots Art Grants, which will cover half the cost of January's concert and clinic. Member contributions and fundraising projects will cover the rest.

According to Pate, the clinic will likely begin around 12:30 p.m. and go for most of the afternoon. Besides the JM Jazz Ensemble, JMArts will invite select 8th graders from Chatham Middle and Silk Hope to partic-



Courtesy of Gregg Gelb

La Fiesta Latin Jazz Sextet will perform a free, public concert on Jan. 28 at Jordan-Matthews High School after providing a clinic for the JM Jazz Ensemble and select 8th-grade musicians. From left to right, the group's regular members include Ramon Ortiz, Beverly Botsford, Andy Kleindienst, Steve Anderson and Gregg Gelb.

ipate. She's not yet sure how they'll be chosen.

"That's going to be a collaborative decision between their band director and our band director," she said. "What kind of criteria? It may be as simple as volunteering. You know, the students who are interested, so we're hoping to have a good response."

First formed around 10 years ago, Gregg Gelb and La Fiesta Latin Jazz Quintet plays regular gigs at festivals, schools and clubs across the state, according to lead melodic player Gregg Gelb. They're a registered five-member band

with the United Arts Council and regularly participate in Wake County's Artists-In-Schools program.

"There's going to be five other members, including me, because we're going to have a trumpet for these shows and at the school," he told the News + Record.

A Sanford native, Gelb is a professional saxophonist and jazz composer who also leads other North Carolina-based jazz bands like The Heart of Carolina Jazz Orchestra and the award-winning Triangle Youth Jazz Ensemble. The band's other four regular members include cross-cultural percussionist Beverly Botsford, jazz pianist Steve Anderson, trombonist and bassist Andy Kleindienst as well as drummer Ramon Ortiz, who's originally from the Dominican Republic.

"Playing for students live is great," Gelb said. "We do a lot of that. ... We've done that all throughout our 10 years of playing together. We do, like, maybe a show once a month in elementary school or middle school or high school. We love doing it."

So, what's the plan for the clinic? According to Gelb, they'll be playing and teaching students a variety of tunes from various Latin American countries. Latin jazz, he said, combines jazz improvisation with Latin rhythms and beats distinct to Latin American, Caribbean and African cultural traditions.

During the clinic, they might offer up a Cuban Mambo or Cha Cha, perhaps a Brazilian Samba, as examples — and then they'll play.

"I just love it," Gelb said. "I mean, the reason I like to play it — it's just got a real upbeat energy to it. To me, it's very forceful and it just is very moving to me. It's the precision of the rhythms. ... You've seen the inside of a clock, you know, all the gears? It reminds me of that, and there's so much going on, but it all is synchronized."

Besides Latin and swing beats, he said, students will also receive exposure to improvisation and depending on student needs, they'll give general instruction or of-

fer "real technical help." The group will conduct sessions for trumpet, trombone, woodwind and percussion musicians.

"You know, jazz is listening to each other, responding to each other, following a road map, but then being able to be free with it," he said. "Improvisation is, you know, we make up music on the spot, but it's all based on a structure, a plan, but we all have to work together on that plan to develop the music. So, I think I want (students) to appreciate that, and I want them to learn how we play. They'll learn how we make the music work together."

During the concert, Botsford will lead select students in a dance, a merengue, Gelb said; the band will also prepare a few students to play a

number or two with them on stage.

"Oye Cómo Va' (1962, by Tito Puente) is the one we usually do," he said. "We give them some written parts to play along, and they improvise with us. We've had students improvise for the first time in their lives with us, and they've done great."

Barring a change, Pate said the concert does not expect to limit attendance. Since the event's indoors, all visitors will be required to mask up.

"We think this is going to be a really fun evening, and we would love to have a great crowd," Pate said. "If you have not heard Latin jazz, I think everybody will enjoy this."

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



Chatham News + Record



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LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF

THE ESTATE OF JUDITH POE CANCELLARO NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

ANCILLARY EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

The undersigned, having qualified as Ancillary Executor of the Estate of **JUDITH POE CANCELLARO**, deceased, late of Washington County, Tennessee, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before FEBRUARY 12, 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 11th day of November, 2021.

Henry Anthony Cancellaro
2222 Nantucket Drive
Johnson City, TN

37604 Sonia L. Toney, Attorney for Estate
Maddrey Etringer Smith Hollowell & Toney, LLP
P.O. Box 507
Eden, NC 27289-0507
Telephone 336-623-4491
N11,N18,N25,D2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BEVERLY A. HOLLIS FILE No. 21E633

David B. Hollis, having qualified as Executor for the estate of **BEVERLY A. HOLLIS**, Deceased, in the Office of the Chatham County Clerk of Court, does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the said Decedent, to present the same to the Executor on or before February 14, 2022, said date being at least three months from the date of the first publication or posting of

this Notice as indicated below, or the same will be pleased in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This Notice is given pursuant to the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. 28A-14-1. This 11th day of November, 2021. All claims are to be sent to David B. Hollis, Executor c/o Eldreth Law Firm, PC 115 S. Saint Mary's St. Ste. C Raleigh, NC 27603
N11,N18,N25,D2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 28th day of October, 2021, as Executrix of the **ESTATE OF ROBERT HAMMER**, 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 11th day of February, 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 11th day of November, 2021.

Leslie Hammer-Palen, Executor Estate of Robert Hammer c/o Rupe S. Gill, Attorney Walker Lambe, PLLC Post Office Box 51549 Durham, North Carolina 27717
N11,N18,N25,D2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 644

All persons having claims against **JOHN WILLIAM SOPKO JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 5th day of November, 2021

Mary Ann Sopko, Administrator
311 A Avenida Castilla Laguna Woods, Ca. 92637 c/o Bagwell Holt Smith P.A. 111 Cloister Ct.,STE 200 Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N11,N18,N25,D2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 431

All persons having claims against **HENRY T. CARPENTER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 8th day of November, 2021

Mark Braund Carpenter, Executor
7409 Russell Rd Indian Trail, N.C. 28079
N11,N18,N25,D2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 575

All persons having claims against **BILLY GOODMAN CLARK, SR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North

Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 8th day of November, 2021.

VICKIE CLARK WINSTEAD, Executrix
101 Arvo Lane Cary, N.C. 27513
N11,N18,N25,D2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21-E-559

All persons having claims against **MICHAEL WESLEY CATES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 18th day of November, 2021.

Wendy C. Burgess, Executrix c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC PO Box 31205 Raleigh, NC 27622
N18,N25,D2,D9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 659

All persons having claims against **CAROLYN N. PITTMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 18th day of November, 2021.

Gregory B. Pittman, Executor 2304 Cypress Bend Dr. S., Apt B312 Pompano Beach, Fl 33069
N18,N25,D2,D9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 646

All persons having claims against **NANCY OWEN FOLTZ**,

deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 18th day of November, 2021.

Sidney Allen Foltz III, Executor 4258 Rives Chapel Church Road Siler City, NC 27314
N18,N25,D2,D9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 21-E-418 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

The undersigned, Janet Doublier, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **EUGENE BOSHERS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 17th day of November, 2021.

Janet Doublier c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds, Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312
N18,N25,D2,D9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 21-E-663 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

The undersigned, Christina Lynn Blankenship, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **CHARLES MICHAEL BLANKENSHIP**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 17th day of November, 2021.

Christina Lynn Blankenship c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds, Attorney for the Estate

Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312
N18,N25,D2,D9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 669

All persons having claims against **HARRIET DICKENS GEORGE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent

are asked to make immediate payment. This the 18th day of November, 2021.

Christopher Lynn George, Co-Executor 2017 NC Hwy 42 Moncure, NC 27559 Angela George Harris, Co-Executor 67 Dickens Rd..... Moncure, NC 27559
N18,N25,D2,D9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 670

All persons having claims

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against **RANDALL KELLY OATES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 18th day of November, 2021.
 Carolyn A. Oates, Executrix
 3705 Chatham St
 PO Box 7
 Bennett, NC 27208
 N18,N25,D2,D9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 675
 All persons having claims against **JOY L. MASKE JUDGE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of November, 2021.
 Jamey L. Judge, Executrix
 5505 Fearington Post
 Pittsboro, NC 27312
 N25,D2,D9,D16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
 THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 12th day of November, 2021, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF **ANNA COOK FOWLER**, 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 26th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This, the 25th day of November, 2021.
 Patsy Cook Hirschhorn, Executrix
 Estate of Anna Cook Fowler
 c/o Jennifer Dalman, Attorney
 Walker Lambe, PLLC
 Post Office Box 51549
 Durham, North Carolina 27717
 N25,D2,D9,D16,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E683
 All persons having claims against **JOHN KYLE FULLER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of November,

2021.
 Renee Paschal, Executrix
 105 Chatham Oaks
 Moncure, N.C. 27559
 N25,D2,D9,D16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E681
 All persons having claims against **PATTI KUCINIC JUSTICE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of November, 2021.
 Joseph Randy Welch, Executor
 845 Lakewood Falls Rd
 Goldston, NC 2725225
 N25,D2,D9,D16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E672
 All persons having claims against **LOUISE H. POE aka LOUISE HUMBLE POE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 25th day of November, 2021.
 Cynthia Poe Ferguson, Executrix
 87 John Lane Rd
 Bear Creek, NC 27207
 N25,D2,D9,D16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 20E475
 All persons having claims against **ALICE MARIE HAYNES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of December, 2021.
 John L. Haynes, Executor
 514 Carolina Meadows Village
 Chapel Hill, N.C. 27517
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tp

NOTICE OF SERVIES OF PRO-CESS BY PUBLICATION State Of North Carolina Chatham County, before the Clerk in the Superior Court Division, File No. 21 SP 87
 Petitioners: WILLIAM PATTERSON et al
 v. Respondents: FLORINE MOORE et al. Petitioners and Respondents are all the

remaining living heirs of John Emerson Sr. who died on September 20, 1924, and Henrietta Emerson who died on May 17, 1953, intestate. At the time of her death, Henrietta Emerson owned four (4) parcels of real property that now belong to all of her heirs. Petitioners were unable to locate the Respondents and therefore had to file this Petition with the Clerk of Court in Chatham County. TO RESPONDENTS: FLORINE MOORE, SHARON ADAMS, VICKIE EDWARDS, MARCIA D. BROOKS, ROBERT D. BROOKS, DOROTHY ALSTON SIMMS, WILLIAM ALSTON, LESSIE LEE ALSTON, BENJAMIN T. ALSTON, CAROLYN A. EMERSON GODFREY, CAROLYN L. EMERSON, DARRELL EMERSON, FRANCES "NETTIE" EMERSON SAVOY, JAMES DALLAS ALSTON, JAMES JETTER EMERSON, JAMILLE EMERSON, JULIAN EMERSON, KELLY EMERSON JR., KYNDLE EMERSON, LISA M. BITTLE, LYDIA LORRAINE EMERSON, MARY ANN EMERSON, MICHAEL SAMUELS, PARRISH ALSTON, STEPHANIE L. EMERSON-SMITH BEVERLY D. BALDWIN, BLAINE EMERSON, BRITTANY EMERSON, DENISE EDWARDS CHAPLIN, GARLAND EMERSON, LESTER EMERSON, MARGARET ALSTON FENNEY, THOMAS C. ALSTON, JR. and EVERETTE MARSH OR HEIRS, GRACE HALEY OR HEIRS, HALTON ALSTON OR HEIRS, JAMES EMERSON OR HEIRS, JESSIE MILLIKEN OR HEIRS, JONNIE MARSH OR HEIRS, LINDA RICHARDSON OR HEIRS, LORETTA CHAVIS OR HEIRS, MARGO HARRIS OR HEIRS, MARY CHERRY OR HEIRS, ROSE MYLES ALLISON OR HEIRS.

Take notice that a pleading to move the Court to partition for sale four (4) parcels of real property belonging to the heirs of Henrietta Emerson that are located in Chatham County has been filed. The Clerk of Court has appointed a Guardian ad Litem, Attorney Sherri Belk, to represent your interests in the properties. The following described real property, which is the subject of this action:
 Parcel A: Tax Id. No. 0011976, PIN 9703 00 11 6165, located on Bowers Store Road, off NC Route 64 West, containing 115 acres of land (Farm 3140) Siler City, NC 27344;
 Parcel B: Tax Id. No. 0016528, PIN 8762 14 43 6514, with address of 1411 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Siler City, NC 27344, containing .570 acres. Legal Description: Being lots numbers twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine and thirty on Siler City Burlington Highway as designated by a plot of the R.H. Dixon subdivision of the James T. Gilliland lands duly registered in the office of the Register of Deeds in Chatham County in Plat Book EN Page 25.
 Parcel C: Tax Id. No. 0016715,

PIN 8762 14 43 7493, with address of Hill Street, cross street Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City, NC 27344 containing .490 acres. Legal Description: Lots number seventeen, eighteen and nineteen on Hill Street as designated by a plot of the R.H. Dixon subdivision of the James T. Gilliland lands duly registered in the office of the Register of Deeds in Chatham County in Plat Book EN Page 25.
 Parcel D: Tax Id. No. 0016714, PIN 8762 14 43 7493, with address of 15th Street, intersection Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City, NC 27344 containing .450 acres. If you object or oppose the petition to partition, you have to file an answer within forty (40) days after the first date of publication of this notice of service of process with the Chatham Clerk of Court. If you fail to respond, the properties will be sold and any interest you own will be held with the Chatham County Clerk. Guardian ad Litem Sherri Belk, 7413 Six Forks Road, Suite 170, Raleigh, NC 27615 (919) 834-3533.
 This the 22nd day of November, 2021.
 Inez de Ondarza Simmons, 4030 Wake Forest Rd, Ste 319, Raleigh, NC 27609 (800) 678-9440.
 Name of Newspaper: Chatham News + Record
 D2,D9,D16,3tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E687
 All persons having claims against **GEORGE DANIEL PIKE** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of December, 2021.
 Pamela Ruth Pike, Co-Executrix
 951 Silk Hope Liberty Rd
 Siler City, NC 27344
 Kristen Pike Horton, Co-Executrix
 1626 Puhi Lane
 Kailua, HI 96734
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM 16 E 270
 In the Matter of the Estate of Joseph Weldon Foster, Jr. Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JOSEPH WELDON FOSTER, JR.**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the said decedent to exhibit them to the Chatham County Clerk of Court on or before March

5, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment. This the 29th day of November, 2021.
 Marlene Foster, Administrator
 Brian P. Hayes, Attorney
 Ferguson, Hayes, Hawkins & DeMay, PLLC
 P.O. Box 444
 Concord, NC 28026
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF BETTY WARD BRITAIN STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM
 Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **BETTY WARD BRITAIN**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at P.O. Box 3120, Chapel Hill, NC 27515, on or before the 2nd day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 2nd day of December, 2021.
 William Gregory Brittain, Executor for the Estate
 Charles B. Carver, CPA
 PO Box 3120
 Chapel Hill, NC 27515
 Telephone: 919-929-2149
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Chatham County North Carolina - 21 E 666
 The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JAMES LOWELL COCKMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 29th day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All person indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 26th day of November, 2021.
 Sarah Frances Cockman, Administrator
 c/o Margaret K. Winfield
 PO Box 10669
 Raleigh, NC 27605
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E564
 All persons having claims against **BOBBY LEE ARRINGTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of

March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of December, 2021.
 Lee Ann Arrington Churchill, Executor
 602 Manor Ridge Drive
 Carrboro, NC 27510
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM
 THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 23rd day of November, 2021, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF **ERICA LYNN PERLOW**, 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 2nd day of March, 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 2nd day of December 2021.
 DONNA PERLOW, EXECUTRIX
 ESTATE OF ERICA LYNN PERLOW
 c/o Jennifer Dalman, Attorney
 Walker Lambe, PLLC
 Post Office Box 51549
 Durham, North Carolina 27717
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tc

TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SEEKS A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT - The Triangle J Council of Governments is looking for an NCDOT-prequalified consultant to develop a Corridor Study on the Second Avenue corridor in Siler City (Chatham County). The Request for Letters of Interest (RFOI) is on the Triangle Area RPO website at www.tarpo.org. For more information, please email Matt Day at mday@tjocog.org. Proposals are due December 22, 2021, by 5:00 PM.
 D2,1tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
 ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **CONSTANCE H. WILL**, aka **CONSTANCE HEADLEY WILL**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before March 2nd, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 2nd day of December, 2021.
 MARGARET WILL, Executor of Estate of **CONSTANCE H. WILL** aka **CONSTANCE HEADLEY WILL** c/o Roberson Law Firm
 1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C
 Chapel Hill, NC 27514
 D2,D9,D16,D23,4tc

BOB JONES UNIVERSITY

Reagan Riddell on XPRIZE Winning Team

GREENVILLE — XPRIZE, the global leader in designing and implementing innovative competition models to solve the world's grandest challenges, has announced Bob Jones University is home to one of one of 23 student-led teams to win an award in the \$5M Carbon Removal Student Competition. The foundation, which was given \$100 million from Elon Musk's Foundation, received 195 universi-

The foundation, which was given \$100 million from Elon Musk's Foundation, received 195 university-affiliated proposals from around the globe. The Bob Jones University team secured the maximum \$100,000 grant for its entry. The goal of the competition is to create scalable carbon extraction technologies.

ty-affiliated proposals from around the globe. The Bob Jones University team secured the maximum \$100,000 grant for its entry. The goal of the competition is to create scalable

carbon extraction technologies. Reagan Riddell, a resident of Snow Camp majoring in Business Administration at BJU, was a member of the award-winning team.

Backyard Garden Club

PITTSBORO — The latest meeting of the Backyard Garden Club of Pittsboro was hosted by Emily Foushee Monday at her home. A club community service project for many years has been to provide and hang wreaths on the doors of the Pittsboro Courthouse. Club members met Monday to prepare

the wreaths, which were hung at the courthouse after completion. Another community project completed in November was the donation of dry and canned goods to the CORA Food Pantry. The club's next meeting is Feb. 15. For information, please contact Emily at emilymrf@gmail.com.

CHURCH NEWS

HOLLAND CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Holland Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church has re-opened for Sunday morning worship services. Members and visitors are welcome to join us on Sundays at 10 a.m. For questions or concerns, call the church office at 919-362-7831.

The church is located at 360 Burgess Road, Apex, N.C. 27523.

CHATHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We invite everyone in the community to stop by Chatham U.M.C. on Sunday, December 5 between 2 and 5 p.m. for our annual Nativity Dis-

play. We will have over 200 nativities on display to celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Light refreshments will also be provided. Please stop by and drop off a shelf-stable food donation for CORA as well! Hope to see you there! Chatham UMC is located at 1826 Chatham Church Road, Moncure.

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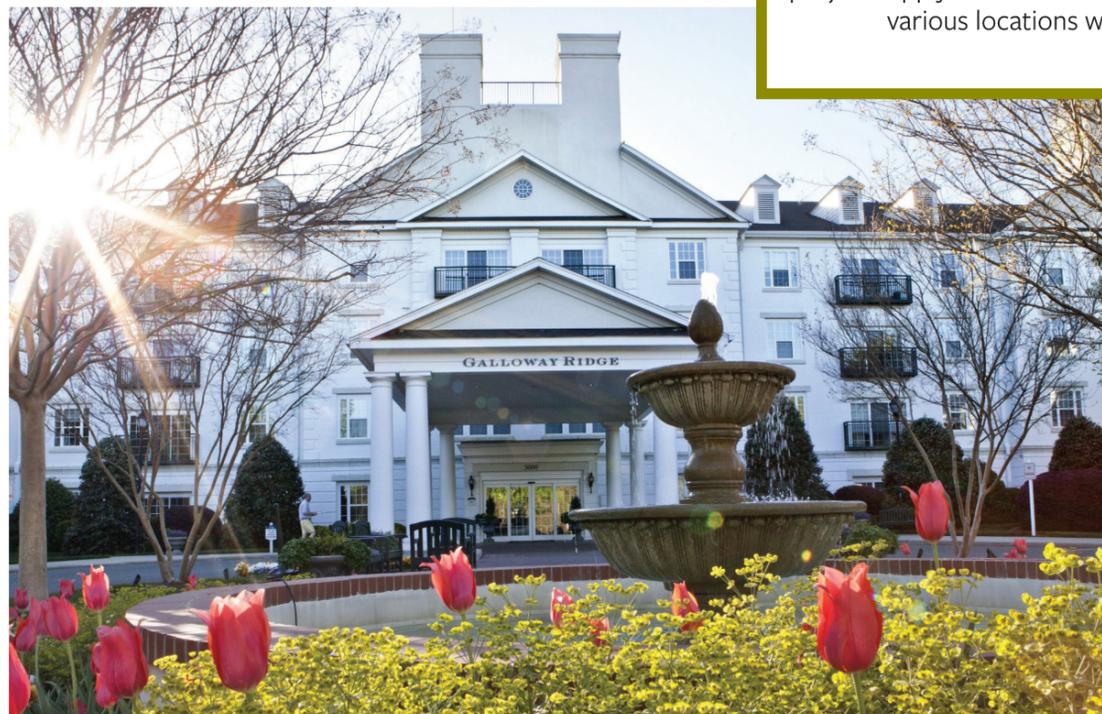


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NORTHWOOD 72, SEAFORTH 42

Chargers spoil Hawks' program-opener with 30-point thrashing in 1st installment of county rivalry

BY DAN E. WAY
News + Record
Correspondent



Staff photo by Dan E. Way

Seaforth sophomore Jarin Stevenson (15), guarded by Northwood sophomore Drake Powell (32), looks for an open teammate against a swarming Chargers defense during fourth period action in Pittsboro in the Hawks' season-opening loss last Tuesday to the Chargers, 72-42.

PITTSBORO — Seaforth sophomore phenom Jarin Stevenson might be getting all the press clips, but Northwood sophomore point guard Drake Powell doubled his offensive output as the Chargers threw a 72-42 wet blanket on the Hawks' first-ever men's basketball game.

Powell punctuated the showdown with multiple slam dunks among his game-high 26 points that electrified the partisans in the full house as newly opened Seaforth unveiled its basketball court last Tuesday. He was one of three Chargers in double digits as junior power forward Max Frazier tossed in 16 points and sophomore point guard Frederico Whitaker added a dozen himself.

Stevenson, the nationally scouted 6-foot-9 prodigy whose parents both played Division I basketball, was the only Seaforth player in double digits, with 13 points. He has already received college offers from some of the state's most notable schools: North Carolina,

N.C. State and Wake Forest.

N.C. State head basketball coach Kevin Keatts was in attendance at Tuesday's game to catch a glimpse of both Stevenson and Powell.

And after his performance against the Hawks, Powell announced via his Twitter account last Friday that Keatts had offered him a scholarship to play for the Wolfpack, signifying his first major college offer.

"Thank you to @CoachKeattsNCSU for offering me a

scholarship! #WPN #GoPack," Powell tweeted.

The Hawks' offensive engine sputtered and misfired throughout the game, resulting in bad passes that led to turnovers and steals, many of which allowed Northwood to put points on the board. On the other side of the court, the Chargers were crisper with their execution, had much better ball control and used their overpowering size to dominate the boards.

"We're disappointed, but

I don't think we were really expecting to win," said Seaforth's first-year head coach Jarod Stevenson, a former star forward for the University of Richmond, two-decade professional basketball player overseas and father of Jarin Stevenson. "We wanted to win, we were hoping to win, but they went to the state championship last year and they have a size advantage, so it was a lot of stuff working against us to get a win."

"I just told the guys I was proud of the way they fought," he continued. "What could we do? We couldn't pass, and we couldn't rebound, so that's two very important parts of the game. We were definitely at a disadvantage."

Northwood's pillars of power included Powell, 6-foot-6; junior center Kenan Parrish, 6-foot-11; Frazier, 6-foot-8; and sophomore small forward Jake Leighton, 6-foot-5. Only Stevenson and 6-foot-5 Chris Walker were in the same height neighborhood for Seaforth.

"We did have some size on them," Northwood head coach Matt Brown said. "We wanted to make our presence known

on the inside. That was the goal and I think we did a pretty good job."

Jarod Stevenson said Northwood has more seasoned players who are athletically talented. His son, a starter for Northwood last year as a freshman, is the only Seaforth player with high school varsity experience.

"The rest of the guys never experienced anything like this," Jarod Stevenson said. "We had a good crowd. That's probably the first time any of these guys played before a crowd like this. And then you had the pressure of Northwood's defense and it was real tough for them to overcome."

Seaforth has only been practicing together for 14 days, too short a time to achieve all that needed addressing. That includes simulating the type of pressure that Northwood applies, which stymied the Hawks' playmaking and passes.

"Hopefully it's a learning experience," Jarod Stevenson said. Despite the loss, he was pleased that his players showed

See **CHARGERS**, page B4

NORTHWOOD 67, SEAFORTH 24

Chargers' Bell drops 19 in season-opening thumping of Hawks

BY DAN E. WAY
News + Record
Correspondent



Staff photo by Dan E. Way

Seaforth freshman Gabby White (3) follows her shot during first period play in the Hawks' season-opening loss to Northwood, 67-24, last Tuesday. She scored 7 of her 11 points in the opening period.

PITTSBORO — Natalie Bell was expected to be a dominant force on defense for the Northwood High School women's basketball team this year, but her game isn't limited to the defensive end of the floor.

The 5-foot-2 senior showed she also possesses offensive prowess in the Chargers' season lid-lifter against Seaforth High School, knocking down a game-high 19 points en route to the win.

Visiting Northwood cruised to a 67-24 victory to spoil the first-ever basketball game in Seaforth history last Tuesday. It was a predictable outcome on paper, with the Chargers' veteran team coming off of an NCHSAA 3A Final Four appearance last year versus a squad of freshmen and sophomores in a brand new school.

It was a devastating reality on the court.

Bell and senior transfer Olivia Porter each drained a trio of 3-point-

ers, and Northwood knocked down eight in all, compared to just a pair of threes for Seaforth. Northwood had three players in double digits — Bell, Porter (15) and senior Myla Marve (10). Peyton Collins and Gabby White had 11 each for the Hawks, scoring all but two of the team's

points. The Chargers' offensive execution was — as expected of a team with a history of playing together — much sharper. They showed a more productive presence in the paint, and controlled the perimeter, despite the Hawks' tenacity and never-say-die demeanor.

First-year Northwood head coach Kerri Snipes was pleased with the outcome, if not all aspects of the game, giving a tip of the cap to the upstart Hawks for that.

"I felt we moved the ball well," Snipes said after the win. "Definitely we were passing the ball. Nobody was selfish. We

were working together as a team."

"There are some things we need to work on, rebounding for sure, especially on the defensive end," Snipes said. "We've got to get better with that, and just sharpen up our defense as well. There were a couple of times where they broke our defense down pretty easily so we just need to work through that a little better."

Snipes was complimentary of the scoring barrage of her "pretty talented guards," Bell, Porter and sophomore Skylar Adams (9 points), and said senior post player Caroline Allen (8 points) got some looks. "(Porter) did really well on the defensive end guarding one of their better players, Gabby (White). All around I think the effort was there for us, which ended up getting us the win," Snipes said.

But she didn't discount the age factor.

"We do have a lot of seniors and juniors that have been in the program for a number of years and playing varsity as

well," Snipes said. "They've got a lot of young girls, so that's the difference between the two teams," she said. "They've got a really good group of girls, very talented, so I think they're definitely going to be a force to be reckoned with in coming years, for sure."

Snipes said playing against a new school stirred a bit of a buzz among her players, especially since they are friends with some of the Seaforth athletes. She's hoping that adding the cross-county rivalry to the schedule will pique greater interest in the sport among young girls and help in recruiting to strengthen the programs.

Seaforth first-year head coach Charles Byrd said his Hawks were down, but not out.

"I wouldn't say I expected it to go that way," Byrd said after the loss. "It definitely didn't go the way I wanted it to, though."

In the post-game huddle, he told his team that "this is a learning

See **WOMEN**, page B2

Don't criticize college athletes for skipping bowl games

As bowl season approaches, so too does the decision for many potential NFL prospects: Should they play in their bowl games?

There's arguments to be made for both, but maybe this year, as some coaches prove that loyalty is not always first, we refrain from criticizing the player's decisions.

The immediate counterpoint is that these athletes are abandoning their teams. They're quitting on them, they're selfish. They've played the entire season for their school and it's

only right to finish it out with their teammates. None of that holds much merit.

Bowl games hold significantly less meaning than they used to. With the addition of the College Football Playoff, there's a boom-or-bust mindset for many teams in the postseason. Does winning the Quick Lane Bowl really mean as much as these games used to? Players aren't sitting out games that have title implications.

The first player that I think about is former Michigan tight end Jake Butt. He won the John Mackey award for the nation's best tight end and decided to play in the 2016 Orange Bowl against Florida State. Entering that game, he

was a projected 2nd-round pick. Early in the game, he tore his ACL, and was later picked in the 5th round of the NFL Draft. He was the eighth tight end selected.

Butt's NFL career was a bust. He missed all of 2017 rehabbing and later suffered more complications because of his ACL tear. He played in eight NFL games before retiring this past offseason.

That same year, running backs Leonard Fournette and Christian McCaffrey opted to sit out the bowl games for LSU and Stanford, respectively. Their decisions were largely met with criticism and debate. Now, both running backs have had lengthy and successful NFL careers. Fournette tallied

four touchdowns last week in Indianapolis for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Prior to the new name, image and likeness rule, college athletes had scarce opportunities to profit off of their talents. The way to change that ... become a high NFL draft pick. If a player already has a high draft stock and doesn't want to jeopardize it, there's minimal benefit to playing in a bowl game. The main reason these games are played is for the money anyway.

If we're going to demand loyalty from the players, look no further than their own coaches this past weekend. It's been a coaching carousel around the country.

The Lincoln Riley era at

Oklahoma is over. He's headed west for more money to Southern California.

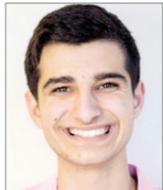
The Brian Kelly era at Notre Dame is over. He's headed south for more money to LSU.

In one week, Kelly and Notre Dame could have been selected to play in the College Football Playoff if a few things go their way. Now, he's out.

Who knows which college football coach will be next? None of them will coach their respective teams in the bowl game.

Maybe let's not bash an athlete looking out for his own future, too.

Max Baker can be reached at max@chathamnr.com and @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

As students and staff return from Thanksgiving Break, we've got a full slate of local sports this week, including at least 23 basketball games, 10 wrestling matches and the first swim meet of the season. In other words, it's a jam-packed schedule this week. And with it all taking place indoors — avoiding the frigid cold — there's plenty of reasons to come out and support your school/team/athlete of choice. Here's this week's schedule and last week's results

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, December 1

Basketball: Chatham Central women at Uwharrie Charter, 5:30 p.m.
Basketball: Chatham Charter at Eno River (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)
Basketball: Jordan-Matthews vs. Northwood (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)
Wrestling: Seaforth vs. Jordan-Matthews, Cummings, 6 p.m.
Wrestling: Northwood vs.

Cedar Ridge, 6 p.m.

Thursday, December 2

Swimming: Northwood at Western Alamance (Cedar Ridge also participating), 8 p.m.

Friday, December 3

Wrestling: Northwood at Orange (Jim King Invitational), 5 p.m.
Basketball: Chatham Central vs. South Davidson (women at 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.)
Basketball: Chatham Charter at Uwharrie Charter (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)
Basketball: Jordan-Matthews at Providence Grove (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)
Basketball: Seaforth women vs. Apex Friendship, 6 p.m.
Basketball: Woods Charter at Eno River (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)

Saturday, December 4

Wrestling: Chatham Central, Northwood at Orange (Jim King Invitational), 8 a.m.
Basketball: Seaforth men at Millbrook Showcase (Millbrook High School), 1 p.m.
Basketball: Northwood vs. Orange (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)

LAST WEEK

Monday, November 22

Wrestling: The Northwood men fell to the Chapel Hill Tigers, 48-28, for their first loss of the season, despite topping the Tigers, 6-5, in individual bouts. See match report in this edition.

Tuesday, November 23

Basketball: The Chatham Central women fell to the South Davidson Wildcats, 37-25, on the road in their season-opener.
Basketball: The Chatham Central men narrowly lost to the South Davidson Wildcats on the road, 54-52, in their season-opener.
Basketball: The Chatham Charter women dominated the N.C. Leadership Academy Falcons, 61-18, to improve to 6-1 on the season.
Basketball: The Chatham Charter men thrashed the N.C. Leadership Academy Falcons, 67-31, to remain unbeaten (7-0) on the season.
Basketball: The Jordan-Matthews women lost a lopsided season-opening road game to the Eastern Randolph Wildcats, 58-20, to start the season 0-1. Lead-

ing the Jets on the night were senior Eillia Wright (6 points, 4 steals) and freshman Kelsey Morris (4 points, 4 rebounds).
Basketball: The Jordan-Matthews men lost to the Eastern Randolph Wildcats, 79-64, on the road to open the season.
Basketball: The Northwood women crushed the Seaforth Hawks in the Hawks' program-opening game, 67-24, to improve to 1-0 on the season. Seaforth fell to 0-1. Leading the Chargers on the night were seniors Natalie Bell (19 points, 1 rebound, 4 assists), Olivia Porter (15 points, 11 rebounds, 6 assists, 8 steals) and Myla Marve (10 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal). Leading the Hawks on the night were Gabby White and Peyton Collins, each with 11 points.
Basketball: The Northwood men earned a lopsided win over the Seaforth Hawks, 72-42, in the Hawks' program-opening game, to improve to 1-0 on the season. Seaforth fell to 0-1. Leading the Chargers on the night were sophomore Drake Powell (26 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 8 steals), junior Max Frazier (16 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals) and sophomore Fred Whitaker Jr. (12 points, 7 re-

bounds, 5 assists, 5 steals). Leading the Hawks on the night were sophomore Jarin Stevenson (13 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 2 blocks) and sophomore Chris Walker (9 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal).
Wrestling: The Seaforth men earned back-to-back wins over Chatham Central (45-30) and North Moore (42-30) for their first two victories in program history.
Wrestling: The Northwood men split matches against the Southwestern Randolph Cougars (loss, 42-27) and Southern Lee Cavaliers (win, 60-12), to improve to 3-2 on the season.

Wednesday, November 24

No events scheduled; Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, November 25

No events scheduled; Thanksgiving Break

Friday, November 26

No events scheduled; Thanksgiving Break

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

Triangle Fitness team runs Rugged Maniac

BY KIM MOORE

JULIAN — It is likely, after being on lockdown, that once freedom came, we were going to get out and do something, anything, to eliminate the boredom that had become our lives this past year and a half. A group from a local Siler City gym, Triangle Fitness, decided to do just that. Originally, our team had signed up five runners to run the Rugged Maniac race coming to North Carolina in October, but it quickly grew to 25, with ages ranging from early teens to those in their 60s.



Submitted photo

The Triangle Fitness team poses for a photo with their medals after running the Rugged Maniac mud race in Julian in October.

The first Rugged Maniac obstacle race, otherwise known as a mud run, took place in Southwick, Massa-

chusetts, in 2010, and it's since grown to host events across both the United States and Cana-

da. North Carolina saw its first Rugged Maniac in Rockingham, and it has been held every year

since with the exception of 2020, when it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

An interesting aside: in 2016, Rugged Maniac began running two events, both in the spring and fall. The May event drew over 6,000 participants, but the October 8th event had Hurricane Matthew threatening a cancellation. The event coordinators moved the event from Saturday to Sunday, accompanied by this statement, "This is Rugged Maniac, not a tea party at the retirement home."

The race this year was held at Piedmont Dragway in Julian, North Carolina.

In the early morning, the sky was overcast and the air chilly as our group began the registration process. Shortly before our 10:15 a.m. start time, the clouds broke and the temperature

warmed to around 60 degrees, perfect weather to run through water obstacles and roll in the mud.

The race promised 25 challenging obstacles testing leg strength and endurance throughout the 3-mile run interspersed with the "Shoe Catcher," which sucked the shoes off of your feet if you hadn't tied them on tight enough, to "Pull Your Weight" and "BarZan," testing upper body, and "Cliffhanger" and "Vertigo" to challenge those with a fear of heights.

Some ran, some walked, but everyone finished and agreed they were glad they did it. Triangle Fitness may have begun a new tradition. Is anyone else up for a run in the mud?

A Pollard power play at Seaforth's opener

BY DAN E. WAY
News + Record Correspondent

Craig Adams was in a no-lose situation when the Seaforth High School women's basketball team christened the new school's basketball court in their debut season against Northwood High School last week.

Regardless of the outcome, his girls were going to come out winners.

Adams' unique fortune stemmed from his role as a

women's basketball assistant coach at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School. Many former members of the Pollard program who benefited from Adams' tutelage were on the court last Tuesday.

"Half of the players that are on Seaforth played for me at Pollard, and half of the girls on Northwood played for me at Pollard," Adams said with a hint of mentoring pride during a halftime chat.

But was he suffering from internal tension and torn allegiances?

"I'm enjoying it," Adams said. "I'm pulling for both sides ... I want to see both sides do well."

"But at the end of the day, I want my daughter to come out on top," he added with a chuckle, pointing out No. 22 for Northwood, Skylar Adams. She scored 9 points on the night in the Chargers' eventual 67-24 victory.

"On both sides, I've seen a lot of shooting, well shooting and passing. Everything's looking good," he said.

But Northwood had the

advantage with age and experience, he said, having players ranging from freshmen to seniors and coming off a state Final Four appearance last season. Seaforth has only freshmen and sophomores.

"Some of the girls on the Seaforth team, if they lose, this will be their first school ball game losing," Adams said. "We have a 77-0 record at Pollard Middle School. Coming up from middle to high school, it's totally different."

Here are the players from

each side that came through the Pollard funnel:

- Seaforth**
- Hannah Ajayi
 - Gabby White
 - Sydney Ballard
 - Sofia Ramirez
 - Bailen Fauth
 - Avery Fauth
 - Jenna Thompson
- Northwood**
- Natalia Whitaker
 - Skylar Adams
 - Gianna McManaman
 - Natalie Bell
 - Olivia Porter
 - Myla Marve

WOMEN

Continued from page B1

process. We've got to get back to the drawing board and get ready to work hard tomorrow in practice."

Byrd acknowledged his team might have been a bit awestruck, combined with first-game jitters. His players grew up watching the Northwood teams, anticipating playing for the Chargers one day.

"I think the biggest thing tonight was just getting them to believe they could play at a high level, and play on the floor with them," Byrd said. "That's going to be the biggest thing all year, reiterating ... that we belong on the floor" despite the concentration of freshmen players.

"Near the end of the

game, the girls started to play harder than they had played for the other three quarters in the game.

I like how they played hard," he said. "They showed some fight late in the game. If we could just build on that going forward, I think we'll be in a better position in the remainder of our games."

He said he wants to emphasize that on game day, the players need to remember the small things, like the skills and techniques they employ every day in practice, sticking to their game plan, running their offense, running the floor and sticking to the things they do well.

"I definitely think we're going to see growth," Byrd said. "We're continuing to work hard. I think this team has a ton of potential."

Northwood set the

tone early in Tuesday's game.

Porter fired in a long three-point jump shot from the corner in the opening seconds, junior Gianna McManaman blocked a shot by the Hawks' Ellie Johnson and Adams fired up a three-pointer to grab a 6-0 lead with 5:30 on the clock in the first period. White drove to the basket for a layup at 5:07 to put Seaforth on the board, but Porter followed im-

mediately with another three-pointer, and Bell tickled the nets with a pull-up jumper in front of the basket for an 11-2 lead.

And so it went throughout the game. In the third period, Northwood went on a 14-point run to widen the score to 42-11. Northwood never took their foot off the gas, outscoring Seaforth 15-8 in the final period, punctuated by a nifty steal by Adams, who went

coast-to-coast to toss in a basket.

The Chargers (1-0), have a tough schedule ahead, with 4A Wakefield (1-0) upcoming on Tuesday, Jordan-Matthews (0-

1) on the road on Wednesday and conference foe Orange (0-1) at home on Saturday.

The Hawks take on Harnett Central (0-1) at home on Tuesday.

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Here are Chatham County's fall sports all-conference performers

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

With the 2021-22 NCHSAA fall sports season coming to an end, a number of Chatham County athletes have been selected to all-conference teams in cross country, football, women's golf, men's soccer, women's tennis and volleyball.

The Central Tar Heel 1A, Mid-Carolina 1A/2A and Central 3A conferences have announced their respective all-conference teams for the fall, with more than 130 Chatham student-athletes recognized for being the top athletes in their respective conferences. In addition, 13 coaches were named "Coach of the Year" and 14 student-athletes were named "Player of the Year" — or a variation of that — for their accomplishments.

The athletes and coaches earning all-conference honors include:

Cross Country

Central Tar Heel 1A

- Silas Christenbury, Junior, Chatham Charter
- Brandon McKoy, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Caleb Kolb, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Meredith Reese, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
- Wiley Sikes, Sophomore, Woods Charter
- Jesse Sikes, Freshman, Woods Charter
- Nichols Vallant, Senior, Woods Charter
- Dylan De Leon Villanueva, Freshman, Woods Charter
- Ellie Poitras, Sophomore, Woods Charter
- Maddie Sparrow, Junior, Woods Charter
- Chloe Richard, Junior, Woods Charter
- Anna Peeler, Freshman, Woods Charter

- Men's Runner of the Year:** Brandon McKoy, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Women's Coach of the Year:** Karen Hawkins, Woods Charter
- Men's Coaches of the Year:** LaShawn LaFrance and Tina Rakes,

Chatham Charter Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

- Kailey Green, Junior, Chatham Central
- Kolton Phillips, Sophomore, Chatham Central
- Seth Gilliland, Sophomore, Chatham Central
- Luke Gaines, Freshman, Chatham Central
- Jasmine Basillo, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Hania Martinez, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Jack Anstrom, Freshman, Seaforth
- Will Cuicchi, Freshman, Seaforth
- Ethan Becker, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Andrew Parker, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Evan Hepburn, Freshman, Seaforth
- Connor Yalch, Freshman, Seaforth
- Harry Mendlovitz, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Henry McFall, Freshman, Seaforth
- Claire Morgan, Freshman, Seaforth
- Lily Cox, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Juana Jimenez, Freshman, Seaforth
- Zuzanna Mikolajec, Freshman, Seaforth
- Ava Belle Cox, Freshman, Seaforth
- Katie Johnson, Freshman, Seaforth
- Carolina Bartee, Sophomore, Seaforth

Men's Runner of the Year:

- Jack Anstrom, Freshman, Seaforth

Women's Runner of the Year:

- Claire Morgan, Freshman, Seaforth

Men's Coach of the Year:

- Duncan Murrell, Seaforth

Women's Coach of the Year:

- Tanelle Smith, Seaforth
- Colin Henry, Senior, Northwood
- Christian Glick, Junior, Northwood
- Matthew Sullivan, Junior, Northwood
- Jackson Adams, Junior, Northwood
- Andrew Kimbrel, Senior, Northwood
- Caroline Murrell, Senior, Northwood
- Emma Serrano, Senior, Northwood
- Avery Adams, Fresh-

man, Northwood

- Ella Hennessey, Senior, Northwood

Women's Runner of the Year:

- Caroline Murrell, Senior, Northwood

Football Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

- Jaxon Globuschutz, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Calvin Schwartz, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Trevor Williams, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews
- Toren Korpela, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Rayshawn Alston, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Chris Ray, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
- Collin Lagenor, Senior, Chatham Central
- Devin Cheek, Senior, Chatham Central
- Trey Clay, Senior, Chatham Central
- Malachi Moore, Senior, Chatham Central
- William Douglass, Junior, Chatham Central
- Nick Jourdan, Senior, Chatham Central
- Matthew Smith, Junior, Chatham Central

Specialist of the Year:

- Calvin Schwartz, Junior, Jordan-Matthews

Team Sportsmanship Award:

- Jordan-Matthews

Honorable Mention:

- Colby Williamson, Chatham Central; Hasten Paige, Chatham Central; Colton McKeithan, Chatham Central; Landon Hackney, Chatham Central; Fabian Thompson, Jordan-Matthews; Conner Redding, Jordan-Matthews; Kelton Fuquay, Jordan-Matthews

Central 3A

- Stephen Lane, Senior, Northwood
- Pierce Cook, Senior, Northwood
- Dashaun Vines-McSwain, Senior, Northwood
- Robbie Delgado, Senior, Northwood
- Max Carr, Senior, Northwood

Women's Golf Central Tar Heel 1A

- Mackenzie Crossman, Sophomore, Chatham Charter

• Sophie Taylor, Senior, Woods Charter

- Elise "Teddy" Taylor, Sophomore, Woods Charter
- Shaye Phillips, Junior, Woods Charter

Player of the Year:

- Mackenzie Crossman, Sophomore, Chatham Charter

Coaches of the Year:

- Tim Tally, Chatham Charter; Elizabeth Wall, Woods Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

- Reagan Mize, Junior, Chatham Central
- Ashton Wilkes, Junior, Chatham Central
- Chloe Fuquay, Senior, Chatham Central
- Reagan Murray, Senior, Chatham Central
- Meredith Peele, Junior, Chatham Central
- Paige Colborne, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Avery Fauth, Freshman, Seaforth
- Olivia Dennis, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Jenna Thompson, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Ellie Johnson, Freshman, Seaforth
- Avery Fauth, Freshman, Seaforth
- Lynda Burke, Chatham Central
- Lily Jordan, Junior, Northwood
- Lindsey Vickers, Senior, Northwood
- Amelia Spell, Senior, Northwood

Player of the Year:

- Lily Jordan, Junior, Northwood

Men's Soccer Central Tar Heel 1A

- Casey Wanless, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Motasem Mamoun, Sophomore, Woods Charter
- Graden O'Connor, Junior, Woods Charter
- Caleb Jackson, Senior, Woods Charter
- Collin Thompson, Junior, Woods Charter

Coach of the Year:

- Graeme Stewart, Woods Charter

Sportsmanship Award:

- Chatham Charter

Honorable Mentions:

- Ryan Jones, Chatham Charter; Cedric Schwartz, Chatham Charter; Khalil Covington, Chatham Charter; Vanner Weakly, Woods Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

- Irvin Campos, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Cristian Cruz, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Brian Hernandez, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Juan Hernandez Soto, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Alexis Ibarra, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Zander Ocampo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Ricardo Rocha, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Brock Rohaly, Senior, Jordan-Matthews

• Jack Haste, Freshman, Seaforth

- Blake Price, Freshman, Seaforth
- Hunter Blake, Freshman, Seaforth

Offensive Player of the Year:

- Zander Ocampo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews

Defensive Player of the Year:

- Cristian Cruz, Jordan-Matthews

Coach of the Year:

- Paul Cuadros, Jordan-Matthews

Team Sportsmanship Award:

- Jordan-Matthews

All-Region 8 Selections:

- Zander Ocampo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews; Brian Hernandez, Senior, Jordan-Matthews; Alexis Ibarra, Senior, Jordan-Matthews

Region 8 Player of the Year:

- Zander Ocampo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews

All-State Selection:

- Zander Ocampo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews

All-State Coach of the Year:

- Paul Cuadros, Jordan-Matthews

Honorable Mention:

- Ben Dekaney, Jordan-Matthews; Christopher Reyes, Jordan-Matthews; Jonathan Campos, Jordan-Matthews; Paul Lujan, Jordan-Matthews; Anthony Rodriguez, Jordan-Matthews; Armando Rocha, Jordan-Matthews; Andy Mendoza, Jordan-Matthews; Jason Antley, Seaforth; Toni Rodriguez, Seaforth; Logan Sparrow, Seaforth

Central 3A

- Adam Beaulieu, Senior, Northwood
- Ayden Turner, Senior, Northwood
- Walker Johnson, Senior, Northwood
- Bryan Ramirez, Senior, Northwood

Women's Tennis Central Tar Heel 1A

- Rebecca Brookshire, Junior, Chatham Charter
- Lorelei Byrd, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Ashlyn Hart, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Emery Eldridge, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Elphie Spillman, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
- Emily Stecher, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Elphie Spillman, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
- Livvy Brooks, Junior, Chatham Central
- Ellie Phillips, Junior, Chatham Central
- Jaylee Williams, Junior, Chatham Central
- Rachel Albright, Sophomore, Chatham Central
- Maggie Thornton, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Jocelyn Sanchez, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Sarai Ibarra-Rivera, Junior, Jordan-Matthews

• Destinee Ledwell, Senior, Jordan-Matthews

- Evelyn Atkins, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Bailey Shadoan, Freshman, Seaforth
- Lillian McFall, Freshman, Seaforth

Player of the Year:

- Livvy Brooks, Junior, Chatham Central

Coach of the Year:

- Chip Millard, Jordan-Matthews

Central 3A

- Evelyn Lippers, Senior, Northwood
- Julia Earnshaw, Senior, Northwood
- Ryan Tinervin, Sophomore, Northwood

Player of the Year:

- Evelyn Lippers, Senior, Northwood

Volleyball Central Tar Heel 1A

- Alexis Baldwin, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Emerson Clark, Junior, Chatham Charter
- Alison Perez, Junior, Chatham Charter
- Tamaya Walden, Junior, Chatham Charter
- Molly Wilson, Senior, Chatham Charter
- Lexi Smollen, Sophomore, Woods Charter
- Jana Thompson, Senior, Woods Charter
- Maya Sheridan, Freshman, Woods Charter
- Ada Green, Senior, Woods Charter

Player of the Year:

- Lexi Smollen, Sophomore, Woods Charter

Coach of the Year:

- Scott Green, Woods Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

- Karaleigh Dodson, Freshman, Chatham Central
- Taylor Poe, Senior, Chatham Central
- Sadie Gaines, Senior, Chatham Central
- Reagan Smith, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
- Janeyra Guerrero-Jaimes, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
- Maris Huneycutt, Freshman, Seaforth
- Mia Kellam, Freshman, Seaforth

Team Sportsmanship:

- Chatham Central, Seaforth (tied with Graham)

Honorable Mentions:

- Lindsey Johnson, Chatham Central; Abby Johnson, Chatham Central; Brenley Rivers, Jordan-Matthews; Lia Carter, Jordan-Matthews; Sophia Murchison, Jordan-Matthews; Lillian Dulin, Seaforth

Central 3A

- Hannah Forbes, Senior, Northwood
- Asia Thigpen, Sophomore, Northwood

Player of the Year:

- Asia Thigpen, Sophomore, Northwood

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



Chatham COA Events & Announcements

December 2nd through December 8th

Thursday, December 2nd

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

Friday, December 3rd

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🦋
- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM 🦋
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program](#) 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, December 6th

- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM 🦋
- [Strength & Conditioning w/Olivia](#) at 10:00 AM (at Holly Brooks Room, WCSC) 🦋
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 10:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center (Pittsboro) and on Zoom) 🦋📶

Tuesday, December 7th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🦋
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program](#) at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🦋📶
- [Geri-Fit w/Olivia](#) at 2:00 p.m. (at WCSC Aerobic Room) 🦋

Wednesday, December 8th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🦋
- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM 🦋
- [Strength & Conditioning w/Olivia](#) at 10:00 AM (at Holly Brooks Room, WCSC) 🦋
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 10:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center (Pittsboro) and on Zoom) 🦋📶



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CHAPEL HILL 48, NORTHWOOD 28

Chargers top Tigers in individual bouts, but trio of forfeits lead to wrestling loss

BY DAN E. WAY
News + Record
Correspondent

CHAPEL HILL — It was a tale of the rookie wrestling coach challenging a Hall of Fame icon when 3A Northwood traveled to 4A Chapel Hill last Monday. And despite the gap in experience, first-year coach Joe Harris' Chargers outdueled Robert "Tripp" Price's grapplers, 6-5, in individual bouts wrestled.

Unfortunately for the Chargers, however, Chapel Hill still seized the 48-28 victory on the strength of three forfeit wins and a 5-4 edge in falls in what was mostly a pin-or-be-pinned contest. Add a Northwood major decision and 10 of the 11 bouts resulted in bonus points.

"The forfeits hurt us, that's for sure," said Harris, a 2016 Northwood graduate and wrestling alumnus. He's got holes in his lineup at the 106-pound and 145-pound spots, and his 113-pounder failed to make weight — resulting in an automatic 18-point deficit — but he saw sparks of potential.

"I think they did good," Harris said. "I think they need to work on their conditioning, and they need to get out there and start practicing harder on their moves, rather than worry about the smaller things. Techniques and moves are more important than strength and

trying to toss people around."

The wild and wooly pin-athon was, perhaps, as much by design as it was getting caught in early season mistakes.

"The way I look at it is, you get six and you get off. Don't sit out there longer than you need to be," Harris said of his pin-oriented philosophy.

"I'm trying to bring it all back together as a team."

Northwood graduated some seniors from last year's squad, and lost a few other team members, including 2020 state 3A 106-pound runner-up Josh Miller, who transferred to newly-opened Seaforth High School.

Harris lacks a full-time assistant, so he's relying on 182-pounder Cliff Davis, a state qualifier from last season.

"He's my captain, he's shown leadership in helping out with the team," Harris said.

Price, who is enshrined in the North Carolina Wrestling Hall of Fame, has a better sense of his team's abilities after its season-opener.

"It was just good to get back out there to see where we were," Price said. "We've got a bunch of really young kids, and then we've got three or four kids who are state caliber. ... We need more time in the mat room to work on basics."

While acknowledging that Northwood won more of the contested bouts, Price wasn't concerned.

"If I was wrestling them for a conference title, I would not have wrestled the same lineup. I would have made some changes to get our better kids with their better kids," Price said.

Alexander Gunning, a state runner-up at 160 pounds last year, got things rolling for Chapel Hill with a first-period pin of Kayden Payne at 170.

Davis put the Chargers on the board with a 6-2 decision over returning letterman Jeremy Breeze at 182 pounds. He gave up a single-leg takedown on the first-period whistle, but dominated after that. Davis hit a nifty balance check at the end of a rowdy scramble for a second-period takedown, then countered a setup move by Breeze for a third-period takedown to go with a pair of escapes.

Northwood's Ryan Brinker pinned Moo Day with seven seconds remaining in their 195-pound match. Day countered Brinker's throw attempt for a takedown, but Brinker came up with a cradle off of a reversal for a five-point move, then slapped on some bars to clamp Day.

At 220 pounds, Jose Bautista of Chapel Hill decked Matthew Goldston in a furious first period, scoring a takedown and exchanging reversals before he slapped on a headlock for the fall, with Chapel Hill leading 12-9 at that point.

Jake Dunning put Northwood ahead, 15-12, at 285 pounds, using a bar and half nelson to pin Joseph Rodriguez in the second period. He was leading 2-0 at the time after slipping out of a Rodriguez headlock attempt and gaining a first-period takedown. Dunning gave up 28 pounds to his 249-pound opponent.

Owen Rector at 106 pounds and Ethan Elbogen at 113 pounds received forfeit wins for Chapel Hill. That pushed the score to 24-15, and Northwood never led again.

Sophomore Coltrane Northington pulled Northwood to within 3 points, 24-21, at 120 pounds by pinning Diego Reveles at 120 pounds. Reveles got a first-period headlock but immediately ran into trouble.

"Before the match, I was pretty nervous. I heard this kid was pretty good," said Northington, a returning varsity member who was at 113 pounds last year. "He was trying to hit a tilt but ... I just bridged over and he went with me. He landed on his back and I hit him with a reverse half and locked his arms up and got the pin."

Chapel Hill widened the gap to 36-21 when Lucas Daley decked Northwood's Hughson Crean with a first-period pancake at 126, and Jakob Maiwald pinned the Chargers' Aiden Vigus with a second-period bar and half nelson at 132.

Andrew Kimbrel temporarily stopped the bleeding for Northwood, topping the Tigers' Gabriel Waterhouse, 9-2, at 138 pounds. He scored on a double-leg takedown in the first period, a short sit-out and reversal in the second and another takedown shot on the legs in the third period that flowed into a three-point near fall.

Porter Brice picked up the third forfeit win for Chapel Hill at 145 pounds and the Tigers' 152-pounder Justin Albouy nailed Northwood's Austin Thomas with a headlock for a third-period pin.

Trailing 48-24, Northwood grabbed the final bout of the night at 160 pounds when freshman Ethan Kuball earned a 10-2 major decision over Luke Bennard. Kuball was superior on his feet, blasting to three takedowns in the first two periods, then getting a reversal and a pair of back points off of a cradle in the final period.

"I didn't want to pin him right away because I haven't got a full match this year," Kuball said. "I wanted to see what my endurance was. I was trying to do a tilt but couldn't get it. He was strong."

The Chargers (3-2) — who went on to split matches against Southwestern Randolph (loss, 42-27) and Southern Lee (60-12) — get back into action on Wednesday against conference mate Cedar Ridge.

CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

hustle all the way down to the final buzzer.

"The offense wasn't that good, but they continued to fight and show a lot of heart, so I'm proud of them for that," he said.

Brown had as much to be happy about as he had to critique after the game.

"They stuck with the game plan of what we want to do, but still they were sloppy at times," he said. "We've got to play with more discipline. We've got to clean up a bunch of stuff. Our outside defense was nonexistent today. We fouled way too much. So we've got to

clean it up before next week."

After opening against 2A Seaforth, the 3A Chargers tangle with 4A Wakefield (1-0) on Tuesday. Seaforth plays 3A Harnett Central (1-1) the same night.

"We pride ourselves on defense and that's why I'm a little upset," Brown said. "Our goal is to hold teams to 35 points a game and we didn't do that tonight. We got a little three-happy at times, too."

He attributed some of the flubs and lapses to first-game jitters.

Brown expects Powell, Frazier and Whitaker to propel the team in upcoming games just as they did against Seaforth.

"Those three guys kind of get us going," he said. "Very reliable. They're our team leaders and they're pretty effi-

cient both offensively and defensively."

While Seaforth has been at a disadvantage in its sports programs because it only houses freshmen and sophomores in its first year, Brown didn't consider that a factor in the game's outcome.

"To be honest, we started four sophomores so we're pretty much the same age as they are," he said. Frazier and Parrish are the only juniors on the roster and Seth Lewis, the lone senior, is injured and not playing.

Brown believes the addition of Seaforth will add some spice to basketball life in Chatham County.

"It's great for the county, it's great for the community," he said. "It's exciting. And it was a great crowd tonight."

The Northwood section of that crowd

had a lot to cheer about early. The Chargers went on a 10-0 run to open the game, fueled by Whitaker pouring in two of his trio of three-pointers and Powell slamming home his first dunk of the game. Seaforth didn't get on the board until the 4:38 mark of the first period, when Stevenson hit a basket and picked up a foul to make it 10-3.

Northwood stretched the lead to 20-3 with another 10-point run that included a dunk by Frazier before Stevenson drained a three-pointer. Powell and sophomore Gus Fisher hit three-pointers in the second period to help extend the lead to 39-24.

Powell tossed in eight of his points in the third period, while he and Whitaker put up three-pointers in the final frame to keep the scoring machine humming.

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Chatham News + Record **Local Service Directory**

Perry Harrison's Ronnie Gilmore retires after 22 years of service

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Five mornings a week for 22 years, Ronnie Gilmore woke up at 4:30 to start his day as a beloved custodian and bus driver at Perry Harrison Elementary.

Now, after retiring earlier this year, he gets a little more sleep.

"I get up a little later now," he said with a big laugh, then more seriously: "I gave them 22 years. I gave the best I could and I thought it was time to move on."

Gilmore, 57, started working at Perry Harrison in 1999 when he was 35 years old. Over the years, he saw principals, teachers and students come and go, worked under new superintendents and faced the myriad challenges that come with being employed in a school during a pandemic.

Known for his boisterous voice, welcoming hugs and as "a great ambassador for goodness" among the Perry Harrison community, Gilmore also impacted many people during his years at the school. On Nov. 6, the school's PTA commended Gilmore's service to the school with a ceremony dedicating a tree planted in front of the school to honor him.

"I didn't know so many people loved me this much," Gilmore said at the ceremony. "I tell the kids every day they got on the bus: get to school, learn something, get your education, because the only way to go far in life is to get an education. A lot of them listened to me and a lot of them went on and they graduated and I love them all. I just want to thank each and every one of you for coming out and God bless each and every one of you."

During the ceremony,



Submitted photo

Ronnie Gilmore, pictured here, was honored by Pittsboro Elementary School community members Nov. 6 for his 22 years working at the school as a custodian and bus driver.

2nd-grader Beatrice Boggs shared a tribute to Gilmore. Boggs rode Gilmore's bus when she was in kindergarten and 1st grade — before and during the pandemic.

Gilmore noted Boggs' words as one of his favorite parts of the event.

"Mr. Ronnie is one of the greatest bus drivers of all time," Boggs said. "He was always really nice to everyone, he always put safety first and he was always smiling. He was really patient and knew all of our names. I'm glad he can get a break now, but I'm sad that he has to leave our school. I'm lucky to have had him as my bus driver."

Boggs said it seemed "really

nice" to plant a tree in Gilmore's honor, because "a tree is beautiful and strong and lives a long time."

"Also, trees take care of us," she said, "just like Mr. Ronnie."

"It was beautiful, it was beautiful," Gilmore said of the ceremony. "That was so sweet. All the kids that came, came up and hugged me and told me they missed me and I told them I missed them too. It brought tears to my eyes."

Gilmore made it a point to tell the kids that he loved them and to give them hugs each day, knowing that some of them didn't always "get hugged or told they're loved by their families."

"I just loved working there

Notes to Mr. Ronnie

I do not know if you remember me but hi it is Adina! I have missed you and your sweet personality. I loved seeing you every day when I was in elementary school. Even though I am at a new school I have never forgotten you and never will! Thank you so much for looking forward to seeing you and your great smile every day!!! -Adina

You have taking care of my girls and seen my little man enter the school. The Bells will always be thankful for your kind words and smiles on the bus and we see you out and about. Pray you have a wonderful retirement and please enjoy yourself. -Tim, Avis, Jessica, Nicholas and Natalie Bell

Ronnie, Congratulations on your retirement! I know your smile & hugs will be missed by all at PHS. Love you & wish you the best my friend! -Dawn Williams

You can read more notes at the website created by Perry Harrison parents last year: <https://bit.ly/3D73RSr>

for 22 years," he said. "Mostly for the kids — I loved seeing the kids every day."

Now that he's retired from the school job, Gilmore spends most days working part-time with his son, Quentin Gilmore, who lives in Winston-Salem and works as a truck driver.

Still, these days he makes more time to watch TV, and hopes the future includes a lot of traveling to see the mountains and "some of the big cities" with his wife, Doris Gilmore, once she also retires. "It's been good, but I miss the kids at Perry Harrison," he said of retired life. "But I'm not sitting at home every day, I'm out there with my son."

For the community at Perry Harrison, seeing Gilmore retire is bittersweet. They're glad he is finally getting a break after years of hard work, but they also miss him.

Julie Ricker, a PTA volunteer, met Gilmore when her 4th-grader son started at Perry Harrison, and she helped organize the ceremony and tree dedication to honor Gilmore.

"He just from day one was just a very visible presence to anybody. You know, he didn't extend his warm welcome just to me, it was to anybody who walked through the doors," she said. "That's why he made such a big impact for his whole 22-year career because he was good to everybody he saw and I think that everybody felt that warmth and love from him and he's definitely missed."

"So we just are glad to have had the chance to honor him and remind him of what he meant to so many."

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

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What to know about early IRA withdrawals

While you're working, you may be contributing to an individual retirement account (IRA), which can provide a tax-advantaged way to save for your future. So, is it ever a good idea to tap into your IRA before you retire?

Ideally, you should leave this account intact until your retirement. After all, you could spend two or more decades in retirement, so you'll need a lot of financial resources. Still, life is unpredictable, so there may be times you'll consider taking money from your IRA. You'll need to be aware, though, that if you withdraw funds before you turn 59½, you will generally trigger a 10% penalty. Plus, you'll be taxed on whatever you take out, thereby losing, at least in part, the benefits of tax-deferred earnings offered by a traditional IRA. (With a Roth IRA, you can withdraw your contributions free of taxes and penalties, but the earnings may be taxed and penalized if you take them out before you're 59½.)

If you need to withdraw funds from your IRA before you're 59½, you may be able to avoid the 10% early withdrawal penalty if you meet an exception, such as one of these:

- **Paying for college** – You are allowed to take penalty-free withdrawals to pay for tuition and other qualified higher education expenses for you, your spouse, children or grandchildren. However, since the withdrawals may be considered taxable income, they could reduce the student's eligibility for financial aid.
- **Buying a first home** – You and your spouse can each withdraw up to \$10,000 from your respective IRAs to buy your first home. To qualify as a first-time homebuyer, you (and your spouse) need to have not owned a home for the two years preceding your home purchase.
- **Having a child** – Following the birth or

adoption of a child, you and your coparent can each withdraw up to \$5,000 from your respective IRA without paying the 10% penalty.

• **Covering medical expenses** – You may be able to avoid the early withdrawal penalty if you use the money to pay for unreimbursed medical expenses (for you, your spouse or dependents) that exceed 7.5% of your adjusted gross income. You may also qualify to take a withdrawal without penalty to pay for health insurance premiums if you are unemployed. In the case of a disability, the 10% early withdrawal penalty also may not apply.

These aren't the only exceptions to the 10% withdrawal penalty, but they do cover many of the common reasons that people may consider an early withdrawal from their IRAs. And if you do need to take an early withdrawal, consult with your tax advisor to determine your eligibility for avoiding the 10% penalty.

Keep in mind, though, that you do have ways to potentially reduce the necessity of withdrawing from your IRA early. One proven technique is to build an emergency fund containing at least three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. You might also consider opening a line of credit. A financial professional can help you explore other options, as well. Ultimately, if you can leave your IRA intact until you retire, you'll be helping yourself greatly. But if you do need to tap into your account early, at least be familiar with the possible drawbacks – and how you might avoid them.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

GIVE BACK: HERE'S HOW CHATHAM HELPS OUT

GIVE BACK | GALLOWAY RIDGE

'It's essential to support and help those surrounding us improve the quality of life for our neighbors'

Describe the give-back program of Galloway Ridge:

The Galloway Ridge Chatham County Charitable Fund Grant Distribution Committee granted 19 awards in 2021, totaling \$100,000. It was established in 2006 to serve the citizens of Chatham County. Galloway Ridge residents help their Chatham County neighbors in need through the Galloway Ridge Charitable Fund. Chatham County not-for-profits, schools, and governmental agency projects apply for community grants. We aim to fund projects in various locations within this large, rural county.



What's unique about your program?

Any nonprofit (501(c)(3)) that serves in Chatham County is eligible to apply for funding. The funding is available for any particular type of service. We can help support human services, environmental causes, the arts, and more with this flexibility!

Is your give-back activity tied to your business?

Residents of Galloway Ridge lead the fund. As a community, we donate annually through a funding drive and select recipients through our Chatham County Community Fund Committee.

Any memorable experiences to share?

The residents of Galloway Ridge enjoy giving back through volunteerism as well. In the past, we would participate in Habitat for Humanity builds and host members of the Boys and Girls Club for activities. We are looking forward to opening our doors again when the time is right with safety in mind.

How can the community get involved?

Our residents enjoy learning about the programs in our community. We encourage you to learn more about an organization that matters to you and support them through volunteering.

In addition to providing funding opportunities, our residents make it a priority to give back through donating their time. In the past, Galloway Ridge has hosted a variety of activities for community organizations, like the Boys and Girls Club. By navigating the challenges of the pandemic, our residents were still able to volunteer their time. A few examples are building desks for students, 6 Little Free Libraries placed around Chatham County, clothing and food drives, and sewing washable feminine hygiene supply kits for developing nations.

GIVE BACK | N.C. ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

'COVID suddenly thrust brick-and-mortar schools into virtual academies for which they were unprepared'

Describe the give-back program of the NCAPCS:

The NC Association for Public Charter Schools give-back was our FREE 2020 "Charting a New Course" and 2021 "Vision Casting: Bringing Clarity to 2021 and Beyond" charter school conferences.



organization thousands of dollars, but it was necessary to be sensitive to the needs of the schools.

What do your customers say about it?

Many school leaders expressed their heartfelt gratitude in not having to find funding to pay for the training since they were already experiencing so many unexpected expenses related to the pandemic.

How can our readers support you and your program?

Our organization has earned a 2021 Gold Seal of Transparency with GuideStar! Check out our updated #Nonprofit Profile and consider a donation at www.guidestar.org/profile/56-2018822.

For more information, visit www.ncpubliccharters.org or contact Executive Director Rhonda Dillingham at rhonda@ncpubliccharters.org or call (336) 669-9996.

Did COVID-19 affect how you think about giving back?

On March 15, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper's executive order closed schools due to the risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. This necessary decision suddenly thrust brick-and-mortar schools into "virtual academies" for which they were unprepared. First, the teachers were immediately required to teach their curriculum through an online medium. Not only did they have to learn a new technology like Zoom, but they also had to re-imagine how to engage with their students.

Second, many students rely on their schools for 1-2 wholesome meals per day. School leaders brainstormed solutions and collaborated with districts and other charter schools.

Third, schools' budgets were set months before the pandemic, which means that resources and funding had already been allocated for the year. School leaders were forced to provide technology and WiFi for students so their learning would be uninterrupted.

What's unique about your program?

The annual charter schools' conference is the biggest annual fundraiser for the NC Association for Public Charter Schools, so offering our conference free to schools for two years in a row cost the

GIVE BACK | COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS



'We fuel personal potential, so every student can take charge of their story and define their success for life'

What's unique about Communities In Schools?

From Tych Cowdin, executive director: Communities In Schools of Chatham County's (CISCC) mission is to surround students with a network of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

More explicitly, we provide support in five critical areas; a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a marketable skill to use upon graduation, a chance to give back, and a healthy start for a healthy future. We fuel personal potential, so every student can take charge of their story and define their success for life.

Our programs apply an evidence-based model to target identified needs of referred youth with the highest risks for underachievement by attending to the holistic needs of that individual. These integrated student supports address leading indicators of drop out rate, which are essential to overcoming adversity and finding success through sustained resiliency. CISCC connects students with an array of versatile school and community-based resources through our seven unique programs that enable staff to engage in a cross-pollination of wrap-around supports for youth and families, greatly enhancing their likelihood of success.

How can our readers support you and your program?

Our programs rely on a network of support to broaden and deepen our reach in the community. Volunteers and partners serve a critical role in our ability to connect caring adults with youth in need. Whether it be in time or dollars, we rely on our community to continue building our impact. Contact us at 919.663.0116 or email me at tcowdin@cisatham.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

How have your experiences at CISCC changed you?

I was hired by CISCC in 2014 as a student support specialist at Chatham Middle School, and over the last seven years I have been amazed and inspired by the passion, dedication and commitment of both our staff and community of volunteers and partners. I have seen first-hand the impact that a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult can have on a young person — positively influencing their trajectory, and helping them build sustained resilience in the face of life's challenges. Together, we can build a community where every child in Chatham County has a chance to reach their full potential by building relationships and breaking down barriers.

For more: <https://cisatham.org>





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POLICE REPORTS

Pittsboro woman struck, killed by car in Sanford

CN+R Staff report

SANFORD — A Pittsboro woman was struck and killed by a passing vehicle Sunday as she walked along Jefferson Davis Highway (U.S. 1) near the U.S. 421 bypass.

According to a statement by the Sanford Police Department, officers were dispatched at 2:17 a.m. Sunday to investigate a report of a pedestrian struck by a vehicle. Upon arrival, officers found Maybelline Ann Arzate, 27, of Pittsboro, deceased in the northbound portion of the roadway. Police said her injuries were consistent with being struck by a vehicle.

The driver of the vehicle involved is cooperating with the investigation. No charges have been filed.

A GoFundMe campaign set up by relatives of Arzate — who would have turned 28 on Tuesday — to raise money for funeral expenses had collected more than \$6,500 of its \$12,000 goal by Tuesday afternoon.

“We are unfortunately at the time where we have to say

goodbye to one of the world’s most beautiful souls,” the GoFundMe description read. “... As unkind as life has been to her, she has always managed to overcome each battle, and she prevailed each time, always better than the last.”

The GoFundMe page can be found at <https://gofund.me/18e7af02>.

Arzate was employed by The Chatham Rabbit coffee shop in Siler City, which posted about her death on Facebook on Sunday and was closed in mourning on Monday.

“Maybell only worked for us for a short time and you may not have gotten a chance to meet her,” the post read. “If you did meet her, you would’ve seen that her light shined as bright as the sun. Her heart was full and she was always willing to share it. We are going to miss out, but I know in heaven they are celebrating her arrival. Please consider giving to help with her funeral costs. It would be of great help to all that love her.”

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

On Nov. 19, Nicholas Eugene White, 43, of 103 Erie Street, Durham, was arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for misdemeanor larceny and larceny by removing, destroying or deactivating a component. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Dec. 15.

On Nov. 20, Rachel Elizabeth Weeks, 32, of 8 Millbrook Drive, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for failure to appear. She was issued a \$500 secured bond and

is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Dec. 1.

On Nov. 21, Jose Adrian Gutierrez, 25, of 40 Glovers Church Road, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear on a probation violation. He was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 24.

On Nov. 21, Grace Joselyn Godina, 24, of 40 Glovers Church Road, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Har-

rington for failure to appear on unsupervised probation violation. She was issued a \$200 secure bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Jan. 4, 2022.

On Nov. 22, Kyron Bryant Drake Jr., 24, of 1482 North US Highway 1, Rockingham, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. He was issued a \$500 secure bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on Dec. 17.

On Nov. 22, Jimmy Scott

Stone, 54, of 729 Lake Artesia Lane, Fuquay-Varina, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for carrying a concealed gun and reckless driving with wanton disregard for public safety. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Dec. 8.

On Nov. 22, Shantal Garcia, 41, of 12410 Siler City Glendon Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. She was issued a written promise to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on Dec. 7.

NEWS BRIEF

Chatham Sheriff’s Office holds Thanksgiving meal drive

The Chatham County Sheriff’s Office held its 18th annual meal drive for senior residents and families in need across Chatham County on Thanksgiving Day.

For nearly two decades, deputies have reached out to local businesses to gather canned food, baked goods, and traditional Thanksgiving meal items, like turkey and stuffing, ahead of the special day. On Thanksgiving morning, staff members gather to prepare hot meals and personally deliver each one to deserving residents across the county.

Some deputies visit with elderly citizens who are ill or home-bound, many of which have no children or family to visit with them during the holidays. Others spend time with disabled men and women, disadvantaged children, or Veterans. As a result of this outreach, hundreds of Chatham County citizens have enjoyed a warm, delicious meal on Thanksgiving Day.

Recipients are identified and se-

lected based on need by members of the Chatham County Council on Aging, Department of Social Services, and Lutheran Services of the Carolinas. This year’s local food donors include Food Lion (of Siler City, Pittsboro and Governor’s Club), Walmart (of Siler City and Chapel Hill), Lowes Foods, Piggly Wiggly, and Rufus’ Restaurant of Goldston. The event would not be possible without the generous support of the community.

“It’s one of our favorite events at the Sheriff’s Office. Many of our staff members participate year after year,” says Lieutenant Sara Pack, who has personally participated since she first joined the Sheriff’s Office. She says it has become an annual tradition for her family as well.

“I started bringing my mom along for visits in 2015, and my son has joined us the last two years,” Pack explains. “It’s a special time for us to spend giving back to the community together. We have formed some amazing relationships through meal deliveries and we look forward to seeing the same faces each year. They have truly become family to us.”

It is an emotional experience for meal recipients as well, especially if they have no other visitors on Thanksgiving. One resident was so moved by the gesture that he called to leave a message for the deputies who came to visit.

“Even though I live alone and don’t really have any family and my health is very poor, I have something to be thankful for today — that is people like the two officers who just came by my house and dropped off a meal for me,” he says in the recording. “I really commend them for giving up their time to help people like me.”

“That kind of feedback really melts your heart and reinforces the importance of this kind of outreach,” says Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson. “It is a truly humbling experience to be invited into residents’ homes on Thanksgiving. It’s also rewarding to see deputies so deeply moved that they want to involve their family members in the spirit of giving. We are always honored to give back, from our family to yours, in any way we can.”

— CN+R staff reports



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Comedian to host show at The Plant

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Comedian Rob Santos plans to bring some laughs to the Pittsboro community on Saturday night when he holds a comedy show with three of his stand-up comedy friends — Buddha Joe, CW Davis and Emily Siero — at The Plant at 192 Lorax Lane.



Rob Santos

The Connecticut-based comedian has come to The Plant before when he hosted the WEBB Squared launch event in October. During the event, Santos shared he had a connection to North Carolina through his familial history — his ancestors had been enslaved in Raleigh, where his flight landed just a few weeks ago for the WEBB Squared event.

“When I got off the plane, it was tough,” Santos told the News + Record. “I did not understand the emotions of what was taking place.”

Santos talked to his mother about the emotions he felt when he stepped off of his plane at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. She suggested he may have been feeling the presence of his ancestors.

“She said it was the ghosts of my family walking around me,” Santos recounted. “I just felt this connection being there — it was almost like I had been there before.”

Santos said being a part of the WEBB Squared event helped to bring him a peace with his family’s past he had not known before, and for that reason, he knew he had to come back to Pittsboro one day.

“Being in a room with all these upstanding Black people and being in a room with all these upstanding white people and other people of color was a melting pot of a community and love,” Santos said. “Between that feeling of my ancestors and that coupled with the feeling of being at the WEBB Squared event to help kick off something that was important to them was something that was very meaningful.”

Santos said he’s been looking for a way to come back to Pittsboro since then. He wanted to return to The Plant to share his story in the way he knows best — through the gift of laughter.

Santos has done comedy his whole life, but he moved to New York in 2008

to truly pursue it as a career. There, he was able to meet many people in his industry, including Saturday Night Live comedian Pete Davidson, who Santos met and worked with before Davidson was a household name.

When his daughter was born in 2012, Santos decided to move back to Connecticut to focus on a new chapter on his life, as well as figure out a new way to tell his story through comedy.

“I felt like people were hearing me, but they weren’t listening to me,” Santos said. “Years into the game, I started to change my style to be more open-ended where its almost like I am talking to you.”

Santos uses this conversational comedy to share his life experiences with his audience by taking struggles he has had to endure and turning them into something he can laugh about with others. He shares his intimate life experiences in a way where people can find joy even in the harshest of times, ranging from joking about his life experiences as a biracial American or talking about when his girlfriend found out she had cancer.

One of the comedic bits surrounding the experience of his girlfriend fighting and beating cancer focuses on the range of emotions Santos felt as a spouse watching a loved one go through one of the hardest fights. Santos uses this story to convey not only the emotions he felt then, but to also show others how he can now look back at that hard time — and make jokes about it.

“That story is stemmed from her having cancer, me being nervous and scared I’m not going to have her; me legitimately thinking about this life I may attempt to create, and then also the jealousy and the envy that I had because I wanted the attention and love she got,” Santos said. “And it all circles back to me getting the butt of the joke because it lets me know that I should not be thinking like that.”

What can people expect when they come to Saturday’s show? He said to expect a unique experience and, hopefully, an evening full of laughs.

“Laughter is definitely a factor we will be looking for,” Santos said. “But expect an experience.”

People can purchase tickets to Santos’s show on his website — www.rob-santoscomedy.com/ — for \$20. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$25.

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



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Rosa Cuanalo Vasquez, a 5th grader at Virginia Cross Elementary School, received honorable mentions in the 3-5th grade category. Submitted photo

Three Virginia Cross Elementary School students receive honors in poster contest

From Chatham County Schools

SILER CITY — Three Virginia Cross Elementary School students were honored during the annual North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) conference held Nov. 11-12 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro.

Virginia Cross Elementary School 2nd-grader Luz Ramirez Hernandez tied for third place in the NCSBA 2021 Elementary School Poster Contest in the K-2 category. Her work was displayed during the conference and she received a ribbon and deluxe craft kit to continue honing her art abilities. Chatham County Board of Education Chairperson Gary Leonard accepted the award on her behalf.

Rosa Cuanalo Vasquez and Victoria Gonzalez Sanchez, both 5th graders at Virginia Cross Elementary School, received honorable mentions in the 3-5 category poster contest.

Their art teacher, Gladys Rodriguez Chavez, entered the students' work in the contest and encouraged her students to express themselves through creativity.

Chatham County staff members also helped lead some of the discussions during the conference.

Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson moderated a superintendent panel about leadership and an innovative mindset during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, administrative assistant



Submitted photo

Virginia Cross Elementary School 2nd-grader Luz Ramirez Hernandez tied for third place in the NCSBA 2021 Elementary School Poster Contest in the K-2nd grade category.

and clerk to the Board of Education Kristin Guthrie presented a session titled "Building a Brand" to the Superintendent and Board Assistants of North Carolina Public Schools (SBANCPS/... The Network) organization.

School board members David Hamm and Del Turner also attended the conference.

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Communities In Schools

Chatham County

Our Mission

The Communities In Schools Chatham County (CISCC) mission is to surround students with a network of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

More explicitly, Communities In Schools Chatham County (CISCC) aims to provide assistance in five critical areas; a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a marketable skill to use upon graduation, a chance to give back, and a healthy start for a healthy future.

Our programs target and provide support to referred students with the highest risks for underachievement due to poverty and instability by attending to the holistic needs of the individual youth which are required to overcome adversity and find success through sustained resiliency.

Wish List

Menors, Lunch/Reading Buddies, Tutors, Sustaining donors, Resource Providers and Partners, Increased funding to expand services to more students and schools in need of support across Chatham County.



Background

Since 1989, CISCC has made a positive impact on the lives of 1000's of Chatham County youth and families through our 7 unique school and community based programs. We fuel personal potential, so every student can take charge of their story and define their success for life. We sustain our mission by supporting all referred youth in reaching their full potential by:

- 1. Unlocking Potential:** we help every student see their potential so they can fearlessly unlock it in ways big and small.
- 2. Building Relationships:** we amplify the power of each student's potential by fostering transformative relationships in their lives.
- 3. Breaking Down Barriers:** we empower students to break through any personal challenges in their lives so they can define the future they want.

Brag Lines

CISCC continues coordination of whole child and family supports in the form of basic needs (food, toiletries, clothing), academic enrichment and tutor, bi-lingual programs and services for parents and schools, mentoring, safe spaces to learn and grow, mental and physical health, and restorative justice programs to build sustained resiliency and social emotional connectedness. Our data driven programs use evidence based curricula to achieve consistent outcomes for program participants based on their individual needs and goals.



Upcoming Event

Help us reach our End of Year Fundraising Campaign goal of raising \$40,000 to expand services in Chatham County!

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THE CN+R REVIEW | NEIL MORRIS

Unwrapping the best Christmas movies of all time

Christmas movies are as ubiquitous during December as wrapped gifts and twinkling lights. While bound by their yuletide milieu, Christmas films run the gambit of genres. Some audiences prefer the soft glow of winsome family fare, while some enjoy observing the meanings of the season filtered through unexpected prisms, from drama and comedy to action and even horror.

For my tastes, here are 12 of the best Christmas movies. The list is immediately notable for the absence of perennial favorites like "The Polar Express," "Love, Actually," and any feature film involving the Grinch, all flawed films for their own particular reasons. Classics like "A Charlie Brown Christmas," Chuck Jones's version of "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas," and the Rankin/Bass canon ("Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "The Little Drummer Boy," and "Frosty the Snowman") aren't here, either, since they were television shorts instead of feature films.

So slip on a warm robe, pour out some eggnog, and enjoy this roster of heady holiday helpings.

"Joyeux Noël" (2005): While too saccharine for some, this handsome French film is a fictitious retelling of the Christmas truce of 1914 between warring American, German, and French soldiers along the front lines of World War I. The historical war drama was nominated for an Academy Award as Best Foreign Film.

"Black Christmas" (1974) and "Christmas Evil" (1980): You don't typically think of horror flicks when you think of Christmas. But these two entries are suitably disquieting and have developed cult followings. Directed by Bob Clark (more on him later), "Black Christmas" is one of the earliest slasher films, utilizing the "babysitter and the man upstairs" premise to inspire later exemplars like "Halloween," "Friday the 13th," and even the "Scream" series. "Christmas Evil" is best described as a Santa Claus version of "Falling Down," as a fed-up schmo dressed as Santa goes mad in response to the increasing commercialization of Christmas.

"Home Alone" (1990): Yeah, this holiday classic has problems. But it's one of the most popular Christmas films ever, and its overarching sentiment about the value of family fits squarely in the season.

"Elf" (2003): From its inventive premise to Will Ferrell's terrific performance, this neo-Christmas classic is fun, funny, and charming. It's a film that absolves anyone who wants to maintain their childlike view of Christmas.

"White Christmas" (1954): Although mawkish to the extreme, this is a Christmas movie at its most classic. You watch this for two main reasons: an all-star cast featuring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and a sterling score from Irving Berlin that includes the iconic title track.

"Arthur Christmas" (2011): The newest film on the list, this computer-animated film from Aardman Studios follows the dorky black sheep of the Claus family as he's forced to step into his father's formidable boots. This film is witty, charming, and presents the paradigm of Santa Claus as an evolving, hereditary monarchy. It also cuts to the heart of the tension between Christmas tradition and modernization.

"A Christmas Carol" (1951): Of the umpteen iterations of Charles Dickens's classic novella, this 1951 production is the definitive version. It's the most faithful retelling of Dickens's story, and it features Alastair Sim's superb rendering of Ebenezer Scrooge.

"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989): This film had to grow on me, but this zany third entry about the Griswold clan is one of the funniest and most quotable Christmas films.

"Die Hard" (1988): Yes, "Die Hard" is a Christmas movie. Beyond its exclusively yuletide setting and score, the film revolves around the evergreen themes of family and forgiveness. Oh, it's also one of the best action movies in history.

"Miracle on 34th Street" (1947): This story of the department store Santa who claims to be real is one of the definitive Christmas films. It's also really good, winning three Academy Awards, including Edmund Gwenn for Best Supporting Actor as Kris Kringle.

"A Christmas Story" (1983): Derided as grating hokum by some, this nostalgic portrait of pre-World War II midwest Americana directed by Bob Clark (the same director as "Black Christmas") survives repeating viewings. It's the rare holiday staple that holds something funny and even moving for kids and parents alike, harkening back to an increasingly bygone age of innocence.

"It's a Wonderful Life" (1946): No other film that could top this list. It has it all: a great director in Frank Capra, a great lead actor in Jimmy Stewart, and an engrossing yarn about a man who wishes he's never been born and plans to commit suicide on Christmas Eve, who is then made aware by an angel of how his seemingly inconsequential life has positively impacted others. It's the go-to movie every Christmas, and for good reason.

This review originally appeared in a 2019 edition of the News + Record.

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Airplane walkway</p> <p>6 Gentle pella</p> <p>9 River delta deposit</p> <p>13 Pixie or elf</p> <p>19 Unhesitating and fast</p> <p>21 Low-quality</p> <p>22 Binds with string</p> <p>23 Grew older with contentment and dignity</p> <p>25 Very ardent</p> <p>26 Fluffy scarf</p> <p>27 Wiggly fishes</p> <p>28 Perennially popular hymn</p> <p>30 Makes a leg warmer, e.g.</p> <p>32 Plow beasts</p> <p>33 — "Pan" (James Clavell novel)</p> <p>34 Shouts of discovery</p> <p>35 Is wearing</p> <p>37 Kept posted</p> <p>39 Hair salon job</p> <p>41 Growth theory subj.</p> <p>42 Accumulate</p> <p>44 Hdqrs. where officers work</p> <p>46 Red-carpet-walking type</p> <p>50 Liquid filling la mer</p> <p>51 Fend off</p> | <p>52 Title detective of 1970s TV</p> <p>55 Give the boot</p> <p>56 Prepared to do some grilling</p> <p>58 Tier</p> <p>59 "I'm not that impressed"</p> <p>60 Egg-shaped</p> <p>61 Musical ornaments</p> <p>64 Place to play pool or table tennis</p> <p>66 Do the task flawlessly</p> <p>69 Alternative to a 401(k)</p> <p>71 Hogs' home</p> <p>72 Eye-irritating cleanser</p> <p>74 1963 Johnny Cash smash</p> <p>76 Gush forth</p> <p>77 Be in arrears</p> <p>79 U.S. med. research agcy.</p> <p>80 Final toast of a meal</p> <p>84 In the style of</p> <p>85 Law-of-motion subj.</p> <p>87 Glistened</p> <p>88 Historic span</p> <p>89 Slowly, to a maestro</p> <p>91 Island setting</p> <p>92 "I love you," in Spanish</p> | <p>93 Course of action</p> <p>94 Hip about</p> <p>96 Enter quickly</p> <p>99 Film spools</p> <p>100 Pupil's place</p> <p>103 Very big bird</p> <p>105 Domino spots</p> <p>106 Unsullied places</p> <p>108 Complete disaster, in slang</p> <p>111 Spinner in a compass</p> <p>112 Spinner in a kid's room</p> <p>115 Surround with a nimbus</p> <p>116 1990s sitcom ... and what literally appears six times in this puzzle</p> <p>119 Add to the mix, maybe</p> <p>120 British noble agcy.</p> <p>121 Prayed</p> <p>122 Pole carvings</p> <p>123 Eye irritation</p> <p>124 Ovine female</p> <p>125 Sun-related</p> | <p>SIX BELOW</p> <p>5 Enter by sidling</p> <p>6 Watch faces</p> <p>7 Missile paths</p> <p>8 97-Down insect</p> <p>9 Foamed up</p> <p>10 Honolulu</p> <p>11 Amusement, to texters</p> <p>12 "Give this a whirl"</p> <p>13 Low-end cigar</p> <p>14 Radar sound</p> <p>15 Put a new border around</p> <p>16 Basketball great — Thomas</p> <p>17 Mozart's "Rondo Alla ..."</p> <p>18 Fencing blades</p> <p>20 Get in a stew</p> <p>24 Sends via phone line before</p> <p>29 Streaming music service</p> <p>31 Prefix with disclosure</p> <p>32 Give the boot</p> <p>35 Boot part</p> <p>36 Brazilian palm berry</p> <p>37 Line of work</p> <p>38 "Morning Edition" a/cir</p> <p>40 HDTV maker</p> <p>42 Pilot's skill</p> <p>43 Old Cougar carmaker, in brief</p> <p>45 FDR and HST's party</p> <p>47 Volcanic outflows</p> <p>48 Praise heavily</p> <p>49 Stomach</p> <p>51 Decongestant brand</p> <p>52 Gulf of — (arm of the Baltic)</p> <p>53 Just free of the bottom, as an anchor</p> <p>54 Film for which Holly Hunter won an Oscar</p> <p>57 Luminous</p> <p>58 Spiral-shaped pasta</p> <p>60 "Well, golly!"</p> <p>62 Hide-hair link</p> <p>63 "No seats left" abbr.</p> <p>65 "Odyssey" tempres</p> <p>66 Like twangy voices</p> <p>67 Adequate</p> <p>68 "That is ..."</p> <p>70 Warm blanket</p> <p>73 Jaw-dropping</p> <p>75 As of</p> <p>78 Prior to, in verse</p> <p>81 Heavily</p> <p>82 River of Russia</p> <p>83 Cooking vessels</p> <p>85 Tiny particle</p> <p>86 Road gunk</p> <p>87 Six, in Seville</p> <p>90 As surplus</p> <p>92 Plains tent</p> <p>93 Hogs' home</p> <p>95 Wyoming mountains</p> <p>97 Collection of hives</p> <p>98 Round shape</p> <p>99 Corp.</p> <p>100 "That is ...," to Caesar</p> <p>101 Head for hurriedly</p> <p>102 Cry to a battlefield medic</p> <p>104 Impulses</p> <p>106 Grammy winner</p> <p>109 Slender</p> <p>110 Brothers' group, in brief</p> <p>111 Chew like a beaver</p> <p>113 Kind of whale</p> <p>114 British noble</p> <p>117 Operate</p> <p>118 Bushy hairdo, for short</p> |
|--|--|--|--|

Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: SPACE JUST BELOW THE ROOF

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Athlete | Atlas | Atrium | Attended |
| Atlanta | Atoll | Atrophy | Attenuate |
| Atlantic | Atom | Attach | Attire |
| Atlantis | Atonement | Attend | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	2				7	9		
1	5			3			7	
		8	6					4
3			9			2		
	9			4			6	1
		5			8		3	
	3		8			1		
		4			2			8
2			1	9			4	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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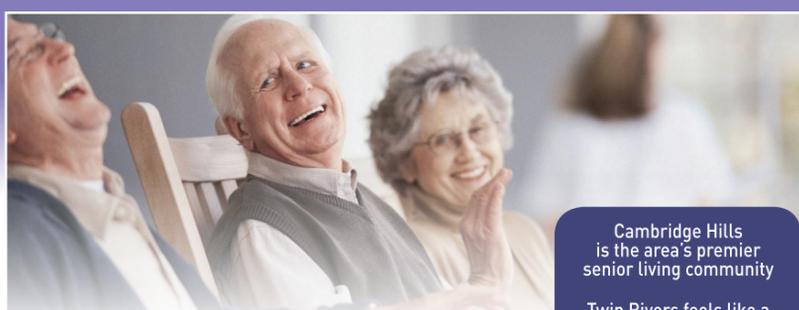
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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

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CHATHAM TALKS: COMMUNITY STORY CIRCLES



Join a conversation in your community to share your stories and perspectives about living in Chatham County! Everyone who lives, works, plays, and/or worships here is invited to tell their own story. Visit the website below to find times, dates and locations for the next event!

chathamhealthalliancenc.org/storycircles

CHATHAM SNAPSHOTS



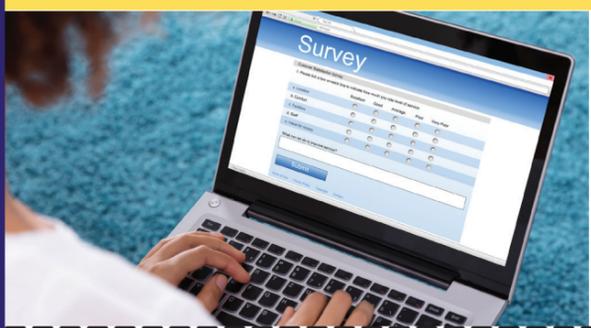
Submit a photo that shows Chatham County through your eyes! Participate in the 2021 Chatham County Community Assessment by submitting photos answering 1 of 4 prompts:

- What home looks like for you in Chatham
- What your life looks like in Chatham
- What you think is the best of Chatham
- How you see yourself reflected in Chatham

chathamhealthalliancenc.org/chathamsnapshots

NEW: Participants automatically entered into weekly drawing for \$20 VISA gift card!

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Take the 2021 Community Assessment Supplemental Survey to share your thoughts and opinions about health and well-being in Chatham County!

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